**Aliyeva O. V. Plato's theory of pleasure: from the Gorgias to the Republic**

In his “apology” in the Phaedo Socrates sets forth, on behalf of the “genuine philosophers”, a radical antihedonistic theory. According to it, the humdrum virtue is nothing but a skiagraphia, an illusion, since it is nothing more than an exchange – not a right one, of course – of pleasures and pains (69bc). What has escaped the attention of the scholars is that a similar theory of pleasure is attributed to some wise men also in the Gorgias, Republic and the Philebus. In this paper, I will try to show that this theory, Pythagorean in its origin, is significantly modified by Plato, and that it is precisely this modification which forms the core of the Phaedo and provokes Plato’s reflections on the soul.