



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.

Spring 2005

Vol. 20 Release #82
January 2005-July 2005



ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The Armenian Reporter Int'l: Paramus, NJ DATE: January 1, 2005
SUBJECT: Armenian Studies Initiates Honors Program at CSUF PAGE: 1 of 1

Armenian Studies Program Initiates Honors Program at California State University, Fresno

By Hakop Tataryan
Editor, Hye Sharzhoom

FRESNO, CA - Ambitious Fresno State students who are taking Armenian Studies courses have something to look forward to in the Fall of 2005. An Honors Program has been approved for students taking upper-division classes in the Armenian Studies Program. The Honors Program will also offer numerous benefits to its participants.

All students who apply to the Armenian Studies Honors Program must have Junior standing (60 units) with at least a 3.5 GPA in Armenian Studies courses and a cumulative GPA of 3.4. In addition, they must have completed at least four Armenian Studies classes.

Along with the Armenian Studies classes, students must participate in the Smittcamp Family Honors Colloquium (a weekly two-hour meeting for all honors students) as long as they are in the Armenian Studies Honors Program. The colloquium will cover an array of topics regarded as higher learning, including public policy, current affairs, and contemporary society.

To encourage community involvement and offer a greater experience, the Program requires its students to complete twenty hours of community service each semester. Opportunities are available for Armenian Studies-oriented service in the various programs available on campus: Hye Sharzhoom, "Hye Oozh Radio," and "All Things Armenian."

In the last semester of the program, students in the Honors Program will be researching a topic of choice under the supervision of a faculty member. The topic can be in various areas of study, such as language, history, architecture, or art. At the end of the semester, students would be ready to present their research findings and be prepared to submit their thesis to be

published.

The rigor of the program is obvious, but the rewards are many. Those students brave enough, as well as competent enough, to be admitted to the Program will have full registration fees paid for up to two years. They will receive honors medallions upon graduation, and Honors recognition on their diploma. Perhaps the most important attribute of any Honors Program is the preparation it provides for Master's and PhD programs. Inevitably, by completing the Program, students will have ascertained exceptional research, writing, and analytical skills, making them better candidates for postgraduate aspirations.

"With an Honors Program in Armenian Studies, Fresno State students who seek a minor in Armenian Studies and complete the honors program will be among a very small elite group at Fresno State who benefit from the highest academic standards the University is able to offer its undergraduates. The Armenian Studies Honors Program will provide students with a degree that will immediately reflect excellence in scholarship and learning, a valuable asset for any career," said Dr. Dickran Kouymjian, Director of the Armenian Studies Program at Fresno State.

This is such a great opportunity for students to develop new skills and get prepared for postgraduate studies. As fees keep increasing and with books costing an arm and a leg, the monetary incentive the program offers could not have come at a better time. Information on the Program will be available during the Spring 2005 semester by calling 559-278-2669.

Only four students will be admitted each year, so apply fast!

**ARCHIVE**

SOURCE: The Armenian Weekly: Watertown, MA DATE: January 8, 2005
SUBJECT: Armenian Studies Program Hosts Armenian Film Festival PAGE: 1 of 1

Armenian Studies Program to Host Armenian Film Festival

FRESNO, CA—On April 1, the Armenian Students Organization and the Armenian Studies Program at California State University at Fresno (CSUF) will host the 6th Annual Armenian Film Festival on the CSUF campus. The event is partially funded by the Diversity Awareness Program of the University Student Union at CSUF.

Entries are being sought for the festival of films made by Armenian directors/writers, or films with an Armenian theme. Films should be up to one hour in length, may be in any language though English preferred, and must be in video/DVD format and if in video, it should be in NTSC format. Entries should be accompanied by a vita of the director/writer and a synopsis of the film. The festival committee will meet to view and judge which entries will be accepted for the film festival and entrants will be contacted by email with the decisions.

The deadline for entries to be received is February 1. All entries should be sent to Armenian Film Festival, c/o Armenian Studies Program, 5245 N. Backer Ave. PB4, Fresno, CA 93740-8001. For more information, call (559) 278-2669 or email barlowd@csufresno.edu.



ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The Armenian Weekly: Watertown, MADATE: January 8, 2005SUBJECT: Armenian Studies Honors Program at CSUFPAGE: 1 of 1

Armenian Studies Honors Program Initiated at CSUF

BY HAKOP TATARYAN

FRESNO, CA—Ambitious California State University at Fresno (CSUF) students taking Armenian Studies courses have something to look forward to in the fall of 2005: an Honors Program has been approved for students taking upper division classes in the Armenian Studies Program.

All students who apply to the Armenian Studies Honors Program, must have junior standing (60 units) with a minimum 3.5 GPA in Armenian Studies courses, a cumulative GPA of 3.4, and must have completed at least four Armenian Studies classes.

In addition to taking classes, students must participate in the Smittcamp Family Honors Colloquium (a weekly two-hour meeting for all honors students) as long as they are in the Armenian Studies Honors Program.

The colloquium will cover an array of topics regarded as higher learning, including public policy, current affairs, and contemporary society.

To encourage community involvement and offer a greater experience, the program requires its students to complete 20 hours of community service each semester. Opportunities are available for Armenian Studies-oriented service in various programs available on campus, such as with the "Hye Sharzhoom" newspaper, "Hye Oozh Radio," and "All Things Armenian."

In the last semester of the program, students in the Honors Program will research a topic of their choice under the supervision of a faculty member.

The topic can be in various areas of study such as language, history, architecture, or art. At the end of the semester, students will present their research findings and submit their thesis to be published.

The rigor of the program is obvious, but the rewards are many. Students brave and competent enough to be admitted to the program will have full registration fees paid for up to two years. They will receive Honors medallions upon graduation, and Honors recognition on their diploma.

Perhaps the most important attribute of any Honors Program is the preparation it provides for Masters and PhD programs. Inevitably, by completing the program, students will have ascertained exceptional research, writing, and analytical skills, making them better candidates for postgraduate aspirations.

"With an Honors Program in Armenian Studies, CSUF students that seek a minor in Armenian Studies and complete the honors program will be among a very small elite group at CSUF who benefit from the highest academic standards the University is able to offer its undergraduates."

The Armenian Studies Honors Program will provide students with a degree that will immediately reflect excellence in scholarship and learning, a valuable asset for any career," said Armenian Studies Program director Dr. Dickran Kouymjian.

With ever-increasing fees, the monetary incentive the program offers could not have come at a better time. Only four students will be admitted each year.

Information on the program is available during the spring 2005 semester by calling (559) 278-2669.



ARMENIAN STUDIES PROGRAM

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

2005

ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The Armenian Observer: Los Angeles, CA

DATE: February 2, 2005

SUBJECT: Armenian Studies Hosts 6th Annual Film Festival

PAGE: 1 of 1

CSUF 6th Annual Armenian Film Festival, Friday, April 1, 2005

FRESNO - Sponsored by the Armenian Students Organization, Armenian Studies Program, California State University, Fresno and Partially funded by the Diversity Awareness Program of the University Student Union, CSU Fresno.

First Call for Entries

Entries are being sought for the 6th Annual Armenian Film Festival to be held on the California State University, Fresno campus. Films made by Armenian directors/writers, or films with an Armenian theme are being sought.

Films up to 1 hour in length

Films may be in any language, English preferred

Films may be on any topic, Armenian theme preferred

Film must be in video/DVD format- if in video it should be in NTSC format.

Deadline for entries to be received is February 1, 2005.

Please send the video/DVD to:

Armenian Film Festival

c/o Armenian Studies Program

5245 N Backer Ave. PB4

Fresno, CA 93740-8001

Telephone 559-278-2669 - Email: barlowd@csufresno.edu

The Festival Committee will meet to view and judge which entries will be accepted for the Film Festival. Entrants will be contacted by email with the decisions.

Entries should be accompanied by a CV of the director/writer and a synopsis of the film.



ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The Armenian Observer: Los Angeles, CA
SUBJECT: Armenia Semester Abroad Program

DATE: February 9, 2005
PAGE: 1 of 1

Armenian Studies Program of California State University, Fresno**Fall 2005 Armenia Semester Abroad Program;
Semester begins - September 5, 2005**

Fresno - The Armenian Studies Program at California State University, Fresno has organized a one-semester program designed to introduce students to Armenian language, history, art, and contemporary events.

The semester schedule is composed of five courses: Armenian language (4 units); Armenian art and architecture (3 units); Armenia today (3 units); Armenian studies (3 units); Independent study (2 units).

Courses, based on curriculum used by the Armenian Studies Program at California State University, Fresno, will be taught by faculty from Yerevan State University. The academic committee in charge of curriculum is composed of Dr. Dickran Kouymjian, Haig and Isabel Berberian Professor of Armenian Studies and Director of the Armenian Studies Program at Fresno State, Dr. Tom Samuelian of Arlex International, and Barlow Der Mugrdechian of the Armenian Studies Program at Fresno State.

Full information on the program is available at the following web site: http://armenianstudies.csufresno.edu/Semester_Abroad/information.htm

Eligibility: The program is open to all high school graduates, ages 18-32, who have maintained a minimum 2.75 GPA in college. **Fees:** Fees for the program are \$2,250 per person (for 15 units of courses) and an additional fee of approximately of \$160 for health insurance. Room and board, air fare, and transportation and any additional costs are the responsibility of the student. (The Program will assist in finding living arrangements) **Deadline:** Students are required to fill in the following application form and return it to the Armenian Studies Program by May 1, 2005 for

study abroad in Armenia in the Spring semester 2005.

Minimum class size: A minimum of 5 students must be successfully admitted to the program for the Fall 2005 program to take place.

Required information for application: Official college transcript; One page essay on why you would like to participate in the Armenia Study Abroad Program, what has prepared you for study in such a Program, and why you are qualified to participate; One passport sized color photo; Names and telephone numbers of two references (non-related). In addition please submit Name, Address, City, State, Zip, Telephone number, Email address, Date of birth: (Please clearly print all information and make sure that the telephone number and email address are current). Send the application form, and all requested material to: Barlow Der Mugrdechian, Armenian Studies Program, 5245 N Backer Ave. PB4, Fresno, CA 93740-8001 If you have any questions contact: Barlow Der Mugrdechian office telephone: 559-278-4930 o email: barlowd@csufresno.edu

Travel fellowship: Travel fellowships are available to qualified applicants who are accepted into the Fresno State Armenia Semester Abroad Program through BirthRight Armenia/Depi Hayk (BR/DH). (See below for Eligibility). The travel fellowship covers reimbursement of roundtrip economy class airfare at the average price for that period upon successful completion of the program and BR/DH requirements.

The application form is posted on the www.birthrightarmenia.org/opps_application.html



ARCHIVE

SOURCE: Armenian Mirror-Spectator, Watertown, MA
SUBJECT: Armenian Studies Offers Semester Abroad

DATE: February 19, 2005
PAGE: 1 of 1

California State Fresno Offers Semester Abroad to Armenia

FRESNO — The Armenian Studies Program at California State University Fresno has organized a one-semester program designed to introduce students to Armenian language, history, art and contemporary events in Yerevan, Armenia. The semester schedule is composed of five courses: Armenian language (4 units); Armenian art and architecture (3 units); Armenia today (3 units); Armenian studies (3 units) and Independent study (2 units).

Courses, based on curriculum used by the Armenian Studies Program at California State University, Fresno, will be taught by faculty from Yerevan State University.

The academic committee in charge of curriculum is composed of Dr. Dickran Kouymjian, Haig and Isabel Berberian Professor of Armenian Studies and Director of the Armenian Studies Program at Fresno State, Dr. Tom Samuelian of Arlex International and Barlow Der Mugrdechian of the Armenian Studies Program at Fresno State.

Full information on the program is available at the following web site: <http://armenianstudies.csufresno.edu/SemesterAbroad/information.htm>.

The program is open to all high school graduates, ages 18-32, who have maintained a minimum 2.75 GPA in college.

Students are required to fill in the following application form and return it to the Armenian Studies Program by May 1 for study abroad in

Armenia in the Spring semester 2005.

A minimum of five students must be successfully admitted to the program for the Fall 2005 program to take place.

Required information for application include: Official college transcript; one-page essay on why the applicant wants to participate in the Armenia Study Abroad Program; one passport-sized color photo and names and telephone numbers of two references (non-related). In addition please submit name, address, city, state, zip, telephone number, email address, date of birth: (Please clearly print all information and make sure that the telephone number and email address are current.) Send the application form, and all requested material to: Barlow Der Mugrdechian, Armenian Studies Program, 5245 N. Backer Ave. PB4. Fresno, CA 93740-8001

If you have any questions contact Barlow Der Mugrdechian, at barlowd@csufresno.edu.

Travel fellowships are available to qualified applicants who are accepted into the Fresno State Armenia Semester Abroad Program through BirthRight Armenia/Depi Hayk (BR/DH). The travel fellowship covers reimbursement of roundtrip economy class airfare at the average price for that period upon successful completion of the program and BR/DH requirements. The application form is posted on the www.birthrightarmenia.org/oppa_application.html.



ARCHIVE

SOURCE: University Journal: Fresno, CADATE: March 2005SUBJECT: Markar Melkonian to Speak at CSUF CampusPAGE: 1 of 1

Author Markar Melkonian to speak

Author Markar Melkonian will present his new book, "My Brother's Road: An American's Fateful Journey to Armenia" at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 15, in the Industrial Technology Building, Room 101. The lecture is part of the Armenian Studies Program Spring 2005 Lecture Series and is co-sponsored by the Armenian Students Organization.

My Brother's Road is the story of Markar's brother, Monte Melkonian, a third-generation Californian, who grew up to become a promising archaeologist, a witness to revolution in Iran, a militiaman in the streets of Beirut, a guerrilla in southern Lebanon, a prison strike leader in France and a commander of 4,000 fighters in the Karabagh war.

Markar Melkonian is a teacher, writer and veteran solidarity worker. He holds several graduate degrees, including a Ph.D. in philosophy from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Melkonian's books include "Marxism: A Post-Cold War Primer" (Westview Press, 1996) and "Richard Rorty's Politics: Liberalism at the End of the American Century" (Humanities Press, 1999).

Melkonian is a founder and a director of The Monte Melkonian Fund, Inc. (<http://www.melkonian.org>), a nonprofit organization that assists the needy in the impoverished former Soviet Republic of Armenia.

For more information, contact the Armenian Studies Program at 8-2669.



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2005

ARCHIVE

SOURCE: University Journal: Fresno, CA

DATE: March 2005

SUBJECT: Kolanian to Perform at CSUF Campus

PAGE: 1 of 1

Guitarist to perform March 5

Critically acclaimed Armenian-Greek classical guitarist Iakovos Kolanian will make his North American debut with a performance at Fresno State on Saturday, March 5.

The performance at 7:30 p.m. in the Music Building Concert Hall will be a program of Armenian folk music arranged for classical

guitar. It will include works by Komitas, A. Barrios, M. C. Tedesco, and various Armenian folk songs.



Born in Greece, Kolanian studied at the National Conservatory of Athens and graduated with top honors for exceptional performance.

He has toured Europe, Asia and Latin America, performing in individual recitals and as soloist with symphonic orchestras and chamber ensembles. He has been regularly featured on international television and radio programs such as the BBC and Radio France.

Kolanian has served as the head of the Classical Guitar Department at the Contemporary Athens Conservatory since 1992 and is an honorary professor at the Armenian Academy in Yerevan, Armenia. In 2003, Kolanian released a critically acclaimed recording of "Lute Suites" by J.S. Bach on the Eros record label.

Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$8 students and children 6 and older. Children under 6 will not be admitted. Tickets are available in advance by calling 8-2669, or at the door.

Proceeds from the concert will benefit the Armenian Studies Program at Fresno State and the Armenian Community School of Fresno.



ARCHIVE

SOURCE: University Journal: Fresno, CADATE: March 2005SUBJECT Ambassador Evans Visits CSUF CampusPAGE: 1 of 1

Ambassador visits campus

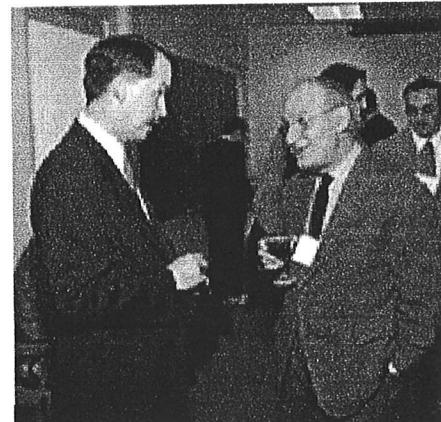
U.S. Ambassador to Armenia John Evans visited Fresno State Feb. 18 to learn about Fresno State's various programs and exchanges in Armenia and meet faculty and staff who have participated in them.

Evans, who was named ambassador in August 2004, was making a

10-day trip throughout the country to visit Armenian-American communities.

Fresno State's connection with Armenia goes back more than 20 years and includes:

- Dr. Dickran Kouymjian, director of Armenian Studies Program at Fresno State, served as Fulbright scholar in Armenia in 1987. Fresno State has one of the most active Armenian Studies Programs in the United States.
- A variety of student/faculty exchanges with Yerevan State University over the years.
- Fresno State will coordinate first summer study program in Armenia in fall 2005 and a full semester study course in spring 2006.
- President John Welty visited Yerevan in May 2004 and signed a memorandum of agreement with both Yerevan State University and Armenian Agricultural Academy to promote further student and scholar exchange, develop cooperative research initiatives and additional teacher training programs.
- Fresno State University just completed 5-year federal grant: "NIS College and University Partnership Program" – between faculty of business programs at Fresno State and Yerevan State Universities.
- Fresno State was primary university contractor to USDA MAP from 1996-97, providing leadership in curriculum reform at Agricultural Academy, faculty training and creating initial concept for the Agribusiness Teaching Center.
- Fresno State serves as headquarters for the Armenian Agribusiness Education Fund, designed to provide sustainability to agricultural education initiatives currently under way in Armenia. This summer, Fresno State winemaker Ken Fugelsang will travel to Armenia to present viticulture and enology workshops for farmers and educators.
- Fresno State has one of the most active Armenian Studies programs in the United States.



Ambassador John Evans, left, visits with Dr. Dickran Kouymjian, director of the Armenian Studies Program.



ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The Armenian Observer: Los Angeles, CADATE: March 2, 2005SUBJECT: Markar Melkonian Speaks on "My Brother's Road"PAGE: 1 of 1

Author Markar Melkonian to Speak at CSUF, March 15

FRESNO - Author Markar Melkonian will present his new book, "My Brother's Road: An American's Fateful Journey to Armenia" at 7:30 PM on Tuesday, March 15 in the Industrial Technology Building, Room 101 (corner of Barstow and Campus Drive) on the Fresno State campus.

The lecture is part of the Armenian Studies Program Spring 2005 Lecture Series and is co-sponsored by the Armenian Students Organization.

"*My Brother's Road*" is the story of Markar's brother, Monte Melkonian, a third-generation California boy, who grew up to become a promising archaeologist, a witness to revolution in Iran, a militiaman in the streets of Beirut, a guerrilla in southern Lebanon, a prison strike leader in France, and a commander of 4,000 fighters in the Karabagh war. The son of native Californians and a Little

League Baseball player, yet he embodied the agony and the folly of the final years of the Cold War and the dashed dreams of the post-Soviet era. Monte did not just witness the convulsions of those years; he endured them and he helped bring them on.

The product of eight years of research and writing, the book draws from hundreds of interviews and thousands of unpublished documents in four languages on three continents. But *My Brother's Road* is not just the story of a long, amazing journey and a short life: It is also a story of discovery, written by Monte's brother, his comrade and sometimes-critic. For a while, the brothers shared the dangers and hopes of the road.

Melkonian is a teacher, writer and veteran solidarity worker. He holds several graduate degrees, including a

Ph.D. in philosophy from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Melkonian's books include *Marxism: A Post-Cold War Primer* (Westview Press, 1996) and *Richard Rorty's Politics: Liberalism at the End of the American Century* (Humanities Press, 1999). Melkonian is a founder and a director of The Monte Melkonian Fund, Inc., a nonprofit organization that assists the neediest of the needy in the impoverished former Soviet Republic of Armenia (<http://www.melkonian.org>).

Relaxed parking will be available in Lots Q, K, and L after 7:00 PM the night of the lecture. For more information on the presentation please contact the Armenian Studies Program at 278-2669.



ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The Armenian Observer: Los Angeles, CA DATE: March 9, 2005
SUBJECT: Armenian Studies Hosts Saroyan Discussion Panel PAGE: 1 of 1

"William Saroyan and His World" Panel Discussion to be held at Fresno State

FRESNO - The Armenian Studies Program at Fresno State, in cooperation with the William Saroyan Society of Fresno, is co-sponsoring a panel discussion, "William Saroyan and His World" at 7:00 PM on Friday, March 11 in the Industrial Technology Building, Room 101 (corner of Barstow and Campus Drive) on the Fresno State campus.

The panel discussion is part of the Armenian Studies Program Spring 2005 Lecture Series and is being held in conjunction with a one-unit course on William Saroyan being offered the same weekend by Dr. Dickran Kouymjian, Director of the Armenian Studies Program.

Dr. Dickran Kouymjian will moderate the panel discussion and serve as a discussant.

John Kallenberg, retired Fresno County Librarian and President of the William Saroyan Society will give the

introduction to the panel.

Fresno author and historian Berge Bulbulian will speak on "Fresno in the Time of Saroyan." Bulbulian is the author of *The Fresno Armenians*.

Barlow Der Mugrdechian of the Armenian Studies Program will speak on "Saroyan the Writer."

Long-time Saroyan friend and writer Ed Hagopian will speak on "Reminiscences and Recollections."

Fresno County California Collection Librarian and book collector William Secrest, Jr. will present a paper on "Collecting Saroyan."

The panel discussion is free and open to the public.

Relaxed parking will be available in Lots Q, K, and L after 7:00 PM the night of the lecture. For more information on the presentation please contact the Armenian Studies Program at 278-2669.



ARMENIAN STUDIES PROGRAM

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2005

ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The Armenian Observer: Los Angeles, CA DATE: March 9, 2005
SUBJECT: Armenian Studies Hosts 6th Annual Film Festival PAGE: 1 of 1

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Films up to 1 hour in length

Films may be in any language, English preferred

Films may be on any topic, Armenian theme preferred

Film must be in video/DVD format- if in video it should be in NTSC format.

Deadline for entries to be received is **February 1, 2005**.

Please send the video/DVD to:

Armenian Film Festival
c/o Armenian Studies Program
5245 N Backer Ave. PB4
Fresno, CA 93740-8001

Telephone 559-278-2669 - Email: barlowd@csufresno.edu

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Entries should be accompanied by a CV of the director/writer and a synopsis of the film.



ARMENIAN STUDIES PROGRAM

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2005

ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The Armenian Observer: Los Angeles, CA
SUBJECT: UCLA Hosts Genocide Conference

DATE: March 2, 2005
PAGE: 1 of 1

UCLA International Conference Series in Armenian Studies

After Nine Decades the Enduring

Legacy of the Armenian Genocide

APRIL 1-3, 2005 - UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES

Friday, April 1, 7:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m., AGBU Manoogian Center, Pasadena

Saturday, April 2, 9:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m., 100 Moore Hall, UCLA

Sunday, April 3, 1:30 p.m.-6:00 p.m., Court of Sciences 50, UCLA

April 1, 7:30-9:30 p.m., Friday Evening Session in Armenian, AGBU Manoogian Center, 2495 E. Mountain Street (at Altadena Drive), Pasadena California

The Armenian Genocide in the Syrian Press, Nora Arisian, Damascus University

The Final Phase of the Armenian Genocide, 1919-1922 Karen H. Khachaturyan, Institute of History, Erevan

Art and Testimony Marc Nichanian, Wesleyan University

Will There Ever Be a Post-Genocide Era? Raffi K. Hovannisian, Armenian Center for National and International Studies (ACNIS), Erevan

UCLA--APRIL 2-3, 2005

April 2, Saturday, Moore Hall 100, UCLA, 9:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

Morning Sessions: 9:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Rethinking Aspects of the Armenian Genocide, 9:30-11:00 a.m.

The Enduring Legacy Richard Hovannisian, UCLA

Rethinking Dehumanization in Genocide Henry Theriault, Worcester State College

America's Foreign Policy and the Armenian Genocide: A Legacy of Paradox Suzanne E. Moranian, AIWA, Boston

Genocide and the Philosophy of History Michael Papazian, Berry College, Mount Berry, Georgia

Discussion, 10:45-11:00

INTERMISSION

The Armenian Genocide in Comparative Perspective,

11:20 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Comparative Media Coverage in English-Speaking Countries Katia Peltkian, American University of Beirut

The Assyrian Genocide: Late-Nineteenth-Early-Twentieth Century

Anahit Khosroyeva, Institute of History, Erevan (in Armenian with English summary)

The Greek Calamity in Asia Minor and the Pontus Speros Vryonis, Jr., UCLA and NYU, Emeritus

Comparative Aspects of the Armenian Genocide and the Holocaust

Tigran Matossian, Museum-Institute of the Armenian Genocide, Erevan

Discussion, 12:45-1:00 p.m.

LUNCH RECESS: 1:00-2:15 p.m. Illustrated Lunch-Hour

Presentation: 1:45-2:00 p.m.

The Armenian Genocide Memorial Complex in Deir-ez-Zor (Der-Zor) Sarkis Balmanoukian, The Architect, Los Angeles

Afternoon Sessions ** 2:15 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

Genocide Education, Human Rights, and Prevention, 2:15-3:40 p.m.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ** NO ADMISSION FEE

No Mandate Left Behind Nicole Vartanian, Fulbright Scholar, Washington, D.C.

Teaching the Armenian Genocide to a Non-Armenian Audience Sara Cohan, Washington, D.C.

The Armenian Genocide and Education Adam Strom, Facing History and Ourselves, Boston

Genocide in Virtual Space (Cyberspace) Hagop Gulludjian, UCLA

Discussion, 3:40-3:55 p.m.

INTERMISSION

Artistic Responses to Genocide, 4:15-6:00 p.m.

Leon Tutundjian-Witness Jean Murachanian, UCLA

Testimony and Witness: Armenian Artists in Los Angeles Rameela Grigorian Abbamontian, UCLA

From Charles Aznavour to System of a Down Jack Der Sarkissian, Kaiser Permanente Medical Group, Los Angeles

The Archaeology of Memory: Framing the Invisible Hrag Vartabedian, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Discussion, 5:45-6:00 p.m.

April 3, Sunday Afternoon, Court of Sciences 50, UCLA, 1:30 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

History and Memory, 1:30-3:15 p.m.

Across the Chasm: From Catastrophe to Creativity Barlow Der Mugrdechian, California State University, Fresno

James Joyce: Armenia and Armenian's Marc Mainigonian, National Association for Armenian Studies and Research, Boston

Historical Memory: Threading the Contemporary Literature of Armenia Rubina Peroonian, UCLA

The Armenian Genocide and French Society Phillippe Videlier, National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS), Lyons

Discussion, 3:00-3:15 p.m.

INTERMISSION

Prospects of Dialogue and Reconciliation, 3:40-5:30 p.m.

Amnesia, Truth, Reconciliation Elazar Barkan, Claremont Graduate University

Turkish Liberal Historiography and Genocide Bedross Der Matossian, Columbia University

Constructing a New Historiography of the Armenians in the Ottoman Empire and the Turkish Republic Fatma Muge Gocek, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor

Anatomy of Post-Genocide Reconciliation Simon Papasian, Clark University

Discussion, 5:30-5:50 p.m.

A Retrospective, 5:50-6:00 p.m. Richard Hovannisian

PARKING STRUCTURE NO. 2, HILGARD AND WESTHOLME ENTRANCE TO UCLA



ARMENIAN STUDIES PROGRAM

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2005

ARCHIVE

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SUBJECT: UCLA Hosts Armenian Genocide Conference

DATE: March 2, 2005
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APRIL 1-3, 2005 - UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES

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April 1, 7:30-9:30 p.m., Friday Evening Session in Armenian, AGBU Manoogian Center, 2495 E. Mountain Street (at Altadena Drive), Pasadena California

The Armenian Genocide in the Syrian Press, Nora Arisian, Damascus University

The Final Phase of the Armenian Genocide, 1919-1922 Karen H. Khachatrian, Institute of History, Erevan

Art and Testimony Marc Nicanian, Wesleyan University Will There Ever Be a Post-Genocide Era? Raffi K. Hovannisian, Armenian Center for National and International Studies (ACNIS), Erevan

UCLA—APRIL 2-3, 2005
April 2, Saturday, Moore Hall 100, UCLA, 9:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

Morning Sessions: 9:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Rethinking Aspects of the Armenian Genocide, 9:30-11:00 a.m.

The Enduring Legacy Richard Hovannisian, UCLA
Rethinking Dehumanization in Genocide Henry Thierault, Worcester State College

America's Foreign Policy and the Armenian Genocide: A Legacy of Paradox Suzanne E. Moranian, AIWA, Boston
Genocide and the Philosophy of History Michael Papazian, Berry College, Mount Berry, Georgia

Discussion, 10:45-11:00
INTERMISSION

The Armenian Genocide in Comparative Perspective, 11:20 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Comparative Media Coverage in English-Speaking Countries Katia Peltekian, American University of Beirut
The Assyrian Genocide: Late-Nineteenth-Early-Twentieth Century

Anahit Khosroyeva, Institute of History, Erevan (in Armenian with English summary)
The Greek Calamity in Asia Minor and the Pontus Speros Vryonis, Jr., UCLA and NYU, Emeritus

Comparative Aspects of the Armenian Genocide and the Holocaust Tigran Matossian, Museum-Institute of the Armenian Genocide, Erevan

Discussion, 12:45-1:00 p.m.
LUNCH RECESS: 1:00-2:15 p.m. Illustrated Lunch-Hour Presentation: 1:45-2:00 p.m.

The Armenian Genocide Memorial Complex in Deir-ez-Zor (Der-Zor) Sarkis Balmanoukian, The Architect, Los Angeles
Afternoon Sessions ** 2:15 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

Genocide Education, Human Rights, and Prevention, 2:15-3:40 p.m.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ** NO ADMISSION FEE

PARKING STRUCTURE NO. 2, HILGARD AND WESTHOLME ENTRANCE TO UCLA

No Mandate Left Behind Nicole Vartanian, Fulbright Scholar, Washington, D.C.

Teaching the Armenian Genocide to a Non-Armenian Audience Sara Cohan, Washington, D.C.

The Armenian Genocide and Education Adam Strom, Facing History and Ourselves, Boston
Genocide in Virtual Space (Cyberspace) Hagop Gulludjian, UCLA

Discussion, 3:40-3:55 p.m.

INTERMISSION

Artistic Responses to Genocide, 4:15-6:00 p.m.
Leon Tutunjian-Witness Jean Murachanian, UCLA
Testimony and Witness: Armenian Artists in Los Angeles Ramea Grigorian Abbamontian, UCLA

From Charles Aznavour to System of a Down Jack Der Sarkissian, Kaiser Permanente Medical Group, Los Angeles

The Archaeology of Memory: Framing the Invisible Hrag Vartabedian, University of Wisconsin-Madison
Discussion, 5:45-6:00 p.m.

April 3, Sunday Afternoon, Court of Sciences 50, UCLA, 1:30 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

History and Memory, 1:30-3:15 p.m.

Across the Chasm: From Catastrophe to Creativity Barlow Der Mugrdechian, California State University, Fresno
James Joyce: Armenia and Armenians Marc Mamigonian, National Association for Armenian Studies and Research, Boston

Historical Memory: Threading the Contemporary Literature of Armenia Rubina Peroomian, UCLA

The Armenian Genocide and French Society Philippe Videlier, National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS), Lyons

Discussion, 3:00-3:15 p.m.

INTERMISSION

Prospects of Dialogue and Reconciliation, 3:40-5:30 p.m.
Amnesia, Truth, Reconciliation Elazar Barkan, Claremont Graduate University

Turkish Liberal Historiography and Genocide Bedross Der Matossian, Columbia University

Constructing a New History of the Armenians in the Ottoman Empire and the Turkish Republic Fatma Muge Göcek, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor

Anatomy of Post-Genocide Reconciliation Simon Payaslian, Clark University
Discussion, 5:30-5:50 p.m.

A Retrospective, 5:50-6:00 p.m. Richard Hovannisian



ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The Armenian Observer: Los Angeles, CADATE: March 2, 2005SUBJECT: Melkonian to Speak at Fresno State on Brother MontePAGE: 1 of 1

Author Markar Melkonian to Speak at CSUF, March 15

FRESNO - Author Markar Melkonian will present his new book, "My Brother's Road: An American's Fateful Journey to Armenia" at 7:30 PM on Tuesday, March 15 in the Industrial Technology Building, Room 101 (corner of Barstow and Campus Drive) on the Fresno State campus.

The lecture is part of the Armenian Studies Program Spring 2005 Lecture Series and is co-sponsored by the Armenian Students Organization.

"*My Brother's Road*" is the story of Markar's brother, Monte Melkonian, a third-generation California boy, who grew up to become a promising archaeologist, a witness to revolution in Iran, a militiaman in the streets of Beirut, a guerrilla in southern Lebanon, a prison strike leader in France, and a commander of 4,000 fighters in the Karabagh war. The son of native Californians and a Little

League Baseball player, yet he embodied the agony and the folly of the final years of the Cold War and the dashed dreams of the post-Soviet era. Monte did not just witness the convulsions of those years; he endured them and he helped bring them on.

The product of eight years of research and writing, the book draws from hundreds of interviews and thousands of unpublished documents in four languages on three continents. But *My Brother's Road* is not just the story of a long, amazing journey and a short life: It is also a story of discovery, written by Monte's brother, his comrade and sometimes-critic. For a while, the brothers shared the dangers and hopes of the road.

Melkonian is a teacher, writer and veteran solidarity worker. He holds several graduate degrees, including a



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2005

ARCHIVE

SOURCE: Nor Gyank: Glendale, CA

SUBJECT: Iakovos Kolanian Performs at CSUF

DATE: March 3, 2005

PAGE: 1 of 1

Pomegranate Music Events Announces North American 2005 Tour
Dates for Armenian-Greek Classical Guitarist

IAKOVOS KOLANIAN ARTIST TO PERFORM ARMENIAN
FOLK MUSIC ARRANGED FOR CLASSICAL GUITAR IN
FRESNO AND SAN FRANCISCO U.S. DEBUT CONCERTS



IAKOVOS KOLANIAN

January 28, 2005- Pomegranate Music Events recently the North American tour dates for Armenian-Greek classical guitarist Iakovos Kolanian.

San Francisco, California USA: Friday March 4, 2005, 8pm at the Florence Gould Theater, Legion of Honor. Lincoln Park, 100 34th Ave, San Francisco, CA USA. A

Pomegranate Music Event. Tickets are \$35 Adults, \$20 Students. No children under the age of 6 please. For ticket information, please visit www.cityboxoffice.com

Fresno, California USA: Saturday March 5, 2005, 7:30 pm at The Concert Hall at California State University, Fresno- Music Building, 5241 N. Maple Ave, Fresno, CA. A Pomegranate Music Event. All net proceeds of this concert are being donated to the Armenian Community School of Fresno and the Armenian Studies Program at California State University, Fresno. Tickets are \$15 Adults, \$8 Students. No children under the age of 6, please. For ticket information, please visit www.pomegranatemusic.com

The program for each concert will consist of one half being devoted to the selected works of J.S Bach (Lute Suite in A Minor BWV), Agustin Barrios-Mangore (La Catedral), and Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco (Capriccio Diabolico). The entire second half of the concert will be devoted to Kolanian's arrangement of 13 Armenian folk and traditional songs, including the famous Kornutas Dances.

These rare concerts are in support of the new groundbreaking Pomegranate Music CD release entitled *Shoror: Armenian Folk Music for Guitar* by Armenian-Greek classical guitarist Iakovos Kolanian. Mr. Kolanian's *Shoror* is the culmination of a 16 year journey to arrange and transcribe Armenian folk songs for the classical guitar. As Kolanian explains, "I managed to collect a considerable number of traditional dances and songs, deciding in the process that I would transcribe or recompose part of this material for the guitar. However, such was the emotional impact of this music on me that, I sometimes found it difficult to hold back my tears as I worked through a particular piece. It was during this stimulating process that I came to the realization that this pursuit was not simply a professional step, but, without a doubt, a journey into the depths of my soul in search of my Armenian roots."

Iakovos Kolanian was born in Greece in 1960, to an Armenian father and a Greek mother. At the age of 13, influenced by the musical currents of the time (pop, rock, as well as classical) he started his musical journey that eventually led him to the National Conservatory of Athens. There, he studied classical guitar with noted professors Evangelos Assimakopoulos and Lisa Zoe, and graduated in 1985 with the top award and a special honor for exceptional performance. Since that time, he has attended various special seminars and master classes in Greece and abroad, broadening his knowledge of the instrument from distinguished teachers such as Oscar Ghiglia and Leo Brouwer.

Throughout the years he has toured in Europe, Asia and Latin America, where he has presented to audiences a large part of the classical guitar repertoire. He also regularly takes part in important international festivals (Vienna, Milan, Athens, Israel, Cyprus and Yerevan) by giving individual recitals or acting as soloist with symphonic orchestras and ensembles of chamber music. He has performed as a soloist with Athens State Orchestra, Thessalonica State Orchestra, Symphonic Orchestra of Greek Broadcasting Corporation (ERT), The Camerata Orchestra of Athens, Armenian Philharmonic Orchestra, as well as with numerous ensembles of chamber music.

He has been regularly featured in well-known television and radio programs such as BBC, ORF, Radio France, ERT, RIK. One of these collaborations, in 1991, resulted in the recording and release of a CD of Loris Tjeknavorian's Concerto for Guitar

Philharmonic Orchestra with the composer himself as the conductor in a production of the Austrian Television (ORF).

Most recently, in 2003, Kolanian's recording of the Lute Suites of J.S.Bach was released on the Eros label to critical acclaim.

In addition to his career as a soloist and recording artist, Iakovos Kolanian has been the head of the Classical Guitar Department at the Contemporary Athens Conservatory since 1992, and is an honorary professor at the Armenian Academy in Yerevan.

Shoror: Armenian Folk Music for Guitar was produced by Kevork Imirzian and is on sale at e-tailers such as www.cdbaby.com/kolanian and www.amazon.com. Apple's iTunes will also be carrying *Shoror* for digital download in 2005. Pomegranate Music Founder/CEO Raffi Meneshian recently commented, "Being able to present Armenian folk music though the medium of guitar is a unique project for any record label. To have one of Europe's best classical guitarists be the proponent of this material is even more special. We are thrilled to be starting our North American tour in two of America's most historic and important Armenian communities- Fresno, CA and San Francisco, CA.

In December of 2004, the influential All Music Guide critic Rick Anderson gave *Shoror: Armenian Folk Music for Guitar* a 4 star review and stated, "...what Kolanian has created here is an admirably lyrical, complex, and insightful fusion of folk and classical music, the kind of thing that rarely works well at all. In this case it works beautifully, mainly because of the combination of Kolanian's deep feeling for this music and his equally deep mastery of both his instrument and the principles of classical guitar style. Note in particular the delicately woven counterpoint he creates in his arrangement of "Yaman Yar," and the gently dancing grace he brings to "Zankezouri." Very highly recommended."



ARCHIVE

SOURCE: California Courier: Glendale, CA

DATE: March 3, 2005

SUBJECT: Markar Melkonian Speaks on 'My Brother's Road'

PAGE: 1 of 1

Melkonian to Speak in Fresno on New Book About Brother Monte

FRESNO - Author Markar Melkonian will present his new book, "My Brother's Road: An American's Fateful Journey to Armenia" at 7:30 p.m., on March 15 in the Industrial Technology Building, Room 101 (corner of Barstow and Campus Drive) on the Fresno State campus.

The lecture is part of the Armenian Studies Program Spring 2005 Lecture Series and is co-sponsored by the Armenian Students Organization.

My Brother's Road is the story of Markar's brother, Monte Melkonian, a third-generation California boy, who grew up to become a promising archaeologist, a witness to revolution in Iran, a militiaman in the streets of Beirut, a guerrilla in southern Lebanon, a prison strike leader in France, and a commander of 4,000 fighters in the Karabagh war. The son of native Californians and a Little League Baseball player, yet he embodied the agony and the folly of the final years of the Cold War and the dashed dreams of the post-Soviet era. Monte did not just witness the convulsions of those years; he endured them and he helped bring them on.

The product of eight years of research and writing, the book draws from hundreds of interviews and thousands of unpublished documents in four languages on three continents. But *My Brother's Road* is not just the story of a long, amazing journey and a short life: It is also a story

of discovery, written by Monte's brother, his comrade and sometimes-critic. For a while, the brothers shared the dangers and hopes of the road.

Markar Melkonian is a teacher, writer and veteran solidarity worker. He holds several graduate degrees, including a Ph.D. in philosophy from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Melkonian's books include *Marxism: A Post-Cold War Primer* (Westview Press, 1996) and *Richard Rorty's Politics: Liberalism at the End of the American Century* (Humanities Press, 1999). Melkonian is a founder and a director of The Monte Melkonian Fund, Inc., a nonprofit organization that assists the neediest of the needy in Armenia (<http://www.melkonian.org>).

Relaxed parking will be available in Lots Q, K, and L after 7:00 PM the night of the lecture. For more information on the presentation, contact the Armenian Studies Program at 278-2669.



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2005

ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The Armenian Observer: Los Angeles, CA DATE: March 9, 2005
SUBJECT: Armenian Studies Hosts William Saroyan Panel Discussion PAGE: 1 of 1

"William Saroyan and His World" Panel Discussion to be held at Fresno State

FRESNO - The Armenian Studies Program at Fresno State, in cooperation with the William Saroyan Society of Fresno, is co-sponsoring a panel discussion, "William Saroyan and His World" at 7:00 PM on Friday, March 11 in the Industrial Technology Building, Room 101 (corner of Barstow and Campus Drive) on the Fresno State campus.

The panel discussion is part of the Armenian Studies Program Spring 2005 Lecture Series and is being held in conjunction with a one-unit course on William Saroyan being offered the same weekend by Dr. Dickran Kouymjian, Director of the Armenian Studies Program.

Dr. Dickran Kouymjian will moderate the panel discussion and serve as a discussant.

John Kallenberg, retired Fresno County Librarian and President of the William Saroyan Society will give the

introduction to the panel.

Fresno author and historian Berge Bulbulian will speak on "Fresno in the Time of Saroyan." Bulbulian is the author of The Fresno Armenians.

Barlow Der Mugrdechian of the Armenian Studies Program will speak on "Saroyan the Writer."

Long-time Saroyan friend and writer Ed Hagopian will speak on "Reminiscences and Recollections."

Fresno County California Collection Librarian and book collector William Secrest, Jr. will present a paper on "Collecting Saroyan."

The panel discussion is free and open to the public.

Relaxed parking will be available in Lots Q, K, and L after 7:00 PM the night of the lecture. For more information on the presentation please contact the Armenian Studies Program at 278-2669.



ARCHIVE

SOURCE: California Courier: Glendale, CA

DATE: March 10, 2005

SUBJECT: Armenian Studies Hosts Saroyan Panel Discussion

PAGE: 1 of 1

CSUF Hosts March 11 Panel Discussion on William Saroyan

FRESNO - The Armenian Studies Program at Fresno State, in cooperation with the William Saroyan Society of Fresno, is co-sponsoring a panel discussion, "William Saroyan and His World" at 7 PM on March 11 in the Industrial Technology Building, Room 101 (corner of Barstow and Campus Drive) on the Fresno State campus.

The panel discussion is part of the Armenian Studies Program Spring 2005 Lecture Series and is being held in conjunction with a one-unit course on William Saroyan being offered the same weekend by Dr. Dickran Kouymjian, Director of the Armenian Studies Program.

Dr. Dickran Kouymjian will moderate the panel discussion and serve as a discussant.

John Kallenberg, retired Fresno County Librarian and President of the William Saroyan Society will give the introduction to the panel.

Fresno author and historian Berge Bulbulian will speak on "Fresno in the Time of Saroyan." Bulbulian is the author of *The Fresno Armenians*.

Barlow Der Mugrdechian of the Armenian Studies Program will speak on "Saroyan, the Writer."

Long-time Saroyan friend and writer Ed Hagopian will speak on "Reminiscences and Recollections."

Fresno County California Collection Librarian and book collector William Secrest, Jr. will present a paper on "Collecting Saroyan."

The panel discussion is free and open to the public.

Relaxed parking will be available in Lots Q, K, and L after 7:00 PM the night of the lecture. For more information, contact the Armenian Studies Program at 278-2669.



ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The Collegian: Fresno, CADATE: March 11, 2005SUBJECT: Armenian Studies Hosts Saroyan Panel DiscussionPAGE: 1 of 1

Armenian community to hold panel about Saroyan

Professors to discuss works of legendary author

By Kimberlina Rocha**The Collegian**

The life and literary works of Fresno's own William Saroyan will be presented in the panel discussion, "William Saroyan and His World," tonight at 7 p.m. in the Industrial Technology building, Room 101.

The event is part of the Armenian Studies program's spring 2005 lecture series and is co-sponsored by the William Saroyan Society of

Fresno. The panel discussion is a component of Armenian Studies 120T, a one-unit course based on the legendary writer.

Professor Dickran Kouymjian, who teaches the course, will moderate the panel discussion. Kouymjian knew Saroyan personally and he wrote two books containing Saroyan's unpublished plays in "An Armenian Trilogy" and "Warsaw Visitor."

"Saroyan was a major liter-

ary figure and most people want to know about him," Kouymjian said. "He was the most famous literary figure to come out of the Central Valley."

Saroyan was born in Fresno in 1908 to Armenian immigrant parents. His works included short stories, plays, novels and autobiographical memoirs. Some of the themes central to his writing were optimism and sentimentality.

Barlow Der Mugrdechian,

professor of Armenian Studies, will speak on "Saroyan the Writer."

"Most of his works are very positive, very optimistic," Der Mugrdechian said. "Reading them gives you the same optimism."

Saroyan's first published book was a collection of short stories in "The Daring Young Man on the Flying Trapeze," in 1934. Other notable works included "My Name is Aram" in 1940, and the plays "My Heart's in the Highlands" in

PLEASE SEE **SAROYAN** ON PAGE 5

SAROYAN

continued from page 4

1939 and "The Time of Your Life," which won the Pulitzer Prize the same year.

Most of his short stories deal with Saroyan's Armenian heritage and his life in the Central Valley. "The Human Comedy" takes place in Fresno. In 1934, it was made into a movie, which won an Academy Award for best original screenplay.

Saroyan made much of his fame and fortune in New York and Europe. The memories of his childhood in

Fresno were used as raw material for many of his stories and plays, said Kouymjian, director of the Armenian Studies program.

"Saroyan opted to play in the big arena, on the universal stage," Kouymjian said. "Because he took that risk, he became internationally famous."

Later in life, Saroyan moved back to Fresno, where he died in 1981 at age 72. A year after his death, half of his ashes were buried in

Fresno and the rest in his beloved Armenia.

The panel discussion will also feature Fresno author and historian Berge Bulbulian, who will speak on "Fresno in the Time of Saroyan," and writer Ed Hagopian, who was a close friend of the author, will speak on "Reminiscences and Recollections."

"This will be a very interesting panel discussion," Der Mugrdechian said. "Fresno is known throughout the world

as the birthplace of Saroyan. Part of what this town is known for is the life of this man."

SO YOU KNOW

William Saroyan and His World

Today in the Industrial Technology building, Room 101 at 7 p.m.

Free and open to the public

For more info: Call 278-2669



ARCHIVE

SOURCE: Armenian Mirror-Spectator, Watertown, MA

DATE: March 19, 2005

SUBJECT: UCLA Holds International Conference on Genocide

PAGE: 1 of 1

UCLA to Hold International Conference on Genocide

LOS ANGELES — An international conference, "After Nine Decades - The Enduring Legacy of the Armenian Genocide," will be held in Pasadena and on the UCLA campus from Friday, April 1, to Sunday, April 3. The conference is sponsored by the Armenian Educational Foundation Chair in Modern Armenian History in cooperation with the UCLA International Institute, Center for Near Eastern Studies, and Center for European and Eurasian Studies. The conference organizer is AEF Chair Holder Richard G. Hovannisian, who explained: "The Armenian Genocide set the prototype of pre-meditated mass killing in the twentieth century, and there is much to be learned from the enduring legacy of that crime." Participants include scholars from Argentina, Armenia, France, Lebanon, Syria and from throughout the United States.

Friday Session in Armenian

The opening session on Friday, April 1, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., will be conducted in the Armenian language and will feature Nora Arissian (Damascus University), Karen Khachatryan (History Institute, Erevan), Marc

Nichanian (Wesleyan University) and Raffi K. Hovannisian (ACNIS, Erevan). The Armenian session will be held in the AGBU Manoogian Center at 2495 E. Mountain St. (at Altadena Drive) in Pasadena.

Saturday Sessions in English

on UCLA Campus

The Saturday sessions, April 2, will take place in Moore Hall 100 on the UCLA campus from 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. The theme for the first Saturday morning session, 9:30 to 11 a.m., is "Rethinking Aspects of the Armenian Genocide," with presentations by Richard Hovannisian (UCLA), Henry Theriault (Worcester State College), Suzanne Moranian (AIWA, Boston), and Michael Papazian (Berry College, Georgia).

The second session, 11:20 a.m. to 1 p.m., focuses on "The Armenian Genocide in Comparative Perspective" with Katia Peltokian (American University of Beirut), Anahit Khosroyeva (History Institute, Erevan), Speros Vryonis, Jr. (UCLA and New York University, Emeritus), and Tigran Matossian (Museum-Institute of the Armenian Genocide, Erevan).

A lunch hour illustrated talk on the Armenian Genocide memorial complex at Del Zor, will be given by its architect, Sarkis Balmanoukian.

The first Saturday afternoon session, 2:15 to 4 p.m., is on "Genocide Education, Human Rights, and Prevention," and includes Nicole Vartanian (Washington, DC), Adam Strom (Facing History and Ourselves, Brookline), Sara Cohen (Washington, DC), and Hagop Gulludjiah (UCLA).

The second Saturday afternoon session, 4:20 to 6 p.m., features "Artistic Responses to Genocide," with illustrated talks by Jean Murachanian (UCLA), Ramela G. Abbamontian (UCLA), Jack Der Sarkissian (Kaiser Permanente Medical Group) and Hrag Varjabedian (University of Wisconsin-Madison).

Sunday Afternoon Sessions on Memory and Reconciliation

The Sunday afternoon sessions from 1:30 to 6 p.m. will shift to the Court of Sciences 50 (Young Hall), with two sessions. The first session, 1:30-3:15 p.m., examines "History and Memory" with Barlow Der Mugrdechian (Fresno State), Marc Mamigonian (NAASR,

Boston), Rubina Peroomian (UCLA) and Philippe Vedelier (National Center for Scientific Research, Lyon, France).

The second and last session, 3:40-5:30 p.m., moves to the contemporary issue of "Prospects for Dialogue and Reconciliation," with presentations by Elazar Barkan (Claremont Graduate University), Bedross Der Matossian (Columbia University), Fatma Müge Gocek (University of Michigan-Ann Arbor) and Simon Payaslian (Clark University). A discussion period will follow.

A display of Armenian Memorial Monuments worldwide featuring the photographs of Hrair "Hawk" Khatcherian of Quebec will be mounted by Richard and Anne Elizabeth Elbrecht of Davis, Calif.

The conference is open to the public at no charge. Parking is available in structure no 2, at the entrance to UCLA on Hilgard Avenue at Westholme Avenue. A map of the UCLA campus may be found at www.ucla.edu/map/ and the conference program may be viewed at www.uclaarmenian.org. For additional information, contact Prof. Richard Hovannisian at hovannis@history.ucla.edu.



ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The Armenian Observer: Los Angeles, CADATE: March 23, 2005SUBJECT: Keyan Donates \$150,000 to CSUFPAGE: 1 of 1

Charlie Keyan Donates \$150,000 for Two Scholarships to CSUF

**\$100,000 for Armenian Studies Program
and \$50,000 for the Athletic Department**

FRESNO - A former Fresno State football team athletic manager has donated \$150,000 to California State University, Fresno.

Fresno State alumnus and retired businessman and farmer Charlie Keyan of Indio, California has established two endowed scholarships, one in the Armenian Studies Program for \$100,000 to establish the Charlie Keyan Endowed Scholarship in Armenian Studies. Income from the endowment will be used to provide scholarships for students at Fresno State who enroll in Armenian Studies courses, with preference for freshmen.

At the same time, Mr. Keyan, established a second endowed scholarship of \$50,000



Charles Keyan

in the Athletic Department of Fresno State. The income from this endowment will be used for scholarships to student-athletes.



ARMENIAN STUDIES PROGRAM

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2005

ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The Armenian Observer: Los Angeles, CA
SUBJECT: UCLA Holds Genocide Conference

DATE: March 23, 2005
PAGE: 1 of 1

UCLA International Conference Series in Armenian Studies **After Nine Decades the Enduring Legacy of the Armenian Genocide**

APRIL 1-3, 2005 - UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES

Friday, April 1, 7:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m., AGBU Manoogian Center, Pasadena

Saturday, April 2, 9:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m., 100 Moore Hall, UCLA

Sunday, April 3, 1:30 p.m.-6:00 p.m., Court of Sciences 50, UCLA

April 1, 7:30-9:30 p.m., Friday Evening Session in Armenian, AGBU Manoogian Center, 2495 E. Mountain Street (at Altadena Drive), Pasadena California

The Armenian Genocide in the Syrian Press, Nora Arisian, Damascus University —

The Final Phase of the Armenian Genocide, 1919-1922 Karen H. Khachaturyan, Institute of History, Erevan

Art and Testimony Marc Nichanian, Wesleyan University Will There Ever Be a Post-Genocide Era? Raffi K. Hovannisian, Armenian Center for National and International Studies (ACNIS), Erevan

UCLA—APRIL 2-3, 2005

April 2, Saturday, Moore Hall 100, UCLA, 9:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

Morning Sessions: 9:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Rethinking Aspects of the Armenian Genocide, 9:30-11:00 a.m.

The Enduring Legacy Richard Hovannisian, UCLA

Rethinking Dehumanization in Genocide Henry Theriault, Worcester State College

America's Foreign Policy and the Armenian Genocide: A Legacy of Paradox Suzanne E. Moranian, AIWA, Boston

Genocide and the Philosophy of History Michael Papazian, Berry College, Mount Berry, Georgia

Discussion 10:45-11:00

INTERMISSION

The Armenian Genocide in Comparative Perspective.

11:20 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Comparative Media Coverage in English-Speaking Countries Katia Peltekian, American University of Beirut

The Assyrian Genocide: Late-Nineteenth-Early-Twentieth Century

Anahit Khosroyeva, Institute of History, Erevan (in Armenian with English summary)

The Greek Calamity in Asia Minor and the Pontus Speros Vryonis, Jr., UCLA and NYU, Emeritus

Comparative Aspects of the Armenian Genocide and the Holocaust

Tigran Matossian, Museum-Institute of the Armenian Genocide, Erevan

Discussion, 12:45-1:00 p.m.

LUNCH RECESS: 1:00-2:15 p.m. **Illustrated Lunch-Hour Presentation: 1:45-2:00 p.m.**

The Armenian Genocide Memorial Complex in Deir-ez-Zor (Der-Zor) Sarkis Balmanoukian, The Architect, Los Angeles

Afternoon Sessions ** 2:15 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

Genocide Education, Human Rights, and Prevention, 2:15-3:40 p.m.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ** NO ADMISSION FEE

PARKING STRUCTURE NO. 2, HILGARD AND WESTHOLME ENTRANCE TO UCLA

No Mandate Left Behind Nicole Vartanian, Fulbright Scholar, Washington, D.C.

Teaching the Armenian Genocide to a Non-Armenian Audience Sara Cohan, Washington, D.C.

The Armenian Genocide and Education Adam Strom, Facing History and Ourselves, Boston

Genocide in Virtual Space (Cyberspace) Hagop Gulludjian, UCLA

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INTERMISSION

Artistic Responses to Genocide, 4:15-6:00 p.m.

Leon Tutundjian-Witness Jean Murachanian, UCLA

Testimony and Witness: Armenian Artists in Los Angeles Ramaela Grigorian Abbamontian, UCLA

From Charles Aznavour to Systein of a Down Jack Der Sarkessian, Kaiser Permanente Medical Group, Los Angeles

The Archaeology of Memory: Framing the Invisible Hrag Vartabedian, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Discussion, 5:45-6:00 p.m.

April 3, Sunday Afternoon, Court of Sciences 50, UCLA, 1:30 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

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Across the Chasm: From Catastrophe to Creativity Barlow Der Mugrdechian, California State University, Fresno

James Joyce: Armenians and Armenian Marc Mamigonian, National Association for Armenian Studies and Research, Boston

Historical Memory: Threading the Contemporary Literature of Armenia Rubina Peroomian, UCLA

The Armenian Genocide and French Society Philippe Videlier, National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS), Lyons

Discussion, 3:00-3:15 p.m.

INTERMISSION

Prospects of Dialogue and Reconciliation, 3:40-5:30 p.m.

Amnesia, Truth, Reconciliation Elazar Barkan, Claremont

Graduate University

Turkish Liberal Historiography and Genocide Bedross Der Matossian, Columbia University

Constructing a New Historiography of the Armenians in the Ottoman Empire and the Turkish Republic Fatma Muge Gocek, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor

Anatomy of Post-Genocide Reconciliation Simon Papasian, Clark University

Discussion, 5:30-5:50 p.m.

A Retrospective, 5:50-6:00 p.m. Richard Hovannisian



ARCHIVE

SOURCE: Armenian Mirror-Spectator, Watertown, MA
SUBJECT: CSUF Offers Semester Abroad in Armenia

DATE: March 31, 2005
PAGE: 1 of 1

California State Fresno Offers Semester Abroad to Armenia

FRESNO — The Armenian Studies Program at California State University Fresno has organized a one-semester program designed to introduce students to Armenian language, history, art and contemporary events in Yerevan, Armenia. The semester schedule is composed of five courses: Armenian language (4 units); Armenian art and architecture (3 units); Armenia today (3 units); Armenian studies (3 units) and Independent study (2 units).

Courses, based on curriculum used by the Armenian Studies Program at California State University, Fresno, will be taught by faculty from Yerevan State University.

The academic committee in charge of curriculum is composed of Dr. Dickran Kouymjian, Haig and Isabel Berberian Professor of Armenian Studies and Director of the Armenian Studies Program at Fresno State, Dr. Tom Samuelian of Arlex International and Barlow Der Mugrdechian of the Armenian Studies Program at Fresno State.

Full information on the program is available at the following web site: <http://armenianstudies.csufresno.edu/SemesterAbroad/information.htm>.

The program is open to all high school graduates, ages 18-32, who have maintained a minimum 2.75 GPA in college.

Students are required to fill in the following application form and return it to the Armenian Studies Program by May 1 for study abroad in

Armenia in the Spring semester 2005.

A minimum of five students must be successfully admitted to the program for the Fall 2005 program to take place.

Required information for application include: Official college transcript; one-page essay on why the applicant wants to participate in the Armenia Study Abroad Program; one passport-sized color photo and names and telephone numbers of two references (non-related). In addition please submit name, address, city, state, zip, telephone number, email address, date of birth. (Please clearly print all information and make sure that the telephone number and email address are current.) Send the application form, and all requested material to: Barlow Der Mugrdechian, Armenian Studies Program, 5245 N. Backer Ave. PB4. Fresno, CA 93740-8001

If you have any questions contact Barlow Der Mugrdechian at barlowd@csufresno.edu.

Travel fellowships are available to qualified applicants who are accepted into the Fresno State Armenia Semester Abroad Program through BirthRight Armenia/Depi Hayk (BR/DH). The travel fellowship covers reimbursement of roundtrip economy class airfare at the average price for that period upon successful completion of the program and BR/DH requirements. The application form is posted on the www.birthrightarmenia.org/oppa_application.html.

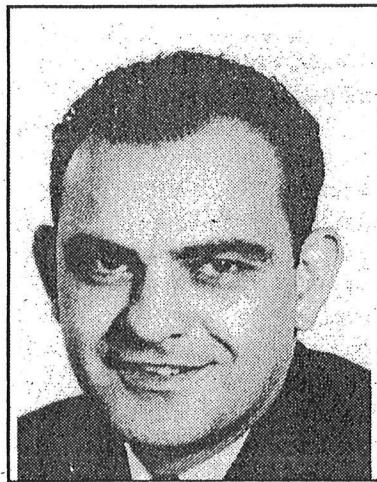
**ARCHIVE**SOURCE: California Courier: Glendale, CADATE: March 31, 2005SUBJECT: Charlie Keyan Donates \$150,000 for ScholarshipsPAGE: 1 of 2

Alumnus Charlie Keyan Donates \$150,000 For Scholarships at CSUF

FRESNO - A former Fresno State football team athletic manager has donated \$150,000 to California State University, Fresno.

Fresno State alumnus and retired businessman and farmer Charlie Keyan of Indio, Calif., has established two endowed scholarships, one in the Armenian Studies Program for \$100,000 to establish the Charlie Keyan Endowed Scholarship in Armenian Studies. Income from the endowment will be used to provide scholarships for students at Fresno State who enroll in Armenian Studies courses, with preference for freshmen.

At the same time, Keyan established a second endowed scholarship of \$50,000 in the Athletic Department of Fresno State. The income from this en-



dowment will be used for scholarships to student-athletes in the Fresno State football program.

Keyan's goal for most of his adult life has been to help young people who need help to go to college and to complete their educa-

See Keyan...on Page 2



ARCHIVE

SOURCE: California Courier: Glendale, CADATE: March 31, 2005SUBJECT: Charlie Keyan Donates \$150,000 for ScholarshipsPAGE: 2 of 2

tion. He had been assisted when he was in college, and now he wants to help others stay in college.

Keyan chose to give to Fresno State and in particular to the Armenian Studies Program, because he had heard from former classmates and friends how well the Armenian Studies Program has been doing under the leadership of Armenian Studies Program director Dr. Dickran Kouymjian and Barlow Der Mugrdechian. A conversation with old acquaintances and former classmates Berge Bulbulian and Aram Garabedian led to the generous endowment. Keyan plans to add more to the existing scholarships and establish a separate endowment to benefit students studying agriculture at Fresno State.

Keyan was born in Fresno to Ohan and Jouhar Keyahian. Ohan Keyahian was a native of Karachor (Kharpert) and Jouhar Keyahian was from Hussenig.

The future donor graduated from Malaga Grammar School, Fowler High School, and began attending Fresno State in 1944, graduating with a major in history and physical education in 1948. He enjoyed his years at Fresno State, fondly remembering how he enjoyed the social life. Fresno State in 1944 had a student population of less than 1,000 students. It was a small school where everyone knew each other and Keyan made lots of friends.

After graduation, he went into the liquor business with his brother-in-law in Los Angeles. Keyan also learned the building trade and he began purchasing property in the San Fernando Valley, building duplexes and triplexes, and later built and managed a 50-unit and a 75-unit apartment complex. He moved to the Coachella Valley, and bought some 140 acres of land. He grew

grapes on 75 of those acres, shipping and selling his own produce in his own facilities. The vineyard became quite successful.

Later, Keyan began investing in the stock market where he was also very successful. He retired in 1988.

He has traveled extensively, visiting every continent.

Perhaps his most memorable journey was taken in 1995 when he visited historic Armenia. There were 10 people in the group, with each person having the opportunity to visit the village or city where their families had once lived. The group traveled more than 2,000 miles in 2 weeks, visiting Aintab, Istanbul, and saw much of historic Armenia. In particular the historic ruins of Ani were a memorable stop.

Keyan's family includes two sisters, Rose Kasimian (also his former business partner) and Agnes Margosian of Dinuba, a long-time elementary school teacher who recently retired.



ARMENIAN STUDIES PROGRAM

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

2005

ARCHIVE

SOURCE: University Journal: Fresno, CA

DATE: April 2005

SUBJECT: Keyan Donates \$150,000

PAGE: 1 of 1

Alum donates \$150,000

A former Fresno State football team athletic manager has donated \$150,000 to the university. Charlie Keyan of Indio, a retired businessman and farmer who graduated in 1948, has established two endowed scholarships.

A \$100,000 endowment will establish the "Charlie Keyan Endowed Scholarship in Armenian Studies," with the income to be used to provide scholarships for students at Fresno State who enroll in Armenian Studies courses, with preference for freshmen.

Keyan also provided an endowed scholarship of \$50,000 to the Athletics Department, with the income to be used for scholarships to student-athletes in the football program.

The donations were made, he said, with a goal of helping young people complete their college education. He noted that he received help when he was in college, and now he wants to help students stay in college.

He said he chose to give to Fresno State and in particular to the Armenian Studies Program because he heard from former classmates and friends how well the program has been doing under the leadership of director Dr. Dickran Kouymjian and Barlow Der Mugrdechian.

Keyan indicated that he plans to add funds to the existing scholarships and establish a separate endowment to benefit students studying agriculture at Fresno State.

A native of Fresno, Keyan enrolled in Fresno State in 1944, graduating with a major in history and physical education in 1948.

After graduation he went into business with his brother-in-law in Los Angeles and later worked the night shift while working as a substitute teaching during the day. He began purchasing property in the San Fernando Valley, building multiple housing units on them. He later moved to the Coachella Valley, near Palm Springs, and farm land. He grew grapes, shipping and selling his own produce in his own facilities.

Later he began investing in the stock market and was also very successful in that. He retired in 1988.



ARMENIAN STUDIES PROGRAM

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2005

ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The Armenian Reporter Int'l: Paramus, NJ
SUBJECT: Charlie Keyan Donates \$150,000 to CSUF

DATE: April 9, 2005
PAGE: 1 of 1

Charlie Keyan Donates \$150,000 for Scholarships to California State University, Fresno

FRESNO, CA - A former Fresno State football team athletic manager has donated \$150,000 to California State University, Fresno.

Fresno State alumnus and retired businessman and farmer Charlie Keyan of Indio, California has established two endowed scholarships, one in the Armenian Studies Program for \$100,000 to establish the Charlie Keyan Endowed Scholarship in Armenian Studies. Income from the endowment will be used to provide scholarships for students at Fresno State who enroll in Armenian Studies courses, with preference for freshmen.

At the same time, Mr. Keyan established a second endowed scholarship of \$50,000 in the Athletics Department of Fresno State. The income from this endowment will be used for scholarships to student-athletes in the Fresno State football program.

Why make a donation to Fresno State? Mr. Keyan's goal for most of his adult life has been to help young people who need help to go to college and to complete their education. He had been assisted when he was in college, and now he wants to help others stay in college.

Mr. Keyan chose to give to Fresno State aid, in particular, to the Armenian Studies Program, because he had heard from former classmates and friends how well the Armenian Studies Program has been doing under the leadership of Armenian Studies Program director Dr. Dickran Kouymjian and Barlow Der Mugrdechian. A conversation with old acquaintances and former classmates Berge Bulbulian and Aram Garabedian led to the generous endowment. In the future, Mr. Keyan plans to add more to the existing scholarships and establish a separate endowment to benefit students studying agriculture at Fresno State.

Mr. Keyan has recently made other generous donations to California university Armenian studies programs and Armenian high schools. He hopes that his donations will set an example for others to follow.

Mr. Keyan was born in Fresno to Ohan and Jouhar Keyahian. Ohan Keyahian was a native of Karachor (Kharpert) and Jouhar Keyahian was from Hussenig. Mr. Keyan graduated from Malaga Grammar School, Fowler High School, and began attending Fresno State in 1944, graduating with a major in history and physical education in 1948. He enjoyed his years at Fresno State, fondly remembering how he enjoyed the social life. Fresno State in 1944 had a student population of less than 1,000 students. It was a small school where everyone knew each other and Mr. Keyan made lots of friends. He worked at the old Hanoian's market on Railroad Ave., while in high school and college and worked summers in



Charlie Keyan

the grape shipping business with Cy Mouradick.

After graduation Mr. Keyan planned to go to Hawaii, where he would have worked importing sunflower seeds, toasted nuts, melons and cantaloupes and exporting pineapples to the mainland. But instead, he went into the liquor business with his brother-in-law in Los Angeles. Later he worked the night shift, while substitute teaching during the day.

Mr. Keyan also learned the building trade, mastering many skills that would be critical in his future. He began purchasing property in the San Fernando Valley, building duplexes and triplexes, and later built and managed a 50-unit and a 75-unit apartment complex. He later moved to the Coachella Valley, near Palm Springs, and bought, either by himself or with his brother-in-law, some 140 acres of land. He grew grapes on 75 of those acres, shipping and selling his own produce in his own facilities. The vineyard became quite successful.

Later Mr. Keyan began investing in the stock market where he was also very successful. In 1988 he retired.

Mr. Keyan has traveled extensively, visiting every continent. He has traveled on many cruises, and has been to such places as China, Japan, Egypt, India, the European coasts, the Panama Canal, the North Sea, and the coast of Gibraltar.

Perhaps his most memorable journey was taken in 1995 when he visited historic Armenia. There were 10 people in the group, with each person having the opportunity to visit the village or city where their families had once lived. The group traveled more than 2,000 miles in 2 weeks, visiting Aintab, Istanbul, and saw much of historic Armenia. In particular, the historic ruins of Ani were a memorable stop.

Mr. Keyan's family includes two sisters, Rose Kasimian (also his former business partner) and Agnes Margosian of Dinuba, a longtime elementary school teacher who recently retired.



ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The Armenian Observer: Los Angeles, CA
SUBJECT: Genocide Conference Held at UCLADATE: April 13, 2005
PAGE: 1 of 2

"The Enduring Legacy of the Armenian Genocide": A Timely UCLA Conference on the Eve of the 90th Anniversary

By Vartan Matiossian

The conference sponsored by the Armenian Educational Foundation Chair in Modern Armenian History at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), on April 1-3 became an insightful prologue into the commemoration of the 90th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. It was organized by the chairholder, Professor Richard Hovannisian, as an interlude to the ongoing series of UCLA conferences devoted to the Historic Armenian Cities and Provinces, fifteen of which have been held since 1997. This conference was cosponsored by the UCLA Von Grunebaum Center for Near Eastern Studies, the Center for European and Eurasian Studies, and the International Institute.

Appropriately titled "After Nine Decades: The Enduring Legacy of the Armenian Genocide," this was the fourth conference organized by Professor Hovannisian on the Genocide during his tenure at UCLA. As he pointed out in his opening remarks, the focus is "no longer to describe but rather to understand" what happened nine decades ago. In this regard, Hovannisian brought together a broad array of subjects and scholars, with a very important inclusion of fresh, young names. The popular response, with an average of more than 300 people during the sessions, was also encouraging, although one might have expected that such a subject would have left persons sitting on the stairs. In fact, such enlightening conferences are one of the potential sources of knowledge for anyone or any group or organization wishing to move beyond emotional and frequently poorly documented responses to what happened.

The Opening Session in Armenian, Friday, April 1

Twenty six scholars from Argentina, Armenia, France, Lebanon, Syria, and the United States were part of the program, which started on Friday, April 1 in the evening with a session in Armenian held at AGBU Manoogian Center in Pasadena. After introductory remarks by Dr. Hovannisian and a brief memorial service by Archbishop Moushegh Mardirossian and the Very Reverend Dajad Yardoumian, the presence of the great granddaughters of Ambassador Henry Morgenthau, Pamela Steiner and Lucy Tuchman Eisenberg, and of Consul General Gagik Kirakossian was acknowledged. The first paper of the evening was delivered by Nora Aressian (University of Damascus, Syria), who spoke about a little-known subject, namely the repercussion of the Armenian Genocide in the Syrian press of the time both inside and outside Syria. Hundred of articles were written on different aspects of the massacres, which were first termed "killing of a nation" in 1916 to warn the Arab public about the danger posed by pan-Turkism.

Marc Nichanian, currently teaching at Wesleyan University in Connecticut, made an engaging presentation about the subject "Art and Testimony" in which he analyzed cases and causes of failure to turn testimony into art. He insisted on the need to liberate testimonies from their documentary state, which stifles their effectiveness and usage.

Raffi K. Hovannisian (Armenian Center for National and International Studies, Erevan), made the final presentation of the evening. His speech, with political overtones, put an immediate and deep question on the table: Will there ever be a post-Genocide era? No definite answer was given to the question, although the speaker considered whether there might be an opportunity linked with the Turkish desire for integration into Europe and hopefully with a more focused Armenian approach to the issue.

Saturday Morning at UCLA: Rethinking the Genocide

The Saturday sessions were convened on the UCLA campus. Richard Hovannisian in his introductory remarks, "The Enduring Legacy," underscored the impor-



Left to Right, Raffi Hovannisian, Katia Peltekian, Barlow Der Mugrdechian, Hagop Gulludjian, Speros Vryonis, Hrag Varjabedian, Phillippe Vedilier, Nora Aressian, Elazar Barkan, Suzanne Moranian, Richard Elbrecht, Rubina Peroomian, Marc Mamikonian, Nicole Vartanian, Henry Theriault, Sara Cohan, Adam Strom, F. Muge Gocek, Michael Papazian, Anahit Khosroyeva, Tigran Matiossian, Richard Hovannisian

tance of questions such as "Why are we here after nine decades?"; "How long will we commemorate?"; and "Why commemorate?" as new generations succeed one another. He emphasized the importance of integrating the Genocide into collective human memory, which is the current challenge faced by scholars as well as political and human rights activists.

The first morning session, "Rethinking Aspects of the Armenian Genocide," did justice to its title. Henry Theriault (Worcester State College) pointed out that Armenian integration into Ottoman society, especially after the 1908 Young Turk coup d'état and the restoration of the Constitution, was unacceptable to Turkish ultra-nationalism, which had already demonstrated in the 1894-1896 massacres how "to put Armenians back into their place." The levels of violence and dehumanization in 1915 was a response to the "humanization" that Armenians had achieved in the past decades. Viewing the Armenians as human actually gave more purpose and pleasure to the killers.

Suzanne Moranian (Armenian International Women's Association, Boston) discussed American foreign policy and its reaction to the Armenian Genocide. She persuasively argued that the Genocide became a blueprint for U.S. policy that continues to the present time. American self-interest in trying to help the Armenians was the same reason which made America abandon those same Armenians and turn toward Turkey, especially after the treaty of Lausanne in 1923.

Michael Papazian (Berry College, Georgia) spoke on "Genocide and the Philosophy of History," broaching a subject scarcely touched upon in the Armenian case but widely plowed in Holocaust studies. In a comparative approach, he used the main points raised in philosophical inquiries about the Holocaust. In his view, the lack of attempts to make sense of the Genocide is dangerous. The danger of fixation on the past is especially worthy of note, since the Catastrophe of 1915 distorted Armenian identity, replacing the idea of redemption for one of suffering, a concept that Armenian theologians have yet to recognize.

The Genocide in Comparative Perspective

The second morning session was devoted to comparative perspectives. Katia Peltekian (American University of Beirut) presented her findings about the English-speaking media of different countries and their coverage of the Genocide. Ways and styles of coverage varied significantly from England to Canada and to the United States. She used charts, graphs, and photocopied articles to demonstrate her theses.

Anahit Khosroyeva (Institute of History, Erevan) spoke in Armenian about the persecutions of the Assyrians from the latter part of the nineteenth century until well into the twentieth century. She gave informative

insights into this little-known history, even for Armenians. She maintains that the Assyrian annihilation by the Ottoman Turkish government paralleled that of the Armenians and left a quarter of a million victims by the end of World War I.

Speros Vryonis, Jr. (UCLA and NYU, Emeritus) gave an account of another less known episode of the Greek calamity in Asia Minor after World War I. The defeat of Greece at the hands of Kemalist Turkey gave rise to labor camps where many Greek military and civilian prisoners were kept in inhuman conditions. One of them was the 18-year-old Ilias Benizis, who spent 14 months in 1922-1924 at forced labor and later wrote of his harsh experiences in a volume published in 1931.

Tigran Matiossian (Museum-Institute of the Armenian Genocide, Erevan) in a very fluent English presentation, addressed the comparative aspects of the Armenian Genocide and the Holocaust, showing that there were many similarities going far beyond obvious differences. He used examples relating both to the preconditions, the perpetrators, and the victims.

During the lunch hour, architect Sarkis Balmanoukian (Los Angeles) gave an illustrated talk on the memorial complex at Der-Zor (Deir-ez-Zor, Syria), which he designed. He also showed the changes that were made in his original plans and how the complex looks in its final form.

Education and Art on Saturday Afternoon

The first session in the afternoon was devoted to education about the Armenian Genocide. Nicole Vartanian (Fulbright scholar, Washington, D.C.) addressed the complex issues stemming from the 2001 "No Child Left Behind Act," which sanctioned the need for stronger accountability in educational progress through annual yearly progress reports (tests) through the end of middle school. The emphasis on math and reading leaves less space for other subjects, particularly social studies. Attempts at expanding the act into high school are under way. This makes all the more important the need to increase efforts to ensure that the study of genocide, including the Armenian Genocide (mandatory in 6 states), remain in the curriculum.

Sara Cohen (Washington, D.C.) spoke about teaching the Armenian Genocide to a non-Armenian audience. She stressed the importance of allocating resources for education and helping with teacher training, making the subject a part of a multidisciplinary approach, not confined to social studies. She gave practical examples of how this could be done.

Adam Strom (Facing History and Ourselves, Brookline) talked about the importance of teaching the Armenian Genocide as a way to avoid impunity and to promote responsibility. As a principal author of the Facing History resource book on the Armenian Genocide, he



ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The Armenian Observer: Los Angeles, CA
 SUBJECT: Genocide Conference Held at UCLA

DATE: April 13, 2005
 PAGE: 2 of 2

discussed ways in which the Armenian experience can be used to teach tolerance and provide lessons relating to prevention.

Hagop Gulludjian (formerly from Argentina, now teaching in UCLA) in a novel approach made a quantitative and qualitative analysis of the resources about the Armenian Genocide available on the Internet. His power-point presentation showed that the Armenian Genocide was a distant second to the Holocaust on the Internet but ranked very much ahead of other instances of mass killing in the twentieth century. A spirited question and answer period followed the session on education.

Artistic Responses to Genocide

The final Saturday session was devoted to artistic responses. Two Ph.D. candidates from UCLA, Jean Murachanian and Ranelia Grigorian Abbamontian, presented their work about visual art. Murachanian analyzed the work of a French-Armenian painter, Leon Tutundjian (1905-1977), and the impact of the Catastrophe on his identity as reflected in hundreds of his paintings from both the abstract and surrealist periods. Grigorian Abbamontian, on the other hand, dealt with several contemporary artists from Los Angeles (Sophie Gasparian, Ara Oshagan, Zareh, Alina Mnatsakanian, and Levon Parian), showing a wide spectrum of dynamic, sometimes rather shocking, responses to the past and present.

Hrag Varjabedian, a doctoral candidate from University of Madison-Wisconsin, studied works by two filmmakers, Atom Egoyan and Tina Bastajian, and two writers, Peter Najarian and Micheline Aharonian-Marcom. Through film clips and slides, he showed how the project of historicization undertaken by non-Armenian speakers has passed from the concrete to the imaginary and even mythical.

Jack Der Sarkissian (Kaiser Permanente Medical Group, Los Angeles) presented different aspects of the Armenian response to the Genocide through music in the last thirty years. Playing audio excerpts, he began with Charles Aznavour's famous "Ils sont tombés" (1975) and continued with Alan Hovannes's "Mystery of the Holy Martyrs" symphony, jazz composer Gregg Bendian's "After Chomakou Was a Desert," and finally the System of Down's song "P.L.U.C.K."

In the evening, the conference participants were the dinner guests of the Armenian Educational Foundation in Glendale.

Sunday, April 2, History and Memory

The conference continued on Sunday afternoon with two sessions. The first, titled "History and Memory," was opened by Barlow Der Mugrdechian (California State University, Fresno) with a paper devoted to three narrative works by Armenian-American writers: Michael Arlen's "Passage to Ararat," Michael Krekorian's "Avedis," and David Kherdian's "Ask the River." Through their different approaches, all of them aimed at a better understanding of themselves. Their work was also an act of liberation through literature, helping to breach the chasm between catastrophe and creativity.

Marc Mamigonian (NAASR, Boston) spoke on the little-known presence of Armenian references (some hundred words) in James Joyce's extraordinary and hard-to-read novel, *Finnegan's Wake*. The references in this groundbreaking work are essentially about Armenia as the mythical place where the Paradise was located as well as about the Armenian Genocide.

Rubina Peroomian (UCLA) gave an overview of reactions to the Armenian Genocide in the literature of Soviet and post-Soviet Armenia. The Stalinist period impacted the link between history and memory, but a gradual rediscovery took place in the post-Stalinist period. Attempts at filling the voids in historical memory have continued into the period of renewed Armenian independence.

Philippe Videlier (CNRS, Lyons) ended the session with an informative paper about the response of French society to the Armenian Genocide during the last century. He spoke of post-genocide Armenian immigration to France and the role of historical memory. He also



Fatma Muge Gocek

pointed out that the Genocide was known to a large majority of the French citizenry.

The subject's obvious resonance with current affairs, namely France's recognition of the Genocide and the question of Turkey candidacy in the European Union, gave way to a lively period of discussion.

Prospects for Dialogue and Reconciliation

The final session on Sunday afternoon promised to be polemical, since the subject was "Prospects of Dialogue and Reconciliation." Elazar Barkan (Claremont Graduate University) stressed that the very large political shift since 1990, with the growth of human rights and the end of the Cold War, facilitates recognition of past events as important to current identity. History, in fact, is not an account of the past but shows the way identity reflects on contemporary issues. He advocated the creation of a commission of impartial professional historians, along the lines of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in South Africa, to give a definitive answer about the Genocide. He believed that there was no doubt about the conclusion in view of the worldwide scholarly consensus on the issue but noted that this is a process that should have no preconditions. These statements elicited an emotional response from the audience, which grilled the presenter with questions during the discussion period.

Bedross Der Matossian (Ph.D. candidate, Columbia University) made a comparative study of Turkish liberal historiography, which aims at challenging the "official history" or "state narrative" of the Genocide. He assessed the works of Taner Akcam, Fatma Muge Gocek, Fikret Adanir, Halil Berkay, and other Turkish scholars. He stated that this current is not monolithic as is the official version and tends to deal with the subject using contextualization. It also tends to demonstrate the inevitability of the Catastrophe as a corollary to modernism and nationalism in Turkey.

Fatma Muge Gocek (University of Michigan-Ann Arbor), one of the liberal historians mentioned above, addressed some of the subjects that are at the center of the historical controversy in Turkey. She stressed factors that must be taken into account, including the ignorance of the general public about the Genocide as the result of the official machinery: "We have to educate Turkish society. I certainly do hope that Turks will come to the recognition of their past. But they have to be educated, to have that knowledge be accessible to them. The only thing they have now is state propaganda." Space should be opened for the study of other peoples who are also part of the Turkish society (Armenians and Greeks). She quoted from Kemal Ataturk's week-long speech of 1927 to the Cumhuriyet Party, in which he began his narrative with his landing at Samsun on May 19, 1919. So there is no 1915 in the official narrative. She also pointed out that the little

cracks that began to open up fifteen years ago are a part of a very precarious phase of post-nationalist thought in Turkey.

Simon Payasian (Clark University), in his talk on Anatomy of Post-Genocide Reconciliation, made a critique of attempts at applying other models of reconciliation (e.g. Peru and South Africa) to the Armenian-Turkish case. He also criticized the work of the now-defunct Turkish-Armenian Reconciliation Commission for its lack of transparency and legitimacy. He said that international human rights law should be used as an equal to international customary law. In this regard, any attempt at reconciliation should consider several questions, such as deciding whether the process should be bilateral or multilateral, closed or transparent.

After a lively discussion, Professor Hovannian summarized the proceedings and made the closing remarks. The conference was enhanced by an exhibition of photographs of Armenian Genocide memorial monuments worldwide, taken by Hrair "Hawk" Khatcherian of Quebec and mounted by Richard and Anne Elizabeth Elbrect.

Several hitherto little-addressed subjects, the participation of many young scholars and many non-Armenian listeners, and various thought-provoking presentations were some of the highlights of this conference organized by Richard Hovannian. The publication of the proceedings will offer the opportunity for these important contributions to reach a much wider audience.



Pamela Steiner (Cambridge) Great Granddaughter of US Ambassador Henry Morgenthau



ARCHIVE

SOURCE: California Courier: Glendale, CA
SUBJECT: Dr. Reid to Lecture at CSUF

DATE: April 14, 2005
PAGE: 1 of 1

Dr. Reid Will Lecture April 26 at CSUF Commemorative Event

FRESNO - Dr. James Reid will speak on "Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder in Armenian Genocide Narratives" at 7:30 p.m. on April 26, in the Alice Peters Auditorium, Rm. 191 of the University Business Center on the Fresno State campus.

The lecture is part of the Armenian Studies Program April 24th Armenian Genocide Commemorative Events and is co-sponsored by the Psychology Department at Fresno State and Armenian Students Organization.

On April 22, the Armenian Students Organization and ASP are holding their annual commemorative event at noon in the Free Speech area at Fresno State. A variety of invited guests and students will speak, followed by the placing of flowers on the model of the genocide memorial.

The public is welcome to participate.

At 7:30 p.m. the same evening, there will be a film showing and candlelight vigil. The film "Germany and the Secret Genocide" will make its Fresno premiere. Directed and written by Dr. J. Michael Hagopian, the film documents Germany's relationship with Ottoman Turkey during the Armenian Genocide. The film showing and vigil will be held in McLane Hall, Room 121 on the campus. The event is free and open to the public.

Relaxed parking will be available in Lots A and J after 7:00 PM the night of the lecture. For more information on the presentation, contact the Armenian Studies Program at 278-2669.



ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The Armenian Reporter Int'l: Paramus, NJ
SUBJECT: Kherdian and Hogrogian to Appear at CSUF

DATE: April 16, 2005
PAGE: 1 of 1

Kherdian and Hogrogian to Discuss Books at CSUF, May 2

FRESNO - The acclaimed husband and wife team of author David Kherdian and author/illustrator Nonny Hogrogian will discuss and read from their new books at 7:30 p.m. on May 2, in the Industrial Technology Building, Room 101 (corner of Barstow and Campus Drive) on the Fresno State campus.

The lecture is part of the Armenian Studies Program Spring 2005 Lecture Series and is co-sponsored by the Armenian Students Organization.

Between them, David Kherdian and Nonny Hogrogian have written, edited, or illustrated over one hundred books. Their work has encompassed the Armenian Genocide, life in America as first-generation Armenians, children's books, memoirs in verse and prose, folklore, and the mystical teachings of Gurdjieff.

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Following the authors' talk and a question-and-answer period, they will be available to sign copies of not only their new titles but also selected older titles as well.

Copies of Kherdian's books will be on sale after the talk.

Relaxed parking will be available in Lots Q, K, and L after 7:00 PM the night of the lecture. For more information on the presentation, contact the Armenian Studies Program at (559) 278-2669.



ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The Armenian Reporter Int'l: Paramus, NJDATE: April 16, 2005SUBJECT: Dr. James Reid to Speak at CSUFPAGE: 1 of 1

Dr. James Reid to Speak on “Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder in Armenian Genocide Survivor Narratives” as Part of 90th Annual Commemoration of the Armenian Genocide

FRESNO, CA - Dr. James Reid will speak on “Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder in Armenian Genocide Narratives” at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 26, 2005 in the Alice Peters Auditorium, Rm. 191 of the University Business Center on the Fresno State campus.

The lecture is part of the Armenian Studies Program April 24th Armenian Genocide Commemorative Events and is co-sponsored by the Psychology Department at Fresno State and Armenian Students Organization.

On Friday, April 22, the Armenian Students Organization and Armenian Studies Program are holding their annual commemorative event at noon in the Free Speech area at Fresno State. A variety of invited guests and students will speak, followed by the placing of flowers on the model of the genocide memorial. The public is welcome to participate.

At 7:30 p.m. the same evening, there will be a film showing and candlelight vigil. The film “Germany and the Secret Genocide” will make its Fresno premiere. Directed and written by Dr. J. Michael Hagopian, the film documents Germany’s relationship with Ottoman Turkey during the Armenian Genocide. The film showing and vigil will be held in McLane Hall, Room 121 on the campus. The event is free and open to the public.

Dr. Reid holds a PhD from UCLA and is the author of several books, including Crisis of the Ottoman Empire: Prelude to Collapse, 1839-1878. From 2001-2003 he was the director of the Vryonis Center and, from 1991-2001, he was a senior research fellow at the Center. He has written extensively on the Ottoman Empire and modern Greece.

Dr. Reid’s talk examines both the psychological responses of survivors of genocide and the psyche of perpetrators, a topic for which he has been preparing for more than twenty years.

Relaxed parking will be available in Lots A and J after 7:00 p.m. the night of the lecture. For more information on the presentation, interested persons should contact the Armenian Studies Program at (559) 278-2669.



ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The Armenian Observer: Los Angeles, CADATE: April 20, 2005SUBJECT: Kherdian and Hogrogian to Appear at CSUFPAGE: 1 of 1

David Kherdian and Nonny Hogrogian to Appear in Fresno May 2, and Los Angeles May 3

The acclaimed husband and wife team of author David Kherdian and author/illustrator Nonny Hogrogian will discuss and read from their new books at 7:30 PM on Monday, May 2, in the Industrial Technology Building, Room 101 (corner of Barstow and Campus Drive) on the Fresno State campus.

On Tuesday they will be in Los Angeles at an event sponsored by the LA Tekeyan Cultural Association.

Between them, David Kherdian and Nonny Hogrogian have written, edited, or illustrated over one hundred books. Their work has encompassed the Armenian Genocide, life in America as first-generation Armenians, children's books, memoirs in verse and prose, folklore, and the mystical teachings of Gurdjieff.

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This will be followed by a selection from some earlier books of poetry and memoirs, concluding with readings from his new book, *Letters to My Father*, which is a meditation on the elusive bond between fathers and sons. In this suite of 60 poems, Kherdian evokes his Armenian father through plain-spoken recollections of poignant details: a heavy gray coat, the way he combed his eyebrows, his signature X.

Kherdian is well known as the author of the Newberry Award Winner *The Road From Home: The Story of An Armenian Girl*, which detailed his mother's experiences in surviving the Armenian Genocide. Read by students and adults alike, it has contributed greatly to increasing awareness of the Genocide.

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Following the authors' talk and a question-and-answer period, they will be available to sign copies of not only their new titles but also selected older titles as well.

Copies of Kherdian's books will be on sale after the talk.

In LA, Kherdian will appear on Tuesday, May 3, at 8:30 p.m. at Glendale Public Library, 22 E. Harvard Avenue, Glendale.



ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The Collegian: Fresno, CADATE: April 20, 2005SUBJECT: 90th Commemoration of Armenian GenocidePAGE: 1 of 1**1915****2005****90th Commemoration of the Armenian Genocide**

*Sponsored by the Armenian Studies Program
and the Armenian Students Organization of California State University Fresno*

Genocide Commemoration

• Friday, April 22, 2005 • Noon • Free Speech Area

Special Guest Speakers and

*poetry/presentations in English and Armenian by
members of the Armenian Students Organization*

Film Showing and Candlelight Vigil

• Friday, April 22, 2005 • 7:30 PM

McLane Hall, Room 121

“Germany and the Secret Genocide”

produced by the Armenian Film Foundation

*Following the showing of the film,
there will be a candle-light vigil, to be held
in the Fresno State Free Speech area.*

• Tuesday, April 26, 2005 • 7:30PM

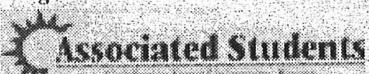
A. Peters Auditorium, University Business Center

**“Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder in
Armenian Genocide Survivor Narratives”**

by Dr. James Reid

*For more information or directions, contact the Armenian
Studies Program at 278-2669.*

Partially funded by



Associated Students



Left: Armenian Martyrs Monument, Glendale, California.
Center and Right: Armenian Martyrs Monument, Yerevan, Armenia



ARCHIVE

SOURCE: California Courier: Glendale, CA
SUBJECT: Kherdian and Hogrogian to Appear at CSUF

DATE: April 21, 2005
PAGE: 1 of 1

Authors David Kherdian and Nonny Hogrogian to Appear at Fresno State

FRESNO, CA - The acclaimed husband-and-wife team of author David Kherdian and author/illustrator Nonny Hogrogian will discuss and read from their new books at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, May 2, 2005 in the Industrial Technology Building, Room 101 (corner of Barstow and Campus Drive) on the Fresno State campus.

The lecture is part of the Armenian Studies Program Spring 2005 Lecture Series and is co-sponsored by the Armenian Students Organization.

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ARCHIVE

SOURCE: Nor Gyank: Glendale, CA
 SUBJECT: UCLA Genocide Conference

DATE: April 21, 2005
 PAGE: 1 of 3

**"THE ENDURING LEGACY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE":
 A Timely UCLA Conference on the Eve of the 90th Anniversary**
 By Vartan Matossian



Left to Right, Raffi Hovannisian, Katia Peltikan, Barlow Der Mugrdechian, Hagop Gulludjian, Speros Vryonis, Hrag Varjabedian, Phillippe Vediller, Nora Arissian, Elazar Barkan, Suzanne Moranian, Richard Elbrecht, Rubina Peroomian, Marc Mamikonian, Nicole Vartanian, Henry Theriault, Sara Cohan, Adam Strom, F. Muge Gocet, Michael Papazian, Anahit Khosroyeva, Tigran Matossian, Richard Hovannisian

The conference sponsored by the Armenian Educational Foundation Chair in Modern Armenian History at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), on April 1-3 became an insightful prologue into the commemoration of the 90th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. It was organized by the chairholder, Professor Richard Hovannisian, as an interlude to the

ongoing series of UCLA conferences devoted to the Historic Armenian Cities and Provinces, fifteen of which have been held since 1997. This conference was cosponsored by the UCLA Von Grunebaum Center for Near Eastern Studies, the Center for European and Eurasian Studies, and the International Institute.

Appropriately titled "After Nine Decades: The Enduring Legacy of the Armenian Genocide," this was the fourth conference organized by Professor Hovannisian on the Genocide during his tenure at UCLA. As he pointed out in his opening remarks, the focus is "no longer to describe but rather to understand" what happened nine decades ago. In this regard, Hovannisian brought together a broad array of subjects and scholars, with a very important inclusion of fresh, young names. The popular response, with an average of more than 300 people during the sessions, was also encouraging, although one might have expected that such a subject would have left persons sitting on the stairs. In fact, such enlightening conferences are one of the potential sources of knowledge for anyone or any group or organization wishing to move beyond emotional and frequently poorly documented responses to what happened.

The Opening Session in Armenian, Friday, April 1

Twenty six scholars from Argentina, Armenia, France, Lebanon, Syria, and the United States were part of the program, which started on Friday, April 1 in the evening with a session in Armenian held at AGBU Manoogian Center in Pasadena. After introductory remarks by Dr. Hovannisian and a brief memorial service by Archbishop Moushegh Mardirossian and the Very Reverend Dajad Yardoumian, the presence of the great granddaugh-

ters of Ambassador Henry Morgenthau, Pamela Steiner and Lucy Tuchman Eisenberg, and of Consul General Gagik Kirakossian was acknowledged. The first paper

of the evening was delivered by Nora Arissian (University of Damascus, Syria), who spoke about a little-known subject, namely the repercussions of the Armenian Genocide in the Syrian press of the time both inside and outside Syria. Hundred of articles were written on different aspects of the massacres, which were first termed "killing of a nation" in 1916 to warn the Arab public about the danger posed by pan-Turkism.

Marc Nichanian, currently teaching at Wesleyan University in Connecticut, made an engaging presentation about the subject "Art and Testimony" in which he analyzed cases and causes of failure to turn testimony into art. He insisted

on the need to liberate testimonies from their documentary state, which stifles their effectiveness and usage.

Raffi K. Hovannisian (Armenian Center for National and International Studies, Erevan), made the final presentation of the evening. His speech, with political overtones, put an immediate and deep question on the table: Will there ever be a post-Genocide era? No definite answer was given to the question, although the speaker considered whether there might be an opportunity linked with the Turkish desire for integration into Europe and hopefully with a more focused Armenian approach to the issue.

Saturday Morning at UCLA: Rethinking the Genocide

The Saturday sessions were convened on the UCLA campus. Richard Hovannisian in his introductory remarks, "The Enduring Legacy," underscored the importance of questions such as "Why are we here after nine decades?"; "How long will we commemorate?"; and

"Why commemorate?" as new generations succeed one another. He emphasized the importance of integrating the Genocide into collective human memory, which is the current challenge faced by scholars as well as political and human rights activists.

The first morning session, "Rethinking Aspects of the Armenian Genocide," did justice to its title. Henry Theriault (Worcester State College) pointed out that Armenian integration into Ottoman society, especially after the 1908 Young Turk coup d'état and the restoration of the Constitution, was unacceptable to Turkish ultranationalism, which had already demonstrated in the 1894-1896 massacres how "to put Armenians back into their place." The levels of violence and dehumanization in 1915 was a response to the "humanization" that Armenians had achieved in the past decades. Viewing the Armenians as human actually gave more purpose and pleasure to the killers.

Suzanne Moranian (Armenian International Women's Association, Boston) discussed American foreign policy and its reaction to the Armenian Genocide. She persuasively argued that the Genocide became a blueprint for U.S. policy that continues to the present time. American self-interest in trying to help the Armenians was the same reason which made America abandon those same Armenians and turn toward Turkey, especially after the treaty of Lausanne in 1923.

Michael Papazian (Berry College, Georgia) spoke on "Genocide and the Philosophy of History," broaching a subject scarcely touched upon in the Armenian case but widely plowed in Holocaust studies. In a comparative approach, he used the main points raised in philosophical inquiries about the Holocaust. In his view, the lack of attempts to make sense of the Genocide is dangerous. The danger of fixation on the past is especially worthy of note, since the Catastrophe of 1915 distorted Armenian identity, replacing the idea of redemption for one of suffering, a concept that Armenian theologians have yet to recognize.

The Genocide in Comparative Perspective

The second morning session was devoted to comparative perspectives. Katia Peltikan (American University of Beirut) presented her findings about the English-speaking media of different countries and their coverage of the Genocide. Ways and styles of coverage varied significantly from England to Canada and to the United States. She used charts, graphs, and photo-

ARCHIVE

SOURCE: Nor Gyank: Glendale, CADATE: April 21, 2005SUBJECT: UCLA Genocide ConferencePAGE: 2 of 3**"THE ENDURING LEGACY
OF THE ARMENIAN
GENOCIDE"**

Continued from page 20

copied articles to demonstrate her theses.

Anahit Khosroyeva (Institute of History, Erevan) spoke in Armenian about the persecutions of the Assyrians from the latter part of the nineteenth century until well into the twentieth century. She gave informative insights into this little-known history, even for Armenians. She maintains that the Assyrian annihilation by the Ottoman Turkish government paralleled that of the Armenians and left a quarter of a million victims by the end of World War I.

Speros Vryonis, Jr. (UCLA and NYU, Emeritus) gave an account of another less known episode of the Greek calamity in Asia Minor after World War I. The defeat of Greece at the hands of Kemalist Turkey gave rise to labor camps where many Greek military and civilian prisoners were kept in inhuman conditions. One of them was the 18-year-old Ilias Benizis, who spent 14 months in 1922-1924 at forced labor and later wrote of his harsh experiences in a volume published in 1931.

Tigran Matossian (Museum-Institute of the Armenian Genocide, Erevan) in a very fluent English presentation, addressed the comparative aspects of the Armenian Genocide and the Holocaust, showing that there were many similarities going far beyond obvious differences. He used examples relating both to the preconditions, the perpetrators, and the victims.

During the lunch hour, architect Sarkis Balianoukian (Los Angeles) gave an illustrated talk on the memorial complex at Deir-Zor (Deir-ez-Zor, Syria), which he designed. He also showed the changes that were made in his original plans and how the complex looks in its final form.

Education and Art on Saturday Afternoon

The first session in the afternoon was devoted to education about the Armenian Genocide. Nicole Vartanian (Fulbright scholar, Washington, D.C.) addressed the complex issues stemming from the 2001 "No Child Left Behind Act," which sanctioned the need for stronger accountability in educational progress through annual yearly progress reports (tests) through the end of middle school. The emphasis on math and reading leaves less space for other subjects, particularly social studies. Attempts at expanding the act into high school are under way. This makes all the more important the need to increase efforts to ensure that the study of genocide, including the Armenian Genocide (mandatory in

6 states), remain in the curriculum. Sara Cohen (Washington, D.C.) spoke about teaching the Armenian Genocide to a non-Armenian audience. She stressed the importance of allocating resources for education and helping with teacher training, making the subject a part of a multidisciplinary approach, not confined to social studies. She gave practical examples of how this could be done.

Adam Strom (Facing History and Ourselves, Brookline) talked about the importance of teaching the Armenian Genocide as a way to avoid impunity and to promote responsibility. As a principal author of the Facing History resource book on the Armenian Genocide, he discussed ways in which the Armenian



Pamela Steiner (Cambridge) Great Granddaughter of US Ambassador Henry Morgenthau

experience can be used to teach tolerance and provide lessons relating to prevention.

Hagop Gulludjian (formerly from Argentina, now teaching in UCLA) in a novel approach made a quantitative and qualitative analysis of the resources about the Armenian Genocide available on the Internet. His power-point presentation showed that the Armenian Genocide was a distant second to the Holocaust on the Internet but ranked very much ahead of other instances of mass killing in the twentieth century. A spirited question and answer period followed the session on education.

Artistic Responses to Genocide

The final Saturday session was devoted to artistic responses. Two Ph.D. candidates from UCLA, Jean Murachanian and Ramela Grigorian Abbamontian, presented their work about visual art. Murachanian analyzed the work of a French-Armenian painter, Leon Tutundjian (1905-1977), and the impact of the Catastrophe on his identity as reflected in hundreds of his paintings from both the abstract and surreal periods. Grigorian Abbamontian, on the other hand, dealt with several contemporary artists from Los Angeles (Sophie

Gasparian, Ara Oshagan, Zareh, Alina Mnatsakanian, and Levon Parian), showing a wide spectrum of dynamic, sometimes rather shocking, responses to the past and present.

Hrag Varjabedian, a doctoral candidate from University of Madison-Wisconsin, studied works by two filmmakers, Atom Egoyan and Tina Bastajian, and two writers, Peter Najarian and Micheline Aharonian-Marcom. Through film clips and slides, he showed how the project of historicization undertaken by non-Armenian speakers has passed from the concrete to the imaginary and even mythical.

Jack Der Sarkissian (Kaiser Permanente Medical Group, Los Angeles) presented different aspects of the Armenian response to the Genocide through music in the last thirty years. Playing audio excerpts, he began with Charles Aznavour's famous "Ils sont tombés" (1975) and continued with Alan Hovannes's "Mystery of the Holy Martyrs" symphony, jazz composer Gregg Bendian's "After Chomaklou Was a Desert," and finally the System of a Down's song "P.L.U.C.K."

In the evening, the conference participants were the dinner guests of the Armenian Educational Foundation in Glendale.

Sunday, April 2, History and Memory

The conference continued on Sunday afternoon with two sessions. The first, titled "History and Memory," was opened by Barlow

Der Mugrdechian (California State University, Fresno) with a paper devoted to three narrative works by Armenian-American writers: Michael Arlen's "Passage to Ararat," Michael Krekorian's "Avedis," and David Kheradian's "Ask the River." Through their different approaches, all of them aimed at a better understanding of themselves. Their work was also an act of liberation through literature, helping to breach the chasm between catastrophe and creativity.

Marc Mamigonian (NAASR, Boston) spoke on the little-known presence of Armenian references (some hundred words) in James Joyce's extraordinary and hard-to-read novel, *Finnegan's Wake*. The references in this groundbreaking work are essentially about Armenia as the mythical place where the Paradise was located as well as about the Armenian Genocide.

Rubina Peroomian (UCLA) gave an overview of reactions to the Armenian Genocide in the literature of Soviet and post-Soviet Armenia. The Stalinist period impacted the

Continued on page 26



ARMENIAN STUDIES PROGRAM

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

2003

ARCHIVE

SOURCE: Nor Gyank: Glendale, CA
SUBJECT: UCLA Genocide Conference

DATE: April 21, 2005
PAGE: 3 of 3



Fatma Müge Göcek

link between history and memory, but a gradual rediscovery took place in the post-Stalinist period. Attempts at filling the voids in historical memory have continued into the period of renewed Armenian independence.

Philippe Videlier (CNRS, Lyons) ended the session with an informative paper about the response of French society to the Armenian Genocide during the last century. He spoke of post-genocide Armenian immigration to France and the role of historical memory. He also pointed out that the Genocide was known to a large majority of the French citizenry.

The subject's obvious resonance with current affairs, namely France's recognition of the Genocide and the question of Turkey candidacy in the European Union, gave way to a lively period of discussion.

Prospects for Dialogue and Reconciliation

The final session on Sunday afternoon promised to be polemical, since the subject was "Prospects of Dialogue and Reconciliation." Elazar Barkan (Claremont Graduate University) stressed that the very large political shift since 1990, with the growth of human rights and the end of the Cold War, facilitates recognition of past events as important to current identity. History, in fact, is not an account of the past but shows the way identity reflects on contemporary issues. He advocated the creation of a commission of impartial professional historians, along the lines of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in South Africa, to give a definitive answer about the Genocide. He believed that there was no doubt about the conclusion in view of the worldwide scholarly consensus on the issue but noted that this is a process that should have no preconditions. These statements elicited an emotional response from the audi-

ence, which grilled the presenter with questions during the discussion period.

Bedross Der Matossian (Ph.D. candidate, Columbia University) made a comparative study of Turkish liberal historiography, which aims at challenging the "official history" or "state narrative" of the Genocide. He assessed the works of Tamer Akcam, Fatma Müge Göcek, Fikret Adanir, Halil Berkay, and other Turkish scholars. He stated that this current is not monolithic as is the official version and tends to deal with the subject using contextualization. It also tends to demonstrate the inevitability of the Catastrophe as a corollary to modernism and nationalism in Turkey.

Fatma Müge Göcek (University of Michigan-Ann Arbor), one of the liberal historians mentioned above, addressed some of the subjects that are at the center of the historical controversy in Turkey. She stressed factors that must be taken into account, including the ignorance of the general public about the Genocide as the result of the official machinery: "We have to educate Turkish society. I certainly do hope that Turks will come to the recognition of their past. But they have to be educated, to have that knowledge be accessible to them. The only thing they have now is state propaganda." Space should be opened for the study of other peoples who are also part of the Turkish society (Armenians and Greeks). She quoted from Kemal Ataturk's week-long speech of 1927 to the Cumhuriyet Party, in which he began his narrative with his landing at Samsun on May 19, 1919. So there is no 1915 in the official narrative. She also pointed out that the little cracks that began to open up fifteen years ago are a part of a very precarious phase of post-nationalist thought in Turkey.

Simon Payaslian (Clark

University), in his talk on Anatomy of Post-Genocide Reconciliation, made a critique of attempts at applying other models of reconciliation (e.g. Peru and South Africa) to the Armeno-Turkish case. He also criticized the work of the now-defunct Turkish-Armenian Reconciliation Commission for its lack of transparency and legitimacy. He said that international human rights law should be used as an equal to international customary law. In this regard, any attempt at reconciliation should consider several questions, such as deciding whether the process should be bilateral or multilateral, closed or transparent.

After a lively discussion, Professor Hovannisian summarized

the proceedings and made the closing remarks. The conference was enhanced by an exhibition of photographs of Armenian Genocide memorial monuments worldwide, taken by Hrair "Hawk" Khatcherian of Quebec and mounted by Richard and Anne Elizabeth Elbrecht.

Several hitherto little-addressed subjects, the participation of many young scholars and many non-Armenian listeners, and various thought-provoking presentations were some of the highlights of this conference organized by Richard Hovannisian. The publication of the proceedings will offer the opportunity for these important contributions to reach a much wider audience.



ARCHIVE

SOURCE: California Courier: Glendale, CA
 SUBJECT: Genocide Conference Held at UCLA

DATE: April 21, 2005
 PAGE: 1 of 2

"The Enduring Legacy of the Armenian Genocide":

A TIMELY UCLA CONFERENCE ON THE EVE OF THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY

By Vartan Matiossian

LOS ANGELES - The conference sponsored by the Armenian Educational Foundation Chair in Modern Armenian History at UCLA on April 1-3 became an insightful prologue into the commemoration of the 90th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. It was organized by the chairholder, Prof. Richard Hovannisian, as an interlude to the ongoing series of UCLA conferences devoted to the Historic Armenian Cities and Provinces, fifteen of which have been held since 1997. This conference was cosponsored by the UCLA Von Grunebaum Center for Near Eastern Studies, the Center for European and Eurasian Studies, and the International Institute.

Appropriately titled "After Nine Decades: The Enduring Legacy of the Armenian Genocide," this was the fourth conference organized by Professor Hovannisian on the Genocide during his tenure at UCLA. As he pointed out in his opening remarks, the focus is "no longer to describe but rather to understand" what happened nine decades ago. In this regard, Hovannisian brought together a broad array of subjects and scholars, with a very important inclusion of fresh, young names. The popular response, with an average of more than 300 people during the sessions, was also encouraging, although one might have expected that such a subject would have left persons sitting on the stairs. In fact, such enlightening conferences are one of the potential sources of knowledge for anyone or any group or organization wishing to move beyond emotional and frequently poorly documented responses to what happened.

The Opening Session in Armenian, April 1

Twenty six scholars from Argentina, Armenia, France, Lebanon, Syria, and the US were part of the program, which started on April 1 in the evening with a session in Armenian held at AGBU Manoogian Center in Pasadena. After introductory remarks by Dr. Hovannisian and a brief memorial service by Archbishop Moushegh Mardirossian and the Very Rev. Dajad Yar-dumian, the presence of the great granddaughters of Ambassador Henry Morgenthau, Pamela Steiner and Lucy Tuchman Eisenberg, and of Consul General Gagik Kirakossian was acknowledged. The first paper of the evening was delivered by Nora Aressian (University of Damascus, Syria), who spoke about a little-known subject, namely the repercussion of

the Armenian Genocide in the Syrian press of the time both inside and outside Syria. Hundred of articles were written on different aspects of the massacres, which were first termed "killing of a nation" in 1916 to warn the Arab public about the danger posed by pan-Turkism.

Marc Nichanian, currently teaching at Wesleyan University in Connecticut, made an engaging presentation about the subject "Art and Testimony" in which he analyzed cases and causes of failure to turn testimony into art. He insisted on the need to liberate testimonies from their documentary state, which stifles their effectiveness and usage.

Raffi K. Hovannisian (Armenian Center for National and International Studies, Erevan), made the final presentation of the evening. His speech, with political overtones, put an immediate and deep question on the table: Will there ever be a post-Genocide era? No definite answer was given to the question, although the speaker considered whether there might be an opportunity linked with the Turkish desire for integration into Europe and hopefully with a more focused Armenian approach to the issue.

Saturday Morning at UCLA: "Rethinking the Genocide"

The Saturday sessions were convened on the UCLA campus. Richard Hovannisian in his introductory remarks, "The Enduring Legacy," underscored the importance of questions such as "Why are we here after nine decades?"; "How long will we commemorate?"; and "Why commemorate?" as new generations succeed one another. He emphasized the importance of integrating the Genocide into collective human memory, which is the current challenge faced by scholars as well as political and human rights activists.

The first morning session, "Rethinking Aspects of the Armenian Genocide," did justice to its title. Henry Theriault (Worcester State College) pointed out that Armenian integration into Ottoman society, especially after the 1908 Young Turk coup d'état and the restoration of the Constitution, was unacceptable to Turkish ultra-nationalism, which had already demonstrated in the 1894-1896 massacres how "to put Armenians back into their place." The levels of violence and dehumanization in 1915 was a response to the "humanization" that Armenians had achieved in the past decades. Viewing the Armenians as human actually gave more purpose and pleasure to the killers.

Suzanne Moranian (Armenian



UCLA CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS *Left to Right, Raffi Hovannisian, Katia Peltekian, Barlow Der Mugrdechian, Hagop Gulludjian, Speros Vryonis, Hrag Vartabedian, Philippe Védrilier, Nora Aressian, Elazâr Barkan, Suzanne Moranian, Richard Elbrecht, Rubina Pervomian, Marc Mamikonian, Nicole Vartanian, Henry Theriault, Sara Cohan, Adam Strom, F. Muge Gocek, Michael Papazian, Anahit Khosroyeva, Tigran Matossian, Richard Hovannisian.*

nian International Women's Association, Boston) discussed American foreign policy and its reaction to the Armenian Genocide. She persuasively argued that the Genocide became a blueprint for U.S. policy that continues to the present time. American self-interest in trying to help the Armenians was the same reason which made America abandon those same Armenians and turn toward Turkey, especially after the treaty of Lausanne in 1923.

Michael Papazian (Berry College, Georgia) spoke on "Genocide and the Philosophy of History," broaching a subject scarcely touched upon in the Armenian case but widely plowed in Holocaust studies. In a comparative approach, he used the main points raised in philosophical inquiries about the Holocaust. In his view, the lack of attempts to make sense of the Genocide is dangerous. The danger of fixation on the past is especially worthy of note, since the Catastrophe of 1915 distorted Armenian identity, replacing the idea of redemption for one of suffering, a concept that Armenian theologians have yet to recognize.

The Genocide in Comparative Perspective

The second morning session was devoted to comparative perspectives. Katia Peltekian (American University of Beirut) presented her findings about the English-speaking media of different countries and their coverage of the Genocide. Ways and styles of coverage varied significantly from England to Canada and to the United States. She used charts, graphs, and photocopied articles to demonstrate her theses.

Anahit Khosroyeva (Institute of History, Yerevan) spoke in Armenian about the persecutions of the Assyrians from the latter part of the nineteenth century until well into the twentieth cen-

tury. She gave informative insights into this little-known history, even for Armenians. She maintains that the Assyrian annihilation by the Ottoman Turkish government paralleled that of the Armenians and left quarter of a million victims by the end of World War I.

Speros Vryonis, Jr. (UCLA and NYU, Emeritus) gave an account of another less known episode of the Greek calamity in Asia Minor after World War I. The defeat of Greece at the hands of Kemalist Turkey gave rise to labor camps where many Greek military and civilian prisoners were kept in inhuman conditions. One of them was the 18-year-old Ilias Benizis, who spent 14 months in 1922-1924 at forced labor and later wrote of his harsh experiences in a volume published in 1931.

Tigran Matossian (Mu-seum-Institute of the Armenian Genocide, Yerevan) in a very fluent English presentation, addressed the comparative aspects of the Armenian Genocide and the Holocaust, showing that there were many similarities going far beyond obvious differences. He used examples relating both to the preconditions, the perpetrators, and the victims.

During the lunch hour, architect Sarkis Balmanoukian (Los Angeles) gave an illustrated talk on the memorial complex at Der-Zor (Deir-ez-Zor, Syria), which he designed. He also showed the changes that were made in his original plans and how the complex looks in its final form.

Education and Art on Saturday Afternoon

The first session in the afternoon was devoted to education about the Armenian Genocide. Nicole Vartanian (Fulbright scholar, Washington, D.C.) addressed the complex issues stem-

ming from the 2001 "No Child Left Behind Act," which sanctioned the need for stronger accountability in educational progress through annual yearly progress reports (tests) through the end of middle school. The emphasis on math and reading leaves less space for other subjects, particularly social studies. Attempts at expanding the act into high school are under way. This makes all the more important the need to increase efforts to ensure that the study of genocide, including the Armenian Genocide (mandatory in 6 states), remain in the curriculum.

Sara Cohen (Washington, D.C.) spoke about teaching the Armenian Genocide to a non-Armenian audience. She stressed the importance of allocating resources for education and helping with teacher training, making the subject a part of a multidisciplinary approach, not confined to social studies. She gave practical examples of how this could be done.

Adam Strom (Facing History and Ourselves, Brookline) talked about the importance of teaching the Armenian Genocide as a way to avoid impunity and to promote responsibility. As a principal author of the Facing History resource book on the Armenian Genocide, he discussed ways in which the Armenian experience can be used to teach tolerance and provide lessons relating to prevention.

Hagop Gulludjian (formerly from Argentina, now teaching in UCLA) in a novel approach made a quantitative and qualitative analysis of the resources about the Armenian Genocide available on the Internet. His power-point presentation showed that the Armenian Genocide was a distant second to the Holocaust on the Internet but ranked very much



ARMENIAN STUDIES PROGRAM

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

2005

ARCHIVE

SOURCE: California Courier: Glendale, CA

DATE: April 21, 2005

SUBJECT: Genocide Conference Held at UCLA

PAGE: 2 of 2

ahead of other instances of mass killing in the twentieth century. A spirited question and answer period followed the session on education.

Artistic Responses to Genocide

The final Saturday session was devoted to artistic responses. Two Ph.D. candidates from UCLA, Jean Murachanian and Rama Grigorian Abbamontian, presented their work about visual art. Murachanian analyzed the work of a French-Armenian painter, Leon Tutundjian (1905-1977), and the impact of the Catastrophe on his identity as reflected in hundreds of his paintings from both the abstract and surrealist periods. Grigorian Abbamontian, on the other hand, dealt with several contemporary artists from Los Angeles (Sophie Gasparian, Ara Oshagan, Zareh, Alina Mnatsakanian, and Levon Parian), showing a wide spectrum of dynamic, sometimes rather shocking, responses to the past and present.

Hrag Varjabedian, a doctoral candidate from University of Madison-Wisconsin, studied works by two filmmakers, Atom Egoyan and Tina Bastajian, and two writers, Peter Najarian and Micheline Aharonian-Marcom. Through film clips and slides, he showed how the project of historiization undertaken by non-Armenian speakers has passed from the concrete to the imaginary and even mythical.

Jack Der Sarkissian (Kaiser Permanente Medical Group, Los Angeles) presented different aspects of the Armenian response to the Genocide through music in the last thirty years. Playing audio excerpts, he began with Charles Aznavour's famous "Ils sont tombés" (1975) and continued with Alan Hovannes's "Mystery of the Holy Martyrs" symphony, jazz composer Gregg Bendian's "After Chomaklow Was a Desert," and finally the System of a Down's song "P.L.U.C.K."

In the evening, the conference participants were the dinner guests of the Armenian Educational Foundation in Glendale.

History and Memory

The conference continued on Sunday afternoon with two sessions. The first, titled "History and Memory," was opened by Barlow Der Mugrdechian (California State University, Fresno) with a paper devoted to three narrative works by Armenian-American writers: Michael Arlen's "Passage to Ararat," Michael Krikorian's "Avedis," and David Kherdian's "Ask the River." Through their different approaches, all of them aimed at a better

understanding of themselves. Their work was also an act of liberation through literature, helping to breach the chasm between catastrophe and creativity.

Març Mamigonian (NA-ASR, Boston) spoke on the little-known presence of Armenian references (some hundred words) in James Joyce's extraordinary and hard-to-read novel, *Finnegan's Wake*. The references in this groundbreaking work are essentially about Armenia as the mythical place where the Paradise was located as well as about the Armenian Genocide.

Rubina Peroomian (UCLA) gave an overview of reactions to the Armenian Genocide in the literature of Soviet and post-Soviet Armenia. The Stalinist period impacted the link between history and memory, but a gradual rediscovery took place in the post-Stalinist period. Attempts at filling the voids in historical memory have continued into the period of renewed Armenian independence.

Philippe Videlier (CNRS, Lyons) ended the session with an informative paper about the response of French society to the Armenian Genocide during the last century. He spoke of post-genocide Armenian immigration to France and the role of historical memory. He also pointed out that the Genocide was known to a large majority of the French citizenry.

The subject's obvious resonance with current affairs, namely France's recognition of the Genocide and the question of Turkey candidacy in the European Union, gave way to a lively period of discussion.

Prospects for Dialogue and Reconciliation

The final session on Sunday afternoon promised to be polemical, since the subject was "Prospects of Dialogue and Reconciliation." Elazar Barkan (Claremont Graduate University) stressed that the very large political shift since 1990, with the growth of human rights and the end of the Cold War, facilitates recognition of past events as important to current identity. History, in fact, is not an account of the past but shows the way identity reflects on contemporary issues. He advocated the creation of a commission of impartial professional historians, along the lines of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in South Africa, to give a definitive answer about the Genocide. He believed that there was no doubt about the conclusion in view of the worldwide scholarly consensus on the issue but noted that this process should have no preconditions.

These statements elicited an emotional response from the audience, which grilled the presenter with questions during the discussion period.

Bedross Der Matossian (Ph.D. candidate, Columbia University) made a comparative study of Turkish liberal historiography, which aims at challenging the "official history" or "state narrative" of the Genocide. He assessed the works of Taner Akcam, Fatma Müge Göçek, Fikret Adanır, Halil Berkay, and other Turkish scholars. He stated that this current is not monolithic as is the official version and tends to deal with the subject using contextualization. It also tends to demonstrate the inevitability of the Catastrophe as a corollary to modernism and nationalism in Turkey.

Fatma Müge Göçek (University of Michigan-Ann Arbor), one of the liberal historians mentioned above, addressed some of the subjects that are at the center of the historical controversy in Turkey. She stressed factors that must be taken into account, including the ignorance of the general public about the Genocide as the result of the official machinery: "We have to educate Turkish society. I certainly do hope that Turks will come to the recognition of their past. But they have to be educated, to have that knowledge be accessible to them. The only thing they have now is state propaganda." Space should be opened for the study of other peoples who are also part of the Turkish society (Armenians and Greeks). She quoted from Kemal Ataturk's week-long speech of 1927 to the Cumhuriyet Party, in which he began his narrative with his landing at Samsun on May 19, 1919. So there is no 1915 in the official narrative. She also pointed out that the little cracks that began to open up 15 years ago are a part of a very precarious phase of post-nationalist thought in Turkey.

Simon Payaslian (Clark University), in his talk on Anatomy of Post-Genocide Reconciliation, made a critique of attempts at applying other models of reconciliation (e.g. Peru and South Africa) to the Armenian-Turkish case. He also criticized the work of the now-defunct Turkish-Armenian Reconciliation Commission for its lack of transparency and legitimacy. He said that international human rights law should be used as an equal to international customary law. In this regard, any attempt at reconciliation should consider several questions, such as deciding whether the process should be bilateral or multilateral, closed or transparent.

After a lively discussion, Professor Hovannisian summarized the proceedings and made the closing remarks. The conference was enhanced by an exhibi-

tion of photographs of Armenian Genocide memorial monuments worldwide, taken by Hrair "Hawk" Khatcherian of Quebec and mounted by Richard and Anne Elizabeth Elbrecht. Several hitherto little-addressed subjects, the participation of many young scholars and many

non-Armenian listeners, and various thought-provoking presentations were some of the highlights of this conference organized by Richard Hovannisian. The publication of the proceedings will offer the opportunity for these important contributions to reach to a much wider audience.



ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The Collegian: Fresno, CADATE: April 22, 2005SUBJECT: 90th Commemoration of Armenian GenocidePAGE: 1 of 1

1915

2005

90th Commemoration of the Armenian Genocide

*Sponsored by the Armenian Studies Program
and the Armenian Students Organization of California State University Fresno*

The Armenian Genocide

The atrocities committed against the Armenian people of the Ottoman Empire during the period of 1915-1923 are called the Armenian Genocide. Genocide is the organized killing of a people for the express purpose of putting an end to their collective existence. Because of its scope, genocide is the quintessential state crime as only a government has the resources to carry out such a scheme of destruction. The Armenian Genocide was centrally planned and administered by the Turkish government against the entire Armenian population of the Ottoman Empire. The Armenian people were subjected to deportation, expropriation, abduction, torture, massacre, and starvation. After only a little more than a year of calm at the end of World War I, the atrocities were renewed between 1920 and 1923, and the remaining Armenians were subjected to further massacres and expulsions. In 1915, thirty-three years before the UN Genocide Convention was adopted, the Armenian Genocide was condemned by the international community as a crime against humanity.



"I am confident that the whole history of the human race contains no such horrible episode as this. The great massacres and persecutions of the past seem almost insignificant when compared to the sufferings of the Armenian race in 1915."

Henry Morgenthau, Sr.
US Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire



Left: Armenian Martyrs Monument, Glendale, California.
Center and Right: Armenian Martyrs Monument, Yerevan, Armenia

Genocide Commemoration

• Friday, April 22, 2005 • Noon • Free Speech Area

Special Guest Speakers

*and poetry/presentations in English and Armenian by
members of the Armenian Students Organization*

Film Showing and Candlelight Vigil

• Friday, April 22, 2005 • 7:30 PM
McLane Hall, Room 121

"Germany and the Secret Genocide"

produced by the Armenian Film Foundation

*Following the showing of the film,
there will be a candle-light vigil, to be held
in the Fresno State Free Speech area.*

"Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder in Armenian Genocide Survivor Narratives" a presentation by Dr. James Reid

• Tuesday, April 26, 2005 • 7:30PM
A. Peters Auditorium, University Business Center
*co-sponsored by the Department of Psychology
and Psi Chi -The National Honor Society in Psychology*

*For more information or directions, contact the Armenian
Studies Program at 278-2669.*

*Partially funded by
Associated Students*



SOURCE: Fresno Bee: Fresno, CA

DATE: April 23, 2005

SUBJECT: Bedrosians Helping Out Homeland

PAGE: 1 of 2

Pair helping out homeland

Bedrosians hope to provide orchard jobs to Armenian villagers.

By Vanessa Colón

The Fresno Bee

Bryan and Rosie Bedrosian planted apricot trees in a small village in Armenia to strengthen their cultural roots and to help keep the country's population from shrinking.

The Bedrosians and other families are helping mend wounds left from the Diaspora that began in 1915. Many of their relatives or ancestors fled their homeland when the Ottoman Turkish Empire started its mass killing of 1.5 million Armenians.

A series of local events that commemorate that genocide on its 90th anniversary begins today and continues Sunday.



Rosie Bedrosian

The Bedrosians, who live in Fowler, flew to Armenia last summer and bought a 2-acre parcel of dry, rocky land outside the capital city of Yerevan. They planted apricot seedlings because they say they can make a profit while providing jobs to some villagers as an alternative to fleeing their homeland. And the fruit is symbolic: The scientific name for apricot is *Prunus armeniaca*.

"Yerevan is a boom town. There's a lot of buildings. People are renovating apartments so people can stay. A lot of it is happening in Yerevan except for the outside villages," said Rosie Bedrosian. "A lot of immigrants are moving to the U.S. or Europe. [But] if they have work, they can stay there."

More Armenians living in the United States and other nations are buying land, opening businesses and investing in property in Armenia since 1997, said Barlow Der Mugrdechian, a professor of Armenian studies at California State University, Fresno.

Some Armenian Americans in the Central Valley have bought homes, apartments and farmland. Most of the financial activity has taken place in the cosmopolitan capital of Yerevan, which has street cafes, restaurants and a night life.

Armenia has shown strong economic growth since 1995. The country, with a population of about 3 million, is slightly larger than Maryland. Once dependant on agriculture, the country has expanded its market.

Jewelry making, precious stone processing, communication technology and tourism are supplementing the more traditional sector, according to the U.S. State Department. Its progress earned support from the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and other in-

stitutions.

Nearly \$90 million was budgeted for fiscal 2004 by U.S. government agencies for assistance programs in Armenia, including increased access to credit for entrepreneurs and market development for agribusiness.

"Certain sectors are doing really well but it doesn't employ a lot of people ... It's high growth in limited sectors," Der Mugrdechian said.

Armenia, a landlocked region, has struggled economically because of the fall of the Soviet Union, a 1988 earthquake that killed more than 25,000 people and the economic blockade by neighbors Turkey and Azerbaijan.

"Now, it's an economic genocide," said Varoujan Der Simonian, executive director of Armenian Technology Group, Inc. in Fresno.

The nonprofit organization works with 236 farmers who sell seeds to grain growers in Armenia. The group makes sure U.S. government funds are used appropriately to help the country toward agricultural self-sufficiency.

The biggest challenge isn't the border closures by Turkey, Der Mugrdechian said. "Georgia's economy is worse than Armenia's and it has no problems with Turkey. It's more of the transition from the Soviet era to a capitalist society," he said, of Armenia's independence since the fall of the Soviet Union.

The Bedrosians and others hope to make the transition — from a communist-dependent economy to a Western style of doing business — a bit easier.

Rosie Bedrosian is a board member of Shirak Competitive Center, which works to develop small businesses in northern Armenia. The board looks for people who want to invest in different projects, and it works closely with U.S. agencies.

The group teaches Armenians how to develop a business plan and other financial practices common in the West.

"They can use their own imagination to make their business succeed," Bedrosian said.

The Bedrosian apricot nursery in Karagerd will employ 15 people, she said. About 4,000 people live in the village. Bryan Bedrosian, 47, said the project cost about \$15,000 to get started and will cost about \$6,000 annually.



ARMENIAN STUDIES PROGRAM

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2005

ARCHIVE

SOURCE: Fresno Bee: Fresno, CA

DATE: April 23, 2005

SUBJECT: Bedrosians Helping Out Homeland

PAGE: 2 of 2

Commemoration

■ **Today:** Raising of the Armenian Flag at Fresno City Hall, 10 a.m.

■ **Sunday:** Ecumenical Service at the Pilgrim Armenian Congregational Church, 3673 N. First St., south of Dakota Avenue, 6:30 p.m.

■ Annual Martyrs Day Blood Drive, in parking lot of First Armenian Presbyterian Church, 430 S. First St., 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

to operate. He is a co-ranch manager of the Bedrosian Farms in Fowler. The business produces raisins, table grapes and prunes.

"We invested in what we could afford," Bedrosian said. "I'm investing money that I won't lose sleep over. Obviously, I want to help the people, [too]."

Villagers working on the project can sell the seedlings to farmers interested in starting orchards.

"The profit will go to the villagers so they can have a business and make money," Rosie Bedrosian said.

The Bedrosians hope to expand the nursery if it succeeds. The couple bought a unit in a six-story building about two years ago and renovated it. The unit is more like a town home built with the local stone.

This year, the Bedrosians plan to visit the country in July with their 18-year-old son Armen Bedrosian. And Armen's grandmother, Mariam Megrdichian, is expected to tag along, too.

"Our grandparents were forced to leave Armenia," Rosie Bedrosian said.

"We are living our grandparents' dream of going back and helping our homeland and rebuilding our free and independent country."

► The reporter can be reached at vcolon@fresnobee.com or (559) 441-6313.



ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The Collegian: Fresno, CADATE: April 25, 2005SUBJECT: 90th Commemoration of Armenian GenocidePAGE: 1 of 1

Campus marks Armenian Genocide 90th anniversary

By Nyrie Karkazian

The Collegian

Students gathered in the Free Speech Area Friday afternoon to commemorate the 90th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide of 1915.

Two young men dressed in black held a large sign in the background that read "Armenian Genocide, 1915-1923, 2 million massacred," as the crowd waited in silence for the program to begin.

"The people who were in the death marches of the genocide marched because they saw rape, their land was taken, their families were

stolen from them, but they continued so that their stories would be told," said Sevag Tateosian. "That's what we are doing here, so that their stories are told, so that they marched for something."

The sad and drawn-out hum of Armenian duduk music played as Hakop Tataryan, the Armenian Students Organization president, approached the stage to open the ceremony.

On Thursday, Gov. Schwarzenegger signed Senate Bill 424, issued by Senator Chuck Poochigian, which permanently designated April 24th as the "Day of

Rememberance of the Armenian Genocide," Tataryan said.

"With growing attempts to revise the historical record of this period and denial of truth by the Turkish government, it's vitally important that false depictions of the tragedies of the genocide are rejected," Poochigian said. "SB 424 will help ensure that generations to come in California will continue to understand and recognize April 24th as the Day of Remembrance of the Armenian Genocide."

Tataryan's speech was followed by poem readings by students. The first poem,

"The people who were in the death marches of genocide marched because they saw rape, their land was taken, their families were stolen from them, but they continued so that their stories would be told."

-SEVAG TATEOSIAN

Fresno State student

called "The Dance," was read in English and spoke of

PLEASE SEE GENOCIDE ON PAGE 2

continued from page 1



Armenian Students Organization members display a banner in memory of people killed during the Armenian Genocide 90 years ago. Photo by Joseph Vasquez

women being tortured during the massacre. The second was recited in Armenian by Armine Sarkissian.

Armenian studies professor Barlow Der Mugrdechian, spoke of the history of events of the time. He mentioned Armin Varoujan, a famous Armenian poet, who was brutally murdered by the Young Turk government at the age of 31 in 1915.

According to Shant Norashkhanian's biography of Varoujan, an eyewitness of his martyrdom said after being arrested, Varoujan and the other prisoners were robbed, taken to the woods and stripped. Then they were tied to the trees one by one and slowly cut open by the policemen who took

them there. Their screams could be heard from afar, where the eyewitness was hiding.

Along with Varoujan, many other important officials, dignitaries and clergy were murdered that year, leaving the people of Armenia leaderless. Thus began the massacre and annihilation of the Armenians.

"They were the last people to see Armenia," Der Mugrdechian said. "We form a sense of community by coming here today."

There are virtually no Armenians left in the area that was Armenia's original homeland, which now belongs to Turkey. Although the Turkish government continues to deny the genocide,

Armenians are set on combating this denial by whatever means necessary.

"It's not enough only to say there was an Armenian Genocide," Der Mugrdechian said.

Stephanie Stockdale, a student in the Armenian Studies program, said she thinks there needs to be recognition from major entities around the world, especially Turkey.

Red carnations were passed out by the ASO toward the end of the commemoration as the duduk music began playing again. Each person stood in line to lay his or her flower beside a small recreation of the genocide monument in Armenia called Dzidzernagapert.



ARMENIAN STUDIES PROGRAM

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CSU

ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The Fresno Bee: Fresno, CA

DATE: May 1, 2005

SUBJECT: Kherdian and Hogrogian to Speak at CSUF

PAGE: 1 of 1

Writer and illustrator will speak

Author David Kherdian and author-illustrator Nonny Hogrogian will discuss and read from their new books at 7:30 p.m. Monday at California State University, Fresno, in the Industrial Technology Building, Room 101, 2255 E. Barstow Ave. (corner of Barstow and Campus Drive).

Their appearance is part of the Armenian Studies Program Spring 2005 Lecture Series and is co-sponsored by the Armenian Student Organization.

Between them they have written, edited or illustrated more than 100 books. Their work has encompassed the Armenian genocide, life in America as first-generation Armenians, children's books, memoirs in verse and prose, folklore and the mystical teachings of Gurdjieff.

A question and answer period will be held after the lecture, and they will be available to sign copies of their new and previous books. Relaxed parking rules will be available in lots Q, K and L after 7 p.m. For more info, call (559) 278-2669.



ARCHIVE

SOURCE: Armenian Mirror-Spectator, Watertown, MA
SUBJECT: UCLA Holds Genocide Conference

DATE: May 28, 2005
PAGE: 1 of 2

UCLA Conference Deals with the Enduring Legacy of Armenian Genocide

By Vartan Matiossian

LOS ANGELES — The conference sponsored by the Armenian Educational Foundation Chair in Modern Armenian History at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), on April 13 became a prologue for the commemoration of the 90th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. Organized by the chairholder, Prof. Richard Hovannisian, it served as an interlude to the ongoing series of UCLA conferences devoted to the Historic Armenian Cities and Provinces, 15 of which have been held since 1997. This conference was cosponsored by the UCLA Von Grunebaum Center for Near Eastern Studies, the Center for European and Eurasian Studies and the International Institute.

Titled "After Nine Decades: The Enduring Legacy of the Armenian Genocide," this was the fourth conference organized by Hovannisian on the Genocide during his tenure at UCLA. He said the focus is "no longer to describe but rather to understand" what happened nine decades ago. Hovannisian brought together a broad array of subjects and scholars, including fresh, young names. The popular response, with an average of more than 300 people during the sessions, was also encouraging.

The Opening Session

Twenty-six scholars from Argentina, Armenia, France, Lebanon, Syria and the United States were part of the program, which started with a session in Armenian held at AGBU Manoogian Center in Pasadena. After introductory remarks by Hovannisian and a brief memorial service by Archbishop Moushegh Mardirossian and the Rev. Dajad Yardoumian, the presence of the great granddaughters of Ambassador Henry Morgenthau, Pamela Steiner and Lucy Tuchman Eisenberg and of Consul General Cagik Kirakossian was acknowledged.

The first paper of the evening was delivered by Nora Arissian (University of Damascus, Syria), who spoke about the repercussion of the Armenian Genocide in the Syrian press. Hundred of articles were written on different aspects of the massacres, which were first termed "killing of a nation" in 1916 to warn the Arab public about the danger posed by pan-Turkism.

Marc Nichanian, who teaches at Wesleyan University in Connecticut, made an engaging presentation about the subject "Art and Testimony," in which he analyzed cases and causes of failure to turn testimony into art. He insisted on the need to liberate testimonies from their documentary state, which stifles their effectiveness and usage.

Raffi K. Hovannisian (Armenian Center for National and International Studies, Yerevan), made the final presentation. His speech put an immediate and deep question on the table: Will there ever be a post-Genocide era? No definite answer was given to the question.

Saturday Morning at UCLA: Rethinking the Genocide

In the first morning session, "Rethinking Aspects of the Armenian Genocide," Henry Theriault (Worcester State College) pointed out that Armenian integration into Ottoman society, especially after the 1908 Young Turk coup d'état and the restoration of the Constitution, was unacceptable to Turkish ultra-nationalism.

Suzanne Moranian (Armenian International Women's Association, Boston) discussed American foreign policy and its reaction to the Armenian Genocide. She persuasively argued that the Genocide became a blueprint for US policy that continues to the present time.

Michael Papazian (Berry College, Georgia) spoke on "Genocide and the Philosophy of History," broaching a subject scarcely touched

see LEGACY, page 9



ARCHIVE

SOURCE: Armenian Mirror-Spectator, Watertown, MA
 SUBJECT: UCLA Holds Genocide Conference

DATE: May 28, 2005
 PAGE: 2 of 2

UCLA Conference Deals with the Enduring Legacy of Armenian Genocide

LEGACY, from page 6
 upon in the Armenian case but widely plowed in Holocaust studies. In a comparative approach, he used the main points raised in philosophical inquiries about the Holocaust. In his view, the lack of attempts to make sense of the Genocide is dangerous.

The Genocide in Comparative Perspective

The second morning session was devoted to comparative perspectives. Katia Peltkian (American University of Beirut) presented her findings about the English-speaking media of different countries and their coverage of the Genocide. Ways and styles of coverage varied significantly from England to Canada and to the United States.

Anahit Khosroyeva (Institute of History, Yerevan) spoke in Armenian about the persecutions of the Assyrians from the latter part of the 19th century until well into the 20th century. She gave informative insights into this little-known history, even for Armenians.

Speros Vryonis Jr. (UCLA and NYU, emeritus) gave an account of the Greek calamity in Asia Minor after World War I. The defeat of Greece at the hands of Kemalist Turkey gave rise to labor camps where many Greek military and civilian prisoners were kept in inhuman conditions.

Tigran Matossian (Museum-Institute of the Armenian Genocide, Yerevan) in fluent English, addressed the comparative aspects of the Armenian Genocide and the Holocaust, showing that there were many similarities going far beyond obvious differences. He used examples relating both to the preconditions, the perpetrators and the victims.

Architect Sarkis Balmoukian (Los Angeles) gave an illustrated talk on the memorial complex at Der-Zor (Deir-ez-Zor, Syria), which he designed.

Education and Art on Saturday Afternoon

The first session in the afternoon was devoted to education about the Armenian Genocide. Nicole Vartanian (Fulbright scholar, Washington) addressed the complex issues stemming from the 2001 "No Child Left Behind Act," which sanctioned the need for stronger accountability in educational progress through annual yearly progress reports (tests) through the end of middle school. There is a need to increase efforts to ensure that the study of genocide, including the Armenian Genocide (mandatory in six states), remain in the curriculum.

Sara Cohen (Washington) spoke about teach-

ing the Armenian Genocide to a non-Armenian audience. She stressed the importance of allocating resources for education and helping with teacher training, making the subject a part of a multidisciplinary approach, not confined to social studies.

Adam Strom (Facing History and Ourselves, Brookline) talked about the importance of teaching the Armenian Genocide as a way to avoid impunity and to promote responsibility. As a principal author of the *Facing History* resource book on the Armenian Genocide, he discussed ways in which the Armenian experience can be used to teach tolerance and provide lessons relating to prevention.

Hagop Gulludjian (formerly from Argentina, now teaching in UCLA) in a novel approach made a quantitative and qualitative analysis of the resources about the Armenian Genocide available on the Internet. His power-point presentation showed that the Armenian Genocide was a distant second to the Holocaust on the Internet but ranked very much ahead of other instances of mass killing in the 20th century.

Artistic Responses to Genocide

The final Saturday session was devoted to artistic responses. Two PhD candidates from UCLA, Jean Murachanian and Ramela Grigorian Abbamontian, presented their work about visual art. Murachanian analyzed the work of a French-Armenian painter, Leon Tutundjian (1905-1977). Grigorian Abbamontian dealt with several contemporary artists from Los Angeles.

Hrag Varjabedian, a doctoral candidate from University of Madison-Wisconsin, studied works by two filmmakers, Atom Egoyan and Tina Bastajian, and two writers, Peter Najarian and Micheline Aharonian-Marcom.

Jack Der Sarkissian (Kaiser Permanente Medical Group, Los Angeles) presented different aspects of the Armenian response to the Genocide through music in the last 30 years.

In the evening, the conference participants were the dinner guests of the Armenian Educational Foundation in Glendale.

Sunday, April 2, History And Memory

The conference continued on Sunday afternoon with two sessions. The first, titled "History and Memory," was opened by Barlow Der Mugrdechian (California State University, Fresno) with a paper devoted to three narrative works by Armenian-American writers: Michael Arlen's *Passage to Ararat*, Michael Krekorian's *Avedis* and David Kherdian's *Ask the River*.

Marc Mamigonian (NAASR, Boston) spoke on the little-known presence of Armenian refer-

ences (some one hundred words) in James Joyce's extraordinary *Finnegan's Wake*.

Rubina Peroomian (UCLA) gave an overview of reactions to the Armenian Genocide in the literature of Soviet and post-Soviet Armenia. The Stalinist period impacted the link between history and memory, but a gradual rediscovery took place in the post-Stalinist period.

Philippe Videlier (CNRS, Lyons) ended the session with a paper about the response of French society to the Armenian Genocide during the last century.

Prospects of Dialogue and Reconciliation

The final session on Sunday afternoon was "Prospects of Dialogue and Reconciliation." Elazar Barkan (Claremont Graduate University) stressed that the very large political shift since 1990, with the growth of human rights and the end of the Cold War, facilitates recognition of past events as important to current identity.

Bedross Der Matossian (PhD candidate, Columbia University) made a comparative study of Turkish liberal historiography, which aims at challenging the "official history" or "state narrative" of the Genocide. He assessed the works of Taner Akcam, Fatma Müge Göcek, Fikret Adanır, Halil Berkay and other Turkish scholars.

Fatma Müge Göcek (University of Michigan-Ann Arbor) addressed some of the subjects that are at the center of the historical controversy in Turkey. She stressed factors that must be taken into account, including the ignorance of the general public about the Genocide as the result of the official machinery: "We have to educate Turkish society. I certainly do hope that Turks will come to the recognition of their past. But they have to be educated; to have that knowledge be accessible to them."

Simon Payaslian (Clark University) in his talk on the "Anatomy of Post-Genocide Reconciliation," made a critique of attempts at applying other models of reconciliation (e.g. Peru and South Africa) to the Armeno-Turkish case. He also criticized the work of the now-defunct Turkish-Armenian Reconciliation Commission (TARC) for its lack of transparency and legitimacy.

After a lively discussion, Hovannian summarized the proceedings and made closing remarks. The conference was enhanced by an exhibition of photographs of Armenian Genocide memorial monuments worldwide, taken by Hrair "Hawk" Khatcherian of Quebec and mounted by Richard and Anne Elizabeth Elbrecht.

The publication of the proceedings will offer the opportunity for these important contributions reach a much wider audience.



ARCHIVE

SOURCE: California Courier: Glendale, CA

DATE: June 23, 2005

SUBJECT: Catholicos Visits Fresno

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Catholicos Karekin II Continues Pontifical Visit to Central California

FRESNO - Catholicos Karekin II departed Los Angeles for Fresno, continuing his Pontifical visit to the United States with a trip to Central and Northern California.

Accompanied by Archbishop Hovnan Derderian, and his entourage, the Pontiff was greeted at the Fresno airport at 11 a.m. by the clergy of the region, as well as representatives of the Parish Councils, Ladies' Societies and ACYOs.

At 12 noon a "Hrashapar" service took place at the St. Paul Armenian Church, marking his official entrance into the San Joaquin Valley.

The Catholicos was accompanied by Primate Derderian as well as Archbishop Nerses Bozabalyan from the Mother See, Archbishop Vatche Hovsepian, and Vicar General of the Diocese Very Rev. Fr. Dajad Dz. V. Yerdiyan. Participating in the service were the Pastors of St. Gregory the illuminator Church of Fowler, Sts. Sahag Mesrob Armenian Church of Reedley, St. Mary Armenian Church of Yettem, Holy Cross Armenian Church in Turlock, visiting Pastor of the Armenian Church of Arizona, and Archpriest Fr. Artoon Semadian, retired, as well as deacons and choir members.

The Catholicos praised God for the opportunity for a second visit to the Western Diocese. He spoke of the difficulties facing the Armenian Church and conveyed his optimism that combined efforts will make it possible to overcome difficulties. Following the service, Catholicos Karekin II held a press conference, and was interviewed by local media and press.

The following day, The Catholicos celebrated Pontifical Divine Liturgy on June 12, at St. Paul Armenian Church with the participation of the clergy and parishes of Central California.

Serving on the Altar were Archpriest Fr. Vartan Kasparian, Pastor of St. Mary Armenian Church in Yettem, and Archpriest Fr. Kevork Arakelian Pastor of St. Gregory Armenian Church in Fowler. Deacons also participated in the Liturgy. The Liturgy was sung by the united choir of Central California. Primate of the Catholic Church of Fresno, Bishop John Steinbeck was also in attendance.

A large number of faithful received Holy Communion from the Catholicos.

A Pontifical banquet followed at the Fresno Convention Center, where the Catholicos blessed the attendees, praised God and commended the work of Reception Committee.

The Catholicos, accompanied by Archbishop Derderian, and his entourage, paid a visit to the Fresno Mayor's Office, June 13.

Deputy Mayor Roger Montero welcomed the religious leader, thanked him for his Pontifical visit, and introduced the city officials and members of the City Council in attendance. Following his remarks he invited the Pontiff to conduct a prayer.

The Deputy Mayor presented a plaque to the Catholicos on behalf of the Mayor's Office.

The Catholicos extended his gratitude saying that this marked his third visit to Fresno. He conveyed his appreciation and gratitude to the State of California and expressed his hopefulness that one day the United States will acknowledge and recognize the Armenian Genocide. He also expressed his gratitude to the Mayor's office for their respect and warm reception.

With his blessings the Pontiff also presented an Armenian artifact to the Deputy Mayor.

The remarks of His Holiness were translated to English by Rev. Fr. Ktrij Devejian, Director of the Foreign Press Office of the Mother See.

The Catholicos paid a visit to the Armenian Community School of Fresno which currently has an enrollment of around 100 children. The Catholicos blessed the children and the school faculty.

At Noon the same day, the religious leader attended a lunch hosted by the Fresno Rotary Club, attended by around 200 guests. Upon entrance into the hall, Karekin II blessed the guests.

Following remarks from members of the club Deacon Dr. Varoujan Altebarmakian, Chairman of the Diocesan Council, and invited the Pontiff to address the attendees.

The Catholicos extended his gratitude to the Rotary Club for this opportunity and prayed for God's blessings upon all.

Later that afternoon, accompanied by Archbishop Derderian, and his entourage, Catholicos Karekin II visited the grave of Soghomon Tehlirian, located in the Armenian memorial park of Fresno.

A Requiem Service was held for the souls of the Armenian martyrs and Tehlirian, who executed the mastermind of the Armenian Genocide, Talaat Pasha in Berlin, in 1921.

His Holiness delivered his message on the theme of justice and the irrepressible spirit of Armenians. The faithful then approached the Catholicos to receive his blessings.

The Catholicos concluded his busy day in Fresno with a meeting with the pastors and parish council members of the Central California parishes, held at St. Paul Armenian Church in Fresno.



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Catholicos...

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While in Fresno, the Catholicos and his entourage visited Holy Trinity Armenian Church on June 14. His Holiness was greeted by Pastor Rev. Fr. Vahan Gostanian, and was led towards the altar. Following his prayer, the Pontiff delivered his message to the faithful in attendance, blessed them and urged them to protect their faith and national heritage.

Later that morning, the Catholicos visited the California State University of Fresno, which also houses an Armenian Studies Program.

Deacon Barlow Der Mugrdechian officially welcomed the religious leader to the campus and introduced President John Welty, as well as professors of the school. They discussed issues related to education and connections with Armenia.

During the luncheon that ensued, President Welty welcomed the Catholicos, and presented him the Highest Medal of the University.

On behalf of the Armenian Studies Program Deacon Barlow presented to the Catholicos six lithographs by Varaz Samuelian, a painter and sculptor who lived in Fresno and died 10 years ago.

That afternoon, Archbishop Nerses Bozabalyan, Archbishop Vatche Hovsepian, and several clergy visited the California Old Age Home and were extended a warm welcome by the staff.

The administration and staff honored the clergy in an out-

door reception.

On June 15, the Catholicos and his entourage paid a visit to Sacramento's Capitol, joined by local Pastor of St. James Armenian Church, Rev. Fr. Yeghia Hairabedian.

The Catholicos met with several city officials including Senator Chuck Poochigian.

A noon reception was held in the Governor's State Room with the presence of several state legislators and congressional officers, including senators Jackie Speier, Charles Poochigian, Joe Simitian, Jack Scott, Dave Cox, Elaine Alquist, Dick Ackerman, Abel Maldonado, Richard Alarcon, Bob Margett, and Roy Ashburn. Assembly members in attendance were Greg Aghazarian, Carol Liu, Dave Jones, Jackie Goldberg, Cindy Montanez, Audra Strickland, Alan Nakanishi, Betty Karner (Chief of Staff Attended), Jerome Horten, William Emmerson, Bonnie Garcia, Mimi Walters, and Rick Keene.

Representing the Office of the Governor were Lisa Kalustian and John Kaboteck.

Later that afternoon, Catholicos Karekin II, accompanied by the Primate and his entourage had a private meeting with California State Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. The Governor extended a warm welcome to the Pontiff on the occasion of his visit and wished him well on his spiritual mission.



ARMENIAN STUDIES PROGRAM

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ARCHIVE

SOURCE: The Armenian Reporter Int'l: Paramus, NJ
SUBJECT: SAS Celebrates 30th Anniversary

DATE: July 9, 2005
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A portion of the audience at the reception at UCLA honoring five founders and celebrating the 30th anniversary of SAS

give a brief history of the Society. He then presented a plaque to Professor Hovannian, Armenian Education Foundation Professor of Modern Armenian History at UCLA, honoring him for his role as a founder of the Society.

Professor Hovannian then spoke of the early years when the need for such an organization made itself felt. There were no Armenian studies programs as late as the 1950s, but they began burgeoning in the 1960s. For the future growth of Armenian studies, it was important for Armenian scholars to have closer contact with each other and share information and research findings in a common forum.

The closest venue for such a purpose proved to be the Middle

East Studies Association (MESA), of which a number of the Armenian scholars were already members. In fact, it was at one of MESA's annual conferences (this one held in Boston) that the five scholars being honored met over coffee and decided to found SAS, which was then made an affiliate organization of MESA in 1974. Thus was created the oldest scholarly body of its kind. Ever since, SAS, which now enjoys a membership of some 200, has arranged for numerous Armenian panels as part of the annual MESA programs, at which both faculty and graduate students in Armenian studies have participated.

The declared goals of SAS are "to promote the study of Armenian culture and society, includ-

ing history, language, literature, and social, political, and economic questions; to facilitate the exchange of scholarly information pertaining to Armenian studies around the world; and to sponsor panels and conferences on Armenian studies."

Founders Drs. Nina Garsoian, Dickran Kouymian and Robert Thomson were unable to be present. Ms. Gia Aivazian, Librarian for Armenian and Greek at UCLA, accepted a plaque on behalf of the family of the late Dr. Avedis Sanjian of UCLA. His son, Professor Gregory Sanjian, had sent a message thanking the Friends and SAS for their "recognition of the years of service my father, Professor Avedis K. Sanjian, gave to the Society for Armenian Studies. . . Dad was deeply committed to the development of the Armenian Studies program at UCLA and to the intellectual mission of the Society. He served both institutions proudly and with an unwavering sense of responsibility. . . ." Dr. Avedis Sanjian was also the founding editor of the award-winning Journal for Armenian Studies. Ms. Aivazian, speaking on behalf of the graduate students who had studied with Professor Sanjian, mentioned how encouraging and supportive the professor had been in arranging for them to participate on the various conference panels organized by SAS.

Dr. Hrair Dekmejian, professor of Political Science at USC, spoke about the ties between SAS and organizations with which it is affiliated, such as MESA, while Dr. Robert Hewsen spoke about the various publications of the Society, including the Journal and the Newsletter. Finally, Miss Arpi Siyahian, current President of the UCLA Armenian Graduate Students Association, read a congratulatory message from the UCLA Graduate Students Council.

The November 7 reception was co-sponsored by the Friends of the UCLA Armenian Language and Culture Studies and the Society for Armenian Studies. The members of the organizing committee were Parouir Akopian (President of the Friends), Zareh Vartivarian (Vice President), Art Honanian (Treasurer), Shushan Karapetian (Recording Secretary), Rita Mahdessian, Nazeli Charchian, Raffi Dishakjian, Sossi Kevonian, Hasmig Baran and Gia Aivazian (Corresponding Secretary) from the Friends and Levon Marashlian and Joseph Kechichian from SAS.

The evening's ambiance was enhanced by a musical bouquet of light classical pieces and Armenian favorites offered by Zvart Julhyan on flute and Carol Robbins on harp.



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Celebrating the 30th Anniversary of the Society for Armenian Studies

BY GIA AIVAZIAN

LOS ANGELES, CA - The 30th anniversary of the Society for Armenian Studies (SAS) was marked by an elegant reception at the Charles Young Grand Salon, Kerkhoff Hall, UCLA, on the evening of Sunday, November 7, 2005 in the presence of some 150 enthusiastic guests. The

event was organized by the Boards of the Society for Armenian Studies, the Friends of UCLA Armenian Language and Culture Studies, and the UCLA Armenian Student Association.

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The main purpose of this occasion was to honor the founders of the Society, namely, Professors Richard G. Hovannisian (UCLA), the late Avedis K. Sanjian (UCLA), Nina G. Garsoian (Columbia University), Robert W. Thomson (Harvard, then Oxford), and Dickran Kouymjian (AUB, later CSU Fresno). The invited guests were members of the Society, some of whom were also participants of the two-day conference titled "Armenian Jerusalem," organized by Professor Hovannisian, members of the Friends, and a few notable members of the community.

The first part of the evening was essentially the social hour, during which the guests mixed and enjoyed a pleasant time eating and chatting or getting acquainted. The second hour constituted the formal part of the evening. The master of ceremonies was Professor S. Peter Cowe, the present holder of the Narekatsi Chair for Armenian Studies, who welcomed the guests, explained the purpose of the gathering and invited Professor Barlow Der Mugrdechian of the Armenian Studies Program at California State University, Fresno and the then President of SAS, to the podium.

Prof. Der Mugrdechian thanked the Board of the Friends for joining forces with the SAS Board in organizing the reception and then proceeded to



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SUBJECT: Minasian Aims to Uncover Genocide's Screen Link

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California Author Aims to Uncover Genocide's Screen Link

By Brooke Bryant

MORAGA, Calif. (Contra Costa Times) — As a child in the 1930s, Ed Minasian often found refuge in the movie theater across the street from the three-story tenement where he grew up in Massachusetts.

"From our window I could see the Grace Episcopal Church, and next to it was the Capitol Theater. On some Sundays, I chose the latter over the former," Minasian said. At 10 cents a show, it was the best entertainment value of the day, and the darkened theater offered an escape from everyday woes.

There was plenty to escape from: The Depression was in full swing on one side of the ocean, Adolf Hitler was coming to power on the other and in the Armenian community he grew up in, the memory of the atrocities committed against his people during the genocide that began in 1915 was still fresh.

For someone of Armenian descent, it rarely takes long for the conversation to circle around to the genocide 90 years ago. For Minasian, it takes no time at all for the conversation to circle around to movies.

The 80-year-old Moraga resident, who lost siblings during the mass killings, has spent 24 years

researching the place where those two circles intersect: 1930s Hollywood. His findings, which he hopes to publish in a book, detail how the Turkish government managed to squelch repeated attempts by MGM studios to make a movie about the Genocide.

The Armenian community had hoped the film would finally bring international attention to their plight, and he felt the loss keenly.

"All of us knew, yes, Turkey had something to do with stopping that movie from being made, but we never knew who, what, when, where, why?" Minasian said. "Well, I found out."

He was 10 when the book that piqued MGM's interest — Franz Werfel's *The Forty Days of Musa Dagh* — came out in 1934. It quickly topped the bestseller charts, but it was another 10 years before he finally sat down to read it.

By then Minasian was in the Air Force, "stationed in a godforsaken place in west Texas called Rattlesnake Army Air Base," where they trucked in girls from nearby towns on the weekends to dance with the GIs.

"None of us ever got to finish a dance, because we were always cut in, but I had plenty of time to read in my off hours," he said. He found the book at the base library. "I read that book more often than any other book. I used to read it every April ... because April is the anniversary of the Genocide."

Werfel's novel is a fictionalized account of the following events: Having heard about the soaring death tolls on the forced "death marches" to the Syrian desert, the villagers of Musa Dagh decided to resist Turkish forces. Nearly two months later, the survivors were rescued by the French, who spotted their distress banners from nearby ships.

The villagers were relocated to the Middle East, where they formed a community in the Anjar area of present-day Lebanon, said Barlow Der Mugrdechian, a professor of Armenian Studies at Fresno State University who knows of Minasian's project. The incident is "a well-known story to the Armenians."

But the book, written by an Austrian Jew as Hitler was gaining influence, had an even broader appeal. It was embraced with particular enthusiasm by Jews who saw it as an inspirational tale and Germany quickly banned the book.

"I say, look, if the world had responded to the Armenian Genocide, there might not have been a Holocaust," Minasian said.

When MGM bought the rights, intending to bring the story to the screen with the help of Hollywood greats like producer Irving Thalberg

and Armenian director Rouben Mamoulian, Armenians everywhere were ecstatic, he recalled. "That wonderful book is going to be made into a movie, and that movie will play all over the world, and finally our story of the Genocide will get out."

The celebration was short-lived.

MGM soon dropped that project, and several subsequent attempts over the next few decades. It was widely rumored that the deal collapsed under pressure from the Turkish government, and in 1981, Minasian decided to find out exactly what had happened.

Over the next decades, Minasian sifted through archives from Armenian newspapers, Hollywood institutions and the US State Department to piece together a picture of the doomed flick's fate.

Between raising a family and pursuing a teaching career, he has written articles on the topic published by the National Association for Armenian Studies and Research, and a 300-page manuscript he hopes to publish soon.

"He's done a rather thorough study of this whole issue," said UCLA's Prof. Richard Hovannisian, a leading scholar of Armenian studies. Turkey's role in the movie's demise isn't a matter of speculation, it's well-documented in diplomatic correspondences in the US State Department archives, he said. "(The movie) would have attracted worldwide attention on the screen so the quashing of the work was a blow to historical memory."

In his quest to document who dealt that blow, Minasian was granted rare access to MGM's archives by the studio's story editor, Samuel Marx, and he spent more than a week sifting through four grocery carts filled with files on the Musa Dagh movie. He dictated the interesting bits into his tape recorder. It took nearly three years after that to transcribe the recordings into notes.

Over the years, he also read through Werfel's papers housed at UCLA and the scripts kept by the American Film Institute.

To cap it off, he used the Freedom of Information Act to get the State Department's file on MGM and the Musa Dagh movie.

Minasian knows he faces a few publishing hurdles. To begin with, he's an unknown author with no agent, and also, he's been told his subject is "esoteric" and "passé." He figures he may end up self-publishing the book.

His passion for film is one of the forces driving the project, evident in the old movie posters lining

his walls. Conversations about almost anything can lead back to movies, from the book Minasian just finished reading (*The Da Vinci Code*, whose movie version will star Tom Hanks) to Armenia's early embrace of Christianity (which elicits a reference to the recent Crusades flick "Kingdom of Heaven").

When "Sideways" came out last year, Minasian was the first to spread the word throughout the local Armenian community. Some of the final scenes feature an Armenian-American wedding filmed at a real Southern California Armenian church.

For Minasian, the Genocide isn't just history, it's family history.

His parents both survived the massacre but lost their first spouses and some of their children. His mother was 19 when she watched the men in her village, including her first husband, marched away by Turkish soldiers, carrying the shovels to dig their own graves. His mother and sister joined the long line of Armenians forced to march toward the Syrian desert, with only as much food and water as they could carry.

His father was already living in the United States, hoping to send for his first wife and three children back in Turkey, when the massacre began. Only one daughter from that marriage survived, and when Minasian met her in 1976, she told him about a brother he had never heard of, who died of typhus at age 3 on one of the forced marches. Minasian, who still wonders why his father never mentioned the little boy, now carries a copy of the child's picture in his wallet. His work is a tribute to them.

"I see it as my legacy for my folks, who were survivors, and so many of the people I came to know in my youth and even now," he said. "You see, we're not fighting for vengeance, we're fighting for justice. We want the Turkish government to own up to what they did."