



MISSION OF AZERBAIJAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Press release

12 December 2006

THE NATIONAL MINORITY FESTIVAL IN AZERBAIJAN

On 6-8 December 2006, a festival of national minorities titled “The Art of National Minorities: Azerbaijan is my native land” brought together more than 250 representatives of various ethnic groups of multinational and multi-confessional Azerbaijan. The festival was organized with the view to preserving and developing cultural heritage of ethnic groups as well as to strengthening mutual understanding and amicable historical relations between them.

Being named “the ethnic Renaissance”, this festival comprised a series of events which highlighted the artistic life of the national minorities. Among them were the launch of the website dedicated to Azerbaijan’s ethnic groups; a conference titled “The cultural heritage of national minorities and modernity”; a photo exhibition and dance performance. The centerpiece of the festival was the presentation of the Atlas of Traditional Music which is illustrated with the designs of the folk arts of the peoples of Azerbaijan.

It is envisaged that the festival will become an annual event.

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