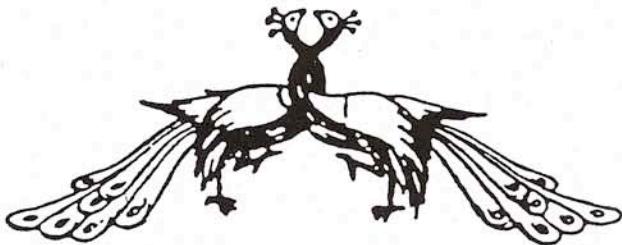


NEWSLETTER

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Spring/Summer 1995

SAS ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Society for Armenian Studies has been scheduled for Wednesday, December 6, from 8 to 10 p.m., in the State Room of the Washington Hilton Hotel and Towers, 1919 Connecticut Ave., NW, Washington, DC.

The SAS Board of Directors' meeting has been scheduled on the same day, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Hamilton Room of the Washington Hilton.

Armenian, Azeri Diplomats on Panel

Ruben Shugarian, Ambassador of the Republic of Armenia, and Hafiz Pashayev, Ambassador of the Republic of Azerbaijan, are scheduled to participate in a Special Session on the Karabagh Conflict at the Annual Meeting of the Middle East Studies Association on Thursday, December 7, 1995, from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Washington Hilton, in the nation's capital.

The other participants in the Roundtable Discussion, titled "The Karabagh Conflict and Armenian-Azerbaijani Relations: The Quest for Regional Stability," are David Nissman (Washington, DC) and Joseph Kechichian (Rand Corporation). Discussants are Tadeusz Swietochowski (Monmouth College) and Levon Marashlian (Glendale Community College). Chairing the discussion will be Richard G. Hovannisian (UCLA).

The program is co-sponsored by the International Society for Azerbaijani Studies and the Society for Armenian Studies.

(*Details on the Panels for this years MESA Conference are listed on pages 4 and 5 of this Newsletter.*)

HAVE YOU MAILED IN YOUR BALLOT?

It's not too late to mail in your ballot for election to the SAS Executive Council. Four candidates will be elected from among the following candidates: Artin Arslanian (Provost and Dean of Faculty, Belmont Abbey College, NC), Houri Berberian (Graduate Student, UCLA), S. Peter Cowe (Associate Professor, Columbia), Barlow Der Mugrdechian (Lecturer in Armenian Studies, USC, Fresno), John L. Guerigian (FDA), Robert Krikorian (Graduate Student, George Washington University), and Garabek K. Moumdjian (Graduate Student, UCLA).

Council members whose terms will continue into the next year are Joseph Kechichian, Ann Lousin, and Dennis R. Papazian.

An Immense Loss for Armenian Studies

Prof. Avedis K. Sanjian, a member of the faculty of the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) since 1965 and Narekatsi Professor of Armenian Studies, died early Saturday, July 22, 1995, in Santa Monica, California, after a long illness. He was 74.

A native of Marash, Turkey, who grew up in Jerusalem during the years of the British Mandate, Sanjian received his B.A. degree in English from the American University of Beirut (1949), and his M.A. in English (1950) and Ph.D. in Near Eastern Studies (1956) from the University of Michigan. He was appointed a Postdoctoral Research Fellow (1957-1961) and then an Assistant Professor of Armenian Studies (1961-65) at Harvard University.

Sanjian was invited to UCLA in 1965 as Associate Professor and was promoted to Full Professor of Armenian Studies in 1968. A year later (1969) he was appointed to the Narekatsi endowed chair for Armenian Studies. He has also served as chairman of the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures at UCLA (1970-1974).

Sanjian is the author, co-author, or editor of 11 books, including *The Armenian Community in Syria Under Ottoman Domination*, *David Anhaght: The 'Invincible' Philosopher*, and *Armenian Gospel Iconography: The Tradition of the Gladjor Gospel*. He has published more than 40 articles in English and Armenian on various Armenological subjects published in scholarly journals. He also served as founder and editor-in-chief of the first five volumes (1985-1991) of the *Journal of the Society for Armenian Studies*. He has been a frequent participant in national and international scholarly conferences and symposia.

A founding member of the Society for Armenian Studies, Sanjian was a member of various scholarly organizations as well as Armenian organizations such as the Tekeyan Cultural Association and the Armenian General Benevolent Union—to name the two closest to his heart. He served as Chairman of the Board of the Tekeyan Cultural Association's Arshag Dickranian Armenian School from its inception in 1981 until 1989.

He is the recipient of many honors and awards, but the two that he cherished the most were the "Saint Sahak-Saint Mesrop Medal" bestowed upon him by His Holiness Catholicos Vazgen I for his "many years of dedicated cultural and scholarly services . . . as an educator, philologist, historian, and expert in literature," and the

"Mesrop Mashtots Medal" awarded to him by the Directorship of the Manuscript Library of Armenia (Matenadaran). Both of these medals were awarded to Sanjian on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of his scholarly activities and achievements which was organized by the graduate students in Armenian Studies at UCLA and celebrated by Armenological scholars as well as by Armenian organizations worldwide in 1987.

The absence of this kind and gentle man will be deeply felt by all those whose lives he has touched. He will be particularly missed by his students towards whom he was so caring and nurturing.

"In lieu of flowers" donations may be made to the Narekatsi Chair at UCLA as follows:

UC Regents Narekatsi Chair of Armenian Studies
Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures
UCLA, 405 Hilgard Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1511.

He is survived by his wife, Helen Sanjian; mother, Nazeli Sanjian (Detroit, Michigan); son and daughter-in-law, Profs. Gregory S. and Andrea Sanjian; grandson Alex G. Sanjian; and three brothers. The Society for Armenian Studies extends its deepest sympathies to the family in their hour of grief.

—Gia Aivazian

JSAS, No. 6, SCHEDULED FOR FALL RELEASE

The new issue of the *Journal of the Society for Armenian Studies*, which is due for release this fall, will include a number of papers which were presented at the SAS Anniversary Conference held at UCLA in November 1994.

These include *Greater Montreal Armenian Residential Patterns: Some Empirical Considerations and Methodological Prospects* by Aida Boudjikanian and Claude Marois, *Armenian Immigration to Buenos Aires: 1900-1925* by Nelida E. Boulgourdjian-Toureksian, *William Saroyan and Multiculturalism* by David Stephen Calonne, *Red Kurdistan and the Struggle for Nagorno-Karabagh* by Robert O. Krikorian, *Saving Souls or Cultivating Minds: Missionary Crosby H. Wheeler in Kharpert* by Barbara J. Merguerian, *The Transfiguration of "Tradition" in the Process of Formation of the Armenian-American Identity* by Rubina Peroomian, *An Armeno-Persian Love Poem of Grigoris Aghtamartsi* by James R. Russell, and *Literary Reaction in Britain to the Massacres of Armenians, 1894-1896: The Case of Sir William Watson* by Lorne Shirinian.

A number of reviews of recently published books of interest to scholars in the field of Armenian studies will also be included. Editor Dennis Papazian urges all members to consider seriously submitting articles to the *Journal*. Suggestions for book reviews are also welcome. Publication of No. 7 of the *Journal* is expected in early 1996. Papazian can be reached at the Armenian Research Center at the University of Michigan-Dearborn.

From the Society

Message from the SAS President

The following is excerpted from a letter sent to SAS Members on May 1, 1995.

Twenty years have passed since the creation of the Society for Armenian Studies (SAS), twenty years during which several milestones were crossed and significant contributions were made by dedicated scholars. Challenges were met and accomplishments tallied. The list is both long and familiar to all of us. Simply stated, we are all grateful to those who led the way, and expect to rely on them for counsel in the future. We do not intend to rest on the glory of the past. Rather, we seek to forge ahead together. Towards that end, we ask for your inputs on a variety of issues and urge you to be generous with both your time and advice.

As we begin our twenty-first year, SAS faces new challenges, both financial and intellectual, that must be met as well. Let me address some of our most pressing challenges in this short letter and what we intend to do about them.

First, the *Journal of the Society for Armenian Studies* (JSAS). As you all know, James Russell resigned from his editorship on 27 September 1994. The SAS Executive Council elected Dennis R. Papazian to serve as editor for an interim period during which his responsibility will include editing and publishing the next two issues of the *Journal*. Dennis is planning to publish the next issue, for which qualitatively superior papers have already been secured, by early Fall 1995. The second issue will come out in early 1996. Since so much depends on our input, it behooves us to think of the *Journal* as the most logical place to publish the results of our research. I urge all of you to submit your best essays. In turn, we promise to be ready to publish them within a reasonable time. In any event, the Council will revisit the critical issue of appointing a permanent editor by early 1996 when some of the backlog we currently face would have been eliminated.

Through the good offices of the Provost at the University of Michigan-Dearborn, as well as the Armenian Research Center there, Dennis has offered to absorb a substantial portion of publishing costs. This, however, is an interim solution and we must find new ways to become cost-efficient. Members of the Council agreed that a new Editorial Board should be assembled and efforts are under way to do just that. It is my sincere hope that all of us will extend as much assistance to Dennis as possible so that he may produce quality issues.

Second, membership dues. Please be prompt in returning your annual dues so that we can "manage" the Society's business more efficiently. A lot is made of this

issue year after year. Some amongst us procrastinate when there is no reason to do so. We either are in or out. Like any other association, we must get our act together, pay our eminently reasonable dues on time and, whenever possible, help raise additional funds. New qualified members can and should be recruited to enhance our visibility and communicate with fellow scholars across disciplines. Other fund-raising opportunities should be developed, and we welcome suggestions for doing precisely that. All of us must pitch in, and there really are no excuses to put things off. We are all burdened with many responsibilities but must move in unison on this front if the Society is to grow and prosper.

Third, there are a few exciting projects under way that should finally be completed over the course of the next few months. In addition to the long promised Bibliography that is being compiled by Levon Avdoyan, Barlow Der Mugrdechian is hard at work on the possible establishment of an American Research Center in Armenia. Barlow is at the initial stages of his data gathering and discussions with several individuals who have experience in this field. It is a worthy project that promises to link SAS with scholars from around the world in Yerevan. Financial constraints must be addressed as well and this is where you can pitch in by letting Barlow know of any philanthropical interests. On yet another front, and in early 1995, SAS became an institutional affiliate with the Stanford University-based "Association for the Study of Nationalities" (ASN) that will allow scholars to be informed on ethnic conflicts in the former Soviet Union, Central Asia, and East Europe.

Fourth, I trust that as many of you as possible will attend this year's MESA-SAS conference in Washington, D.C., in December. We have exceptionally good panels this year [see list on pages 4 and 5]. In short, the field is widely covered, Washington, D.C., is a useful venue to meet in and, more important, we must maintain our visibility within MESA. We would also welcome the opportunity to meet with the large Armenian community in Washington.

Finally, a few remarks about the SAS and its current Council. Admittedly, we are a group that has identified an agenda for the Society and would like to rekindle the membership's interest in our activities. Toward that end, we intend to communicate more frequently with the membership, publish the *Journal* on a more regular basis, organize panels at various meetings, and develop new projects for the years ahead. Still, our well-meaning intentions will come to naught, if the membership fails to respond. I urge everyone to take pride in the Society by adding something to it no matter how minimal. In turn, I promise that we will heed your calls for action, even if limited in scope, to build on our twenty-year long legacy. See you all in December in our Capital city.

Joseph A. Kechichian
RAND Corporation

AHR Policies Questioned

The Executive Council directed President Joseph Kechichian to write a letter on behalf of SAS to the American Historical Review expressing concern over the choice of pro-Turkish scholar Justin McCarthy to review Donald and Lorna Touryan Miller's book, *Survivors: An Oral History of the Armenian Genocide*.

In his review of the book in the April 1994 issue of the *American Historical Review*, McCarthy questioned the validity of survivors' accounts of the Armenian Genocide and criticized the book for an unbalanced treatment in which "Turkish and Kurdish suffering goes unmentioned." He described the book as "a history of Armenian-Turkish relations during World War I" and then objected that the Millers "only tell one side of a complicated story."

The choice of a pro-Turkish scholar such as McCarthy to review a book about the Armenian Genocide was criticized by Levon Avdoyan in a letter to the editor of the *Review* published in the December 1994 issue. Avdoyan objected that McCarthy was "nowhere identified as an Ottomanist who has, for whatever reasons, consistently denied that a genocide occurred." Moreover, the book is not and does not pretend to be a history and therefore should not be criticized on these grounds. Avdoyan's letter was followed by a lengthy rejoinder by Justin McCarthy in the same issue of the *Review*.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

Telephone Conference, June 21, 1995, 7 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by President Joseph Kechichian. Members present: Barlow Der Mugrdechian, Ann Lousin, Barbara Merguerian, Gerald Ottenbreit, and Lorne Shirinian.

Among the items on the agenda were:

Report on SAS Bibliography. Levon Avdoyan has agreed to finish the 1981-1991 bibliography and has 1,200 citations in the data bank. He is trying to add material from three more journals which are critical. He will stop inputting on Labor Day.

No one has agreed to take on the project for the period following 1991. The question was raised about offering compensation for the work involved in putting together the bibliography. Proposals or suggestions from the membership regarding this issue are welcome.

American Overseas Research Center. Barlow Der Mugrdechian reported that he is working with Mary Ellen Lane with the Council on Overseas Research Centers to put together a proposal for Armenia. The SAS Annual Meeting in December will provide a good opportunity to discuss this project.

Status of UCLA Chair. There was a question raised as to the failure of UCLA to fill the Narekatsi Chair in Armenian language and literature. Chair issues: the university can take the money and only partially fund the chairholder. There are similar issues at other universities. The President was asked to look into the situation.

LC Transliteration, Once Again

The SAS continues to be in contact with the Library of Congress regarding the Romanization of Armenian. The following is the most recent exchange.

FROM THE SOCIETY

May 3, 1995

Barbara Tillett

Chief, Cataloging Policy and Support Office
Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Dear Ms. Tillett:

Thank you for your 15 November 1994 letter to Professor Dickran Kouymjian, informing the Society for Armenian Studies (SAS) of the Library of Congress' (LC) decision to retain current policy for romanization, i.e. *-ean* for Western dialect and *-yan* for the Eastern.

After due consideration of the LC decision regarding romanization of *-ian*, members of SAS, meeting in Los Angeles on 18 November 1994, arrived at the conclusion that they opposed the decision based on the following points:

- No table of romanization is perfect and much time and effort would have been saved by respecting the wishes of most Armenians living in the diaspora who like to spell their name with the *-ian* ending.
- The preference of most U.S. scholars is to maintain the *-ian* spelling for the last names.
- Maintenance of the LC tables will cause continued confusion for users, and therefore the SAS requests a reconsideration of the decision of 15 November 1994 regarding romanization.

We look forward to hearing from you in the near future and thank you for your assistance.

Joseph A. Kechichian, PhD
President, SAS

FROM THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

June 5, 1995

Dr. Joseph A. Kechichian

President, Society for Armenian Studies

Dear Dr. Kechichian:

This is in reply to your letter of May 3.

Although we agree that no romanization table is perfect, the results of the survey that we undertook indicated that half the respondents preferred the existing system and half wished to change to the UCLA proposal. Our survey included not only Armenian scholars within the United States, but scholars throughout the world.

There appears to be a misunderstanding as to when a person's name is rendered in systematic romanization. The Library of Congress has never intended to change anyone's name from a preferred *-ian* (or *-yan* or *-ean*) form. Systematic romanization is only used for publications written in a nonroman script for which there is no known preference. In the case of Armenian, we are primarily talking about items published in Armenia, not publications published in the diaspora—unless the person

in the diaspora also writes exclusively in Armenian and there is not known preference. Because someone has a name of Armenian extraction doesn't mean that the romanization table will be applied pro forma to that name.

As we indicated in our statement, we will provide a cross reference from an *-ian* form for those names to which we need to apply systematic romanization. Should it happen that a person's name is established with systematic romanization and she or he has a strong preference for another rendering, a letter to this office signed by that person and expressing her or his preference is all that is required to get the heading revised.

I hope I have been able to clear up what I believe has been a long-standing misunderstanding about the intent of the romanization tables. If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to write.

Barbara B. Tillett, Ph.D.

Chief, Cataloging Policy and Support Office
The Library of Congress

SAS Panels at MESA

The following panels on Armenian topics will be presented at the Annual Meeting of the Middle East Studies Association on December 6-10, 1995, at the Washington (D.C.) Hilton.

Shiraz, Isfahan, Tehran - Persian or Armenian Art?

December 7, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Alice Taylor, West Los Angeles College

Jews and Armenians in Safavid Iran - Their Self Definitions Contrasted in Images

Dickran Kouymjian, California State University, Fresno
The New Julfa Style of Armenian Manuscript Bindings

Marco Brambilla, DOMUS

The Armenian Church of Shiraz: An Armenian-Safavid Monument

Mina Marefat, Smithsonian Institution

Armenian Architects in Tehran: Persian Architecture of Early 20th Century

Lucy Der Manuelian, Tufts, *Chair*

*The Armenian Genocide—An Eighty Year Perspective
Part I: Historical Dimensions*

December 8, 8-10 a.m.

Stephan H. Astourian, UCLA

Some Comments About Decision-Making

Levon Marashlian, Glendale City College

Finishing the Genocide: Angora's Elimination of Armenian Survivors, 1920-1923

Roger W. Smith, College of William and Mary

Resistance to Genocide: The Armenian Experience, 1915-1995

Donald E. Miller, University of Southern California

The Role of Historical Memory in Interpreting Current Events in the Republic of Armenia

Richard G. Hovannisian, UCLA, *Chair*

Part II: Armenian Literature and Catastrophe

December 8, 10:30-12:30 a.m.

Barlow Der Mugrdechian, CSU, Fresno

Across the Chasm: From Catastrophe to Creativity
David Calonne, Siena Heights College*William Saroyan and the Armenian Genocide*
Rubina Peroomian, UCLA*Literary Responses to Catastrophe*
Lorne Shirinian, Royal Military College of Canada
Survivors' Memoirs of the Armenian Genocide
Lorne Shirinian: Chair**Armenia in the Age of the Il-Khans**

December 9, 8-10 a.m.

S. Peter Cowe, Columbia University

The Seljuk-Il-Khanid Conflict and the Armenian Confraternity of Erznka

Robert H. Hewsen, Rowan College of New Jersey

The Reign of Hasan-Jalal-Daula, Armenian Ally of Hulagu Khan

Don Stark, University of Chicago

King Het'um's Alliance with the Mongols: A Mutually Beneficial Relationship

T.A. Sinclair, University of Cyprus

The Economy of Armenia in the Il-Khanid Period

Barlow Der Mugrdechian, CSU, Fresno, Chair

Dickran Kouymjian, CSU, Fresno, Discussant

The Armenian Community in 20th Century Iran

Saturday, December 9, 4-6 p.m.

Houria Berberian, UCLA

Role of the Armenian Revolutionary Federation in the Iranian Constitutional Revolution

Aram Arkun, Zohrab Center

Krikor Eghikian, the Jangalis, and the Armenians

Cosroe Chaqueri, Columbia University

Armenians of Iran and the Communist Movement

Eliz Sanasarian, USC

The Armenian Diaspora in the Islamic Republic of Iran, 1979-1989

George Bournoutian, Iona College, Chair

Armenian Studies Programs

BERKELEY INAUGURATES PROGRAM

The Armenian Studies program at the University of California, Berkeley, will be inaugurated this fall with the appointment of Richard G. Hovannisian as the first William Saroyan Visiting Professor of Armenian Studies.

Hovannisian will teach a new course at Berkeley entitled "Modern Armenian History: The Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries." The course will be open not only to UC-enrolled students, but also to the public through the University of California Extension.

ARMENIAN STUDIES CHAIRS

Three chairs of Armenian Studies in the United States continue to be vacant. At Columbia, where Professor Nina G. Garsoian retired three years ago, announcement of the appointment to the chair is expected by the end of the year. For the Narekatsi chair in language and literature UCLA, which was left vacant by the retirement of the Avedis K. Sanjian four years ago, no decision is expected soon. Instead temporary appointments, beginning this year with Marc Nichanian, of Paris, are anticipated. At the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, where the chair in Armenian history was vacated by Ronald G. Suny (who was appointed last year to a professorship at the University of Chicago), short-term appointments are expected for the present.

NEW COURSES AS CSUF

Special courses on William Saroyan, Armenian Film, the Armenian Church, and Armenian Cooking highlight the 1995 fall semester at California State University, Fresno. Also offered are an elementary Western Armenian language course, three section of Introduction to Armenian Studies (using film, video, and slides), and a survey of Armenian History.

At Large

NAASR CELEBRATES ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY.

The National Association for Armenian Studies and Research, of Belmont, Mass., will be celebrating its 40th anniversary with a two-day conference on November 3 and 4, 1995, during which leading scholars from the United States and abroad will discuss the current status and future prospects of Armenian studies. On Sunday, November 5, a gala banquet will take place in Boston.

ALMA MOUNTS EXHIBIT ON THE GENOCIDE.In observance of the 80th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, the Armenian Library & Museum of America in Watertown, Mass., has mounted an exhibit on *Who Now Remembers? Excerpts from the Armenian Genocide*. The exhibit will be on display through 1995, when it will be replaced by a smaller but permanent exhibit on the Armenian Genocide.**TURKISH STUDIES CHAIRS**

A new professorship in Modern Turkish studies will be established at Harvard, thanks to a gift from the Turkish government. The University is now engaged in raising the remainder of the funds needed for a chair and has begun a search for the first holder of the chair, who is expected to be an expert in the history of Turkey during the late Ottoman and early Republic periods.

Turkey has also donated \$650,000 for a "Modern Turkish Studies Desk" at Georgetown University in Washington, D. C.

Conferences

Against the Eurocentrism of Linguistics

The Fifth International Conference on Armenian Linguistics was held on May 1-5, 1995, at McGill University, Montreal, Canada. Prof. Bernard Shapiro, Principal and Vice-Chancellor of McGill, spoke at the opening ceremonies. Present were Garnik Nanagulian, Ambassador of the Republic of Armenia in Canada, and Hovnan Derderian, Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of Canada, which sponsored the Conference.

Excerpts from the opening remarks by Dora Sakayan, Professor in the German Department at McGill and organizer of the Conference, follow.

"Over the last two decades, various cities around the world have hosted international conferences on Armenology in general and on Armenian Linguistics in particular. The four previous linguistic conferences took place in Philadelphia in 1979; in Yerevan in 1982 and 1987, and in Cleveland in 1991. I feel honored to continue this tradition while convening this fifth conference in Montreal. It seems particularly appropriate to mention that we are meeting this time in a francophone province, at an anglophone university, and in a department of German Studies.

"We will be touching upon a great variety of topics in the field of Armenian linguistics during our 16 thematically distinct sessions and have more extensively focused our attention on the three following areas:

"Comparative linguistics. Armenian linguistics has traditionally been associated with comparative linguistics, an area which has always entailed the comparative study of the Indo-European languages. With this approach, linguists aim at establishing genetic links between languages of the family, in order to identify older stages in their development and thus to be able to reconstruct an 'Ursprache,' or 'common language of origin' for the Indo-European languages. This respected tradition is ably represented here by a number of well-known scholars from various countries.

"Language typology and contrastive linguistics. The conference breaks new ground in treating comparative linguistics in the broader and more contemporary sense of the term—not only will the more traditional diachronic approach apply, but a number of papers explore Armenian linguistics on the synchronic level, as well. The scope of contemporary study of Armenian has now been broadened to include contrastive or confrontative approaches which focus on differences rather than on common traits between languages. The goal of such a methodology is to establish language typology and eventually to contribute to the discovery of language

universals. Thanks to the confrontative approach, many scholars are now reexamining the limits of linguistic theories that try to set up language universals on the basis of one language and one language only—usually a lingua franca and mostly English. The analysis of the major European languages through the prism of Armenian, or within a pool of other languages used as a basis for comparison, represents a relatively new and extremely promising role for Armenian linguistics. Armenologists are at the forefront of an effort to gradually help to reduce the Eurocentrism of modern linguistics.

"Techniques for the Translation of Ancient and Medieval Manuscripts. Another area well represented at this forum is a broader discussion of techniques used in the translation of ancient and medieval manuscripts into Armenian (from Greek, Latin, Syriac, Georgian, and other languages). Scholars both abroad and in Armenia have been examining the work of the [Armenian] translators from a wide variety of angles, among them the interdependencies between translation methods and translation goals. And much remains to be done. Hence the emphasis placed at this conference on translation into Armenian—the patterns, specific features, and translation techniques involved."

PROGRAM. Ashot Abrahamian (Yerevan State University), *The form-building and world-building role of the verb stems*; Aram Barlezizian (Institute of Foreign Languages, Yerevan), *Le système lexico-sémantique de l'arménien occidental et ses contacts avec celui du français au XIX-ième siècle*; Charles Barton (Concordia University, Montreal), *Old Armenian verbs in 'oum'*; Valentina Calzolari (University of Geneva), *Remarks on the Armenian version of the Syriac text of the Acts of Paul and Thekla*; Bernard R. Coulie (Catholic University of Louvain), *The evolution of some translation techniques in Ancient Armenian*; S. Peter Cowe (Columbia), *Analysis of the Armenian versions of the History of Alexander*; Hayg Der-Houssikian (University of Florida), *Case assignment in Armenian*.

Robert Dermeguerian (University of Provence), *Le renouvellement lexical: milieu et moyens*; Gevork Djahoukian (Armenian Academy of Sciences), *Two essays on historical linguistics: (1) Hurro-Urartian notes, (2) Armenian reflection of the Indo-European sequence of consonants*; Anaïd Donabedian (Institut des Langues Orientales, Paris), *Le médiatif en arménien occidental (parfait en -er)*; John A.C. Greppin (Cleveland State University), *The Armenian suffix '-ach-'*; Vazgen G. Hambarzumian (Matenadaran) *Division into historical periods of Latinized Armenian*; Liana Hovsepian (Armenian Academy of Sciences), *The typological development of the Armenian language*; Sylvia Kasparian (University of Moncton), *Description de l'alternance introphrastique dans le discours bilingue-multilingue d'Arméniens vivant à Paris*; A. Keuchgerian (Matenadaran), *Textological problems of translation in medieval Armenian literature*; Amalia Khachaturian (Institute of Linguistics, Sweden), *Typology of the phonology of Modern Armenian*; Jared Klein (University of Georgia), *Remarks on the personal demonstratives of Classical Armenian*;

F. Kortland (Leiden University), *The sigmatic forms of the Armenian verb*; Natalia A. Kozintseva (Institute of Linguistic Research), *Types of perfect in Modern Eastern Armenian compared with English*; Charles de Lamberterie (Sorbonne), *Le*

nom du tonnerre en arménien; Henning Lehmann (University of Aarau), *The so-called "absurd" punctuation in John 1:3-4*; Amalia Mouradian (State University of Yerevan), *Les transformations déprédictives en arménien et en français*; Gohar Mouradian (Matenadaran), *Lexicological Observations on the Armenian Versions of Philo Alexandrinus*; Agnes Ouzounian (Paris), *Les relatives en arménien classique*; Bert Vaux (Harvard University), *On the dialect of Agulis (Arm. Zokeren)*; Edmond Schütz (Budapest University), *Medieval foreign glosses—medieval Armenian phonetics*; Edouard Selian (University of Sofia, Bulgaria), *On the Paulician dialect*; Manee Erna Shirinian (Matenadaran), *Rendering of the Greek participial phrases in the Armenian version of Aristotle's "Virtues and Vices"*;

Michele Sigler (Paris), *The argument structure of Armenian verbs: a preliminary investigation*; Nectar Simonian (Armenian Academy of Sciences), *Reduplicated verbs of Indo-European origin in Old Armenian*; Virgil Strohmeyer (American University of Armenia), *On 16th century Latin grammars of Armenian*; Alina Tonoian (Yerevan State University), *The pragmatic meaning of the aspectual-temporal system of the past tenses of the indicative in Modern Armenian (contrasted with German)*; Jasmine Trague (University of Graz), *Armenian varieties and Armenian language maintenance in Austria*; Jos Weitenberg (University of Leiden), *Early Armenian dialect isoglosses*; Hovhannes Zakarian (Armenian Academy of Sciences), *The Language Law of the Republic of Armenia and problems of All-Armenian language policy*; David Zorc and Laura Baghdassarian (MRM, Inc., Maryland), *Cultural and linguistic implications of the Armenian frequency list (on B.K. Ghazarian, Armenian Frequency Dictionary, 1982)*.

80th Anniversary Genocide Conference

A symposium on the Armenian Genocide was held in Los Angeles on April 8 and 9, 1995. The conference, organized by Richard G. Hovannisian, who holds the Armenian Educational Foundation Chair in Modern Armenian History at UCLA, was one of the Los Angeles community events commemorating the 80th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide.

The first session of the well-attended symposium was held in Armenian at the United Armenian Evangelical Church. The first speaker was *Marc Nichanian* the Paris-based author and literary critic. Referring to the writings of Zabel Esayan, Hagop Oshagan, and Aram Andonian, Nichanian argued that Armenians have spent the years since the Genocide trying to document it. Now, he said, we are finally trying to understand it.

The second speaker was *Hrachik Simonian*, past and present high-ranking member of the academic establishment in Armenia and former head of the Committee for Cultural Relations with Armenians Abroad. His presence once again raised the question whether Soviet historians are going to be held accountable for what they produced under the old regime, and if not, what is to be expected now, as the new regime tries to distort history to fit its agenda. Simonian, who spoke about Pan-Turkism, said nothing new. Nor did he show up the second day, when the bulk of the new research was presented.

The third speaker was *Avedis Papazian*, another Soviet-Armenian scholar and author of the Armenian-language volume, *The Armenian Genocide According to*

the Documents of the Trial of the Young Turks. Papazian spoke about the 1919 trial of the perpetrators of the Genocide, held in occupied Constantinople. (Interested readers will find a thorough analysis of the trial record, in English, in the works of Vahakn N. Dadrian).

The final speaker was *Rubina Peroomian*, author of a groundbreaking comparative study of Armenian and Jewish literary responses to catastrophe. Peroomian spoke of various literary efforts to understand the Genocide. She said Armenian literature does not discuss and define the perpetrators of the Genocide. The poet Vahan Tekeyan blames a murderous God, she noted.

Peroomian was the only woman among the seventeen participants. One trusts that at least some of the handful of other women working in the field were invited and declined.

The Saturday morning session, held at UCLA, began with the introductory remarks of Richard Hovannisian. He pointed out that 1995 was the 100th anniversary of the 1895 Armenian massacres, the 80th of the Armenian Genocide, and the 50th of the end of World War II and the liberation of the Nazi death camps. He bemoaned the fact that only the latter occasion will receive widespread attention and that the "conspiracy of silence" is achieving progress over the "need of remembering." He was distressed also by the fact that, in the struggle between forgetting and remembering, the parameters are set by the perpetrators; he argued that scholars with an interest in the Armenian Genocide should be able to get away from reacting to the wild allegations of those who deny the Genocide and set their own agenda.

Following the opening remarks, *Stephan Astourian* spoke about the emergence of Turkish racism. Astourian is the author of "The Armenian Genocide: An Interpretation," an important study that has done much to move Armenian Genocide studies from description and documentation to analysis and understanding. Astourian said racism emerges when a group that considers itself superior to a distinctive outgroup and is accustomed to enjoying certain privileges and feels entitled to them, fears that its privileges are threatened by the outgroup.

The second presentation was made by *Ara Sarafian* of the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Sarafian, who has made American archival materials on the Genocide widely available through his five-volume collection of official documents, discussed the 1916 British government publication, *The Treatment of the Armenians in the Ottoman Empire*, compiled by Arnold Toynbee and Viscount Bryce. Sarafian said the book was the first to suggest that there was a coordinated empire-wide plan to exterminate the Armenian people.

The third presentation was made by *Hilmar Kaiser* of the European University Institute, Florence. Kaiser reviewed the correspondence between the German director of the Baghdad railway, in Constantinople, and the director of the Deutsche Bank, in Berlin, regarding the fate of the Armenian conscripts assigned to the construction of the extension of the railway. For a combination of economic and altruistic reasons, these German businessmen were outraged that their workers were to be taken away and slaughtered, and they took steps to help them. Kaiser juxtaposed this case with the German Foreign Office's handling of documents relating to the Genocide.

The next speaker was *Levon Marashlian* of Glendale City

College, who emphasized the continuities between the genocidal old regime and the ostensibly new regime. He showed specifically that the Kemalists continued the genocidal policy of the Young Turks. Given the importance of the topic and the value of his research, it was unfortunate that Marashlian chose to present his material in a theatrical style which made the argument more difficult to follow.

Robert Melson of Purdue University, the next speaker, discussed various cases of genocide in the twentieth century and argued that the Armenian Genocide rather than the Holocaust should be viewed as the prototype for twentieth-century genocides. He explained the practical significance of this analysis: those looking for early warning signs of genocide mustn't be misled by the absence of a paranoid megalomaniac like Hitler. Melson, a survivor of the Holocaust, is the first Holocaust specialist to write a book comparing the Armenian and Jewish experiences.

The final speaker of the morning session was *Roger Smith* of the College of William and Mary. Smith spoke of the various ways in which Armenians have resisted the Genocide since 1915. He started with armed resistance in a handful of places during the Genocide. He classified flight as a form of resistance that is effective but helps the perpetrators reach their aims. Smith included actions taken after 1915-16 as part of Armenian resistance: Operation Nemesis, which he noted was launched by the A.R.F.; surviving and building communities; "publicity terrorism"; efforts to build the Armenian case, leading to recognition of the Genocide by various governments and the European Parliament; efforts to have the Genocide included in human rights curricula. Smith spoke also about those who deny the Genocide.

The afternoon session began with a presentation by *Lorne Shirinian* of the Royal Military College of Canada. Suggesting that the memoirs of survivors have not received sufficient scholarly scrutiny, Shirinian argued that they are literary texts as well as historical documents: Memoirs can be read to learn what happened, but also to learn how survivors understand and respond to their experiences. Shirinian noted that the act of writing memoirs indicates the writer's faith in memory and history; the writer believes that the transmission of his or her texts will be significant. [Perhaps it is also a way of mourning, paying perceived debts to lost relatives, and healing.]

The next speaker was *Yair Auron* of the Tel Aviv State Teachers College. Auron has recently come into the spotlight for preparing the curriculum on the Armenian Genocide rejected by Israel's Ministry of Education. Auron is the author of a book, just released in Hebrew, which looks at relations between Zionists and Armenians. He discussed the profound impact of the Armenian resistance at Musa Dagh, as told in Franz Werfel's classic, on Jewish youth and the Jewish underground during the 1930s and 40s.

Donald Miller of the University of Southern California, co-author of *Survivors: An Oral History of the Armenian Genocide*, spoke next. In his presentation, "Historical Memory in the Interpretation of Current Events in Armenia," Miller recounted the testimony of Armenians who were attacked in their homes in Azerbaijan.

The next speaker was *Ernst-Albrecht von Renesse* of Ruhr University, Bochum, Germany. He asked himself whether Germany has a moral obligation to support Armenia and answered the question in the affirmative.

Marc Nichanian then spoke again, this time in English. He claimed that some of the most eminent Armenian scholars in France and the United States show that they have misunder-

stood the Genocide when they represent it simply as a case of ethnic cleansing to solidify Turkish territorial claims. Nichanian made a distinction between people who experience a catastrophe directly and those who don't. He concluded with an attack on historians who claim to recognize the Genocide but fail to put it in its proper place in history. These historians, Nichanian argued, in effect deny the Genocide, for an event without a place has no reality.

The next speaker was the French author *Yves Ternon*. He spoke about the Paris trial of Bernard Lewis on charges of denying the Armenian Genocide. The final speaker was *Israel Charny* of the Institute on the Holocaust and Genocide, Jerusalem, and Tel Aviv University. He compared the cases of academics who deny the Armenian Genocide and the Holocaust, showing tactical similarities. He concluded by criticizing Israel's Ministry of Education for rejecting Yair Auron's Armenian Genocide curriculum and suggested that Armenia's Ministry of Education reconsider its decision to ban the teaching of the Genocide in Armenia's elementary and middle schools.

On this note, Richard Hovannisian closed a most impressive and successful symposium.

—*Vincent Lima*

Spoletto Hosts Major Conference

A major conference on the culture of the Caucasus (4th to 11th centuries) brought together Armenologists from several countries to Spoleto, Italy, in April 1995. Karen Uzbaghian (University of St. Petersburg), Gerard Dedeyan (University of Montpellier), Paruir Muradian (Oriental Institute, Yerevan), Robert Thomson (Oxford), Jean-Pierre Mahé (Paris), Nina G. Garsoian (Columbia), and Dickran Kouymjian (CSUF) were among the many scholars who presented papers. The conference was sponsored by the Italian Center for Medieval Studies.

News of Members

Joseph M. Alexanian (Trinity, Illinois) has been named Professor of Biblical Studies, Emeritus. He has published "Remarks on the Armenian Text of the Acts of the Apostles" in *Text and Context: Studies in the Armenian New Testament*, edited by S. Ajamian and M.E. Stone (Scholars Press, 1994), and "The Armenian Version of the New Testament," in *The Text of the New Testament in Contemporary Research: Essays on the "Status Quaestio-nis,"* edited by Bart D. Ehrman and Michael W. Holmes (Eerdmans, 1995).

Levon Avdoyan (Library of Congress) presented a paper on "Syrians in Armenia: A Question of Perceptions" at the Second Syriac Conference held at the Catholic University of America in June. He also presented a paper on the ancient and medieval background of contemporary Armenian history at a day-long seminar in June at the Foreign Services Institute called to brief the ambassador designate to Armenia, Peter Tomsen, and ran a session for the Caucasian seminar of the Foreign Service Institute on ancient and mediaeval Armenian history in May.

Kajak Balekjian (Maryland) published an article, "Remarks on the Armenian Alphabet and Its Pronunciation," in Armenian, in *Horizon* (October 1994).

George Bournoutian (Iona College) was promoted to full professor, in charge of Russian, Eastern European, and Middle Eastern history courses. His *History of the Armenian People*, vol. 1 (pre-history to 1500 AD) is sold out and will appear in a new edition (with corrections). Volume 2 of *History* is being translated into Armenian.

Marco Brambilla (DOMUS) gave a series of lectures on Islamic architecture at the Gruenebaum Center at UCLA.

Carnegie Samuel Calian (Pittsburgh Theological Seminary) received an honorary Doctor of Divinity from Washington and Jefferson College, Washington, Penna., and delivered the baccalaureate address. He and his wife (Doris Zobian Calian) recently returned from Pakistan, where he lectured at Gujranwala Theological Seminary.

Peter Cowe (Columbia) published *Armenian Manuscripts in the Cambridge University Library*, Corpus Scriptorum Christianorum Orientalium, subsidia vol. 546 (Louvain: Peeters, 1994). His articles include "The Inauguration of the Cilician Coronation Rite and Royal Ideology," *Armenian Review* 48 (1995); "The Impact of Time and Place on Grigor Narekac'i's Theology, Spirituality, and Poetics," *Le Muséon* (1995); "Models for the Interpretation of Medieval Armenian Poetry," *New Approaches to Middle Armenian Language and Literature*, edited by J.J.S. Weitenberg (Leiden: Rodopi, 1995). His conference papers include "Generic and Methodological Developments in East Christian Theology from the Fourth to Eleventh Centuries," Il Caucaso: Cerniera fra Culture dal Meditarraneo alla Persia (secoli IV-XI) at Spoleto, Italy, and "Syro-Armenian Ecclesiastical Relations in the 5th-6th Centuries" at the Second Syriac Symposium, Catholic University of America, Washington. In August 1995 he was awarded an IREX short-term travel grant to Armenia.

R. Hrair Dekmejian (USC) published "The Rise of Political Islamism in Saudi Arabia," in *Middle East Journal* 48:4 (Autumn 1994). His book, *Islam in Revolution* was published in translation in Persian (by Keyhan, Tehran) and in Arabic (by Dar al-Wafa, Egypt).

Barlow Der Mugrdechian (CSU Fresno) taught Armenian Literature at the 23rd Annual Armenian Relief Society Summer Studies Program held at Bradford College, Bradford, Mass., from July 23 to August 12. Twenty-five students from around the United States participated in the program, which offered courses in Armenian history, language, literature, art history, film, and music.

John A. C. Greppin (Cleveland State University) edited and wrote the introduction to *Studies in Classical Armenian Literature* (Caravan Books: Delmar, NY). His articles include "The Particles -g, -d, and -n in Classical and Middle Armenian," *Historische Sprachforschung* 106 (1993); "A Note on the Etymology of Old Etyptian

TRR," *Chronique d'Egypte* 68 (1993); "Armenian *axerak* and *ahiparanoc'*," *Annual of Armenian Linguistics* 15 (1994); "Some Medieval Georgian Medical Texts," *Society of Ancient Medicine Review*; "On Not Having Enough Space," *AB Bookman* (Dec. 14, 1994); and "Some Probably New Syrian Vocabulary, *Le Muséon* (1994). He also wrote a number of book reviews appearing in the *Times* (London) *Literary Supplement* and in other publications.

Robert H. Hewsen (Rowan College) contributed five maps for G. Bournoutian's *History of Armenia*, vol. 2; presented a paper on Ananias of Shirak at the Zohrab Center, New York City; contributed two articles to the 1994 *Yearbook of Colliers Encyclopedia*, one on the Armenian Republic and the other on the Georgian Republic; and published a chapter on Ananias of Shirak in *Studies in Classical Armenian Literature*, ed. J.A.C. Greppin.

Eric P. Hamp (University of Chicago) published "Anur," "sayr 'knife edge,'" "gewt 'village,'" *Annual of Armenian Linguistics* (1994), and presented a paper "On Armenian and Greek" at the Non-Slavic Languages Conference at the University of Chicago in May 1995. He published a number of articles in the *Pergamon Encyclopedia of Languages and Linguistics* (1994) and received the Derek Allen prize of the British Academy, also in 1994.

Richard Hovannissian (UCLA) will serve as the first visiting professor of the newly-created Saroyan Chair in Armenian Studies at the University of California, Berkeley; he will teach at the Berkeley campus in the Fall Semester, 1995, and assist in the organization of the program. On the occasion of the 80th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, he was a keynote speaker at the international symposium in Yerevan and at a preceding conference in Moscow held at the Russian Academy of Sciences, both in April 1995. He lectured on various aspects of the Armenian Genocide in several forums, including the University of California (Santa Barbara), the California Social Science Council convention in Fresno, the joint Armenian-Jewish commemoration cosponsored by the Zohrab Center in New York, Wayne State University in Detroit, and the Garrett Theological Seminary of Northwestern University.

Matthew Jendian (USC) presented a paper on "God and Gender: An Eastern Orthodox Perspective" at the American Sociological Association meetings in August in Washington. He recently was granted ABD status and an MA at the University of Southern California, where he is a PhD Candidate in Sociology. In the spring of 1995 he was appointed part-time lecturer in the Department of Sociology at California State University, Fresno.

Isabel Kaprielian (Ontario Institute for Studies in Education) published, with Stacy Churchill, *The Pulse of the World: Refugees in Our School* (Toronto, 1994). Her recent articles include "Rejecting 'Misfits': Canada and the Nansen Passport, *International Migration Review* 28:2

(Summer 1994). She has presented papers on various aspects of pluralism and Armenians in Canada before the Social Science History Association and at the University of Montreal; she has also lectured on Armenian women in the diaspora before the Armenian International Women's Association and the Armenian Relief Society.

Sylvie L. Merian is now Managing Editor at Norman Ross Publishing, Inc., in New York City. She has published "Cilicia as the Locus of European Influence on Medieval Armenian Book Production," *Armenian Review* 45:4/180 (Winter 1992) and gave a paper on "The Armenian Bookmaking Tradition in the Christian East" at a conference sponsored by the Scriptorium Center for Christian Antiquities at Hampton Court Estates near Hereford, England.

Dennis Papazian (University of Michigan-Dearborn) edited *Out of Turkey: The Life Story of Donik "Haji Bey" Yessaian, A Family Memoir* (Dearborn: Armenian Research Center, 1994) and reviewed Richard Hovannian, ed., *The Armenian Genocide: History, Politics, Ethics*, in *History* 22:2 (Winter 1994). He has lectured on "A Trip Through Historic Armenia: My Adventures in Eastern Turkey," at St. Sarkis Armenian Church, St. John's Armenian Church, and the Cultural Society of Armenians from Istanbul.

Rubina Peroomian (UCLA) published the 11th grade textbook *Hay Tad* (History of the Armenian Question), including workbook and teachers' guide (Western Prelacy of the Armenian Church of America, 1994). She presented a paper on "The Armenian Genocide: A Literary Theme, an Echo of a Pain Unexplained, a Wound Unhealed" (in Armenian) at a symposium on the Armenian Genocide and conducted a workshop on how to teach the Armenian Genocide to Armenian students, both in Kingston, Canada, and sponsored by Hamazkayin. She also conducted a workshop on the teaching of the Armenian Genocide for social studies and history teachers in public schools at the annual Armenian Conference in Glendale and presented a paper on "Literature of Catastrophe: An Attempt to Comprehend and Survive" at the UCLA Symposium on the Armenian Genocide in April.

James Russell (Harvard) published "On the Origins and Inventions of the Armenian Script," *Le Muséon* 107:3-4, 1994, and "The Archaeological Context of Magic in the Early Byzantine Period," *Byzantine Magic*, Henry Maguire, ed. (Harvard University Press, 1995).

Eliz Sanasarian (University of Southern California) published "The Islamic Republican Party," *Oxford Encyclopedia of the Modern Islamic World* (New York, 1995) and gave a paper on "The Social Dynamics: Education, Gender and Health," at a Conference on Iran and the Gulf organized by the Emirates Center for Strategic Studies & Research, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, in January 1995. She was also elected to the Council of the Society for Iranian Studies.

Levon A. Saryan (Greenfield, WI) continues as corresponding editor of the *Armenian Numismatic Journal* and directs the AESA Lead Exposure project in Armenia. He has published "Armenia Issuing Currency Once Again," *Bank Note Reporter* 22:7 (July 1994); "Armenian Reference Released," *World Coin News* 22:13 (June 19, 1995); and "Non-Destructive Analysis of Medieval Armenian Coins and Artifacts," *Celator* 9:6 (June 1995); as well as several articles in the *Armenian Numismatic Journal*. His article, "A Medieval Coin from Dvin in Armenia," published in the *Journal of the Pacific Coast Numismatic Society*, received second place in the PCNS 1994 literary contest; and "Some Ancient Copper Hoards of Tigranes II of Armenia," *The Sentinel* (Spring 1994) was awarded the first place Elston Bradfield Literary Award of the Central States Numismatic Society.

Harold Takooshian (Fordham) was elected Eastern Vice President of Psi Chi, the national honor society for psychology. He published, with W.M. Verdi, "Assessment of Attitudes toward Terrorism," *Violence and the Prevention of Violence*, L.L. Adler & F.L. Denmark, eds. (Westport, Praeger, 1995).

Boghos Levon Zekian (Università di Venezia) published "Processi di balcanizzazione e sentieri di debalcanizzazione: Analogie e tipicità di un caso emblematico: Il Caucaso," *Letterature di Frontiera/Littératures de Frontières* 4 (1994); "Armenia-Azerbaigian: come risolvere il conflitto del Nagorno-Karabagh," *Ares* 2:3-5 (1994); "Bazmavet, il decano delle riviste armenologiche (in occasione del 150esimo anniversario della sua fondazione)," *Patmabanashirakan Handes* 141:1 (1995). He presented a paper on "The Basic Question of National Identity and Modernity," in Yerevan and on "Il Caucaso: cerniera di culture dal Mediterraneo alla Persia (secoli IV-XI)" in Spoleto in April 1995.

Publications

● **Armenia in Crisis: The 1988 Earthquake**, by Pierre Verluise, translated, with an introduction and epilogue, by Levon Chorbajian and with a foreword by Gérard Chaliand (Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 1995). Documentation of the 1988 earthquake and the surrounding political controversies which rocked the Soviet Union and contributed to its collapse. Based on personal interviews and press reports, the book examines the catastrophe in a broad historical context and includes black-and-white photographs, chronology, bibliography, and index.

● **Armenian InfoText**, by George Mouradian (Southgate, MI: Bookshelf Publishers, 1995). This work contains a brief outline of Armenian history, alphabetical listing of significant persons, and appendices listing important events in Armenian history, chronology of Armenian kings, saints of the church, organizations, political leaders, Armenian Americans, victims of April 24, 1915, prominent Armenians in the former Soviet Union, maps, and bibliography.

● **New Approaches to Medieval Armenian Language and Literature**, edited by J.J.S. Weitenberg (Amsterdam: Rodopi, 1995). The authors' goal is to reevaluate the traditional approaches to medieval (10th to 16th century) Armenian culture, applying insights developed in current literary, historical, and linguistic research. With a refocus on indigenous tradition, the book reflects discussions held during the 1993 workshop in Leiden sponsored by the International Association of Armenian Studies.

● **Revolutionary Figures**, by Antranig Chalabian, translated by Arra S. Avakian (privately printed, 1994). Contains sections on Mihran Damadian, Hambardzum Boyadjian, Serob Aghbuir, Hrair-Dzhoghk, Gevorg Chavush, Sebastatsi Murad, and Nikol Duman.

● **Rock Inscriptions and Graffiti Project: Catalogue of Inscriptions**, edited by Michael Stone, 3 vols. (Society of Biblical Literature - Resources for Biblical Study 28, 29, and 31, Atlanta: Scholars Press, 1992-1994). This project assembles, catalogues, and processes rock inscriptions and graffiti from the Holy Land, including the Sinai, Negev desert, Christian holy places, and the Judean desert, with 8,500 inscriptions in all, in Arabic, Armenian, Greek, Nabatean, and other languages.

● **Sarkis**, by Gordon and Elizabeth Orear, with photographs by Robert Vigiletti, foreword by Samuel Sachs II (Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 1995). Text and reproductions of the work of artist Sarkis Sarkisian, a native of Smyrna who emigrated to the United States in 1923. He has been an artist and art teacher in the Detroit area who has influenced generations of art students. Includes color and black-and-white reproductions.

● **Studies in Classical Armenian Literature**, edited by John A.C. Greppin (Delmar: Caravan Books, 1994). Collection of essays which originally appeared as Introductions to the Classical Armenian Text Reprint Series. Includes sections on Agathangelos, Vardan Areveltsi, Thomas Artsruni, Yeghishe, Moses Khorenatsi (by Robert Thomson), Hovhannes Draskhankertetsi and Koriun (by Krikor H. Maksoudian), Gregory Narekatsi (by James Russell), Lazar Parpetsi (by Dickran Kouymjian), Patmutiun Hayots (by Nina G. Garsoian), Anania Shirakatsi (by Robert H. Hewsen), and the Zohrab Bible (by Claude Cox).

NEWSPAPER MICROFILM PROJECT

Norman Ross Publishing house of New York City has announced a project in cooperation with the Russian National Library in St. Petersburg, Russia, to microfilm a number of pre-revolutionary Armenian newspapers.

The following list of newspapers was proposed by Mrs. Endje Sagidova, Head of the Nationalities Division of the National Library of Russia, formerly the Saltykov-Shchedrin State Public Library.

As many of these papers are in brittle condition, the National Library will receive a free copy of all films made, while duplicate reels will be sold to interested institutions and researchers at the price of \$70 apiece. The first title to be filmed is *Mshak*.

Arev, 1914-1918; Ardzabank', 1882-1897; Arshaloys, 1905-1906; Akhurian, 1911-1914; Enker, 1906-1914; Gavari dzain, 1913-1916; Gordz, 1908-1909; Hairenik, 1899-1916; Hnchak, 1887-1915; Horizon, 1909-1918; Hosank, 1906-1907; Hyusis, 1863-1864; Hyusisi Vacharakan, 1866-67; Kovkasi Iraber, 1912-1914; Iraber, 1908-1909; Meghu Hayastani, 1858-1886; Mer dzaine, 1907-1909; Mshak, 1872-1921; Nor dar, 1883-

1916; Nor mamul, 1913-1915; Psak, 1880-1884; Surkhandak, 1909-1913; Vagvi dzain, 1913-1914; Vadzarakan, 1966-1867; Vgak, 1907-1908; and Zhair, 1907-1911.

Ross Publishing is the North American representative for the InterDocumentation Co. (IDC), which distributes "Armenian Selected Sources," edited by J.J.S. Weitenberg, and also the Armenian Architecture project. Further information is available from Sylvie Merian at Norman Ross Publishing, Inc. 330 West 58th St., New York City 10019. Tel: 212/765-8200 or 800/648-8850. Fax: 212/765-2393; E-mail: nross@igc.apc.org

DIRECTORY AVAILABLE. The 1995 Directory of 506 Armenian-ancestry behavioral scientists in North America is now available by sending a check for \$6, payable to "ABSA" (Armenian-American Behavioral Science Association) to H. Takooshian, 314 Dartmouth, Paramus, NJ 07652.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Readers of the journal *Middle Eastern Studies*, published in London, are familiar with Jacob M. Landau's useful bibliographical essays dealing with research and publications on the Middle East performed in the Soviet Union. Recent events have seriously curtailed both research and publication, with the result that fewer Russian-language works about the Middle East are available.

Therefore, the January 1995 issue of the journal contains the final article in the series. Landau explained:

Since the breakup of the Soviet Union, government subsidies have become scarce or have altogether ceased. Such works that do come out are rarely available abroad, even if ordered in the usual way by well-established bookshops. It is therefore becoming increasingly difficult to present a representative sample of Middle Eastern research being done currently in Russia and other parts of the Commonwealth of Independent States. Thus, with much regret, this serious of review articles, written by the present reviewer for close to a quarter of a century (the first was published in the May 1970 issue of *Middle Eastern Studies*) comes to an end.

UPDATE ON BIBLIOGRAPHY PROJECT

George Shirinian has been developing a computerized bibliography relating to all aspects of Armenia for a number of years. It resides on a PC compatible micro-computer, in dBASE format. At present, there are over 5,500 entries categorized by 721 subject headings, and the number grows regularly. The majority of entries are scholarly books and articles, but there are also works of creative fiction, some news items, as well as articles from more popular magazines.

Publications in twenty-four languages are represented. English is the most prominent, representing 62 percent of the entries, with French second at 25 percent and German third at 6 percent. It is hoped that all languages will be included eventually, but the lack of standard codes for representing non-Roman alphabets on computers has been a strong deterrent to entering such material. The problem is that the data can not be transferred as hardware and software standards change. Some Armenian and Russian language material is included in transliteration, but because of problems introduced by transliteration itself, work on such languages is being deferred. There is reason to be optimistic, however, as a new standard for display-

ing all languages on computers, called Unicode, may well be established within the next few years. Most of the publications (90 percent) have been published since 1900, but coverage goes back to the 1600s.

Researchers who have submitted requests for a search on this database have been unanimously favourable about the results. Even experts have been delighted to find unfamiliar publications on a subject they know well.

Just recently, a subset of 441 entries on the 1915 Armenian Genocide was sent to the Institute on the Holocaust and Genocide in Jerusalem. This material will be incorporated into the next edition of their Holocaust and Genocide Bibliographic Database, which consists of over 10,000 entries on all aspects of Genocide. This will help assure comprehensive coverage of the Armenian Genocide in this very valuable research tool.

Members are invited to submit search requests on any Armenian-related topic, giving as much explanatory detail as possible to ensure good results. A printed bibliography will be sent within a few days, along with a request for feedback on its success and usefulness. This tests the database and helps determine if the structure, contents, and subject indexing are useful. At the same time, any contributions of bibliographic information to the database would be greatly appreciated.

Contact: George Shirinian, 1997 Bough Beeches Blvd., Mississauga, Ontario, Canada L4W 2J9. Tel: 905/624-7209; Fax: 416/394-1025; E-mail: shiring@gov.on.ca.

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The Editor of the *SAS Newsletter* invites readers to submit articles relating to Armenian Studies, news items about their activities, opinion pieces, or letters to the editor.

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