

---

Having welcomed participants and guests of the event, the Minister of Education, Misir M. Mardanov sincerely congratulated children on June 1st International Children Defense Day, wished them healthy and prosperous life, expansion of successes gained by them in the education and advised to them to be a patriot.

Mr. Mardanov noted the special attention paying to the children during the independence years of the country, and that the great leader Heydar Aliyev always took care of them. Having talked about steps taken to solve the problem of children in Azerbaijan, the Minister gave broad information on the relevant state program signed by President Ilham Aliyev. He underlined the care shown to children lived in Children's home and boarding schools by the Heydar Aliyev Foundation's President, UNESCO and ISESCO goodwill ambassador, MP Mehriban Aliyeva, and stressed that in recent years more than 2000 schools and extra buildings for education establishments were built, and estimated that as one of the priority directions of the state policy.

The Chairman of Happy Future for Children Public Association, Nargiz Kazimova underlined the importance of taking care of children, as well as expressed believed that the activity of state and non government organizations in this field will give fruitful results.

Pupils of children's homes and boarding schools had performed dance numbers and songs. Moreover, trendy clothes for 10 children presented by the fashion house of 'Aglamur' were demonstrated, and gifts were handed over to children.