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**Speech Culture and Oratory: Current State and Problems**

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**Anahtar kelimeler:** nutuk, hatip, kültür, önder, eğitim, ahlak

 Speech is a mirror of person's inner world. Throughout human history, people who mastered the effective and clear speech were highly regarded by society. That is why in our modern world, most people who consider mastering perfect speech as a key factor for their successful career, strive to learn the secrets of correct expressive speech. For the purpose, trainings and courses are held in all countries, including Azerbaijan. But for some reason, these trainings, where one can learn perfect speech, correct pronunciation, intonation, language norms, and so on, are called "oratorical", as well as students who graduate the courses are called "orators". As result, the graduates and, in general, anyone who master the culture of speech are called "orator". But is it correct to call everyone who uses a clear, fluent, cultural speech an orator? And does any orator master the speech cultural while he/she speaks to a large audience, attracts people with eloquent, pathetic speeches, touches their hearts, influences their minds and leads them? Sometimes we see that many world-famous speakers in their discussions, dialogues, in everyday communication with other people do not follow the culture of speech, i.e. the common requirements of cultural speech. Public speaking is the same ability as drawing or poetry. Speakers, like poets and painters, may be not so wise, perfect, or “civilized” in everyday life. Written memories about famous orators and leaders, as well as movies about them, confirm our opinion. Just as not every poet or painter is considered an orator, so not every person mastering speech culture can be considered an orator. Society does not require anyone to be a poet or painter, nor does it require anyone to be an orator. But the cultural speech, or the culture of speech, is required from everyone. In fact, it is a divine duty imposed on people, a divine command given to them. The culture of speech is a quality that a person may strive for, and oratory is an innate ability given by God. The speech culture is the education of heart and morality. If the speech culture is not reflected in a person’s speech, then this is similar to the non-observance of the Law, and we can hardly to hope that such a situation will benefit the society.