

California State University, Fresno

CSU

ARMENIAN STUDIES PROGRAM
Fresno, California 93740



HYE SHARZHOON NEWS SERVICE

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

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

Vol. 4, Release #41

November 1988

Students Take Jaunt To Armenia

By Hanif Moorad

*Staff Writer, "The Daily Col-
legian", Fresno*

Eight CSUF students visited Soviet Armenia last summer and got a taste of what it's like to be in the midst of mass meetings involving millions of people, according to Barlow Der Mugrdechian, professor of Armenian Studies.

The students made a first-time trip to Armenia, one of the 15 Soviet republics, on an educational tour after being invited by the Committee of Cultural Relations with Armenians Abroad, based in Armenia.

The time period in which the tour took place, according to Der Mugrdechian, was vital for the people of Armenia, as mass demonstrations involving 500,000 to millions of people were taking place.

He added that these were not typical demonstrations, but rather they were meetings, "gathering of all kinds of people. There was no shoving or cursing in these demonstrations."

Jacqueline Sislian, President of Armenian Student Organization, who was part of the trip, said that the "trip was good. I had an excellent time. It was really educational."

She said that before she went to Armenia, she had recently learned about the country in a class and everything was fresh in her mind on the trip.

When she saw the demonstrations, "at first I didn't understand what they were demonstrating for, but when explained I understood," Sislian said. "The demonstrations were peaceful, there was no violence, it was really interesting."

To be on the safe side, Sislian did not go to every demonstration because they were so huge it was easy to lose the group and she did not know how to speak Armenian very well she said.

Sislian, whose father is an Armenian, said that she "wanted to go because it was important to visit her fatherland. I am studying about my culture and heritage, and it was great time to go."

Commenting on the Armenian people, she said that "The people were the friendliest people I've ever met. They knew we were Americans, and they were interested in learning about us."

Darlene Ouzounian, a graduate Liberal Studies student whose parents are from Armenia, was also a part of the trip and said it "was excellent, I was skeptical about going in the beginning, it wasn't what my expectations were."

She expected more villages, and said she "wasn't expecting a developed city."

Ouzounian said she met her father's first cousin during the visit and "it was exciting to see them; my father hasn't seen them in 40 years."

She concluded that "It was a great experience and I would go again."

Most of the students on the trip, according to Der Mugrdechian, were Armenian-Americans.

"This was the first time that most of them had been overseas, and also the first time in Armenia, an area where their grandparents or great-grandparents lived," he said.

This was the first tour involving students to Armenia and Der Mugrdechian plans "to organize such trips for succeeding years."

In 1982 Der Mugrdechian took a group of students to Jerusalem. He added that in the future he would try to get students to go to Armenia from all over the United States.

Students paid only their air fare for this trip and the rest of the expenses were picked up by the committee which invited them over, according to Der Mugrdechian.

The demonstrations that students witnessed had really begun in February of this year in response to the issue of Karabagh, a Soviet republic administered by the Soviet's.

In 1923, Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin made a decision which gave the region of Azerbaijan control over the Karabagh, formerly under Armenian control, and now the people of Armenia want the Soviet government to reconsider it and return Karabagh to the Armenians.

Der Mugrdechian said that "when we went in June, four days later the city was closed to tourists," and his group just got out in time.

"We stayed in Hotel Armenia, which is in the center of the city where we could witness the demonstrations."

He said that the recent changes in Gorbachev's policies have given the people of Armenia freedom they never had. The people are for the first time free to express themselves, which according to Der Mugrdechian, they did through meetings and in newspapers by criticizing government policies.

"Other than that there is no freedom like it is in America," he said.

Der Mugrdechian said that the people of Armenia were let down by Gorbachev when "recently in July the decision was made that the control of Karabagh would not go to the people of Armenia." Eighty percent of people on Karabagh are Armenians, but that figure is decreasing.

Gorbachev's decision "let Armenians down because they were expecting their demands to come true. He is getting pressure to not give in."

Even though demonstrations were taking place before the trip took place, "there was never any fear of violence; we knew people who had gone there and they said there was no violence," according to Der Mugrdechian.

There was no anti-American feeling among the Armenian people. Der Mugrdechian and the students said.

"People were happy to see Americans visiting their homeland," Der Mugrdechian added.

The trip, according to Der Mugrdechian, "was not simply a tour. We met with other students and we had discussions about life in Armenia and they asked us what it was to be a student in America."

SOURCE

Abaka: Quebec, Canada

DATE November 14, 1988

SUBJECT

Angele Kapoian-Kouymjian's New Book:
"L'Egypte vu par des Arméniens"

PAGE 1 of 1

A LIRE**«L'Egypte vu par des Arméniens»
d'Angèle Kapoian-Kouymjian**

La Fondation Singer-Polignac vient de faire paraître dans ses éditions, l'ouvrage d'Angèle Kapoian-Kouymjian, «**L'Egypte vu par des Arméniens**». Il s'agit d'un ouvrage de 95 pages, disponible auprès de la Fondation, 43, avenue Georges-Mandel, 75116 Paris, France, au prix de 110 francs français.

Dans sa préface à cet ouvrage, Jean Leclant, Professeur au Collège de France et Secrétaire perpétuel du l'Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres, rappelle que «...des voyageurs ont circulé entre les montagnes d'Arménie et la vallée du Nil; (que) des communautés arméniennes se sont établies en Egypte à partir de la dynastie tolérante des Fatimides, à la fin du Xe siècle et au XIe siècle: (qu')on a reconnu la main d'Arméniens dans des peintures de monastères coptes comme le Couvent Blanc de Sohag». C'est en Egypte, également, qu'un certain nombre d'Arméniens accédèrent, aux XIe et XIXe siècles notamment, aux postes gouvernementaux les plus prestigieux.

S'appuyant sur des sources arméniennes relatives à l'Egypte, l'auteur de ce recueil présente trois Arméniens: le catholicos

Grégoire II le Martyrophile qui se rendit en terre égyptienne au XIe siècle; Hayton l'Historien qui, au début du XIVe siècle, consacra une partie de sa *Fleur des histoires de la terre d'Orient* à l'Egypte; et enfin Siméon de Pologne qui séjourna, entre autres, au Caire, lors d'un long périple effectué au XVIIe siècle, et nous laissa une relation de voyage pittoresque, manquant parfois de tolérance mais toujours pleine d'intérêt.

Solidement documenté et illustré de reproductions photographiques très peu connues, ce livre s'adresse non seulement aux spécialistes mais aussi aux amoureux de l'Egypte et de l'Arménie, ainsi qu'aux amateurs de récits de voyage.

- ARCHIVE -

SOURCE Hye Sharzhoom News Service: Fresno, CADATE November 14, 1988SUBJECT Laurens Ayvazian to Speak on The A.G.B.U.
Summer Internship Program in New YorkPAGE 1 of 1

the Armenian Students
Organization
presents

Laurens Ayvazian
of the Armenian General
Benevolent Union

speaking on

The A.G.B.U. Summer
Internship Program in
New York

Monday, November, 21st
1:00 pm

Student Union Room 310
The public is invited

SOURCE

- ARCHIVE -

The Armenian Observer: Hollywood, CA

DATE November 16, 1988

SUBJECT

William Saroyan 80th Anniversary in Fresno

PAGE 1 of 1

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FRESNO — The 80th anniversary of the birth of William Saroyan will be celebrated with a special program at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 22 in the Alice Peters Auditorium of the Valley Business Center, located on the east side of the California State University, Fresno Campus.

Dr. David Calonne, assistant professor of English at Siena Heights College in Michigan, will speak on "William Saroyan's Quest for Beauty." Calonne is the author of many articles about Saroyan and "William Saroyan: My Real Work is Being," a study of the complete works of Saroyan focusing on his quest for self-realization.

Dr. Calonne has taught as a guest lecturer in the Armenian Studies Program and the English Department of the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor and at the University of Texas. In 1987 he was invited to Armenia. He has also been the recipient of a number of research and travel grants.

Joining Dr. Calonne on the program will be Fresno photographer Paul Kalinian, who had many opportunities to photograph Saroyan and will present his "Photo-Biography of William Saroyan."

Dr. Dickran Kouymjian, director of the CSUF Armenian Studies Program, and the editor of "William Saroyan: An Armenian Trilogy," will open the program and will be the moderator of the evening.

The 80th anniversary commemorative program is co-sponsored by the Armenian Students Organization, the Armenian Studies Program, and the English Department at CSUF. There will be a reception in honor of the guests immediately following the program. Admission is free and the public is welcome.



William Saroyan

SOURCE

- ARCHIVE -

The Armenian Reporter: Fresh Meadows, N.Y.

DATE November 17, 1988

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Birth Anniversary of Saroyan to be Observed

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- ARCHIVE -

SOURCE

The California Courier: Glendale, CA

DATE November 17, 1988

SUBJECT

Celebration of William Saroyan's 80th
Birthday in Glendale

PAGE 1 of 1


AYF Sardarabad
Armenian Book Service**HAPPY BIRTHDAY, BILL!**

William Saroyan would have been
80 years old this year.

Come help us celebrate his birthday.
Professor Dickran Kouymjian, editor of
Saroyan's "An Armenian Trilogy"
will talk about the Saroyan he knew,
and read one of his short plays.

Yervant Kotchunian will read from
Saroyan interviews with Armenian writers.
And...William Saroyan himself will read
some of his stories.

Sunday, November 27, 1988 at 3 p.m.

AYF Sardarabad Book Service
109 E. Harvard, #115 in Glendale
at the corner of Brand and Harvard
in the basement of the
California Federal Savings Building
Admission is free.

...PRE-CHRISTMAS BOOK SALE...

SOURCE

Nor Gyank: Glendale, CA

- ARCHIVE -

DATE November 17, 1988

SUBJECT

80th Anniversary Saroyan Celebration in
Fresno

PAGE 1 of 1

THE LARGEST ARMENIAN/ENGLISH WEEKLY OUTSIDE ARMENIA

NOR GYANK

**ENGLISH &
FRENCH
SECTIONS**

80th Anniversary Saroyan Celebration

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The California COURIER

"The Newspaper For All Armenians" — Published weekly since 1958

Saroyan's 80th Birthday Will Be Celebrated in L.A. and Fresno

FRESNO - The 80th anniversary of the birth of William Saroyan will be celebrated in November during two special programs in Glendale and Fresno.

The Glendale program will be held Nov. 27 at the AYF Sartarabad bookstore, 109 E. Harvard No. 115 at 3 p.m. Professor Dickran Kouymjian, editor of Saroyan's "An Armenian Trilogy," will talk about the Saroyan he knew. Yervant Kotchunian will read from Saroyan interviews.

In Fresno, Saroyan's anniversary will be celebrated with a special program Nov. 22 at 7 p.m., in the Alice Peters Auditorium of the Valley Business Center, in the California State University, Fresno.

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- ARCHIVE -

SOURCE Hay Gyank: Glendale, CA

DATE November 18, 1988

SUBJECT CSUF To Mark Saroyan's 80th Anniversary

PAGE 1 of 1



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New Book Discusses Armenian Presence In Egypt Through The Centuries

Armenians have traveled to and settled in every country of the world, and Egypt is no exception. Anthony and Cleopatra in the first century BC treacherously captured the Armenian king Ardashir and his wife and carried them off to Alexandria where they were eventually killed. In the early Christian centuries Armenians passed through the land on their pilgrimage to Jerusalem and left abundant graffiti along the route, especially in the Sinai. The Armenian Church has always kept close ties with the church of Egypt; today, it still remains in communion with the national or Coptic Church. Major Armenian settlements were later established around the new Islamic capital of Cairo, then called Fustat, shortly after the Arab conquest of the 7th century. Since then Armenians have nurtured a permanent colony there.

A new French book, *L'Egypte vue par des Arméniens* [*Egypt as Seen by the Armenians*] by Angele Kapoian-Kouymjian introduces the history of the Armenians in the land of the Nile while presenting in translation the recorded impressions of Egypt by three famous Armenians of the past: the Catholicos Gregory II Pahlavouni, called the Martyrophile (Vagayaser), who visited Egypt in the 11th century; Hetoum the Historian, a member of the ruling dynasty of the kings of Cilician Armenia, who early in the 14th century devoted a part of his famous *Fleur des histoires de la terre d'Orient* to Egypt; and Simeon of Poland (Simon Lehazzi), a scribe and minor Armenian cleric, who visited Cairo during his extensive travels during the first half of the 17th century and left a colorful, frank and fascinating account of the country.

These texts represent the major descriptions of Egypt found in Armenian sources. Other minor citations are discussed in Ms. Kapoian-Kouymjian's introduction. Each text is presented in its entirety in French translation, with elaborate notes and commentaries. The three authors are introduced to the reader by a detailed biography and critical assessment preceding each account.

The large-format book contains a preface by the distinguished Egyptologist, Jean Leclant, Professor at the Collège de France and Permanent Secretary of the French Academy of Inscriptions and Belles-Lettres. The volume also contains a complete bibliography for the study of the history of

Armenians in Egypt and indexes of personal names, geographical locations, historic monuments, and foreign terms. At the back of the book there are 8 plates presenting rare photographs of Armenian art executed in medieval Egypt, manuscript miniatures from copies of Hetoum's work preserved in the Bibliothèque Nationale de Paris, and other documents relating to the study.

Angele Kapoian-Kouymjian is a tenured faculty member of the Collège Jules Romains in Paris.

Continued on page 13

Continued from page 3

Her teaching specialty is French language and literature; her field of research is Armenian and Near Eastern history and art. Her first book, a large folio volume entitled *The Splendor of Egypt: A Commentary on Napoleon Bonaparte's Expedition (1798-1801) and the "Description de l'Egypte,"* Caravan Books, Delmar, NY, 1975, was written together with her husband, Dickran Kouymjian. She has also published articles in *Ararat*, *Aramco World Magazine*, and *Pazmavet*.

The new book, *Egypt as Seen by the Armenians*, is a result of many years of research in libraries in Cairo, Beirut, and Paris. The original idea was suggested by Serge Sauneron, the late director of the French Archaeological Institute in Cairo. Much of Ms. Kapoian-Kouymjian's work was carried out at the French Institute in Cairo during a research grant

accorded her in the early 1980's.

This richly documented work is intended for the general public as well as the scholar. Its engaging contents show not only how fascinated Armenians were with Egypt, but also how in the 11th and 19th centuries Armenians virtually ruled the land.

The book was published by the Singer-Polignac Foundation of Paris as part of its continuing effort to introduce unusual yet serious studies to a general audience. It is priced at 110 French francs (about \$18) and can be purchased from Armenian booksellers in the United States such as NAASR in Boston, the Diocese bookstore in New York, and Abril and Sardarabad bookstores in the Los Angeles area. It can also be ordered from Samuelian's Orientalist bookstore, 51 Rue Monsieur-le-Prince, 75007 Paris, or directly from the Foundation Singer-Polignac, 43 Avenue Georges-Mandel, 75116, Paris, France.



John the Evangelist. Armenian fresco dated 1124, in the White Monastery, Upper Egypt.

Sub

ARMENIAN STUDIES PROGRAM

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA 93740

- ARCHIVE -

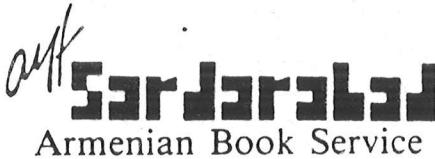
SOURCE

Asbarez: Glendale, CA

DATE November 19, 1988

SUBJECT

Dr. Kouymjian to talk about Saroyan in L.A. PAGE 1 of 1



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Ուիլերմ Սարոյեանի ծննդեան
80ամեակին ասիթով՝
Սարոյեանի գրականութեան
Եւ կեանքին մասին պիտի խօսի
Փրոֆ. Տիգրան Գուլումճեան, Ֆրեզնոյէն:
Երուանդ Գոչումեան պիտի ընթերցէ
«Հանդիպումներ Սարոյեանի Հետ»
գրքէն:

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- ARCHIVE -

SOURCE

Asbarez: Glendale, CA

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Endowed Armenian Chair at CSUF Boosted
By \$75,000

PAGE 1 of 1

Endowed Arm. Chair at CSUF Boosted by \$75,000

FRESNO—A milestone was reached at the third annual banquet of the Armenian Studies Program (ASP) at California State University, Fresno, when \$75,000 was raised in the fund drive to establish an endowed chair in Armenian studies at the university.

The Oct. 22 banquet also marked the inauguration of the Center for Armenian Studies and the move of the ASP into its new premises into the Leon S. Peters Building.

The ASP had raised a substantial sum in 1986 for the Valley Business Center, which was dedicated together with the Peters Building a week earlier, on Oct. 14.

Barlow Der Mugerdichian, lecturer in Armenian studies, emceed the evening's program, during which Prof. Dickran Kouymjian, director of the ASP, announced a major anonymous gift to the endowment. The gift guarantees a dollar-for-dollar match of all firm pledges made before the end of 1988.

Major donations during the evening included a \$50,000 pledge from Mr. and Mrs. Sarkis Kalfayan, and \$10,000 from

Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Pilbos.

The campaign for the endowed chair in Armenian studies, which started in Oct. 1986, will make it the first endowed professorship in a discipline of the Arts and Humanities in the entire 19-campus California State University system. For further information about the endowed chair, contact Richard Francois at (209) 294-4036, or the ASP at (209) 294-2669.

- ARCHIVE -

SOURCE

The Armenian Weekly: Watertown, MA

DATE November 19, 1988

SUBJECT

Saroyan 80th Anniversary Celebration in
Fresno

PAGE 1 of 1

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- ARCHIVE -

The Daily Collegian: Fresno, CA

DATE November 21, 1988

SUBJECT

80th Anniversary William Saroyan
Celebration

PAGE 1 of 1

THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

The California State University, Fresno
Armenian Studies Program and
Armenian Students Organization

in cooperation with
the Department of English
present

**an 80th Anniversary
William Saroyan Celebration**

honoring the 80th anniversary of the birth of the noted Fresno native son

featuring
Dr. David Calonne,
of Siena Heights College, Michigan
speaking on
"William Saroyan's Quest for Beauty"

Paul Kalinian presenting his
"Photo-Biography of William Saroyan"

Dr. Dickran Kouymjian
Director, Armenian Studies Program

Tuesday, November 22, 1988

7:00 pm

Alice Peters Auditorium
Valley Business Center, CSUF

Reception to follow

Parking is available in Lot I across from the Valley Business Center

SOURCE

- ARCHIVE -

The Fresno Bee: Fresno, CA

DATE

November 21, 1988

SUBJECT

FSU Will Sponsor Saroyan Celebration

PAGE

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Metro/Valley

• THE FRESNO BEE Monday, November 21, 1988

FSU will sponsor Saroyan celebration

The 80th anniversary of the birth of writer William Saroyan will be celebrated with a free program at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the Alice Peters Auditorium of the Valley Business Center at Fresno State University.

David Calonne, assistant professor of English at Siena Heights College in Michigan, will speak on "William Saroyan's Quest for Beauty." Calonne is the author of several articles about Saroyan, including "William Saroyan: My Real Work is Being," a study of the complete works of Saroyan focusing on his quest for self-realization.

Joining Calonne for the program will be Fresno photographer Paul Kalinian, who will present a photo-

biography of Saroyan.

Dickran Kouymjian, director of the Armenian studies program at FSU and the editor of "William Saroyan: An Armenian Trilogy," will open the program and serve as moderator.

The commemorative program is sponsored by the Armenian Students Organization, the Armenian studies program and the English department at FSU. There will be a reception immediately after the program.

Parking will be available in Lot J, east of the Valley Business Center.



ՍԱՐՈՅԱՆԻ 80 ԱՄԵԱԿԸ

Ուժիքը Սարոյեանի ծննդեան 80 ամեակը հանդիսաւորապէս պիտի նշուի այսօր, Նոյեմբեր 22, 1988ին, երեկոյեան ժամը 7ին, Ֆրեզոյի Պետական Համալսարանի Ալիս Պետրոսեան հանդիսարանին մէջ:

Դոկտ. Տէյփիտ Քալոն, Միշիկընի Միւնս Հայթց Քոլեջի անգլերէնի օգնական-փրոֆեսէօրը, պիտի բանախուէ "William Saroyan's Quest for Beauty" նիւթին շուրջ: Անիկա հեղինակն է բազմաթիւ յօդուածներու՝ Սարոյեանի մասին, ինչպէս նաև "William Saroyan: My Real Work is Being" հատորին (հրատարակուած 1983ին), որ ուսումնասիրութիւն մըն է Սարոյեանի ամբողջական գործերուն:

Դոկտ. Տիգրան Գույումճեան, տնօրէնը Հայագիտական Ուսմանց Ծրագրին՝ Ֆրեզոյի Պետ. Համալսարանին մէջ, եւ հեղինակը "William Saroyan: An Armenian Trilogy" (հրատ. 1986ին) գիրքին, հանդիսափարն է օրուան հանդիսութեան:

80 ամեակի յիշատակի ձեռնարկը կազմակերպուած է տեղւոյն Ուսանողաց Կազմակերպութեան, Հայագիտական Ուսմանց Ծրագրի, եւ համալսարանին Անգլերէնի Բաժանմունքին կողնէ: Հանդիսութեան աւարտին տեղի պիտի ունեայ պատւասիրութիւն օրուան հիւրերուն համար: Մուտքը ազատ է:

- ARCHIVE -

SOURCE The California Courier: Glendale, CA

DATE November 24, 1988

SUBJECT Angele Kapoian-Kouymjian's new book on
Egypt Introduces Armenian History in the
Land of the Nile

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Angele Kapoian-Kouymjian's Book on Egypt Introduces Armenian History in Land of the Nile

FRESNO - Armenians have traveled to and settled in every country of the world, and Egypt is no exception. Anthony and Cleopatra in the first century B.C. treacherously captured the Armenian king Artavasd and his wife, carried them off to Alexandria where they were eventually killed. In the early Christian centuries Armenians passed through the land on their pilgrimage to Jerusalem and left abundant graffiti along the route, especially in the Sinai. The Armenian church has always kept close ties with the Christian church of Egypt; today, it still remains in communion with the Coptic Church. Major Armenian settlements were later established around the new Islamic capital of Cairo, then called Fustat, shortly after the Arab conquest of the 7th century. Since then, Armenians have nurtured a permanent colony there.

A new French book, *L'Egypte vue par des Armeniens* ("Egypt as Seen by the Armenians"), by Angele Kapoian-Kouymjian introduces the history of the Armenians in the land of the Nile while presenting in translation the recorded impressions of Egypt by three famous Armenians of the past. They are the Catholicos Gregory II Pahlavouni, called the

Martyrophile (Vkayaser), who visited Egypt in the 11th century; Hetum the Historian, a member of the ruling dynasty of the kings of Cilician Armenia, who early in the 14th century devoted a part of his famous *Fleur des histories de la terre d'Orient* to Egypt; and Simeon of Poland, a scribe and minor Armenian cleric, who visited Cairo during his extensive travels during the first half of the 17th century and left a colorful, frank, and fascinating account of the country.

These texts represented the major descriptions of Egypt found in Armenian sources. Other minor citations are discussed in Kapoian-Kouymjian's introduction. Each text is presented in its entirety in French translation with elaborate notes and commentaries. The three authors are introduced to the reader by a detailed biography and critical assessment preceding each of their individual accounts.

The large-format book contains a preface by the distinguished Egyptologist, Jean Leclant, Professor at the College de France and Permanent Secretary of the French Academy of Inscriptions and Belles-Lettres. The volume also contains a complete bibliography for the study of the history of Armenians in Egypt and in-

dexes of personal names, geographical locations, historic monuments, and foreign terms. At the back of the book there are eight plates presenting rare photographs of Armenian art executed in medieval Egypt, manuscript miniatures from copies of Hetum's work preserved in the Bibliotheque Nationale of Paris, and other documents relating to the study.

Angele Kapoian-Kouymjian is a tenured faculty member of the College Jules Romains in Paris. Her teaching specialty is French language and literature; her field of research is Armenian and Near Eastern history and art. Her first book, a laerge folio volume entitled *The Splendor of Egypt. A Commentary on Napoleon Bonaparte's Expedition (1798-1801)* and the "Description de l'Egypte," Caravan Books, Demar. N.Y., 1975, was written together with her husband, Dickran Kouymjian. She has also published articles in *Ararat*, *Aramco World Magazine* and *Bazmavep*.

The new book, *Egypt as Seen by the Armenians*, is a result of many years of research in libraries in Cairo, Beirut, and Paris.

The book, published by the Singer-Polignac Foundation of Paris, is modestly priced at 110 French francs (about \$18.) and can be purchased from Armenian booksellers in the United States. It can also be ordered from the Fondation Singer-Polignac, 43 Avenue Georges-Mandel, 75116, Paris, France.

- ARCHIVE -

SOURCE

The California Courier: Glendale, CA

DATE November 24, 1988

SUBJECT

Dr. Kouymjian To Speak about Saroyan at
the Armenian Center in Glendale for 80th
Anniversary of Saroyan's Birthday

PAGE 1 of 1

AYF Sartarabad Book Service Will Celebrate Saroyan's 80th Birthday

GLENDALE - The AYF Sartarabad Book Service will celebrate the 80th anniversary of William Saroyan's birth with an afternoon of readings on Nov. 27, starting at 3 p.m., at the bookstore, 109 E. Harvard in Glendale.

Professor Dickran Kouymjian, Director of the Armenian Studies Program at California State University, Fresno, and editor of Saroyan's *An Armenian Trilogy*, will speak about the Saroyan he knew, and invite the audience to join him in a live reading of one of the author's shorter plays.

Yervant Kotchunian, literary critic and translator, will read in Armenian from interviews with Saroyan by writers from Soviet

Armenia.

The audience will also be able to hear Saroyan reading from his own works, in a recording made over 20 years ago.

"This is an effort to bring our famous and little-known literary works alive and closer to our reading public," said Dania Ohanian. "We hope to make these intimate Sunday afternoon readings a pleasant and fulfilling experience for the public."

Over the last 12 years, the Sartarabad Book Service has made available English-language books on Armenian culture, history, politics and art. Located at 109 E. Harvard in Glendale, in the basement of the California Federal Savings building, the book service has also featured programs for adults and children, focusing on books and literature.