## The premeditated disconnection of Atropatene-Adhurbadagan from the History of Azerbaijan

Pre-publication of chapter VIII of my forthcoming book "Turkey is Iran and Iran is Turkey – 2500 Years of indivisible Turanian – Iranian Civilization distorted and estranged by Anglo-French Orientalists"; chapters VI, VII, VIII, IX and X form Part Three (Turkey and Iran beyond Politics and Geopolitics: Rejection of the Orientalist, Turcologist and Iranologist Fallacies about Achaemenid History) of the book, which is made of 12 parts and 33 chapters. Chapter X has already been pre-published.

Until now, 18 chapters have been uploaded as partly pre-publication of the present book; this chapter is therefore the 19th (out of 33) to be uploaded. At the end of the text, the entire Table of Contents is made available. Pre-published chapters are marked in blue color, and the present chapter is highlighted in green color.

In addition, a list of all the already pre-published chapters (with the related links) is made available at the very end, after the Table of Contents.

The book is written for the general readership with the intention to briefly highlight numerous distortions made by the racist, colonial academics of Western Europe and North America only with the help of absurd conceptualization and preposterous contextualization.

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For over 200 years, colonial, Orientalist historiographers undertook a vast project of evidently racist de-Turkification (or rather de-Turanization) of the Achaemenid period of Ancient Iran. This project took its most drastic form in the overwhelming distortion of the Ancient History of Greater Azerbaijan that corresponded to the Achaemenid satrapy of Media's northern part, which was then named Atropatene (Adhurbadagan). Between Adhurbadagan and the modern name of Azerbaijan stand 2500 years and a minor linguistic change.

Atropatene is Azerbaijan, and its population was the earliest, historically known Turkic nation that was settled in the wider region. But for the Western Orientalist forgers, Atropatene appears to be either an uninhabited, bizarre land or a marginal territory inhabited by Medes (or Medians); in this manner, Modern Azeris and the state of Azerbaijan are criminally stripped of their Ancient History - entirely. For this to happen, the theory of 'Migration Period' was drafted and propagated worldwide with always inconsistent variants; this is due to the fact that, as a falsely invented concept, this theory can occasionally be dragged to different directions and adjusted to diverse narratives about distinct lands and regions. Actually, there is no such period in the History of Mankind, because all the periods are 'migration periods'. Extra addenda of the aforementioned biased theory are the over-magnification of the fact of the 11th c. Oghuz-Turkmen migrations' impact on Azerbaijan, which is rather minor, and the assumption that the 'Old Azeri' was an Iranian (and not a Turanian) language. While these detrimental absurdities have been promoted as 'historical science', an enormous lack of academic research in the fields of History of Religion and History of Mysticisms prevents academics and general readership from duly assessing the spiritual-religious-mystical continuity that characterizes Atropatene / Azerbaijan. All the same, from the earliest form of Tengrism to Zoroastrianism to Islamic Safavid mysticism, there is a continuity of principles, concepts, virtues and practices that makes us understand that we have to deal with the same nation, which retains its core spirituality and monotheistic worldview while being successively impacted by new comers at the linguistic level.

Media Atropatene was the northern part of Media, but it was a totally different ethnic-cultural-religious environment; the illustrious capital of Media was Ekbatana (Hagmatana in Old Achaemenid), i.e. today's Hamadan. But the central part of Media (where the Medes lived) ended there; and further beyond, from Zagros northern parts to the western confines of Alburz Mountains and to the western shores of the Caspian Sea, stretched Media Atropatene or simply Atropatene, which was the holy land of Ancient (pre-Islamic) Iran.

In that province, was located Adhur Gushnasp, the Holy of Holies of the original Zoroastrian monotheism. The modern name of the majestic archaeological site is Takht-e Suleyman, i.e. 'the throne of Solomon'. This site is most probably identified with Praaspa of the Ancient Greek and Latin sources, and it was described as the capital of Media Atropatene during the Parthian Arsacid times (250 BCE – 224 CE). https://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/5272/ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ecbatana https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Takht-e\_Soleym%C4%81n https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adur\_Gushnasp https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adur\_Gushnasp https://www.zvab.com/kunst-grafik-poster/Antonii-vergebliche-Belagerung-Praaspa-Marcus-Antonius/30329476738/bd https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parthian\_Empire#Rome\_and\_Armenia (see the last three paragraphs of this unit)

There is an undeniable fact that determines the fundamentals of Achaemenid Iran, and that is why the colonial Orientalists of Europe and America have deliberately and incessantly attempted to undermine it. During the Achaemenid period, the imperial administration of Iran may well have been established in Fars (Persia) around Pasargadae and Parsa (Persepolis), but the center of Iran's state religion was located in Atropatene (Adhur Gushnasp). This helps us understand that the vicars of the Zoroastrian faith and the high priests of the Eternal Fire lived mainly among not 'Persians' but 'Azeris'. The name itself of Adhur Gushnasp has evident affinities with the national name of the Ancient Azeris: Adhurbadagan.

Ancient Azerbaijan, which included the southern part of the modern state of Azerbaijan and modern Iran's northwestern corner, was always believed to also be the birthplace of Zoroaster and despite the existence of several other traditions, pretensions and possible interpretations, the most authoritative historical sources, notably Shahrastani, retrace Zoroaster's family tree in Atropatene – Azerbaijan. But when you undertake an inquiry about the Ancient History of Azerbaijan, you find either publications about independent archaeological excavations that are not historically contextualized or various academic researches about Albania of Caucasus, and all this in addition to the fake, Orientalist narrative of the so-called 'Iranian occupation of Azerbaijan' during the Achaemenid, Arsacid and Sassanid dynasties. This is a deliberate colonial distortion that takes the form of projection of modern times political situations onto the pre-Islamic History of the Azeri nation. The Ancient Azeris were an integral part of all the successive Iranian empires, which were at the same time Turanian empires. Turanian Atropatene – Azerbaijan was not therefore 'occupied' by the Achaemenid Iranians, but it constituted a most critical province of the Empire: as critical as Fars (Persia).

In his comprehensive History of Azerbaijan (AzMİU NPM, Baku 2017, 352 p. / http://anl.az/el/Kitab/2018/02/cd/i-44365.pdf), Dilgam Yunis Ismailov, a distinguished Azeri historian, demonstrates that he is conscious and knowledgeable enough to avoid the colonial trap in the misinterpretation of the historical role of Ancient Atropatene. However, he still fails to properly assess that, when referring to 1st millennium BCE Atropatene, we do not only refer to a historically Azeri, i.e. Turanian, territory (which is also Iranian territory), but we also talk about the very ancestors of his Turkic compatriots.

As one could expect it, the same occurs across the Internet. In the most popular sites and portals, you find nothing about Ancient History of Azerbaijan, as if the country is totally deprived of Ancient History. Unfortunately, only the Ancient Albania of Caucasus is included in what is presented as Ancient History of Azerbaijan. This is preposterous and it is entirely due to the diffusion/imposition of colonial Orientalist impact across the Internet. Then, first, Atropatene is disconnected from Azerbaijan, and to serve today's colonial interests, Takht-e Suleyman (Adhur Gushnasp) is linked exclusively to Iran, although historically and culturally the magnificent site belongs to Azerbaijan and the Azeri nation.

Second, the people of Ancient Atropatene – Azerbaijan either 'disappear' or are confusingly portrayed as Iranians with no further specification – which is pathetic and ludicrous. About:

https://www.academia.edu/33037272/Azerbaijan\_South\_Azerbaijan\_Iran\_Persia\_T urkey\_Orientalism\_and\_Freemasonic\_Historiography or

http://www.azoh.org/index.php/en/5039-azerbaijan,-south-azerbaijan,-iran,-persia,-turkey,-orientalism-and-freemasonic-historiography-by-muhammad-shamsaddin-megalommatis.html

One thing is however is absolutely sure: thanks to Assyrian–Babylonian cuneiform texts, starting from the middle of the 9th c., we have a very good documentation about the Medes, the Persians and many other Iranian-Turanian peoples who settled and lived in the eastern confines of Zagros mountains and across the Iranian plateau, which in its western half was Assyrian territory for almost 200 years before the Medes and the Persians first became independent (end of 7th c. BCE) and second formed their early kingdoms. So, we know very well that there was never a Persian in Media or Media Atropatene. And the same continued during the Achaemenid

Empire, because there is not a single proof of Persians moving from Fars (Persia) and Kerman (Carmania) northwestwards to Atropatene. About: http://mcadams.posc.mu.edu/txt/ah/Assyria/Inscra01.html https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Black Obelisk of Shalmaneser III https://www.iranicaonline.org/articles/achaemenid-dynasty https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Achaemenid\_Empire https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Old\_Persian https://www.iranicaonline.org/articles/achaemenid-satrapies https://www.livius.org/articles/concept/satraps-and-satrapies https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Satrap https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Behistun\_Inscription https://az.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atropatena https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atropatene https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atropates https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adurbadagan https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Artavasdes\_I\_of\_Media\_Atropatene https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Azerbaijan#History https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History\_of\_Azerbaijan#Achaemenid\_and\_Seleucid\_ rule https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fars\_Province https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Persis https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pars\_(Sasanian\_province) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Districts\_of\_the\_Achaemenid\_Empire https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zoroaster https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zoroaster#Place

### FORTHCOMING

## Turkey is Iran and Iran is Turkey

2500 Years of indivisible Turanian - Iranian Civilization distorted and estranged by Anglo-French Orientalists

By Prof. Muhammet Şemsettin Gözübüyükoğlu (Muhammad Shamsaddin Megalommatis)

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