

# Wonders of Azerbaijan – wonders of the world

MUSA MARJANLI,  
Editor-in-Chief

It is well known to our readers that the magazine Heritage takes as its primary task the promotion of Azerbaijan abroad. For this we use different means, including thematic issues.

Naturally, we do not stop at what has been accomplished and search for new effective ways and means of popularising knowledge about our country all over the world. Last year, in line with a competition for the seven new wonders of the world carried out all over the world, we announced a Seven Wonders of Azerbaijan competition which heightened the interest of the readership. The list of cultural monuments nominated by participants in the first stage of the competition was published in the last issue of the magazine. This list includes buildings which in terms of history, culture and architecture may be referred to as monuments of world importance.

It is obvious that if all historical lands of Azerbaijan, i.e. as of the 15 century, were covered by this competition it is not difficult to imagine how much more extensive our list would be. On the other hand, many monuments have not been included into the list as a result of oblivion.

Because it is not rare that we daily imperturbably and indifferently past some building, erected a century ago, without even suspecting its existence. To pay attention to such monuments, to bring them to the wider world, if it possible to express it like that, and to involve them in scientific circulation – is one of the goals of our competition. The list published in the previous issue of the Heritage magazine should therefore be considered approximate and an orientation one, and in any event is far from complete. We would remind you also that every participant has the right to vote once. In the autumn of this year a group of experts will select those monuments which have been mentioned by the largest number of participants of the competition and at the end of the year they will announce the seven wonders of Azerbaijan. We call on our dear readers to send information known to them, as well as photos and drawings, about all monuments with historic and cultural value to the editorial office or to the site of the magazine and two especially designed and daily renewed sites

[www.7chudes-az.ru](http://www.7chudes-az.ru) and [www.7wonders-az.ru](http://www.7wonders-az.ru) and to share memories or just impressions and to offer some analytical materials.

During the competition it will be possible to familiarise oneself with all these materials on separate menus on these sites. Moreover, the most interesting letters and photos by readers will be published in a special issue of the magazine which will be published after the announcement of the seven wonders of Azerbaijan.

We wish especially to draw readers' attention to the fact that everyone who visits the two abovementioned sites not only votes but also makes a contribution to the significant issue of promoting Azerbaijani culture far from the boundaries of Azerbaijan.

In conclusion, it is nice for me to bring happiness to all Azerbaijani patriots and those who just loves this country: this is not the last competition to be held by us. After completing the selection of the seven man-made wonders of Azerbaijan a competition for choosing the seven natural wonders of the Azerbaijani lands will be announced. We invite you to send us your opinions and ideas about it already. Azerbaijan is one of the regions of origin and formation of human civilization. In different periods of its centuries-old history hundreds of valuable monuments of culture created by our ancestors were lost in the fire of wars and were irretrievably relegated to obscurity.

Though the generation of the beginning of the 20 century inherited a rich material and spiritual heritage everyone who considers himself an Azerbaijani and who have grown up in this land, must consider it his duty to preserve this grandiose heritage and promote it.

Let us join our efforts in this noble cause. Let us together take care of this treasure and spread knowledge about it all over the world. And let us begin from the monuments we can see every day and which we pass habitually without paying them any or only a little attention. Let us meet the wonders of Azerbaijan.

Do you know these wonders?