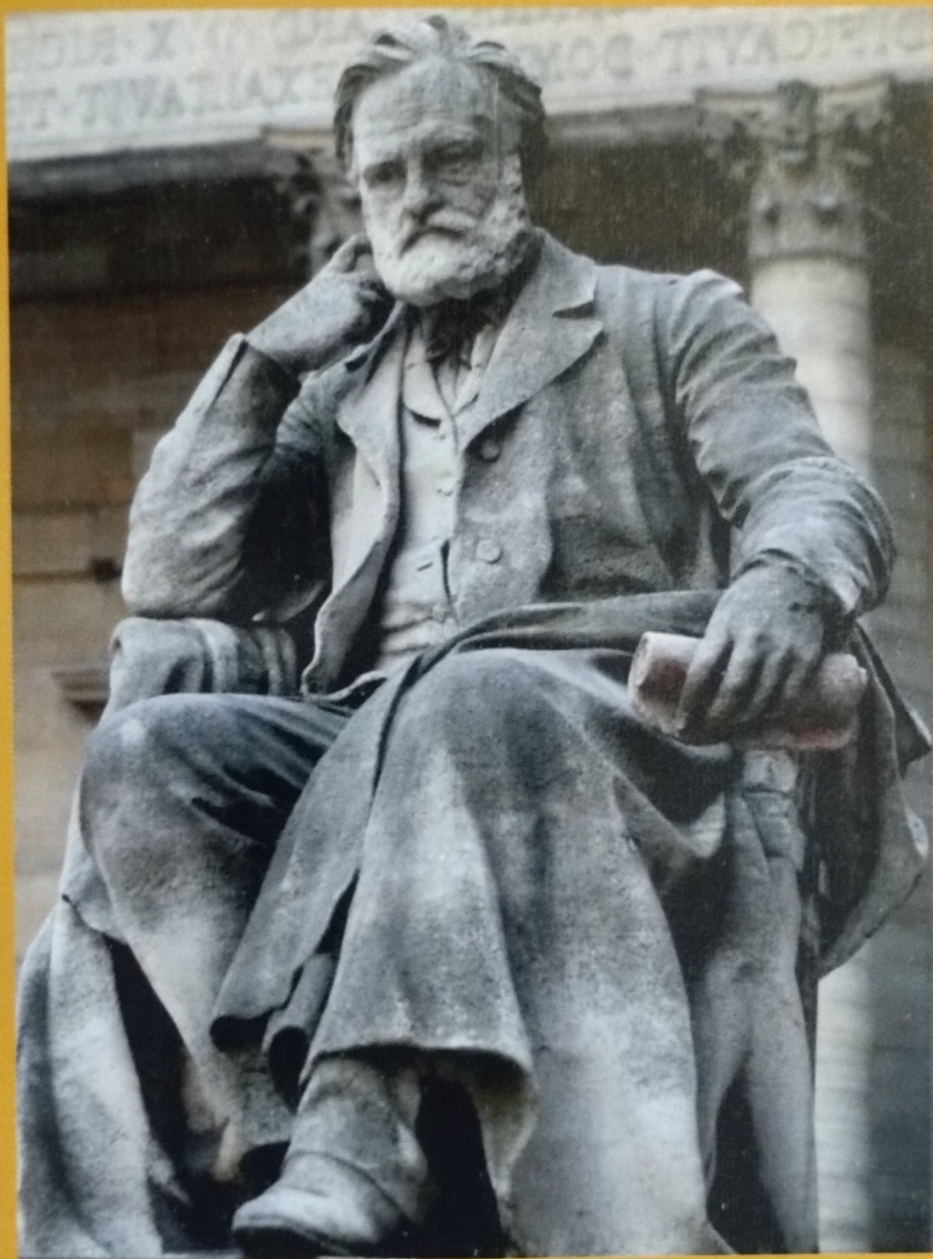


Asgar ZEYNALOV

Мирно Hugo



HUGO

Asgar Zeynalov

HUGO



BAKI –2015

The great French writer Victor Hugo said at the funeral of his friend on 20 August 1850, “Balzac was one of that powerful generation of writers of the XIX century who came after Napoleon...” Victor Hugo was also one of that powerful generation of writers of the XIX-century French literature who came after Napoleon.

Asgar ZEYNALOV

*This book is printed on decision of Azerbaijan
University of Languages*

The translator of the book:
doctor of philology Fiala ABDULLAYEVA

Chief editor: *Sabina ZEYNALOVA*

Reviewers: *Doctor of philology Qorkhmaz QULIYEV*

Doctor of philology Vazeh ASGEROV

Artist: *Sakina ZEYNALOVA*

Əsgər Zeynalov. Hüqo. Hugo – Bakı: Mütərcim, 2015. 192 səh.

This book by PhD Asgar Zeynalov has been devoted to Victor Hugo’s creative activity. The monograph deals with the French writer’s life, the Azerbaijani translation of his works and their studies. It presents the analysis of Hugo’s collection of poems “Les Orientales”, his verses dedicated to the death of his daughter Leopoldine as well as the novels “The Hunchback of Notre Dame” and “Les Miserables”. The book also touches upon the lives and creative activities of the writers, who were Hugo’s contemporaries.

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**I. THE OUTSTANDING FRENCH
SCHOLARS AND INTELLIGENTSIA**

ABOUT ASGAR ZEYNALOV

Jean Louis Bacque-Grammont
Director for the First-class Researches
At the National Centre for Scientific Research,
President of the International Committee
For Prior-and-During the Periods of the Ottoman Empire (France)

With great interest, I read Mr.Asgar Zeynalov's work "The East in French Literature" published in Azerbaijani-Turkish in Baku in 1996.

Despite the absence of necessary conditions and the lack of earlier researches, the author who has never been to France, nonetheless, speaks French, has managed to accomplish such a valuable work.

It would be more appropriate for the author to visit France in order to collect more important materials for his other new works and also increase his language experience.

We would like to focus the related French organizations' attention on the issue.

Baku, 26 September 1997

JEAN-LOUIS BACQUÉ-GRAMMONT

Docteur de Recherche de 1^{re} Classe
au Centre National
de la Recherche Scientifique
Filière du Comité International
d'Études Pré-Osmanes et Osmanes

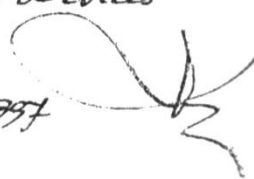
16 avenue de la Gare
96370 SUCY-EN-BRIE
tél. fax : 01 49 82 59 87

J'ai consulté avec intérêt l'ouvrage
de M. Askär Zeynalov, Fransız ädäbiyy-
yatında Şərq (L'Orient dans la littéra-
ture française), publié en ture azéri à
Bakou en 1996.

Si l'on tient compte des conditions
peu favorables et du manque de docu-
mentation malgré lesquels ce travail
a pu être réalisé par un auteur franco-
phone qui n'est jamais allé en France,
il y a tout lieu de croire qu'un séjour
dans ce pays lui permettrait non seu-
lement de parfaire sa pratique linguis-
tique, mais aussi de rassembler les
matériaux nécessaires pour la rédac-
tion d'autres ouvrages.

Nous attirons donc sur ce cas la
bienveillante attention des services
français concernés.

Bakou, le 26 septembre 1997



THE AZERBAIJANI RESEARCHER OF VICTOR HUGO'S WORKS AT THE LANGUAGE SKILLS CENTRE

PhD, Professor Asgar Zeynalov, Head of the Practical French Department (Azerbaijan University of Languages) has attended the in-service training at the *Centre de Linguistique Appliquée* (CLA) of the University of Franche Comte in the city of Bezanson, France. One of the most prestigious newspapers of France "L'Est Republicain" published an article about our compatriot.

The Azerbaijani Researcher of Victor Hugo's Creativity at the *Centre de Linguistique Appliquée* (CLA): Asgar Zeynalov, who teaches the XVII, XVIII and XIX-century French literature in Baku, is on a one-month visit to Bezanson. The mouth is not only for eating, but also for speaking. Yet, how to speak? This is the main issue. This is how Asgar Zeynalov, who is fond of frequently quoting aphorisms, thinks of Victor Hugo. This 55-year old, neatly-dressed gentleman teaches the XVII, XVIII and XIX-century French literature at Azerbaijan University of Languages in Baku, the capital of Azerbaijan.

The Happiest Man: This ancient country between the Caucasian Mountains and the Caspian has the population of eight million people. This country, which produces 1 million barrels of oil a day, has signed an unprecedented contract (with British Petroleum). Consequently, English is the first foreign language, and French is ranking second having ousted Russian. Although Asgar Zeynalov defended his dissertation on the theme "Voltaire's Oriental Creativity", the great Victor Hugo remains to be his favourite writer. He considered himself the happiest man during his visit on 4 August to the *Centre de Linguistique Appliquée* (CLA) in Bezanson together with his colleagues Elmina Asgarova and Anar Hajiyev. Asgar Zeynalov had wished for 35 years to visit Victor Hugo's Motherland. Hence, with great pleasure he suggested to have photos taken at Victor Hugo's statue. The author of the books about Hugo has also translated his poetry, written Foreword to the Azerbaijani translation of "Les Misérables". Professor Zeynalov, who is an author of about 15 books, 250 articles, is the member of the Union of Writers and Journalists in his own country. His writings related to French literature have been published in Moscow and Iran too. He tells jokes related to Voltaire, who lived in the Ferney village mentioned in the works of Alexander Dumas, George Sand, Gustave Flaubert, Guy de Maupassant; nevertheless, he always returns to Victor Hugo. "I am well aware of the works of Byron, Goethe, and Shakespeare; nevertheless, for me there is only Victor Hugo in world literature". On 16 August Asgar Zeynalov will present a copy of his works before the registration of the city hotel to the authorities of the city executive power.

Daniel BORDUR
The newspaper "L'Est Republicain"
France, the city of Bezanson, 11 August 2007
(translated from French by the author).

Le spécialiste azéri de Victor Hugo au CLA

Pour un mois à Besançon, Asker Zeynalov enseigne la littérature française des XVII^e, XVIII^e et XIX^e siècles à Bakou.

« La bouche ne sert pas seulement pour manger, mais aussi pour parler. Mais comment parler ? C'est le problème principal ». Ainsi devise Asker Zeynalov à propos de Victor Hugo dont il aime citer les aphorismes. Ce monsieur de 35 ans en costume strict enseigne la littérature française des 17, 18 et 19

siècles à l'université de Bakou, la capitale de l'Azerbaïdjan, où vécut le grand joueur d'échecs Gary Kasparov.

« Le plus heureux des hommes »

Entre mer Caspienne et Caucase, cette ancienne répu-

blique soviétique est peuplée de 8 millions d'habitants. Produisant un million de barils de pétrole par jour, le pays est traversé par un oléoduc géant et a signé un contrat mirifique avec BP. L'anglais y est désormais la première langue étrangère et le français a supplanté le

russe... Asker Zeynalov a fait sa thèse sur les influences orientales de Voltaire, mais Victor Hugo est son écrivain préféré. Aussi, quand il a débarqué le 4 août dernier à Besançon, avec ses collègues Elmira Askarova et Anar Hadjiyev, pour suivre un stage au CLA, il s'est senti

« le plus heureux des hommes ». Cela faisait 35 ans qu'il attendait ce voyage dans « la patrie de Victor Hugo ». Et c'est avec un plaisir visible qu'il annonce s'être fait photographier à côté de la statue de l'écrivain.

Auteur de livres sur Hugo, il a traduit ses poèmes, rédigé la préface de la version azéri des Misérables. Ayant publié une dizaine d'ouvrages et 250 articles, le professeur Zeynalov est membre de l'Union des écrivains et de l'Union des journalistes de son pays.

Il fait également autorité dans les cercles universitaires et francophiles de Moscou ou d'Iran. Outre l'auteur du *Dernier jour d'un condamné*, il a travaillé sur Alexandre Dumas, George Sand, Gustave Flaubert, Guy de Maupassant...

De Voltaire, il apprécie les fables tragiques. Non dénué de sens de l'humour, il lui a écrit à Fernex-Voltaire près de Genève... Mais toujours il retourne à Hugo : « Je connais Byron, Goethe, Shakespeare, mais il n'y a qu'un Victor Hugo... »

Il attend avec une certaine fierté le 18 août et la réception des stagiaires du CLA à l'hôtel de ville pour remettre au maire un exemplaire de ses ouvrages.

Daniel BORDUR



Asker Zeynalov : « 35 ans que j'attendais ce voyage dans la patrie de Victor Hugo ». Photo Patrick BRUMENT

« Je ne suis pas un homme politique »

Un entretien avec un intellectuel d'un pays n'ayant pas rompu avec l'autoritarisme politique est déconcertant.

Il répond à des codes dont la clé est souvent difficile à trouver. Vos questions sortant des clous suscitent parfois un sourire désolé : « Je ne veux parler que de littérature », prévient Asker Zeynalov après que nous l'ayons interrogé sur l'élection, en 2003, du président Ilham Aliyev avec plus de 78 % des voix.

Il succédait alors à son père Gueïda Aliyev, ancien officier du KGB, moins en-

rités et les manifestations qui suivirent réprimées sans ménagement. Au parlement, les soutiens du président ont 114 des 125 sièges. En mars 2005, le journaliste critique Elmar Housseynov fut assassiné...

Que pense Asker Zeynalov du rôle politique que joue Victor Hugo en s'opposant à Napoléon III et le payant d'un long exil ? Réponse : « Il aurait fallu connaître Hugo de son vivant... » On insiste sur la dissidence de l'écrivain. Réponse : « Je connais très bien la vie de

d'amitié entre les peuples, on connaît davantage les grands écrivains que les noms des présidents ».

Pardonnons à la langue de bois, elle peut aussi éviter quelques ennuis... Comme nous avons demandé aux stagiaires israéliens et palestiniens de quoi est fait leur quotidien, nous avons cherché à savoir comment on vit dans un pays où le cessez le feu de 1994 avec l'Arménie sur le Haut-Karabach n'a rien réglé ? Un pays dont les voisins russe et géorgien ne sont pas loin de s'invectiver ?

TAUD e Pontarlier
ÉVAL 2007
 ÉQUESTRE par « Macadam »
 ÉQUESTRE gratuit

DE-GILLEY Saugeais
VILLAGEOISE
 Village sans voitures mardi 14 et mercredi 15 toute la journée
Mercredi 15 août 2007
BAL GRATUIT
 Avec Fréché
 Course à pied jeunes 4^e Chauvillon
 Restauration midi et soir
 Buffet - Buvette

THE AZERBAIJANI SCHOLAR'S NEW SUCCESS

Lately the journal of the Society of Victor Hugo's Friends functioning in Paris has published an article about our compatriot PhD, Professor Asgar Zeynalov. The author of the article is the President of the Society, world-renowned Hugo scholar Arnaud Laster. It should be reminded that this is the second article about Professor Asgar Zeynalov published in France. The first article appeared on 11 August 2007 in the newspaper "L'Est Republicain".

Information Letter #481

The Society of Hugo's Friends

<http://www.victorhugo.asso.fr>

Secretariat: 7, place Salvador Allende, 94000 Creteil

amis.victor.hugo@gmail.com

The Azerbaijani University professor Asgar Zeynalov has communicated with us. He is the PhD on Voltaire's Creativity, member of the Azerbaijan Union of Writers and Journalists, author of a number of books and articles (about the works of La Fontaine, Voltaire, Hugo, Balzac, George Sand, Dumas, Maupassant and others), some of which have been published in Iran, Turkey and Moscow.

Most of his works are devoted to Hugo:

- The East in French Literature, 1996, 154 p.
- The reviewed edition in 1999, 164 p.
- The Translation from French into Azerbaijani of the Poetry of Victor Hugo and Louis Aragon, 2012, 81 p.
- Victor Hugo, 2001, 101 p. (in Azerbaijani and French)
- He Was a Century... 2010, 240 p.
- The Billionaire of French Literature (in French), Baku 2013, p.101.

As a specialist in world literature, he participated in the 6 August, 13 August and 3 September releases of the TV series "The Literary Monuments" (AzTV) dedicated to Victor Hugo's "Les Miserables". The first program was attended by a philosopher, who spoke of the philosophical aspect of the novel. The publication and translation of Hugo's novels and other works in Azerbaijan as well as the attitude to his works "Les Orientales" and "The Hunchback of Notre Dame" in France were also mentioned in the program. It also presented "Les Miserables" and "Claude Gueux" in comparison with his poetic works, the blessings of Jean Valjean to Cosette and of Hugo to his own daughter at their weddings as described in Hugo's poems dedicated to the memory of his daughter Leopoldine. Jean Valjean is analyzed together with the priest Myriel, Fantine, Javert, Cosette and Marius. There is also an attitude towards the nineteen-year conviction. The next project of the program is about Victor Hugo's poetry and "The Hunchback of Notre Dame".

Arnaud LASTER

*President of the Society of Hugo's Friends
and the Festival of Victor Hugo and His Equals,
6 October 2013, Paris, France*

THE OLD HUGO, UNIVERSAL WRITER

The author of many books and articles, scholar specialized in Hugo, Asgar Zeynalov has presented Hugo's "Les Miserables" published in Azerbaijani in both Latin and Cyrillic scripts to the museum. The University teacher from Baku, who visited the Centre for Language Use says, "I am the author of the monograph about Hugo. I have analyzed his poems on the Oriental theme, translated his verses from the original into our language and written articles on Balzac, Dumas and George Sand".

*The newspaper "L'Est Republicain"
France, 24 July 2014*

The Head of the Region of Franche Comte – Vice President Pierre Feysot's Letter to the Newspaper "L'Est Republicain"

Sender: magnin-feysot.pierre@orange.fr

Receiver: asgerzeynalov51@gmail.com

Mr. Zeynalov,

The copy of this message is sent to one of the correspondents of the newspaper "L'Est Republicain"

Original message

Hello, Marie Claire. I hope you are fine, Alfonse and you.

On 22 July in the regional council I received the French teachers visiting Language Skills Centre in Bezanson from all over the world, who teach French as a foreign language. Among them, Mr.Zeynalov from Azerbaijan has translated many novels of Hugo and written many books about the author, who was born in Bezanson.

Can the newspaper "L'Est Republicain" provide some space for a portrait essay on this person, an article related to his attitude to the French writer, French literature and the French language on its pages?

By sending this message to the authorized person from the editorial of Bezanson, presenting the interest of French literature, also the interest of the representative of Bezanson and Franche Comte, I express my opinion and deep gratitude.

Sincerely,

P.S. Mr.Zeynalov is leaving on Friday. Here are his contact details:

0695344939 asgerzeynalov51@gmail.com

29 July 2014

**A.Zeynalov's Speech During His
Meeting with Vice President Pierre Feysot,
Head of the Franche Comte Region at
Edgar For Hall in Bezanson**

**Asgar ZEYNALOV,
Azerbaijan**

Mr. Conseil of the Franche Comte Region,

We express our gratitude to you for receiving us despite your enormous work.

The great Turkish poet Nazim Hikmat says, "A city is known for its poets". Bezanson has given great figures to the world; nevertheless, Bezanson is known as Hugo's Motherland in the entire world. When Hugo died on 22 May 1885, our newspaper "Kashkul" published his obituary and some of his poems. At the beginning of the XX century, our outstanding poet Abbas Sahhat translated Hugo's "The Sleeping Infant" from French into Azerbaijani. In different years, the well-known translator and literary scholar Mikayil Rafili translated Hugo's novels "The Man Who Laughs", "The Hunchback of Notre Dame", "Les Miserables" and "Nineteen-three" into Azerbaijani. Although our scholars published articles about Hugo in different years, the first monograph about the writer has been written by me.

By the Decree of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev, the works of some writers were published in Azerbaijani in Latin script. Among them, three were by French writers: Jules Verne's "Captain Grant's Children", Alexandre Dumas "Three Musketeers" and Hugo's novel "Les Misrables".

The Great Russian writer Leo Tolstoy says that "Les Miserables" is the best novel of French literature. I feel happy to have written the Foreword to the Azerbaijani translation of this gigantic novel.

In 2007, Hugo's "Selected Works" were published by the Instruction of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan. That book included Hugo's novels "Les Miserables" and "The Hunchback of Notre Dame". The Foreword of this book in Azerbaijani translation also belongs to me. The Azerbaijani scholars wrote articles on Hugo's works in different years. However, the first monograph about Hugo in Azerbaijani literary studies has been written by me, and I dedicated it to the 200th Anniversary of the French writer.

I published the monograph "He Was a Century" about Hugo in 2010, the book "The Translation of Victor Hugo and Louis Aragon's Verses" in 2012, the monograph "The Billionaire of French Literature" in 2013 and the monograph "Hugo" in 2014. I would like to note that this year I have presented the monograph "Hugo" for the State Prize of the Republic of Azerbaijan. I would also like to emphasize that in our literary studies this is the first monograph related to foreign literature that has been presented for the State Prize. Moreover, the State Prize is the highest prize of the Republic of Azerbaijan. And now with your permission, I would like to present my books to You".

**Bezanson, FRANCE
22 July 2014**



Professor Asgar Zeynalov's successive achievement is his book "Hugo – the Billionaire of French Literature" published in France. *Hugo – Milliardaire de la littérature française*, "Presses Academiques Francophone", France, 160. The related information prepared by the special correspondent of AzerTAC in France Asgar Aliyev has found its reflection in the newspapers "Respublica" and "Khalg". We are presenting the information here.

<http://azertag.az/xeber/845406>

http://azertag.az/xeber/Fransada_azerbaycanli_edebiyatsunas_alimin_kitabi_nesr_olunub-845406 [A book by the Azerbaijani literary scholar has been published in France]

Paris, 10 April, AZERTAC The professor of Azerbaijan University of Languages, known in scientific circles in France as a specialist in Hugo, Ph.D. Asgar Zeynalov's book "Hugo – the Billionaire of French Literature" describing the life and creative activity of the great French writer, public figure Victor Hugo, whose works are read with great love in Azerbaijan, has been released in the Publishing House "Presses Academiques Francophone". The scientific editor of the 160-page book published in French is Ph.D. Vazeh Asgarov and its reviewer is Professor Seveda Vahabova.

The book starts with the articles written at different times by the world-known French scholars Jean Louis Bacque-Grammont and Arnaud Laster, along with the outstanding scholar in Western literature Professor Jalil Naghiyev about Asgar Zeynalov, the author of the first monographs about the French writers like Voltaire and Hugo in Azerbaijani literary studies. They highly appraised the scientific activity of the Azerbaijani scholar specialized in Hugo.

The correspondent of the influential French newspaper "L'Est Republicain" Daniel Bordur's thoughts about the Azerbaijani scholar hold a special place in the book, "Although Asgar Zeynalov defended his dissertation on Voltaire's Oriental works, the great Victor Hugo is his favourite writer. Owing to his translation, the Azerbaijani readers have familiarized themselves with some samples of Hugo's poetry. He has introduced the Azerbaijani version of the writer's novel "Les Miserables". Although he deals with the creative activities of Alexander Dumas, George Sand, Gustave Flaubert, Guy de Maupassant, and Voltaire who lived in the village of Ferney, he repeatedly returns to Victor Hugo, "I am well informed about the creative activities of Byron, Goethe, and Shakespeare; however, there is only one Hugo in world literature".

In the book, the author has dealt with the French writer's life and creativity profoundly in the section "Hugo's Life". And the section "Hugo and Azerbaijan: studies and translations" provides information about Azerbaijani literary scholars and translators' appeal to Victor Hugo's works at different times and the translation of his works into our mother tongue and their repeated publications. The book also focuses the attention on the facts that Hugo's novel "Les Miserables" and a little later his "Selected Works" were printed in Latin script. It is also stated that Asgar Zeynalov has written Forewords to both the books. A

separate section is assigned to Hugo's poetry in the book to provide an analysis of the writer's "Oriental Verses" and his poems dedicated to the death of his daughter Leopoldine, who tragically drowned in the River Seine.

The section "Hugo's Novels" provides a profound analysis of the French writer's novels "Les Miserables" and "The Hunchback of Notre Dame" well known to Azerbaijani readers.

The section "Hugo's Contemporaries" constitutes the most interesting pages of the book. It presents the articles about the most outstanding representatives of the XIX-century French literature. These are basically the articles about Hugo's friends – Balzac, Dumas (Father), George Sand, Flaubert, and also Maupassant. The section "The Letters to and from Paris" consists of the correspondence between A.Zeynalov and Arnaud Laster, the French scholar specialized in Hugo. The section "Hugo's Friends" deals with the life, scientific and public activities of Arnaud Laster, President of the Society of Hugo's Friends.

A.Zeynalov's visits to France, his interesting meetings and unforgettable moments are described under the title "In Hugo's Motherland".

As it is obvious, the Azerbaijani scholar has proved himself as a specialist in Hugo not only in our Republic, but in France as well.

The publication of A.Zeynalov's work "Hugo – the Billionaire of French Literature" is a significant event in Azerbaijani literary studies.

It should be reminded that the monograph "Hugo - the Billionaire of French Literature" by Asgar Zeynalov, who is the author of over 25 books, over 350 scientific and journalistic articles, is his third book published abroad.

Asgar ALIYEV
Special Correspondent of
AZERTAC in Paris



CENTRE DE LINGUISTIQUE APPLIQUÉE DE BESANÇON

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<http://www.cla.univ-fcomte.fr>

ATTESTATION

Je soussigné, Serge Borg, directeur du Centre de linguistique appliquée de l'Université de Franche-Comté, certifie que :
ZEYNALOV Asgar (Azerbaïdjan)

a suivi le

stage de Perfectionnement pour professeurs de FLE
du 6 août au 30 août 2007

Cours suivis :

Atelier d'écriture par le conte et la légende (Edith Montelle) 12 H
Oral et jeux de langage (Régine Llorca) 12 H
Effectuer une recherche sur Internet (Athanasie Shungu) 12 H
Un an en France (Jean-Marie Frisa) 12 H
Lire un texte littéraire (François Migot) 12 H
Pratique d'atelier d'écriture (Fabrice Galvez) 12 H
Atelier chansons (Jean-Pierre Bérubé) 12 H
Le cinéma français (Jacques Materne) 12 H

Conférences et forums suivis :

Le monde de Balzac (1) (Mohamed Mediène) 2 H
Le monde de Balzac (2) (Mohamed Mediène) 2 H
Présentation des dernières nouveautés des Editions CLE International () 2 H
Présentation des Presses Universitaires de Grenoble () 2 H
Image et rhétorique, rhétorique de l'image (Yves Canier) 2 H
Image et rhétorique, rhétorique de l'image (suite) (Yves Canier) 2 H

Total des heures effectuées : 108 H

Besançon, le 30 août 2007

Serge Borg

Directeur



Yves Canier

Coordinateur du stage



ATTESTATION



Stage de méthodologie et civilisation française

L'Institut Français d'Azerbaïdjan – IFA

L'Association des Professeurs de Français d'Azerbaïdjan – APFAZ

L'association de didactique du français langue étrangère – ASDIFLE

attestent que

Asgar Zeynalov

a participé au stage de méthodologie et civilisation organisé
à Paris du 12 au 23 juillet 2013.

IFA

Yves Zoberman

directeur

P.O.

ASDIFLE

Anne-Marie Pauleau

formatrice

membre du CA de l'ASDIFLE

ASDIFLE

Jeanine Chène

formatrice

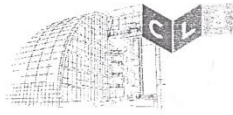
membre du CA de l'ASDIFLE

APFAZ

Tchemen Babakanova

présidente de l'APFAZ





6, rue Gabriel-Plançon
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tél. (33) 03 81 66 52 00
fax (33) 03 81 66 52 25
cla@univ-fcomte.fr
service de la qualité

ATTESTATION D'INSCRIPTION

Je soussignée, Anne-Emmanuelle GROSSI, Directrice du Centre de linguistique appliquée de l'Université de Franche-Comté, certifie que

Monsieur Asgar ZEYNALOV
de nationalité azerbaïdjanaise

est inscrit au stage :

FORMATION POUR PROFESSEURS ET FORMATEURS DE FLE :

du 21 au 31 juillet 2014

Fait à Besançon, le 13/06/2014

Anne-Emmanuelle GROSSI
Directrice du C.L.A.



Centre labellisé
Membre de l'ADQUCE



ATTESTATION

Je soussignée, Laura Abou Haïdar, Directrice du Centre Universitaire d'Études Françaises de l'Université Stendhal-Grenoble 3, atteste que :

ZEYNALOV Asgar
Pays d'origine : Azerbaïdjan

a participé avec assiduité au stage pédagogique suivant :

FORMATION CONTINUE POUR L'ENSEIGNEMENT DU FLE

Ateliers et cours suivis :

- Enseigner la grammaire en classe de FLE (12h)
- Phonétique et correction phonétique (12h)
- Enseigner la littérature française contemporaine (6h)
- Conférences & Forums FLE (6h)

soit un total de : 42h00

Cette formation était complétée par un programme d'activités culturelles.

Date du stage : du 06/07/2015 au 17/07/2015
Durée du stage : 2 semaines

Grenoble, le 17 juillet 2015



Laura Abou Haïdar
Directrice du Centre Universitaire
d'Études Françaises

CENTRE UNIVERSITAIRE D'ÉTUDES FRANÇAISES

Université Stendhal - Grenoble 3 - BP25 - 38040 Grenoble cedex 9 - France
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www.u-grenoble3.fr/cuef

II. VICTOR HUGO'S LIFE

In the early XIX century Napoleon's Army launched a successful assault on the European countries. The mighty generation of French literature slowly appeared to follow Napoleon – Balzac, Hugo, Dumas, Sand. Victor Hugo, one of the brightest representatives of this generation, was born to the family of Leopold Sigisbert, a battalion commander of Napoleon's Army in one of the most wonderful corners of France, the city of Bezanson on 26 February 1802.

The third child of the Hugos following Abel and Eugene was named Victor in honour of the close family friend General Victor Lahorie. Hugo's mother Sophie, who had a good education and world-outlook, was personally engaged in her children's upbringing. The family had often to change their residence due to the job of Sigisbert, who was later promoted to the rank of a general. Certainly, these trips had a strong impact on the future writer's life.

In 1817, Hugo was enrolled in the Lycee Louis-le-Grand. In that period the writer started a real creative activity. Hugo, who had been known in literary realm for his poems until then, wrote his first story "Bug-Jargol" a year later. While reading the work one can notice that the work predicted the arrival of a giant figure to the literary realm.

In 1822, Hugo's first book "Odes et Poesies Diverses" was published. That year saw an important event in the writer's life. He married Adele Foucher, whom he had known since his childhood. It should also be reminded that the writer had five children from this marriage.

In 1823, his son Leopold was born (and died the same year), Francois-Victor was born in 1824, and Adeline followed him in 1830. Leopoldine, Charles and Francois-Victor, all three died in Hugo's lifetime. However, one loss especially had a negative effect on him – that was his daughter Leopoldine's drowning in the River Seine on 4 September 1843, which will be later dealt with more extensively.

The scholars studying Hugo's creative activity divide it into three stages:

The first stage – the pre-exile period (from his early creativity to 1850).

The second stage – the exile period (1850-1870).

The third stage – the post-exile period (1870-1885).

In the first period of his creative activity Hugo wrote the plays "Cromwell" (1827), "Hernani" (1830), "Le roi s'amuse" (1832), "Marie Tudor", "Lucrezia Borgia" (1833), "Ruy Blas" (1838), and the novels "Hans of Iceland" (1823), the famous "The Hunchback of Notre Dame", "The Last Day of a Condemned Man" (1829), "Claude Gueux" (1834), along with his books of poetry "Odes and Ballads", "Les Orientales", "Autumn Leaves", "The Rays and Shadows".

In this period of his life until 1850 Hugo had a number of trips, lost a number of dear people – his mother Sophie, his daughters and in 1850 his great friend Balzac. Four times, he participated in the elections to the French Academy, and was elected the member of this grand scientific institution after three defeats, in his fourth attempt in 1841.

The second period of Hugo's creativity covers the years between 1850 and 1870. Within these years the writer published his books "Vengeance" (1852), "The Performances" (1856), "The Legend of the Ages" (volume I), (1858), the book of poems "Songs of Street and Wood", and the long poem "Mentana".

The greatest work Hugo created in this period of his activity is the novel "Les Miserables" (1852), which the great Tolstoy called "the best novel of French literature". Along with this, he wrote the novels "The Man Who Laughs" (1869) and "Toilers of the Sea" (1866).

The third period of Hugo's creative activity covers the post-exile years (1870-1885). In 1870, the French-Prussian War broke out, and France got defeated. The Prussian troops occupied a great part of France. The patriotic Hugo's voice rose calling the entire French people for the defence of the Motherland, "The Motherland should be defended by all means". In those years Hugo published

“L’Annee terrible” (1872), the second volume of the book “The Legend of the Ages”, (1877), the book “The Art of Being a Grandfather” (1877), the books of poetry “The Four-spirit Wind” (1881), the third volume of the book “The Legend of the Ages” (1883) and in 1874 the novel “Ninety-Three”. Meanwhile, he was also elected a member of the National Council from Paris during the elections in 1871. That time he lost his son Francois-Victor (1873). However, one of the most remarkable events of that period was most probably the celebration of Victor Hugo’s Jubilee in February 1881. The writer stood in front of the open window embracing his grandchildren Georges and Jeanne. During the six-hour ceremony dedicated to the poet’s 80th Jubilee, the endless crowd of people passed by the window congratulating Hugo.

Victor Hugo died at the age of 83 on 22 May 1885. The writer’s death was declared the national day of mourning in France.

One of the French critics said about Victor Hugo, “When Victor Hugo was born, the XIX century was only 2 years old. When the poet died, the century had only 15 years to survive. Nevertheless, the century grew older earlier than Hugo”.

Hugo, who made the century older earlier than himself, was always generous with his resolute speeches whenever necessary both in the Senate and Academy, jubilees, court trials, even at the graves of his friends. M.Gorki wrote about Hugo, “This oratorical poet gave life and soul to all the beauties within the human soul having rumbled like a storm over the head of the world. He taught all the people to love life, beauty, the truth and France”.

The features characterizing Hugo are many. One of them should be especially mentioned: his loyalty to friendship. He spoke so heartily, so lavishly about his friends without cutting down his word-stock, which is peculiar to great men. His ideas about his contemporaries Balzac, Dumas, George Sand are just the proof of it. Whereas, when Hugo’s novel “Les Miserables” was published, this gigantic work was exposed to sharp attacks. Unfortunately, among the attackers were also his friends such as the muse of poetry Lamartine, whom the writer trusted and deeply respected. Even so, time dictates its own will. Hugo’s works were translated into almost all languages of the world and determined the author’s place in world literature.

His novels “Les Miserables”, “Bug Jargal”, “The Hunchback of Notre Dame”, “The Man Who Laughs”, “Toilers of the Sea”, “Ninety-Three”, as well as his poetry turned into the desktop books of the readers all over the world, his plays held a strong place in the repertoire of the theatre in different countries.

HUGO AND AZERBAIJAN

The Azerbaijani readers have long known Hugo's works.

Back in 1885, the 24th issue of the newspaper "Kashkul" gave the writer's obituary, highly appraised his works and published the translation of his verses. Haji F.Aghazadeh wrote an article about Hugo in the magazine "Adabiyat" [Literature] in Baku in 1912 and published one of the poet's verses.

The outstanding poet and translator Abbas Sahhat was among those who addressed Hugo's works in the early XX century. Sahhat, who knew French very well, translated the poem "The Sleeping Infant" from the original. Here we present the literal translation of the poem from Azerbaijani into English to the readers¹.

The Baby Asleep

A baby is asleep in its cradle
Comfortably stretching its hands and feet
Closing its eyes to the surroundings
Would control the angels
Walking in the Paradise during its trip.

Delightfully the Mother is sitting by its side
Would now and then swinging the cradle
She would either sing a lullaby, kiss it or smell it
Would like to get up and go round it
But refrain for fear that it would wake up.
This state of the innocent baby
Make the proud mother happy
Her soul would beat for love
She would be left between two choices
Either to sing a lullaby or to press it to her
bosom to feed.

After the 1920s the translations of Hugo's works into Azerbaijani intensified, as the eminent scholar, translator Mikayil Rafili translated the writer's novels "The Man Who Laughs" (1927), "The Hunchback of Notre Dame" (1936), "Ninety-Three" (1948) into Azerbaijani. It was in this period that the articles related to Hugo first appeared. In 1929 the critic M.Rafili published his article "Romanticism and Hugo" in the 7th and 8th issues of the magazine "Ingilab ve Madaniyyat" [The Revolution and Culture].

In the 50s of the XX century the interest in Hugo's works expanded further both in translation and literary studies which was mainly due to the celebration of Hugo's 150th Jubilee. At the second session of the World Peace Council held in Vienna in 1951 the outstanding Chinese writer Dun suggested the celebration of the French writer Victor Hugo's 150th Jubilee, and respectively the Italian Ronili, Gogol's 100th Jubilee and Ilya Ehrenbourg, Leonardo da Vinci's 500th Anniversary, and the World Peace Council approved all the three proposals.

¹ In the English version of the monograph some of Hugo's verses are presented in their literal translation from Azerbaijani, the others are taken from different internet sources in English.

Following this decision Jubilee commissions were established both in the Soviet Union in general and in the former Republics.

On 15 February 1952, the Commission had the last preparatory meeting and on Hugo's birthday – on 26 February the great artist's Jubilee was solemnly held in the columned hall of the Union House in Moscow. The meeting was opened by K.Simonov, Professor I.I.Anisimov delivered the key speech which was followed by the speeches of Ilya Ehrenbourg, Konstantin Fedin, Mikola Bajan, the Azerbaijani poet Mammad Rahim, the Turkish poet Nazim Hikmat, the Russian artists V.Pudovkin, A.A.Yablochkina, A.Korova. The French poet Paul Eluard delivered a bright answer speech. Hugo's great-grandson Jean Hugo was also participating in the meeting.

On 27 February 1952 the Azerbaijan Peace Committee, the Academy of Sciences of Azerbaijan and the Writers' Union of Azerbaijan had a joint meeting dedicated to Hugo's Jubilee. The ceremony was opened by M.A.Ibrahimov, Chairman of the Writers' Union of Azerbaijan. PhD, Professor Ali Sultanli delivered a speech on Hugo's works. Candidate of Philological Sciences M.A.Guluzadeh made a presentation on the topic "The Great Fighter for Freedom and Progress".

Further, the writers and poets read pieces from V.Hugo's works.

In 1952, almost all the periodicals of the Republic printed articles related to Hugo's 150th Jubilee. The outstanding literary scholars contributed articles on the great author's life and creative activities.

In his article "The Great Writer of the French People" published in the newspaper "Adabiyat" on 23 February 1952, Professor M.Rafili dealt with Hugo's life and works and tried to analyze his works each separately. M.Rafili considered Hugo's work "Les Miserables", which the Russian writer Leo Tolstoy called "the best French novel", as Hugo's masterpiece and stated his opinion about the main idea of the work. One point should be especially emphasized. When speaking about Hugo's works, "the word of the period" is also manifested brightly. For instance, the Russian democrats' attitude towards Hugo's works or the relations between Hugo and the Russian democrats. Or another example, when dealing with Hugo's book of verses "Les Orientales", the Russian researchers considered the Turkish-Greek war as the main and basic reason for its appearance, which was the result of the rancorous attitude, ferocious feelings towards the Turks for centuries.

Unfortunately, M.Rafili was also reiterating the same idea. In 1829 Hugo wrote the play "Marion Delorm", praised the Greek people's liberty struggle against the Turkish oppression in his "Les Orientales"; nevertheless, Hugo himself wrote, "While our scholars were first Hellenistic, they are Oriental scholars now". That is, the interest in the East unprecedentedly increased in the XIX century.

However, in 1955 in his article dedicated to the 70th anniversary of Hugo's death, Academician M.J.Jafarov depicted the truth as it was. He noted that an important part of the poems in the poet's collection "Les Orientales" were dedicated to the East-European peoples' struggle for freedom, including the Turkish-Greek war.

Professor Ali Sultanli also contributed several articles on the author's life and creative activities including "The Great French Writer Victor Hugo", the one he wrote in connection with the French writer's 150th anniversary. Ali Sultanli, who was considered one of the two most influential specialists in Western literature then in the entire Republic, conducts an interesting comparison while analyzing Hugo's works. He writes that the story "Claude Gueux" is the first and limited scheme of the novel "Les Miserables". He points out that the unemployed honest worker Claude Gueux is obliged to steal. He is arrested and taken into prison. Unable to resist the prison owner's insults, Claude Gueux takes his revenge and murders him. The worker is sentenced to death.

Well, Claude Gueux is the concise prototype of Jean Valjean, who had been imprisoned for robbery and thus gone through all kinds of troubles.

On 22 May 1885, the French people announced the national day of mourning. Publishing a declaration that day, the surviving members of Paris Commune called the French people to express their last reverence to the poet. One million French people, who answered this call, took part in his funeral ceremony and expressed their respect to the poet.

It should be reminded that back in 1935 Professor Ali Sultanli published an article "Victor Hugo" dedicated to the 50th anniversary of Hugo's death in the newspaper "Adabiyyat". It should also be noted that in the problem of "Les Orientales" he repeated his colleague M.Rafili's mistake.

One of the most attractive articles dedicated to Hugo's 150th Jubilee was the article "The Great Son of the French People" by Professor Akbar Aghayev.

Although A.Aghayev addressed Hugo's works in general, he made efforts to present the immortal artist's patriotism more vividly. During the French-Prussian war, the city of Paris was besieged. This state of the old capital of his Motherland infuriated Hugo. On 17 September 1870 he said, "French people! The Prussians are 800 thousand people, and you are 40 million. Rise! No rest, no pause and no sleeping! Organize a fierce battle for Motherland, launch an attack, pass through the rivers, the floods, make use of dark nights, crawl through the fields, take an aim, fire and abolish the invaders!"

That year in connection with the Jubilee, Professor M.Rafili published his article "The Ardent Patriot and Democrat" in the newspaper "Communist".

In that period, the Azerbaijani poets also worked unrestrainedly. Hugo's poems "Friends, Two More Words" (O.Sarivalli), "The Leon Workers", "Culture", "The Two Sides of the Horizon" (A.Talat), "The Final Word" (A.Jamil), "The Merry Life" (A.Aslanov) were translated and published in different periodicals.

In 1955 in connection with the 70th anniversary of Hugo's death, the outstanding literary scholar M.J.Jafarov published an article "The Patriotic Writer" and the researcher K.Gahramanov "The Great Patriot".

In the 60s of the XX century, again Hugo's works were resorted to for translation. In 1958, Mikayil Rafili translated the I and II parts of the famous novel "Les Miserables", in 1963 Beydulla Musayev's translation of the III and IV parts of "Les Miserables" were published, and the translation of its V part appeared in 1964.

In 1963 Hamid Gasimzadeh translated the author's work "Bug Jargal", and in 1976 Shamil Zaman translated the work "Claude Gueux" into Azerbaijani.

The researchers published the articles "The Singer of Humanism" (by V.Naghiyev in 1977), "The Herald of Universal Ideas" (by I.Mustafayev in 1985), "The Humanist Artist" (by Ingilab in 1985) in connection with Hugo's different anniversaries.

The French writer's play "Marie Tudor" has been performed on Azerbaijani stage. The researcher I.Alizadeh has defended a dissertation for a candidate's degree on the theme "Victor Hugo's Dramaturgy" (1827-1833).

No doubt, the Azerbaijani translators and scholars will further address and study Hugo's works.

The year 2002 saw the 200th anniversary of the great artist's birth. Like the entire international literary community, the Azerbaijani people also tried to mark Hugo's Jubilee solemnly. The Jubilee celebrations were held in different scientific, educational and cultural institutions, articles were published, and the author of these lines published his monograph "Victor Hugo".

III. HUGO'S POETRY

THE ORIENTAL MOTIVES IN HUGO'S POETRY

While Europe has long been interested in the East, as it is pointed out by the researchers, only the late XVIII century saw the formation of a new science, Oriental Studies; societies began to appear in Europe in the late XVIII century.

The XVIII century carried out its decent task of introducing the East to Europe. Especially, through two important events: through the translations of "The Arabian Nights" and "Avesta". However, one cannot but mention the works written on the theme of the East in Europe in that period either. The researcher I.M.Kessel, who deals with the works created on the Oriental theme in those countries in different centuries, wrote, "These literary facts state that Western literature was being enriched with Oriental characters from century to century".

What was the situation like in the XIX-century European literature in this regard?

First, it should be mentioned that while in the XIX-century West the most significant works related to the Oriental themes were mainly created in France, the XIX century saw the appearance of strong pieces of art on this theme in different countries. Among them, one should especially mention two works, the British poet Byron's "Oriental Tales" (1813-1816), the German poet Goethe's "West-Eastern Diwan" (1819). However, besides this, H.T.Moore, V.Rott, T.Hop, H.Heine, J.Morier and other artists in European literature created their works on or related to the East. What was the situation like in French literature in this period?

In the XIX-century French literature the interest in the East, the appeal to the Oriental themes extended its scopes ever more. In that century, most French writers and poets created their works on the Oriental themes or related to the East: Chateaubriand, Jule Verne, Lamartine, Gotye, George Sand, and Balzac. It should be admitted that none of the works created in this period could attract the attention as much as "The Persian Letters", "Zadig" and "Zair".

The outstanding writer Victor Hugo was one of the representatives of the XIX-century French literature who turned to this theme. Hugo, who was one of the irreplaceable giants of world literature, wrote his poems on this topic in 1826-1828 and published them as a book titled "Les Orientales" on 14 January 1829.

Victor Hugo, whom the Azerbaijani readers know as the author of novels, is also a great poet.

The poet, who started writing his poetry at the age of thirteen and thus earned the title of "the master of poetry", wrote "The Odes" (1822), "Autumn Leaves" (1831), "The Rays and Shadows" (1840), "The Inner Voices" (1837), "The Revenge" (1853), "The Audience" (1856), "The Horrible Year" (1871) and finally, in 1859-1870 the poetic works "The Legend of the Ages" in four volumes. For the sake of comparison, it should be stated that Hugo is the author of 20-volume novels, whereas his poetry books comprise 26 volumes.

Hugo's book "Les Orientales" was published in 1829. But what was the reason behind that appeal to the Oriental theme?

Many researchers, who bear the feeling of rancour against the Turks, consider the Turkish-Greek war (1821-1829) ongoing in that period to be the main reason for the creation of "Les Orientales". Or, when speaking about this work of the poet, they try to present it in such a way as if this book consisted of the poems dedicated to the Turkish-Greek war, that is, the poems targeted at the Turks.

LES
ORIENTALES,

PAR VICTOR HUGO

CINQUIÈME ÉDITION

TOME III



PARIS

CHARLES GOSSELIN, LIBRAIRE

10, RUE DE LA HARPE, 10

RECTOR BOSSANGE,

10, RUE DE LA HARPE, 10

Şairin “Şərq motivləri”
“Les orientales” du poète

Certainly, this “rancorous attitude” is not recent. This was the continuation of the attitude targeted at the Turks that existed for many centuries, during the crusade in 1096-1270, especially following the collapse of the Byzantine Empire and the formation of the Ottoman Empire.

Back in the XII century, the Pope of Rome would send orders in all directions and call for “the sacred war” against “infidel” Turks.

Many Medieval works describe the Turks only in battlefields. According to some Western sources, for a long time the Turks had been described as “wild” in Europe. However, the great personalities of Europe would express their scathing opinion against false attitudes. Voltaire’s opinion is typical in this regard. “The Turks would not treat the Christians wildly as we always think of it and imagine it. The Turks would allow all the Greeks to build churches most of which were collegial”.

The Turks would treat violently neither the population nor the historical monuments in the areas they occupied.

Even after the invasion of Constantinople, Sultan Mohammad II declared himself the protector of the Greek Church.

Owing to the Turks’ sincere attitude, the Greeks preferred them to the Pope of Rome.

The statue erected to Sultan Salim in Hungary proves that with their raids the Turks have brought also culture to Europe.

It should be mentioned that Hugo’s works could not have passed over the Turkish-Greek war either. Since, this war was in the focus of attention of all the European countries. Especially, Byron’s death in the city of Missolonghi (of Greece) on 19 April 1824 started as if a new stage of the war and further inflamed the spark against the Turks in the Western countries.

As Hugo pointed out, the entire Europe encountered Byron’s death as a common sorrow, general misfortune and national mourning.

In this sense, Hugo’s writing poems related to the Turkish-Greek war was not a coincidence. The French writers Delfine Gueux, Alphonse de Lamartine, Casimir Delavigne also wrote poems related to the Greek struggle.

However, the idea that the Turkish-Greek war was the main reason for the creation of Hugo’s “Les Orientales” is nothing but an idea completely false and biased. Since, prior to the outbreak of the war, back in the XIX century a great many works were created on the theme of the East (Byron, Goethe).

What was behind the creation of these series?

To this question, Hugo himself had the best answer: “This period sees the unprecedented involvement in the East. The study of the East has never developed so much before. They are now specialists in the Oriental Studies, whereas under Louis XIV (1643-1715 – A.Z.) they were Hellenists”.

When speaking about Goethe’s “West-Eastern Diwan”, the eminent scholar Braginski wrote expressing his opinion about the reasons for the XIX-century European poets’ appeal to these themes, “The Eastern exotics “Orientalism”, as it is known, was one of the literary devices of the Romantics”.

In the outstanding French writer Andre Maurois’ words, “The East was in fashion in this period”.

What sources did Hugo suggest while creating “Les Orientales”?

A.Maurois points out that there were enough sources to create the Oriental theme: the Bible, the scholar in Oriental studies Ernest Fuine, Byron’s poems, above all, Spain, whose Romainseraux the poet recalls singing.

Some researchers suggest that Hugo learnt from Byron and Goethe. However, besides all this, he was aware of the Oriental sources used by Voltaire as well as Al-Kuran, the works by Sadi, Hafiz, Jalaladdin Rumi, Firdowsi. By the way, it should be noted that Sadi’s work “Gulustan” was translated into French in 1634, and Andre du Ryer translated Al-Kuran into French in 1647.

Firdowsi’s work “Shahnameh” translated into English by W.Johnson in the XVIII century was long afterwards also translated into French (1830-1878) by J.Malya and published in five volumes in Paris.