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JAN 20 'IMPORTANT TURNING POINT' FOR AZERBAIJAN: ENVOY

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Jeyhun Aliyev

The tragedy of Jan. 20, 1990, also called Black January, was an "important turning point" for Azerbaijan which proved that the nation's striving for liberty and independence was irreversible, according to Azerbaijan's envoy to Turkey.

"It led us to be more united and more determined to make our country the best and to get what we deserve -- independence," Khazar Ibrahim told Anadolu Agency, referring to the violent crackdown, massacre of more than 130 people and wounding of hundreds of civilians by the Soviet army in the capital Baku and surrounding areas on the eve of the countrys independence.

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