

AZERBAIJAN REPUBLIC

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**POLITICAL MODERNIZATION OF SOCIETY IN THE
PROCESS OF FORMATION OF POLITICAL DEMOCRACY**

Specialty: 5904.01 - "Political institutions and systems"

Field of science: Political sciences

Applicant: **Hajaliyev Elnur Beybala oglu**

ABSTRACT

of the dissertation submitted for the degree of
Doctor of Sciences

BAKU-2021

The dissertation work is carried out in the "International Relations and International Law" department of the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology of the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences.

Scientific adviser: Doctor of Philosophy, Professor
I.R.Mammadzade

Official opponents: Doctor of Political Sciences, Professor
Elchin Yildirim oglu Ahmadov

Doctor of Political Sciences, Professor
Vasila Jumshud gizi Hajiyeva

Doctor of Political Sciences, Professor
Elshad Mirbashir oglu

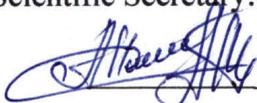
Doctor of Political Sciences, Assoc. Prof.
Irada Tofiq gizi Nuriyeva

BED 2.30 One-time Dissertation Council established under the Academy of Public Administration under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan

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Scientific Secretary:  Doctor of Political Sciences,
Assoc. Prof.
Sevda Agamirza gizi Aliyeva

Chairman of the scientific seminar:

 Doctor of Political Sciences,
Assoc. Prof.
Sevil Imamverdi gizi Mammadova

INTRODUCTION

Relevance and the level of usage of the topic. Democracy, being a form of political organization of the state and society, is a whole social phenomenon, a system of political and legal values aimed at affirming the people as a source of power and ensuring a wide range of rights and freedoms of citizens.

The search for alternative ways of political development is one of the most important tasks of modern political science. In this respect, it is not expedient to study specific events related to the problem of democracy in general. Since this issue is widely elucidated in the existing literature on philosophical and political science. One of the issues of special need to research in the system of political problems is the political democratization and study and analysis of the essence, content, features, directions and models of political modernization of society in this process.

In the process of political democratization, the process of developing all ideas about the problem of political modernization of society, as a result, requires a new analysis of the general nature of their interaction.

Based on the concept of "general democracy", the relevance of the study of political democracy can be justified by the fact that political democracy ensures the comprehensive democratization, politicization of public life and the right of participation of each citizen by exercising his / her right to vote by taking decisions in all spheres of life.

The importance of the study of political democracy also arises out of the necessity for it to be understood as the image of all social systems. After all, any research direction has a conceptual-normative nature.

The principles and institutions of political democratization are realized through various democratic technologies developed in political practice. Political democracy, as a form of organization and exercise of political power, can be effective only if it has a set of certain social conditions and social grounds. An important part of the process of political democratization is the development of a universal

democratic procedure, which is typical of modern democracy.

One of the points that reflects the relevance of the dissertation is the study of democratic transit in the context of national specificity and common features. In this regard, it is important to note that it is difficult to come across any universally accepted model of political transit.

Another factor that determines the relevance of the research topic is that there are not many scientific positions and concepts related to the concept of "modernization" in comparison with the concept of "democratization". This is due to the fact that modernization has no ancient history compared to democracy. Unlike the concepts of "general democracy" and "political democracy", comparative research and analysis of the concepts of "modernization" and "political modernization" are insufficient.

One of the most serious current factors that makes it necessary to select the problem of political modernization as an object of special research is global information. In the context of global information, the political sphere is also expanding globally. Models, forms and methods of political modernization are changing due to the impact of information technology.

One of the issues determining the special relevance and importance of the topic is the need to study the political modernization of society in the process of democratization of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Substantiating the basis and mechanism for the formation of political as well as economic rules of democratic type is an extremely complex problem of political theory. In this respect, the study of a democratic political and economic system in Azerbaijani society is one of the most important issues. The collapse of the USSR led to radical changes in the constitutional system of the Republic of Azerbaijan in the direction of market economy, political democracy and unitary state building.

The study of the phenomenon of modernization of state power in the process of development of the political system of our society is one of the most complex and urgent problems of modern political science. State power is the main means of realizing the national-state interests of the country. As the national leader Heydar Aliyev said,

“Today Azerbaijan is a sovereign and developed state. We want our independence to last forever, to own our destiny, to take our place in the world community as an independent state.”¹

Along with the democratic political system in the Republic of Azerbaijan, the formation and modernization of the new economic, national economy is the objective confirmity with laws of the transformation stage of our society. A number of factors, especially oil, play a key role in the formation and modernization of the national economy. The President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Ilham Aliyev, in his book "Azerbaijani Oil of the Caspian Sea", which contains extensive and rich information, reveals the essence of the difficulties in the process of concluding oil contracts and concludes: "We want Azerbaijan to be a zone of cooperation between different interests, rather than a competition area."²

Modernization in Azerbaijan has historically taken place in the course of the evolution of statehood, in the process of transition of traditional society to a modern one, and the various stages of the development of statehood have had their own characteristics. Various internal and external factors have had a certain impact on the course of our statehood and the process of modernization. The political modernization of modern Azerbaijan is complicated by the fact that not only the political regime is being replaced, but also the social structure is changing. The scientific study of this process is more relevant today than ever. As academician R.Mehdiyev noted, "Issues related to the impact of westernization and modernization on Azerbaijani society have been brought to the level of scientific analysis."

Numerous research works by foreign and local researchers have been devoted to the study of democracy, political democracy, and the problem of political democratization, and various aspects of the existing problem have been reflected in some collective works. At the same time, the study of various aspects of modernization has not escaped the attention of individual authors to a certain degree.

¹ Əliyev H. Müstəqilliyimiz əbədidir 46 cildə. XXV kitab, Bakı, 2009, s. 75.

² Алиев И. Каспийская нефть Азербайджана. М., Известия, 2003, 712 с.

However, these researches did not touch the problem of political modernization of society in the process of political democratization, and the study of this problem escaped the attention of researchers.

The interest in certain aspects of modernization is reflected in a number of research works of scientists of our republic. Theoretical and ideological parameters of the studied issue are reflected in the works of academician R.Mehdiyev. I.Mammadzadeh tried to study the problem of modernization and Islam in Azerbaijan, as well as to clarify the ideological aspect of modernization. In this regard, Professor N.Alakbarova paid attention to certain aspects of the theories of democracy and post-democracy, A.Abbasov studied the essence and values of democracy. A.Abdullayev, tried to clarify the issue of interpretation of human rights at the international level, as a special political value of democracy.

R.Hasanov in his turn, tried to explain the peculiarities of the formation of civil society in a democratic environment, D.Ismayilov studied the comparative analysis of modern concepts of democracy in building a democratic society, as well as the issue of transition of Azerbaijani society to democracy.

M. Efendiyev tried to clarify the phenomena that are relevant today, such as political democracy, the theory of modernization. Sh.Ahmadova studied the problem of modernization of the state power. However, these studies did not reflect political democratization and political modernization of society.¹

¹ Mehdiyev R. Azərbaycan: qloballaşma dövrünün tələbləri, Bakı: XXI Yeni Nəşrlər Evi, 2005; Mehdiyev R. Gələcəyin strategiyasını müəyyənləşdirərkən: Modernləşmə xətti. Bakı: Şərq-Qərb, 2008; Məmmədzadə İ. Qloballaşma və müasirləşmə şəraitində fəlsəfinin aktuallığı haqqında. Bakı: Təknur, 2009; Ələkbərova N. Siyasi elmin müasir problemləri. Bakı: Elm və Təhsil, 2013; Абульгасан А. Демократия: наличная и должная. Баку: Адилоглу, 2005; Abdullayev Ə. və b., İnsan hüquqları. Beynəlxalq və milli müdafiə mexanizmləri. Bakı: 2008; Гасанов Р.М. Формирование гражданского общества в условиях трансформации. Bakı: Kitab aləmi, 2003; İsmayilov D. Azərbaycanın transformasiya prosesində ideologiyalar: konservatizm, liberalizm, sosial-demokratiya. Bakı: Adiloğlu, 2005; Əfəndiyev M. Politologiya. Bakı: Elm, 2013; Ахмедова Ш.Ф. Проблемы модернизации государственной власти в Азербайджанской Республике в условиях глобализации. Siyasi elmlər üzrə fəlsəfə doktoru elmi dərəcəsi almaq üçün dissertasiyanın avtoreferatı. Bakı: 2014;

The problems of democracy and modernization in Western political science have been considered in a certain degree in various aspects. A.de Tocqueville conducted research on democracy in America, S. Huntington on the future democratic process, R. Dahl on democracy, G. O'Donnell on delegative democracy. D.A. Rastou studied the transition to democracy, A.Y. Melville studied democratic transition, R. Aaron studied democracy and totalitarianism, A. Leiphart studied democracy in a multinational society.¹

In Russian political science, along with democracy and political democracy, various aspects of modernization have been studied. R.T.Mukhayev studied the directions of modernization in the context of political development, B.S.Yerasov studied the socio-cultural aspect of modernization. A.I.Solovyov chose the stages of development of political modernization, V.P.Pugachev and A.I.Solovyov chose the basis and ways of democracy, the technology of general modernization of the political system and society as the object of research. B.A.Isayev and N.A.Baranov studied the problems of the democratic process in Russia and the features of political modernization.

S.Lantsov worked out the historical experience in Russia in the context of political modernization, K.G.Kholodkovsky worked on political modernization in the historical aspect of the future of Russia.

V.N.Lukin, T.V.Musiyenko and T.H.Fedorova studied the interrelated types of modernization. Belarusian scholars have published a large-scale work on the problem of postmodernism of a collective nature.²

¹ Токвиль Алексис де. Демократия в Америке. М.: Весмир, 2000, 560 с.; Хантингтон С. Столкновение цивилизаций? // Полис, 1994, №1, с. 33-48; Даль Р. О демократии. М.: Аспект Пресс, 2000, 203 с.; Раствоу Д.А. Переходы к демократии: попытка динамической модели // Полис, 1996, №5, с. 5-16; Мелвиль А.Ю. Демократические транзиты. М.: Юнити, 1999, 418 с.; Лейпхарт А. Демократия в многосоставных обществах. Сравнительное исследование. М.: Аспект Пресс, 1997, 288 с.

² Мухаев Р.Т. Теория политики. М.: Юнити, 2005; Ерасов Б.С. Социальная культурология. М.: Аспект Пресс, 2000; Соловьев А.И. Политология. М.: Аспект Пресс, 2006; Пугачев В.П., Соловьев А.И. Введение в политология. М.: Академический проект, 2010; Мокшин В.К. Политология. М.: Академический проект, 2010; Исаев Б.А., Баранов Н.А. Политические отношения и

However, in the research works of both Azerbaijani and foreign scholars on various aspects of the problems under consideration, insufficient attention has been paid to the comparative analysis of these processes, which are interrelated and conditioned by political democratization and political modernization. So far, the problem of political modernization of society in the process of political democratization has not become the object of special research in the scientific literature in this field, which determines the value of the presented dissertation and its scientific results.

The object and subject of the research. The object of the research are significant issues conditioned by the current problems of political modernization of society in the process of political democratization, the basic principles of political modernization, the mechanism and main directions of political democratization and the formation of political modernization, the essence of modernization in the process of democratization of Azerbaijan. The subject of the research is the reforms implemented in the direction of political modernization of society, the activities of the state in connection with modernization, as well as scientific and political analysis of the problems that arise.

Purposes and tasks of the research. The main purpose of the dissertation is to study the essence, content and features of the political modernization of society in the process of political democratization in Azerbaijan, to analyze the directions, models and existing concepts of political modernization in this context.

The following research tasks have been identified and implemented to achieve this goal.

- to reveal the manifestations of political democracy at the present stage;
- to determine its socio-political values in the context of

политический процесс. СПб: Питер, 2009; Ланцов С. Российский исторический опыт в свете концепций политический и модернизации // Полис, 2001, №3; Холодковский К.Г. Демократия и реформы // Гражданское общество в России: западная парадигма и российская реальность. М.: ИМЭМО, 1996; Лукин В.Н., Мусиенко Т.В., Федорова Т.Н. Теория Политики. М. – «Изд-во дом Терда», 2007; Постмодернизм. Энциклопедия. Минск: Дом книги, 2001.

analyzing the essence of political democratization;

- to bring democratic transit to the level of scientific and political analysis as a necessary basis for political democratization;

- to clarify the essence and content of the concept of modernization, to systematically analyze the political, economic and moral spheres in which it is carried out and to make relevant generalizations;

- to filter the methodology, main directions and significance of the concept of political modernization through scientific analysis;

- to study the models and stages of political modernization as an object of political analysis;

- to reveal the features of political modernization on the basis of analyzing its content;

- to analyze and try to generalize the political modernization of society in the context of its political development;

- to clarify the essence of the democratic political system and determine the directions of its modernization;

- A comprehensive, systematic study of the current problems of modernization in connection with the analysis of the modern socio-political aspect of globalization;

- To explain the essence and characteristics of political modernization in the Azerbaijani society, to follow the dynamics of the process of formation and modernization of the new political and economic system;

- To analyze the modernization of Azerbaijan in the context of political and moral values and make concrete proposals and recommendations in this regard.

The methods of the research. The theoretical basis of the research is based, first of all on the ideas of the National Leader Heydar Aliyev and President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev on the establishment of the legal state in our republic, the creation of a democratic civil society, independent state building, ideas about modernization, conceptual views on the research problem, as well as valuable scientific research on the problem by well-known scientists of Azerbaijan and foreign countries.

Within the framework of the problem considered in the

research, general logical methods such as analysis and synthesis, induction and deduction, structural-functional, historical comparative political analysis based on systematic approach, content-analysis methods were used in understanding the socio-political processes. A deep scientific analysis of the numerous contemporary literature used has been attempted.

The main points of defense. The dissertation looks over important scientific considerations on the relationship between political democracy and political modernization, the formation and development of political democracy, the theoretical and practical aspects of political modernization. The following theses have been identified by analyzing many different conditions and factors that directly affect the formation of political democracy and democratic political rules:

- fairly high level of economic development of the country;
- existence of market relations and industrial economy;
- urbanization;
- development of mass communication;
- assistance of foreign states expressed in democracy.

A democratic political regime that implements the formation and development of political democracy is associated with the recognition of the people as a source of power and the broad participation of citizens in political life must ensure the process of formation of government structures through the practical realization of their political rights and freedoms.

A successful condition for political modernization is the establishment of stability through dialogue between the elite and the population. In principle, four main theses of the development of events were put forward in this process:

1. a more optimal basis for the gradual democratization of society and the implementation of reforms is being formed in the conditions of elite competition over ordinary citizens;

2. the basis for the organization of authoritarian regimes and the cessation of changes is formed in the conditions of low activity of the main mass of the population and considerable competition of the elite;

3. the predominance of the population's political participation over the competition with the elite allows for an increased tendency to ochlocracy, which in its turn, forces the regime to provocations and slows changes;

4. At the same time, the minimization of elite competitiveness and political participation of the population leads to chaos, disintegration of society and the political system, as well as the organization of dictatorships.

- In general, the nature and dynamics of political modernization are measured by the correspondence between the sovereign elite and the involvement of ordinary citizens in politics.

- The Azerbaijani society, which is carrying out transformational changes, also solves the problems in its own way, and responds to the challenges of the time.

The universal parameters of instability and imbalance of transition processes do not allow to analyze the events in detail, to determine the results of the ongoing transformation. At the same time, it can be said that the nature and pace of reforms depend on the resolution of the contradictions of modernization by society.

Scientific novelty of the research. Taking into account the relevance and socio-political significance, the scientific novelty of the presented research work is determined by the following provisions:

- Based on the concept of democracy, political democratization, the phenomena of political democracy are substantiated as a very important condition of a democratic-civil society;

- The modern essence and socio-political values of political democratization are revealed;

- democratic transit has been studied as a necessary precondition for political democratization and as a legitimacy of the transformation process;

- The concept of modernization is substantiated as a specific theoretical model of political development, the criteria are defined for this phenomenon to cover all spheres of life of society; based on the concept of "general modernization",

- A unique methodology of the concepts of political

modernization has been developed, the main directions, stages and significance of this modernization have become the subject of scientific-analytical analysis;

- models and stages of political modernization were assessed as the object of political analysis;

- in the context of the disclosure of the content of political modernization, its features, valuable social nuances are brought to the level of scientific analysis;

- The political modernization of society has been analyzed in the context of the political development of society, the mechanism of interaction between political modernization and political development has been identified, and this connection has been identified as an objective regularity of modernization;

- The directions of political modernization conditioned by the essence and dynamics of the democratic political system have been taken into account;

- tools and technologies for solving new problems of modernization related to the nature of the global political space have been proposed;

- In connection with the formation of a democratic political and economic system in the Republic of Azerbaijan, the historical necessity of modernization of this system and the social legitimacy have been substantiated and completed with generalizations;

- On the basis of a comparative analysis of the general and national features of political modernization in the Azerbaijani society, the prospects of modernization in our republic are forecasted;

- The modernization of Azerbaijan has been studied in the context of political and moral values;

Theoretical and practical significance of the research. The practical significance of the research is creating a complete picture of political democracy, political democratization, modernization and especially political modernization in a globalized political space, and the important activities of the state in this regard.

It would be useful to use the main provisions and results of the dissertation in the following areas:

- in conducting future research on the topic;

- in conducting lectures, classes and special courses in the

teaching of relevant disciplines of political science in higher education institutions that train specialists in the relevant profile, in the preparation of textbooks, teaching aids and monographs;

-in holding scientific conferences on the problem;

- in activities of relevant state bodies and public structures, mass media in connection with democratization and political modernization.

Approbation and application. The dissertation was discussed at the Department of International Relations and International Law of the Institute of Philosophy of the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences and recommended for defense. 27 articles containing the main provisions and results of the presented work were published in authoritative scientific journals published in the Republic of Azerbaijan and abroad, speeches were reflected in the materials of local and foreign scientific-practical conferences.

During the research phase, a doctoral student's monograph on the research topic was published.

Organization where the dissertation is conducted:Institute of Philosophy and Sociology of the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences.

The total volume of the dissertation with a sign, indicating the volume of the structural units of the dissertation separately. The research work consists of an introduction, four chapters (13 sub-chapters), results and a list of references.

Introduction 4298, Chapter I 16231; Chapter II 12093; Chapter III 22132; Chapter IV 12652; Result 3149; In total, the scope of the research is 75,917 characters.

MAIN CONTENT OF THE STUDY

The introduction substantiates the relevance of the research topic, characterizes the degree of development of the problem, defines the goals and objectives of the work, discloses scientific innovation, identifies research methods, demonstrates the theoretical and practical significance of the research, approbation and dissertation structure.

The first chapter of the dissertation, entitled "*Political democratization as an important condition of a democratic civil society*", examines the essence, content, characteristics, modern essence and social values of political democracy, as well as democratic transit as a necessary precondition for political democratization. This chapter consists of three paragraphs.

The first half of the chapter, entitled "*The concept of political democracy: essence, content, features*" states that democracy, acting as a complex and multifaceted phenomenon of real life, materializes in various spheres of public life and has many ways and means of manifestation. Sometimes in the literature, democracy refers only to the political sphere of public life, but it also extends to the economic, social, cultural, scientific and ideological spheres. Democracy "is a form of government based on the assertion of the people as the source of power, its participation in the legal state, and its connection with a wide range of rights and freedoms of citizens."¹

There are other ideas about democracy, its various aspects, and certain aspects of its manifestation. The most important of the existing theories of democracy are the theories of pluralism, participar (or participation), social, representative, plebiscite, and direct democracy. The most widespread theory of democracy is pluralistic democracy. Although the term "pluralism" was first introduced to the scientific community by the German philosopher H. Wolf in the XVIII century, it was used in the development of the theory of democracy in the first half of the XX century. The first to try in this direction are G.Laski, D.Truman, R.Dahl and others. The theory of pluralistic democracy is based on the ground that in a modern democratic state, the driving force of politics is not the individual, the people, but the group. In the concept of pluralist democracy, democracy is studied as a type of organization of power formed in the conditions of its diffusion between different forces. Political pluralism is characterized by a large number of different types of political activities of political parties, organizations and movements, their meetings, beliefs and interests.

¹ Мелвиль А.Ю. Демократические транзиты. М., Юнити, 1999, s.79.

The form of democratic state in Azerbaijan is based on the existence of representative democracy (activity of elected bodies) and their participation (in the form of parliaments, municipalities, etc.) in the adoption of laws and decisions related to the life of the population, which is typical of developed democracies such as the USA, France, England, Germany and Japan.

Summarizing the considerations, it can be said that democracy is the legitimacy of the idea of freedom and its realization in society in certain practical ways. The main characteristics of the political system of a democratic society are the principles of constitutional governance, human rights and equality before the law. The interaction of civil society and the system of democratic institutions ensures the effectiveness of the legitimacy of the policy pursued by a democratic government.¹

Although there are many aspects, complex and different concepts of democracy as a whole and political democracy in particular, there is no universally accepted definition of political democracy. In essence, political democracy is a form of government through the people, the exercise of power by professional politicians. It is not a process of forming the "common will" of the people, but a competitive struggle of the interests of groups represented by leaders.

Political participation is expressed in two main forms: direct and indirect (representative). From the point of view of political democracy, objective conditions for the political participation of citizens (location of political forces, political culture of society), as well as subjective attitude to the political system, motives for participation in politics, needs, knowledge, awareness, etc. are important. Various factors affect the manifestation of political participation: the characteristics of the political system and regime; political tradition and political culture; political institutions and placement of political forces; the level of culture and education; as it is clearly expressed in the scientific literature, "Democracy is impossible outside the high welfare of citizens, without certain moral

¹ Hetherington M.J. The Political Relevance of Political Trust // American Science Review, 1998, v,92, 239 p.

traditions, without a proper political and cultural basis."¹

The second half of the first chapter, entitled "*Modern essence and socio-political values of political democratization*" states that in the modern world, it is difficult to imagine a general, global democratization without the unity and interaction of internal and external factors. Political democratization is, first of all, a process of multifaceted political changes aimed at the formation and strengthening of a democratic society.

Opinions of various researchers on political democratization are interesting. For example, John Dryzek in his theory of "deliberative (consultative) democracy", first of all, criticizing the liberal interpretation of democracy, considers this model as a form of simply combining political interests. Not satisfied with such theoretical researches, he advises the application of his non-standard theoretical provisions to the problem of world politics. He relies on the concept of democratic "authenticity" and understands this concept as "the degree of democratic control exercised through" communication"². Emphasizing the procedural aspect of the democratic political process, A. Yang argues that the normative legitimacy of democratic decisions depends on the degree to which one is involved in the process of democratic decision-making, the level of participation in this process and the responsibility for the results of those decisions. A. Yang coordinates and substantiates the real condition for involvement in the democratic process is not only the socio-economic factors of political participation, but first of all, the legal guarantee of citizens' exercise of their political rights at all levels, as well as legal guarantees for individual participation in the global process.³

In our opinion, the most important general condition for democratization is political stability. Political stability implies the reforms and changes in society within the law, provided that state institutions are maintained in the management of the country. Not only

¹ Əfəndiyev M. Siyasi elmin əsasları. Bakı, Siyasət, 2004, s. 89.

² Democracy. Cambridge, 1996, p.8.

³ Kaufmann L.L. Democracy in a postmodern World // "Sosial Policy" (fall) 1990, N6, p.120.

the formation and development of democracy, but also all the causes and factors that affect political democratization are manifested in one form or another in the way of thinking of elite circles. Elite circles aim at establishing democratic political rules in the countries to which they belong. The development of democracy is based on the same model and standard criteria in all societies. The experience of the United States, Britain, Germany, France and Sweden also proves that a unified democracy has been established in these countries. These countries also benefit from the universal values of democracy and combine democratic development with the features of the cultural and historical development of each country.

Regardless of the approach to political democratization, any model created in relation to it should not ignore the contradictions inherent in democracy. Ignoring these contradictions in practical changes can call into question the intended goals, lead to the depletion of state resources, the despair of the masses or the elite for a democratic society, and even the transformation of democratic regimes into totalitarian and authoritarian regimes.

Another important feature that characterizes the modern nature of the process of political democratization is political pluralism. As a principle of political democracy, pluralism opposes all forms of monopoly. Another important condition for political democratization is the development of mass communication. Democracy is practically impossible without mass communication in countries with large territories and large populations. Another important basis for political democratization is the high level of welfare and social life of citizens. Social abundance and prosperity have a positive effect on the democratization of society.

The modern stage of political democratization is characterized by a number of key tendencies that reflect socio-political values. The first of these tendencies is the intensification of the process of democratization of political power. The second tendency is manifested in the rise of the factor of legitimacy as an absolute sign of civil and democratic power. The third tendency characterizes the formation of a system of separation of powers as one of the fundamental aspects of the formation and functioning of political

power. The fourth tendency expresses the negative process that reflects the growing conflict between different branches of government. This tendency has a negative impact on economic and political stability in all countries. We must not forget that the massmedia, public opinion, multiparty system and more elections are of great importance in the system of political democratization institutions, as well as socio-political values.

The third sub-chapter of the first chapter, entitled "*Democratic transit is a necessary basis for political democratization*" emphasizes that democratic transit is not a goal, but a necessary and important tool for the establishment, development and formation of a modern civil political system, a process that creates a stable social system. The main content of the transition from a non-democratic regime to a democratic political regime is: to create democratic institutions and norms, as well as to renew the political system on the basis of expanding the rights and freedoms of citizens; to deepen the reforms implemented within the limited framework; to implement reforms covering all spheres of public life; to ensure that the real reformist social forces eventually come to power etc.

The development of views on the dynamics of political change in democratic transit can be characterized in two stages: the first stage, which covers the early 1960s and 1970s of the XX century, and the second stage, which covers the 1970s and 1990s. S.Lipset, G.Almond, S.Verba and others, who are considered to be prominent representatives of transitology, point out the existence of four great necessary foundations of stable democracy: socio-economic development; civil society; ratio of political forces; development of the communist system.¹

Huntington was the first to use the term "democratic wave" to describe global political change. According to him, the wave of democratization is the process of transition of a group of countries

¹ Ахиезар А.С. Россия как большое общество // Вопросы философии, 1993, №1, с.3-6.

from non-democratic to democratic regimes over certain time.¹

In general, characterizing the prospects for the development of democratization, S.Huntington believes that in the current historical moment of unfavorable social and economic conditions, democracy will move forward not through its spread in society, but through its strengthening.²

Of course, democratization is a global process that corresponds to the general historical trend of changing the social structure. At the same time, this process penetrates certain nations in a specific way. In numerous important models of the transition to democracy primary focus is directed to the democratization process. The liberal-democratic model is of particular interest among these analytical models. This model is characterized, first and foremost, by the manifestation of pluralism in the political sphere. It refers to political forces, parties, organizations, political groups and other associations in the political sphere. Political science research has also focused on the stages of democratic transit. Political theory usually distinguishes three stages of the transition to democracy, which we also consider acceptable: liberalization, democratization and socialization.

It is important to emphasize that the formation of a democratic political regime is directly related to the re-formation of the state apparatus. Democratic transit also necessitates the formation of relevant civil society institutions. New values are being formed in civil society and in the context of those values, the consensus of political and social forces is emerging, and favourable conditions are being created for the comparison of positions.

A characteristic feature of the modern democratization process is that democratic transit takes place mainly through the democratic method, through negotiations between the government and the opposition, through political compromise and consensus, and through non-violence. Francisco C.Weffort, a Brazilian researcher who describes the democratic processes that took place in the late XX century, believes that the so-called "new democracy" is a democracy

¹ Huntington S. The Third Wave: Democratization in the Late Twentieth Century. London: Norman, 1991, 14 p.

² Хантингтон С. Столкновение цивилизаций // Полис, 1994, №1, с.94.

in the process of democracy.¹ From this it can be concluded that this democracy forms a democratic transit.

The second chapter, entitled *"The concept of modernization as a theoretical model of development,"* covers three sub-chapters. The first paragraph, entitled *"The essence and types of modernization"* reveals the concept of modernization, analyzes the causes, factors and features of its manifestation in various spheres of public life. From the late 1950s to the early 1970s Modernization was developed within the framework of the concept of Westernization, based on the idea of the universality of Western liberalism. However, in the search for more important paradigms, it became necessary to abandon the terms "Europeanization" or "Westernization". The retention of the term "Americanization" sounded openly critical and negative.²

Modernization means the transition from pre-industrial society to industrialism and capitalism through comprehensive reforms.³

The general concept of modernization refers to changes in all spheres of public life (economic, social, political, cultural). It should be noted that modernization is the transition of society from a traditional agrarian to an industrial, and then to a post-industrial society. "Modernization is characterized by the modern character of mankind, the adaptation to modern rules, visions, ideas, needs."⁴

In our opinion, modernization reflects the interdependence of social processes and changes on the basis of industrialization and includes: increasing the specialization and differentiation of labour; strengthening bureaucracy; formation of modern political institutions (electoral system, political parties, parliamentary system); open stratification system; high mobility; weakening of traditional values (family, religion, morals), etc. Of course, the theory of modernization as a whole, characterized as a model of social development, explains the process of progressive transition from a "traditional" evolutionary

¹ Веффорт Ф.С. Что такое «новая демократия?» // Международный журнал социальных наук. 1993, №3, с.125.

² Ерасов Б.С. Социальная культурология. М., Аспект Пресс, 2000, с.455-456.

³ Круглова Г.А. Социально-политические аспекты глобальных проблем современности и их место в христианстве. Мн, БГУ, 2004, с.170.

⁴ Социологический энциклопедический словарь. М., Инфра. М-Норма, 1998, с.187.

society to a "modern", "innovative" society. This process is accompanied by the disappearance of the separation of man from property and political power.

The scientific literature distinguishes between the first and the second modernization. The first or organic modernization is carried out at the expense of organic, internal sources. The mechanism of its development is innovation and speed. The second, inorganic type of modernization has been developed by more developed countries as an intellectual and political "response" to the challenge. This type of modernization is associated with the spread of "modernity" culture under the influence of foreign, early modernizing countries.¹ Such modernization can take place in the form of "westernization" through the mechanical transfer of effective Western social, technical and political institutions to another social environment.

Society is consciously regulated by the direct participants of social events. Prominent researcher Giddens is convinced that simple modernization takes a "reflexive" form when "structural meta-changes" occur that are not subject to control and forecast when basic principles are violated.

The study of modernization in different countries leads to the conclusion that the main element that determines the success of modernization is the socio-cultural factor. Modernization is constantly provoking crises and mass discontent without changing the wealth orientation of the broad social layer and eliminating patriarchal and subordinate political culture.

The objective need of the innovation process is to pay close attention to the study and comparative analysis of the socio-economic, political and especially socio-cultural aspects of modernization.

The second half of the second chapter, entitled "***Methodology, main directions and importance of the concepts of political modernization***" is based on the ground that the methodology of scientific research is a search strategy based on the understanding of

¹ Лукин В.Н., Федоров Т.Н. Политические технологии. СПб., Изд. Дом Терда, 2007, с.286.

the problem, its application method, program objectives and normative study of the subject. The methodology reflects the system of analytical methods of acquisition and verification of scientific knowledge.

"Methodology of studying political problems is a special scientific field, training on the application of different methods in political thinking, which is associated with the correct statement of the problem and the choice of an adequate approach, the transformation of methodological principles, the need for a set of practices and methods."¹ F.Nietzsche once said that the main discovery of any science is its method of cognition.

In modern political science literature, methodology is understood as a system of norms and the method of scientific thinking associated with it, the problem statement and the method of scientific research. Practically all sciences, as well as political science, use their methods rationally and purposefully. It is incorrect to imagine the definition of the concepts of political modernization, and modernization in general, outside this context.

It is even more necessary to emphasize that the objectivity, completeness, accuracy and scientific novelty of all political researches, as well as the concepts of political modernization, are possible only if they are based on complex methods.

Various researchers consider it appropriate to use different options for the concept of political modernization. However, it is not correct to ignore such a generally accepted irrefutable idea that theory plays a significant role in the research process.

It should be noted that the theoretical debate over the choice of options and ways of modernization in general took place mainly between liberals and conservatives. Representing the liberal direction of the concept of political modernization, G. Almond, Pay and others say that the emergence of the middle class (or layer) in society and the development of people's education suggests that it leads to serious changes in the nature and organization of government. In general, the

¹ Дегтрянв А.А. Методы политологических исследований // А.А.Дегтрянв, Вестн. МТУ, 1996, сер. 12, №6, s.56.

nature and dynamics of modernization depend on the open competition of the free elite and the degree of involvement of ordinary citizens in politics. The conservative aspect of the concept of political modernization emphasizes the course of modernization from another point of view. According to this view, the main source of the modernization process is the conflict between the "mobilization" of the population, in other words, by being involved in political life due to the contradictions and "institutionalization". Proponents of the conservative approach emphasize the existence of certain structures and mechanisms for the commonality and coordination of the interests of citizens when they say "institutionalization."

It can be concluded that the experience of changes in the 1970s and 1980s of the XX century demonstrated the existence of universal norms and requirements of modernization. This allowed for some progress in social, economic and political development. Being a specific logic of political analysis, when studying the concepts of political modernization, it must be acknowledged that this study helps to explain the complex stages of transition. Numerous studies formed in this direction confirm the general direction of the development of the world community towards the industrial phase of its evolution. This reality once again reflects the importance of the theory of modernization, as well as the concepts of political modernization.

The third half of this chapter, entitled "*Models and stages of political modernization as an object of political analysis*", explains the concept of political analysis, examines specific models and definite stages of political modernization, and attempts to compare them.

Political analysis is characterized as a sphere of special scientific knowledge with its scope and other aspects. Political analysis in the broad sense of the word can be used to describe all scientific research related to politics, while in the narrow sense it is a field of applied science of special importance. Political analysis embodies the search for certain necessary technological means and methods of action to eliminate subjectivity and arbitrariness, which

are the main obstacles to the study of specific problems, and to make them more acceptable.

Political theory is the current, modern knowledge of politics. Political analysis, on the other hand, focuses on the study of specific problems, in other words, combines elements of reality that affect different areas of the political space. This can also be applied to the study of the problem of political modernization. Political analysis, unlike factors seeking the interrelation and interdependence of the studied areas of public relations, develops a rational-simple understanding of the object, such as modernization, and therefore requires minimal sufficient information to achieve the researcher's specific goal.

In our opinion, when considering the models and stages of political modernization as an object of political analysis, it is important to divide political analysis itself into internal logical stages, since these stages predetermine the success of cognitive-applied activity. According to American scientists C.B. Mannheim and R.K. Rich, the main stages of this analytical process can be attributed to: the stage of conceptualization of the problem; its modeling stage; development of a research program for a specific problem; the stage of selection of its research methods.¹

When studying the problem of modernization as a whole, and models and stages of political modernization as an object of political analysis, purposeful and rational use of these internal logical stages of political analysis is understood as a necessary research principle.

Modern political science literature attempts to identify some models of political modernization. There are attempts to identify some models of political modernization in modern political science literature. The model is an idea, a conventional copy of the object under study, as well as a method of symbolic reproduction of the characteristics of processes and events. The conceptual model conditioned by the study of political modernization is a strategic plan of research, an apparatus of concepts that reflects the theoretical and

¹ Мангейм Дж.Б., Рич Р.К. Политология. Методы исследования: Пер. с англ. М., Вес Мир, 1997, с.68.

methodological approaches, research problems.

In the process of political modernization, two main issues must be kept in focus. One of them is that the backwardness of other spheres of society can lead to fragmentation and crisis. Another danger is that rapid democratization, which does not correspond to the current level of civil society and political culture, can lead to a crisis and chaos. The situation is different in various countries in the early stages of political modernization. The formation of parliamentary institutions during modernization, which is essentially based on evolution in the Western countries, reveals some general patterns of this process. In some countries, the parliamentary institution was gradually formed on the basis of the traditional structures of class power in England and Iceland. The legislature expands its capacity and powers in relation to the executive body until it achieves an effective balance based on the separation of powers. There is a gradual but irreversible democratization of parliamentary institutions and the mechanisms of its formation.

One of the modern conceptual models of the model of political modernization belongs to S. Huntington. He distinguishes three classical models of modernization: 1. Classical linear model (Great Britain, Sweden). 2. Periodic model (Latin America, many countries in Asia and Africa). 3. Dialectical model (Spain, Portugal, Greece).

Other forms of models of political modernization are also reflected in the literature on political science.

One of the specific modernization models is the Chinese model of reform. In China, a special model of modernization and reform of totalitarian political structures was developed, and this model was called the policy of "new authoritarianism".

In general, the most successful model in the system of models of political modernization is the Scandinavian model. This highly valued model has laid the groundwork for rapid, intensified reforms to carry out economic and political modernization in parallel. It should be noted that the content of the Scandinavian model shaped the development of a system of representative interests, consisting of the formation of a system of market relations.

Based on our considerations, we can conclude that the optimal

model of political and economic reforms can be found due to the fact that each country carefully takes into account its specifics and world experience. It could serve the purpose of building a more dynamic and humane society.

The third chapter is entitled "*Democratic political process and political modernization of society.*" The first half of this chapter, entitled "*Political Modernization: Content, Characteristics*", which covers four paragraphs, analyzes the essence, content, specific features of the concept of political modernization, the concept of political process and its relationship with political modernization.

In world political science, political modernization is generally assessed as follows: the formation of a differentiated political structure; constant wide involvement of social groups and individuals in political life; formation and rapid development of rational political bureaucracy; weakening of the traditional elite and its replacement by the modernizing elite. The most important component of the process of political modernization is the transition from authoritarianism (totalitarianism) to democracy (democratic transit).¹

In the context of a comparative analysis of the various views on political modernization, the content of political modernization can be defined as follows: political modernization is characterized by the formation, development and spread of modern political institutions, political practice and political structures. It would be wrong to understand modern political institutions and political practice only as the speed of political institutions and practices of developed democracies, it is important to imagine political institutions and practices that ensure adequate response and adaptation of the political system to the changing conditions of modernization.

In our opinion, these institutions and practices may be consistent with the modern model of democratic institutions or may differ to certain degrees. Therefore, on the one hand, it is necessary to maintain political stability as the most important condition for social development as a whole, on the other hand, to expand the opportunities and forms of political participation, the mass base of

¹ Мелвиль А.Ю. Демократические транзиты. М., Юнити, 1999, с.40-43.

reforms.

Democratization of public life, clarity, strengthening the fight against negative situations, the establishment of a healthy social environment, increasing the social activity of citizens and other positive changes are the successful aspects of modernization.

The political modernization of society is closely connected with the political process. A qualitative development, dynamics and modernization of society and its political system is manifested in the political process. Political process is understood as the transformation of the political system of a society from one situation to another. It is important to emphasize that the political process as a whole clarifies the movement, dynamics, evolution of the political system, reveals changes in its state in terms of time and space. All this has a positive impact on the content and characteristics of the political modernization of society as a whole. The political process is formed and directed, first of all, by the forces that make the main political decisions and that are in power.¹

It should be noted that one of the most important values that condition and reflect political modernization is the further improvement of statehood and the manifestation of new political realities in this process. One of these realities is the formation of the legal state. Of course, the establishment of the legal state as a political reality should not be seen as the "end" of the historical evolution of statehood. It should not be forgotten that despite the solemn proclamation of humanistic values, the real social and political dynamics has revealed a number of historical limitations, important contradictions and even the impossibility of implementing certain norms and principles that form the basis of the legal state.

However, in the process of formation and establishment of the legal state, it did not only work out and strengthen the provision of individual freedoms and rights by law, but also created the main guarantees for the normal existence and functioning of civil society, its main institutions, principles and values.

¹ Решетников С.В. Системный подход как методология анализа публичной политики / С.В.Решетников, Н.А.Антанович. Мн., ИСПИ. 2000, с.69.

In the second half of the third chapter, entitled "*Political modernization of society in the context of political development*", it is noted that the problem of political development of countries in the context of transformation is more noticeable in the theory of modernization. This theory is characterized as a set of analyzes of various schemes and models that reveal the dynamics of overcoming the backwardness of traditional states. The theoretical basis of this concept is reflected in the legacy of ideas of J. Locke, A. Smith, as well as in the works of the founders of the "sociology of development".

Attempts to identify the source, nature and direction of political change led to the widespread use of the concepts of "political development" and "theory of political development" in Western political science in the 1950s of the XX century.

It is important to note that political development characterizes such changes in the political sphere of society that it embodies the modernization of the political system, a significant transformation of its internal structure and function. This change is due to the emergence of a new qualitative state of the political sphere.

Political development is a multidimensional process, in the course of which, as a result of the interaction of different political forces, political behaviour emerges and changes occur in the political culture, in the political system of society itself. Of course, political development cannot be equated with political progress, and progress in general. Political development embodies the process, not the outcome. Political progress, on the other hand, is characterized by certain political achievements.

When studying the problem of political development, it is important to take into account its main determinants, the impact of not only domestic economic, social, moral, ideological, but also of the processes taking place in the world on the political sphere. Political development cannot be attributed to the reproduction of non-political social systems. While emphasizing that there is no need to list the existing set of political theories, it is important to note that each theoretical approach can only be analyzed and applied based on the peculiarities of the national specifics.

Just as each country has a different history, its development paths cannot be the same. It is necessary to use both of these approaches when analyzing the development path of Azerbaijan. Looking for an answer to the question of which theory of political transformation can be applied to Azerbaijan, one can conclude that even the post-communist Soviet and Eastern European countries - Estonia and the Czech Republic, which are considered closer to the West, cannot be explained in a general theory.

From the 1950s of the XX century onwards, the theory of modernization began to spread in connection with political development. Prominent representatives of this theory, formed in Western political science, are G.Almond, D.Apter, S.Werter, L.Pay and others. The theory of political modernization mainly emphasizes the social conditions of political development and, first of all, the problem of social mobilization. In the course of the political process, one or another element of the political system can be repeated, eliminated and created. Representatives of the theory of modernization, in contrast to the proponents of the theory of social evolution, state that the process of development is directed by the political and intellectual elite, a process that is manifested in modern society only under the control of that elite.

The optimal option for the democratic political development of society and for the purpose of carrying out reforms is formed when the elite has an advantage over ordinary citizens. Of course, the modernization of society depends more on the strength and organization of democratic political institutions rather than on their level.

Summarizing the considerations, it can be concluded that the political changes that characterize political modernization are carried out in different ways and at different speeds within the previous rules as a process of forming a new feature of political reality. But the final result is that the political system as a whole is changing. This process has several evolutionary alternatives, the choice of which depends on a specific set of factors that affect it.

The third sub-chapter of the third chapter is entitled *"Directions of modernization in the context of the characteristics of*

a democratic political system." It clarifies the concepts of the political system as a whole and the democratic system in particular, examines the features that make up the content of a democratic political system and the directions of its modernization.

The political system is an integrative category of modern political science that allows for modernization. The general system theory was founded by the German biologist Ludwig von Bertalanfi. He presented the term "system" to the scientific turnover in 1920. Bertalanfi defined the system as a complex of interconnected elements.¹

In the process of formation of the whole system, as well as subsystems, not only new qualities appear and the properties and characteristics of the main components change, but also new parts and qualities that did not exist before the manifestation of the whole system are formed.

A reliable guarantee for the modernization of the political system is due to the democratic political system. The choice of specific options for a democratic political system depends on many factors: the nature of historical traditions and historical experience (necessary for the modernization of the political system), the country's material and moral capabilities, the balance of political forces, the political consciousness of citizens and the type of political culture of society, the defining efforts of the ruling elite.

Relevant criteria for the essential stability of a modernized democratic political system include: structural differentiation of the political system (macro, meso, micro); democratic reproductive capacity of the political system; its tendency to balance.

It should be highlighted that one of the main tasks of the research is to identify and analyze the directions of its modernization in the context of disclosing the essence of the democratic political system. In this sense, we can refer to the directions of modernization of the democratic political system: the formation of the legal state, which is a special indicator of the evolution of statehood,

¹ Берталанфи Л. Общая теория систем – критический обзор / Исследования по общей теории систем. М., Прогресс, 1969, с.23.

improvement of the system of interaction between state and society, state and citizen, formation and development of the social state, a new type of social policy of the state, social governance and management at the modern level, adoption, implementation of political decisions conditioned by the nature of modernization and others.

In our opinion, from the point of view of the analysis of the trends of modernization of the democratic political system, first of all, it is very important to specify the modern tendencies in the development of the state. There are two special tendencies in the development of the modern state: deetatic and etatic. The essence of the first tendency is that civil society becomes more active, control over the state strengthens, the sphere of influence of political parties and interest groups expands, and the beginnings of self-government in some civil society bodies become stronger.

The second - etatic tendency is the growing role of the state as a regulatory and integrative tool of society. The modern state actively intervenes in economic, social and information processes, stimulates the development of production through policies in tax, investment, credit policy and other areas, eliminates significant inconsistencies in the national economy. The development of a strategy and planning of social development is more important in the activities of the state.

Another important aspect of the modernization of the democratic political system is the formation and development of the social state. This is a specific expression of the modern nature of the state. One of the distinguishing features of the social state is that it has used political and ideological rhetoric to penetrate the conceptual apparatus of serious political theory in recent decades.

The fourth half of this chapter is entitled "***Socio-political aspects of globalization and the problem of modernization.***" The paragraph emphasizes that in the second half of the XX century, mankind faced such problems that affect the deepest foundations of civilization, the interests of all peoples.

Global problems are organically connected with the social, economic and political contradictions of the modern world and touches on interests of various classes, social groups, political parties,

social movements and etc. They clearly express political shades, and their solution is more focused on the political sphere, in short, global problems have a socio-political aspect.¹

Researchers calculate globalization from different historical periods. Some authors, for example, M.Waters believe that globalization should be compared with modernization, in this regard, its beginning can be attributed to the XVI century.

H.Lentner is convinced that globalization began at the end of the XIX century with the development of modern industry, new technologies of transport and communication, the development of international trade and capital flows and modern migration.

In general, E.Giddens, M.Waters, R.Robertson, H.Hondker and others played an important role in the development of the theory of globalization. Wallerstein's approach to the world system contributed to the formation of the concept of globalization. The main object of his scientific analysis was to describe the world as a whole, which means that globalization should be focused on beyond the country and the region.

The global problems of the modern age are not new for the current stage of human development, they are characterized by an unprecedented sharpening and deepening of the contradictions that previously existed in the "human-society-nature" system. From this point of view, in our opinion, it is necessary to clarify the reasons for their comprehensive analysis, which will allow to actualize these problems.

All global problems are interdependent. Each global problem does not act on its own, but as an "element" of the whole system of global problems. The systemic nature of the global problems of our time requires their comprehensive study.

There are different approaches to the phenomenon of globalization in the world scientific literature: globalization as a world market, as a link, as modernization and "detraditionalism", as homogenization or hybridization. Of course, the more these

¹ Yashar D. Globalization and Collective Action // Comparative Politics/ 2002, v.34, N3, 343 p.

approaches are based on different logical bases, the more they should be considered as an indicator of certain aspects.

From the socio-political aspect of globalization, we can conclude that, firstly, every global political problem is formed at the intersection of man, society and nature. Secondly, the dynamics of development and experience of the modern world clearly show that all global political problems are manifested in interconnection and influence. Finally, the successful solution of global political problems makes the combination of all methods and means, and first of all, intellectual, labour and material resources, a vital necessity. This reality should further strengthen the sense of mutual trust and cooperation between states for the fate of mankind. We must not forget that in a globalizing world, modernization is in fact a dominant technology in the study of political space.

The fourth chapter, entitled "*Political modernization of society in the process of democratization of the Republic of Azerbaijan*", covers three sub-chapters. The first half of the chapter, entitled "*Formation and modernization of the democratic political and economic system in the Republic of Azerbaijan*", emphasizes the ground and mechanism for the formation of new democratic political rules in Azerbaijan, clarifies the formation and modernization of the new economic system and national economy.

In accordance with the principle of separation of powers, Azerbaijan has three branches of government formed and operating independently: the Parliament of the Republic of Azerbaijan, which exercises legislative power, the presidency, which exercises executive power, and the general courts of the Republic of Azerbaijan, which exercises judicial power. According to the form of exercise of state power, the presidential administration has been established in Azerbaijan.

One of the important features characterizing the political system of the Republic of Azerbaijan is multiparty system, formation of various public associations, political movements and other aspects.

One of the important directions of the formation of the democratic political system of the Republic of Azerbaijan is the rapid and comprehensive manifestation of the party-formation process, as

well as the formation and development of party systems. At present, 62 parties are officially registered in the country.

The ruling New Azerbaijan Party unites more than 760,000 members. These important political events and changes in our country clearly reflect not only the establishment of a democratic political system, but also its modernization.

The problem of modernization of state power occupies a very important place in the system of modernization of the new political system of the Republic of Azerbaijan. In this regard, it is important to emphasize that the consequences of national modernization in the modern world are ambiguous, and inevitably globalization often leads to the instability of many social, economic and political processes.

Along with the democratic political system in the Republic of Azerbaijan, the formation and modernization of the new economic system, the national economy is the objective legitimacy of the transformation phase of our society. In principle, a new socio-economic situation has emerged in Azerbaijan in the context of reforms. The abolition of the command-and-control system in the management of the economy and the creation of elements of a market economy - banking and trade infrastructure, elimination of commodity shortages, prevention of rapid price increases and other measures are a clear manifestation of the new socio-economic situation. Reforms that create a real opportunity for economic modernization in the process of creating a new economic system are implemented in Azerbaijan.

An important condition for the formation of the economic system and modernization in the economy is the formation of market relations. The decisive condition for modernization in the economy is investment. Another important direction of the formation and modernization of the new economic system is the implementation of mass privatization in Azerbaijan. Privatization has enabled a wide segment of the population to be involved in entrepreneurship in our country. The Development Concept "Azerbaijan 2020: vision for the future" approved by the decree of President Ilham Aliyev also forms a qualitatively new model of development, including the main

strategic goals of development policy in all spheres of life.

The creation of highly efficient economic potential of our country in the future should be based on the following strategy:

- The mechanism of privatization of state property should be provided from the legal and economic point of view, in this regard, the experience of advanced countries should be used correctly, efficiently and purposefully;

- Social indicators of reforms should be defined, secured subsistence minimum, the employment rate, as well as the minimum share of funds allocated to education, health and science in the gross national product should be provided;

- The economic development of the country should be closely linked with social development, the management of the economy should be reorganized in accordance with the requirements of modern times.

The second half of the fourth chapter, entitled "*The essence and characteristics of political modernization in Azerbaijani society*" reveals the history of modernization in Azerbaijan, its evolution in the process of statehood, the transition from traditional to modern society, and the specific features of various stages of statehood development are investigated.

After the re-establishment of the independent Azerbaijani state in the early 1990s, a wide range of favorable conditions and opportunities for modernization have emerged in the political life of our country. A democratic, legal, secular state has been established in Azerbaijan, the first democratic constitution has been adopted, and legal norms have been brought into line with world standards on the basis of the principle of separation of powers.

The opinion highlighted by the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev on the importance of parallel political and economic changes is of special importance in terms of political modernization of the republic. Academician R.Mehdiyev writes: "... Reforms in each area must complement each other, create conditions for the future development of the state and society, and give a new impetus to this process. Reforms should be an incentive for the overall transformation of Azerbaijani society. This issue becomes

even more relevant at a time when global processes are taking place, attitudes towards the state, society and the individual as a whole are changing.¹

Authoritarian methods of modernization cannot create democratic effectiveness. From this point of view, the measures taken in our country to gradually eliminate such methods inherited from the previous regime create a basis for the establishment and formation of democratic methods and rules of modernization. This should be considered as one of the most successful aspects of socio-political information in our society.

Political modernization in Azerbaijani society began in the late 1980s of the XX century in the absence of private property and a market economy. However, political modernization in our country has been carried out under more favorable conditions since the beginning of 2000, in other words, in the course of stable economic development, political stability and rising living standards.

The Azerbaijani society, which is carrying out transformational changes, solves the problems in its own way, responds quickly and fully to the challenges of the times. The universal parameters of the instability and imbalance of the transition to democracy make it possible to analyze events in detail and to determine the consequences of the ongoing transformation. At the same time, the nature and pace of reforms depend on how society resolves the contradictions of modernization.

Azerbaijan's political modernization is of a dual nature: on the one hand, the wide involvement of various groups and layers of society in political life is clearly visible, on the other hand, the methods of modernization in the country have civil and democratic character. The atmosphere of political dialogue is fully formed in the society. There is a common platform on national issues, and this cooperation has really brought great benefits to the country. This is of great importance for the future political system, for the improvement of the political system in our country.

¹ Mehdiyev R. Azərbaycan: 2003-2008. Zaman haqqında düşünərkən. Bakı: Şərq-Qərb, 2008, 240 s.

The third sub-chapter of the fourth chapter is entitled "*Modernization of Azerbaijan in the context of political and moral values.*" It is noted that the regulation of the activities of the individual and society in the cultural sphere at a more perfect level is carried out through a system of values.

The notion of value in itself is not the object of reality, but the attitude to it. Political values are always linked to rules created and protected by the state.

The main political values of the modern world refer to: political freedoms, equality, justice, human rights, democracy, political pluralism, tolerance, political education, citizenship, patriotism and others.¹

The exercise of political rights and freedoms of citizens by the state is logically assessed as a political behaviour aimed at current and strategic modernization. Serious political changes in our society in this direction are very important.

During the period of independence, Azerbaijan has implemented reforms to ensure human rights and freedoms and brought national legislation in line with international standards. The State of Azerbaijan has declared its recognition of the "Universal Declaration of Human Rights" in the Constitutional Act on independence and has acceded to various international agreements. In 1993-2003, in order to accede to more than 30 international conventions, the Milli Majlis adopted more than 20 laws on human rights and freedoms.

The decree signed by President Heydar Aliyev on February 22, 1998 "On measures to ensure human and civil rights and freedoms" states that during the period of independence, Azerbaijan has chosen the path of building a democratic, legal and secular state and a political assessment was given to the circumstances and facts that led to mass human rights abuses in the late 1980s and early 1990s.

In short, all the adopted state and legislative acts are aimed at improving the political activity of citizens, civic culture, which is the

¹ Мангейм Дж.Б., Рич Р.К. Политология. Методы исследования: Пер. с англ. М., Весь мир, 1997, с. 333.

content of modernization, as well as accelerating the process of political socialization, which has a significant impact on political and economic modernization. The course of modernization or democratization of society cannot be completed without them. This is because modernization depends not only politically and economically on the activity of members of society, but also on the rational and purposeful activity of political structures. The complexity of political life, the need for people to realize the ideals of freedom, equality and democracy is the legitimacy of the modernization of society.

The normative institutional structure of the Azerbaijani *sosium* is characterized by the localization and personalization of wealth-value orientations and norms of behaviour.

Citizens express confidence in those social and political institutions that have a positive impact on them. It is no coincidence that the society that respondents dream of in terms of modernization is associated with a democratic Western society. It can be concluded that in a democratic Azerbaijani society, a certain part of the citizens are more interested in Western modernization, preferring to implement modernization in the context of political values in our country.

Modernization is characterized not only by political values, but also by other moral factors. The changes taking place in society, while subject to modernization, expand the scope of the principles of social regulation. Culture is a single - unique system of the whole spiritual life of society. All human activities are ultimately aimed at the creation of material and spiritual values.

It is impossible to renew and modernize public life without activating the intellectual and spiritual potential of society, which is concentrated in science, education and all spheres of spiritual life. The harmonious implementation of modernization in our society, in other words, the coordination of serious reforms in the political, economic and spiritual spheres, creates real favourable conditions and opportunities for the modernization of Azerbaijan at a perfect level. In general, education, which is characterized as a special spiritual life event, plays an important role in the successful realization of this secular process.

Azerbaijan's new education system must benefit from our

national moral values and play a decisive role in shaping the social thinking of the younger generation. In the broadest sense of the word, the purpose of education is to disseminate and assimilate scientific knowledge about the laws of nature, society, human perception and behaviour. Further development of education and science is a decisive requirement of the process of political modernization in Azerbaijan. Modernization is unimaginable beyond the acquisition of political and moral values.

In the *Conclusion* part of the dissertation, the research is summarized, the final results obtained in the process of studying the problem are presented by generalizations, on the basis of which recommendations and suggestions of theoretical and practical significance are put forward.

The author concludes that the general concept of modernization covers changes in all spheres of public life, reflects the interdependence of social processes and changes on the basis of industrialization. By restoring historical justice in Azerbaijan's 44-day Patriotic war and liberating the lands occupied by Armenia for 30 years, it has both implemented UN resolutions and created a new political and economic situation. As President Ilham Aliyev noted, one of the main consequences of the war was the creation of a new security format in the South Caucasus. Against the background of geopolitical processes, the current results of the war are not only assessed as a logical continuation of Azerbaijan's economic, political and military superiority, but are also characterized as a success of an active, consistent, pragmatic foreign policy strategy. Reconstruction work has already begun in the liberated areas, and the "Smart City" and "Smart Village" concepts are being implemented. This concept will allow our economy to expand further by attracting the liberated territories into economic circulation.

Thus, the study of modernization in different countries leads to the conclusion that the main element that determines the success of modernization is the socio-cultural factor. Forms and mechanisms of modernization in a particular society should be determined on the basis of the level of socio-economic and spiritual historical maturity of the existing society.

The main provisions of the dissertation are reflected in the following scientific works:

1. Political democracy and political modernization, // Monograph. Baku, "Translator", 2015, (Scientific editors; Ph.D., Prof. H.J.Alibeyli, Ph.D.,Prof.A.M.Tagiyev, reviewer; prof. E.X.Nasirov), ISBN: 978 -9952-28-273-3. p. 356
2. Comparative analysis of views on the transition to democracy.// Public Administration: theory and practice. 2014, N 4 (48) ISSN 2309-1347, Baku-2014, p187-193.
3. Theories of modern democracy.// Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences, Institute of Philosophy and Law. Scientific works: international scientific-theoretical journal, N 2 (23), ISSN 2219-9810, Baku-2014, p.187-194.
4. Socio-political values of political democratization. // Baku University News: Socio-political sciences series. N 1. 2014, ISSN 1609-0586, Baku-2014, p.90-99.
5. The content and specific features of political democratization.// Baku University News: Socio-political sciences series. N 2. 2014, ISSN 1609-0586, Baku-2014, p. 81-90.
6. Socio-political aspects of globalization.// Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences, Institute of Philosophy and Law. Scientific works: international scientific-theoretical journal, N 1 (24), ISSN 2219-9810, Baku-2015, p.135-142.
7. Formation and modernization of the democratic political and economic system in Azerbaijan. // Works of young scientists. N 11 2015, ISSN: 2410-2040, Baku-2015, p.220-226.
8. Political modernization in the context of the political process. // Ganja State University: Scientific News: Fundamental, Humanitarian and Natural Sciences Series, N 1, 2015, Ganja-2015, p. 235-242.
9. Characteristics of political modernization in the Azerbaijani society.// Public Administration: theory and practice. 2015, N 3 (51) ISSN 2309-1347, Baku-2015, p. 143-151.
10. Contents and peculiarities of political modernization.// Gileya: Scientific Bulletin: Issue 93 (2), Kiev-2015, p.388-393,
11. Models of political modernization.// Pedagogical University

- News: Department of Natural, Humanitarian and Pedagogical-Psychological Sciences. N 4. 2014. Baku-2014, p. 214- 219.
12. Democratic transit: essence, features and directions.// Pedagogical University News:Department of Natural,Humanitarian and Pedagogical-Psychological Sciences.N2.2014. Baku-2014,p. 243-248.
 13. The essence and features of political democracy.// Strategic Analysis. (Analytical journal on domestic and foreign policy of the Republic of Azerbaijan, international relations). N 2 (9), 2014. ISSN 2078-8037. p.203-215.
 14. The concept of political modernization as a model of political development.// Civilization. N 1, 2015, (Baku Eurasian University., Scientific-theoretical journal). p.178-175.
 15. Directions of modernization of the democratic political system. // Geostrategy (socio-political, scientific-popular magazine). N 2 (26) March-April 2015, pp.44-49.
 16. Methodology and essence of the concept of political modernization. // Baku Slavic University: Scientific Works: socio-political sciences series, N2, 2013, ISSN 2309-3277, Baku-2013, p.55-62.
 17. “The essence of a democratic political system”, // International Journal of Biology, Pharmacy and Allied Sciences (IJBPAS) ISSN: 2277-4998, IMPAKT FAKTOR (ISI) 2012-13: 0.663, IMPAKT FAKTOR (ISI) 2013- 14: 0.812, IJBPAS, June, 2015, 4 (6): 3635-3645. (IJBPAS Now Listed in Thomsonreuters Journal Master List).
 18. Political development and political modernization.// Togliatti State University. Vector of Science; Series: Pedagogy, psychology. N1 (20) 2015, ISSN 2221-5662. Togliatti State University 2015, p.38-42.
 19. The essence and characteristics of modernization.// Geostrategy (socio-political, scientific-popular magazine). N 6 (24) November-December 2014, p.13-18.
 20. H.Aliyev and the formation and modernization of the political system in Azerbaijan.//Azerbaijan University, ANAS Institute of History named after A.A.Bakikhanov, Public Union "Support to Scientific Research of Youth", Media Group "Voice": Materials of the III International Scientific-Practical

- Conference dedicated to the 92nd anniversary of national leader H.Aliyev and his 22nd anniversary of return to power. Baku-2015. p.128-135.
21. The essence and features of political conflicts. //Azerbaijan National Academy of Science. Institute of History. Scientific Works, Volume 51. Baku-2014. p. 91-99.
 22. Modernization of the Azerbaijani society in the context of values.//Dedicated to the 93rd anniversary of the national leader H.A. Aliyev and the 70th anniversary of the Institute of Philosophy and Law of ANAS on "Modern problems of legal science: new trends in the protection of human rights and freedoms in the Republic of Azerbaijan" Materials of the VI Republican Scientific-Theoretical Conference. Baku-2016, (May 5-6). p.177-181.
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 25. Legitimacy of the development of the political system.// Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences. Institute of History. Scientific Works, Volume 67. Baku-2017. p. 103-114.
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 27. Socio-political aspects of globalization: from the perspective of philosophical vision.// EurasiaScience. Proceedings of the XXXVII International Scientific-Practical Conference Moscow: "Scientific and Publishing Center" Actuality.RF ", 2021. - 304 p. ISBN 978-5-6046083-6-4. p. 182-189

The defense of the dissertation will be held “19” november 2021 at 14⁰⁰ at the meeting of the BED 2.30/1 One-time Dissertation Council established under the Academy of Public Administration under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Address: Baku city, M. Lermontov str., 74

The dissertation is available in the library of the Academy of Public Administration under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Electronic versions of the dissertation and abstract are posted on the official website of the Academy of Public Administration under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

The abstract was sent to the necessary addresses on 18 october 2021.

Signed: 10.10.2021

Paper format: A5

Volume: 69532

Edition: 20