

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 #40

November 1988

Sub

ARMENIAN STUDIES PROGRAM

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO

FRESNO, CALIFORNIA 93740

- ARCHIVE -

SOURCE The Book Reader: San Francisco, CA

DATE November-December 1988

SUBJECT "William Saroyan: An Armenian Trilogy"

PAGE 1 of 1

Book Edited by Dickran Kouymjian

November-December 1988

FREE

THE BOOK READER

AN INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS

WILLIAM SAROYAN: AN ARMENIAN TRILOGY. Edited by Dickran Kouymjian. (The Press at California State University, Fresno, paper, \$12.95). Saroyan never stopped writing plays after his Broadway successes in the 1940s. They simply became less commercial and more impracticable for stage presentation. These three plays deal powerfully with Armenian themes. "Armenians" deals with the Armenian clergy in Fresno, "Bitlis" is about the terrible killing of Armenians seventy years ago, and "Haratch" deals with Paris and the idea of being Armenian. Very nationalistic, with that dash of Saroyan wit and down-home humor.

- ARCHIVE -

SOURCE The Armenian Weekly: Watertown, MA

DATE November 5, 1988

SUBJECT CSUF Offering Study Tour to Armenia

PAGE 1 of 1

CSUF offering study tour to Armenia

A special opportunity is open to Armenian college students throughout the United States and Canada to participate in a one-month study tour in Armenia.

Selected participants will stay in the heart of Soviet Armenia in Yerevan and will be the guests of the Committee for Cultural Relations with Armenians Abroad. All excursions, trips, room and board will be included in one low price. They enjoy four weeks of unsurpassed educational opportunity in the historic capital of Yerevan,

The dates for the program are May 31 to June 28, 1988. (Dates may change slightly). Departures from Los Angeles or San Francisco. Students from the East Coast will depart from New York.

The tour leader will be Barlow Der Mugrdechian of the Armenian Studies Program at CSU Fresno. Summer credit in the CSUF Armenian Studies Program may be earned for an additional fee.

The tentative cost is \$1,400.00. That includes airfare, round trip, all accommodations and meals. Passport and visa charges are extra.

Those interested may contact the Armenian Studies Program, California State University, Fresno, Fresno, California 93740; or call (209) 294-2669.

SOURCE

- ARCHIVE -
The Armenian Observer: Hollywood, CA

DATE

November 9, 1988

SUBJECT

Endowed Chair for Armenian Studies at
CSUF Almost a Reality

PAGE

1 of 2

Endowed Chair for Armenian Studies at CSUF Almost A Reality

FRESNO — The fund drive to establish an endowed chair in Armenian Studies at California State University, Fresno, reached a milestone with a major, but for the moment anonymous gift to the endowment. According to Dr. Dickran Kouymjian, Director of the Armenian Studies Program at CSU Fresno, the gift guarantees a dollar for dollar match of all money firmly pledged between now and the end of 1988.

Thanks to this challenge donation and the enthusiasm with which it was received, nearly \$75,000 was raised at the third annual banquet of the CSU Fresno Armenian Studies Program held on Saturday, Oct. 22. This sum included a \$50,000 pledge from Mr. and Mrs. Sarkis and Meline Kalfayan, \$10,000 from Mr. and Mrs. Stephen and Lucille Pilbos, and \$1,000 each from Dr. and Mrs. Harold and Betty Haak, the Knights of Vartan, the Armenian Relief Society, the Armenian National Committee, Mr. and Mrs. Berge Bulbulian and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Zartarian, \$500 from the Armenian American Citizen's League and a \$500 from Prof. Vincent Petrucci, Chair of Endocrinology Department.

The spontaneous donation of President Haak touched the

guests. Dr. Kouymjian commented that the Presidents of Harvard, Columbia, University of Michigan or UCLA never displayed such a personal commitment to the funding of the Armenian Chairs at their universities.

Each of these donations will be automatically matched by the anonymous donor's pledge. Thus the two-thirds of the required minimum of \$300,000 has now been raised and the Armenian Studies Program is confident

Please Turn to Page 10

Continued from Page 1 —
that the community will be encouraged by the example set at the banquet to contribute the rest.

The evening also marked the inauguration of the Center for Armenian Studies and the move of the Armenian Studies Program into its new offices in the Leon S. Peters Business Building. The dinner itself was held in the gallery of the Valley Business Center, for which the Armenian Studies Program had raised a substantial sum in 1986. The dedication of the Leon S. Peters Business Building and the Valley Business Center were held a week earlier on Friday morning, Oct. 14.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER RICHARD PINKERTON

Attending the annual dinner were community friends of the Armenian Studies Program and CSUF faculty and administrators. Barlow Der Mugrdechian, Lecturer in Armenian Studies, was the master of ceremonies for the evening. The keynote speaker was Dr. Richard Pinkerton, Director of the Valley Business Center. Guests also enjoyed a specially prepared banquet program in honor of the late Leon S. Peters which included his long historical essay "Armenia's Struggle".

Brief comments about the ASP and its role between the university and the community were given by CSUF President Dr. Harold Haak, Vice-President for Academic Affairs Dr. Judith Kuipers, Associate Dean of the School of Arts and Humanities Dr. Robert Ware, and the chairman of the Department of Foreign Languages, Dr. Maurice Gendron. Entertainment was by the Arax Armenian Dancers of Fresno and pre-dinner musical selections were performed by Jim Karagosian on kanon.

- ARCHIVE -

SOURCE The Armenian Observer: Hollywood, CADATE November 9, 1988SUBJECT Endowed Chair for Armenian Studies at
CSUF Almost a RealityPAGE 2 of 2

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Though Armenian studies has a history at California State University, Fresno, the current program owes its vitality to Professor Kouymjian, Coordinator of the Program and Director of the newly opened Center for Armenian Studies in the Leon S. Peters Building. Dr. Kouymjian was brought to Fresno State in 1977 as the choice of a search for a senior scholar to begin a new and permanent program of Armenian Studies.

In 1986, the Armenian Studies Program with major donations from the Sahatdjan, Bedrosian, Mirigian and Avedian families and the help of dozens of other Armenian supporters of the program and its own students raised some \$100,000 in the name of Leon S. Peters toward Valley Business Center fund drive. The opening of the Peters Business Building and the inauguration of the Center for Armenian Studies with its Sahatdjan Armenian Library, Avedian Archive, Mirigian Gallery and Bedrosian conference room in October crowned the completion of this effort.

The campaign for the endowed chair in Armenian Studies 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 in Armenian Studies, contact Richard Francois in the University Development Program at (209) 294-4036 or the Armenian Studies Program at (209) 294-2669.

SOURCE The Armenian Reporter: Fresh Meadows, N.Y. DATE November 10, 1988
SUBJECT Angele Kapoian-Kouymjian's new French book, PAGE 1 of 2
"L'Egypte vue par des Armeniens"

THE WORLD OF BOOKS

Egypt As Seen by the Armenians

LOS ANGELES, Calif. - 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 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 Armeniens* or (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: 1) the Catholicos Gregory II Pahlavouni, called the Martyrophile (Vkayaser), who visited Egypt in the 11th century; 2) 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 3) 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 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 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 indexes 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.

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SOURCE The Armenian Reporter: Fresh Meadows, N.Y. DATE November 10, 1988
SUBJECT Angele Kapoian-Kouymjian's new French book, PAGE 2 of 2
"L'Egypte vue par des Armeniens"

Angele Kapoian-Kouymjian is a 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 large volume entitled **The Splendor of Egypt. A Commentary on Napoleon Bonaparte's Expedition (1798-1801)** and the "Description de l'Egypte", Caravan Books, Delmar, 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 original idea was suggested by Serge Sauneron, the late Director of the French Archeological 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 modestly priced at 110 French francs (about \$18.00) and can be purchased from Armenian booksellers in the United States such as NAASR in Boston, the Diocesan and Prelacy Bookstores in New York, and Abril and the Sardarabad Bookstore in the Los Angeles area.

SOURCE

- ARCHIVE -

DATE November 10-13, 1988

SUBJECT

14th Annual Byzantine Studies Conference:

Houston, TX

"The Feast Cycle in Armenian Gospel

PAGE 1 of 2

Illumination" By: Dr. Kouymjian

Fourteenth Annual
Byzantine Studies Conference

ABSTRACTS OF PAPERS



The Menil Collection
and
The University of St. Thomas

Houston, Texas
November 10-13, 1988

The Feast Cycle in Armenian Gospel Illumination

Dickran Kouymjian (*California State University, Fresno and Paris*)

The influence of the Byzantine artistic tradition on Armenian Gospel decoration both in iconography and the formal use of scenes from the Life of Christ has long been observed by art historians. Yet, Armenian artists never imitated slavishly their imperial neighbors to the east, rather they took selectively what they wanted or needed, modifying it to meet their own religious attitudes while guarding their own indigenous traditions. This paper focuses on the standard christological cycle to illustrate the fundamental similarities and the more abundant differences between Armenian and Byzantine Gospel decoration.

Short cycles in Armenian Gospels, whether complete or fragmentary, are known from the paleo-Christian period and later the tenth century. By the eleventh century, however, a series of manuscripts from a single western region of Armenia allows us to present a profile of the contents of the cycle. In the Byzantine world, at least by the same eleventh century, a fixed, though non-canonical, tradition of Twelve Feasts, the Dodecaorton, begins to impose itself on the decorations of icons and other objects including Gospel illumination.

Only starting in the late thirteenth century, after the devastating effects of the Seljuk invasions of the previous centuries, do Armenian scriptoria produce enough decorated Gospels to study the development of the feast cycle. Clearly Armenian art never developed or adopted a cycle of Twelve Feasts so characteristic of Byzantine art. A "standard cycle" that became associated with Armenian Gospels was almost always larger than twelve and changed according to region and period.

SUB**ARMENIAN STUDIES PROGRAM**CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA 93740**- ARCHIVE -****SOURCE**14th Annual Byzantine Studies Conference:**DATE** November 10-13, 1988**SUBJECT**"The Feast Cycle in Armenian Gospel**PAGE** 2 of 2

Illumination" By: Dr. Kouymjian

The sequence of the scenes grouped together at the beginning of most illustrated Armenian Gospels (exceptions will be discussed), their contents, and frequency, serve as the focal point of the paper. A database was carefully assembled of some 150 Armenian illuminated Gospels with a complete Christological cycle executed at the beginning of the manuscript before the text proper. This group of Gospels dates from the eleventh to the seventeenth century; they are from every region of Armenian book production and from all of the major manuscript collections.

The accumulated statistical data provide a clear notion of the size and composition of life of Christ cycles in Armenian Gospel painting. Variations over centuries in number of scenes and contents of the cycle are clearly observable. The relative popularity of individual subjects becomes instantly apparent. For instance, the most frequently painted episode in the Armenian cycle is Baptism while the Dormition of the Virgin is very rare.

The paper, in presenting the results of the survey, makes concrete what until now have been vague notions about the composition of the Armenian feast cycle. It also points out the similarities and differences between the Armenian and Byzantine experience. There is a certain lack of constancy in the Armenian cycle. This phenomenon and the rich iconographic diversity characteristic of Armenian miniature painting, provide a profile of Armenian art that eludes simple generalization.

SOURCE

- ARCHIVE -

SUBJECT

Armenian Genocide Resource Guide-Armenian
Assembly of America: Washington, DC
Dr. Kouymjian's book: "An Armenian
Trilogy"

DATE 1988

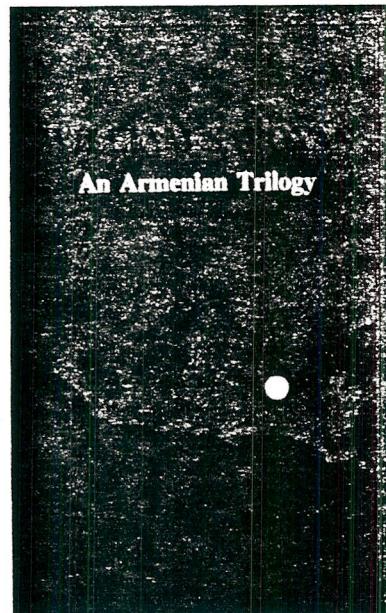
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Armenian Genocide Resource Guide

Armenian Assembly of America
122 C Street, NW, Suite 350
Washington, DC 20001

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Genocide Literature



An Armenian Trilogy

Saroyan, William. Kouymjian,
Dickran, editor
Fresno: California State University
Press, 1986, 195 pp.
\$12.95 paperback

*"It is a very difficult thing to make
sense of loss, and absence, and
displacement, and destruction —
but whoever is alive in a place, he
is the owner of the place, that is
the law of history, and Bitlis is
gone, and I wish I knew how it
might be brought back to us."*

A collection of three plays by the famous Armenian-American writer, William Saroyan, in which he explores his ethnic roots. Central to the plays is the Armenian diaspora — the separation of Armenians from their native land. The

first play, *Armenians*, takes place in 1921, just after the national tragedy when the possibility of return to Armenia seemed a matter of time. Four decades later, Saroyan actually travels to Bitlis, in eastern Turkey, his parents' birthplace, and in the second play, *Bitlis*, he confronts the impossibility of return. In *Haratch*, the problem of exile is posed differently: How is one to adjust to its permanence? In all the plays, Saroyan uses exclusively Armenian characters engaged in conflicts special to them.

Available from: 1,7,8,12,19

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- ARCHIVE -

SOURCE The California Courier: Glendale, CA DATE November 10, 1988

SUBJECT \$75,000 Raised at ASP Banquet for
the Endowed Armenian Chair at CSUF PAGE 1 of 2

The California COURIER

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

\$75,000 Raised For Endowed Armenian Chair at CSU Fresno

FRESNO - During the third annual banquet of the CSU Fresno Armenian Studies Program on Oct. 22, Dr. Dickran Kouymjian, ASP Director, announced that the fund drive to establish an endowed chair in Armenian Studies at Fresno State had reached a milestone with a major, but for the moment anonymous, naming gift to the endowment. The gift guarantees a dollar for dollar match of all money pledged between now and the end of 1988. Thanks to this challenge donation and the enthusiasm it created, nearly \$75,000 was raised at the banquet including a \$50,000 pledge from Mr. and Mrs. Sarkis and Meline Kalfayan, \$10,000

from Mr. and Mrs. Stephen and Lucille Pilbos, and \$1,000 each from Dr. and Mrs. Harold and Betty Haak, the Knights of Vartan, the Armenian Relief Society, the Armenian National Committee, Mr. and Mrs. Berge Bulbulian, and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Zartarian, \$500 from the Armenian American Citizen's League and a \$500 pledge from Prof. Vincent Petrucci, Chair of the Enology Department.

The spontaneous donation of FSU President Haak touched the guests; Dr. Kouymjian commented that the Presidents of Harvard, Columbia, University of Michigan or UCLA never displayed such a personal commitment to the funding of the Armenian Chairs at their universities.

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The evening also marked the inauguration of the Center for Armenian Studies and the move of the Armenian Studies Program

Continued on Page 15

- ARCHIVE -

SOURCE The California Courier: Glendale, CA DATE November 10, 1988
SUBJECT \$75,000 Raised at ASP Banquet for
the Endowed Armenian Chair at CSUF PAGE 2 of 2



BENEFACTORS - Meline and Sarkis Kalfayan, donors of \$50,000 toward the Armenian Chair Endowment at California State University, Fresno.

Continued from Page 1
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Barlow Der Mugrdechian, Lecturer in Armenian Studies, was the master of ceremonies for the evening. The keynote speaker was Dr. Richard Pinkerton, Director of the Valley Business Center.

Brief comments about the ASP and its role between the university and the community were given by CSUF President Dr. Harold Haak, Vice-President for Academic Affairs Dr. Judith Kuipers, Associate Dean of the School of Arts and Humanities Dr. Robert Ware, and the chairman of the Department of Foreign Languages, Dr. Maurice Gendron. Entertainment was by the Arax Armenian Dancers of Fresno and music was provided by Jim Karagosian on kanon.

The drive to establish a chair in Armenian Studies at CSUF began in earnest at the first dinner of Armenian Studies held on Oct. 27, 1986, when Dr. Kouymjian was awarded the Outstanding Professor award for the University by Pres. Haak. With the support of early benefactors such as M.K. Mirigian and Arnie and Nectar Avedian and with the help of other community organizations and individuals, the fund drive neared \$40,000 by June of 1987.

In 1986, the Armenian Studies Program with major donations from the Sahatdjian, Bedrosian, Mirigian, and Avedian families and the help of dozens of other Armenian supporters of the program and its own students, raised some \$100,000 for the Leon S. Peters Valley Business Center. The opening of the Peters Business Building and the inauguration of the Center for Armenian Studies with its Sahatdjian Armenian Library, Avedian Archive, Mirigian Gallery and Bedrosian Conference Room in October crowned the completion of this effort.

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SOURCE Nor Gyank: Glendale, CADATE November 10, 1988SUBJECT Endowed Chair Fund in Armenian
Studies at CSU Fresno Nears Its GoalPAGE 1 of 2

Endowed Chair Fund in Armenian Studies at CSU Fresno Nears Its Goal

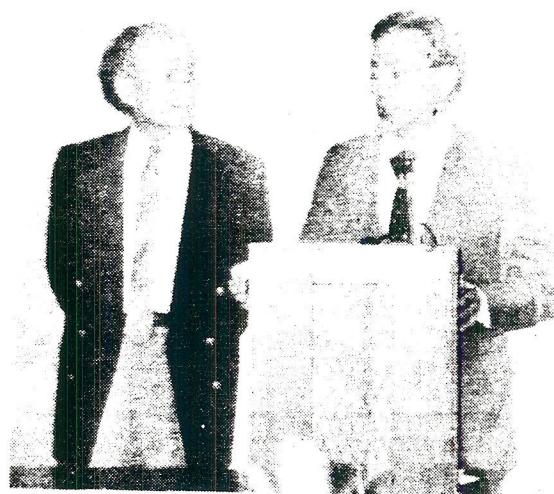
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The evening also marked the inauguration of the Center for Armenian Studies and the move of the Armenian Studies Program into its new offices in the Leon S. Peters Business Building.

The dinner itself was held in the gallery of the Valley Business Center, for which the Armenian Studies Program had raised a substantial sum in 1986. The dedication of the Leon S. Peters Business Building and the Valley Business Center were held a week earlier on Friday morning, October 14, 1988.



Gerald Peloian, Commander of the Knights of Vartan Lodge presenting check to Dr. Kouymjian.

Attending the annual dinner were community friends of the Armenian Studies Program and CSUF faculty administrators. Barlow Der Mugrdechian, Lecturer in Armenian Studies, was the master of ceremonies for the evening. The keynote speaker was Dr. Richard Pinkerton, Director of the Valley Business Center. Guests also enjoyed a specially prepared banquet program in honor of the late Leon S. Peters which included his long historical essay "Armenia's Struggle."

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FRESNO, CALIFORNIA 93740**- ARCHIVE -****SOURCE** Nor Gyank: Glendale, CA**DATE** November 10, 1988**SUBJECT** Endowed Chair Fund in Armenian
Studies at CSU Fresno Nears Its Goal**PAGE** 2 of 2

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SUBJECT Funds Raised for Armenian Studies Chair PAGE 1 of 2
Endowment at CSU Fresno

Funds Raised for Armenian Studies Chair Endowment at CSU

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Prof. Dickran Kouymjian urging guests to pledge toward Armenian chair endowment.

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SOURCE Hay Gyank: Glendale, CADATE November 11, 1988SUBJECT A New Book on Egypt As Seen by ArmeniansPAGE 1 of 2

A New Book On Egypt As Seen By Armenians

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 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 grafitti 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 Armeniens* [or *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 1) the Catholicos Gregory II Pahlavouni, called the Martyrophile (*Vkayaser*), who visited Egypt in the 11th century; 2) 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 *Fleurs des histoires de la terre d'Orient* to Egypt; and 3) 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 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 of

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A New Book On Egypt

Continued From P.20

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 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 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 Jule 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 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, N.Y., 1975, was written together with her husband Dickran Kouymjian. She has also published articles in *Ararat*, *Aramco World Magazine*, and *Bazmavet*.

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 Mrs. 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 modestly 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 and Prelacy Bookstores in New York, and Abril and the Sardarabad Bookstore 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. ■

Sub

ARMENIAN STUDIES PROGRAM

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA 93740

- ARCHIVE -

SOURCE The Armenian Observer: Hollywood, CA

DATE November 11, 1988

SUBJECT Angele Kapoian-Kouymjian's new book:
"L'Egypte Vue par des Armeniens"

PAGE 1 of 1

Egypt As Seen by the Armenians

LOS ANGELES, Calif. - 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 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 Armeniens* or (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: 1) the Catholicos Gregory II Pahlavouni, called the Martyrophile (Vkayaser), who visited Egypt in the 11th century; 2) 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 3) 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.

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SOURCE

Hay Gyank: Glendale, CA

DATE

November 11, 1988

SUBJECT

CSUF Endowed Chair Fund in ASP Nears its
Goal

PAGE

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CSUF Endowed Chair Fund In ASP Nears Its Goal

The third annual banquet of the CSU Fresno Armenian Studies Program held on Saturday, October 22, 1988 was an overwhelming success. Dr. Dickran Kouymjian, Director of the Armenian Studies Program, announced that the fund drive to establish an endowed chair in Armenian Studies at Fresno State had reached a milestone with a major, but for the moment anonymous, naming gift to the endowment. The gift guarantees a dollar for dollar match of all money firmly pledged between now and the end of 1988. Thanks to this challenge donation and the enthusiasm with which it was received, nearly \$75,000 was raised at the banquet including a \$50,000 pledge from Mr. and Mrs. Sarkis and Meline Kalfayan, \$10,000 from Mr. and Mrs. Stephen and Lucine Pilipos, and \$1,000 each from Dr. and Mrs. Harold and Betty Haak, the Knights of Vartan, the Armenian Relief Society, the Armenian National Committee, Mr. and Mrs. Berge Bulbulian, and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Zartarian, \$500 from the Armenian American Citizens' League and a \$500 pledge from Prof. Vincent Petrucci, Chair of the Enology Department.

The spontaneous donation of President Haak touched the guests; Dr. Kouymjian commented that the Presidents of Harvard, Columbia, University of Michigan or UCLA never displayed such a personal commitment to the funding of the Armenian chairs at their universities.

Each of these donations will be automatically matched by the anonymous donor's pledge. Thus, two-

thirds of the required minimum of \$300,000 has now been raised and the Armenian Studies Program is confident that the community will be encouraged by the example set at the banquet to contribute the rest. With luck and persistence the endowed chair in Armenian at Fresno State should be fully funded by the end of the current semester.

The evening also marked the inauguration of the Center for Armenian Studies and the move of the Armenian Studies Program into its new offices in the Leon S. Peters Business Building.

The dinner itself was held in the gallery of the Valley Business Center, for which the Armenian Studies Program had raised a substantial sum in 1986. The dedication of the Leon S. Peters Business Building and the Valley Business Center were held a week earlier on Friday morning, October 14, 1988.

Barlow Der Mugrdechian, Lecturer in Armenian Studies, was the master of ceremonies for the evening. Guests enjoyed a specially prepared banquet program in honor of the late Leon S. Peters which included his long historical essay "Armenia's Struggle." Brief comments about the ASP and its role between the university and the community were given by CSUF President Dr. Harold Haak, and other top school officials. Entertainment was by the Arax Armenian Dancers of Fresno and pre-dinner musical selections were performed by Jim Karagosian on Kanon.

The drive to establish a chair in Armenian Studies at CSUF began in



Dr. Dickran Kouymjian thanking Penny Mirigian of the Armenian-American Citizens' League for its donation.

earnest at the first dinner of Armenian Studies held on October 27, 1986, when Dr. Kouymjian was awarded the Outstanding Professor award for the University by President Haak. With the support of early benefactors such as M.K. Mirigian and Arnie and Nectar Avedian and with the help of other community organizations and individuals the fund drive neared \$40,000 by June of 1987.

Though Armenian studies has a history at California State University, Fresno, the current program owes its vitality to Professor Kouymjian, Coordinator of the Program and Director of its newly opened Center for Armenian Studies in the Leon S. Peters Building. Dr. Kouymjian was brought to Fresno State in 1977 as the choice of an international search for a senior scholar to begin a new and permanent program of Armenian studies.

In 1986, the Armenian Studies Program, with major donations from the Sahatdjian, Bedrosian, Mirigian,

and Avedian families with the help of other Armenian supporters of the program and its own students raised some \$100,000 in the name of Leon S. Peters toward Valley Business Center fund drive. The opening of the Peters Business Building and inauguration of the Center for Armenian Studies with its Sahatdjian Armenian Library, Avedian Archive, Mirigian Gallery and Bedrosian conference room in October crowned the completion of his efforts.

The campaign for the endowed chair in Armenian Studies will make it the first endowed professorship in a discipline of the Arts and Humanities in the entire 19 campus California State University system.

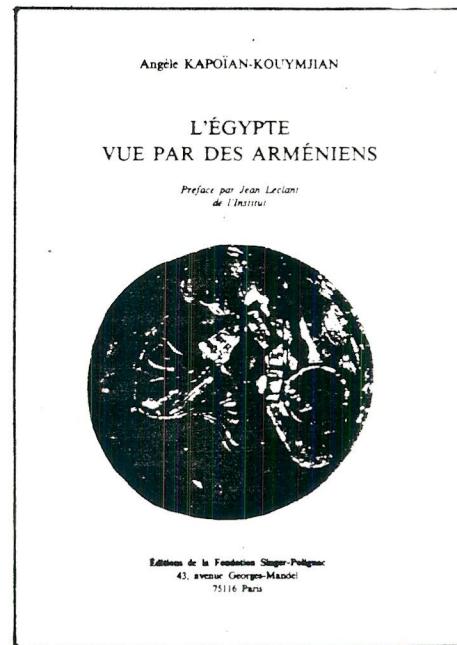
For further information about the endowed chair in Armenian Studies, contact Richard Francois in the University Development Program at (209) 294-4036 or the Armenian Studies Program at (209) 294-2669. ■

“Egypt as Seen by the Armenians”

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- ARCHIVE -

SOURCE

Armenian Weekly: Watertown, MA

DATE

November 12, 1988

SUBJECT

Angele Kapoian-Kouymjian's new book:

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"Egypt as Seen by the Armenians"

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—Hye Sharzhoom News Service
Fresno, CA

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SUBJECT

Endowed Chair Fund in Armenian Studies at

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CSU Fresno Nears Its Goal

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Endowed chair fund in Armenian studies at CSU Fresno nears its goal

The evening also marked the inauguration of the Center for Armenian Studies and the move of the Armenian Studies Program into its new offices in the Leon S. Peters Business Building.

Attending the annual dinner were community friends of the Armenian Studies Program and CSUF faculty and administrators. Barlow Der Mugrdechian, Lecturer in Armenian Studies, was the master of ceremonies for the evening. The keynote speaker was Dr. Richard Pinkerton, Director of the Valley Business Center. Guests also enjoyed a specially prepared banquet program in honor of the Leon S. Peters which included his long historical essay "Armenia's Struggle."

Brief comments about the ASP and its role between the university and the community were given by CSUF President Dr. Harold Haak, Vice-President for Academic Affairs D. Judith Kuipers, Associate Dean of the School of the Arts and Humanities Dr. Robert Ware, and the chairman of the Department of Foreign Languages Dr. Maurice Gendron. Entertainment was by the Arax Armenian Dancers of Fresno and pre-dinner musical selections were performed by Jim Karabosian on kanoon.

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