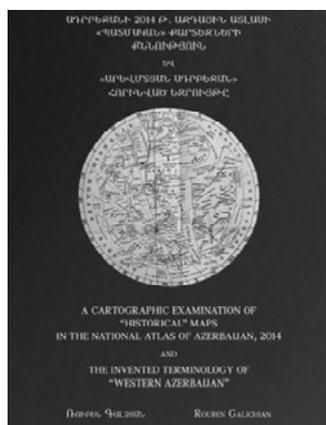


THE PRESENTATION OF THE BOOK “A CARTOGRAPHIC EXAMINATION OF “HISTORICAL” MAPS IN THE NATIONAL ATLAS OF AZERBAIJAN, 2014 AND THE INVENTED TERMINOLOGY OF “WESTERN AZERBAIJAN””

On July 12, the National Academy of Sciences of Armenia hosted the presentation of the bilingual (Armenian and English) book “*A Cartographic Examination of “Historical” Maps in the National Atlas of Azerbaijan, 2014 and the Invented Terminology of “Western Azerbaijan”*”.



The author of the book is the prominent geographer and cartographer *Ruben Galichian*. The book was published thanks to the collaboration of the “Geghard” Scientific Analytical Foundation and the Institute of History of NAS RA.

The presentation was attended by representatives from the scientific, educational, and government sectors. *Robert Ghazaryan*, director of the Geghard Foundation, welcomed the participants. “Today, we present an important book. Our foundation, academic institutions, and individual scholars are investing their efforts to counter Azerbaijani falsifications, and the publication of this book will complement those efforts”, – said R. Ghazaryan.

Ashot Melkonyan, director of the Institute of History and editor of the book, told how the idea for the book originated. “In 2014, after the publication of Azerbaijan’s national atlas, we obtained a copy and gave it to Mr. Galichian. He immediately responded, and the idea for this work was born. He also suggested that we need to expose the so-called “Western Azerbaijan” fabrication. I am grateful to Mr. Galichian for this tremendous work”, – Ashot Melkonyan recalled.

The author of the book, *Ruben Galichian*, stated, “The book is factual, and I would be very pleased if my colleagues continue to produce similar works”.

Galichian began examining the atlas, uncovering the falsifications made by Azerbaijan, which had republished ancient and historical maps but omitted the name “Armenia”, unlike the originals. “I have presented everything based on facts. I generally do not refer on Armenian sources in my works to avoid accusations of bias. Instead, I use Greek-Roman, Latin, Persian, and Arabic sources, so there can be no arguments against them”, – the author noted.

Galichian's book exposes cartographic falsifications and presents the true versions of the maps altered in the atlas. Furthermore, it demonstrates that a country named Azerbaijan has never existed on the northern bank of the Arax River, while confirming that the name Azerbaijan belongs to a northwestern province of Iran—a fact visible on all maps published prior to 1918.

The first part of the book examines falsified maps by foreign cartographers that were included in Azerbaijan's 2014 national atlas.

The second part focuses on exposing Azerbaijan's false claims that label the territory of the Republic of Armenia as "Western Azerbaijan". "They are placing the name Azerbaijan on our country. We can take this matter to an international court", – noted the author.

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