## Twitter Thread by Ayanna





## @aghavalyan Oh) ok @shiftingshifter

The history of Christianity in Azerbaijan dates back to the II century. The first preacher of Christianity is considered the disciple of the holy Apostle Thaddeus - Saint Elisha.

<u>@shiftingshifter</u> <u>@aghavalyan</u> And already at the beginning of the IV century. Albanian kings adopt Christianity as their state religion. Since the IV century, the church in Albania becomes autocephalous, with its own monastic institution, worship, and dogma.

<u>@shiftingshifter</u> <u>@aghavalyan</u> The existence of Christian churches and monasteries in Caucasian Albania is contained in early medieval written sources, in particular in the works of the Albanian historians Moses Kalankatui and Kirakos Gandzak.

<u>@shiftingshifter</u> <u>@aghavalyan</u> Christian churches as such began to be built from the period of official approval of Christianity as a state religion, i.e. from the IV-V centuries. AD During the construction of the temple, certain concepts are followed.

<u>@shiftingshifter</u> <u>@aghavalyan</u> The composition of the development follows from west to east, from the entrance to the altar. The first room - the porch - means peace. This is followed by the main volume - the nave. The most important part of the temple is the altar with a throne.

<u>@shiftingshifter</u> <u>@aghavalyan</u> The first room - the porch - means peace. This is followed by the main volume - the nave. The most important part of the temple is the altar with a throne. The main sacrament of the liturgy takes place there. The iconostasis closes the altar room.

<u>@shiftingshifter</u> <u>@aghavalyan</u> From the east, the altar part from the outside adjoins the main volume - these are semicircular annexes - apses. Above the main volume of the temple - drums - round towers with windows through which the temple is illuminated.

<u>@shiftingshifter</u> <u>@aghavalyan</u> A close examination and study of the monuments of Karabakh, it can be concluded that in Caucasian Albania, in connection with the adoption of Christianity, a basilica and cross-domed religious buildings appear, which have reached mature planning and constructive decisions.

<u>@shiftingshifter</u> <u>@aghavalyan</u> The roots of Albanian churches can be found in the early basilicas of the 5th-9th centuries. Mingachevir, Gakh, Sheki and Karabakh.

<u>@shiftingshifter</u> <u>@aghavalyan</u> The architectural-planning and constructive methods of the monuments of Caucasian Albania are fundamentally different from the Armenian ones, because medieval Armenian religious architecture was not autochthonous, because this architecture could not develop...+

<u>@shiftingshifter</u> <u>@aghavalyan</u> in isolation from neighboring countries - neither from Syria, nor from Byzantium, nor from Georgia and Caucasian Albania. In Armenian religious architecture, one can trace a special attachment to the monumental architecture of Syria and Byzantium.

<u>@shiftingshifter</u> <u>@aghavalyan</u> In Western European science, Armenian architecture is interpreted only as a branch of Byzantine architecture. Moreover, there are prominent researchers of Byzantine architecture, who declare the Armenian architecture to be borrowed, an imitation of Byzantine.

<u>@shiftingshifter</u> <u>@aghavalyan</u> On the other hand, the planning solution typical of Albanian temples in the form of four- and six-column three-nave basilicas is rarely found in Armenian architectural monuments.