



## **Online International Conference Report**

### **“Azerbaijan-Armenia Armed Conflict: Causes and Implications for the Regional Dynamics of South Caucasus”**



**Jointly Organized by  
Center for Global & Strategic Studies, Islamabad, Pakistan &  
ADA University, Baku, Azerbaijan on  
26<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

***“CGSS is a Public Policy Institute with a mission to help improve policy and decision-making through analysis and research”***

Copyright © Center for Global & Strategic Studies (CGSS)

All rights reserved

Please do not disseminate, distribute or reproduce, in whole or part, this report without prior consent of CGSS



**CGSS**  
**Center for Global & Strategic Studies**

5<sup>th</sup> Floor Khyber 4 Plaza, G-15 Markaz, Islamabad, Pakistan

Tel: +92-51-2328615

Email: [infocgss@yahoo.com](mailto:infocgss@yahoo.com) Web: [www.cgss.com.pk](http://www.cgss.com.pk)

## **Table of Contents**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY .....	4
ANALYSIS & KEY TAKEAWAYS .....	7
ANNEXURE 1: PROGRAM.....	15
ANNEXURE 2: CONCEPT NOTE .....	16
ANNEXURE 3: BIOGRAPHIES OF THE SPEAKERS.....	17
ANNEXURE 4: TRANSCRIPT'S OF THE SPEECHES.....	20
ANNEXURE 5: PRESS RELEASE .....	39
ANNEXURE 6: MEDIA COVERAGE (NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL MEDIA) .....	41

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## **Executive Summary**

On 26th November 2020, the Online International Conference on “Azerbaijan-Armenia Armed Conflict: Causes and Implications for the Regional Dynamics of South Caucasus” was jointly organized by the Center of Global and Strategic Studies (CGSS) Islamabad, and ADA University, Baku, Azerbaijan.

The aim of the conference was to analyze the implications on the security and stability of the Caucasus region, the successful foreign policy of Azerbaijan and the Nagorno Karabakh region, and other significant aspects of the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict. The Conference was commenced by the opening remarks of Brig Akhtar Nawaz Janjua (Retd), Senior Member Advisory Board CGSS. Other Speakers of the Conference included:

- Mr. Fariz Ismailzade, Executive Vice-Rector, ADA University, Baku, Azerbaijan
- Major General Dr. Shahid Ahmad Hashmat HI(M), (Retd), Senior Member Advisory Board, CGSS
- Colonel Mehman Novruzov, Defence Attache of the Embassy of Azerbaijan to Pakistan
- Mr. Samir Guliyev, Deputy head of the Mission, Embassy of Azerbaijan to Pakistan
- Prof. Dr. Azar Babayev from ADA University, Baku, Azerbaijan
- Dr. Mehmood Ul Hassan Khan, Member Board of Experts, CGSS & Regional Geopolitical Analyst

The conference was moderated by Ms. Palwasha Nawaz, Project Executive, CGSS, and was attended by 100 participants from Pakistan and Azerbaijan. The conference was also viewed live on Facebook.

# **ANALYSIS & KEY TAKEAWAYS**

## **Analysis & Key Takeaways**

### **1. Brief Background of the Conflict**

- South Caucasus region is experiencing tectonic changes and strategic shifts for the first time since the collapse of Soviet Union. Azerbaijan has successfully liberated Karabakh after 27 years of occupation. The Armenian aggression continued, though the Minsk group co-chaired by France, Russia and United States have been diplomatically negotiating to find a solution to this conflict. However, the conflict remained unresolved.
- This conflict had started when the Soviet Union was weakening at the end of 1980s. Armenia put claims on historical land of Azerbaijan. Karabakh is the place where Karabakh Khanate was existing in the 18th century. The territory has always been part of Azerbaijan even during Russian empire and during Soviet Union era.
- The Soviet constitution from 1978 prohibited change of borders of the Soviet Republics without their consent. Armenia has been against the Soviet constitution, the norms and principles of International law.
- When Soviet Union collapsed in 1991, Azerbaijan was accepted into the United Nations with the territorial borders that existed in the Soviet times. Karabakh was part of Azerbaijan. Unfortunately, the war had erupted and the Armenian army with the support of Russian army managed to occupy this territory in 1993, which was against the UN principles.
- Nagorno-Karabakh and its surrounding regions had been illegally occupied by Armenia. More than one million Azerbaijani refugees were displaced.
- Azerbaijan lobbied intensively, diplomatically to get international support for its cause. International organizations including the Council of European Parliament, Non-Aligned Movement, Organization of Islamic Countries, Commonwealth of Independent States and many others recognized in the past resolutions that Karabakh territory belongs to Azerbaijan.
- The Minsk group-OSCE had come up with the Madrid principles in 2009 which was a win-win scenario for both sides, because it suggested that the surrounding territories outside of Nagorno-Karabakh would be returned to Azerbaijan and Azerbaijani refugees would be able to go back to their homes.

While the communication and transport links will be opened. But unfortunately, Armenia rejected this proposal.

## **2. Analysis of the Military and Counter-Offensive Operations of Azerbaijan Armed Forces**

- The tensions aggravated on 27th of July 2020 when Armenian military aggression against civilian population was intensified. There was intensive shelling in Terter region, Aghdam region, Fizuli region, and the Jabrayil region. Serious damage was caused to civilian infrastructure. Number of civilians and military servicemen were injured and killed. In response to Armenian provocation Azerbaijan was compelled to use its inherent right of self-defense.
- Armenians line of defense, which they built for the last 30 years, known as the Ohanyan Line of Defense. It was 2 to 5 kilometers, in some places even 10 kilometers deep belt. The front of this defense line consisted of deep minefields. Their strong posts could only get hit by direct artillery fire. It was very difficult for the offensive forces to break that line of defense and carry out the offensive operation.
- On 27-28 October 2020, Azerbaijan Army troops broke through the enemy's defensive lines in the southern direction of Fizuli and Jabrail regions and advanced from Northern two directions of LoC capturing strategic heights of Murovdagh and Talish mountains. Azerbaijan Army units liberated 6 villages.
- Armenians were expecting the Azerbaijani forces from Agdam direction because it was the easiest and the shortest way to reach the Khankendi and Shusha. But Azerbaijan had another plan, which was the longest and more difficult way to reach its desired military instate. Armenian forces were not sure about the main direction of the Azerbaijan offensive. This gave Azerbaijan more leverage.
- It was very risky, the operation, because while moving towards South West we had a very dangerous circumstance there so that the Armenian forces could at any time cut our forces, our offensive, and could isolate and destroy our offensive, but thanks to our good military planning that the counteroffensive

operations of Armenian forces were also considered and adequate measures were taken.

- Azerbaijan army didn't try frontier attack. Instead, it exploited the Armenian obsession of their strong defense line. Azerbaijan attacked Armenian strongholds with artillery shelling, artillery barrages and especially with the precise UAV attacks and drones while searching for the weak spots and infiltrating enemy frontline through these weak spots, and then searching to encircle, isolate and destroy specific strongholds.
- There were the special encirclement operations for particular decisive points and each time the Azerbaijani troops did not apply direct strategy but rather indirect strategy in taking control over Armenian strongholds. Azerbaijani army successfully used force multipliers in war such as Bayraktar purchased from Turkey and modern UAVs and drones.
- Azerbaijan army has used precise weapons system to avoid collateral damage in the military bases located in civilian areas. Azerbaijan tried to minimize collateral damage. Only military targets have been targeted and destroyed during this war.
- On 30th October, 2020 Azerbaijan armed forces started moving towards the North towards Shusha. The fiercest battle of 44 days war was the battle for taking control of Shusha city which is situated at the altitude of 1400 to 1800 meters in the Karabakh Mountains. Operation took place from 4 to 8 November 2020.
- Azerbaijani military leadership had intelligence information of about more than 4000 Armenian forces in the city including 450 Armenian Special Forces with heavy artillery and armor. Armenians were expecting Azerbaijan to carry out its offensive from the Lachin-Shusha road which is the main entrance. But Azerbaijan Special Forces deceived enemy by not attacking Shusha city using main entry road.
- 400 Azerbaijan Special Forces personnel equipped with only light weapons, knives, pistols and hand grenades started climbing the rough cliffs of about 300-400 meters to enter Shusha city. They entered the city from unexpected direction where only 500 Armenian forces were defending. When they entered the Shusha city, they had hand to hand fighting with heavily armed Armenian

forces equipped with armors and tanks. That throw the enemy off balance and the Azerbaijan Special Forces took control over the city on 8th November 2020.

- Armenian soldiers described this attack as, *'Azerbaijan Special Forces crowd on the roads in the direction of Shusha. Our snipers fired on them, hoping that they would fall from their rocks and die. But they did not stop. Ignoring the wounds, and continued to crawl upward as immortal'*.
- 2nd Karabakh war revealed some important developments which have not been witnessed before. Azerbaijani army was not the same that existed in the 1990s. Azerbaijan has been investing highly in its defense capacity over the past decades, spending over 2 billion a year for defense procurement to enhance its capabilities.
- Azerbaijan has initiated military-technical cooperation with Turkey, because it is not only the equipment but the manpower behind the equipment matters the most. So Azerbaijan initiated military cooperation with friendly countries in production of high-tech and precise defense products to source the latest military technologies. During this military campaign, these weapons have played crucial role in the successful ending of this operation.
- The extensive usage of drones by Azerbaijan Army has changed the overall outlook of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. The Kamikaze drones and the UCAVs gave Azerbaijani side air superiority, which was critical in the mountainous terrain. The drone warfare was used to soften enemy targets before ground forces moved into the battlefield. This strategy allowed Azerbaijan Army to preserve its troops while demoralizing Armenian forces by keeping them on continuous alert.

### **3. The ceasefire agreement**

- Armenia was forced to capitulate because otherwise the Azerbaijani army would have liberated more territories causing more trouble for the occupant forces. Therefore on November 9th, with the mediation of Russian President Vladimir Putin, the ceasefire agreement was signed according to which

Armenia promised to vacate the three surrounding regions in the North including the Kalbajar and Lachin region.

- There are a total of nine clauses of the peace agreement. Most important of them is that the line of contact has re-shifted further inside the Nagorno-Karabakh and some of the districts which were captured by the Armenian army now stand liberated. According to the agreement there are certain other areas as well that are not part of the line of control but they will also be returned to Azerbaijan.
- There will be peacekeeping force comprising of the Russian armed forces. The peacekeeping force will have headquarter which is being named as a center to control peacekeeping activities. Turkish military observers will also closely monitor the agreement and the development in the area. The presence of the Turkish and Russian military observers is something very encouraging because both are influential and powerful countries in the region.
- Another important clause is that all prisoners of war will be exchanged and the bodies of dead will be handed over. Similarly the return of the internally displaced people and refugees is also a big development. These are the few components of the agreement which will be implemented.

### **3.1. Regional implications of the Agreement**

- A major implication is the return of Russian influence in the region. The agreement allows Russian physical presence in the area. The agreement is for five years, which can automatically be extended for another five years if it is not objected by either of the party. So there is going to be prominent role of the Russian military forces.
- Secondly, the presence of Turkey within the peacekeeping force will have very long term positive effects. It opens up new vistas of commerce, trade and development in the region. Armenia can also draw the dividends of the peace if the terms and conditions are used in a positive manner.
- South Caucasus now becomes a place where there are two security guarantors, Russia and Turkey. Therefore, some analysts believe that now South Caucasus

is falling under the control of mostly Turkey and Russia and the role of Western powers in the region will be declining.

- The ceasefire agreement has opened transport links for Azerbaijan and for Turkic speaking states in the region. It will connect Turkey to Azerbaijan through land and will be connected to Central Asia. This opens the great opportunity for transport corridors from South East Asia and Central Asia to Azerbaijan and Caspian Sea, Turkey and to European markets. So this is a great condition today.
- The agreement also opens a new opportunity for regional cooperation between Azerbaijan, Turkey, Georgia, and Armenia will become part of the transportation and regional developmental networks. Therefore, it would be a win-win scenario for both sides.

#### **4. Successful Foreign Policy of Azerbaijan**

In last 30 years, Azerbaijan has been able to establish friendly and mutual respect based relations with most of the world countries, and especially with its neighbors. Azerbaijan's main aim was to establish peace and mutual collaboration in the region.

The priority of Azerbaijan's foreign policy after 1994 ceasefire with Armenia was to form and strengthen favorable background of international law. International law from the beginning was supporting Azerbaijan's just position in this conflict, but it was not followed by Armenia and the big powers of the world were not putting pressure or sanctions on Armenia in order to implement the directions of international law.

##### **4.1. Role of international law in conducting Azerbaijan's foreign policy**

- Four UN Security Council resolutions (1993) during the first war demanding withdrawal of occupying Armenian forces from the occupied territories of Azerbaijan immediately and unconditionally. These were not implemented during all these years by Armenia and recently, during the counteroffensive operations, Azerbaijan itself implemented these UN

Security Council resolutions and the following ceasefire statement with which Armenian took commitment to withdraw from other remaining districts as well.

- Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) always supported Azerbaijan's rightful position in the conflict and almost in every important meeting of the organization, resolution was adopted, condemning Armenian aggression against Azerbaijan.
- Resolution of the parliament assembly of the Council of Europe in the 2005.
- Resolution of UN General Assembly of 2008. It clearly affirmed the territorial integrity of Azerbaijan, demanding retreat of all Armenian forces from the occupied territories.
- Non-Aligned Movement. Azerbaijan became a member of NAM in 2011. NAM also extended strong support to Azerbaijan sovereignty and territorial integrity.

#### **4.2. Efforts of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan**

- During the war, the ministry and especially the Foreign Minister himself was very active and engaged. The minister made efforts to explain the real situation on the ground and create awareness about the Armenian aggression and violation of international humanitarian law, in different countries. Foreign minister also attended the meetings which were held in third countries for agreeing on humanitarian ceasefire.
- Fact sheets including the evidences of Armenian aggression and their attacks against the civilian settlements of Azerbaijan prepared by the ministry which were delivered to various State institutions as well as media outlets of world.
- One of the main task before country's foreign policy including this military operation was to neutralize the biased and pro-Armenian narrative originating from different countries, world powers and their leaders whose task originally was to mediate between the conflicting parties and stay neutral in this conflict.

# ANNEXURES

## ANNEXURE 1: PROGRAM

<b>1030 – 1040 hrs</b>	<b>Opening Remarks</b> Brig Akhtar Nawaz Janjua (Retd), Senior Member Advisory Board, Center for Global & Strategic Studies (CGSS), Islamabad
<b>1040 – 1100 hrs</b>	<b>Analysis of Strategic Policy Appraisal: Substantiating Claims of Azerbaijan &amp; Armenia</b> Mr. Fariz Ismailzade, Executive Vice-Rector, ADA University, Baku, Azerbaijan
<b>1100 – 1120 hrs</b>	<b>Security Dynamic of South Caucasus: Implications for the Region</b> Major General Dr. Shahid Ahmad Hashmat HI(M), (Retd), Senior Member Advisory Board, CGSS
<b>1120 – 1140 hrs</b>	<b>Warfare Strategies: Operational and Tactical Preparedness of Azerbaijan</b> Colonel Mehman Novruzov, Defence Attache of the Embassy of Azerbaijan to Pakistan
<b>1140 – 1200 hrs</b>	<b>Successful Foreign Policy of Azerbaijan in Dealing with the Current Crisis</b> Mr. Samir Guliyev, Deputy head of the Mission, Embassy of Azerbaijan to Pakistan
<b>1200 – 1220 hrs</b>	<b>Risk Analysis: Impact on Economy, Society and Policies</b> Prof. Dr. Azar Babayev from ADA University, Baku, Azerbaijan
<b>1220 – 1240 hrs</b>	<b>Role of Regional and Extra Regional Powers &amp; Way Forward</b> Dr. Mehmood Ul Hassan Khan, Member Board of Experts, CGSS & Regional Geopolitical Analyst
<b>1240 – 1320 hrs</b>	<b>Question &amp; Answer/Discussion</b>
<b>1320 – 1330 hrs</b>	<b>Closing Remarks</b> Brig Akhtar Nawaz Janjua (Retd), Senior Member Advisory Board, Center for Global & Strategic Studies (CGSS), Islamabad

## **ANNEXURE 2: CONCEPT NOTE**

---

The Caspian Sea and South Caucasus region is of immense significance primarily due to the rich oil and gas resources. The recent armed conflict between Azerbaijan and Armenia over the Nagorno Karabakh issue has fundamentally changed the strategic dynamics of the region. The conflict dates back to 1988 when Armenia made illegitimate claims over the territories of Azerbaijan. The Armenian aggression and armed violence has resulted in bloodshed of innocent Azerbaijani civilians including small children in the recent escalation. The ongoing armed conflict in the South Caucasus is a full-scale war, more perilous than the previous clashes since 1994. It is evident that Azerbaijan has achieved the apex of its comparative military advantage with respect to Armenia. Azerbaijan has been successful in liberating the key occupied areas of the Nagorno-Karabakh region including Shusha. Defeating the brutal Armenian forces in these strategically significant areas is a clear sign of victory for Azerbaijan. Armenia, however, has continued to escalate war and is exercising violence in the occupied territories. Pakistan, being a brotherly state and close ally of Azerbaijan has continued to stand with the nation of Azerbaijan. Pakistan has also supported the recent cease-fire between Azerbaijan and Armenia. Moreover, the region has great energy potential and thus its security is central to the interests of international key players.

Keeping in view the sensitivity of the conflict and evolving dynamics of the region, Center for Global & Strategic Studies, Islamabad has proposed to organize an online conference on Armenia -Azerbaijan Armed Conflict: Causes and Implications for the Regional Dynamics of South Caucasus.

### **Aim of the Conference:**

To analyze:

- The implications on the security and stability of Caucasus region
- The current Regional Geopolitics in South Caucasus
- The successful foreign policy of Azerbaijan in Nagorno Karabakh
- The Military maneuvering of Azerbaijan armed forces
- What Pakistan can learn from Azerbaijan experience in liberating the occupied territories

## **ANNEXURE 3: BIOGRAPHIES OF THE SPEAKERS**

---

### **Major General Dr. Shahid Hashmat, PhD, (Retd), Senior Advisory Board Member Center for Global & Strategic Studies (CGSS), Islamabad**



Major General Dr. Shahid is Advisor/Head of Centre of Excellence for Counter Violent Extremism and Conflict Resolution (CECVECR), National Defence University, Islamabad, Pakistan. He is a retired Major General of the Pakistan Army, with 37 years of experience in military leadership and higher education management. Dr. Hashmat holds a Post-Doctorate in International Cooperation and a PhD in International Relations. He has authored a book titled “International Conflict Resolution: Role of the UN and the OIC” (2014) and has published numerous articles in national and specialized journals. He has worked extensively in the areas of National Security, Regional and International Conflict Resolution, Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding, Counter Extremism/Terrorism and Interfaith Harmony. He also served as Former High Commissioner of Pakistan to Sri Lanka. He is Senior Member of Advisory Board, CGSS.

### **Dr. Mehmood Khan - Regional Geopolitical Analyst and Member Board of Experts, CGSS**



Dr. Mehmood-Ul-Hassan has vast experience in serving different departments of the Federal Government. He has also a rich experience in research, cultural diplomacy, peace and conflict resolution and defence issues. He has been in this profession for more than 26 years. He worked in BBC Asia Network as regional expert on Afghanistan and Middle East in 2004. He worked as regional expert in USGAM, Turkey and had a great experience while interacting with TRT too. Transparency International UK selected him “peer Viewer” from Pakistan in 2015. His research and comprehensive articles have already been published in China, Uzbekistan, Iran, Turkey, Azerbaijan, USA, South Korea, UAE and Kuwait too. He has great experience in the socio-economic, geo-politics and geo-strategic

issues of Central Asia, Caucasus and Middle East. He is a famous expert on CIS and Caucasus in Pakistan.

**Mr. Fariz İsmailzade, Executive Vice Rector, Azerbaijan Diplomatic Academy, Baku, Azerbaijan**



Fariz İsmailzade is Vice Rector for External, Government and Student affairs at the ADA University (since 2011). He has joined ADA in 2006 and worked in the positions of Director of Executive Execution (2006-2010) and Executive Dean (2010-2011). Mr. İsmailzade is currently pursuing a Doctoral Degree at the Maastricht School of Management. He holds an Executive MBA from IE Business School (Spain), and a Masters Degree in Social and Economic Development from Washington University in St. Louis, and a BA in Political Science from Western University in Baku with one-year interim studies at Wesleyan University in Connecticut.

**Prof. Dr. Azar Babayev from ADA University, Baku, Azerbaijan**



Prof. Dr. Azar Babayev is Assistant Professor, Director of BAIS and MADIA Programs at ADA University, Baku, Azerbaijan. He has done PhD in Political Science from University of Mannheim, MA International Relations from Catholic University of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt and BA International Relations from Baku State University.

**Colonel Mehman Novruzov, Defence Attaché of Azerbaijan Armed Forces to Pakistan**



Colonel Mehman Novruzov is the current Defence Attaché of Azerbaijan Armed Forces to Pakistan

**Mr. Samir Guliyev, Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan to Pakistan**



Mr. Samir Guliyev is an Azerbaijani diplomat who is currently appointed as the Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan to Pakistan. He has been actively working on the enhancement of Pakistan Azerbaijan bilateral relationship.

## ANNEXURE 4: TRANSCRIPT'S OF THE SPEECHES

---

### Opening Remarks

#### **Brigadier Akhtar Nawaz Janjua (Retd), Senior Member Advisory Board CGSS**

A very warm welcome to the elite panel from brotherly country Azerbaijan, the scholars from CGSS and all the participants. It is a unique opportunity for all of us to learn and know the background which led to this conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan and its implications. I would ask the students to pay attention once the scholars are dilating upon this subject as there are certain important lessons to be learnt. As Allama Iqbal said that when there is will there is way and the truth ultimately prevails, it may be delayed or coerced, but it has to prevail. Where we are in Kashmir, Azerbaijan was in Nagorno-Karabakh. The way Azerbaijan stood up to the pressure from the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century and they did not budge an inch from their rightful claim on Nagorno-Karabakh and ultimately on 9<sup>th</sup> of November they reached an agreement. It also shows that the wars are costly and very heavy on manpower and resources, but they are an instrument of achieving peace as well. My felicitations to our brothers from Azerbaijan for doing a wonderful job and I pray that this peace treaty holds on and ultimately they liberate the capital of the Nagorno-Karabakh as well.

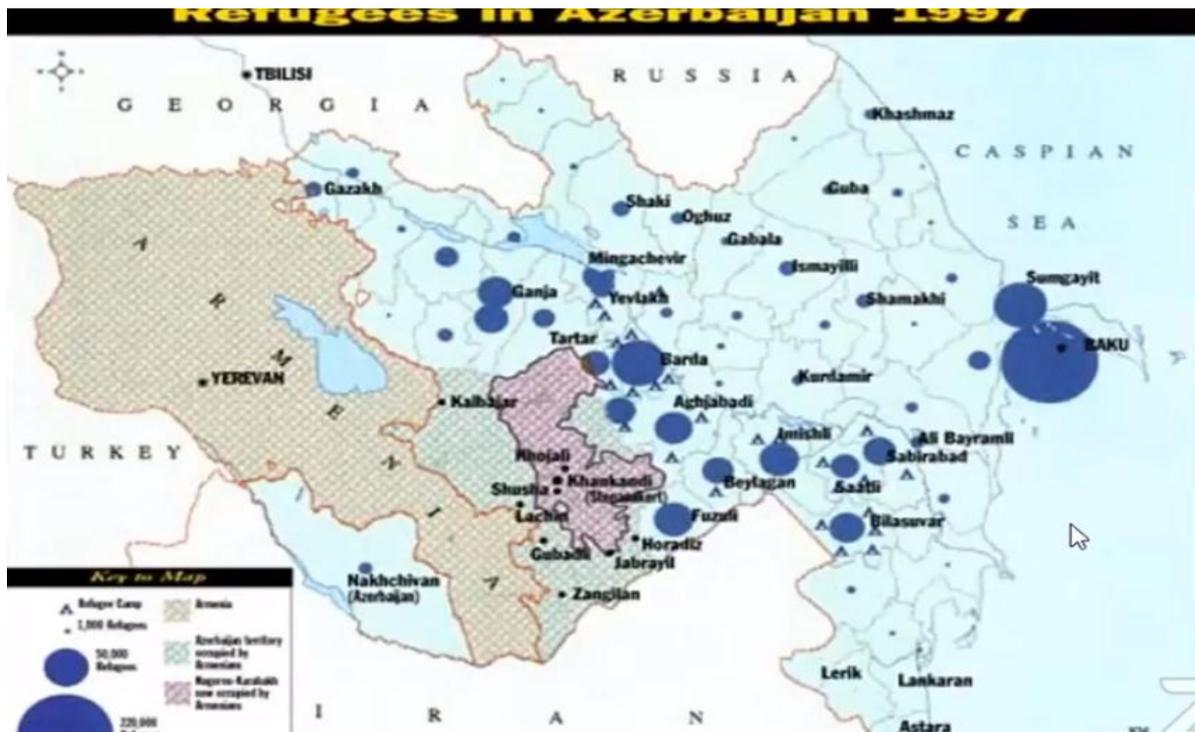
#### **Mr. Fariz Ismailzade, Executive Vice Rector, ADA University, Baku, Azerbaijan.**

#### **'Analysis of Strategic Policy Appraisal: Substantiating claims of Azerbaijan & Armenia'**

Indeed we are experiencing tectonic changes and strategic shifts in the in the South Caucasus region. This is the first time in the last thirty years since the collapse of Soviet Union that we are experiencing such dramatic turn of events. Azerbaijan, after 27 years of occupation of Karabakh, has finally and successfully liberated these lands with the help of, off course, our strong army, with the help of our public, but off course also relying on strong support from our brotherly countries including Pakistan. Pakistan has been always been together with Azerbaijan. Pakistan has supported Azerbaijan diplomatically, politically, militarily, economically and we very much appreciate that, we very much support our allies in the region. Not only Pakistan but we had very strong support from Turkey, we had strong support from our regional allies, partners, most of the world, with the exception of France, has been on the side of Azerbaijan, has supported territorial integrity of Azerbaijan, has supported UN resolutions and therefore we are very confident that it is a very successful turn of events for the territorial integrity of Azerbaijan. Therefore we feel confident that it is very successful development of events and Azerbaijan finally has the capacity to return its refugees and IDP back to their home.

This conflict is not a new conflict, it had started when the Soviet Union was weakening at the end of 1980s and getting closer to its collapse. Armenia put claims on historical land of Azerbaijan as shown in the map; the shaded area - Nagorno-Karabakh. Armenia demanded that this territory is given to the Armenian Republic. Off course Azerbaijani people, Azerbaijani society has been completely against it because it is a historic land of Azerbaijan. This is the place where Karabakh Khanate was existing in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. In fact when Azerbaijan was occupied by Russian Empire, it was the Karabakh Khanate which had signed agreement with Russian emperor, and it was the Azerbaijani ruler of the Karabakh Khanate who put his signature on the document.

So, we believe that this territory is part of Azerbaijan. They have always been part of Azerbaijan even during Russian empire, even during Soviet Union. The Soviet constitution from 1978 has prohibited change of borders of the Soviet Republics without the consent of their Republics themselves. Armenia has been against the Soviet constitution and has been against the norms and principles of International law. When Soviet Union collapsed in 1991, Azerbaijan was accepted into the United Nations with the territorial borders that existed in the Soviet times. Meaning on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1992 when Azerbaijan was admitted into the United Nations, off course Karabakh was part of Azerbaijan. All international communities recognized these lands as part of Azerbaijan and Azerbaijan's territorial integrity was recognized at the UN level. Unfortunately, the



war had erupted and the Armenian army with the support of Russian army has managed to conquer this territory in 1993. And this goes against the UN principles. Because UN Security Council has passed four resolutions, demanding immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Armenian troops from this land. Not only Nagorno-Karabakh was itself occupied, but several surrounding regions, which have been completely outside the Nagorno-Karabakh even during the Soviet times, they were occupied as well and more than one million ethnic Azerbaijanis were displaced. They had been ethnically cleansed from their homes. They have been living in tent camps, refugee camps, and these people have basically lost their homes. The surrounding regions of Karabakh never ever had a single Armenian village or a single Armenian house, all of them had been populated by ethnic Azerbaijanis. This occupation had continued for 27 years because during all this time, the OSCE, Minsk group co-chaired by France, Russia and United States have been diplomatically negotiating to find a solution to this conflict. During this period of time, Azerbaijan has, off course, lobbied intensively, diplomatically to get international support for its cause. All of international organizations, Council of European Parliament, Non-Aligned Movement, Organization of Islamic Countries, Commonwealth Of Independent States, many other international organizations have recognized in the past resolutions that this Karabakh territory belongs to Azerbaijan, and this territorial integrity of Azerbaijan has been violated and the international borders of Azerbaijan have been



violated. The Minsk group-OSCE had come up with the Madrid principles which in my opinion, is a win-win scenario for both sides. Because Madrid principles in 2009, required or suggested that the surrounding territories outside of Nagorno-Karabakh, the seven regions, would be returned to Azerbaijan and Azerbaijani refugees would be able to go back to their homes. While the communication and transport links will be opened and all of this will allow future decision on the topic of Karabakh after the return of Azerbaijani population. But unfortunately, Armenia rejected this proposal. Armenians had decided not to liberate a single village from the occupied areas and then the OIC proposal had been pretty much shelved and archived. All of this led to escalation, when Armenians attacked the Azerbaijani territories in the north of Karabakh and since then the escalation accumulated into full scale warfare which erupted on September 27<sup>th</sup> and during these two months Azerbaijan has successfully campaigned militarily and liberated most of the occupied areas. During the October and November months, Armenians have been attacking not only the occupied territories of Azerbaijan, but has been using long range missiles to attack large cities and civilians for example in Ganja, Tartar. These are the towns which are far from the occupied areas, but they have been shelled with Russian missiles. More than 100 civilians, including 11 kids have been killed during these shelling and bombings to Azerbaijani civilian towns. On November 9<sup>th</sup>, Armenia has capitulated the advancing Azerbaijani army and forced Armenians to find capitulation and as a result of this capitulation, you see in the map, most of the occupied areas in the South have been completely liberated by the Azerbaijani army. These are the four towns in the South. This shows that the Iranian-Azerbaijani border is now in full control of the Azerbaijani federal forces. Previously this border was occupied and Armenians used this border for trafficking of drugs, weapons, illegal trafficking and now this border with Iran is completely under the control of Azerbaijani army.



Azerbaijan has also liberated its historical city of Shusha which is in the middle of Nagorno-Karabakh. It is a city which was established by Azerbaijani Khan in the 18th century, Panah Ali Khan. The city is situated at a strategic height and mountainous area and it was very difficult to liberate this city but Azerbaijani army has shown very professional level and has managed to liberate this city of Shusha as well. So Armenia has capitulated because if they didn't, then the Azerbaijani army would be able to liberate more territories and cause more trouble for the occupant army. Therefore on November 9<sup>th</sup>, with the mediation of Russian President Vladimir Putin, the agreement was signed according to which Armenia also promised to liberate the three surrounding regions in the North - the Kalbajar and Lachin region, and we are expecting that the Lachin area will be liberated by December 1<sup>st</sup> according to the agreement. So this has stopped the bloodshed. This agreement stopped the warfare, and now Azerbaijani refugees are gradually to coming back to their lands, although most of their houses and property is destroyed and will take time for the Azerbaijani government to reconstruct and redevelop these areas. It will take time for road construction, schools and hospitals but all of these off course green areas have been liberated and under full control of Azerbaijani army. Now in addition to that, as part of the agreement, a transport corridor, linking Azerbaijan to Turkey is suggested. Which is a very strategic move because now, Turkey will be connected to Azerbaijan through land and will be connected to Central Asia and this opens the great opportunity for transport corridors from Asia, meaning from South East Asia, from Central Asia to Azerbaijan and Caspian Sea, to Turkey, to European markets. So this is a great condition today. The ceasefire agreement has opened transport links for Azerbaijan and for Turkic states in the region. We are hopeful that it will open a chapter in the strategic phase of the region. We really believe that this has demonstrated the professionalism of Azerbaijani army and it shows that Azerbaijan during the last thirty years has really strengthened economically, politically and militarily. We have received support from all major international organizations for the liberation of occupied Azerbaijani lands and we believe that this now opens a new chapter for the strategic picture of the South Caucasus. The agreement also allows Turkish military and Turkish soldiers to be present in Azerbaijan. So in a way, South

Caucasus now becomes a place where there are two security guarantors, Russia and Turkey. Unfortunately, the Western mediation in the face of France and in the face of United States did not give much result and they were very passive and absent during the negotiations process in November. Therefore, some analysts believe that now South Caucasus is falling under the control of mostly Turkey and Russia and we see the declining presence of the Western powers in the region. I would also like to say that this opens a new opportunity for regional cooperation between Azerbaijan, Turkey, Georgia, and Armenia will become part of the transportation and regional developmental networks. Therefore, it would be a win-win scenario for both sides and hopefully there will be opportunities for normalization of relations within the region as well.

Once again I would like to thank our colleagues from Pakistan for their strong support. I would like to thank all our diplomatic and military allies in Pakistan who have supported Azerbaijan during this time. We hope that Pakistani companies, Pakistani specialists can participate in Nagorno-Karabakh because this region will now need massive investment, massive development and reconstruction and hope we can involve our Pakistani colleagues into the development of this region as well.

**Major General Dr. Shahid Hashmat (Retd), senior member advisory board CGSS Islamabad.**

**‘Security Dynamics of South Caucasus: Implications for the Region’**

Greeting to organizers both on Pakistani sides and to our friends in Azerbaijan for organizing webinar on such an important development in the South Caucasus. This is not a new conflict, the conflict is at least 100 years old when in 1920 this enclave known as Nagorno-Karabakh was included into Azerbaijan. Though this area has been part of Azerbaijan since ages, but we are talking in terms of the demarcation which was done during the Soviet era. When Azerbaijan and Armenia got independence in 1991, at that time, and slightly earlier to that, the dispute had already resurfaced. So one could say that this was a further frozen dispute which has resurfaced a number of times and we all know that there was a fighting which took place from 1988 and 1994 and then there was a ceasefire. Later on, as very rightly pointed out, there were four UN Security Council resolutions and the resolutions very clearly demanded immediate ceasefire of hostilities and return of all IDPs and the right of the refugees to go back to their homeland. Unfortunately, nothing much could be done. There was a Minsk group which was established in the responsibility given by the UN to the Council of Security and Cooperation in Europe. Later on, organization of OICE the Organization of Security and Cooperation Europe. But this conflict remained unresolved. The biggest sufferer of this conflict were the Azerbaijani people, those who had been uprooted and those whose houses and livelihood had been destroyed and were forced to migrate to different parts of Azerbaijan. Anyhow, beyond Nagorno-Karabakh, what is important is that there were other adjacent areas, about 7 districts, which have been captured and a corridor connecting Armenia with Nagorno-Karabakh was also under occupation by the Armenian army. So with this background, let me just move forward and come to September 2020, when this conflict arose. Now the ground reality is that the forces of Azerbaijan on ground defeated the Armenian occupying forces and on the 8<sup>th</sup> of November they had reached to the city of Shusha the capital of Nagorno-Karabakh and if the ceasefire had not taken place, probably in the next one two days Armenia might have suffered a lot. But Azerbaijan Army liberated the capital of Nagorno-Karabakh and they would have liberated other occupied areas of Azerbaijan as well. I think the most important thing is to analyze the implications of this peace agreement. There are a total of nine clauses of

the peace agreement. Most important of them is that the ceasefire has taken place and the line of contact has re-shifted further inside the Nagorno-Karabakh and some of the districts which were captured by the Armenian army in 1994 or prior to that till 1996, those areas now stand liberated and according to the agreement there are certain other areas as well which are not part of the line of control but they will also be returned to Azerbaijan.

Similarly, a very important factor is that since 1996 there has been periodic violation of the ceasefire agreement. Whether this agreement was initially arranged by Russia or later on supervised by the three countries - United States, France and Russia but now what has happened is there is going to be peacekeeping force comprising of the Russian armed forces and the agreement stipulates some other details of this peacekeeping force as well. The peacekeeping force will have headquarter which is being named as a center to control peacekeeping activities. Also, there will be Turkish military observers for closely monitoring the agreement and the development in the area. The presence of the Turkish military observers at this center or the headquarter which will be controlling the activities of the peacekeeping forces that is something very encouraging because as the Azerbaijani friend has said, that these two countries Russia and Turkey are the guarantors of this agreement and they being a very influential and powerful countries in the region. I am sure that their presence will give surety that there are no more violations of the ceasefire agreement, whatever has been agreed in terms of the withdrawal of Armenian forces and return of the Azerbaijani district and land will be implemented in true letter and spirit according to the time which has been decided. Another important development is the corridor, there are two corridors one which will allow Armenia to have access to some of those areas of Nagorno-Karabakh which still remain under their control and there is going to be another parallel corridor which is going to connect Russia, Azerbaijan, Armenian and Turkey. So this is something very important. I would call it that these are the peace dividends of this agreement. Another important thing is that all prisoners of war, they will be exchanged, all the people who have died their bodies will be handed over. Similarly the return of the internally displaced people, refugees, and those people who have been homeless for the last almost two and a half decades is also a big development. Now they will have the opportunity to go back to their villages, to their towns, to their cities. Off course their houses stand destroyed and the Azerbaijani government and their friends like Turkey, Pakistan and many other friends of Azerbaijan must come forward for the reconstruction of these areas. These are the few components of the agreement which will be implemented.

Now coming towards the implications for the region. First and the foremost is, the return of Russia. The Caucasus area is a very troubled one, you have problem in the north, and you have problem in the South. This agreement allows Russian physical presence in the area. The agreement is for five years, which can automatically be extended for another five years if it is not objected by either of the party. So I personally believe that there is going to be presence of the Russian military forces for minimum ten years. It can be longer than that as well. It's a very good example of a conflict management. I do not call it conflict resolution, because the long lasting solution of the problem still needs to be done. There are some areas in Nagorno-Karabakh which will still remain under Armenian occupation, and off course, when there are Russian forces along the line of actual contact so those forces will get the protection as well. So in that case I think the problem still remains there and there has to be a long lasting ultimate resolution of the problem. Now will it take place and when it will take place is a very big question. I may refer to Kosovo. NATO force was deployed in Kosovo in 1999 and that was with the promise that eventually Kosovo

will get the independence and it will become an independent country. But unfortunately, as the acceptance of an independent Muslim country is not welcomed in that area. So the problem is still there. And we have the NATO forces still in Kosovo for the last 20 years. So I hope that the peacekeeping forces which will be there, they will not stay there beyond ten years and within these ten years, a permanent and long-lasting solution of the problem, the resolution of the dispute will be arranged. The other implication is the presence of Turkey. It is a known fact that Turkey has supported Azerbaijan in all ways. Diplomatically, politically, materially, you know. They have supported Azerbaijan and their cause at all levels, at all international organizations, international forums. So the presence of Turkey within the peacekeeping force as observer and then the availability of the Turkey to have a direct contact with Azerbaijan will have very long term positive effects. It opens up new opportunities and new vistas of commerce and trade, of development in that whole area. If the peace prevails and if the corridor allow transportation of goods from one area to another area, it can be a very good communication link, as highlighted already between Central Asia up to the Europe. Of course Russia will also benefit from it, and Armenia can also draw the dividends of the peace if the terms and conditions are used in a positive manner.

So I will finish it here and I think it is a very positive development and we are looking forward that it paves the way for a long lasting permanent solution of the problem. My congratulations to Azerbaijani brothers and sisters that their areas have been liberated and to those who are in Nagorno-Karabakh. I think it is a win-win situation to all, win-win situation for Russia, giving them more influence and domination in the area, for Turkey and for Azerbaijan. To my understanding it is a win-win situation for Armenia as well because if the war had continued and the conflict had continued for a few more days, on both sides there would have been more loss of lives. I believe wherever the line of contact today from Shusha, the Azerbaijani forces most probably could have moved further inside Nagorno-Karabakh. So there is a face saving for Armenia as well. It is a time for both the parties to reconcile and try to resolve the issue.

**Colonel Mehman Novruzov, Defense Attaché of Azerbaijan armed forces to Pakistan. Topic: Warfare Strategies: Operational and Tactical Preparedness of Azerbaijan.**

It is a great pleasure for me to share my views. Even though it is too early, to do the analysis of this 44 days war, but still we have managed to make some analysis and evaluation of the overall operations and counter-offensive operations of Azerbaijan armed forces. I will start with the presentation and I will try to make the interaction more interactive so I will share video and other material to make everyone have a better understanding of the situation on the ground. Very shortly I will go through the situation before the war and then the repeated military provocations of the Armenia especially started from the month of July this year and then counteroffensive peacekeeping operation of the Azerbaijan army and then the military tactics and strategy applied by the Azerbaijan army. I will of course share the some lessons learnt and some information about the operational and tactical preparedness of the Azerbaijan army.



So, as we all know by the information given by Mr. Fariz that this is the situation we had till 27<sup>th</sup> of September 2020. So as a result of the Armenian occupation against Azerbaijan the 20% land of Azerbaijan got under occupation since 1994 and then 30, 000 people from Azerbaijan side lost their lives. More than one million refugees and IDPs from both Armenia and Karabakh. Despite the UN Security Council resolutions, unfortunately none of them had been implemented until Azerbaijan started its counteroffensive operation. So this was the picture before 27<sup>th</sup> September.

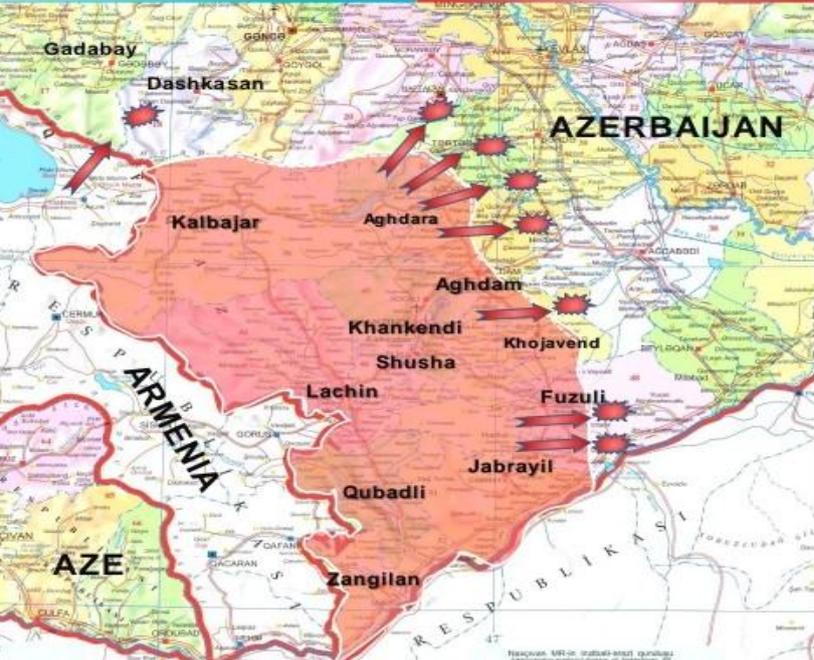
Now I would like to elaborate about the Armenians actions, the defensive preparations before the war started. You know that the Armenians built their line of defense for the last almost 30 years actually which they called the Ohanyan Line of Defense. So that was similar to the Maginot Line of France and became obsessed with the belief that Azerbaijan forces would never be able to breach that line of defense. The Armenian defense line was 2 to 5 kilometers, in some places even 10 kilometers deep belt. The black LOC that is shown on the map and obviously the Armenian forces were relatively safe in occupied territory of Azerbaijan because those lines of defense were fortified, every dominating peak was fortified. The front of this defense line consisted of 2 to 5 kilometers deep minefields. Their strong posts could only get hit by direct artillery fire. So therefore, I just wanted to portray picture in front of your eyes that it was very difficult actually for the offensive forces to break that line of defense and carry out the offensive operation.

Then the new government of Armenia and with more aggressive approach started to apply the new military doctrine that was actually the new wars for new territories, you know the strategy applied in it. Armenia was looking for new territories in expense of Azerbaijan territories.



## Armenian Military Provocation of 27 July 2020





- Armenian military aggression against civilian population was intensified...
- Intensive shelling of the Gapanly village of **Terter region**, the Chiragli and Orta Gervend villages of **Aghdam region**, the Alkhanli and Shukurbeyli villages of **Fizuli region**, and the Jojug Marjanli village of **Jabrayil region**;
- Serious damage was caused to civilian infrastructure;
- Number of civilians and military servicemen were injured and killed;
- In response to Armenian provocation Azerbaijan was compelled to use its inherent right of self-defense. (V-1)

Therefore they started the new provocations from across the border and that started in July this year. Then they eventually repeated that and the kick point of this, when the tensions were highest was on 27<sup>th</sup> of July 2020 when Armenian military aggression against especially the civilian population of Azerbaijan intensified. The villages located along the line of contact were subjected to the heavy Armenian artillery shelling. So we have casualties among the civilians as well as the military so the Azerbaijani political and military leadership decided to carry out the Counter Offensive operation, by the way which we have been preparing for the last more than 27 years. Armed forces of Azerbaijan were not just sitting there and doing nothing. Off course we had been preparing for this day and finally the political direction was given to the military and we started our Counter Offensive Peace Enforcement Operations. The operation started on the 27<sup>th</sup> and then Azerbaijan armed forces applied the counteroffensive operation in mainly two directions. The northern direction and the southern direction, and the unique planning of this military operation was that for Armenians it was very difficult to find out the main offensive direction of the Azerbaijani army. Because we were applying equally from North and South, so the Armenians were not sure which direction would be the main.



The Armenians were expecting the Azerbaijani forces from Agdam direction because the Agdam direction was the easiest direction and the shortest way to reach the Khankendi and Shusha as they are the main supply roads, the infrastructure is available. Also this area is relatively plain area which would be much easier to Azerbaijan army to carry out its offensive operation. But they were wrong, off course. The Azerbaijan had another plan, which was the longest way and the more difficult way to reach its desired military instate. So Armenian forces were not sure about the main direction of the Azerbaijan offensive. This gave us more leverage I would say to maneuver our forces and deceive the Armenian forces and to make sure that they do not utilize their reserve forces, they don't apply them on the direction of our main offensive. Just in two days of this operation, the Azerbaijani army could liberate some of the strategic heights on the Murovdagh Mountain strategic heights and also in the Southern direction along the Azerbaijan and Iran border.

It was very risky, the operation, because while moving towards South West we had a very dangerous circumstance there so that the Armenian forces could at any time cut our forces, our offensive, and could isolate and destroy our offensive, but thanks to our good military planning that the counteroffensive operations of Armenian forces were also considered and adequate measures were taken. On 25<sup>th</sup> October, the Qubadli region was liberated and all the areas along the Azerbaijan-Iranian border were taken under control of the Azerbaijan armed forces. On 30<sup>th</sup> October, 2020 we started moving towards the North and towards the direction of Shusha. On 7<sup>th</sup> November, very unexpectedly, after taking control over Hadrut settlement that had very strategic importance. After that it was played like a launch pad for Azerbaijan army, especially the Special Forces to do their final infiltration into the Shusha town and then control over Shusha. So this was the desired military instate that Azerbaijan political-military leadership wanted to achieve. Here are the names of the regions and cities that were liberated; total of 5 cities, 4 settlements and 285 villages were liberated from Armenian occupation.



Following is the destroyed and ceased military equipment of Armenian forces that were stationed in Nagorno-Karabakh., 250 tanks were destroyed and 53 tanks sealed as military trophy.



If you see the number of this equipment which was destroyed and ceased, you can imagine actually how much budget would be required to acquire this military equipment. And off course, as our President mentioned that Armenia would never be able to purchase this military equipment, so it was not in consistence with the military budget of Armenia. At the end of the second Karabakh war that continued for 44 days this has resulted with the achievement of desired military instate of Azerbaijan which include the liberation of four regions of Azerbaijan Fuzuli, Jabrayil, Zangilan and the strategic heights at Murovdag mountain adjacent to Nagorno-Karabakh and Suqovuşan settlement and part of Hojavend region (Hadrut settlement) and Shusha city.



Overall picture of the operations

Right from the start of this operation, Azerbaijan army didn't try frontier attack. Instead, Azerbaijan army exploited the Armenian obsession of their strong defense line. Azerbaijan army was separating Armenian strongholds with artillery shelling, artillery barrages and especially with the precise UAV attacks and drones while searching for the weak spots and then infiltrating enemy frontline through these weak spots and then searching to encircle, isolate and destroy specific strongholds and breach decisive points. So that was the tactics and strategy which Azerbaijan military leadership applied during these 44 days. So there were the special encirclement operations for particular decisive points, strongholds, and each time the Azerbaijani troops did not apply direct strategy but rather indirect strategy in taking control over those strongholds. Azerbaijani army has successfully used force multipliers in this war such as Bayraktar, you know the unmanned combat aerial vehicles that Azerbaijan army purchased from Turkey and modern UAVs and drones. Azerbaijan army has used precise weapons system in this war in order to avoid collateral damage as you see the military base located in, surrounded with civilian houses. So all this precise weapon systems that have been used in this 44 day war just shows that how Azerbaijan tried to minimize collateral damage and to bring

it to the minimum. Only military targets have been targeted and destroyed during this war.

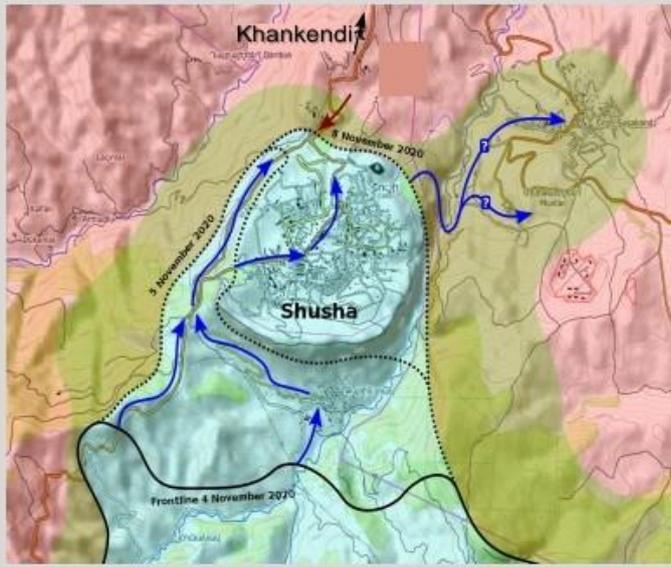
The fiercest battle of these 44 days was the battle for taking control of Shusha city which is situated at the altitude of 1400 to 1800 meters in the Karabakh Mountains. Operation took place from 4 to 8 November 2020. Azerbaijani military leadership had intelligence information of about more than 4,000 Armenian forces that were in the city including 450 Armenian Special Forces with heavy artillery and armor. Armenians were expecting Azerbaijan to approach, to carry out its offensive to Shusha from the Lachin-Shusha road -the main entrance. But of course they were wrong. Azerbaijan Special Forces deceived enemy by not attacking Shusha city using main entry road but Azerbaijan Special Forces had another plan. So about 400 Azerbaijan Special Forces personnel being equipped with only very light weapons, knives, pistols and hand grenades started climbing the rough cliffs of about 300-400 meters to enter Shusha city. They entered the city from unexpected direction where only 500 Armenian forces were defending, which was much less than other forces that were awaiting Azerbaijan's offensive. Especially equipped with armors and tanks the Special Forces personnel when they entered the Shusha city, they had hand to hand fighting with heavily armed Armenian forces equipped with armors and tanks. That throw the enemy off balance and the Azerbaijan Special Forces took control over the city on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2020.



## BATTLE OF SHUSHA (04-07 Nov 2020)



- About 400 Azerbaijan Special Forces personnel fought against terrain knowledgeable and heavily armed 4000 Armenian forces, including 450 Armenian special forces equipped with heavy artillery and tanks.
- Azerbaijan Special Forces deceived enemy by not attacking Shusha city using main entry road, but instead they got equipped with only light weight weapons, knives, pistols, hand grenades and started climbing the rough cliffs of about 400 meters.
- With very rapid and surprise attack, Azerbaijan Special Forces could throw the enemy off balance and take control over the city on 8 November 2020.



The Armenian soldiers described this attack as follows:

*Azerbaijan Special Forces crowd on the roads in the direction of Shusha. Our snipers fired on them, hoping that they would fall from their rocks and die. But they did not stop. Ignoring the wounds, and continued to crawl upward as immortal.*

At this point of time, I would like to pay my highest respect and gratitude to all personnel of Azerbaijan armed forces, especially Special Forces personnel, who demonstrated bravery which will go down in history of modern warfare of Azerbaijan and the world. Achievement of peace, military and political instate that forced Armenia to agree to the terms laid down by the Azerbaijan side.

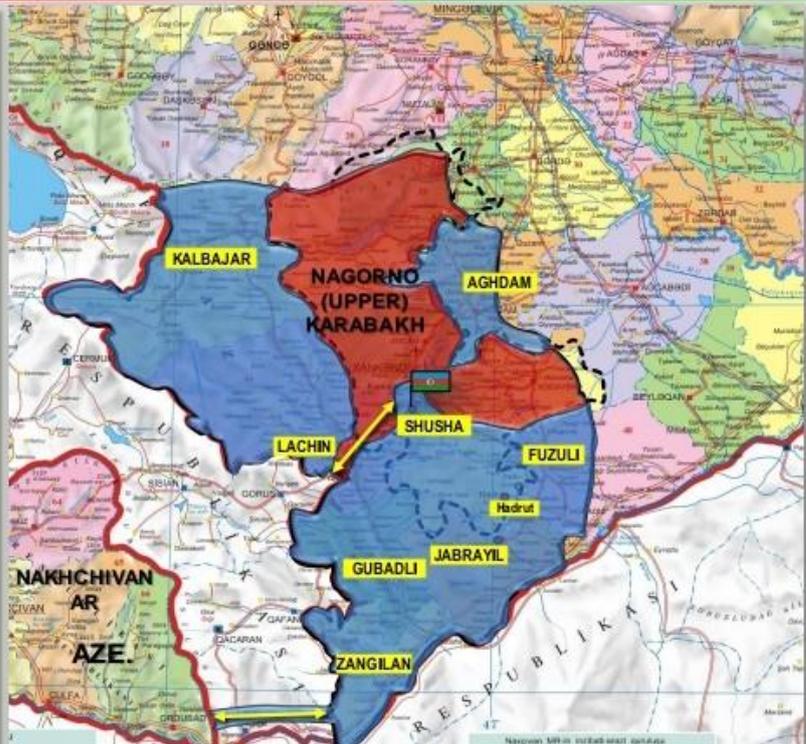


## TERMS OF CEASEFIRE AGREEMENT



Successful completion of military operations by Azerbaijan Army forced Armenia to:

- Agree with the terms of ceasefire laid down by Azerbaijan Side, which were withdrawal of Armenian military troops from 3 remaining regions (Kalbajar, Aghdam & Lachin) of Azerbaijan, without prerequisite of any status for Nagorno-Karabakh.
- Deployment of Russian and then Turkish peacekeeping forces in NK area.
- Provision of Lachin corridor (5 km wide) from Armenia to Khankendi under security guarantee of Russian Peacekeepers & transport connection from Azerbaijan's mainland to Nakhchivan AR of Azerbaijan, to be secured by Russian Border Guard Service.



2<sup>nd</sup> Karabakh war revealed some important developments which have not been witnessed before. So the first is that Azerbaijani army was not the same that existed in the 1990s, Azerbaijan has been investing highly in its defense capacity over the past decades. Spending over 2 billion a year for defense procurement to enhance its capabilities. Azerbaijan has initiated military-technical cooperation with Turkey, because it is not the equipment that matter much, but the manpower behind the equipment matters the most. That is why Azerbaijan has initiated military cooperation with friendly countries with brotherly Turkey, Russia and other countries leading in production of high-tech and precise defense products to source the latest military technologies. During this military campaign, those weapons have played crucial role in the successful ending of this operation. Azerbaijan Army has carried out bilateral military cooperation programs with many friendly countries, especially in the field of military training and exercises with friendly countries as Turkey, Pakistan, United States, Russia and others where servicemen of the Azerbaijan army enhanced their knowledge and operational skills which played crucial role in this war. The extensive usage of drones by Azerbaijan Army has changed the overall outlook of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. I think after this war, many countries will change their military doctrines and their approach to the future wars. The Kamikaze drones and the UCAVs gave Azerbaijani side air superiority, which was critical in the mountainous terrain. The drone warfare was used to soften enemy targets before ground forces moved into the battlefield. So this strategy allowed

Azerbaijan Army to preserve its troops while demoralizing Armenian forces by keeping them on continuous alert.

**Mr. Samir Guliyev, Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan to Pakistan.**

**Successful Foreign Policy of Azerbaijan in dealing with the current crisis.**

To better understand the success of our foreign policy during this last military operations period, we should go back to the restoration of our independence in 1991 and the foreign policy conduct after the restoration of independence especially during the presidency of national leader Heydar Aliyev and our current President, Ilham Aliyev. During these nearly 30 years, Azerbaijan has been able to establish friendly and mutual respect based relations with most of the world countries, and especially with its neighbors. Azerbaijan's main aim was to establish peace in the region as well as mutual collaboration in the region so it's a win-win situation for all the parties. I would also like to mention the foreign aid provided by Azerbaijan to various friendly countries in time of need, especially during the pandemic. It also played role in strengthening bilateral relations of Azerbaijan. Although Azerbaijan itself was in a war situation with Armenia and oil prices at that time were declining, but we did not ignore our friendly neighboring countries during these difficult times.

Coming to Azerbaijan-Armenia Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, off course the priority of Azerbaijan's foreign policy after 1994 ceasefire with Armenia was to form and strengthen favorable background of international law. Actually international law from the beginning was supporting Azerbaijan's just position in this conflict, but it was not followed by Armenia and the big powers of the world were not putting pressure or sanctions on Armenia in order to implement the directions of international law. Although it was demanded by Azerbaijan but we didn't see any concrete efforts, concrete actions from the big powers to put pressure or sanction Armenia. But as a result of hard work during these independence years, almost all important international organizations have passed resolutions and other documents supporting territorial integrity and sovereignty of Azerbaijan. Some of these were mentioned in the previous speeches, but I would like to mention some very important ones among them to understand better how international law played an important role in conducting Azerbaijan's foreign policy.

First of all, we have to mention four UN Security Council resolutions which were adopted in 1993 during the first war. They were demanding withdrawal of occupying Armenian forces from the occupied territories of Azerbaijan immediately and unconditionally. But off course, they were not implemented during all these years by Armenia and recently, during the recent military operations, counteroffensive operations, Azerbaijan itself implemented these UN Security Council resolutions and the following ceasefire statement with which Armenian took commitment to withdraw from other remaining districts as well. Second I would like to mention OIC organization of Islamic cooperation. This organization was always supporting Azerbaijan's rightful position on the conflict and almost in every important meeting of the organization, resolution was adopted which was condemning Armenian aggression against Azerbaijan. There was also one resolution of the parliament assembly of the Council of Europe in the 2005. The next I would like to mention very important resolution of UN General Assembly of 2008 which was clearly affirming the territorial integrity of Azerbaijan and demanding retreat of all Armenian forces from the occupied territories. The next very important point is the Non-Aligned Movement. You know it is the second largest organization of the world after UN in the world and Azerbaijan became a member of this organization in 2011. And after it's Baku

summit, which was held last year in our capital, Azerbaijan took over its chairmanship. And all the declaration and other documents of the Non-aligned movement (NAM) also extended strong support to our sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Moreover, when recent military operations were going on in Karabakh region, the UN Security Council was planning to adopt the next resolution in this conflict which was not in favor of Azerbaijan. But with the help of some of the NAM member states which at that time were member of the UN Security Council, they prevented this resolution to be adopted. Actually they prevented it and they didn't allow this resolution to be adopted in the UN Security Council. This was once again the success of Azerbaijan's foreign policy which proved that its relations with NAM member states are very sincere and based on mutual respect and mutual support. Coming especially to the activities to Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan during the war, the ministry and especially the Foreign Minister himself was very active and engaged during this period. The minister was making phone conversations and writing letters to his counterparts of different countries in order to explain the real situation on the ground and create awareness about the Armenian aggression and violation of international humanitarian law by this country. Foreign minister also attended the meetings which were held in third countries for agreeing on humanitarian ceasefire. They were agreed but soon after these agreements, they were again violated by Armenia. Fact sheets on the matter including the evidences of Armenian aggression and their attacks against the civilian settlements of Azerbaijan prepared by the ministry which were delivered to various State institutions as well as media outlets of world countries so that they are not affected by the black propaganda of Armenia. And one of the main task before country's foreign policy including this military operation was to neutralize the biased and pro-Armenian narrative originating from different world countries, world powers and their leaders, co-chairs whose task originally was to mediate between the conflicting parties and stay neutral in this conflict. Off course this was not an easy task especially taking into consideration the pressure we have been receiving during the conflict as well as the efforts of strong Armenian Diaspora which is existing in different world countries and they are strong lobbying in world power centers. But I think we managed this task and especially Mr. President's regular interviews to the world's top media outlets played very important role in this regard. I should also present the position of the President of the Russian federation which is also one of the Minsk group co-chairs who in his interview said that Nagorno-Karabakh is an internationally recognized territory of Azerbaijan. So this was a very important statement. From the very beginning of Azerbaijan's self-defense and counteroffensive operations, Armenia was trying to invoke the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) which includes Russian and some other post-Soviet States, it's a NATO like military block, and Armenia was trying to invoke this block to this military conflict. But well considered and correct foreign policy conducted by Azerbaijan as well as our Colonel mentioned, precise military operations which were not targeting the territory of Armenia prevented this involvement to happen.

At the end of my speech I would like to express our gratitude to Pakistan and its brotherly people for the continued sincere and firm support extended for territorial integrity and sovereignty of Azerbaijan during the conflict as well as the strong condemnation of the Armenian aggression. This is highly appreciated in Azerbaijan, once again affirms that Azerbaijan's position was right and in accordance with international law. Moreover, Pakistan's stance was a good example for other countries as well to determine their positions regarding this conflict. So we are very grateful and appreciate Pakistan's

support. I cannot leave without highlighting another of our brotherly country, Turkey. It's political, diplomatic and moral support was also very crucial during the conflict.

**Professor Doctor Azar Babayev from ADA University.**

**Topic: Risk Analysis: Impact on Economy, Society and Policies.**

To speak about Nagorno-Karabakh conflict as an Azerbaijani, on one way is very easy, but on the other hand indeed it is very difficult because it is very challenging task to say something new in this regard, especially after all these valuable inputs from my colleagues about different aspects of Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

Let me start with some general remarks about this conflict that is indeed very important. Again to ask this question what this conflict is about, this Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, politically, strategically, militarily and historically. That's a very simple question yet equally important question to ask, I think special from analytical perspective. That is also very important from international perspective, usually we have a misperception of this conflict and it seems like a typical Asian conflict as a former autonomous region of Azerbaijan. One thing very uniquely about Nagorno-Karabakh conflict is not just some elements of being an ethnic conflict but this conflict is primarily a case there is irredentist claim by a neighboring country, in this case from Armenia allegedly claiming this territory to be historically Armenian and belonging to Armenia. So it is an irredentist conflict. History always opens to interpretation. It is again a wide range of events. We have international system, we have UN system, we have system of international law and according to this system Nagorno-Karabakh is part of Azerbaijan. That is the problem that they often use this language that this is a disputed territory, but legally again it is not a disputed region, it is rather very important from the UN perspective, from the perspective of international law, it is an occupied territory. Fariz Ismaelzade already referred to is not about this former region of Nagorno-Karabakh but also surrounding territories. It wasn't just about the state of Nagorno-Karabakh, from Azerbaijan's perspective this conflict was about an act of aggression by a neighboring country, and by Armenia. Thus, it is a typical irredentist conflict not a secessionist conflict.

Back in 1993, four resolutions were adopted by Security Council. Also this question generally never asked academically since very important, why in a very short period of time, these four resolutions of UN Security Council about this conflict is about allegedly ethnic conflict. Because, that is important, this conflict was primarily about aggression, act of aggression by a neighboring country, by Armenia against Azerbaijan. It is not a simple or ordinary ethnic conflict but it is an international conflict. This conflict is not just about land, it's about people. Hundreds and thousands of people of Azerbaijan can now return to their homes, their territories. That's also very important again in terms of international humanitarian law. Also coming off course we also talked a lot about the causes of this conflict, the historical context of this conflict. Now it's also important to talk about the future. What will be next? What will happen next in this context? That is indeed a very important question. Azerbaijani side is a clear winner of this war. Turkey is geo-strategically another very important winner in this outcome.

Most importantly, now we have Russian boots on the ground. In this regard, we can also consider Russia as a winner of this outcome. Armenia also is becoming heavily dependent on Russia. That is very obvious. Also we can say that it is a geo-strategic gain for Russia. On the other side, we have a clear loser of this outcome, Armenia, and also the western powers. Western powers clearly didn't play any significant role in this process. Objectively speaking, Azerbaijan is a clear winner of this war but it is not a complete victory for Azerbaijan. We now have a Russian boots on the ground. Usually in every

conflict, we have two phases, military phase and political phase. Military phase is clearly won by Azerbaijan and the ceasefire agreement was kind of a capitulation for Armenia. Now this task is also a challenge for the Azerbaijani side to win political phase of this conflict. And most important question off course is what would be those final stages of this remaining part of Nagorno-Karabakh. Now this is a very interesting question, not only on academic off course, but politically. Now what we have is the historically important that during the first Nagorno-Karabakh war, there was a very long peace process and there was always this situation that Armenia acted from a position of strength because they controlled Nagorno-Karabakh but also the surrounding territories. But now they have this reversed relationship. Now Azerbaijan is acting from a position of strength, very important thing is that the changing role in this context. Now, Azerbaijani side can dictate the most important conditions for the status question. On this very optimistic note, I would end my remarks.

**Dr, Mehmood Khan. Regional Geo-political Research Analyst & Member Board of Experts of CGSS.**

**Topic: Role of Regional and Extra Regional Powers & Way Forward. Welcome and congratulations.**

Dreams have come true and liberation of Nagorno-Karabakh has become a reality. Armenia was forced to sign a peace treaty with Russia and Azerbaijan for solving this issue. Illegal occupier Armenian has disturbed the geography of this region for a long time. On 27<sup>th</sup> September, 2020, Azerbaijan started its offensive after persistent Armenian shelling on Azerbaijani territory. Azerbaijan systematically and successfully used Turkish drones to turn the tide in this war. These paved way for Armenian troops to easily enter into enemy land after precise drone strikes.

Fascist Armenia indiscriminately fired on infrastructure and civilian population of Azerbaijan. Azerbaijan did not kill a single Armenian civilian, school or hospital and answered the enemy in the battle field.

With better leadership qualities, President Ilham Aliyev increased ties with Turkey and increased strategic relations with Pakistan. President Aliyev maintained good relations with Russia. Liberating some of the territories through military might, he gained upper hand in the negotiation phase. It also proved that Russia would never allow complete defeat and annihilation of Armenia. It is indeed a great victory for Azerbaijan. Ankara was a great strategic partner in this conflict while France openly supported Armenia. It is a great victory which has opened doors for regional connectivity with Central Asian countries and Turkey.

Biggest winner is our friendly country Azerbaijan. Strategic winners include Turkey, Russia and Pakistan. Strategic losses of western countries like USA and EU cannot be overlooked. West has grown alienated from Turkey in the recent past which has given opportunity to Russia and Turkey to increase their presence in the South Caucasus region. Turkish President has also emerged as a clear victor in this conflict.

Minsk group has been rendered ineffective in this conflict. EU has emerged as a loser. After the fighting broke around, EU policy was just issuing some statements for cessation of hostilities which were not enough to save their strategic and economic interests in their east. Lesson is that military power rules. Azerbaijani has proved that its militarily achieved what it couldn't get diplomatically for decades. Turkey has not violated any international law by supporting Azerbaijan. Turkey was not allowed to be a full part of the Minsk group regarding solving of Nagorno-Karabakh region.

Nagorno-Karabakh liberation is not a symbolic victory, and it has many socio-political, regional and strategic implications which were explained by President Aliyev to a German

television channel. I am proud to be part of CGSS because of their efforts in domains of research and dialogue.

**Concluding remarks by Mr. Fariz Ismailzade:**

Thanks to organizers from Pakistan who have taken time and looked into contents and details of this conflict. Thanks to all the panelists and participants for participation, thanks to all.

## **ANNEXURE 5: PRESS RELEASE**

On 26th November 2020, the Online International Conference on “Azerbaijan-Armenia Armed Conflict: Causes and Implications for the Regional Dynamics of South Caucasus” was jointly organized by the Center of Global and Strategic Studies (CGSS) Islamabad, and ADA University, Baku, Azerbaijan.

The aim of the conference was to analyze the implications on the security and stability of the Caucasus region, the successful foreign policy of Azerbaijan and the Nagorno Karabakh region, and other significant aspects of the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict.

The conference was commenced by the opening remarks of Brig Akhtar Nawaz Janjua (Retd), Senior Member Advisory Board CGSS. He stated that there are many important lessons that we can learn from this war, where there is a will there is a way and our brothers in Azerbaijan have shown commendable strength and courage in the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict. The truth has prevailed and Azerbaijan stands victorious.

Mr. Fariz Ismailzade, Executive Vice-Rector, ADA University, Baku, Azerbaijan stated that since the disintegration of the Soviet Union, things took an uncertain turn. He mentioned that Azerbaijan was supported by many countries in the international community. He further mentioned that when the Soviet Union was weakening, Armenians started to occupy this land. On March 2nd, 1992, when Azerbaijan was accepted in the UN, Nagorno-Karabakh was accepted as a part of Azerbaijan and the international community accepted it without any objection. Armenia, in the meanwhile, occupied the Nagorno-Karabakh region which created a refugee crisis.

Mr. Fariz Ismailzade further discussed, there were areas very difficult to liberate but the professional behavior shown by the Azerbaijan army played an important role. Azerbaijan's army successfully liberated important areas.

Major General Dr. Shahid Ahmad Hashmat HI(M), (Retd), Senior Member Advisory Board, CGSS mentioned that the conflict is almost 100 years old. The UN resolutions after this demanded de-escalation and return of refugees and return of land to Azerbaijan, but none of this happened. Minsk group was formed and diplomatic efforts were done but to no avail.

He further explained that in Azerbaijan-Armenia war, Azerbaijan successfully liberated the areas occupied by Armenian forces up to Shusha, which was followed by a ceasefire agreement. He further highlighted that Azerbaijan has strived towards a long-lasting solution for peace in the region.

Colonel Mehman Novruzov, Defence Attache of the Embassy of Azerbaijan to Pakistan mentioned that according to Armenia, Azerbaijan will not be able to breach their defense lines which were heavily fortified with minefields. The new Armenian government tried to apply a hard-line military narrative for occupying new territories at the expense of Azerbaijan. In pursuance of this motive, Armenian military aggression against Azerbaijani civilians continued.

Hence, the counteroffensive peace operation by Azerbaijani political leadership was given a go-ahead. He discussed the warfare strategies, operational and tactical preparedness of Azerbaijan and shared a comprehensive presentation describing the timeline of the conflict. He shared informative videos of the armed conflict and stated that about 400 Azerbaijan personnel fought successfully against 4000 heavily armed

Armenian forces equipped with heavy artillery and tanks. Discussing the battle of Shusha he stated that this will be remembered in modern warfare history.

Mr. Samir Guliyev, Deputy head of the Mission, Embassy of Azerbaijan to Pakistan Azerbaijan's main aim was to establish peace and cooperative relations with its neighboring as well as other neighboring countries for a win-win situation. Coming to this conflict, Mr. Samir mentioned that Azerbaijani was always supported by provisions and directions of international law which were constantly ignored by Armenia. Many countries accepted Azerbaijan's point of view with due course of time because of its basis on international conflict.

Mr. Samir Guliyev further stated that Pakistan's and Turkey's cooperation is an example of the international support received by Azerbaijan. He also highlighted the cooperation of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation.

Prof. Dr. Azar Babayev from ADA University, Baku, Azerbaijan mentioned that Azerbaijan's Armed Conflict is a very important question to ask from the international and analytical perspective because of the misunderstanding and misinterpretation of this conflict on the international level. According to the international legal system, Nagorno-Karabakh is part of Azerbaijan and under the perspective of international law, it is an occupied territory. The international legal system plays a very important part in it. Four resolutions were adopted by UNSC regarding this conflict in the 1990s. As there are no Security Council resolutions regarding other conflicts, the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict can be singled out because of these international resolutions. He also emphasized that Azerbaijan is the clear winner of this armed conflict. It was not only a war of military but also a war of political and academic level that Azerbaijan has won.

Dr. Mehmood Ul Hassan Khan, Member Board of Experts, CGSS & Regional Geopolitical Analyst stated that dreams have come true and the liberation of Nagorno-Karabakh has become a reality. Armenia was forced to sign a peace treaty with Russia and Azerbaijan for solving this issue. An illegal occupier, Armenia, has disturbed the geography of this region for a long time. On 27th September 2020, Azerbaijan responded after persistent Armenian shelling on Azerbaijani territory and presented an outstanding example of courage and bravery.

He also highlighted that fascist Armenia indiscriminately attacked the infrastructure and civilian population of Azerbaijan. On the other Azerbaijan did not kill a single Armenian civilian, school, or hospital and answered the enemy on the battlefield. Describing the impressive leadership qualities, he stated that President Ilham Aliyev increased Azerbaijan's ties with Turkey and increased its strategic relations with Pakistan that diplomatically helped Azerbaijan against Armenia.

The conference was concluded with the closing remarks of Mr. Fariz Ismailzade, Executive Vice-Rector, ADA University, Baku, Azerbaijan. He expressed his gratitude to panelists from Azerbaijan and Pakistan and specifically thanked CGSS for their support to Azerbaijan and raising awareness regarding the Azerbaijan-Armenia armed conflict.

The conference was moderated by Ms. Palwasha Nawaz, Project Executive, CGSS, and was attended by 100 participants from Pakistan and Azerbaijan. The conference was also viewed live on Facebook.

## ANNEXURE 6: MEDIA COVERAGE (National & International Media)

### a. Daily Islamabad Post

<https://islamabadpost.com.pk/azerbaijan-armys-professional-behavior-commendable-speakers/>



**b. National Herald Tribune**

<https://www.dailynht.com/epaper/main.php?action=epaper&id=main&page=3&dt=files>

ONLINE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON "AZERBAIJAN-ARMENIA ARMED CONFLICT: CAUSES AND IMPLICATIONS FOR THE REGIONAL DYNAMICS OF SOUTH CAUCASUS" JOINTLY ORGANIZED BY CGSS, ISLAMABAD, AND ADA UNIVERSITY, BAKU, AZERBAIJAN.

**Proficient performance of the Azerbaijan Army played an important role to successfully liberate the important areas from Armenians: Mr. Fariz Ismailzade**

**Pakistan and Turkey's cooperation is an example of the international support received by Azerbaijan during fighting with Armenians: Deputy Head of Mission About 400 Azerbaijan personnel fought successfully against 4000 heavily armed Armenian forces equipped with heavy artillery and tanks: Defence Attache of Azerbaijan**

**NHT Report**  
ISLAMABAD, November 26: An Online International Conference on "Azerbaijan-Armenia Armed Conflict: Causes and Implications for the Regional Dynamics of South Caucasus" was jointly organized by the Center of Global and Strategic Studies (CGSS) Islamabad, and ADA University, Baku, Azerbaijan.

The aim of the conference was to analyze the implications on the security and stability of the Caucasus region, the successful foreign policy of Azerbaijan and the Nagorno Karabakh region, and other significant aspects of the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict. The conference was commenced by the opening remarks of Brig Akhtar Nawaz Janjua (Retd), Senior Member Advisory Board CGSS. He stated that there are many important lessons that we can learn from this war, where there is a will there is a way and our brothers in Azerbaijan have shown commendable strength and courage in the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict. The truth has prevailed and Azerbaijan stands victorious.

Mr. Fariz Ismailzade, Executive Vice-Rector, ADA University, Baku, Azerbaijan stated that since the disintegration of the Soviet Union, things took an uncertain turn. He mentioned that Azerbaijan was supported by many countries in the interna-

Armenians started to occupy this land. On March 2nd, 1992, when Azerbaijan was accepted in the UN, Nagorno-Karabakh was accepted as a part of Azerbaijan and the international community accepted it without any objection. Armenia, in the meanwhile, occupied the Nagorno-Karabakh region which created a refugee crisis.

Mr. Fariz Ismailzade further discussed, there were areas very difficult to liberate but the professional behaviour shown by the Azerbaijan army played an important role. Azerbaijan's army successfully liberated important areas.

Major General Dr. Shahid Ahmad Hashmat HI(M), (Retd), Senior Member Advisory Board, CGSS mentioned that the conflict is almost 100 years old. The UN resolutions after this demanded de-escalation and return of refugees and return of land to Azerbaijan, but none of this happened. Minsk group was formed and diplomatic efforts were done but to no avail.

He further explained that on 27th September 2020, both countries alleged each other for escalation. War continued and Azerbaijan reoccupied areas up to Shusha and would have occupied the capital in the coming days had there been no ceasefire agreement. He further highlighted that Azerbaijan has strived towards a long-lasting solution for peace in the region. But the



Colonel Mehman Novruzov, Defence Attache of the Embassy of Azerbaijan to Pakistan mentioned that according to Armenia, Azerbaijan will not be able to breach their defense lines which were heavily fortified with minefields. The new Armenian government tried to apply a hard-line military narrative for occupying new territories at the expense of Azerbaijan. In pursuance of this motive, Armenian military aggression against Azerbaijan civilians continued.

Hence, the counter-offensive peace operation by Azerbaijani political leadership was given a go-ahead. He discussed the warfare strategies, operational and tactical preparedness of Azerbaijan and shared a compre-

hensive overview of the Azerbaijan army and its capabilities. He stated that about 400 Azerbaijan personnel fought successfully against 4000 heavily armed Armenian forces equipped with heavy artillery and tanks. Discussing the battle of Shusha he stated that this will be remembered in modern warfare history.

Mr. Samir Guliyev, Deputy head of the Mission, Embassy of Azerbaijan to Pakistan Azerbaijan's main aim was to establish peace and cooperative relations with its neighboring as well as other neighboring countries for a win-win situation. Coming to this conflict, Mr. Samir mentioned that Azerbaijani was always supported by provisions and directions of international law which were

due course of time because of its basis on international conflict.

Mr. Samir Guliyev further stated that Pakistan's and Turkey's cooperation is an example of the international support received by Azerbaijan. He also highlighted the cooperation of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation.

Prof. Dr. Azar Babayev from ADA University, Baku, Azerbaijan mentioned that Azerbaijan's Armed Conflict is a very important question to ask from the international and analytical perspective because of the misunderstanding and misinterpretation of this conflict on the international level. According to the international legal system, Nagorno-Karabakh is part of Azerbaijan and under the perspective of international law, it is an occupied territory. The international legal system plays a very important part in it. Four resolutions were adopted by UNSC regarding this conflict in the 1990s. As there are no Security Council resolutions regarding other conflicts, the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict can be singled out because of these international resolutions. He also emphasized that Azerbaijan is the clear winner of this armed conflict. It was not only a war of military but also a war of political and academic level that Azerbaijan has won.

Dr. Mehmood Ul Hassan Khan, Member Board of Experts, CGSS & Regional Geopolitical Analyst

Armenia was forced to sign a peace treaty with Russia and Azerbaijan for solving this issue. An illegal occupier, Armenia, has disturbed the geography of this region for a long time. On 27th September 2020, Azerbaijan responded after persistent Armenian shelling on Azerbaijani territory and presented an outstanding example of courage and bravery.

He also highlighted that fascist Armenia indiscriminately attacked the infrastructure and civilian population of Azerbaijan. On the other Azerbaijan did not kill a single Armenian civilian, school, or hospital and answered the enemy on the battlefield. Describing the impressive leadership qualities, he stated that President Ilham Aliyev increased Azerbaijan's ties with Turkey and increased its strategic relations with Pakistan that diplomatically helped Azerbaijan against Armenia.

The conference was concluded with the closing remarks of Mr. Fariz Ismailzade, Executive Vice-Rector, ADA University, Baku, Azerbaijan. He expressed his gratitude to panelists from Azerbaijan and Pakistan and specifically thanked CGSS for their support to Azerbaijan and raising awareness regarding the Azerbaijan-Armenia armed conflict.

The conference was moderated by Ms. Palwasha Nawaz, Project Executive, CGSS, and was attended by 100 participants from

c. **Centreline**

<https://centreline.com.pk/2020/11/26/azerbaijan-armys-professional-behavior-commendable-speakers/>



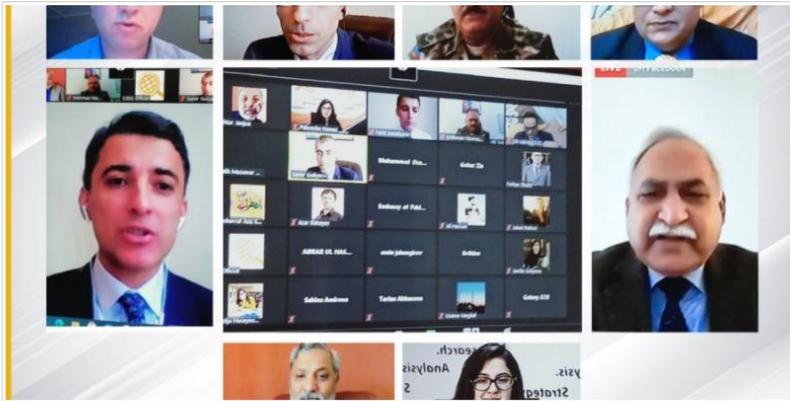
**d. Diplomatic News Agency**

<https://dnanews.com.pk/azerbaijan-armys-professional-behavior-commendable-speakers/>



**Azerbaijan army's professional behavior commendable: Speakers**

DNA News | November 26, 2020



On 26<sup>th</sup> November 2020, the Online International Conference on "Azerbaijan-Armenia Armed Conflict: Causes and Implications for the Regional Dynamics of South Caucasus" was jointly organized by the Center of Global and Strategic Studies (CGSS) Islamabad, and ADA University, Baku, Azerbaijan.

The aim of the conference was to analyze the implications on the security and stability of the Caucasus region, the successful foreign policy of Azerbaijan and the Nagorno Karabakh region, and other significant aspects of the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict.

The conference was commenced by the opening remarks of Brig Akhtar Nawaz Janjua (Retd), Senior Member Advisory Board CGSS. He stated that there are many important lessons that we can learn from this war, where there is a will there is a way and our brothers in Azerbaijan have shown commendable strength and courage in the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict. The truth has prevailed and Azerbaijan stands victorious.

Mr. Fariz Smalitzade, Executive Vice-Rector, ADA University, Baku, Azerbaijan stated that since the

disintegration of the Soviet Union, things took an uncertain turn. He mentioned that Azerbaijan was supported by many countries in the international community. He further mentioned that when the Soviet Union was weakening, Armenians started to occupy this land. On March 2nd, 1992, when Azerbaijan was accepted in the UN, Nagorno-Karabakh was accepted as a part of Azerbaijan and the international community accepted it without any objection. Armenia, in the meanwhile, occupied the Nagorno-Karabakh region which created a refugee crisis.

Mr. Fariz Smalitzade further discussed, there were areas very difficult to liberate but the professional behavior shown by the Azerbaijan army played an important role. Azerbaijan's army successfully liberated important areas.

e. **Dispatch News Desk**

<https://dnd.com.pk/cgss-ada-university-jointly-organize-conference-on-azerbaijan-armenia-conflict/205521>



Home > Eastern Europe > CGSS, ADA University Jointly Organize Conference on Azerbaijan-Armenia Conflict

Eastern Europe

## CGSS, ADA University Jointly Organize Conference on Azerbaijan-Armenia Conflict

By **Mati** - November 26, 2020

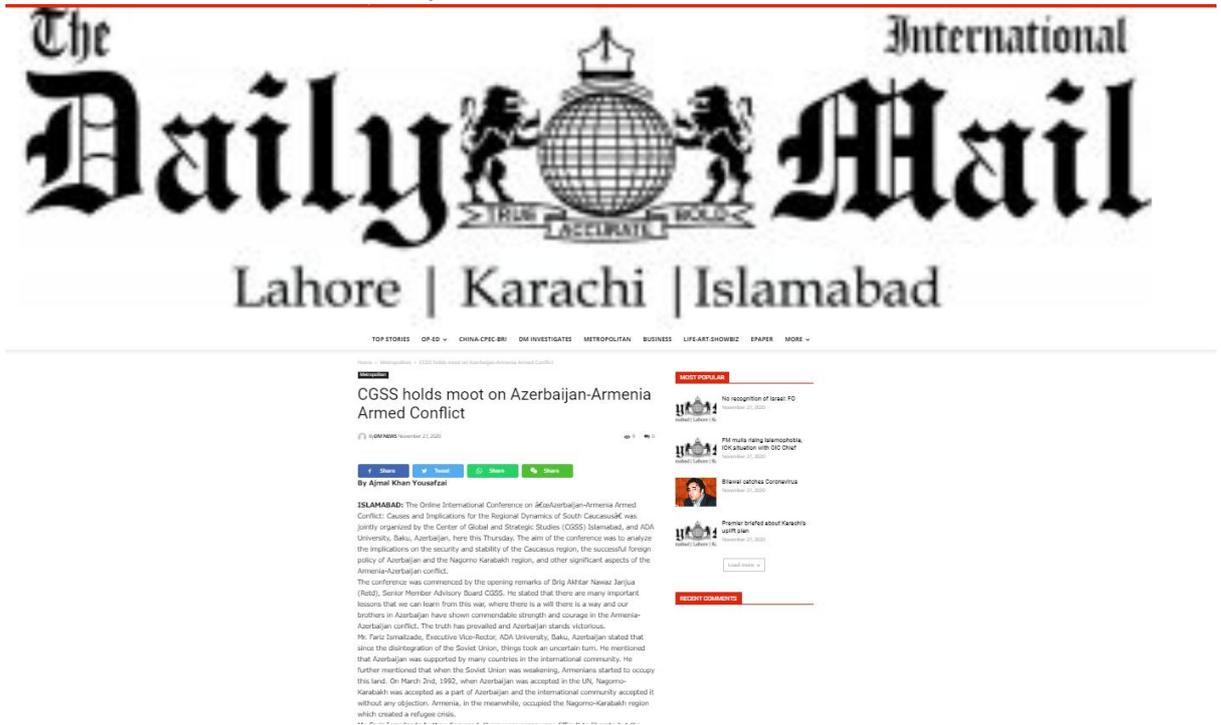
**ISLAMABAD, Pakistan: The Online International Conference on "Azerbaijan-Armenia Armed Conflict: Causes and Implications for the Regional Dynamics of South Caucasus" was jointly organized by the Islamabad-based Center of Global and Strategic Studies (CGSS) and Baku's ADA University.**

The aim of the Conference was to analyze the implications on the security and stability of the Caucasus region, the successful foreign policy of Azerbaijan and the Nagorno-Karabakh region, and other significant aspects of the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict.

The Conference was commenced with the opening remarks of the Senior Member Advisory Board CGSS Brigadier (ret'd) Akhtar Nawaz Janjua.

f. **The Daily Mail International**

<https://dailymailnews.pk/2020/11/27/cgss-holds-moot-on-azerbaijan-armenia-armed-conflict/>



The screenshot shows the masthead of 'The Daily Mail International' with the tagline 'Lahore | Karachi | Islamabad'. Below the masthead is a navigation menu with categories like 'TOP STORIES', 'DP ED', 'CHINA-CPEC BRI', 'DI INVESTIGATES', 'METROPOLITAN', 'BUSINESS', 'LIFE ART SHOWS', 'EPAPER', and 'MORE'. The main article is titled 'CGSS holds moot on Azerbaijan-Armenia Armed Conflict' by Ajmal Khan Yousefzai, dated November 27, 2020. The article text begins with 'ISLAMABAD: The Online International Conference on Azerbaijan-Armenia Armed Conflict: Causes and Implications for the Regional Dynamics of South Caucasus, was jointly organized by the Center of Global and Strategic Studies (CGSS), Islamabad, and ADA University, Baku, Azerbaijan, here this Thursday. The aim of the conference was to analyze the implications on the security and stability of the Caucasus region, the successful foreign policy of Azerbaijan and the Nagorno Karabakh region, and other significant aspects of the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict. The conference was commenced by the opening remarks of Brig AMHtar Nawaz Jarjua (Retd), Senior Member Advisory Board CGSS. He stated that there are many important lessons that we can learn from this war, where there is a will there is a way, and our brothers in Azerbaijan have shown commendable strength and courage in the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict. The truth has prevailed and Azerbaijan stands victorious. Mr. Fariz Sornalizade, Executive Vice-Rector, ADA University, Baku, Azerbaijan stated that since the disintegration of the Soviet Union, things took an uncertain turn. He mentioned that Azerbaijan was supported by many countries in the international community. He further mentioned that when the Soviet Union was weakening, Armenians started to occupy this land. On March 2nd, 1992, when Azerbaijan was accepted in the UN, Nagorno-Karabakh was accepted as a part of Azerbaijan and the international community accepted it without any objection. Armenia, in the meanwhile, occupied the Nagorno-Karabakh region which created a refugee crisis.

On the right side of the article, there is a 'MOST POPULAR' section with three items: 'No recognition of Israel: FO' (November 25, 2020), 'PM meets foreign telephonists, OKs election with CDC chief' (November 25, 2020), and 'Shawal catches Coronavirus' (November 25, 2020). Below this is a 'RECENT COMMENTS' section with a 'Load more' button.

**g. The Express Tribune**

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2273729/final-nagorno-karabakh-solution-needed>



FRIDAY, 27 NOV 2020 | TODAY'S PAPER | ADVERTISE

---

HOME
PAKISTAN
BUSINESS
SCI-TECH
MULTIMEDIA
WORLD
OPINION
LIFE & STYLE
SPORTS
CRICKET
T.EDIT
BLOGS

---







---

🏠 > Punjab > Final Nagorno-Karabakh Solution Needed

## Final Nagorno-Karabakh solution needed

Experts discuss Azerbaijan-Armenia conflict

---

Our Correspondent | November 27, 2020 | [f](#) [t](#) [w](#) [e](#)



Nagorno-Karabakh's main city of Stepanakert is pockmarked with unexploded ordinance and wide craters from shelling. PHOTO: AFP

**ISLAMABAD:** Even though Azerbaijan has come out the better side in its October conflict with hostile neighbour Armenia and reclaimed its disputed land, there is a need to find a permanent solution over the next decade.

This was suggested by speakers during an online, international conference on the "Azerbaijan-Armenia Armed Conflict: Causes and Implications for the Regional Dynamics of South Caucasus". The conference had been jointly organised by the Centre of Global and Strategic Studies (CGSS) Islamabad, and the ADA University in Baku, Azerbaijan, to analyse the implications on the security and stability of the Caucasus region.

CGSS Advisory Board's Senior Member Brig (retired) Akhtar Nawaz Janjua stated that many important lessons can be learnt from this brief war. He added that the Azeri forces have shown commendable strength and courage in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

The truth has prevailed and Azerbaijan stands victorious, he said.

Fariz Ismailzade, the executive vice-rector of ADA University, stated that since the disintegration of the Soviet Union, things had taken an uncertain turn in the region. While Azerbaijan was supported by many countries in the international community - particularly

**h. Azvision.az (News Agency of Azerbaijan)**

<https://en.azvision.az/news/135690/news.html>

AZ EN  
© 11 D



Azerbaijani Vision



📶 📺 📱 📧 📧

### ADA and CGSS hold online conference on Nagorno Karabakh conflict

🕒 20:17 26 November 2020 Read: 1148

📘
🐦
💬
✉️



On 26th November 2020, the Online International Conference on “Azerbaijan-Armenia Armed Conflict: Causes and Implications for the Regional Dynamics of South Caucasus” was jointly organized by the Center of Global and Strategic Studies (CGSS) Islamabad, and ADA University, Baku, Azerbaijan, AzVision.az reports.

The aim of the conference was to analyze the implications on the security and stability of the Caucasus region, the successful foreign policy of Azerbaijan and the Nagorno Karabakh region, and other significant aspects of the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict.

The conference was commenced by the opening remarks of Brig Akhtar Nawaz Janjua (Retd), Senior Member Advisory Board CGSS. He stated that there are many important lessons that we can learn from this war, where there is a will there is a way and our brothers in Azerbaijan have shown commendable strength and courage in the Armenia-