



**California State University, Fresno  
Armenian Studies Program  
5245 N. Backer Ave. M/S PB 4  
Fresno, California 93740-8001**

## **Armenian Studies Program News Service**

**CSU Fresno Armenian Studies Program activities as reported in local,  
national, and international media.**

**Fall 2015**

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## ARMENIAN STUDIES PROGRAM

California State University, Fresno • 5245 N Backer Ave PB4 • Fresno, CA 93740-8001

## ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The California Courier, Glendale, CA  
SUBJECT: Dr. George Bournoutian at Fresno State

DATE: December 31, 2015  
PAGE: 1 of 1

## ■ Dr. Bournoutian to speak Jan. 28 at CSUF On 'Iran's Mission of Apology to Russia'

FRESNO - Dr. George Bournoutian, senior professor of Middle Eastern and East European history at Iona College of New York will present a lecture on "Iran's Mission of Apology to Russia" at 7:30 PM on January 28, at the Fresno State campus' University Business Center, Alice Peters Auditorium, Rm. 191

The lecture is co-sponsored by the Armenian Studies Program of Fresno State and the AGBU of Fresno.

Following the murder of Russian Ambassador Griboedov and the massacre of the entire Russian Legation, save one, by an angry mob, in 1829, in Tehran, the government of Iran dispatched a mission with an official apology from the Shah to Tsar Nicholas I.

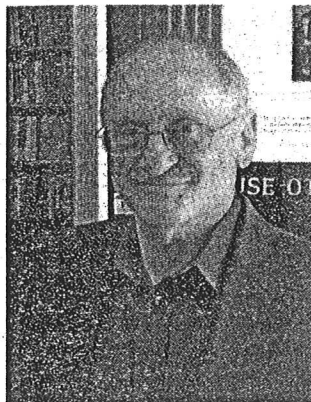
The mission, headed by Khosrow Mirza, the 16-year-old seventh son of Crown Prince Abbas Mirza, left Iran in early May, 1829 and returned on February 27, 1830, after successfully accomplishing its task.

Dr. Bournoutian will discuss the ten-month activities of the mission, and its travels from Tabriz to Yerevan, Tiflis, Moscow, and St. Petersburg. One member of the Iranian mission kept a diary of the trip, and Bournoutian has made the first English translation, with annotations, of the diary. His book, *From Tabriz to St. Petersburg: Iran's Mission of Apology to Russia in 1829*, was published in 2014.

Dr. Bournoutian will discuss the importance of these archival materials and also discuss how this period in history ultimately leads to the formation of the first Armenian Republic in 1918.

Dr. Bournoutian received the first Ph.D. in Armenian History from UCLA in 1976. He has been called the foremost authority on Eastern Armenia from the 16th to the 19th centuries and is the author of 30 books and numerous articles.

His book, "The Concise History of the Armenian People," currently in its 6th edition, has sold over 20,000 copies and has been translated into Spanish, Arabic,



Turkish, Russian, and Armenian. A Japanese version is due soon and a Persian translation is due in late 2016.

The lecture is free and open to the public. Parking will be available in Lots 5 and P6 with parking code 273601. For more information on the lecture please contact the Armenian Studies Program at 278-2669 or go to its website at [fresnostate.edu/armenianstudies](http://fresnostate.edu/armenianstudies).

## ARMENIAN STUDIES PROGRAM

California State University, Fresno • 5245 N Backer Ave PB4 • Fresno, CA 93740-8001

## ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The Armenian Observer, Los Angeles, CADATE: December 30, 2015SUBJECT: Author Chris Bohjalian at Fresno StatePAGE: 1 of 1

## Author Chris Bohjalian to Present His *The Guest Room* at Fresno State, Jan. 8

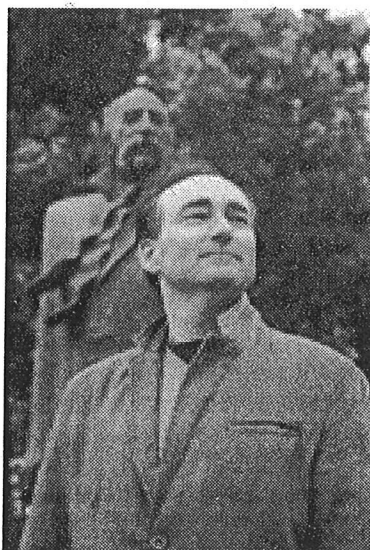
Best-selling author Chris Bohjalian will speak about his new book *The Guest Room* at 7:00PM on Friday, January 8, 2016, in the Leon S. and Pete P. Peters Educational Center Auditorium (west end of the Save Mart Center) on the Fresno State campus.

The lecture is co-sponsored by the Armenian Studies Program of Fresno State and the Hamazkayin Armenian Educational and Cultural Society.

Chris Bohjalian's *The Guest Room* is a spellbinding tale of a party gone horribly wrong: two men lie dead in a suburban living room, two women are on the run from police, and a marriage is ripping apart at the seams. Bohjalian brilliantly – and chillingly – shows how life can change in an instant.

"*The Guest Room* pulses quick as a page-turner, but its concerns run deep into the moral consequences following an eruption of violence in ordinary lives," says Charles Frazier, National Book Award winning author of *Cold Mountain*.

Chris Bohjalian is the author of 15 novels.



Chris Bohjalian

His *Sandcastle Girls* (2012) is about the Armenian Genocide and its century-long denial by Turkey.

Bohjalian has authored ten *New York Times* bestsellers and his work has been translated into roughly 30 languages and three times have become movies.

For more information on the lecture please contact the Armenian Studies Program at 278-2669

SOURCE: The Armenian Mirror-Spectator

SUBJECT: Chris Bohjalian at Fresno State

DATE: December 19, 2015

PAGE: 1 of 1

ARTS & LIVING

# Author Chris Bohjalian to Present New Book at Fresno State

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Bohjalian is the author of 15 novels, includ-

ing the bestsellers *Midwives* and *The Sandcastle Girls*. *Sandcastle Girls* (2012) is about the Armenian Genocide and its century-long denial by Turkey. The novel includes two stories in one: the story of Elizabeth Endicott and Armen Petrosian, lovers who meet in Syria during the Genocide; and the story of Laura Petrosian, their granddaughter, who after a century tries to understand why they were so silent about their youth, while her suburban existence is quite different from the violent setting in which her grandparents fell in love.

Bohjalian has authored 10 *New York Times* bestsellers and his work has been translated into roughly 30 languages and three times have become movies.

The lecture is free and open to the public. Parking will be available in lots adjacent to the Save Mart Center. Enter at Shaw and Woodrow Avenues.

For more information on the lecture please contact the Armenian Studies Program at 278-2669 or visit its website at [fresno.armenianstudies.org](http://fresno.armenianstudies.org)



## ARMENIAN STUDIES PROGRAM

California State University, Fresno • 5245 N Backer Ave PB4 • Fresno, CA 93740-8001

## ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The California Courier, Glendale, CASUBJECT: Chris Bohjalian at Fresno StateDATE: December 17, 2015PAGE: 1 of 1

## Author Chris Bohjalian to Present New Book at CSUF on January 16

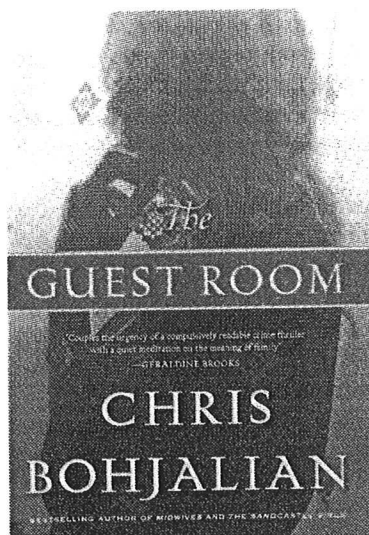
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## ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The Collegian: Fresno, CASUBJECT: Harry MoordigianDATE: December 4, 2015PAGE: 1 of 1

1939-2015

# Alumnus with a 'big heart' remembered

By Julissa Zavala  
@TheCollegian

Fresno State alumnus Dr. Harry Moordigian, Jr., whose legacy of support and generosity was fondly remembered, passed away on Nov. 11 at the age of 76.

"This is the ideal type of person that gives back to the university after benefiting from the education," said Dr. Barlow Der Mugrdechian, coordinator of the Armenian studies program. "I'm sad to see him go, because he was very much present on campus."

Moordigian was the only child of his Armenian immigrant parents and grew up on a grape ranch near Sanger. Moordigian graduated from Fresno State and became a dentist.

Mugrdechian said that he got to know Moordigian through his involvement with various Armenian Studies program events and through his direct contributions to the

program.

Due to his Armenian background, Moordigian liked learning about the history and culture through the Armenian studies program's events, Mugrdechian said.

Mugrdechian said that Moordigian was also an avid reader and supporter of the Armenian studies newspaper, Hye Sharzhoom, and kept up with program events and attended lectures over the years.

He said that Moordigian was very invested in Fresno State, and not just in the monetary sense, but because he felt that he wanted to give back as a graduate of the university.

Moordigian's parents were survivors of the Armenian Genocide. Moordigian's mother escaped to America, but she died of cancer when he was 2 years old.

Moordigian's mother had written a letter that spoke of the traumatizing events that she had experienced during the genocide. Moordigian then decided to donate to help people going through counseling.

Dr. Christopher Lucey, director of the Fresno Family Counseling Center, had known Moordigian for several years.

Lucey said that before Moordigian's support, the counseling center was struggling financially. Lucey also said that Moordigian helped the center get more attention from the university, bringing the total of sessions from 500 to almost 10,000 per year.

"The students loved this guy," Lucey said. "They called him our guardian angel, because he came through for us in a time when we really needed a lot of help."

Lucey said that Moordigian had a big heart and cared for people struggling in the community, and that he supported the center and believed in its mission.

"His generosity, vision and kindness allowed us to not only survive, but thrive," Lucey said. "His gift to us allows us to give back to the community."

Alcidia Freitas Gomes, executive director of the Ag One Foundation and senior development director at the Jordan College

of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, said that because Moordigian grew up on a grape ranch, he understood and appreciated the importance of agriculture.

Gomes said that Moordigian wanted to honor his parents, so he made an endowment fund in their names to the students of viticulture and enology.

"He so much enjoyed supporting students that were pursuing degrees in viticulture and enology," Gomes said. "He was someone that I was very fortunate to have known."

Gomes said that Moordigian's final gift to Fresno State is a microbiology laboratory in his name in the Jordan Agricultural Research Center that will open in spring 2016.

"He loved Fresno State," Gomes said. "It was important that he be able to give back to his alma mater because it helped to change his life and so he wanted to make sure that he could do the same for others."



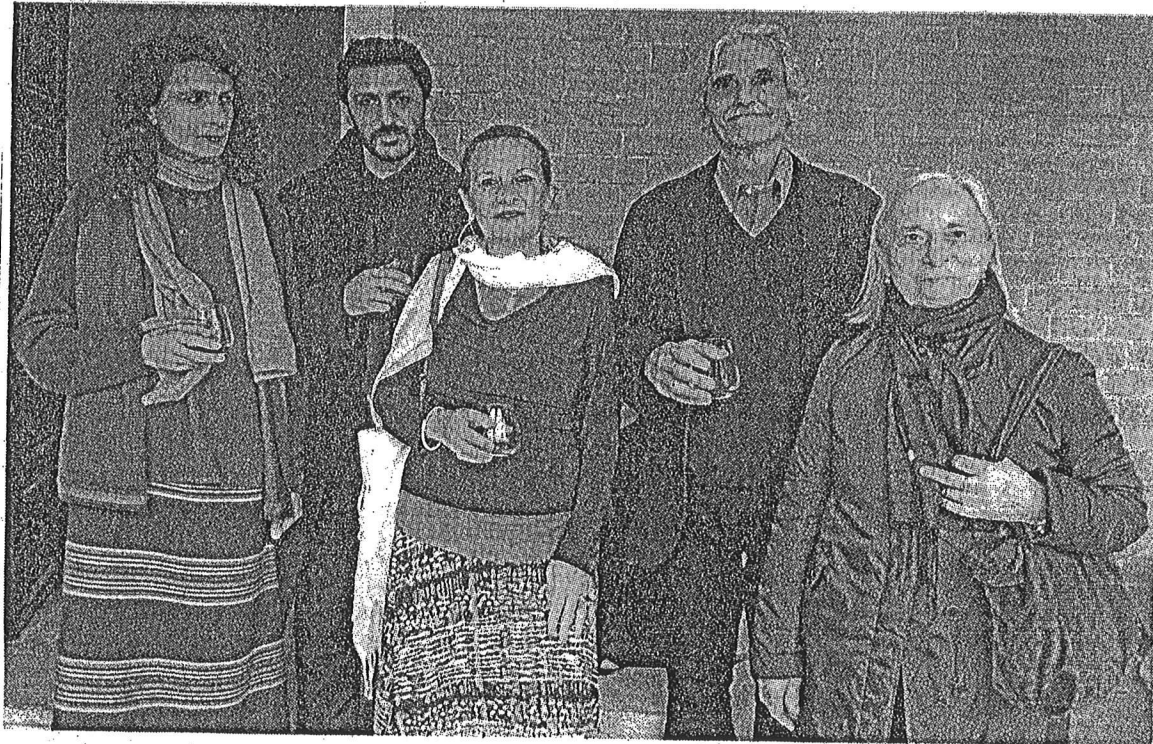
ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The Fresno Bee, Fresno, CA

SUBJECT: Neery Melkonian

DATE: November 18, 2015

PAGE: 1 of 2



Neery Melkonian

Neery Melkonian, center, was born in Aleppo, Syria. She will bring her message, titled "What Comes After Undoing Denial: Reflections on Contemporary Art and Exhibition Practices in the Armenian Diaspora," to Fresno State tonight.

# From Syria to America

*Neery Melkonian will speak at Fresno State as part of the Armenian Studies Program Fall 2015 Lecture Series*

By Mary Kate Paquette  
SPECIAL TO NORTHEAST NEIGHBORS

**W**hen Armenian scholar Neery Melkonian didn't find what she was looking for in graduate school, she didn't stay frustrated for long.

Instead she became an independent scholar carving out a niche for herself in contemporary Armenian art history.

Melkonian will bring her message, "What Comes After Undoing Denial: Reflections on Contemporary Art and Exhibition Practices in the Armenian Diaspora," to Fresno State as part of the Armenian Studies Program Fall 2015 Lecture Series.

She will speak tonight at Peters Auditorium in the University Business Center.

Melkonian describes herself as an art historian by education, but a critic and curator by profession.

Melkonian was born in Aleppo, Syria. At age 9, she moved with her family to Beirut, Lebanon. When she was age 16, Melkonian and her family moved to California, first to San Diego and then Los Angeles.

Melkonian graduated from San Diego State with her undergraduate degree in art history.

She went to UCLA to work on a graduate degree, but decided to change direction.

"I wanted to do Armenian art but in those days the only field you could study was medieval or early Christian art," Melkonian said. "So I studied for two years. I finished the course work, but I was very bored with it because the way they taught it

in those days was void of context and critical analysis, so I didn't see myself in it existentially."

Melkonian found she wasn't relating to her heritage.

"It meant nothing," Melkonian said. "All those beautiful, ancient artifacts and monuments, I couldn't link to them because of the way it was taught."

Melkonian switched her area of study to modern and contemporary art because the field was more flexible and she could be more experimental with her studies.

Still, she couldn't find a professor who could guide her interests in the direction she wanted.

"Somewhat frustrated, I walked away after completing modern and



ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The Fresno Bee, Fresno, CA

SUBJECT: Neery Melkonian

DATE: November 18, 2015

PAGE: 2 of 2

## Melkonian

CONTINUED, FROM PAGE 1

contemporary course work but I launched a career in the practical field," Melkonian said. "First as an art critic in contemporary art and then as a director of visual arts programming at the CCA (Center for Contemporary Arts) in Santa Fe."

Still unsatisfied, Melkonian decided to become an independent scholar.

"I decided to freelance because I'm not about to pursue my interest within an institutional specialty," Melkonian said. "It became very evident to me so I slowly started to carve a niche for myself as an independent freelancer."

Melkonian's Fresno State presentation stems from her own experiences.

Barlow Der Mugrdechian, coordinator of the Fresno State's Armenian Studies program, said Melkonian's presentation is relevant to what is happening in the Armenian culture.

"I think her topic was timely in the sense that we hadn't had one particularly dealing with the type of talk she's going to talk about," Der Mugrdechian said. "She's going to talk about the various different art exhibits in the world, how they are changing and how Armenian art is presented in both institutional and public settings."

With the 100th-year anniversary of the Armenian Genocide this year, interest has increased in Armenian culture, Fresno State Armenian Studies professors said.

Dr. Sergio La Porta said the lecture series allows scholars to come to Fresno State and speak directly to the community.

"Our lecture series provides a way for scholars to communicate with the Armenian community of Fresno and provides the opportunity for the community to learn about new research being conducted in Armenian studies," La Porta said.

The lecture series tries to keep an academic focus when choosing presenters.

"In addition to ourselves, we have scholars from around the country who are passing through, or people who have just published books on Armenian studies," La Porta said. "Every now and then if the person's book is not necessarily academic, but it's popular and it touches in Armenian studies we'll have them lecture. We try to limit it to really educational activities and scholars in that way."

Eight lectures have been delivered so far this year by different Armenian scholars.

"I think it's important that you get a variety of people speaking on different topics so that it's not just the same people," Der Mugrdechian said. "Not just the faculty only speaking on campus but to get faculty from other places or scholars from other places so it gives everyone an exposure to the wider field of Armenian studies."

Melkonian will start speaking at 7:30 p.m. A reception with hors d'oeuvres will start at 6:30 p.m.

Parking is free in lots P5 and P6 near the University Business Center.

Details: (559) 278-2669, [www.fresnostate.edu/artshum/armenianstudies](http://www.fresnostate.edu/artshum/armenianstudies).





ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The Fresno Bee 7, Fresno, CA

SUBJECT: Fresno Film Festival

DATE: November 13, 2015

PAGE: 1 of 1



Magnolia Pictures

Steve Jobs is the subject of the documentary "Steve Jobs: The Man in the Machine."

## Fresno Film Festival spotlights Steve Jobs

BY RICK BENTLEY  
rbentley@fresnobee.com

The 2015 Fresno Film Festival opens at 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 13, with a screening of "Mustang." The film, France's entry in the 2016 Academy Awards for best foreign language film, is the story of five Turkish girls who search for freedom in an ever-constraining household.

"Mustang" kicks off the 11th season of the local festival presented by Fresno Filmworks. Along with the festival opener, there will be seven programs of short and feature-length movies from 21 countries, plus appearances by filmmakers.

"We are particularly proud of the diversity, the timeliness and the urgency of this year's film selections," says Jefferson Beavers, president of Fresno Filmworks.

Students from the Cine-Culture class and all Armenian Studies Program classes at Fresno State have been invited to attend the festival at no charge as part of the local

film group's outreach program.

Here's the rest of the festival lineup:  
**Viva NYICFF! Short Films, 10 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 14:** This is a program of family-friendly short films from Latin America and Spain selected from the best stories of the past five years at the New York International Children's Film Festival.

**"Mediterranea," 12:15 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 14:** Director Jonas Carpignano's film looks at two friends who make a dangerous journey from Africa to Italy in search of a better life.

**"The Cut," 3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 14:** The feature from director Fatih Akin is the story of a father who goes on a quest to find his daughters after surviving the Armenian genocide. Armenian American screenwriter Mardik Martin, who co-wrote multiple screenplays with Martin Scorsese, will be on hand for a question-and-answer session.

**"The Wanted 18," 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 14:** Palestine's entry for best

### 2015 Fresno Film Festival

- Friday, Nov. 13 - Sunday, Nov. 15
- Tower Theatre, 815 E. Olive Ave.
- Tickets: Festival passes \$50. \$10 general admission. \$8 for students and seniors.
- FresnoFilmworks.org

foreign language film at the 2016 Academy Awards looks at 18 cows declared a "threat to the security of the state of Israel." The screening will feature a Q&A with direc-

tor Paul Cowan, an Oscar-nominated Canadian filmmaker.

**The Sundance Film Festival Short Film Tour, 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 15:** The program includes six short-form offerings from this year's Sundance festival.

**"The Russian Woodpecker," 4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 14:** Director Chad Gracia offers this look at a Ukrainian artist who becomes obsessed with a possible connection between the Chernobyl nuclear disaster and a Soviet broadcasting antenna.



## ARCHIVE

SOURCE: Armenian Mirror-Spectator, Watertown, MADATE: November 7, 2015SUBJECT: SAS Publishes JournalPAGE: 1 of 1

## SAS Publishes *Journal of the Society for Armenian Studies*, volume 23

FRESNO – The Society for Armenian Studies announces the publication of Volume 23 of the *Journal of the Society for Armenian Studies* (JSAS), an international peer-reviewed Journal, edited by Dr. Sergio La Porta.

The JSAS includes four articles on Classical and Modern Armenian Studies; five communications; a review essay and three book reviews.

Volume 23 opens with an article by Zaroui Pogossian on a colophon by the 13th-century monastic scholar, Vardan Arewelc'i, which provides testimony for an early Armenian impression of the Mongols and their rule. Bjørn Bandlien analyzes a much-ignored embassy to Norway sent from the Armenian kingdom of Cilicia in 1314. An account of the embassy is preserved in three Icelandic annals.

The section on Modern Armenian Studies begins with a contribution by Houri Berberian that explores the status of Julfan women in mid-18th-century Safavid Iran by examining the Astrakhan Lawcode compiled in the 1760s and some two-dozen letters, petitions and wills housed in archives in Europe and Iran.

The final article is a study by Hazel Antaramian Hofman of the composition and treatment of figures in fifteen Near East Relief posters. Contextualizing the posters within the efforts of the Near East Relief to provide aid to the "starving Armenians," she looks at how the artists created images that compelled the viewer to action and resonated with a contemporary American audience.

The communications contained in this volume bring to light new information on a broad array of topics. Rober Hewsen re-examines the Romano-Persian Treaty of Nisibis of 299; while

Michael Stone, Doron Ben Ami and Yana Tchekhanovets reveal a new Armenian inscription from the City of David in Jerusalem. Jasmine Dum Tragut discusses her latest research on Armenian manuscripts containing information on horse medicine; and Michael Stone presents the text and an English translation of a poem by Yovhann s Erzñkac'i Pluz. In his communication, Ümit Kurt reflects upon

the politics of denial in the Republic of Turkey. Finally, this volume includes a review essay by Christina Maranci on a recently published book in Armenian by Vardan Azatyan on how medieval Armenian art history was presented in German studies of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

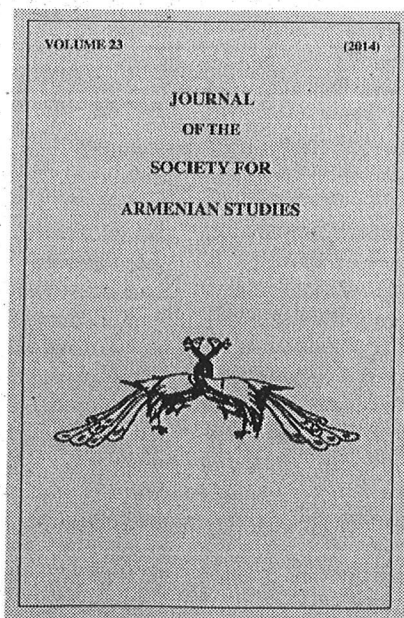
The past year has been a busy one for the Society of Armenian Studies. SAS celebrated its 40th anniversary in 2014 and held an international Workshop in Armenian Studies in Yerevan in October 3-5, 2014, in cooperation with the Armenian

Communities Department of the Calouste Gubenkian Foundation. The Society also convened a conference in Washington, D.C., called "Armenians in the Ottoman Empire in the 19th-20th Centuries," November 21-22, 2014.

SAS will hold its 41st Annual Meeting and a conference "Impact of the Armenian Genocide" on November 21, in Denver, Colorado.

Copies of JSAS may be ordered by contacting the SAS Secretariat at [barlowd@csufresno.edu](mailto:barlowd@csufresno.edu).

The Secretariat of the Society for Armenian Studies is located at the Armenian Studies Program, California State University, Fresno. The SAS President is Barlow Der Mugrdechian and the SAS website can be found at [societyforarmenianstudies.com](http://societyforarmenianstudies.com).



## ARCHIVE

SOURCE: Asbarez Daily: Glendale, CA

DATE: November 7, 2015

SUBJECT: Fresno State Armenian Studies Program

PAGE: 1 of 1



Փրոֆ. Պարլո Տէր Սկրտիչեան, փրոֆ. Յակոբ Օհանէսեան եւ փոքր. Սերճիօ Լա Փորթա

## Ֆրեզնոյի Հայագիտական Ծրագիրը Կը Բարգաւաւանի

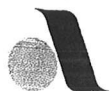
ՖՐԵԶՆՕ, «Հայ Շարժում».- Քալիֆորնիոյ նահանգային Համալսարանի Ֆրեզնոյի մասնաճիւղին մէջ գործող Հայագիտական ծրագիրը այս տարեշրջանին սկսած է՝ ի՛ր իսկ պատմութեան մէջ ուսանողներու արձանագրուած մեծագոյն թիւով, ինչպէս նաեւ երեք դասատուներով՝ ծրագիրի Համակարգող փրոֆ. Պարլո Տէր Սկրտիչեան, տոքթ. Սերճիօ Լա Փորթա եւ փրոֆ. Յակոբ Օհանէսեան, որ ծրագիրի անձնակազմին նորագոյն անդամն է:

Յատկանշական աճ կ'արձանագրեն նաեւ Հայագիտական ծրագիրին կազմակերպած ձեռնարկները եւ դասախօսական երեկոները՝ աւելիով սերտացնելով չրջանի Հայ Համայնքին Հետ յարաբերութիւնը:

Նշենք նաեւ, որ այս աշնան Համալսարանի այցելու ուսումնասիրողներէն է Հայոց Յեղասպանութեան ընթացքին Հայերու ստացուածքի թաղանին մասին իր դոկտորականի թէզը գրող Ումիթ Քիւրթ: Ան դոկտ. Թաներ Աքչամի ուսանողն է Մեսեչուսեցի «Քլարք» Համալսարանէն:

Նաեւ, 2014-2015 տարեշրջանին, Հայագիտական ծրագիրին միջոցաւ կարելի եղած է աւելի քան 60,000 տոլարի կրթանպաստներ ապահովել աւելի քան 65 ուսանողներու, կրթանպաստներու դանազան Հիմնադրամներու միջոցաւ:

Հայագիտական ծրագիրին մասին յաւելեալ տեղեկութեանց համար, դիմել (559) 278-2669 թիւին կամ [barlowd@csufresno.edu](mailto:barlowd@csufresno.edu) հասցէին:



## ARCHIVE

SOURCE: Masis, Pasadena, CASUBJECT: The CutDATE: November 7, 2015PAGE: 1 of 1

## Armenian Genocide Movie 'The Cut' to Screen at Fresno Film Festival

By Yvette Mancilla  
(Hye Sharzhoom)

A historical epic seven years in the making about the Armenian Genocide will make its Central Valley debut at the 2015 Fresno Film Festival.

"The Cut" will screen at 3 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 14 at the historic Tower Theatre, as part of the Nov. 13-15 Festival, which celebrates independent voices in cinema.

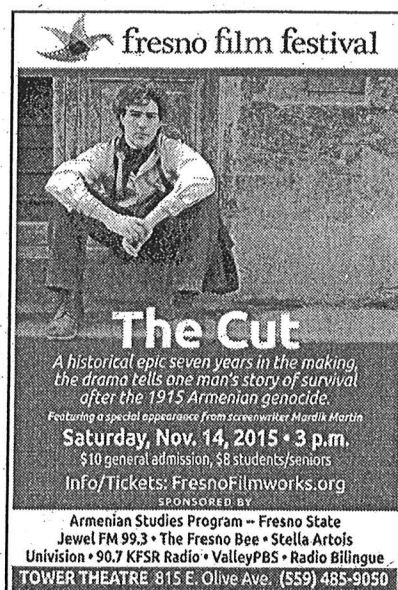
Beginning in Armenia in 1915, "The Cut" follows one man's journey through the Ottoman Empire after surviving the Genocide. Nazaret (Tahar Rahim), a young blacksmith from Mardin, Turkey, is ripped from his family and is forced to work as a slave laborer. Years later, he begins a continent-crossing quest to reunite with his twin daughters.

Turkish-German filmmaker Fatih Akin directed and co-wrote the film with Armenian-American screenwriter Mardik Martin. Martin—best known for writing the Martin Scorsese films "Raging Bull," "New York, New York" and "Mean Streets"—will make a special appearance to discuss the film, presented by Fresno Filmworks and co-sponsored by the Armenian Studies Program at Fresno State.

With few films touching on the genocide, let alone depicting it, Martin said in a news release: "A story about survivors of the Armenian Genocide is a sensitive subject to tackle. I never imagined anyone would have the courage to do it. Fatih has that courage. ... I can only hope that the audience is able to delve into the feel of the era and its turbulence and upheaval. For me as an Armenian, this is an incredible adventure movie."

With a large Armenian community in the Central Valley, Fresno Filmworks president Jefferson Beavers reiterated the importance of the screening.

"In this 100th anniversary year of the Genocide, I cannot think of a more culturally relevant or historically



important film we could possibly show," Beavers said. "It's an honor and our duty, not just to our Armenian brothers and sisters, but to our entire community, to show this movie in Fresno."

"It is wonderful that such an important film is being screened in Fresno. The Armenian Studies Program is please to be a co-sponsor. The film is especially timely and I think it will be well received in the community," said Armenian Studies Program Coordinator Barlow Der Mugrdchian.

Dr. Sergio La Porta, Berberian Professor of Armenian Studies at Fresno State, said it can also be seen as a reflection of positive change within the Turkish community of artists and intellectuals.

"The idea that you have Armenian and Turkish people working together on this film—I think is a wonderful way in which art can bring two communities that have this historic injustice standing between them to bring them closer together to a point of mutual understanding," La Porta said. "It's especially great to have a Turkish director to be involved in this."

Visit [FresnoFilmworks.org](http://FresnoFilmworks.org) for details on the showing of the film and to buy tickets.





## ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The California Courier, Glendale, CASUBJECT: The CutDATE: November 5, 2015PAGE: 1 of 1

## Armenian Genocide Movie 'The Cut' Comes to 2015 Fresno Film Festival

By *Yvette Mancilla*

FRESNO - A historical epic seven years in the making about the Armenian Genocide will make its Central Valley debut at the 2015 Fresno Film Festival.

"The Cut" will screen at 3 p.m. on Nov. 14 at the historic Tower Theatre, as part of the Nov. 13-15 Festival, which celebrates independent voices in cinema.

Beginning in Armenia in 1915, "The Cut" follows one man's journey through the Ottoman Empire after surviving the Genocide. Nazaret (Tahar Rahim), a young blacksmith from Mardin, Turkey, is ripped from his family and is forced to work as a slave laborer. Years later, he begins a continent-crossing quest to reunite with his twin daughters.

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*See 'The Cut' on Page 2*

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Visit [FresnoFilmworks.org](http://FresnoFilmworks.org) for details on the showing of the film and to buy tickets.



## ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The Armenian Observer: Los Angeles, CA

SUBJECT: The Cut

DATE: November 4, 2015

PAGE: 1 of 1

## Armenian Genocide Movie 'The Cut' At 2015 Fresno Film Festival Nov. 13

A historical epic seven years in the making about the Armenian Genocide will make its Central Valley debut at the 2015 Fresno Film Festival.

"The Cut" will screen at 3 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 14 at the historic Tower Theatre, as part of the Nov. 13-15 Festival, which celebrates independent voices in cinema.

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Visit [Fresno-Filmworks.org](http://Fresno-Filmworks.org) for details on the showing of the film and to buy tickets.



## ARCHIVE

SOURCE: Asbarez Daily: Glendale, CADATE: October 31, 2015SUBJECT: SAS JournalPAGE: 1 of 1

## Լոյս Տեսած է Հայագիտական Ռամանց Ընկերակցութեան Պաշտօնաթերթի Հատորը

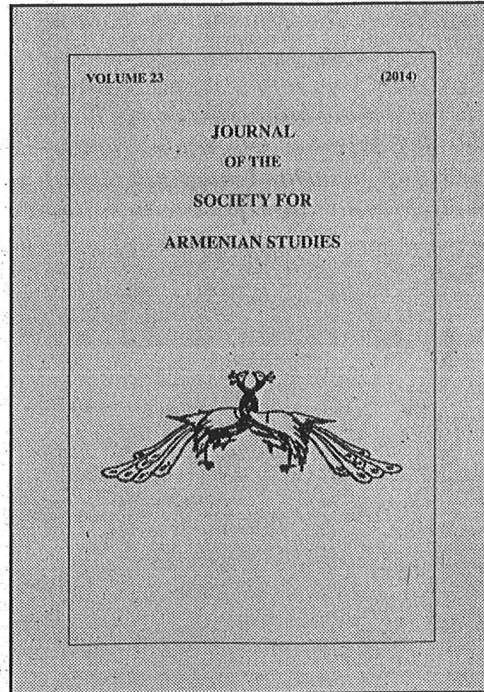
**ՖՐԵՋՆՕ.**– Հայագիտական ուսմանց ընկերակցութիւնը (SAS) կը տեղեկացնէ, թէ լոյս տեսած է ընկերակցութեան պաշտօնաթերթին՝ «Journal of the Society for Armenian Studies»-ի, 23րդ Հատորը՝ խմբագրութեամբ դոկտ. Սերժիօ Լա Փորթալի:

Այս թիւին մէջ ուսումնասիրական յօդուածներ ունին Զարուհի Պօղոսեան, Պիտոն Պանտլին, Հուրի Պէրպէրեան եւ Հէյզըն Անթառամեան-Հոֆման:

Թիւին մէջ յօդուածներ ունին նաեւ Ռապրըթ Հիւսըն, Մայքըլ Սթոն, Տորոն Պեն Ամի, Եանա Չեխանովեց, Ճեզմին Տամ Թրակուլթ, Ումիթ Քիւրթ եւ Քրիսթինա Մարանճի: Հոն կան նոր հրատարակուած հատորներու գրախօսականներ եւ:

Հատորին գինը 20 տոլար է՝ առաւել առաքման ծախսը: Անկէ օրինակ մը ապսպրելու համար, դիմել (559) 278-2669 թիւին կամ [barlowd@csufresno.edu](mailto:barlowd@csufresno.edu) հասցէին:

Ընկերակցութեան մասին յաւելեալ տեղեկութեանց համար, այցելել [societyforarmenianstudies.com](http://societyforarmenianstudies.com) կայքը:





SOURCE: Masis, Pasadena, CA

SUBJECT: Umit Kurt on "Kurdish Schindler"

DATE: October 31, 2015

PAGE: 1 of 1

## Ümit Kurt to Speak on "A Kurdish Schindler: Story of a 'Savior'"

FRESNO -- Doctoral candidate Ümit Kurt (Clark University, Worcester, MA) will give a talk on "A Kurdish Schindler: Story of a 'Savior' " at 7:30PM on Friday, November 6, in the University Business Center, Alice Peters Auditorium, Room 191, on the Fresno State campus. Kurt is a Kazan Research scholar at Fresno State for the Fall 2015 semester.

The lecture is part of the Armenian Studies Program Fall 2015 Lecture Series, with the support of the Leon S. Peters Foundation.

Cemil Kunneh was a lieutenant in the Ottoman Army and was assigned to be the director of the Birecik shipyard mill under the supervision of the Ottoman Fifth Army, commanded by Cemal Pasha, during the 1915 Armenian deportation and Genocide. In the shipyard mill, rafts and ferries were constructed for use by Ottoman soldiers to cross over the Euphrates River.



Lieutenant Cemil Kunneh

What historically makes Cemil Kunneh important is his relentless efforts to save Armenians, especially Protestants in Aintab, from being deported to Der Zor in 1915-1917. During the deportation, Cemil Kunneh married Dikranuhi (1893-1986), the daughter of Father Garabed Guleuzian, and saved her life by stopping her deportation to Der Zor. Kunneh met Dikranuhi during the deportation and married her. This lecture will talk about



the efforts of this righteous person to save Armenians during the Genocide and also focus on his life-story with his wife Dikranuhi after the Genocide.

Ümit Kurt is a PhD. Candidate at Holocaust and Genocide Studies Program in the History Department of Clark University and completing his dissertation. He has written extensively on confiscation of Armenian properties, Armenian Genocide, early modern Turkish nationalism, and Aintab Armenians. He is the author of the Great, hopeless Turkish race: fundamentals of Turkish nationalism in the Turkish homeland 1911-1916 (Istanbul: İletisim Publishing House, 2012) and editor of the Revolt and Destruction: Construction of the state from Ottoman Empire to Turkish Republic and collective violence (Istanbul: Tarih Vakfı Publishing House, 2015). He teaches history at Sabanci University in Istanbul and is the author, with Taner Akçam, of The spirit of the laws: the plunder of wealth in the Armenian Genocide (New York and Oxford: Berghahn Books, 2015).

The lecture is free and open to the public. Free parking is available, with no permit necessary in Fresno State Lots P5 and P6, near the University Business Center.

For more information contact the Armenian Studies Program visit our website at [www.fresnostate.edu/armenianstudies](http://www.fresnostate.edu/armenianstudies).





## ARCHIVE

SOURCE: Nor Or Weekly, Fresno, CASUBJECT: SAS 41st Annual Meeting in DenverDATE: October 29, 2015PAGE: 1 of 1

## The Society For Armenian Studies To Hold Its 41st Annual Meeting In Denver, Colorado

Major Conference to be held on "The Impact of the Armenian Genocide"

To mark the 100th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, the Society for Armenian Studies (SAS) is planning an international conference, "The Impact of the Armenian Genocide," to take place on Saturday, November 21, 2015, in Denver, Colorado.

The SAS is the international association of Armenian Studies scholars and teachers and is holding its 41st Annual Meeting on the same day in Denver. The conference and meeting will be held in conjunction with the Middle East Studies Association (MESA) Annual Meeting, which bring hundreds of scholars in a variety of disciplines together annually to present papers and to participate in panels.

The SAS organized conference on "The Impact of the Armenian Genocide," will have two panels, beginning at 10:00AM. The conference will be held in PL-Director's Row I of the Denver Downtown Sheraton Hotel and is open to the public.

In the first panel on "The Impact on Society," three participants will present papers: Lerna Ekmekcioglu (Massachusetts Institute of Technology), "When History Became Destiny: Armenians in Post-Genocide Turkey"; Sossie Kasbarian (University of Lancaster, United Kingdom), "The Politics of Memory and Activism: The Armenian Diaspora Facing 2015"; and Hratch Tchilingirian (University of Oxford), "Armenians in Turkey: The Impact of post-Genocide Isolation and (dis)Integration."

In the second panel on "The Impact on Culture," the presenters will be: Talar Chahinian (California State University, Long Beach), "Post-1915 Dispersion Literature and the Figure of the Failed Witness"; Myrna Douzjian (UCLA), "The Ethics of Self-Reflexive Filmmaking: Or, Deconstructing the Genocide Documentary" and Ramela Abbamontian (Los Angeles Pierce

College), "The Diasporic Witness: Reconstruction of Testimony by Contemporary Los Angeles Artists."

The SAS is also sponsoring a panel during the regular MESA sessions at 2:00PM on Sunday, November 22, entitled "Towards an Understanding of Identity," chaired by SAS President Barlow Der Mugrdchian (California State University, Fresno), with the participation of Jirair Christianian (Independent scholar) "Orphaned Armenian Objects in Istanbul: The Patriarchate Museum Collection"; Nora Lessersohn (Harvard), "Armenian Self and Ottoman Society: Christopher Oscanyan's Oriental and Turkish Museum in London (1853-54)"; and Ron Marchese (University of Minnesota-Duluth), "Sociological Implications in Armenian Religious Art in the Late Ottoman Period: Data from the Armenian Churches of Constantinople during the Second Armenian Renaissance-post 1700."

More than twelve other Armenian-themed papers will be given by scholars during the course of the MESA conference, November 22-24. For a full program of MESA sessions, please visit their website at: [https://mesana.org/mymesa/meeting\\_program.php](https://mesana.org/mymesa/meeting_program.php).

The SAS is administered by a seven member Executive Council: President, Barlow Der Mugrdchian; Vice-President, Bedross Der Matossian (Univ. of Nebraska-Lincoln); Secretary, Lilit Keshishyan (UCLA); Treasurer, Sergio La Porta (California State University, Fresno); and advisors Tamar Boyadjian (Michigan State University); Marc Mamigonian (NAASR), and Jean Murachanian.

The Society for Armenian Studies is headquartered at the Armenian Studies Program at California State University, Fresno and its website is at [societyforarmenianstudies.com](http://societyforarmenianstudies.com). The SAS can be reached by email at [barlowd@csufresno.edu](mailto:barlowd@csufresno.edu) or by phone at 559-278-2669.



## ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The California Courier, Glendale, CA

SUBJECT: SAS' 41st Annual Meeting in Denver

DATE: October 29, 2015

PAGE: 1 of 1

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## ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The California Courier, Glendale, CADATE: October 29, 2015SUBJECT: Umit KurtPAGE: 1 of 1

## Scholar Ümit Kurt to Give CSUF Lecture on 'A Kurdish Schindler'

FRESNO - Doctoral candidate Ümit Kurt (Clark University, Worcester, MA) will give a talk on "A Kurdish Schindler: Story of a 'Savior'" at 7:30PM on November 6, in the University Business Center, Alice Peters Auditorium, Room 191, on the Fresno State campus. Kurt is a Kazan Research scholar at Fresno State for the Fall 2015 semester.

The lecture is part of the Armenian Studies Program Fall 2015 Lecture Series, with the support of the Leon S. Peters Foundation.

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*Cemil Kunneh*

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The lecture is free and open to the public. Free parking is available, with no permit necessary in Fresno State Lots P5 and P6, near the University Business Center.

For more information about the lecture please contact the Armenian Studies Program at 278-2669, or visit our website at [www.fresnostate.edu/armenianstudies](http://www.fresnostate.edu/armenianstudies).



## ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The Armenian Observer: Los Angeles, CA

DATE: October 28, 2015

SUBJECT: SAS Journal, Volume 23

PAGE: 1 of 1

## **SAS Publishes *Journal of the Society for Armenian Studies*, volume 23**

The Society for Armenian Studies announces the publication of Volume 23 of the *Journal of the Society for Armenian Studies (JSAS)*, an international peer-reviewed *Journal*, edited by Dr. Sergio La Porta.

The JSAS includes four articles on Classical and Modern Armenian Studies; five communications; a review essay; and three book reviews.

Volume 23 opens with an article by Zaroui Pogossian on a colophon by the thirteenth-century monastic scholar, Vardan Arewelc'i, which provides testimony for an early Armenian impression of the Mongols and their rule. Bjørn Bandlien analyzes a much-ignored embassy to Norway sent from the Armenian kingdom of Cilicia in 1314. An account of the embassy is preserved in three Icelandic annals.

The section on Modern Armenian Studies begins with a contribution by Hourì Berberian that explores the status of Julfan women in mid-eighteenth-century Safavid Iran by examining the *Astrakhan Lawcode* compiled in the 1760s and some two-dozen letters, petitions, and wills housed in archives in Europe and Iran.

The final article is a study by Hazel Antaramian Hofman of the composition and treatment of figures in fifteen Near East Relief posters. Contextualizing the posters within the efforts of the Near East Relief to provide aid to the "starving Armenians," she looks at how the artists created images that compelled the viewer to action and resonated with a contemporary American audience.

The communications contained in this volume bring to light new information on a broad array of topics. Rober Hewsen re-examines the Romano-Persian Treaty of Nisibis of 299; while Michael Stone, Doron Ben Ami and Yana Tchekhanovets reveal a new Armenian inscription from the City of David in Jerusalem. Jasmine Dum Tragut discusses her latest research on Armenian manuscripts containing information on horse medicine; and Michael Stone presents the text and an English translation of a poem by Yovhannēs Erznkac'i Pluz. In his communication, Ümit Kurt reflects upon the politics of denial in the Republic of Turkey. Finally, this volume includes a review essay by Christina Maranci on a recently published book in Armenian by Vardan Azatyan on how medieval Armenian art history was presented in German studies of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

The past year has been a busy one for the Society of Armenian Studies. SAS celebrated its 40th anniversary in 2014 and held an international Workshop in Armenian Studies in Yerevan in October 3-5, 2014, in cooperation with the Armenian Communities Department of the Calouste Gubenkian Foundation. The Society also convened a conference in Washington, D.C., called "Armenians in the Ottoman Empire in the 19th-20th Centuries," November 21-22, 2014.

SAS will hold its 41st Annual Meeting and a conference "Impact of the Armenian Genocide" on November 21, 2015, in Denver, Colorado.

Copies of JSAS may be ordered by contacting the SAS Secretariat at 559-278-2669 or by email at [barlowd@csufresno.edu](mailto:barlowd@csufresno.edu). Individual copies of the Journal are \$20 plus shipping. Back issues of JSAS are also available for ordering.

The Secretariat of the Society for Armenian Studies is located at the Armenian Studies Program, California State University, Fresno. The SAS President is Barlow Der Mugrdechian and the SAS website can be found at [societyforarmenianstudies.com](http://societyforarmenianstudies.com).





## ARCHIVE

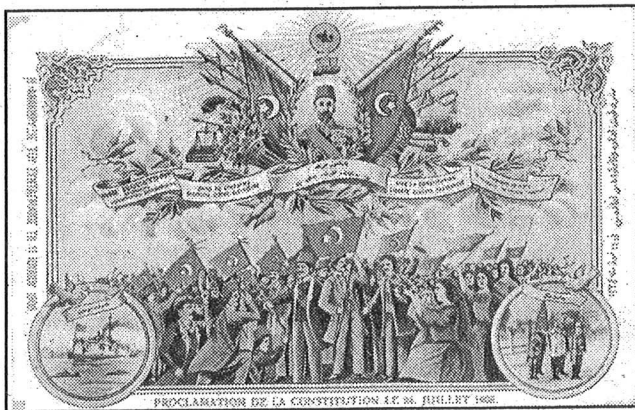
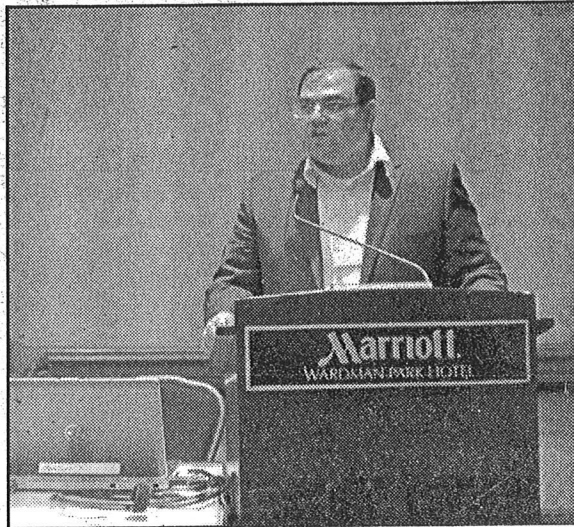
SOURCE: Asbarez Daily: Glendale, CA  
 SUBJECT: Bedross Der Matossian lecture

DATE: October 27, 2015  
 PAGE: 1 of 1

## Դոկտ. Պետրոս Տէր Մաթոսեանի Դասախօսութիւնը՝ Երիտթուրքերու Յեղափոխութեան Նուիրուած

**ՖՐԵՋՆՕ.**– Քալիֆորնիոյ Համալսարանի Ֆրեզնոյի մասնաճիւղին մէջ գործող Հայագիտական ծրագիրի աշխանային դասախօսութեանց շարքին մաս կազմող ներկայացումի մը ընթացքին, դոկտ. Պետրոս Տէր Մաթոսեան Ուրբաթ, Հոկտեմբեր 30ին, երեկոյեան ժամը 7:30ին պիտի խօսի 1908ի Երիտթուրքերու յեղափոխութեան մասին:

Դոկտ. Պետրոս Տէր Մաթոսեան Արդի Միջին Արեւելքի պատմութեան բա-



ժանմունքի օգնական դասախօս է նշարեալայի Համալսարանի Լինքընի մասնաճիւղին մէջ:

Ձեռնարկը, որ կազմակերպուած է Վըրճինիա Հաստատուած «Արարատ» հիմնարկին հետ գործակցաբար, տեղի պիտի ունենայ Համալսարանի գործարարական բաժանմունքի ցուցադ-

րասրահին մէջ: Ձեր ինքնաշարժները կարելի է ձրիաբար պահել P5 կամ P6 կանգառներուն մէջ:

Մուտքը ազատ է, իսկ դասախօսութենէն առաջ, ժամը 6:30էն սկսեալ, տեղի պիտի ունենայ հիւրասիրութիւն:

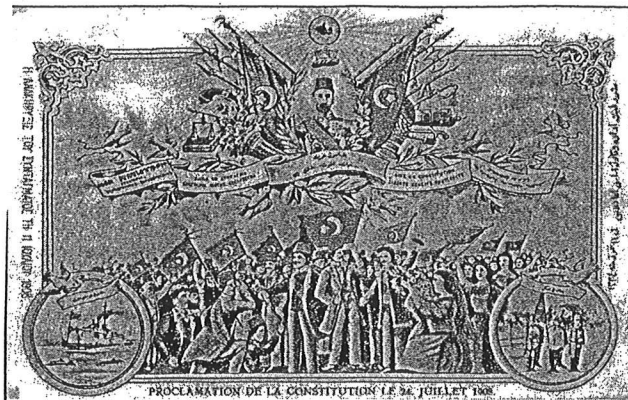
Յաւելեալ տեղեկութեանց համար, դիմել (559) 278-2669 թիւին կամ այցելել [www.fresnostate.edu/armenianstudies](http://www.fresnostate.edu/armenianstudies) կայքէջը:



## ARMENIAN STUDIES PROGRAM

California State University, Fresno • 5245 N Backer Ave PB4 • Fresno, CA 93740-8001

## ARCHIVE

SOURCE: Masis, Pasadena, CASUBJECT: B. Der Matossian lectureDATE: October 24, 2015PAGE: 1 of 1Lecture on "The Political Culture of the  
Young Turk Revolution of 1908"

FRESNO -- Dr. Bedross Der Matossian (University of Nebraska-Lincoln) will give a talk on "The Political Culture of the Young Turk Revolution of 1908: Space, Symbolism, and Language" at 7:30PM on Friday, October 30, in the University Business Center, Alice Peters Auditorium, Room 191, on the Fresno State campus.

The lecture is part of the Armenian Studies Program Fall 2015 Lecture Series, with the support of the Virginia-based Ararat Foundation, which was founded in 1985 and promotes Armenian culture and Christian faith, through lectures on Armenian subjects, seminars, literature distribution, and research.

The jubilation and the revolutionary festivities that took place in Istanbul after the Young Turk Revolution of July 24, 1908, are testimony to the post-Revolutionary euphoria that descended upon the different cities and ethnic groups of the Ottoman Empire. They also mark the beginnings of the public sphere that emerged from the Revolution. That public sphere employed both local print culture and local rituals in a way that allowed the new nation's varied ethnic and religious groups to participate in—and incrementally define—the culture of the new Ottoman nation. The celebrations and festivities of the successful revolution inaugurated a new era and announced the demise of the ancien régime.

This required the adoption of new categories of social and political definitions, new symbols, and an attempt to adopt a consensus among all the ethnic groups. This talk will analyze the revolutionary rituals of these festivities from the perspective of space, symbolism, and language in order to explore the extent to which these rituals attempted to create a "civic religion" that would provide social solidarity for the ethnic groups and emphasize oneness rather than distinction.

Bedross Der Matossian is an Assistant Professor of Modern Middle East History in the Department of History at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Born and raised in Jerusalem, he is a graduate of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, where he began his graduate studies in the Department of Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies. He completed his Ph.D. in Middle East History in the Department of Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies at Columbia University in 2008. From 2008 to 2010, he was a Lecturer of Middle East History in the Faculty of History at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. For the Spring quarter 2014 he was appointed as the Dumanian Visiting Professor in the University of Chicago. His areas of interest include ethnic politics in the Middle East, inter-ethnic violence in the Ottoman Empire, the history of the Armenian Genocide and modern Armenian history. In addition to contributing to numerous edited volumes, his articles have also appeared in the *Journal of Palestinian Studies*, *Jerusalem Quarterly*, *Armenian Review*, *Majallat al-Dirasat Al-Filastiniyya*, *European Journal of Turkish Studies*, *Genocide Studies and Prevention: An International Journal*, *Journal of the Society for Armenian Studies*, *Turcica*, and *Ararat Quarterly*. He is the author of *Shattered Dreams of Revolution: From Liberty to Violence in the Late Ottoman Empire* (Stanford University Press, 2014).

Copies of *Shattered Dreams of Revolution* will be on sale at the lecture.

The lecture is free and open to the public. Free parking is available, with no permit necessary in Fresno State Lots P5 and P6, near the University Business Center.

For more information about the lecture contact the Armenian Studies Program [www.fresnostate.edu/armenianstudies](http://www.fresnostate.edu/armenianstudies).



## ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The California Courier, Glendale, CASUBJECT: Sahan ArzruniDATE: October 12, 2015PAGE: 1 of 1

## Տահան Արշրունի Ելուց Կոնցերտ Օկտ. 25-ին Ֆրեսնո Տեղական Օրհնո՝ «Կոմիտաս: Իր Երաժիշտի Եւ Յոյն Կուսակցի Իր Երաժիշտի

FRESNO - Acclaimed pianist Տահան Արշրունի will perform a Concert dedicated to "Komitas: A Portrait of the Musician as a Young Priest," at 3:00PM on Sunday, October 25. The Concert is a Special Event in the Lorenz Keyboard Concert Series and will take place at the Fresno State Concert Hall located in the University's Music Building. The event is co-sponsored by the Armenian Studies Program at Fresno State and supported by the Thomas A. Kooyumjian Family Foundation.

General admission is \$25, \$18 for seniors, and \$5 for students. For tickets, please call 559-278-2337 or go to [www.keyboardconcerts.com/special-events.aspx](http://www.keyboardconcerts.com/special-events.aspx).

Komitas, the wellspring of contemporary Armenian music, was born in 1869 in Kütahya in western Anatolia. Orphaned at an early age, his beautiful singing voice brought him to the notice of a church emissary, who took him to Etchmiadzin, the Holy See of the Armenian Church, to study. There he was eventually ordained a celibate priest. While still a student at the seminary, Komitas wandered from village to village, collecting the folk music of the Armenian peasant. He notated thousands of songs. In arranging Armenian folk music for concert performance, Komitas made a determined effort to retain the idiosyncratic qualities of traditional song — eschewing western compositional techniques, while fashioning instead the use of drone notes and unconventional



textures.

The great majority of Komitas's works are vocal — both solo and choral. Only a small part of his oeuvre is written for the piano; but they are pieces of unusual beauty and striking originality.

Տահան Արշրունի has achieved recognition as a composer, ethnomusicologist, teacher, lecturer, writer, recording artist, broadcasting personality, producer and impresario. He has toured in these capacities throughout North and South America, Europe, the Middle East, the Far East, and Australia. He has been featured in a number of PBS specials — "Around the World in '82," "Gala of Stars," and "A Place of Dreams: Carnegie Hall at 100" — and has recorded for European radio networks, including the BBC. Mr. Arzruni has given command performances at the White House, as well as the British, Danish,

Swedish, and Icelandic courts.

Motivated by ethnic awareness in the United States, Arzruni continuously researches the musical roots of his Armenian heritage. He recorded a three-record anthology of Armenian piano music, and co-produced an eight-disc set of instrumental and vocal Armenian music.

The Fresno State Armenian Studies Program ([www.fresnostate.edu/armenianstudies](http://www.fresnostate.edu/armenianstudies)) offers courses on Armenian history, Armenian language and literature, art and architecture, film, William Saroyan, the Genocide, and contemporary issues.

Free public parking is available at Fresno State Lot P1, at the northeast corner of Maple and Shaw Aves.

For more information about the Concert, contact the Armenian Studies Program at 278-2669.





## ARCHIVE

SOURCE: Masis, Pasadena, CASUBJECT: B. Sahan ArzruniDATE: October 10, 2015PAGE: 1 of 1

## Sahan Arzruni to Perform in Concert on "Komitas: A Portrait of the Musician as a Young Priest"



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## ARCHIVE

SOURCE: Armenian Mirror-Spectator, Watertown, MASUBJECT: Sahan ArzruniDATE: October 10, 2015PAGE: 1 of 1

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## ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The California Courier, Glendale, CASUBJECT: NER ExhibitDATE: October 8, 2015PAGE: 1 of 1

## NER Exhibit Shown at Fresno State Through End of October

FRESNO - The Near East Foundation's traveling exhibit, "They Shall Not Perish" opened on October 5, in the Henry Madden Library, Room 2206, at Fresno State.

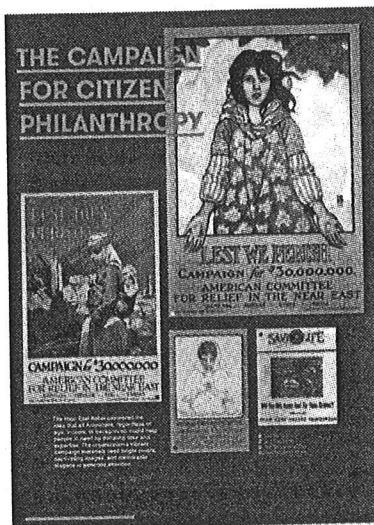
The event will also marked the first-ever viewing of the ANCA-WR's documentary DVD "America We Thank You."

The Exhibit is mounted on the second floor of the Madden Library, in front of the Peter's Ellipse.

Co-sponsored by the Armenian Studies Program at Fresno State and the ANCA-WR "America We Thank You" Initiative, the Exhibit will give students and community members an opportunity to learn about America's first large-scale humanitarian effort, to help Armenians following the Armenian Genocide of 1915.

Near East Relief (NER) was the United States' first congressionally sanctioned non-governmental organization that mobilized all facets of the American citizenry to respond to pleas for help from Armenians half a world away.

NER's successor, the Near East



*Near East Relief Poster*

Foundation (NEF), curated this Exhibit, which documents and showcases the legacy of the NER on the eve of its own Centennial. The Exhibit is comprised of high-quality scans of official correspondence, biographies of missionaries and relief workers who lived, volunteered and worked in the trenches, and archival photographs, some of which have only recently been accessed and offer new insight to the depth and breadth of NER's impact and legacy.

The ANCA-WR "America We Thank You" initiative also partnered with editor and producer Bared Maronian for the creation of a documentary film to serve as an educational tool given the current omission of NER's rich history and legacy in the American educational curriculum.

The film, which highlights interviews from historians, researchers, public figures and descendants of Armenian orphans rescued by NER efforts, will accompany the Exhibit.

The Exhibit will be open until October 30 during regular Library hours.

The presentation is free and open to the public.

Free parking is available in Lots P30 or P31 on campus, near the Henry Madden Library, only if a parking pass is obtained by using code 273625 in any of the campus kiosks. Parking is in green or yellow designated areas.

For more information on the lecture please contact the Armenian Studies Program at 278-2669 or go to the website at [www.fresnostate.edu/armenianstudies](http://www.fresnostate.edu/armenianstudies).



## ARCHIVE

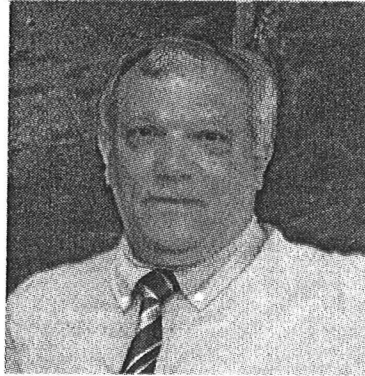
SOURCE: The California Courier, Glendale, CASUBJECT: Ronald MarcheseDATE: October 1, 2015PAGE: 1 of 1

## Dr. Ronald Marchese to Speak at CSUF On New Book 'Treasures of Faith'

FRESNO - Dr. Ronald Marchese will discuss his recently published book with a talk on "Treasures of Faith: Reflections on Armenian Society and Culture" at 7:30 PM on October 14. Dr. Marchese and colleague Dr. Marlene Breu are the authors of the just published "Treasures of Faith: Sacred Relics and Artifacts from the Armenian Orthodox Churches of Istanbul" (Istanbul: Çitlembik Ltd., 2015).

This Leon S. Peters Foundation Lecture will be held in the University Business Center, Alice Peters Auditorium, Room 191, on the Fresno State campus and is part of the Armenian Studies Program Fall 2015 Lecture Series.

Dr. Marchese is professor emeritus of ancient history and archaeology at the University of Minnesota, Duluth and has spent the last several years documenting the rich cultural history of the Armenians in Constantinople, by studying the works of arts that the Armenians produced. He will accompany his talk with slides of some of the artwork that he has catalogued from the Armenian Orthodox churches.



*Dr. Ronald Marchese*

Often lacking political representation (minority) communal identity can be achieved through a body of customs, beliefs, religious institutions, and a unique material culture that reinforces spiritualism and communal uniqueness.

By the beginning of the 20th century, Ottoman Armenians constituted a significant part of the population of Constantinople. The Armenians had developed a vibrant artistic tradition in music, art (painting and metal work), and in literature. The contributions of the Armenians shed light on their own concept of identity and place within the Ottoman Empire. This

talk will examine various forms of art in which Armenians excelled, and the relationship between that art, and the broader society in which Armenians lived. The presentation will illustrate the continuation of Armenian traditions in art through the early twentieth century.

Dr. Marchese received his Ph.D. from New York University and has a distinguished career in archaeology, having conducted research at the Plataiai Archaeological Excavation in Greece and at Tel Dor in Israel. He is the author of numerous articles and book chapters in the field. He is an alumnus of California State University, Fresno. He is the author, together with Marlene Breu, of *Splendor and Spectacle: The Armenian Orthodox Church Textile Collections of Istanbul* (Istanbul: Çitlembik Ltd., 2010).

The lecture is free and open to the public. Dr. Marchese's "Treasures of Faith" will be on sale at the lecture.

Free parking is available in Lots P5 or P6 on campus, adjacent to the University Business Center, only if a parking pass is obtained by using code 273611 in any of the campus kiosks.

For more information on the lecture please contact the Armenian Studies Program at 278-2669.



## ARCHIVE

SOURCE: Collegian: Fresno, CADATE: September 25, 2015SUBJECT: Hagop Ohanesian on SyriaPAGE: 1 of 2

## CIVIL WAR

# Syrian war hits home for Fresno State professor

By Tomas Kassahun  
@tomaskassahun

Hagop Ohanesian is grateful for the life he lives in the U.S.

As a Fresno State Armenian Studies professor, he cherishes the chance to go to work every day and make a difference in the lives of his students.

Every day when he enters the classroom, Ohanesian strives to encourage his students and to instill a passion for learning.

While he lives his dream in the U.S., however, Ohanesian also has nightmares about his family on the other side of the world.

In Syria, his uncle and cousins have woken up many times to the sound of bombings. They have spent many days in the war-torn country without electricity, water and peace of mind.

See SYRIA, Page 6



Raja Abdulrahim • Los Angeles Times/TNS

Members of Aleppo's civil defense team scramble at the scene of a government barrel bomb attack to rescue a woman trapped in her home, which was sheared in half by the blast.



## ARCHIVE

SOURCE: Collegian: Fresno, CADATE: September 25, 2015SUBJECT: Hagop Ohanesian on SyriaPAGE: 2 of 2

# Ohanesian: Only about 1,000 Armenians are left in Syria

## SYRIA from Page 1

Their only choice was to flee to nearby Lebanon, where they have now stayed as refugees for almost four years.

"As a result of the war, a lot of families have left Syria," Ohanesian said. "You can imagine the bombings they hear— how that affects them psychologically— being around that every day. This is not something that happens once in a week or so. It's constant. They're around it all the time."

The conflict in Syria began in the spring of 2011 with anti-government demonstrations.

Then, the peaceful protests escalated after the government's violent crackdown, and rebels began fighting back against the regime.

Ohanesian is one of many Armenians from Syria, but he was only 2 years old when he left the country.

Most of what he knows about Syria comes from his parents and relatives, who lived there most of their life.

They tell him about the Syria they knew growing up.

"They were very happy there," Ohanesian said. "It was calm. They didn't have problems with the government."

Today, almost everyone in Syria is affected by the war, including the thousands of Armenians in the country.

"Over 100,000 Armenians lived in Syria, where I was born," Ohanesian said. "A lot of other minority groups have also been impacted— Christians, Arabs, Greeks have been targeted."

Every day when he turns on the news, Ohanesian sees gruesome images from the conflict.

Still, the life he sees in the news is not a life he can imagine.

"Those individuals that are living there, they know what they're going through," Ohanesian said. "We can't imagine what's going on over there, because we have food; we have water; we have a place to stay. These people wake up every day not knowing if they're gonna be alive that day— what's gonna happen; how they're gonna put food on the table; how are they gonna take a shower?"

As an Armenian studies professor, Ohanesian connects the events of Syria with the history of Armenia.

He relates the Syrian conflict with the Armenian Genocide while also discussing how the war affects Armenians in Syria.

From the 100,000 Armenians who once lived in Syria, only about 5,000 still live there, Ohanesian

said.

"Imagine how difficult it is for the people that lived there and those that have families that lived there to see their churches destroyed, to see their schools targeted, to see their cultural institutions destroyed," he said. "Some have found refuge in the Republic of Armenia. Some are going to Europe. Some are coming to the U.S. or Canada."

Ohanesian's uncle is expected to leave Lebanon and go to Canada next year.

In a way, Ohanesian is happy for his uncle, but he's also cautiously optimistic about the life of a refugee.

"I know the United States has accepted a lot of refugees. Europe has accepted a lot of refugees. And it's difficult because how are you going to handle all those people?" Ohanesian said. "You have to figure out a way to implement policies, immigration rules. You have to give these people an opportunity to find a job, secure a place for them to live."

Ohanesian takes solace in hearing recent discussions about bringing change to Syria.

"I feel that there has been more open dialogue now," he said. "A lot of countries such as the United States and Russia and some countries in Europe are wanting to bring peace to this area."

But the discussions could still go on for some time.

"When you're in a negotiating process to bring a war to an end, someone has to give something up or it's has to benefit one side or the other," Ohanesian said. "But you want to ultimately come to a compromise as well, so hopefully there's better dialogue between Syria and the rest of the world."

Although Ohanesian hopes for better days in Syria, his optimism doesn't come easy.

"I want to be optimistic, but with the situation like this, you don't know," he said. "You have to think about the destruction that has been taking place. You gotta bring all that back, but it's difficult."

While his uncle prepares to depart Lebanon for Canada, many of Ohanesian's relatives are still in Syria, hoping to find refuge.

"My mom still has cousins there," Ohanesian said. "They're going to try to find refuge somewhere else; maybe go to Lebanon; find someplace; some-way."

But there are too many hurdles for anyone who tries to flee from Syria to nearby countries.

"You're not guaranteed to get to that destination because a lot of war activity is going on," Ohanesian said. "They'll stop you and say, 'Who are you? What are you?' You may be killed right there."



ARCHIVE

SOURCE: Collegian: Fresno, CA

SUBJECT: Marchese: Artwork from Ottoman Armenians

DATE: September 25, 2015

PAGE: 1 of 1

ARTWORK

# Lecture focuses on artwork from Ottoman Armenians

By **Julissa Zavala**  
@TheCollegian

The Armenian Studies program held the second in a series of lectures on Wednesday that focused on works of art by Ottoman Armenians up until the early 20th century.

Dr. Ronald Marchese, a Fresno State alumnus and professor emeritus of ancient history and archeology at the University of Minnesota, Duluth, was the guest speaker.

The lecture explored different works of art created by Armenians, particularly religious artifacts in the form of metal work.

The relics shown displayed biblical stories that were very detailed in their artistry.

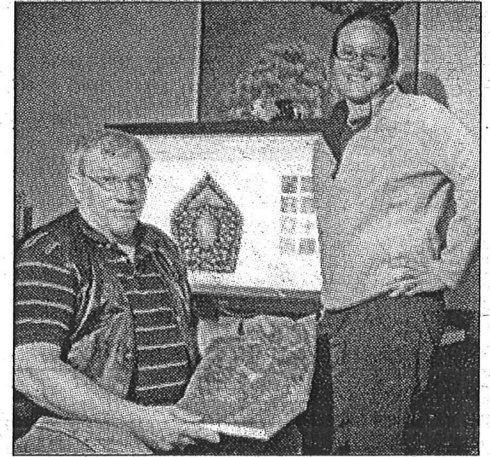
Some details were even as tiny as a fingernail, Marchese said.

Marchese also said that this artwork was made during a time that people were illiterate or semi-illiterate.

"How did you tell the stories that created the foundation of the faithful?" Marchese asked. "Through imagery."

Marchese said the religious art and objects illustrate deep attachment to Armenian Christian values and culture as well as adherence to Christian beliefs in a time and place otherwise dominated by Muslim culture.

Marchese noted a relationship between the Armenian art and life for the Armenians during that time in the city formerly



Courtesy Photo

Professor Emeritus Ron Marchese (left) and Lisa Fitzpatrick (right) in University of Minnesota, Duluth's Visualization and Digital Imaging Lab.

known as Constantinople. It's now known as Istanbul, the capital of Turkey.

"This is obviously the tragedy of one specific group, but this is also a celebration of

**See ARTWORK, Page 6**

## Marchese: Artwork was a celebration of culture and achievement

ARTWORK from Page 1

culture and achievement," Marchese said.

Marchese also talked about his recently published and co-authored book titled, "Treasures of Faith: Sacred relics and Arti-

facts from the Armenian Orthodox Churches of Istanbul."

Dr. Barlow Der Mugrdchian, Armenian studies coordinator, said that the book was well-illustrated and meticulously researched.

"It's a really landmark book in the field of studying Armenian art in Constantinople," Mugrdchian said. "The significance of the Armenians in Constantinople is very important."

"We're looking at the material here as

artifacts as if it's an archeological excavation," Marchese said. "Except you're excavating a depot that every church had of the donations made by people from the congregation."

## ARCHIVE

SOURCE: Masis, Pasadena, CASUBJECT: Armen MarsoobianDATE: September 5, 2015PAGE: 1 of 1

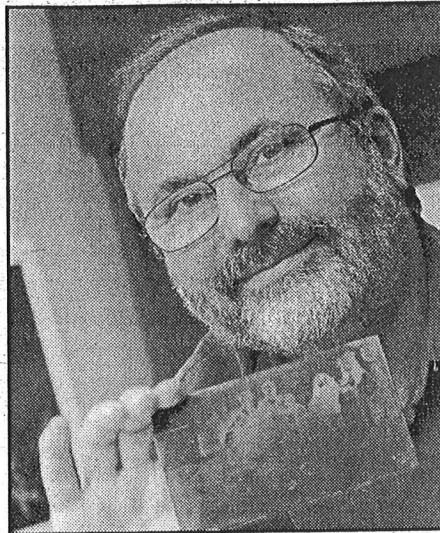
**“Memory, Memorialization & Bearing  
Witness: Contested Memories of the  
Armenian Genocide in Turkey Today” By  
Dr. Armen T. Marsoobian**

FRESNO -- Dr. Armen T. Marsoobian (Southern Connecticut State University) will speak on “Memory, Memorialization & Bearing Witness: Contested Memories of the Armenian Genocide in Turkey Today” at 7:30PM on Tuesday, September 15, in the University Business Center, Alice Peters Auditorium, Room 191, on the Fresno State campus.

The lecture is part of the Armenian Studies Program Fall 2015 Lecture Series, with the support of the Leon S. Peters Foundation.

Professor Marsoobian will describe his on-going project memorializing the Armenian Genocide in Turkey. The project consists of photography exhibitions in Turkey, two books and the creation of memorial sites related to the story of his mother's family, the Dildilians, in Ottoman Turkey before, during and after the genocide. Extensive memoirs, oral testimonies and photographs from the Dildilian photographic archive are used to tell this history. Besides describing the project he will analyze the role memorialization plays in collective memory, especially in situations subverted by genocide denial.

Armen T. Marsoobian is Professor and Chair of Philosophy at Southern Connecticut State University. He has lectured and published extensively on topics in philosophy and genocide studies. His most recent book, *Fragments of a Lost Homeland: Remembering Armenia*, is based upon extensive research about his family, the Dildilians, who were accomplished pho-



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The lecture is free and open to the public. Free parking is available, using a coupon code #273605, in parking kiosks in Fresno State Lots P5 and P6, near the University Business Center.

For more information about the lecture please contact the Armenian Studies Program at 278-2669, or visit our website at [www.fresnostate.edu/armenianstudies](http://www.fresnostate.edu/armenianstudies).





ARCHIVE

SOURCE: Armenian Mirror-Spectator, Watertown, MA

DATE: September 5, 2015

SUBJECT: Marsoobian: Memory, Memorialization, Bearing Witness

PAGE: 1 of 1

# Memory, Memorialization & Bearing Witness

## Contested Memories of the Armenian Genocide in Turkey Today

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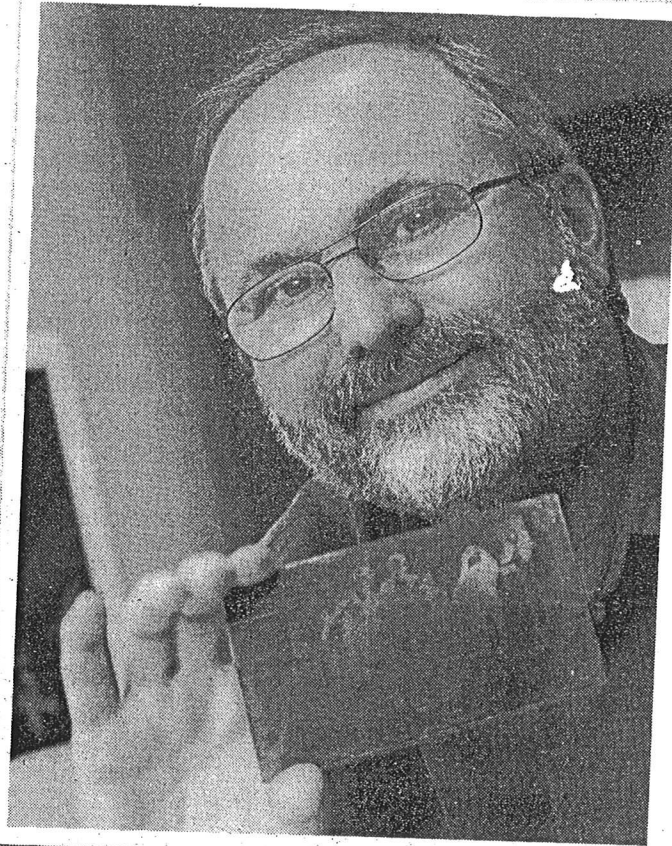
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Panorama of Anatolia College, Marsovan

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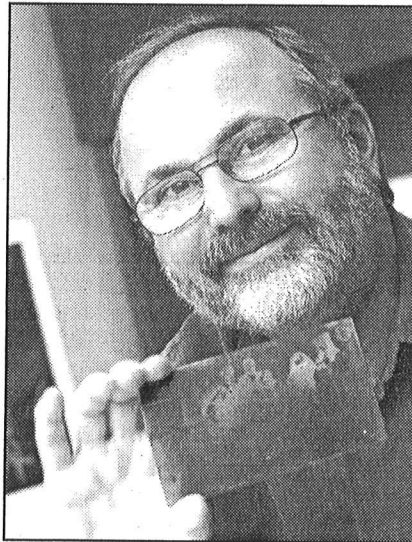


Dr. Armen T. Marsoobian

## Փրոֆ. Մարսուպեան Թուրքիոյ Կողմէ Ցեղասպանութեան Հանաչման Պայքարին Մասին Պիտի Խօսի Ֆրեզնոյի Մէջ

Ֆրեզնո.- Քալիֆորնիոյ Համալսարանի Ֆրեզնոյի մասնաճիւղին մէջ գործող Հայագիտական ծրագրի աշնանային դասախօսութեանց շարքին մաս կազմող ներկայացումի մը ընթացքին, Հարաւային Քրնէթիքեթի նահանգային Համալսարանէն փրոֆ. Արմէն Թ. Մարսուպեան Երեքշաբթի, Սեպտեմբեր 15ին, Երեկոյեան ժամը 7:30ին պիտի խօսի Թուրքիոյ մէջ Հայոց Ցեղասպանութիւնը վերապրողներու յուշերուն եւ պետութեան ուրացման քաղաքականութեան միջեւ ստեղծուած պայքարին մասին:

Ան լուսարձակի տակ պիտի առնէ Թուրքիոյ մէջ Հայոց Ցեղասպանութեան իրականութիւնը



Մարսուպեանի «Անաթոլիա» համալսարանի շէնքին նկարը, Տիւրքիւններուն լուսանկարներու հաւաքածոյէն

Հաստատելու նպատակով իր տարած գործունէութիւնը, որ կը կատարուի լուսանկարներու ցուցադրութեամբ, գիրքերու հրատարակութեամբ եւ յուշարձաններ կառուցելու ջանքերով:

Փրոֆ. Մարսուպեանի այս նախաձեռնութեանց մղիչ ուժը եղած է իր մօր ընտանիքին՝ Տիւրքիւններուն, ձգած լուսանկարներուն եւ այլ վկայութեանց ժառանգը:

Ձեռնարկը տեղի պիտի ունենայ Համալսարանի գործարարական

բաժանմունքին մէջ գտնուող «Էլիս Փիթըրզ» սրահի մէջ (Թիւ 191) եւ պիտի հովանաւորուի «Լիան Ս. Փիթըրզ» հիմնարկին կողմէ: Ձեր ինքնաշարժները կարելի է ձրիարար պահել P5 կամ P6 կանգառներուն մէջ՝ գործածելով «#273605» թիւը:

Մուտքը ազատ է:

Յաւելեալ տեղեկութեանց համար, դիմել (559) 278-2669 թիւին կամ այցելել [www.fresnostate.edu/armenianstudies](http://www.fresnostate.edu/armenianstudies) կայքէջը:

## ARMENIAN STUDIES PROGRAM

California State University, Fresno • 5245 N Backer Ave PB4 • Fresno, CA 93740-8001

## ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The California Courier, Glendale, CADATE: September 3, 2015SUBJECT: Marsoobian: Memory, Memorialization, Bearing WitnessPAGE: 1 of 1

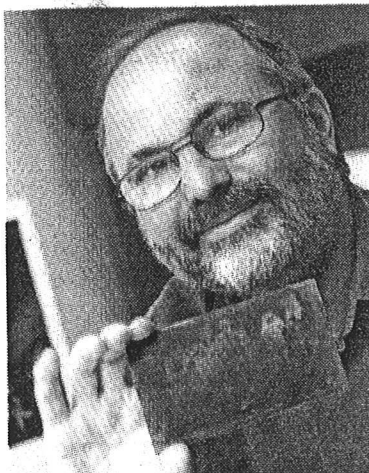
## Dr. Marsoobian Will Speak on 'Memory' And Bearing Witness Sept. 15 at CSUF

FRESNO - Dr. Armen T. Marsoobian (Southern Connecticut State University) will speak on "Memory, Memorialization & Bearing Witness: Contested Memories of the Armenian Genocide in Turkey Today" at 7:30PM on September 15, in the University Business Center, Alice Peters Auditorium, Room 191, on the Fresno State campus.

The lecture is part of the Armenian Studies Program Fall 2015 Lecture Series, with the support of the Leon S. Peters Foundation.

Professor Marsoobian will describe his on-going project memorializing the Armenian Genocide in Turkey. The project consists of photography exhibitions in Turkey, two books and the creation of memorial sites related to the story of his mother's family, the Dildilians, in Ottoman Turkey before, during and after the genocide. Extensive memoirs, oral testimonies and photographs from the Dildilian photographic archive are used to tell this history. Besides describing the project he will analyze the role memorialization plays in collective memory, especially in situations subverted by genocide denial.

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## ARMENIAN STUDIES PROGRAM

California State University, Fresno • 5245 N Backer Ave PB4 • Fresno, CA 93740-8001

## ARCHIVE

SOURCE: Armenian Observer: Los Angeles, CADATE: September 2, 2015SUBJECT: Akcam/Kurt Publish a BookPAGE: 1 of 1**Akcam/Kurt Publish Book on the  
Plunder of Armenian Properties**

Turkish historian Taner Akcam has released a new book with Umit Kurt on the plunder of Armenian properties. The book titled "The Spirit of the Laws: The Plunder of Wealth in the Armenian Genocide" examines the confiscation of Armenian properties during the genocide and subsequent attempts to retain seized Armenian wealth. Through the close analysis of laws and treaties, it reveals that decrees issued during the genocide constitute central pillars of the Turkish system of property rights, retaining their legal validity, and although Turkey has acceded through international agreements to return Armenian properties, it continues to refuse to do so. The book demonstrates that genocides do not depend on the abolition of the legal system and elimination of rights, but that, on the contrary, the perpetrators of genocide manipulate the legal system to facilitate their plans.



ARCHIVE

SOURCE: Armenian Observer: Los Angeles, CA

DATE: September 2, 2015

SUBJECT: Marsoobian: Memory, Memorialization, Bearing Witness

PAGE: 1 of 1



Panorama of Anatolia College, Marsovan

**A Talk on “Memory, Memorialization & Bearing Witness:  
Contested Memories of the Armenian Genocide in Turkey Today”  
By Dr. Armen T. Marsoobian in Fresno State University, Sept 15**

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## ARMENIAN STUDIES PROGRAM

California State University, Fresno • 5245 N Backer Ave PB4 • Fresno, CA 93740-8001

## ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The California Courier, Glendale, CASUBJECT: Aram, AramDATE: August 27, 2015PAGE: 1 of 1

*Aram (John Roohinian), left, with his grandfather (Levon Sharafyan), a shoemaker in Los Angeles.*

## ASP and CineCulture Program to Feature 'Aram, Aram' at CSUF, Fresno Aug. 28

FRESNO - The CineCulture Series and the Armenian Studies Program at California State University, Fresno, are sponsoring a special screening of "Aram, Aram" at 5:30 p.m. on August 28, in the Leon and Pete Peters Educational Auditorium (next to the SaveMart Center), on the Fresno State campus.

The event is the first in the Fall Lecture series of the Armenian Studies Program and is supported by the Leon S. Peters Foundation.

"Aram, Aram" is the first American independent drama to take viewers inside the Armenian Community of Los Angeles. Suddenly uprooted from his home in Beirut, a 12 year-old Armenian boy, Aram, is sent to live with his grandfather in America where he struggles to navigate the clash between old-world values and new-school Armenian identity in Little Armenia.

According to the Hollywood

Reporter, "First-time writer-director Christopher Chambers has crafted a potent, lovingly detailed evocation of an unfamiliar California subculture. Given the novelty of the setting and the recent reminders of the Armenian genocide, the film deserves to be seen... It packs an emotional punch."

Director Christopher Chambers is a graduate of Wesleyan University and the American Film Institute.

Admission is free and the event is open to the public. Free parking is available at any of the adjacent Fresno State parking lots (near the corner of Shaw and Woodrow Avenues).

For more information about the presentation please contact the Armenian Studies Program at 278-2669, or visit our website at [www.fresnostate.edu/armenianstudies](http://www.fresnostate.edu/armenianstudies).



ARCHIVE

SOURCE: Armenian Mirror-Spectator, Watertown, MA

DATE: August 22, 2015

SUBJECT: Aram, Aram

PAGE: 1 of 1

# CineCulture and Armenian Studies Program to Feature 'Aram, Aram'

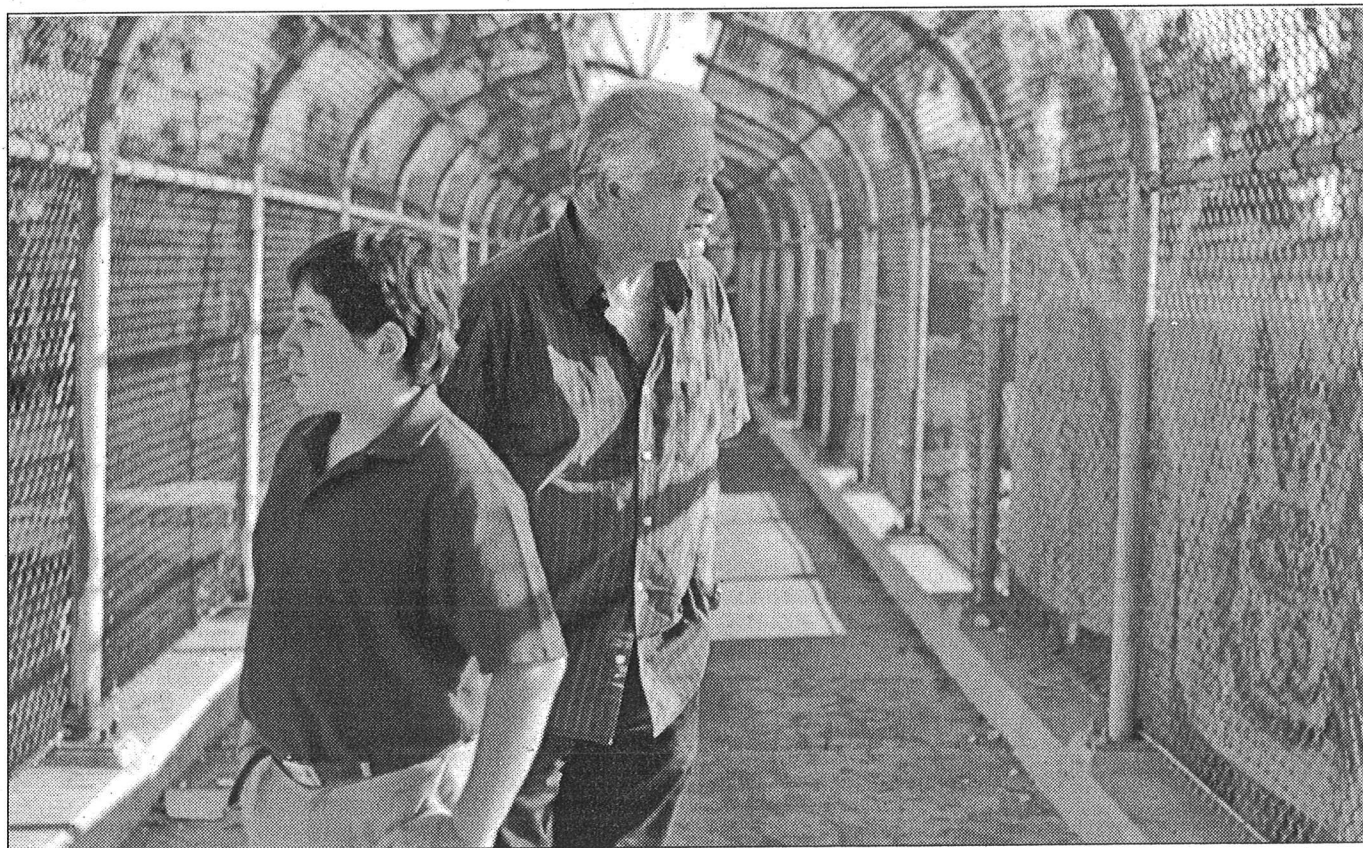
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