

# society for armenian studies

## NEWSLETTER

Vol. V, No. 2 (12), Spring, 1980

### REPORT ON SAS COUNCIL MEETING, APRIL 1980

The spring meeting of the Administrative Council for the Society for Armenian Studies, Inc., was held on Sunday, April 13, 1980 at 10:30 a.m. at 6 Divinity Avenue, Cambridge, Mass. All members were present: Avedis Sanjian, chairman; Robert Thomson, treasurer; Loretta Nassar, secretary; Gerard Libaridian, editor; Artin Arslanian, Dickran Kouymjian, and Ronald Suny. The following is a summary of the decisions made at that meeting.

#### SAS participation at '80 MESA Meeting:

Based on the proposals for panels received by the chairman, the Council decided to co-sponsor with the Middle East Studies Association two panels during its 1980 Annual Meeting, scheduled for November 6-9, 1980 in Washington, D.C. The panels are entitled "Perspectives on Women in Armenian Literature and Art" and "Letters, Colophons, and Autobiography as Sources for Armenian History." (See details under *Conferences*).

#### Sponsorship of new publications:

The chairman presented the proposal made by a number of interested individuals and groups that the SAS sponsor and publish a journal of Armenian Studies. After discussing the matter, the Council concluded that such a project was not feasible and advisable at the moment. Instead, the publication of an annual collection of essays which might include papers presented at symposia or of occasional papers were found more acceptable. The chairman asked the Council to give some thought to the composition of an editorial board.

#### Guide to Armenian Studies:

The Council reviewed the suggestion made to the SAS by Prof. Robert Hewsen that a Guide to Armenian Studies around the world be compiled under the sponsorship of the SAS. It was decided that the SAS would not itself undertake such a project, but would support Prof. Hewsen should he decide to assume the responsibility for the project himself.

#### Annual Symposium:

The Council accepted in principle to co-sponsor with Harvard University the Symposium on the Armenian Diaspora to be held at Harvard in early Spring 1981. The chairman of the Council will apply for financial support once details of the symposium have been planned by the coordinator, Prof. Thomson.

#### Armenian History textbook project:

The Council discussed at length the proposal made by Robert Hewsen and Artin Arslanian to form a Committee for the purpose of preparing a textbook of Armenian history. The proposal called for the preparation of a text to be used for a two-semester survey course in Armenian history in college and universities.

Members of the Council agreed that such a text, or series of texts, was necessary. Discussion evolved around the questions as to whether it was proper for the SAS to undertake such a project and whether the SAS was equipped to undertake it. It was agreed that no

Cont. on Page 7

### NEWS OF INTEREST

#### FULBRIGHT LECTURESHIPS TO THE U.S.S.R.

There is a good possibility that of the approximately twenty scholars who will be nominated for Fulbright Lectureships to the U.S.S.R., two or three will be Armenian-American professors, according to William A. James, Program Officer for the U.S.S.R. program of the Council for the International Exchange of Scholars.

The information is contained in a letter addressed to Mr. Ross Vartan, Executive Director of the Armenian Assembly.

According to Mr. James, Armenian officials and scholars at the State University of Yerevan and the Yerevan Polytechnical Institute showed great interest in seeing Armenian speaking professors from the U.S. teach in that language in a number of fields.

Mr. James is inviting Armenian-American scholars and professors to apply for positions for the academic year 1981-82. The deadline for applications has been extended to August 29 to accommodate candidates who were not aware of the positions. Interested individuals are invited to call the Program office (202) 833-4990 or write to Mr. William A. James, Council for International Exchange of Scholars, Suite 300, Eleven Dupont Circle, Washington, D.C., 20036.

#### EXHIBITION IN BRITISH LIBRARY

The British Library in London has planned an exhibition of Early Armenian Printing, 1515-1850 which will feature Armenian books printed during that time and currently available at the Library. The Exhibition will be open from July through December, 1980 and will coincide with the publication of a catalogue of antiquarian Armenian printed material in the British Library by Dr. Vrej Nersessian.

#### ARMENIAN ASSEMBLY PROVIDES ASSISTANCE IN GRANTSMANSHIP

The Armenian Assembly has announced that a community-wide grants service now offers information and assistance to grants seekers. To enhance Armenian participation in the grants process and increase federal funding for existing and needed services in the Armenian community, a full-time grants professional has been added to the Assembly staff.

Ms. Susan Carlin joined the Assembly's staff as Grants Coordinator, June 1, 1980. Working out of the Washington office, Ms. Susan Carlin will make grants information readily available to the Armenian community and will assist individuals and groups in developing and submitting grant applications.

Ms. Carlin's services eventually will include: 1) preparation and publication of annual federal program guides, 2) preparation and submission of grant applications for the Assembly, as well as for other Armenian organizations, 3) consultant assistance in grant preparation, and 4) grantsmanship workshops.

The Assembly invites scholars in the field of Armenian studies to utilize Ms. Carlin's experience and expertise in the field. Interested individuals could call (202) 833-1367 or write to The Armenian Assembly, 522 Twenty-First Street, N.W., Suite 120, Washington D.C., 20006.



# ARMENIAN STUDIES IN PROGRESS

## Activities by SAS members compiled by Nazaret Nai

### Recent Publications

Baliozian, A., *Armenia Observed: An Anthology*. Ararat Press, N.Y. 1979.

Hovannisian, R.G., *The Armenian Holocaust: A Bibliography Relating to the Deportations, Massacres, and Dispersion of the Armenian People, 1915-1923*. Armenian Heritage Press, Cambridge, 1980.

La Fontaine, G., *La Version Arménienne des oeuvres d'Aphraate le Syrien: Tome II*.

Texte. CSCO 405. Louvain, 1979.

Traduction. CSCO. 406. Louvain, 1979.

Nersessian, V., *A Collection of Articles on the New Testament* (In Arm.). May 1980.

....., *Catalogue of Early Armenian Printed Books, 1512-1850 in the British Library and the Bodleian Library*, including an introduction on the history of Armenian printing. July 1980.

(Articles published recently by SAS members will be incorporated in the forthcoming Volume II of the *SAS Bibliography*).

### Forthcoming Publications: Articles

Atamian, A., "Guy de Lusignan," "Het'um I," "Leo I/II," "Lusignans," "Ruben," "Rubenids," "Cilician Kingdom," "Cilician and Roman Church Union," "Het'umids," "Leo V/VI," "Ayas," "Het'um II," "Lambron," "Sis," "Tarsus," "Vahka," *The Dictionary of the Middle Ages* (Charles Scribner's Sons).

Balekjian, K.Y., "On the Method of Approach to Old Armenian Classics," *TAR*, 1980.

Boudjikianian, A., "La Diaspora aux XIX<sup>e</sup> et XX<sup>e</sup> Siècles," *Histoire de l'Arménie et du Peuple Arménien* (Ed. Privat, France, Fall 1980); "Industrie et regroupements communautaires: Le cas Arménien en Industrialisation, espace et changements sociaux dans l'Orient Arabe (Centre d'Etudes et de Recherches du Moyen Orient Contemporain - CERMOC).

Bournoutian, G., "Four Centuries of Etchmiadzin," *Ararat*, Summer 1980; "Taxes in Eastern Armenia in the 19th Century," *TAR*, 1980; "State and Religion in Iran, the Background of the

Present Revolution," *Religio e Sociedade* (in Portuguese).

Der-Karapetian, A., "Dual Cultural Identity of Armenian-American Teenagers," *Psychological Reports*.

Der Manuelian, L., "Armenian Art," *The Dictionary of the Middle Ages* (Charles Scribner's Sons);

Hewsen, R.H., "Etchmiadzin" and "Lazarev Family" in *The Modern Encyclopedia of Russian and Soviet History* (MERSH).

Winkler, G., "A Remarkable Shift in the Oriental Creeds at the Fourth Century: An analysis of the Armenian, Syriac, and Greek Evidence," *Eighth International Conference on Patristic Studies Held at Oxford, 1979*.

### Current Research

Afanasian, S.: The Transcaucasian Republics, 1918-1923 (in the archives of the French Foreign Ministry).

Baliozian, A.: Revised and expanded edition of his book *The Armenians: Their History and Culture*.

Battersby, H.R.: Urartian Civilization-Archaeology.

Bournoutian, G.: Eastern Armenia during the last decades of Persian rule.

Dekmejian, R.H.: The effects of Islam on Middle Eastern politics and U.S. strategic interests. Ethnicity in politics.

Der Manuelian, L.: Medieval Armenian architecture: History, documentation, constructional techniques; Armenian architectural sculpture and its relation to Byzantine and Western medieval art.

Garsoian, N.G.: Iranian influences on Early Christian Armenia.

Greppin, J.A.C.: Armenian etymology and phonology.

Harlan, S.D.: Armenian textbook (College levels I and II).

Hewsen, R.H.: Chronology of 4th century Armenian History and the circumstances surrounding the conversion; the aftermath of the conversion.

Hovannisian, R.G.: Republic of Armenia, Volume III.

Khatchadourian, A.: Archetypal patterns in the roles of women and formulaic language in *David of Sassoun*.

Kulhanjian, G.A.: Armenian immigrants of New Jersey.

La Fontaine, G.: Gregory the Theologian: critical edition of the Armenian version of his works.

Matossian, M.K.: Adaption of the Armenians to their physical environment and the pagan roots of their symbolic culture.

Mouradian, C.S.: History of Soviet Armenia.

Nersessian, V.: A union catalogue of those Armenian manuscripts in the United Kingdom not yet listed or described, as well as those newly acquired by the British Library; the Armenian Church.

Oshagan, V.: Cosmopolitan tendencies in 19th Century West Armenian letters.

Sanjian, A.K.: Catalogue of medieval Armenian manuscripts at UCLA; *Gregory Magistros: A Medieval Armenian Humanist*.

Toumanoff, C.: second, revised edition of his *Manuel de genealogie et de chronologie pour l'histoire de la Caucase Chretienne*.

Winkler, G.: The origins of the Bible quotations in Agathangelos; comparative studies in the (Armenian) Teaching of St. Gregory, the (Coptic) Gospel of Philip and the (Syriac) Odes of Solomon and Ephrem; the various layers of christologies in the Teaching of St. Gregory.

### Papers and Lectures presented

(Items presented under *Conferences* in the *Newsletter* are excluded)

Bournoutian, G., "Armenians in Iran," March 1980, Columbia University.

Bardakjian, K., "Mount Ararat in Armenian Culture," 93rd MLA Convention, San Francisco, December 1979.

Cox, C.E., "The Textual Relations of the Armenian Version of

Cont. on Page 5

### SAS NEWSLETTER

The *SAS Newsletter* is published in the fall, winter, and spring of every year by the Society for Armenian Studies, Inc., 6 Divinity Avenue, Room 103, Cambridge, Mass. 02138.

The *Newsletter* is distributed to members of the society. Subscription to the *Newsletter* is available to individuals and institutions for \$5 per year. The fee includes subscription to the *Annual Bibliography of Articles on Armenian Studies* published by the SAS. All inquiries regarding SAS publications should be addressed to the Editor.

#### Officers of the SAS:

Chairman: Prof. Avedis K. Sanjian, Department of Near Eastern Languages, University of California, 405 Hilgard Avenue, Los Angeles, Calif. 90024.

Secretary: Loretta Nassar, 27 Esmond Place, Tenafly, New Jersey 07670.

Treasurer: Prof. Robert W. Thomson, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, Harvard University, 6 Divinity Avenue, Cambridge, Mass., 02138.  
Prof. Artin Arslanian, Dickran Kouymjian, Gerard Libaridian, Ronald Suny.

#### Newsletter Editorial Board:

Arthur Beylerian, John A.C. Greppin, Robert H. Hewsen, Nazaret Naltchayan.

Editor: Gerard J. Libaridian

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# THE STATUS OF ARMENIAN ORAL HISTORY

by Levon Marashlian

The field of oral history is especially important to Armenian studies since the greatest tragedy in Armenian history took place in the recent past and, consequently, researchers have the opportunity to interview survivors of that holocaust. The recollections of Armenians who lived through the First World War are of exceptional value because they provide eye-witness accounts of the deportation and massacres, as well as first-hand information on the social, cultural, religious, and political life in the Ottoman Empire. This data has an intrinsic value for the study of the Ottoman Armenian community, while the documentation of the genocide is relevant to contemporary issues.

In view of the scholarly value of Armenian oral history and the relevance of this scholarship to the shaping of the history of the diaspora, the overall record of the academic and non-academic communities in this area appears weak—in spite of the efforts of a few pioneering individuals and organizations. The sole purpose of this article is to examine Armenian oral history programs and offers some observations, with the hope that current efforts will be intensified to retrieve as much of the past on tape as possible.

To make this study as comprehensive as possible, I sent out a form letter in the summer of 1979 to organizations and persons known to have been involved in oral history projects. The Armenian Educational Council (AEC), Professor Richard Hovannisian of UCLA, and the Armenian Library and Museum of America (ALMA) responded. Despite follow-up attempts by telephone, personal contact, or messenger, my form letter was not answered by the National Association for Armenian Studies and Research, the Armenian Youth Federation, or the Armenian Assembly. In the Assembly's case, I was able to piece together some information from press releases and by attending the Oral History Workshop held in Fresno, California in January, 1980.

It was not until 55 years after the 1915 genocide that an oral history project was begun. The AEC initiated a program in January, 1967. Dr. V. L. Parseghian, Dr. Seth Arsenian, and Dr. Pergrouhi Svajian developed a questionnaire/guide to be used in interviews, checking their approach with the Hebrew University of Jerusalem; Dr. Majorie Housepian-Dobkin and others assisted. (This guide has been the core of all subsequent ones; it was extensively revised later by ALMA). The AEC began interviewing the same year and set up several working centers in other areas. According to Dr. Parseghian, however, the initial excitement at these centers died rather quickly when the main office in Troy, New York, was unable to maintain a continuous follow-up.

The AEC has in its possession approximately 125 interviews; the collection includes several interviews conducted by Mr. Harry Takooshian and some colleagues (for which AEC gave financial support), and copies of 45 interviews conducted by ALMA (again with AEC support).

In 1970, after having done several interviews himself, Dr. Hovannisian began engaging graduate students at UCLA in oral history work. The AEC provided a few hundred dollars which Dr. Hovannisian used toward the purchase of recorders and tapes. The bulk of the cost of interviewing during the ensuing years was borne personally by Hovannisian. With the establishment of this course at UCLA, for the first time Armenian interviews were conducted to meet university requirements and the standards of a demanding instructor. Changing it into a combined undergraduate/graduate course in 1977 made it possible to gather a much larger number of interviews.

The ten-week course consists of one three-hour class session per

week, during which the students are instructed in the philosophy and methods of oral history and are given the pertinent historical and geographical background essential to conducting good interviews. As the course progresses, the students compare experiences and learn to correct problem areas so that the following interviews might be improved. The student is required to do 10 interviews, take a photograph of the subject, get a release signed, fill out an index, and write a two to five page summary of each interview. The course has been offered four times, Spring 1980 being the most recent, and it will be offered again.

Over 400 interviews (close to 1,000 cassettes) are stored at UCLA. These include some interviews done on a volunteer basis such as when six students went to Fresno one summer and conducted 47 interviews in two days.

ALMA's program was established in 1975 by Mrs. Bethel Bilezikian Charkoudian and Mr. Vigen Der Manuelian, who also expanded the AEC's questionnaire/guide to its present detailed form. It covers not only the topic of genocide but also such areas as social customs, political life, school systems, economic life and immigration to America. (This version of the guide is used by all programs today). ALMA received an initial grant of \$300 from the AEC (in exchange for copies of the first 45 interviews), a grant of \$2,500 from the Alex Manoogian Foundation, as well as donations from interviewers and interviewees.

The ALMA program was carried out by volunteers, "a very difficult proposition", according to Mrs. Charkoudian. Interviewees were located mostly by word of mouth since relying on newspaper articles and clergymen did not work well. Still, ALMA succeeded in producing about 200 interviews, almost 600 cassettes. Some have been duplicated and there are plans to transcribe them in the future. The program is presently in abeyance. Mrs. Charkoudian, meanwhile, is assisting the Armenian Assembly Oral History Project as a volunteer consultant.

The Assembly's project was established in 1978; it is the first one organized on a salaried basis. The Project Director is Dr. Dennis Papazian, the Coordinator is Mr. Laurens Ayvazian, and there are a number of advisors and consultants. Thus far, the Assembly has put on oral history workshops in New York, Detroit, and Fresno; Dr. Hovannisian has participated in all of them. At these workshops, prospective interviewers were introduced to the concept and procedures of interviewing, and those wishing to do interviews were given a useful packet containing maps, the questionnaire/guide, and other relevant material. The interviewers are paid \$10 per one-hour tape; the procedure is similar to the UCLA course, except that the Assembly does not ask for a summary. Nearly 80 interviews have signed up across the country, and about 185 interviews have been completed. The ultimate goal of the project is to produce 250 interviews and to index, transcribe, and translate them into English.

The above numbers suggest that, on the average, each interviewer will do only a few interviews. After having done 20 interviews myself for the UCLA program and on my own, I know that it takes several interviews to acquire proficiency. As the project is now structured, the goal of 250 interviews will be reached just when the interviewers will have become proficient in their task.

A qualitatively richer and more cost-effective approach would have been to enlist the full-time services of a dozen or so highly trained and well paid interviewers in order to do justice to the knowledge and insight of the surviving Armenians.

One should recognize that interviewers are sacrificing considerable time and effort. Considering the incidental time and expenditure spent to bring about an interview, an interviewer is actually being paid only \$3 - \$6 per hour. Nonetheless, any interview is better than none. And the fact remains that with the project undertaken by the Armenian Assembly, Armenian oral history received some of the community-wide and government support it merits; and the Assembly project made it possible to break out of the confines im-

Cont. on Page 7



# CONFERENCES

## Symposium on the Genocide in Los Angeles, April 19, 1980

A symposium entitled "The Study of the Armenian Genocide: Problems and Prospects" was organized by the Department of Armenian Studies of the American Armenian International College, La Verne, California.

The Following papers were presented:

Robert Melson (Purdue University), "Provocation or Estrangement: A theoretical Inquiry into Armenian Genocide;"

Vahakn Dadrian (State University of New York, Geneseo), "The Formal and Informal Aspects of Turkish Decision Making in the Genocide of the Armenians;"

Irving Horowitz (Rutgers University), "The Question of Genocide and the Reconstruction of Social Theory;"

Norman Ravitch (University of California, Riverside), "Historians and the Armenian Genocide;"

Jame Reid (University of California, Los Angeles), "Turkish and Ottoman Historiography and the Armenian Massacres;"

Gerard Libaridian (American Armenian International College), "Directions in Armenian Historiography on the Genocide."

## Symposium on the Genocide in Germany, April 25-27, 1980

The Theodor-Heuss Academy (Friedrich-Naumann Foundation) in Bad Marienberg, Federal Republic of Germany, sponsored a symposium entitled "The First Genocide of the 20th Century- the Persecution of the Armenians." The Conference brought together a number of European writers, jurists, and historians. The following papers were presented:

Arthur Beylerian (Paris), "Politische Vorgehichte und geistesgeschichtlicher Hintergrund des Völkermords im Osmanischen Reich an den Armeniern 1915 (in French);"

Wilhelm V. Kampen (Osnabruck), "Die Armenier-Verfolgungen im Osmanischen Reich vor 1914 und die öffentliche Meinung in Deutschland;"

Peter Heine (Munster), "Die armenische Tragedie und ihre Behandlung im kaiserlichen Deutschland und in der international Politik;"

Knut Ipsen (Bochum), "Das armenische Problem aus volkerrechtlicher sicht;"

Karl Josef Partsch, "Die Armenierfrage und das Volkerrecht in der Zeit des ersten Weltkrieges, insbesondere das Wirken von Andre Mandelstam;"

Tessa Hofmann (Berlin), "Die Armenierfrage und das Volkerrecht in der Türkei;"

Meguerditch Bouldoukian (Paris), "Die Lage der Armenier in der Diaspora" (in English).

The proceedings of the conference are expected to be published.

## Conference on Ottoman social and economic history in France, June, 30-July 4, 1980

The Institute of Turkish Studies at the University of Strasbourg, France, sponsored an international conference on the social and economic history of the Ottoman Empire. The coordinator of the Conference was Dr. Irene Melikoff, Director of the Institute and Professor at the University. The themes in social history covered during the conference included the Tanzimat and the evolution of Turkish society, demographic changes in the Ottoman world in the 19th century, the influence of western ideologies on Ottoman societies (Turkish and minorities), and the Young Turk movement. Themes in the sphere of economic history included: the maritime commerce in the Ottoman empire, western capitalism and its impact on the Ottoman empire, the beginnings of industrialization in the Ottoman Empire, and the agrarian structures and their evolution. In addition to scholars from France, the list of conference participants

included scholars from Turkey, the Federal Republic of Germany, Egypt, England, Hungary, Jordan, Israel, Syria, and the United States. Details of the conference and the papers presented there will be included in the next issue of the NEWSLETTER.

## U Penn Conference on Genocide in France, August 3-8, 1980

A Conference on Genocide took place under the auspices of the University of Pennsylvania at the Chateau La Napoule in Cannes, France from August 3 through August 8, 1980.

Participants to the Conference included Profs. Werner Gundersheimer, Irving Horowitz, Vahakn Dadrian, Marvin Fox, Drs. Helen Fein, Vartan Gregorian, Jay Lifton, and Dean James O. Freedman from the U.S.; Profs. Juhuda Bauer, Yoram Dinstein, Saul Friedlander, Haim Shaked, Uriel Tal and Dr. Yitzhak Arad from Israel; and Prof. John S. Conway from Canada.

Details of the papers presented and discussions held will be provided in our next issue.

## SAS at MESA Annual Meeting, November 6-9, 1980

The SAS will cosponsor with the Middle East Studies Association two panels at its 1980 Annual meeting to be held in Washington, D.C.

*Panel I.* "Perspectives on Women in Armenian Literature and Art." Arpine Khatchadourian, "Ancient Legends-Eternal Roles: The

Women in Armenian Epic Narrative;" Dickran Kouymjian, "Images of Women in Armenian Art;" Vahe Oshagan, "Women as Portrayed in Nineteenth Century Armenian Fiction."

*Panel II.* "Letters, Colophons, and Autobiography as Sources for Armenian History."

Ani Atamian, "Letters as an Historical Source: The Correspondence of the *Propaganda Fide* and the Dominican Archdiocese of Nakhijevan;"

Kevork Bardakjian, "Colophons of Armenian Manuscripts: Their Importance as a Literary and as an Historical Source;"

Loretta Nassar, "*The Life and Adventures of Joseph Emin, an Armenian*: the Nature and Characteristics of Autobiographical Material."

## Armenian History Panel at AHA Meeting, December 1980

Dr. Robert Hewsen has organized the following SAS sponsored panel for the forthcoming Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association (Washington D.C., December, 1980): "*Medieval Armenian Historians as Historical Sources.*"

Robert H. Hewsen, "Seeking Authentic History in Moses of Khoren;"

Zaven Arzoumanian, "Ghevond the Priest as Historian;"

Levon Avdoyan, "Zenob of Glak and Monastic History."

The panel will be chaired by Dr. Mary Kilbourne Matossian. This will be the first AHA activity of the SAS since its affiliation with the former organization in November, 1979.

## CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS: PUBLICATIONS

- The *Proceedings of the First International Symposium on Armenian Art* held in Bergamo, Italy in 1975 have been published. The volume contains nearly 1100 pages and more than 500 illustrations. The volume can be ordered from Tipografia Armena, Isola do S.Lazaro, 30100 Venezia, Italy. Price: It. L 50, 000; U.S. \$65.00



# ARMENIAN STUDIES IN PROGRESS

Cont. from Page 2

- The University of California Press has undertaken the publication of the papers presented at the UCLA symposium on the "Armenian Image in History and Literature" (November, 1979). The volume is expected to be released in 1980.
- The proceedings of the symposium on "Nationalism and Social Change in Transcaucasia" (April 1980, Kennan Institute, Washington, D.C.) will be published by the organizers of the symposium, the AAASS.

## International Conference on Davit Anghat in Yerevan, May 13-14, 1980

The Academy of Sciences of the Armenian SSR sponsored a two day International Conference on Davit Anghat on the occasion of 1500th Anniversary of the philosopher. A list of the over 50 participants in that conference and the papers presented by them will be appended to the second volume of the SAS *Bibliography*.

## Symposium on Armenian Music at USC, May 23-26, 1980

The Armenian Musical Studies Program in the School of Performing Arts at the University of Southern California presented a symposium on Armenian Music on May 23-26, 1980. The 4 day program included closed sessions, general sessions, panel discussions, and concerts.

The following papers were presented during the general sessions:

- Ates Orga (University of Surrey, England), "The Status of Research in Armenian Music in the West;"
- Kenneth Levy (Princeton University), "Present State of Research in Early Christian and Byzantine Music;"
- Bruno Nettl (University of Illinois), "Studies in Music of Minority Groups;"
- Jean Jenkins (London-UCLA), "Documentation of Folk Music and Instruments."

The following two panel discussions were presented:

- I. "Historical Studies and Research in Armenian and Related Music:"  
Albert Luper (University of Iowa), Gilbert Reaney (UCLA), Leo Treitler (SUNY, Stony Brook), Milos Velimirovic (University of Virginia), Richard Wingell (USC), and Gabriele Winkler (St. John's University).
- II. Ethnomusicological Issues and Procedures Applicable to Armenian Music:"  
Gerard Behague (University of Texas), Bilbert Blount (USC), Robert Garfias (University of Washington), Hasmig Inejikian (McGill University), Ruth Katz (Hebrew University, Jerusalem), and Bonnie Wade (UC, Berkeley).

Grant Beglarian, Dean of the School of Performing Arts at USC, chaired the symposium; Ohannes Salibian is coordinator for the Program for Armenian Musical Studies.

Deuteronomy," meeting of the International Organization for Septuagint and Cognate Studies, New York, November 15, 1979; "Biblical Studies and the Armenian Bible: the Past Twenty-five years," NAASR Conference on Progress of Armenian studies, Harvard University, April, 12, 1980.

Der-Karapetian, A., "Psychological Reaction of Armenian-Lebanese Children to the Recent Civil War in Lebanon," Rocky Mountain Psychological Association Convention, Tucson, Arizona, April 1980.

Dostourian, A., "The Role of the Crusaders during the Cilician Era of Armenian History," Washington, D.C., May 17, 1980.

Garsoian, N.G., "Armenians in a Dominant Society," Columbia University, March, 1980

Harlan, S.D., "The Detroit Armenian Community; Historic and Cultural Presence," Michigan Academy, March 21, 1980.

Hewsen, R.H., "Daily Life in 19th Century Armenia," University of Pennsylvania, March 20, 1980; "The Early Armenian Political Movements," Havertown, Pa., April 18, 1980; "Armenian Self-Preservation: Realizing Our Ideals," Philadelphia, April 22, 1980; "Early Armenian Liberation Movements," Washington D.C., May 10, 1980.

Khatchadourian, A., "Formulas and Dialectal Terms in the Armenian Oral Epic," University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Kulhanjian, G.A., "The Armenian Tragedy," Center for Holocaust Studies, Brookdale Community College, Lincroft, N.J., April 9, "Teaching the Holocaust in the High School," Watching Hills Regional High School, Warren, N.J., April 28, 1980.

Oshagan, V., "The Cultural Constants of Armenia" and "The Essence of Armenian Culture," University of Pittsburgh, November 1979; "The Influence of the Armenian Genocide on Armenian Literature," Armenian Sisters' Academy, Radnor, Pa., April 23, 1980.

Suny, R.G., "Recent Writings in Modern Armenian History," NAASR Conference, Harvard University, April 12, 1980.

Winkler, G., "A Remarkable Shift in the Oriental Creeds at the Fourth Century: An Analysis of the Armenian, Syriac, and Greek Evidence," VIIIth International Conference on Patristic Studies, Oxford, 1979.

## V. Dissertations and Theses

Afanasyan, S.: The Transcaucasian Republics from Independence to the Establishment of Soviet Power, 1918-1923 (Doctoral Dissertation, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales Paris).

Atamian, A.: The Catholic Archdiocese of Nakhichevan in the 17th Century (Ph.D. Dissertation, History Department, Columbia University).

Cox, C.E.: The Textual Character of the Armenian Version of Deuteronomy (Completed Ph.D. dissertation, University of Toronto).

Der Manuehian, L.: The Monastery of Geghard: A Study of Armenian Architectural Sculpture in the 13th Century (Completed Ph.D. dissertation, May 1980, Boston University).

Khatchadourian, A.: An Introduction to the Study of David of Sassoun (Completed M.A. Thesis, May 1979, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee).

Mouradian, C.S.: Soviet Armenia since 1945 or 1953 (Doctoral Dissertation, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Science Sociales).



Yves Ternon and Jean-Claude Kebedjian, *Arménie 1900*, Paris, Edition Astrid (47, rue de Cléry, Paris II<sup>e</sup>), 1980. 187 pp. 240 photographs. 225 francs.

This very luxuriously printed album materializes a fascinating idea to bring together postcards of Armenians and life in Armenia from the period 1895-1922. 240 postcards and vignettes illustrating village and urban life, monuments and cities, crafts and trades, costumes, ethnic groups, important personalities, special historical events like the Hamidian persecutions of 1895-6, the 1908 revolution and massacres, and the genocide of 1915 are united more or less in chronological order.

Yves Ternon (*Les Arméniens, histoire d'un génocide*, Paris, 1977), at the request of J.-C. Kebedjian, the editor and publisher of the volume, has woven a romantic tale of a young Armenian orphan as he sees the places and witnesses the events depicted in the postcards. These souvenirs of travelers, reproduced either in actual size or enlarged fifty per cent, are rendered in sepia for the most part, though those originally colored are presented the same. At the end of the volume all cards are reprinted in reduced format, black and white, arranged according to the collection from which they came.

The running text which is intended to serve as commentary to the photos is elegantly printed in italics. The volume would have been enhanced with clear captions for each card with precise date, photographer or printer's name (when available) and a numbering system for the figures.

As a first venture in the field of printing corpora of photographic documents of Armenian life prior to the great dispersion, J.-C. Kebedjian has realized a beautiful volume full of surprises.

Dickran Kouymjian

Bezalel Narkiss (ed.) in collaboration with Michael Stone and with an historical survey by Avedis Sanjian, *Armenian Art Treasures of Jerusalem*, New Rochelle, N.Y., Caratzas Brothers, 1979. 175 pp. 194 illus. \$45.00.

The latest addition to the increasingly large list of album-format books on Armenian art is devoted exclusively to *chefs d'oeuvre* of the second largest collection of Armenian manuscripts in the world and perhaps the singularly richest treasury of Armenian church vessels and vestments. The collection testifies to the constant donation over the centuries to the Patriarchate of Jerusalem of pious offerings by Armenian pilgrims to the Holy Land whether kings of Cilician Armenia or simple hermits.

Avedis Sanjian, Professor of Armenian Studies at UCLA, contributes the initial chapter to the history of the Patriarchate and the Armenian community in Jerusalem. The heart of the book is the work of Professor Bezalel Narkiss, well known authority on Byzantine art and Chairman of the Art Department of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Chapter One is devoted to the fifth-sixth century mosaics with Armenian inscriptions found in various locations in Jerusalem; several are published in color for the first time. Chapters Two through Eight survey the rich collection of illuminated manuscripts preserved in the Patriarchate. The author not only discusses these important monuments of miniature painting from a stylistic and iconographic view point, but places each work within the context of Armenian and East Christian art history.

Because of the richness of the Jerusalem collection in manuscripts executed in the Armenian kingdom of Cilicia, four chapters are devoted to Cilician illumination. The annotated discussion of periods, schools, and individual artists - T'oros Roslin, T'oros of Taron, Sargis Pidzak - joined by a judicious selection of many hitherto-unpublished color reproductions of the highest quality, offer the reader a concise overview of the main currents of the Armenian painting. Chapters Eight and Nine, consecrated to the six-

teenth and seventeenth centuries, provide both new material and useful discussions on the effect of western engravings from printed books on Armenian art and the little studied Genesis and Apocalypse cycles. A final chapter considers the architectural history and decoration of the Cathedral of St. James, the Kutahya tiles and vessels in the church complex and vessels and vestments preserved in the Patriarchate.

This volume supercedes the earlier exhibition catalogue prepared under the direction of Arpag Mekhitarian, *Treasures of the Armenian Patriarchate of Jerusalem*, Jerusalem, Armenian Patriarchate, 1969.

At the end of the album there is a "Catalog of Items," prepared by Professor Michael Stone of the Department of Armenian Studies of the Hebrew University which describes in detail each object and manuscript illustrated in the work. Like the Mekhitarian catalogue, but usually with more details, it provides a list with folio numbers of all illuminations in each manuscript. At the back there is also both a glossary of terms and a bibliography.

The end papers - respectively old Armenian maps of the Holy Land and Armenia - the binding, and the jacket contribute to making this an highly intelligent and elegant addition to any library whether general or specialized.

Dickran Kouymjian

Metin And, *Osmanli Tiyatrosu [The Ottoman Theater]*, Ankara; Ankara Universitesi basimevi, 1976. 292 pp.. 62 TL.

The volume is devoted to the foundation and development of the theater in the Ottoman Empire. The author has used publications in a number of languages, including Armenian, both Western and Eastern.

Metin And has used extensively Armenian newspapers published in Istanbul in the 19th century. Similarly, he has had access and made use of Turkish newspapers printed in old Turkish that are difficult to locate.

The author has done justice to the important role played by Armenian actors and actresses in the founding and development of Ottoman and Turkish theater. One can find clear and specific information on the key figures such as Gullu Hagop, Mnakian, Siranush, and Vergin Karakashian.

Were it not for the distortions and misleading conclusions regarding the Armenian Question, it would have been possible to recommend this study as unbiased. Nevertheless, it is necessary reading for those interested in the history of the theatre and culture in the Ottoman Empire.

Arthur Beylerian  
Paris

Dogan Avcioglu, *Milli Kurtulus Tarihi 1838 den 1895e [The History of National Freedom, 1838-1895]*, Istanbul; Istanbul matbaasi, 1974. 3 vols., 30 + 30 + 50 TL.

In this voluminous work the author has used a large number of Turkish and non-Turkish publications. However, in presenting and interpreting the various periods of the development of the Eastern Question, he has managed to remain altogether biased and prejudiced. There is in Avcioglu's study a clear tendency to distort documents and disregard previously confirmed research particularly when the subject is the Armenian Question.

Nonetheless, the study offers interesting information on Armeno-Turkish relations, particularly in the third volume.

The study has neither an index nor a bibliography. It can be recommended to the specialist for some of its details.

Arthur Beylerian



Hay Guin Society, *The Costumes of Armenian Women* (Teheran, n.d. but probably c. 1976).

In the Spring of 1974 the Hay Guin Society (*sic*) of Teheran celebrated its 35th anniversary by organizing a pageant of Armenian women's costumes attended by the former Empress of Iran and subsequently repeated several times. The present volume, consisting of several pages of Armenian-English text and 42 color plates, is the final fruit of this project.

Since the group which prepared the book makes no pretense to either scholarship or "Faultlessness" in this publication, it would be unfair to judge it by academic standards. Yet for all the beauty of the costumes, the skill of their reproduction, the imaginative photography and the high quality of the plates, it is to be regretted that some scholar could not have been called upon to guide the ladies as they worked. Plates 2,3 and 4, for example, representing ancient Armenian queens, have them garbed in costumes which are largely imaginary, while those reproduced in plates 1 and 5 employ satin for clothes of a period before satin was invented. The costumes in plates 17-20, 22, 38 and 39, however, appear to be faithful reproductions of the old drawings, prints, etc. upon which they have been based.

The few photographs of modern village dress of Iran and of authentic heirloom costumes are especially valuable. Plate 41 is one of the most striking illustrations. Showing a gown of purple velvet, actually worn in 19th century Konia, it is superb both from the point of view of the gown itself (which shows obvious European influence) and the way it has been photographed, as well as for the beauty of the older woman who models it.

Plate 42, however, contains a serious error. Copied from a photograph from G. Mesrop's *History of the Armenian Church* and said to represent an Armenian deaconess of Constantinople, it is actually the picture of an Armenian nun from Tiflis, the original photograph having been taken by H.F.B. Lynch at Etchmiadzin at the time of the enthronement of the Catholicos Khrimian Hairig in 1892 and published in vol. I, p. 252 of his *Armenia: Travels and Studies* (London, 1901). *Costumes of Armenian Women* is available from either diocesan bookstore in New York for \$40.00.

## REPORT ON SAS COUNCIL MEETING, APRIL 1980

Cont. from Page 1

single scholar could achieve such a project singlehandedly, given the state of the art. Discussion arose as to whether a compilation would be a collective venture that would reflect a generalized common approach or each individual contributor would provide his or her own interpretation of a particular period or problem in Armenian history.

It was suggested that a committee be formed to obtain seed money and undertake a feasibility study on the project. It was resolved that the chairman would communicate with Prof. Richard Hovannisian and suggest to him that he assume the task of coordinating the preparation of a single-volume, multi-authored text, compiled primarily by a group of historians whose contributions would be coordinated by Hovannisian. Should Prof. Hovannisian accept this task, he would be asked to prepare a preliminary study of the subject, following which the Council would discuss questions of funding and compensation.

In addition, the Council decided to authorize the publication of a new roster of SAS members, to compensate for expenses made by Council members attending official meetings and SAS members for travel expenses participating in SAS sponsored activities. The Council also agreed to prepare a list of individuals who might contribute financially to the activities of the SAS. A brochure presenting the activities and goals of the SAS will be prepared for this purpose.

## ARMENIAN ORAL HISTORY

Cont. from Page 3

posed by the inherent weaknesses of volunteer efforts and the limited capacity of an isolated university course. Furthermore, the Assembly is taking a major step toward the area of tape development. While both the ALMA and UCLA projects include plans for the transcription and translation of the interviews, it is doubtful that they will be able to obtain the necessary funds in the foreseeable future. The Assembly has currently the resources to develop tapes systematically and on a professional basis.

Since the process of transcribing and translating interviews, often in a mixture of Armenian and Turkish, is an extremely tedious task demanding skilled personnel, it is unclear how many tapes can be developed with the funds currently available. (The importance of summaries which indicate the importance of information in each interview, will be felt at this point).

Meeting the substantial cost of administering this project - salaries, payment to interviewers, recording and transcription equipment, transportation costs for project personnel, etc. - was made possible by a \$110,000 matching funds grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The grant was the product of a collaborative effort involving the Assembly staff, Mr. Der Manuelian, academic personnel, and others. The Assembly recently met its half of the matching funds grant.

According to available information, the number of interviews produced thus far is as follows:

AEC.....	approx. 80
(also possesses copies of 45 ALMA interviews).	
ALMA.....	approx. 200
UCLA.....	approx. 400
Assembly.....	approx. 185
Total, approximately 865 interviews, around 2,000 hours of tape.	

Significant progress has been made in the field of Armenian oral history. That even this much was accomplished is encouraging. What is disappointing is the realization that so many survivors, particularly those who were adults in 1915, died without being interviewed.

This tragic loss resulted from the low priority assigned to oral history by the Armenian academic and non-academic communities at large. Since time is needed for a nation to recover from genocide, it is understandable that Armenian oral history had a late start. The record shows, however, that even after the mid 1960s awakening of a few individuals to the importance of oral history, there has been a general lack of interest in the field on the part of scholars in Armenian studies.

And what of the non-academic community? While acknowledging the work accomplished by the numerous national organizations, we must face the reality that oral history has been largely disregarded. All the eloquent talk of pride in heritage, preservation of culture, and commitment to national aspirations seems to lack substance when one considers that year after year human repositories of Armenian heritage nurtured by the soil of the estranged homeland have been allowed to go to their graves without recording their recollections.

If we could, would we interview today an Armenian citizen who witnessed the founding and destruction of the city of Arshakavan in the mid-fourth century? His story is gone forever. But we now have the inexpensive technology to record, for example, eyewitness accounts of exactly how the deportation orders were announced and carried out in the city of Erzinjan in 1915. Centuries from now, the testimony of the citizen from Erzinjan will appear as valuable as that of the citizens of Arshakavan does today.



## NEWS ABOUT MEMBERS

ARSLANIAN, A.H., was selected Fellow in Academic Administration for 1980-81 by the American Council on Education.

ATAMIAN, A., received a Whiting (Traveling) Fellowship, 1979-80 from Columbia University and undertook research trips to the Archives of the Propaganda Fide, Rome, the Vatican Library and the Library of San Lazzaro, Venice in October 1979 for dissertation research.

BOUDJIKANIAN, A., received the Lea Bullukian Prize from the Academie des Arts, Sciences et Belles Lettres de Lyon (1979) and the Bremond Prize (1980) for her doctoral dissertation: "Les Armeniens dans la region Rhone-Alpes."

BOURNOUTIAN, G., was appointed Assistant Director of the Russian Institute of Columbia University.

COX, C.E., was appointed Interim Assistant Professor for 1979-80 at the Department of Near Eastern Studies, University of Toronto.

DEKMEJIAN, R.H., received an N.E.H. Grant to conduct a Summer Institute on Islamic Studies (Summer 1979) and undertook a lecture tour to Greece, Syria, Egypt and Israel on Islam and American Foreign Policy, sponsored by the U.S. International Communications Agency (May 1980).

DER KARAPETIAN, A., appointed Assistant Professor of Social Psychology, University of La Verne, La Verne, California.

DER MANUELIAN, L., was awarded Kress Foundation's Special Projects Grant at Boston University (November 1979) and received her Ph.D. Degree in May 1980; was appointed Visiting Lecturer at Framingham State College (Framingham, Mass.) as well as Archivist of the Armenian Architectural Archives Project, School of Architecture, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

FUSDUKJIAN, S., was appointed Director of Library at the University of South Florida-St. Petersburg Campus.

GARSOIAN, N.G., was appointed to the Board of Directors, A.C. L.S.

GREPPIN, J.A.C., has been elected Associate, Summer Research Laboratory on Russia and Eastern Europe, University of Indiana; has received Manoogian Fund Grant for translation (from Russian) of Diakonoff's Prehistory of the Armenian People; will travel to Brussels in September 1980 for an editorial conference and has been promoted to Associate Professor, effective September 1980.

HEWSEN, R.H., traveled to Rome, Italy in May for research and will teach at the 1980 Armenian Summer Institute at the University of Pennsylvania.

HOVANNISIAN, R.G., was given the "Man of the Year Award" by the Armenian Professional Society.

KLEINBAUER, W.E., has been elected editor of GESTA, the semi-annual journal published by the International Center of Medieval Art, 1980-82.

LAFONTAINE, G., undertook a research trip to the Mekhitarists of Venice and Vienna (June 1979) to research the Mss of Gregory the Theologian.

MENSOIAN, M.G., will spend six weeks in Brazil and Venezuela in June and July 1980, to gather data on Amazonian development; will also gather data on Armenian settlement in the Sao Paulo-Rio area of Brazil. He has also been appointed Director of overseas Graduate Degree Program, Brazil.

MESROBIAN, A., has been appointed panelist for the NEH Research Materials Programs.

MESSERLIAN, H.J., has been appointed Member, Board of Governors, California Community Colleges in May 1979, also, appointed Chairman of Board's Legislative Committee and Member of its Educational Policy Committee.

NERSESSIAN, V., has been appointed Research Assistant in charge of the Armenian collections in the British Library.

OSHAGAN, V., has been appointed to the Editorial Advisory Board of the Armenian Review.

SANJIAN, A.K., undertook research trips to Jerusalem and Yerevan in April and May 1980.

SUNY, R.G., undertook a three-week research trip to the Oliver Waldrop Collection in August 1979, in the New Bodleian Library, Oxford, England; has received an NEH Grant for 1980-81.

TAKOOSHIAN, H., has been promoted to Assistant Professor of Social Sciences, Fordham University (effective June 1979).

WINKLER, G., has received a Howard Foundation Award; undertook research trips to Oxford in Summer 1979 and in January 1980.

## NEW MEMBERS

KENDALL, BRIDGET, Harvard University-St. Anthony's College, Oxford, graduate student; Soviet Russian literature and Russian language.

RICHARDSON, HILARY, Department of Archaeology, University College, Dublin, Australia; early Christian architecture and art.

SULLIVAN, R.D., Professor of History, Simon Fraser University, British Columbia, Canada; Ancient History.

## OBITUARIES

It is with deep regret that the SAS notes the passing of two of its respected members, Dr. S.A. ESSEFIAN and Dr. A.O. SARKISSIAN, both of the Washington, D.C. area.

Dr. Essefian was a well known participant in Armenian academic activities. Born in New Jersey in 1908 of Armenian-Swedish parentage, she was taken to Constantinople at an early age and later lived in Budapest and Paris before returning to the United States in 1928. A distinguished linguist, she served for many years as a monitor for the Voice of America and meanwhile received her doctorate in Armenian history from Georgetown University. She is the author of many articles in Armenian studies and has left behind a number of unpublished historical works and translations from both classical and modern Armenian.

Dr. Sarkissian was born in Sivas, Turkey, in 1905 and came to the United States at a very early age. He received his Ph.D. in history from the University of Illinois in 1934. He also held a Bachelor's degree in the Library Sciences from Columbia University.

Dr. Sarkissian has taught history briefly at the University of Illinois. Since 1940 and until his retirement very recently, he was on the staff of the Library of Congress, Legislative Reference Service, as an analyst in international relations. Arshag Ohannes Sarkissian authored the *History of the Armenian Question to 1885* (1938) and edited *Studies in Diplomatic History and Historiography* (1962).

## Employment Opportunity

### VISITING PROFESSOR OF ARMENIAN STUDIES - CSU FRESNO

Position: Full-time visiting lecturer in Armenian Studies for the Spring semester 1981, with possibility of further employment. Doctorate or near completion expected. Courses in modern western Armenian, beginning and intermediate, Armenian history from the Mongol invasion to the present, Armenian culture or art or literature. Salary based on qualifications and experience. Deadline: October 1, 1980. Inquiries, applications with accompanying resumes and list of references should be sent to Prof. Dickran Kouymjian, Director, Armenian Studies Program, CSUF, Fresno, CA 93740.