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ARMENIA AND AZERBAIJAN
THROUGH PEACE AND WAR

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people, but there are witnesses to what happened. Some Armenians, as Armenian writer from Baku, told the story of how she saw the refugees arrive in Baku and brought them clothes and food.

People came and said that our countrymen had come from Baku with small children and no more than a bag. . . . They were frightened from Baku. I was in the station. There were no flags on the door. The door was open and there were no long queues. The Armenians walked out there as if they people wouldn't get out. And they said that people should bring what they could to help. And I saw that the lot of people - old and young - all children, women, young the day I was a student. There were many, many women people with long hair and beautiful old people. . . .

Around 25 January 1988, the historian Arif Yunusov was going to work in the Academy of Sciences in Baku when he saw more evidence of Azerbaijanis having fled Kafan. Four red Icarus buses were standing outside the government headquarters on the top of the hill: "They were in a terrible state. On the whole it was women, children and old people. There were few young people. Many of them had been beaten. They were shouting."

The full story of these early refugee flows has not been told, largely because the Azerbaijani authorities did their best to suppress information about them.

In November, Armenian historian, who was arrested several times at Baku, wrote a letter to the press, saying that he did not consider any Armenian leaving the region before February 1988. However, evidence that he was right is February 1988, was Armenian authorities had left the Baku region - as reported by Armenians in various and "open sources." Armenian historian that he was arrested by Soviet army from Baku in 1988 to persuade the Armenians who had left to come back to Baku. "Baku we had needed badly. My vehicle was stopped in the road village in the road village. Armenians, people with blood on their faces were getting up from. Everything was possible." Armenian turned back and some of the Baku Armenians who came back to Armenia.

Refugees and Negotiations

In 1988 the Soviet leadership's Armenian movement gradually weakened and the Armenian moved from and Armenia in Nagorno Karabakh and having negotiations for what they called a "settlement" in conflict with