

Contents

Contents.....	v
List of illustrations	ix
Acknowledgements	x
Note on transliteration, names, abbreviations, and dates used in this work	xii
Illustrations.....	xv
Introduction.....	xvii
0.1 Formulation of the problem, aims of the research, and theoretical perspectives.....	xvii
0.2 State of the art.....	xxi
0.3 Sources and methodology	xxvi
0.4 Structure and content of the work.....	xxvii
Chapter 1 Islam in Azerbaijan: an historical perspective	1
1.1 Islam in medieval, late-medieval and early modern Azerbaijan	1
1.1.1 Early Islamisation of Azerbaijan	3
1.1.2 Between independent dynasties and regional conquerors.....	7
1.1.3 Azerbaijan under the Şafawids	11
1.1.4 Islam in Azerbaijani khanates.....	15
1.2 Russian colonial rule	17
1.2.1 Religious policy of tsarism.....	17
1.2.2 Muslim religious institutions under the tsar	19
1.2.3 On the way to reforms: aspects of the reformist movement in Azerbaijan	21
1.2.4 Azerbaijani religious identity: diversity without unity?.....	33
1.2.5 Islam as a political ideology in Azerbaijan on the eve of the fall of the Russian Empire	38
1.3 The Azerbaijan Democratic Republic (1918-1920).....	41
1.4 Islam in Soviet Azerbaijan	44
1.4.1 The early Soviet period (1920-1927/1928).....	44
1.4.2 Islam under Stalin (1928-1953).....	53
1.4.3 Islam under Khrushchev (1953-1964).....	59
1.4.4 Islam in the period of “stagnation” (1964-1985).....	62
1.5 Conclusion.....	68
Chapter 2 Islam as a political and social factor in late-Soviet/early independent Azerbaijan	71
2.1 <i>Perestroika</i> and the beginnings of Islamic revival in late-Soviet Azerbaijan (1985–1989).....	72
2.2 Events of Black January 1990 and the Islamic factor.....	80
2.3 Islam under Ayaz Mütəllibov (1990-1992).....	87
2.3.1 Mütəllibov’s views on religion	87
2.3.2 Islam in the internal arena	89
2.3.3 Islam as a factor in foreign policy.....	95
2.3.3.1 Azerbaijan and Turkey.....	98
2.3.3.2 Azerbaijan and Iran	100
2.4 Islam under Əbülfəz Elçibəy (1992-1993)	103
2.4.1 Elçibəy’s views on religion	103
2.4.2 Islam in the internal arena	105
2.4.2.1 The Turkish factor	107
2.4.2.2 The Iranian factor	111
2.4.3 Foreign policy of Azerbaijan towards Muslim countries	112
2.4.3.1 Azerbaijan and Turkey.....	114

2.4.3.2 Azerbaijan and Iran.....	115
2.5 Islam against the background of the Qarabağ conflict	118
2.6 Conclusion.....	121
Chapter 3 Islam, state, and society under Heydər Əliyev (1993-2003).....	123
3.1 Heydər Əliyev and religion.....	124
3.2 Islam in the internal arena: an overview	129
3.2.1 Islam as a political factor.....	130
3.2.2.1 The Turkish factor	140
3.2.2.2 The Iranian factor	143
3.3 Selected aspects of Azerbaijani foreign policy towards Turkey and Iran	147
3.3.1 Azerbaijan and Turkey.....	148
3.3.2 Azerbaijan and Iran.....	150
3.4 Conclusion.....	153
Chapter 4 Legal regulation of Islam in Azerbaijan.....	155
4.1 Religion and state symbols	155
4.2 Religion and legislation	155
4.2.1 Constitutional provisions on religion	155
4.2.2 The Law “On the Freedom of Religion”	156
4.2.3 Regulation of religion in other legislative documents	157
4.2.4 Legal regulation of religious associations and other religion-related legal entities.....	158
4.3 State and non-state structures regulating religion in Azerbaijan.....	164
4.3.1 The Department of Religious Affairs (Dİİ).....	165
4.3.2 Administration of the Caucasus Muslims (QMİ).....	166
4.3.2.1 Structure and functions of the QMİ.....	166
4.3.2.1.1 Religious-administrative control over Muslim religious associations	168
4.3.2.1.2 Diplomatic activities (including mediation at regional and international levels).....	168
4.3.2.1.3 Transmission of Islamic knowledge.....	170
4.3.2.1.4 Supervision of pilgrimage to the holy sites of Islam.....	172
4.3.2.2 The QMİ – a cult of one personality	173
4.3.2.2.1 The career and interests of Allahşükür Paşazadə	173
4.3.2.2.2 The political faces of Allahşükür Paşazadə	174
4.3.3 The State Committee for the Work with Religious Associations (ADDK)	176
4.3.3.1 Functions and structure of the ADDK	178
4.3.3.1.1 The Department for the Work with Religious Associations	179
4.3.3.1.2 The Section of Religious Expertise	179
4.3.3.1.3 The Department of Law and Registration	181
4.3.3.2 Activities of the ADDK	183
4.3.3.3 Struggle for spheres of influence: the ADDK versus the QMİ.....	184
4.3.3.3.1 Re-registration of the QMİ as a religious association within the ADDK.....	185
4.3.3.3.2 Certification of mollas.....	185
4.3.3.3.3 Tracing the financial streams of the QMİ.....	186
4.3.3.3.4 Control of religious education.....	187
4.3.3.3.5 Control of the pilgrimage business	187
4.3.3.4 The ADDK as viewed by the Azerbaijani political and religious elite.....	188
4.4 Conclusion.....	189
Chapter 5 Islam in party politics and “political Islam”	191
5.1 Islam and political parties of secular orientation	191

5.1.1 The Azerbaijan Popular Front	192
5.1.2 The Azerbaijan Social-Democratic Party	195
5.1.3 The <i>Müsavat</i> Party	195
5.1.4 The Azerbaijan National Independence Party	197
5.1.5 The Azerbaijan Democratic Party.....	199
5.2 Political parties and organisations of religious orientation	201
5.2.1 The Azerbaijan Islamic Party (AİP).....	202
5.2.1.1 Historical background.....	202
5.2.1.1.1 Early period	202
5.2.1.1.2 Ban of the AİP and state repression	203
5.2.1.1.3 The new face of the AİP?	205
5.2.1.1.4 The Nardaran events of 2002.....	206
5.2.1.1.5 Beyond Nardaran	207
5.2.1.2 Ideology of the AİP	207
5.2.1.2.1 Ideology as reflected in statute and political programme	207
5.2.1.2.2 The Iranian factor as a component part of the AİP's ideology	209
5.2.1.3 Structure of the AİP	210
5.2.1.4 Public activities of the AİP.....	211
5.2.2 The Azerbaijan Islamic Party of Progress.....	212
5.2.3 The <i>Tövbə</i> society	212
5.2.3.1 Historical background.....	213
5.2.3.2 Ideology of <i>Tövbə</i>	215
5.2.3.3 Structure and activities of <i>Tövbə</i>	216
5.3 Conclusion.....	217
Chapter 6 "Organised" Islam in independent Azerbaijan	219
6.1 Towards the classification of Islam in Azerbaijani society	219
6.2 "Organised" Islam in Baku and the Abşeron Peninsula: case studies	222
6.2.1 Religious communities and NGOs of Shi'a orientation.....	222
6.2.1.1 Religious communities and NGOs controlled by the QMİ.....	223
6.2.1.2 Independent Shi'a religious communities and NGOs of Shi'a orientation.....	226
6.2.1.2.1 The religious community of the <i>İmam Hüseyin</i> mosque	226
6.2.1.2.2 The religious community of Nardaran village near Baku	228
6.2.1.2.3 The religious community of the <i>İçəri Şəhər Cümə</i> mosque	231
6.2.1.2.3.1 Historical background	231
6.2.1.2.3.2 Ideology, structure and activities.....	233
6.2.1.2.4 The <i>İslam-İttihad</i> society	238
6.2.1.2.5 The religious community <i>Kamilliyyə Doğru</i> of the <i>Hacı Cavad</i> mosque.....	241
6.2.1.2.6 The <i>Azərbaycan Birlik</i> organisation	241
6.2.1.2.7 The <i>İkmal</i> youth union.....	242
6.2.1.2.8 The religious community of the <i>Məşədi Dadaş</i> mosque	243
6.2.1.2.9 The religious community of the <i>Əhli-Beyt Hüseyiniyyəsi</i> mosque	243
6.2.1.2.10 The <i>İntibah</i> organisation	243
6.2.1.2.11 The <i>Mə'nəvi Səflığa Də'vət</i> association	245
6.2.1.2.12 The Islamic Benevolent Foundation " <i>Təbliğ</i> "	246
6.2.1.2.13 Other NGOs of Shi'a orientation	246
6.2.2 Official religious communities, religion-related NGOs, and unofficial religious groups of Sunni orientation	246
6.2.2.1 Official Sunni religious communities.....	247

6.2.2.1.1 The Tatar religious community of the <i>Əjdərbəy</i> mosque	247
6.2.2.1.2 The religious community of the <i>Lezgi</i> mosque	249
6.2.2.1.3 The religious community of the Baku Nərimanov district's <i>Cümə</i> mosque (the <i>Əbu Bəkr</i> mosque).....	251
6.2.2.1.4 The religious community of the <i>Şəhidlər</i> mosque.....	257
6.2.2.2 Official NGOs of Sunni orientation.....	259
6.2.2.2.1 Foundation of Assistance to Youth	259
6.2.2.2.2 <i>Azərbaycan Dinşünaslar Birliyi</i>	260
6.2.2.3 Unofficial Sunni religious communities and groups.....	260
6.2.2.3.1 Neo-brotherhoods of Turkish origin.....	260
6.2.3 A local Islamic sect: the case of the <i>Millətə İbrahim</i> religious community.....	263
6.2.3.1 The beginning of the religious mission of Ələsgər Musayev (1987-1995).....	264
6.2.3.2 Minor migration, strengthening of the community, and proclamation of the mission of Ələsgər Musayev (1995-1999)	265
6.2.3.3 Major migration and the first official appeal of the community to the general public (1999 – 2003)	266
6.2.3.4 Imprisonment of Ələsgər Musayev and gradual decline of his community	267
6.2.3.5 Classification of religious teachings and practices of Ələsgər Musayev and his community	268
6.2.4 Non-religious organisations related to religion.....	271
6.2.4.1 The <i>İrşad</i> Centre of Islamic Studies.....	271
6.2.4.2 The Centre of Religious Research.....	272
6.2.4.3 The Centre for the Meeting of Religions	274
6.2.4.4 DEVAMM	274
6.2.4.5 The National Council of Youth Organisations	276
6.3 Conclusion.....	277
Epilogue.....	278
General conclusions.....	287
Bibliography of cited and consulted sources	292
Index	339
Illustrations (continued).....	359