

---

The event organized by the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Culture and Tourism and Azerbaijan National Library was attended by officials of the mentioned ministries, scientists, representatives of education community, State Students Admission Commission and media, as well as experts, textbook authors and library staff.

The event was opened by Director of Azerbaijan National Library Kerim Tahirov. He welcomed the guests and talked about the attention and care provided by national leader Heydar Aliyev for the fields of education and textbook publication.

Speaking at the event, Education Minister Misir Mardanov talked about textbook policy of national leader Heydar Aliyev. He highlighted his great merits in this area and touched on some relevant historical facts.

According to him, in 1978 in the first period of Heydar Aliyev's power, there was accepted an order on free textbook delivery for students. The Minister also talked about a hard period of time faced by Azerbaijan in the early years of independence and the difficulty that the country faced in preparing and providing free textbooks for students.

According to the Minister, provision of pupils with free textbooks was one of the highest priorities of national leader Heydar Aliyev after his return to power. At first, refugee and internally displaced children were provided with free textbooks. In the following years, textbooks were provided free for all pupils of the country. The Minister noted that Azerbaijan is the first country among the CIS countries that provided students with free textbooks.

Next, the Minister talked about measures taken and important projects implemented in the country regarding preparation of textbooks and extra reading books. According to him, the textbook policy launched by national leader Heydar Aliyev, is successfully continued by President Ilham Aliyev,

At the end of his speech, the Minister thanked everyone, who contributed to the organization of the event.

Minister of Culture and Tourism of Azerbaijan Abulfas Garayev also highlighted the importance of the exhibition held by the initiative of Education Minister Misir Mardanov. Noting textbooks are the future of Azeri people and main source for the comprehensive education of Azeri children, the Minister talked about the care provided by national leader Heydar Aliyev to the education field.

According to Abulfas Garayev, due to the care of President Ilham Aliyev to the education field our state-funded libraries are annually enriched with examples of Azeri and world literature. Noting all this is a logical continuation of the attention paid by national leader Heydar Aliyev to the education field, the Minister said that everyone shall successfully fulfill its duties for the development of education and culture fields that a basis for the development of the state and people.

Director of Lyceum named after Zarifa Aliyeva, Mahabbat Veliyeva, director of Lyceum named after Heydar Aliyev, Fikret Khalilov, teacher of Lyceum named after Zarifa Aliyeva, Samir Bektashi, teacher of school-lyceum No. 72 Aydin Allahverdiyev and director of Curriculum Centre at Institute for Educational Problems Anvar Abbasov spoke about the textbook policy implemented in the country, and essential services of national leader Heydar Aliyev in this area.

Next, the event attendees visited the exhibition of 1500 textbooks published during the 1993-2012 period for secondary schools, as well as higher, secondary special and vocational education institutions.