

Dear friend Gohar,

I greet you warmly and thank you for your sincerity. I'll try to show the same sincerity to you in my letter. You are absolutely right when you say that we live in the same world and share the same universe. For centuries, our nations had good relations as neighbors. As a young supporter of peace, I condemn and criticize war, as it means loss, pain, mother's tears, death and sickness. It's horrible. I've lost relatives during the war. I'm sure you have such friends and acquaintances, too.

Undoubtedly, the first responsibility of our young generation is to try to put an end to the war and achieve peace. This is especially important for countries like Armenia and Azerbaijan that had friendly relations for years. My parents, and the older generation, always tell me about their close relations with Armenians.

My grandmother tells me that many years ago she had an Armenian neighbor with whom they were in great relations, often visiting and helping each other.

My father and mother mention that some of their classmates were Armenians, and they made no distinction. I think it's no surprise, as during the Soviet years, Baku was a multi-ethnic city and one could meet representatives of different nations. In fact, if our nations weren't subjected to the intervention of a third party, the territorial issue that we have could have been resolved earlier.

I assure you that I don't have any hatred toward you or your nation, as I think hating a person because of their nationality contradicts humanitarian principles. It's not right to blame or hate a person or a nation because of war or conflict. I'm sure young people like us – including me – are not in favor of the war, and don't approve of the losses your nation continues having because of territorial fights. I'd love to get to know the girl – the author of this beautiful letter – to have a long conversation with her, and as you mention, to sit for a cup of tea with her. Unfortunately, it isn't possible because of the hostility between our countries, but I firmly believe that the day will come. This territorial conflict will be resolved peacefully, the war will end, and our nation will be able to visit your territories and you'll be able to visit ours. At that time, I'll invite you to my place and introduce our history, traditions and culture to you. In general, the things you'll learn won't seem unfamiliar to you, because we're all Caucasian nations who have similar national values.

You ask me how I imagine peace. I believe peace is friendship, brotherhood, and high-level relations between the two countries. In my opinion, my friend, peace should start between the nations and the relations between them. It should be started, continued, and sustained by young people like us from both sides. If achieving peace is hard, then owning and maintaining it is even harder.

I study political science and I'm already in my third year. My main goal for the future is to resolve this conflict peacefully; putting an end to loss, pain and grief of mothers on both sides. I hope to achieve this, because it's my ultimate goal.

I'm very glad to hear your thoughts and impressions. I hope that after peace is established, we'll be proud of the work we've done together. I want to thank you again for your letter. Take care, my friend. I wish you good luck on this difficult but honorable path.

Looking forward to your visit to my country, Nazrin