

Remembering the past, confident of the future

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We have been publishing the English version of the *Irs* magazine for two years now. There have been so many interesting stories in *Irs-Наследие* in the 10 years of its existence that it would probably take several volumes to publish a collection of them. But it is not only these stories that form the English version of our edition. There are also articles written exclusively for *Irs-Heritage*. We have plans to publish stories written by our expatriate contributors in the future.

The example of *Irs-Heritage* has been successfully followed by our Spanish- and Czech-speaking publications. Work is currently under way to launch *Irs* also in the Italian, French and German languages. This is further evidence of the fact that Azerbaijan's material and cultural heritage is so diverse that it is necessary to disclose it to the world in various languages. We are hopeful that *Irs-Heritage* has helped our readers develop an opinion about Azerbaijan.

In this issue we are continuing the series of stories about the history of Karabakh. Besides, there is a second part of the story on the Karabakh cuisine. In one of our previous issues we published a story about Azerbaijan's numerous ethnic minorities, while this issue contains a historical and ethnographic feature about one of them, the Jews. This subject will continue to be explored.

Our magazine has written extensively about the Karabakh war and the Khojali massacre, which are forever embedded in the memory of the Azerbaijani people. This time, on the eve of the Khojali massacre anniversary, we have tried to look at the tragedy through the eyes of small kids. When this story was prepared, the kids who narrowly escaped being massacred were very small. They tried to describe their recollections of those horrific days through paintings. They have now grown up, but the tragedy of those days still stands out in their memories too vividly. Not to mention the fact that the Armenians still hold so many Azerbaijani soldiers prisoner and many more have gone missing...

Information about what happened in Khojali must be communicated to the world community in every possible way. The world community has the right to know everything about the Khojali carnage. The aggressor should not get away unpunished. The Azerbaijani army is capable of freeing the occupied territories because justice and international law are on the side of Azerbaijan!