



**California State University, Fresno  
Armenian Studies Program  
Fresno, California 93740-0004**

## **Hye Sharzhoom News Service**

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

**Vol. 6 Release #50  
December 1990-May 1991**

## B O O K E N D S

### Last Two Plays of William Saroyan Newly Published

**FRESNO**—The last two plays of William Saroyan, *Warsaw Visitor* and *Tales from the Vienna Streets* will be available next week in a publication from the California State University Press.

Edited by Dickran Kouymjian, the volume also contains an extensive introduction and more than 50 photographs.

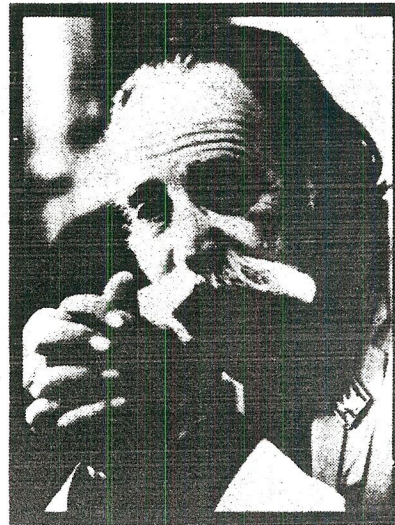
The plays, written in 1980, were the last of Saroyan's life. Kouymjian notes in the Preface that "although different in style, theme, and length they have a special kinship, belonging as they do to Saroyan's own experiences during that final year... These plays, however, are in no sense autobiography in conversational form; they are vital theatrical pieces written to be performed."

Both plays employ unorthodox styles and tackle controversial themes: Death (mirroring his own, by cancer) in *Warsaw Visitor* and homosexuality in *Tales from the Vienna Streets*. "Clearly Saroyan's theater was never conventional nor conformist," comments the editor.

Kouymjian, holder of the Haig and Isabel Berberian Chair of Armenian Studies at California State University, Fresno, has taught Saroyan courses at universities in France, the Soviet Union, and the United States.

To order, contact the California State University Press at Maple and Shaw Avenues, Fresno, CA 93740; (209) 278-7082. □

### WARSAW VISITOR TALES FROM THE VIENNA STREETS THE LAST TWO PLAYS OF WILLIAM SAROYAN



EDITED AND WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY  
DICKRAN KOUYMIJIAN



## *Fresno Armenian Program's Banquet Honors Retiring University President*

**By Armen Aghishian**



John Philip Maroot, Cal State, Fresno

*Prof. Barlow Der Mugurdechian (r.) with a guest.*

**Fresno, CA** — Over one hundred people gathered on Sunday, December 9, to pay tribute to Dr. Harold Haak, President of California State University, Fresno, for his eleven years of dedication and accomplishments on behalf of the University's Armenian Studies Program.

President Haak, who is retiring at the end of this academic year,

is a long-standing friend and supporter of the Fresno Armenian community and the University's Armenian Studies Program. A few of his most far reaching contributions were the appointment of Dr. Dickran Kouymjian to the Berberian Endowment Chair, and the creation of the Sahatdjian Library in the Center for Armenian Studies. He also initiated an

exchange program with Yerevan State University which is presently still in the development stages.

Introductions were made by Prof. Barlow Der Mugurdechian who read a letter sent by Dickran Kouymjian from Paris where he is on sabbatical. In the letter, Dr. Kouymjian expressed the sadness he felt over the news of Dr. Haak's retirement. Dr. Judith Kulpers, vice-president for Academic Affairs, also praised the retiring President for his excellent service to the Armenian students and to the University in general.

Dr. Haak gave a short, entertaining speech about his pending departure from the University. He explained that he felt satisfied with the contributions he had made and was now ready to move on. He also reminisced about the unsuccessful attempt he made to visit Yerevan last year. According to him, red tape and political hindrances kept him



*Over one hundred guests attended the banquet.*

away.

In addition to honoring Dr. Haak, the Armenian Studies Department also used their banquet to introduce the recently published book containing William Saroyan's last two plays.

The two plays, "Warsaw Visitor" and "Tales From the Vienna Streets," were written during the last summer of Saroyan's life — the summer of 1980. "Warsaw Visitor" deals with critical issues regarding solitude and survival. "Tales From the Vienna Streets" reveals

experienced.

The 223-page book is the second in a theatre series by William Saroyan. The first was "An Armenian Trilogy." The plays were edited and an introduction was written by Dickran Kouymjian, director of the Armenian Studies Department at Cal State, Fresno.

The book, published by The Press at Cal State, Fresno, is available in cloth, \$23.95, and paperback, \$13.95. Write to The Press at California State University, Fresno, CA 93740, or call



## Requiem pour Paradjanov

### Réflexions à propos d'un collage

par Dikran KOUYMJIAN

Quand j'ai revu Sergueï Paradjanov à Tbilissi en mai 1987, il m'a offert un collage composé de photographies découpées. C'était si bien fait qu'à première vue il m'a été difficile de déchiffrer les divers éléments juxtaposés, empreints à la fois de réalisme et de surréalisme.

Au bas de ce collage de vingt centimètres sur trente, six musiciens d'âge mûr sont assis sur de simples chaises en bois. Chacun tient à la main un instrument caucasien : de gauche à droite : un tambour, quatre flûtes en bois, des *zournas*, semble-t-il, et un *kémantcha*. Ils regardent gravement, droit devant eux. Six portraits — une jeune femme et cinq enfants — frôlent la tête de chacun d'eux. Est-ce une salle de concert? Une galerie, le soir d'un vernissage? Sont-ils Géorgiens ou Arméniens? Est-ce à Tiflis ou à Erévan? Derrière ces musiciens hiératiques, le pan d'une façade en bois sculpté, de style néo-baroque, forme un fond architectural à deux niveaux. Dans la partie supérieure s'ouvre une fenêtre où apparaît Sergueï Paradjanov (en couleurs, en contraste avec le reste qui est en noir et blanc) à la barbe toute blanche. Le visage serein, il regarde aussi devant lui, tout comme les musiciens. Il porte à la main une cruche d'où jaillit un bouquet de roses rouges.

Tous sont absorbés dans le même spectacle. Mais que se passe-t-il? En me donnant ce tableau, l'artiste a écrit au dos une dédicace en russe : «*Requiem. Un souvenir pour Tigran — Sergueï Paradjanov. Tiflis. 24 mai. Été 1987*». Il m'a expliqué en détail qu'il s'y est représenté en tant qu'être vivant, participant activement à ses propres funérailles. Les musiciens sont là pour pleurer son départ.

Comment ne pas penser à cette œuvre maintenant que Paradjanov nous a quittés? Cette fantasmagorie est devenue aujourd'hui réalité parce qu'il a bel et bien assisté à ses obsèques. Des musiciens y étaient présents, comme il l'avait souhaité. Dans le cercueil, son visage était toutefois plus grave. Il avait perdu la tranquillité apparente qu'il avait à l'Hôpital Saint-Louis de Paris et sur le collage. Il s'était, cependant, préparé à la mort longtemps avant qu'elle ne survienne. Ce collage nous mène à l'imaginer, en tant que citoyen ordinaire, une gerbe de fleurs à la main, mêlé à la foule de milliers d'admirateurs rendant hommage à l'artiste-cinéaste, lors des diverses étapes de ses funérailles à Erévan.

Au-dessus de la dédicace, il a signé «*Sergueï*» une seconde fois, d'une manière plus stylisée cette fois, et il a dessiné son autoportrait biographique, c'est-à-dire une sorte d'emblème de sa vie. Son profil est surmonté d'une auréole, et le visage entier est traversé par trois lignes parallèles, fils de fer barbelés représentant ses

trois emprisonnements. Paradjanov apparaît donc comme un prisonnier sanctifié, son nimbe confirmant sa canonisation, pourrait-on dire. Plus bas, un quatrième fil, plus court, est coupé par une paire de ciseaux symbolisant sa créativité qui l'a sauvé du Goulag, ciseaux avec lesquels il a façonné des collages ou des costumes. Entre la signature de son prénom et son profil, se détachent une étoile à cinq branches qui est son porte-bonheur, et une sorte de cercle barbelé, à l'intérieur duquel se trouve une tache diffuse qu'il a faite en enduisant son pouce d'encre puis en le pressant sur le carton, imitant ainsi le geste que chaque détenu est forcé de faire. Quant à la figure arrondie, elle est son cœur qui encercle cette empreinte digitale afin d'en atténuer, d'en humaniser l'évocation aigüe.

Que de fois l'ai-je vu exécuter au prin-

familier grâce aux dessins faits en prison et envoyés notamment en France à ses amis qui essayaient d'obtenir sa libération!

Image à la fois triste et pleine d'espoir! Sergueï Paradjanov en était le reflet exact. Ni heureux ni morose, mais toujours content et joyeux en apparence. Ses rares colères se manifestaient à l'encontre des systèmes et des institutions, rarement à l'égard des individus.

Paradjanov débordait non seulement de force créatrice, mais aussi d'énergie physique. Toujours en mouvement, il possédait un pouvoir extraordinaire de concentration ; en quelques secondes, à l'aide de chiffons, de débris, il pouvait créer une mosaïque, un collage, une icône, ou le petit modèle d'un costume pour son prochain film. C'est de cette manière que beaucoup de ses chefs d'œuvre ont été conçus. Les pierres, les échantillons de tissu, les objets jetés, tout était destiné à la création. Il attachait de la valeur à tout ce qui existait, et, en utilisant des rebuts, il revalorisait les éléments banaux de la vie quotidienne, ceux auxquels nous ne prêtons plus attention.

C'est pourquoi, en sa compagnie, on ressentait de la joie, une excitation faite de plaisir pur, un bien-être total. On oubliait le reste. La force de cette énergie créatrice attirait vers lui tout le monde. Il n'était nullement intéressé par la possession : ni celle des gens, ni celle des biens, alors qu'il lui aurait été facile de les avoir. Ses voisins pauvres et presque illettrés lui étaient plus chers que certaines grandes personnalités.

Quant à sa gentillesse, elle était constante et son hospitalité était légendaire. Dans sa chambre de l'Hôtel Ami à Erévan, où il avait logé pendant presque deux mois en 1987 pour un tournage qui n'a

jamais eu lieu, il accueillait quiconque désirait le voir : amis, étrangers, enfants... Ce collage témoigne d'ailleurs de sa générosité. A chaque instant, il se donnait et donnait ce qu'il possédait.

Les jeunes cinéastes ou artistes lui étaient particulièrement attachés, simplement parce qu'il les écoutait, les encourageait, les aidait, les conseillait sur un pied d'égalité. Depuis le tournage de *Couleur de la grenade* (*Sayat Nova*) en 1969 aux studios Hayfilm, tous ses collaborateurs lui vouent de l'adoration. Lorsqu'un après-midi d'avril 1987 il est arrivé aux studios d'Erévan afin de discuter, entre autres, du scénario de son film sur «*Ara le Bel*», le bruit de sa présence dans la «*Cinecitta*» arménienne s'est vite propagé de couloir en couloir, d'étage en étage. Tous voulaient le voir, le saluer, l'embrasser, parler avec lui. Pendant deux jours, ce fut un éblouissement parce que Paradjanov était de retour.

Devant ce génie bouleversant, tout pâlisait. Mais il y eut des esprits chagrins et médiocres qui ressentirent un certain contentement lors de ses incarcérations ou quand il était isolé dans sa maison de Tbilissi, privé du droit d'exercer son métier. Durant ces quinze ans d'assujettissement, il continua néanmoins de créer : des centaines de dessins, de collages et de «*abri-collages*» artistiques furent ainsi légués à l'Arménie, et se trouvent aujourd'hui au Musée Sergueï Paradjanov, proche de l'église Saint Sarkis à Erévan.

C'était avant tout un artiste qui avait choisi le cinéma comme principal véhicule de son expression. Les quatre longs métrages de sa maturité — *Les Chevaux de feu*, *Couleur de la grenade*, *La légende de la forteresse de Sourami* et *Achik Kerib* — sont tous des tableaux exécutés à travers le temps. Et comme pour ce «*Requiem*», ce sont aussi, sur le plan décoratif, de superbes collages. Mais au-delà de cette maîtrise technique, il y a évidemment un mystère profondément symbolique perçu en particulier dans *Couleur de la grenade*, l'épopée du poète Sayat Nova. La grande différence étant que pour ce film, il n'a pas utilisé des rebuts, mais l'art d'une nation entière : peinture, architecture, textiles, manuscrits, ainsi que traditions, le tout préservé dans cet énorme collage cinématographique, le tout ressuscité et réintégré dans notre vie quotidienne par la magie de Sergueï Paradjanov.





# UNIVERSITY PRESS

## B O O K • N E W S

THE ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY OF NEW UNIVERSITY PRESS BOOKS

DECEMBER 1990 VOL.2 NO.4 ISSN 1040 • 8991 \$5.00 / ISSUE

WARSAW VISITOR  
TALES FROM THE VIENNA STREETS  
THE LAST TWO PLAYS  
OF

WILLIAM SAROYAN

©1991

Edited and with an Introduction by Dickran Kouymjian

213 pages, 5½" X 8½" Cloth ISBN 0-912201-18-5 \$23.95  
50 illustrations Paper ISBN 0-912201-19-3 \$13.95



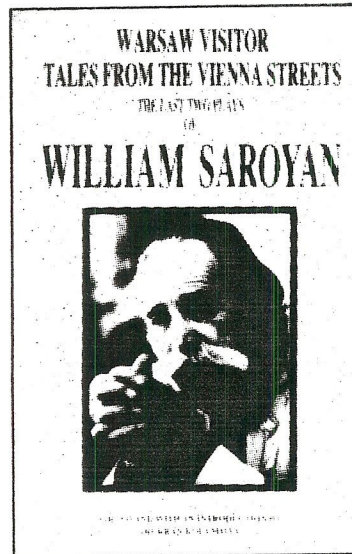
The Press at  
California State University, Fresno  
(209) 278-7082 • FAX (209) 278-2006

## NEW BOOKS

### A New Book of Saroyan Plays Published By Cal-State Fresno Press

Warsaw Visitor and Tales From The Vienna Streets, the last two plays of William Saroyan, edited by Dickran Kouymjian (5½ x 8½, 223 pp., 50 illustrations, \$13.95 paper, \$23.95 cloth) will be published January 3, 1991 by the California State University Press, Fresno.

Written in the summer of 1980, the last summer of Saroyan's life, Warsaw Visitor and Tales From The Vienna Streets have never before been published, although they are Saroyan's ultimate statements for the stage. Inspired by recent visits to Warsaw and Vienna and shadowed by the symptoms of terminal cancer, the themes of these last two plays are vast, possibly the broadest in scope of any of Saroyan's works. Staggering achievements both of them, and the clue to each is the character of the city in which the play is laid.



Warsaw, pulling back from Russia and alien to Western Europe, is a city set apart, in isolation. Similarly Saroyan, isolated by the imminence of death and confronted by his private devil, comes to grips like Warsaw with the deepest im-

plications of solitude and survival.

Vienna, "settled dead center in the heart of all the great cities of the world," finds Saroyan there as Everyman, a minority of one, like all of us everywhere, sharing with our private devil the guilt and innocence of humankind.

In Warsaw Visitor the individual prevails in the face of death, the Dying Old Man on the Flying Trapeze leaps off into the unknown one final time, open-eyed and unafraid. In Tales From The Vienna Streets all humankind, creative and striving, died and yet lives on to create and strive again, open-eyed and unafraid.

Dickran Kouymjian, the editor, occupies the Haig and Isabel Berberian Chair of Armenian Studies at California State University, Fresno. A noted authority on Armenian life and culture, he has written many books on the subject and has taught courses on Saroyan at universities in France and Russia as well as in the United States.





## ARMENIAN NEWS FROM CALIFORNIA

### Prof. Der Mugrdechian Speaks on Role Of Armenians on Public Radio in Fresno

By Armen Aghishian

Fresno, CA — On Saturday, December 15, Barlow Der Mugrdechian, an Armenian Studies professor at California State University-Fresno, appeared on Public Television's "Fresno Equity Forum" to discuss Armenian culture.

The half-hour show, sponsored by the Affirmative Actions Office at Cal State-Fresno, was part of a series which explored different cultures and ethnic groups.

Professor Der Mugrdechian discussed various aspects of Armenian culture, including the church, language, and social

functions. He gave a general background about all Armenians and then spoke specifically about Armenians in Fresno.

Der Mugrdechian, the acting Armenian Studies Program director, described the Armenian youth in Fresno as culturally aware. "There is a heightened interest among the youth, in learning about their culture and heritage," he said, and attributed this interest to "the general trend in the United States to look back at our ethnic roots."

Der Mugrdechian also discussed the struggles and successes of

Armenians who immigrated to Fresno. He outlined the difficulties they faced in finding work, housing, etc. and offered some success stories of Armenians who overcame great odds to survive. Despite the hardships, according to Der Mugrdechian, the community flourished, specifically by putting to use its expertise in agriculture.

In conclusion, Der Mugrdechian described the large, prosperous Fresno Armenian community — one of the largest Armenian communities in the United States: "The Fresno community is vibrant because it knows who it is and what it is," he said. "Here there is a high degree of awareness of what being Armenian means."



## Monday Report

California State University, Fresno

• January 28, 1991 •

Volume 66, Number 20, Issue 1567

Dickran Kouymjian (Berberian Professor of Armenian Studies) read a paper, "The Preservation of Armenian Architectural Monuments: An Overview," at an international symposium, La protection du patrimoine architectural armenien, held at the Palais de l'Europe, Strasbourg, France on April 20, 1990. He was also president of the symposium's final session. He presented a paper, "The Evolution of Armenian Gospel Illumination," at an international symposium on the Armenian Bible held at the University of Heidelberg July 17-19. He served as president of the July 17 morning session.



### *Scholar, Parliamentarian Yuzbashian Will Lecture at UCLA and CSUF*

LOS ANGELES - Scholar and Armenian Parliament member Dr. Garen Yuzbashian will be in California from March 19 to 24 as the guest of UCLA's Armenian Educational Foundation Chair in Modern Armenian History, and will address students at UCLA and Fresno State University.

Public lectures, co-sponsored by the UCLA Armenian History Chair, the Hamazkayin and Tekeyan cultural associations, will be held in Hollywood.

Professor Richard G. Hovannisian, holder of the AEF Chair at UCLA, said Yuzbashian was one of the foremost Byzantinists of the Soviet Union. Yuzbashian is a senior research scholar of the Oriental Institute of Leningrad, and has written many books and articles.

Elected to the Parliament of Armenia in 1990, he took an active role in composing the declaration of eventual Armenian sovereignty and independence.

Yuzbashian will speak at UCLA March 20, at 1:30 p.m. in the History Conference Room, 6275 Bunche Hall on "Byzantine Administration in Armenia, 9th-11th Centuries."

At 8 p.m. the same day, Yuzbashian will speak in Armenian on "The Internal Armenian Diaspora of the Soviet Union." The lecture, co-sponsored with the Los Angeles chapter of the Hamazkayin Cultural Association, will be held in Hollywood's Karapetian Hall on Alexandria Avenue.

As a guest of the Armenian Studies Program of California State University of Fresno, Dr. Yuzbashian will speak to students on March 20, at 12 noon, on changes in the political system of the Soviet Union, in room 311 of the Student Union.

Later that evening, the Armenian scholar will address the issue of Karabagh as well as the current political situation in Armenia at 7:30 p.m. in the Haig Berberian Hall of the St. Paul Armenian Church.

Upon his return to Los Angeles, Dr. Yuzbashian will be the guest speaker at a March 22 luncheon at 8 p.m., hosted by the Tekeyan Cultural Association at the Arshag Dickranian School, 1200 N. Cahuenga Boulevard in Hollywood.



SOURCE Asbarez; Glendale, CA

DATE 16 March 1991

SUBJECT Dr. Karen Yuzbashian, Armenian Deputy

PAGE 1 of 1

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## Dr. Karen Yuzbashian to Lecture at UCLA, CSUF Campuses

**LOS ANGELES**—Byzantine scholar Dr. Garen Yuzbashian, who is also a member of the Armenian Parliament will be in California March 19-24 as the guest of the UCLA's Armenian Educational Foundation's Chair in Modern Armenian History.

The first of his public appearances, Yuzbashian will speak about "Byzantine Administration in Armenia, 9-11th Centuries" at UCLA on Wednesday, March 20 at 1:30 pm in the History Conference Room, 6275 Bunche Hall. That same evening, he will speak about "The Internal Armenian Diaspora of the Soviet Union" at the Garabedian Hall in Hollywood. The lecture, which will begin at 8 pm, is sponsored by the Hamazkayin Los Angeles Chapter.

Dr. Yuzbashian will be in Fresno on Thursday, March 21, where he will discuss the current developments in Armenia and Artsakh with students at CSU Fresno, room 311 of the Student Union at noon. Later that evening, he will meet with the Fresno community at 7:30 pm at the Haig Berberian Hall.

Dr. Yuzbashian's lecture series will conclude on Friday, March 22 at 8 pm with a discussion and reception at the Arshag Dickranian, Hall, sponsored by the Los Angeles Chapter of the Tekeyan Cultural Association.

Dr. Yuzbashian is a senior research scholar of the Oriental Institute of Leningrad; he is the author of numerous books and articles on Armenian-Byzantine relations as well as bibliographic texts on Armenian History. He was elected to the parliament in 1990. ☐

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# ARMENIAN STUDIES PROGRAM

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO

FRESNO, CALIFORNIA 93740

- ARCHIVE -

SOURCE The Armenian Observer; Hollywood, CA

DATE 27 March 1991

SUBJECT Tom Bozigian to Give Dance Seminar

PAGE 1 of 1

## Tom Bozigian to Give Seminar in Fresno

FRESNO — Internationally known Armenian folk-dance instructor Tom Bozigian will lead a one-day Armenian dance seminar at California State University, Fresno on Saturday, April 6, 1991. Such dances as Tamzara, Pampouri, the Halle, and Khum Khuma will be taught. No prior experience is necessary. The Armenian Students Organization of CSUF is sponsoring the event. Following the seminar, an Armenian dance will be held at

8:00 p.m. at the Armenian Cultural Foundation Club.

Tom Bozigian is a native of Fresno and a graduate of CSUF. After studying in Armenia for two years he graduated from the Sayat Nova Choreographic School in Yerevan. He has taught Armenian dance in many countries and has traveled throughout the world.

The dance seminar will be held in two sessions, from 9:30

a.m. to noon and from 2:00 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. Cost of the seminar is \$10.00. Reservations are a must as there are limited places and reservations must be made prior to the seminar.

The cost for the evening Armenian dance is \$5.00.

For more information or reservations please call the Armenian Students Organization, in the afternoons, from Tuesday until Thursday, at 278-2669.



SOURCE Asbarez; Glendale, CA

DATE 30 March 1991

SUBJECT Tom Bozigian to Give Dance Seminar

PAGE 1 of 1

## Bozigian To Teach Day-Long Dance Seminar in Fresno

**FRESNO**—Dance instructor Tom Bozigian will lead a one-day dance seminar at the California State University, Fresno on Saturday, April 6. He will be teaching such dances as Tamzara, Pampouri, Halle, and Khum Khuma, among others. No prior experience is necessary. The Armenian Students Association of CSUF is sponsoring the event.

Following the seminar, an Armenian dance will be held at 8 pm at the Armenian Cultural Foundation Center.

The seminar will be held in two sessions: 9:30 am to noon and 2:00 to 4:30 pm. The cost of the seminar is \$10. Due to limited places and reservations must be made prior to the seminar. For reservations or further information, call (209) 278-2669 Tuesday to Thursday afternoons. ☐





## **CSUF Armenian Studies Program Fall 1991 Semester**

FRESNO — The California State University, Fresno Armenian Studies Program is announcing its fall 1991 semester schedule of courses. Members of the community can register for these classes through the Open University Program or through the Sixty Plus Program.

ARMENIAN 1A is a beginning course in modern western Armenian with no prior knowledge of Armenian necessary. Students learn the basics of reading and writing and also learn simple conversation. Armenian 2A is an advanced Armenian course for those with prior knowledge of reading and writing.

ARMENIAN STUDIES 45 examines the life and writing of Fresno's most famous native son, William Saroyan. Saroyan's later works in particular will be analyzed placing him in the context of both American and Armenian literature.

ARMENIAN 148 is a successful course which was introduced in 1990, and looks at Armenian literature in English translation. The great works of Armenian literature from ancient times to the present are studied. Epics, folk tales, poetry, and prose are read and discussed in the course.

ARMENIAN STUDIES 10 is a general introductory course into the study of the Armenian people. Students explore the history and culture of one of the world's most ancient people and study the changes in that culture through time.

HISTORY 108A is a survey of Armenian history from earliest times to the middle ages. The latest research and theories on the origins of the Armenian people will be studied, as well as the Armenian dynasties of the 2nd century B.C. to the 14th century A.D. The course is an in-depth look at the civilization of one of the oldest peoples of Asia.

Three one-unit courses on Armenian cooking, the Armenian Diaspora, and the Armenian Church will also be offered. These courses provide an intense study of the subject matter in a concentrated period of time. These courses are always popular as they are held in one weekend.

Finally ARMENIAN STUDIES 123, Armenian architecture will be offered. This course examines the genesis of the Armenian national style of architecture through the construction of churches. Monuments of Armenia architecture will be explored through the extensive use of slides and visual materials.

For the Open University Program, you simply choose which class you would like to enroll in, go the first class meeting, and get the permission of the instructor. Then you may register for the course for a fee of \$75.00 per unit. There are no admission requirements for this program.

Sixty plus applicant for admission pay only a \$5.00 registration fee for courses if they qualify for the program.

For more information contact the Armenian Studies Program at (209) 278-2669. A complete schedule of Armenian Studies courses will be sent on request.

SOURCE The California Courier; Glendale, CADATE April 11, 1991SUBJECT Fresno Genocide CommemorationPAGE 1 of 1

## Fresno Armenians Plan Genocide Commemoration

FRESNO - The Armenian Community Council of the San Joaquin Valley will commemorate the 76th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide on April 24, with an Ecumenical Service at St. Paul Armenian Church in Fresno. A civic observance will follow at the Pilgrim Armenian Congregational Church Hall.

Two special committees were appointed for this occasion. The Religious Observance committee is headed by Fr. Sasoon Vartabed Zumrookhdian, pastor of St. Paul, and Fr. Muron Vartabed Aznikian,

dean of Holy Trinity Church. The Civic Observance committee members are Deacon Allan Y. Jendian, Noubar Aghishian, Assadour Assadourian, Prof. Barlow Der Mugrdechian, and Krikor Kohayan.

Fr. Sasoon will be the celebrant of the Divine Liturgy at the Ecumenical Service held at St. Paul Armenian Church, at 6:30 p.m., with the participation of clergymen from all Armenian Churches in the San Joaquin Valley.





# ARMENIAN NEWS FROM CALIFORNIA

## *Fresno Armenians Plan Genocide Commemoration*

**Fresno** — The Armenian Community Council of the San Joaquin Valley recently met to discuss and plan the commemoration of the 76th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide.

The community-wide commemoration will begin at 6:30 pm on Wednesday, April 24, with an Ecumenical Service at St. Paul Armenian Church, and a Civic Observance to follow at the Pilgrim Armenian Congregational Church Hall.

Two special committees were appointed. The religious observance committee is jointly headed by the Very Rev. Fr. Sasoon Zumrookhdian, pastor of St. Paul parish, and the Very Rev. Fr. Muron Aznikian, dean of Holy Trinity parish. The civic obser-

vance committee members are Deacon Allan Y. Jendian, Noubar Aghishian, Assadour Assadourian, Prof. Barlow Der Mugrdechian and Krikor Kohayan.

Fr. Zumrookhdian will be the celebrant of Divine Liturgy at the Ecumenical Service held at St. Paul Armenian Church, with the participation of clergymen from all San Joaquin Valley Armenian churches. Messages will be given by Fr. Aznikian and Badveli Roger Minassian, pastor of Pilgrim Church, in Armenian and English, respectively. Following the service, a candlelight procession will start from St. Paul to Pilgrim Church.

The Civic Observance, beginning at 8 pm, will feature noted author/journalist Noubar Aghish-

ian, and acting director of CSUF's Armenian Studies Program Prof. Barlow Der Mugrdechian, in Armenian and English, respectively. The program will include a special presentation of poetry and songs by students of the Armenian Community School of Fresno under the guidance of its principal, Assadour Assadourian.

The Armenian Community council is composed of representatives of the Armenian churches, political and cultural organizations, of the San Joaquin Valley. The officers are Richard Darmanian, chairman; Allan Y. Jendian, secretary; and Bob Der Mugrdechian, treasurer.

**Armen Aghishian**



# Armenian genocide remembered

## • Campus community schedules events to increase awareness of 'Armenian Memorial Day'

By Christopher Heredia  
Collegian Staff Writer

.....  
In an effort to educate students about Armenian history and culture, the CSUF Armenian Students Organization is holding several events to commemorate Armenian Memorial Day today.

Armenians throughout the

world and in the United States regard April 24, 1915, as the day members of the Ottoman Turkish government began the genocide of between 1.5 million and 2 million Armenians in Turkey.

Armenian groups in the United States have lobbied Congress for the past six years for a resolution that would mark April 24 as a national holiday recognizing the

genocide.

"On that day in all the major cities [in Turkey] all the Armenian intellectuals were gathered and executed," said Khatchig Jingirian Jr., a member of the ASO and head of the April 24 Commemorative Committee at CSUF. "To this day, the Turkish government doesn't admit that the killings occurred."

Last year, the CSUF Associated

Students Inc. marked April 24 with a resolution that stated that Vintage Days events should not overlap Armenian Memorial Day. A similar effort was waged this semester, but failed to reach Tuesday's senate.

Jingirian said killing Armenian leaders on April 24 was only the tip of the iceberg. He said after the Turkish government removed the leaders, Armenians nationwide were forced to take "death marches" through the Southern Anatolian deserts in bitter cold and

blistering heat, without food, water or shelter.

"Women were raped. Children were raped. Pregnant women had their stomachs slit open and their children were placed on stakes. People were burned alive," he said.

Jingirian, who is minoring in Armenian studies, said the Turkish government between 1915 and 1923 maintained that Armenians were being uprooted from their homes in Turkey for their own

See GENOCIDE, page 3



## April 24, 1991 Marks the 76th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide

1,500,000 Armenian were killed in the years 1915-1923 at the hands of the Ottoman Turkish Government.

The Armenian people are still awaiting just resolution of the Armenian Genocide.

### Schedule of Events

#### TODAY!!!

12:00 PM - Rally in the Free Speech Area In front of the Student Union near the Armenian Students Organization booth. Student and community speakers. Tee-Shirts Will Be Sold

1:00 PM - Commemorative program - The Author of The Cross and the Crescent, Mr. Lindy Avakian, will be the guest speaker. He will be speaking about a famous Armenian, Soghomon Tehlirian. The program will also include a segment dealing with Turkish propaganda against the Armenian Genocide and the Armenian Question presented by Mr. Yerevan Ohanessian. Room: Student Union # 312-314

\* There will also be an exhibit dealing with Armenian History and Culture in the Henry S. Madden Library on the second floor

For any questions, please call Khatchig Jingirian at 224-1946

## Genocide: Remembered

Continued from page 1

safety.

"Because of the war between Turkey and Russia ... the Armenians were deported ... the government said they were moving them out of the range of fire. They were killed in the desert. They were subjected to march miles ..."

Jingirian said he hoped the day will encourage Armenian students and non-Armenians to learn more about Armenian culture.

Jingirian said the oppression of Armenians continues worldwide. "Even today," he said, "Turks are spreading propaganda that says Armenians have no culture."

Jingirian said as recent as a few months ago Turkish groups in the United States have contradicted the occurrence of the mass killings

"The purpose of [Memorial Day] is not only to remember the genocide, but to let the rest of the students know that even though Turkey is an ally of the United States, it is not an angel ... to open the eyes

of CSUF students and high school students to let them know what the Turkish government has done."

Jingirian said a compact disc reviewed in a recent issue of the Tower Records magazine, Pulse, became the target of a Turkish group in the United States. Jingirian said the album contained lyrics that reflected Armenian religion and culture and that the Turkish group challenged the validity of the message.

Earlier this week, the ASO showed two films on Armenian history. Today at 10 a.m. local high school students will meet at the Memorial Court Fountain on campus to commemorate Armenian Memorial Day. At noon, the

ASO will hold a rally in the Free Speech Area. CSUF students and people from the community will speak on Memorial Day.

At 1 p.m., Lindy Avakian, author of "The Cross and The Crescent" will speak in the University Student Union, Rooms 312-314. Avakian's book is about Soghomon Tehlirian. Jingirian said Tehlirian is regarded by Armeni-

ans as the individual who carried out the "death sentence" on one of the leaders in the mass killings of Armenians near the turn of the century.

This week in the Henry Madden Library, a display of Armenian art and history is being held on the bridge on the second floor.

For more information on today's events or for details on the library exhibit, call the Armenian studies program at 278-2669.



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# ARMENIAN STUDIES PROGRAM

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO

FRESNO, CALIFORNIA 93740

- ARCHIVE -

SOURCE The Daily Collegian; CSUF Fresno, CA

DATE 24 April 1991

SUBJECT April 24th Armenian Martyr's Day

PAGE 1 of 1

ASO

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**Armenian Students Organization**  
**Հայ Ուսանողաց Կազմակերպութիւն**  
**April 24 Commemorative Committee**

**Schedule of Events**

Monday, April 22:

11:00 am - MOVIE - **The Forty Days of Musa Dagh**  
room: Student Union #312 & 313

Tuesday, April 23:

10:00 am - MOVIE - **Back to Ararat**

room: Student Union #312 & 313

3:00 pm - Passing of the C.S.U.F. April 24th Resolution

\* There will also be an exhibit dealing with Armenian History and Culture  
in the Henry S. Madden Library on the second floor

For any questions, please call Khatchig Jingirian at 224-1946





## *CSUF Armenian Studies Program Announces Fall Semester Courses*

FRESNO - The California State University, Fresno Armenian Studies Program announces its fall 1991 semester schedule of courses. Members of the community can register for these classes through the Open University Program or through the Sixty Plus Program.

*Armenian 1A* is a beginning course in modern Western Armenian. Students learn the basics of reading and writing and also learn simple conversation. *Armenian 2A* is an advanced course for those with prior knowledge of reading and writing.

*Armenian Studies 45* examines the life and writings of Fresno's

most famous native son, William Saroyan. His later works in particular will be analyzed, placing him in the context of both American and Armenian literature.

*Armenian 148* is a course, first introduced in 1990, that looks at Armenian literature in English translation. The great works of Armenian literature are studied. Epics, folk tales, poetry, and prose are read and discussed in the course.

*Armenian Studies 10* is a general introductory course into the study of the Armenian people.

*History 108A* is a survey of Armenian history from earliest times to the Middle Ages.

Three one-unit courses on Armenian cooking, the Armenian Diaspora, and the Armenian Church will also be offered. These courses are always popular as they are held in one weekend.

Finally, *Armenian Studies 123*, Armenian Architecture will be offered. This course examines the genesis of the Armenian national style of architecture through the construction of churches. Monuments of Armenian architecture will be explored through the extensive use of slides and visual materials.

For more information, call the Armenian Studies Program at (209) 278-2669.

## Fresno to Observe Martyrs Day

By ARMEN AGHISHIAN

FRESNO — The Armenian Community Council of the San Joaquin Valley met to discuss and plan for the commemoration of the 7th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide of 1915.

The community-wide commemoration will begin at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 24,

with an ecumenical service at St. Paul Armenian Church and a civic observance to follow at the Pilgrim Armenian Congregational Church Hall.

For this occasion two special committees were appointed. The religious observance committee is headed by the Very Rev. Sasoon Vartabed Zumrookhd-

Please Turn to Page 4

### Continued from Page 1

ian, pastor of St. Paul Armenian Church, and the Very Rev. Fr. Muron Vartabed Aznikian, dean of Holy Trinity Parish. The civic observance committee members named are Deacon Allan Y. Jendian, Noubar Aghishian, Assadour Assadourian, Prof. Barlow Der Mugrdechian and Krikor Kohayan.

Fr. Sasoon will be the celebrant of the Divine Liturgy at the Ecumenical Service to be held at St. Paul Armenian Church with the participation of clergymen from all Armenian churches in the San Joaquin Valley.

Spiritual messages will be given by Fr. Muron and Badveli Roger Minassian, pastor of Pilgrim Church, in Armenian and English, respectively.

Immediately after the service there will be a candlelight procession from St. Paul to Pilgrim Church.

The Civic Observance beginning at 8 p.m. will feature

noted author/journalist Noubar Aghishian and acting director of CSUF's Armenian Studies Program Prof. Barlow Der Mugrdechian, in Armenian and English, respectively.

The program will include a special presentation of poetry and song by the students of the Armenian Community School of Fresno under the guidance of its principal, Assadour Assadourian.

The participation of all Fresno Armenians is imperative to not only the success of the evening but for proper remembrance of those one and a half million Armenians who sacrificed their lives in the name of christianity, their land, their heritage and culture.

The Armenian Community Council is composed of representatives of the Armenian churches and organizations, political and cultural, of the San Joaquin Valley. The officers are Richard Darmanian, chairman; Allan Y. Jendian, secretary; and Bob Der Mugrdechian, treasurer.



## Speakers ask why U.S. ignores genocide

The Armenian genocide was remembered Wednesday with emotional discussions, persistent questioning and a call for vocal activism.

"Why?" was a continual refrain.

"Why doesn't the United States Senate and Congress establish an annual day of remembrance?," asked

Lindy Avakian, author of "The Cross and The Crescent," and the guest speaker at an afternoon commemorative program.

"Why has president Bush turned his back on the Armenians? Why? ... The Bible says that to those God has given much, much is required of them."

The program and the rally preceding it were sponsored by the Armenian Students Organization to commemorate the day in 1915 that members of the Ottoman Turkish government began the genocide of 1.5 million to 2 million Armenians in Turkey. April 24 is recognized internationally as the anniversary of that day. Armenian groups have lobbied Congress unsuccessfully for six years to establish April 24 as a national holiday recognizing the holiday.

Armenians have long argued that the destruction of their homeland and the refusal of the United States government to officially recognize the genocide is tantamount to ignoring the issues altogether.

Before Avakian spoke, members of the commemorative program held a rally in the Free Speech Area reminding students to raise their voices and be heard.

"As long as students don't raise their voices and bring these issues to the forefront, it will be business as



usual," Barlow Der Mgrdechian, a lecturer in the Armenian Studies Program, said.

"All the people that survived [the genocide] are now in their late 80s and 90s," he said. "But it's your generation that will keep this alive in our memory and actions."

At the commemorative program Avakian stressed the importance of paying homage to the day and those who gave their lives in the genocide.

"We must pay our respects to all who have died and all who are dying," he said. "[A genocide] disrupts the divine plan of future generations who will never set foot on this earth."

"Why," he asked, "are the Jews the chosen people and the Armenians the selected people?"

After the questioning and statement of concerns, Avakian stressed the need for action and activism.

"The victims of the genocide remain victims, but it's time to move from being a victim to being the victor."

Students and concerned peoples must speak out, Avakian said, because limitations on free speech are ever increasing.

"Today in 1991, is the last decade, perhaps the last couple of years in the U.S. that we are able to speak out as Armenians, as people."





## Bournoutian to Lecture in Fresno and Los Angeles

**FRESNO**—Dr. George Bournoutian, a noted scholar of Russian and Armenian history, will be lecturing at California State University at Fresno on Thursday, May 9 at 12 noon.

The lecture, entitled "Russo-Armenian Relations in Modern Times: The Crisis in Karabakh," sponsored by the Armenian Studies Program of CSUF and the Armenian General Benevolent Union, will be held at University Student Union, Room 309.

Beginning with Catherine the Great and proceeding to the current age of glasnost and perestroika, the lecture will cover the political and economic interaction between the people of Armenia and Russia. The Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict, the Karabakh question, and the present conditions in the region will be thoroughly discussed.

Dr. Bournoutian will be lecturing on "The Long Migration: The Armenians of Nakhichevan" on Thursday evening at 7:30 pm at the CSUF Industrial Arts Bldg. Auditorium, Room 101.

The lecture will cover the history of the Armenians of Nakhichevan beginning with their forced relocation from Armenia to Iran; the community's ascent to world economic power; and the story of a banished community's undying devotion to their homeland.

For further information regarding the Fresno lectures, contact Barlow Der Mugrdchian, CSUF, (209) 278-2669.

Dr. Bournoutian will be repeating his lecture on Karabakh in Los Angeles on Friday, May 10, at 8 pm at the AGBU Larchmont Center, located at 589 N. Larchmont Blvd., Los Angeles. The event is sponsored by the Greater Los Angeles Chapters of the AGBU.

Dr. Bournoutian received his PhD in Armenian History from the University of California, Los Angeles in 1976. He is a professor of Armenian history at the University of Connecticut and New York University as well as a Russian history professor at Iona College in New York. □

## CULTURAL EVENTS

### LECTURE

**Thursday and Friday, May 9 and 10** Lecture and slide show by Dr. George Bournoutian, Russian and Armenian history scholar organized by the Armenian Studies Program of Cal State Fresno and the Armenian General Benevolent Union. He will be lecturing about the crisis in Karabakh at 12 noon at CSUF University Student Union, Room 309. "The Long Migration: The Armenians of Nakhichevan" will be presented at 7:30 pm at the Industrial Arts Bldg. Aud., Room 101. Dr. Bournoutian will be lecturing on "Russo-Armenian Relations in Modern Times: The Crisis in Karabakh" on Friday, May 10 at 8 pm at the AGBU Larchmont Center: 589 N. Larchmont Blvd., LA.





## Dr. George Bournoutian to Lecture in California

Dr. George Bournoutian, a noted Russian and Armenian history scholar, a graduate of UCLA in 1976, is a Professor of Armenian history at the University of Connecticut and New York University and a professor of Russian history at Iona College in New York.

He will lecture on two topics. The lectures will cover the fascinating history of the Armenian community of Nakhichevan beginning with their forced relocation from Armenia to Iran. It is a story of a banished community's undying devotion to their homeland. It is an enthralling tale of a community's ascent to world economic power.

The Karabagh lecture will cover the beginning with Catherine the Great and proceeding to the current age of Glasnost and Perestroika and the political and economic interaction between the people of Armenia and Russia. The Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict, the Karabagh question and the present conditions in the region will be thoroughly discussed.

### SAN FRANCISCO-OAKLAND CHAPTER -AGBU

MAY 7, 1991, at 8 p.m.

St. John Armenian Church, 275 Olympia Way, San Francisco  
Topic: The Long Migration: The Armenians of Kakhichevan"

### FRESNO AGBU and CSUF ARMENIAN PROGRAM

MAY 9, THURSDAY, at 12 noon

CSUF Student Union Room 309

Topic: Russo-Armenian Relations in Modern Times: The  
V Crisis in Karabagh"

MAY 9, THURSDAY, at 7:30 p.m.

CSUF Industrial Arts Building Auditorium, Room 101

Topic: The Long Migration: The Armenians of Nakhichevan"

### LOS ANGELES CHAPTER

MAY 10, FRIDAY, at 8 p.m.

AGBU Center, 589 North Larchmont, LA

Topic: Russo-Armenian Relations in Modern Times: The  
Crisis in Karabagh"

## UC Davis Students Commemorate Genocide on Campus

**Davis** — Professor Barlow Der Mugrdechian, director of Armenian Studies at CSU, Fresno, spoke to an audience of Armenian and Turkish students on the topic "The Armenian Genocide and its effect on the Karabagh movement."

The lecture was sponsored by the Armenian Students Association of UC Davis.

After defining the crime of genocide and discussing the motivations of the Young Turks, Der Mugrdechian outlined the systematic plan that led to the murder of 1.5 million Armenians.

"What the Turkish state effectively did was to decapitate the Armenian leadership," Der Mugrdechian said.

Following his lecture, Der Mugrdechian was asked why the Kurdish minority was not deported as well, since the objective of Young Turks was to homogenize the ethnic composition of their nation.

Der Mugrdechian responded that "...in fact, they were deported. In 1923 many were massacred in southern Turkey, and to this day that area remains under martial law."

After the question and answer period, Der Mugrdechian presented slides of the recent mass demonstrations in the Republic of Armenia for the reunification of Karabagh. He also pointed out

that while April 24 is an important day for the Diaspora, it has more than historical significance for Soviet Armenians.

"For Armenians living in Armenia and Karabagh as well as those who relived the horrors of

their ancestors at Sumgait and Baku, the threat of genocide is a very real thing with Turkey to the west and Azerbaijan to the east," Der Mugrdechian said.

The lecture concluded the ASA commemorative series, which also included a 24-hour vigil and viewing of the documentary "An Armenian Journey."





## Davis Students Organize April 24 Lecture On Genocide

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The lecture was sponsored by the Armenian Students Association of UC Davis.

After defining the crime of genocide and discussing the motivations of the Young Turks (the perpetrators of the Armenian Genocide), Der Mugrdechian outlined the systematic plan that led to the murder of 1.5 million Armenians. The first step was to place all Armenians serving in the Ottoman Army into labor battalions, where they died of

exposure and exhaustion. Meanwhile, on April 24th, 1915, 600 Armenian intellectuals were killed by the Ottoman government.

"What the Turkish state effectively did was to decapitate the Armenian leadership," said Der Mugrdechian.

With the Armenian community disarmed and leaderless, the final step was to "relocate" the remainder of the population by order of a law of deportation.

"Here, we see that the law and reality are two very different things. The law stated that Armenians were to be moved away from the war zone to a safer place. But in fact by relocating most of the population to the Syrian Desert, one of the most

desolate regions on earth, the Young Turks had signed the death warrant of Armenians," said Der Mugrdechian.

In addition criminals, recruited by the government to serve as escorts for the Armenians, raped and pillaged deportees with impunity.

Following his lecture, Der Mugrdechian was asked why the Kurdish minority was not deported as well, since the objective of Young Turks was to homogenize the ethnic composition of their nation.

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The lecture concluded the ASA commemorative series, which also included a 24 hour vigil and a viewing of the documentary "An Armenian Journey." ■



Ինչպէս անցեալ տարի, այս տա-  
րի եւս մեծ շուքով նշուեցաւ Ապրիլ-  
եան Եղեռնի Յուշատօնը, նախաձեռ-  
նութեամբ Հայ Համայնքային Խոր-  
հորդի եւ մասնակցութեամբ՝ շրջա-  
նիս բոլոր Հայ եկեղեցիներու հո-  
գեւորականներուն, սարկաւազաց ու  
դպրաց դասերու: Այս բացառիկ ու  
պատմական առիթով, ամբողջ գա-  
ղութահայութեան ներկայացուցչու-  
թիւնը, շուրջ 700 հոգի, ի մի եկած  
էր շեշտելով կարեւորութիւնը օր-  
ւան խորհուրդին ու իմաստին:

Ապրիլ 24, Զորքշաբթի երեկոյ-  
եան ժամը 6:30-ին սկսաւ կրօնական  
արարողութիւն Ս. Պօղոս եկեղեցւոյ  
մէջ, պատարագիչ ունենալով նոյն  
եկեղեցւոյ հովիւ Հոգ. Սասուն  
Վրդ. Զմրուխտեանը: Յաւարտ Ս.  
Պատարագի, Հայերէն լեզուով ար-  
տայայտուեցաւ Ս. Երրորդութիւն  
եկեղեցւոյ տեսուչ՝ Հոգ. Միւռն  
Վրդ. Ազնիկեան, իսկ անգլերէն  
լեզուով՝ Վեր. Ռաճըր Մինասեան,  
հովիւ Հայ Պանդխտաց եկեղեցւոյ:

Երկու հոգեւորականներն ալ ոգե-  
ւորիչ արտայայտութիւններով անդ-  
դրադարձան Հայ ժողովուրդի կրած  
ահաւոր կորուստին, ենթարկուած  
խաչելութեան ու գողգոթային, ու  
ապա վերապրելու հօգի ու անվեհեր  
ոգիին: Միւռն վարդապետ, բա-  
նաստեղծական ներշնչմամբ ու հա-  
մակող ոգեւորութեամբ, իր խօսքե-  
րուն մէջ խտացուց Հայ ժողովուրդի  
սրբազան ուխտը՝ ապրելու, տեսելու  
եւ միասնական ուժով ու համագոր-  
ծակցութեամբ հասնելու մեր գերա-  
զոյն նպատակին: Ան կոչ ըրաւ վերջ  
տալ ներքին անհասկացողութիւն-  
ներու եւ անհամերաշխ գործելակեր-  
պի, եւ թելադրեց իւրացնել միասնա-  
կան ոգի եւ հաւաքական գիտակցու-  
թիւն:

Եկեղեցական արարողութենէն ետք  
հոգեւոր Հայրերու առաջնորդու-  
թեամբ ժողովուրդը, մոմ ի ձեռին,  
ուղղուեցաւ Հայ Պանդխտաց եկե-  
ղեցւոյ սրահը: Խորհրդամբ քաղմու-  
թեան ներկայութեան, երեկոյեան  
ժամը 9:00-ին, քաղաքական հաւա-  
քին բացումը կատարեց Հայ Հա-  
մայնքային Խորհուրդի ատենապետ՝  
Պրն. Ռիչըրտ Տարմանեան: Ան, շեշ-  
տելէ ետք օրուան խորհուրդը, Հայ

## Ապրիլեան Եղեռնի Յուշատօն Ֆրէզնոյի Մէջ



ՆՈՒՊԱՐ ԱՎԻՇԵԱՆ



ՊԱՐԼՕ ՏԷՐ ՄԿՐՏԻՉԵԱՆ

Ժողովուրդին յուսախաբուեան  
պատճառները, Հայ ժողովուրդին  
վճռակամութիւնը՝ հակառակ տիրող  
քաղաքական անտարբերութեան,  
քննադատական խիստ արտայայտու-  
թիւններով դատապարտեց՝ վերջերս  
էլիս կղզիէն, Հայ գաղթականու-  
թեան վերաբերող կարգ մը լուսա-  
նկարներու վերացումի արարքը, ա-  
նոր մէջ տեսնելով թրքական միջա-  
մտութիւն, եւ ամերիկեան կառա-  
վարութեան թոյլտուութիւնը, քանի  
որ յիշեալ նկարները կը ներկայա-  
ցնէին՝ թուրքին կողմէ ջարդուող  
Հայ ժողովուրդին բեկորները: Ան  
թելադրեց նաեւ, որ ժողովուրդը նա-  
մակներով ու հեռագիրներով իր  
ընդվզումը յայտնէ ներկայացուցիչ-  
ներուն եւ ծերակուտականներուն,  
եւ վերոյիշեալ կղզիի գաղթականու-  
թեան յանձնախումբին, որպէսզի  
յիշեալ լուսանկարները վերադար-  
ձուին իրենց տեղը:

Պրն. Տարմանեան իր շնորհակա-  
լութիւնը յայտնեց նաեւ Ֆրէզնոյի  
քաղաքապետ Քերըն Համֆրիին, որ  
հակառակ իր բազմազբաղ վիճակին,  
ներկայ կ'ըլլար յուշատօնին՝ յարգե-  
լով Հայ ժողովուրդին ցաւը. ներկայ  
էր նաեւ Board of supervisorներու  
ատենապետ Պրն. Տիրան Խոլիկեան:  
Ապա, Պրն. Տարմանեան ներկայա-  
ցուց օրուան բանախօսներէն Նուպար  
Ակիշեանը, որ պիտի ըլլար Հայերէն  
լեզուով արտայայտուողը: Պրն. Ա-  
կիշեան, վերջերս միայն հաս-



տատուած էր Ֆրէզնո, բայց արդէն միւրճուած էր ազգային գործերու մէջ, չարունակելով միւս համայնքներու մէջ ունեցած իր եռուն գործունէութիւնը: Պրն. Տարմանեան բարի գալուստ մաղթեց Պրն. Ակիշեանին, տալէ ետք անոր գործունէութեան հակիրճ պատկերը՝ իբրեւ գրող, լրագրող, հրապարակագիր եւ հասարակական գործիչ:

Պրն. Ակիշեան իր բանախօսութեամբ անդրադարձաւ յատկապէս Հայաստանի ներկայ կացութեան, պատկերացնելով անոր տնտեսական ու քաղաքական դժուարութիւնները, Մոսկուայէն ստացած բացասական դիրքորոշումը, եւ ապա՝ ներքին կառույցին դէմ աշխատող ուժերուն, ու կոչ ըրաւ, որ հայութիւնը ամէնուրեք, ճակատագրական այս պահուն բոլորուի ներկայ ղեկավարութեան շուրջ, զօրավիգ կանգնի անոր, որպէսզի կարելի ըլլայ ապահով ուղիներու վրայ դնել ազատութեան գործընթացը: «Քաղաքական կուսակցութիւնները, մշակութային ու բարեսիրական բոլոր կազմակերպութիւնները մէկդի պէտք է դնեն իրենց անհամաձայնութիւնները եւ օժանդակեն ընտրեալ կառավարութեան ներկայացուցիչներուն, այժմ, քննադատութեան ուժ տալը ժամանակի վատնում է պարզապէս, երբ կառավարութիւնը քննադատութենէն աւելի հասկացողութեան եւ բարեացակամ աջակցութեան կարիքը ունի», ըսաւ ան:

Յայտագրի գեղարուեստական բաժինին իրենց մասնակցութիւնը բերին Ֆրէզնոյի Համագաղութային Հայ վարժարանի աշակերտները, դեկավարութեամբ՝ վարժարանի տնօրէն Պրն. Ասատուր Ասատուրեանի, որ այնքան խնամքով, հոգածութեամբ, բժախնդրութեամբ ու խանդաղատանքով մարգած էր գողտրիկ այդ հոգիները, որպէսզի անոնց արտայայտութիւնը ցոլացնէր սովորականէն տարբեր բան մը, - հասկացողութիւն, զգայնութիւն, զիտակցութիւն: Եւ այդ բոլորը երեւան եկան, երբ անոնք արտասանեցին ու երգեցին կտորներ Չարենցէն, Պարոյր Սեւակէն, Ծառուկեանէն, Չարեանէն եւ էմինէն:

Համայնքի սիրուած երգչուհի Շողկաթ Ալաճեան ներկայանալուն հրամցուց «Մայր Արաքսի Ափե-

նակի ընկերակցութեամբ Պէն Գրի-գորեանին:

Ապա, Պրն. Տարմանեան ներկայացուց Պրն. Պարլօ Տէր Մկրտիչեանը, որ անգլերէն լեզուով պիտի անդրադառնար օրուան նիւթին: Պր. Տէր Մկրտիչեան պատասխանատու դասախօսն է Ֆրէզնոյի Քալիֆորնիա համալսարանի հայագիտական ամպիոնին: Ան, տարիներով եւ անձնուիրաբար աշխատած էր համայնքային ծրագիրներու իրագործումին համար եւ իր թելադրութիւններով նեցուկ կանգնած էր զանազան նախաձեռնութիւններու: Եւ այս անգամ, ան իր խնամեալ բանախօսութեամբ դարձեալ ապացոյցը տուաւ իր ունեցած պատրաստութեան, հասկացողութեան եւ հայկական հարցի նկատմամբ սնուցած հոգածութեան:

Պրն. Տէր Մկրտիչեան հայկական դատի պատմականը միացուց այսօրուան իրադարձութիւններուն ցոյց տալով որ թուրքը իր ծրագրին մէջ չէր կրցած յաջողիլ, ընդհակառակը, չարաչար պարտուած էր՝ հայութիւնը բնաջինջ ընելու իր խենէշ փոր-

ծին մէջ, որովհետեւ այսօր, կայ Հայաստան մը իր մշակոյթով, իր արուեստներով, իր պետութեամբ եւ այժմ, հարթուելու վրայ էր անկախութեան փշոտ ճանապարհը: «Միասնականութիւնը բանալին պիտի ըլլայ մեր յաջողութեան», ըսաւ ան, «եւ պէտք է վերջ տրուի պառակտումին, զիրար հարուածող դիրքորոշումներուն, որպէսզի մեր յաջողութիւնը ըլլայ ամբողջական եւ ճիշդ պատեհ ժամին»:

Յայտագրի աւարտին տեղի ունեցաւ ընդունելութիւն, ժողովուրդին մէջ վառ պահելով հետաքրքրութիւնը օրուան նպատակին ու խորհուրդին շուրջ:

Իրապէս շնորհաւորելի են Համայնքային Խորհուրդի անդամները, որոնց համերաշխ գործակցութեան արդիւնքն էր այսպիսի յաջող եւ նպատակայարմար ձեռնարկ մը: Համայնքային Խորհուրդին մաս կը կազմեն շրջանիս բոլոր եկեղեցիները, կուսակցութիւնները, մշակութային, բարեսիրական, հայրենակցական ու կրթական միութիւններն ու կազմակերպութիւնները, ներառ-

եալ՝ Առաջին Հայ Երիցական եկեղեցին, Ս. Երրորդութիւն եկեղեցին, Հայ Պանդխտաց եկեղեցին, Ս. Գրիգոր եկեղեցին, Ս. Պողոս եկեղեցին, Ս. Մարիամ եւ Ս. Սահակ-Մեսրոպ եկեղեցիները, Հայ Ամերիկեան քաղաքացիներու Միութիւնը, Ռամկավար Ազատական Կուսակցութիւնը, Հ.Բ.Ը. Միութիւնը, Հայ Ազգային Կոմիտէն, Հայկական Զայնասփիւռի Ժամը, Հայ Օգնութեան Միութիւնը, Հայ Յեղափոխական Դաշնակցութիւնը, Համալսարանի Հայ Ուսանողաց Միութիւնը, Համալսարանի Հայագիտական Աթոռը, Տարօն-Տուրուբերան Հայրենակցական Միութիւնը, Վարդանանց Դուստրերը, Համազգայինը, Վասպուրականի Միութիւնը, ՀՄԸՄ-ը, Վարդանանց Ասպետները, Թէքէեան Մշակութային Միութիւնը, Տիգրանակերտի հայրենակցական Միութիւնը եւ համագաղութային հայ վարժարանը:

Կը յուսանք, որ նոյնանման ոգիով եւ համագործակցութեամբ շարունակուին յետագայ գործունէութիւններն ու նախաձեռնութիւնները Ֆրէզնոյի Հայ համայնքին մէջ:

Ն.

Ֆրէզնո, Ապրիլ 25, 1991



## Armenian Martyrs Day Observed in Fresno

FRESNO — On Wednesday, April 24, the Armenian Community Council of the San Joaquin Valley coordinated an impressive Martyrs Day Commemoration in remembrance of the 1.5 million Armenian Genocide victims.

The successful evening consisting of a religious and a civic observance drew over 700 Armenians and non-Armenians alike from several of the surrounding communities of Fresno.

### RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE

Beginning at 6:30 p.m. the Divine Liturgy was celebrated at St. Paul Armenian Church by its pastor, The Very Rev. Fr. Sasoon Vartabed Zumrookhdian, to a standing room capacity. During the "heshadogootium" Hayr Soorp mentioned the names of all four Hierarchical Sees.

Serving at the altar were the deacons of St. Paul and Holy Trinity. The pourvaragirs were Armen Devejian and Matthew Jendian; and the candlebearers were Megan Jendian and Anita Jibilian.

Area clergy from all churches — Diocese, Prelacy, Evangelical — participated in the service. Scripture readings were presented by Badveli Bernard Guekuezian (First Armenian Presbyterian) and Der Hrants Kahan Serabian (Holy Trinity). Der Kevork Kahana Arakelian (St. Gregory) performed the presentation of the chalice. Der Kourken Kahan Yaralian (Prelacy, retired) conferred absolution at confession, while Hayr Sasoon administered Holy Communion with the assistance of Der Kevork and Der Hrants.

Hayr Soorp extended a warm welcome to all those present. He embraced each of the clergymen as he invited them to share their messages. The Very Rev. Fr. Muron Vartabed Aznikian (Holy Trinity) and Badveli Roger

Minassian, (Pilgrim Armenian Congl.) gave the messages in Armenian and English, respectively. Hayr Muron stressed the importance of "unity in our people" as well as "the necessity of retaining our Armenian Heritage and our ties with the church." Badveli Roger stated that "we must not forget that almost all of us are descendants of the survivors of the Genocide of 1915 and we must keep their memories alive."

At the conclusion of the Badarak a Requiem "Hokehankist" Service was held for the souls of 1915 Martyrs. The combined choir for the services was directed by Vartan Ketendjian, with Ben Krikorian on the organ.

The services were uplifting and the atmosphere was warm and cordial.

### CIVIC OBSERVANCE

An impressive candlelight procession was led by the clergy from St. Paul Church to the Pilgrim Congregational Church Hall where the civic observance began at 9 p.m. Richard Darmanian, chairman of the Armenian Community Council, served as the Master of Ceremonies. He acknowledged the presence of Fresno Mayor Karen Humphrey and County Board of Supervisor Deran Koligian. Darmanian also read excerpts from the Armenian Genocide Resolution issued by California State Governor Pete Wilson, acknowledging the anniversary of the 1915 Armenian Genocide.

The one-hour program featured two speakers, Noubar Aghishian (Armenian) and Barlow Der Mgrdechian (English).

Noubar Aghishian, a noted author/journalist, new to the Fresno community, focused on Armenia, specifically on "the road to freedom and independence." He described this quest



Top: Armenian speaker Noubar Aghishian. Bottom, Barlow Der Mgrdechian, English speaker.

as one which involves "Armenians all over the world, in each and every community, standing behind the new, freely elected government in Armenia." "This unity," he continued, "will be necessary for it to succeed."

Following the Armenian message, the students of the Armenian Community School of Fresno gave a presentation of poetry and song reflecting the continuation of the Armenian spirit. The



## Der Mugrdechian Speaks at UC Davis

DAVIS, CA — Professor Barlow Der Mugrdechian, Director of Armenian Studies at CSU, Fresno, spoke to an audience of Armenian and Turkish students on the topic "The Armenian Genocide and its effect on the Karabagh movement."

The lecture was sponsored by the Armenian Students Association of UC Davis.

After defining the crime of genocide and discussing the motivations of the Young Turks (the perpetrators of the Armenian Genocide), Der Mugrdechian outline the systematic plan that led to the murder of 1.5 million Armenians. The first step was to place all Armenians serving in the Ottoman Army into labor battalions, where they died of exposure and exhaustion. Meanwhile, on April 24th, 1915, 600 Armenian intellectuals were killed by the Ottoman government.

"What the Turkish state effectively did was to decapitate the Armenian leadership," said Der Mugrdechian.

With the Armenian community disarmed and leaderless, the final step was to "relocate" the remainder of the population by order of a law of deportation.

"Here, we see that the law and reality are two very different things. The law stated that Armenians were to be moved away from the war zone to a safer place. But in fact by relocating most of the population to the Syrian Desert, one of the most desolate regions on earth, the Young Turks had signed the death warrant of Armenians," said Der Mugrdechian.

In addition criminals, recruited by the government to serve as escorts for the Armenians, raped and pillaged deportees with impunity.

Following his lecture, Der Mugrdechian was asked why the Turkish minority was not deported as well, since the objective of Young Turks was to homogenize the ethnic composi-

tion of their nation.

Der Mugrdechian responded that "... in fact, they were deported. In 1923 many were massacred in southern Turkey, and to this day that area remains under marshal law."

After the question and answer period, Der Mugrdechian presented slides of the recent mass demonstrations in the Republic of Armenia for the reunification of Karabagh. He also pointed out that while April 24th is an important day for the diaspora, it has more than histor-

ical significance for Soviet Armenians.

"For Armenians living in Armenia and Karabagh as well as those who relived the horrors of their ancestors at Sumgait and Baku, the threat of genocide is a very real thing with Turkey to the west and Azerbaijan to the east," said Der Mugrdechian.

The lecture concluded the ASA commemorative series, which also included a 24 hour vigil and a viewing of the documentary "An Armenian Journey."

children recited poetry from poets such as Yeghishe Charentz, Barouyr Sevag and Kevork Emin

Shoghakat Alajian performed several vocal selections including Mayr Araxi Aperov and Groong. Ben Krikorian accompanied on the piano.

Barlow Der Mugrdechian, acting director of the CSUF Armenian Studies Program, reflected on the relationship of the Diaspora by stating, "Today, we in the Diaspora, must give the new Republic of Armenia the freedom to make mistakes, if those mistakes are made and are the result of the democratic process. He continued by adding "How must the Diaspora deal with an independent Armenia? Relationships based on the old rules of communist domination have changed but more importantly the Diaspora must become increasingly democratic in order to deal with Armenia."

The civic observance was followed by a reception with the speakers and performers.

The cooperation of the representatives of the numerous organizations participating in the Armenian Community Council has brought new dimension to the Armenian community life in Fresno.

The council chaired by Richard Darmanian and assisted by Allan Yeghia Jendian, secretary, and Bob Der Mugrdechian, Sr., treasurer, is composed of the following churches and organizations: First Armenian Presbyterian Church, Holy Trinity Armenian Church, Pilgrim Armenian Congregational Church, St. Mary Armenian Church, St. Paul Armenian Church, Sts. Sahag-Mes-

rob Armenian Church, Armenian American Citizens' League, Armenian Community School, Armenian Democratic Liberal Organization, Armenian General Benevolent Union, Armenian National Committee, Armenian Radio Hour, Armenian Relief Society, Armenian Students Organization, Armenian Studies Program-CSUF, Daron Dourouperan Compatriotic Union, Daughters of Vartan, General Society of Vasbouragan, Hamazkayin Cultural Association, Homenetmen, Knights of Vartan, Tekeyan Cultural Association, and Union of Dickranagerd.



## Armenian Martyrs Day Observed In Fresno

FRESNO, CA. - On Wednesday, April 24, the Armenian Community Council of the San Joaquin Valley coordinated an impressive Martyrs Day Commemoration in remembrance of the 1.5 million Armenian Genocide victims.

The successful evening consisting of a religious and a civic observance drew over 700 Armenians and non-Armenians alike from several of the surrounding communities of Fresno.

### RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE

Beginning at 6:30 p.m. the Divine Liturgy was celebrated at St. Paul Armenian Church by its pastor, Very Rev. Fr. Sasoon Zumrookhdian, to a standing room capacity.

Area clergy from all churches-Diocese, Prelacy, Evangelical-participated in the service. Scripture readings were presented by Badveli Bernard Guekguezian (First Armenian Presbyterian) and Rev. Hrant Serabian (Holy Trinity). Rev. Kevork Arakelian (St. Gregory) performed the presentation of the chalice. Rev. Kourken Yaralian (Prelacy, retired)



BARLOW  
DER MUGRDECHIAN



NOUBAR AGHISHIAN  
conferred absolution at confession, while Father Sasoon administered Holy Communion.

## ARMENIAN NEWS FROM CALIFORNIA

### Martyrs' Day Commemoration Draws 700 People in Fresno

By Armen Aghishian

Fresno — On April 24, the Armenian Community Council of the San Joaquin Valley held a Martyrs' Day Commemoration in remembrance of the more than 1.5 million victims of the Armenian Genocide.

The evening, which consisted of a religious and civic observance, drew more than 700 Armenians and non-Armenians from Fresno and the surrounding communities.

The religious observance — a requiem for the victims of the Genocide — included the participation of the clergy from five Armenian churches. Celebrant of the Divine Liturgy was the Very Rev. Fr. Sasoon Zumrookhdian, pastor of St. Paul.

Following the Divine Liturgy, a spiritual message was given in Armenian by Holy Trinity's Very Rev. Fr. Muron Aznikian, who stressed the importance of "unity in our people" and "retaining our Armenian heritage and our ties with the church."

Reverend Roger Minassian, pastor of the Pilgrim Church, gave a spiritual message in English. He said, "We must not forget that almost all of us are descendants of the survivors of the Genocide and we must keep their memories alive."

Following a candlelight procession to the Pilgrim Armenian



Noubar Agishian

Congregational Church Hall, the civic observance began. Richard Darmanian, chairman of the Armenian Community Council served as master of ceremonies.

The program began with the acknowledgment of Fresno Mayor Karen Humphrey and Deran Koligian, County Supervisor, who were present. Darmanian then read excerpts from the Armenian Genocide Resolution which acknowledges the anniversary of the Genocide, signed by California Governor Pete Wilson.

The first of two guest speakers were noted author and community leader Noubar Agishian, who spoke in Armenian. His speech focused on Armenia, specifically on "the road to freedom and independence." He described this quest as one which involves "Armenians all over the world, standing behind the new, freely elected government in



Barlow Der Mugrdchian

Armenia."

A presentation of poetry and songs by students from the Armenian Community School of Fresno followed the Armenian message. Under the direction of the school's principal and director Assadour Assadourian, the children recited poetry from famous poets such as Yeghishé Charents. Shoghakat Alajian performed several vocal selections.

The program concluded with a message in English given by Barlow Der Mugrdchian, acting director of CSUF's Armenian Studies Program. His speech entailed a brief chronology of the events of the Genocide.

He said, "The establishment of a free government in Armenia is proof that the Turks did not succeed in their plan to annihilate the Armenian people."

A reception with the performers and speakers followed.



## AGBU Lecturer Discusses Crisis in Artzakh

By Jeff Aharonian

Fresno — Dr. George Bournoutian, having visited Armenia numerous times, is an expert in Armenian-Russian relations. He believes that even after years of constant conflict, Armenians will continue to fight for a land they believe is rightfully theirs.

"Basically the Armenian case is this: Artzakh has always been part of Armenia."

On Thursday, May 9, about 30 people turned out for Dr. Bournoutian's lecture on the current crisis in Artzakh. The lecture, co-sponsored by the Armenian Studies Program at CSU Fresno and the AGBU, was held on the CSU campus.

Dr. Bournoutian, who is a professor of Armenian history at New York University, presented a brief background of the Armenian case in Artzakh and then gave a history of the formation of

modern Armenia. He went on to illustrate how Armenian relations with the republic's neighbors have changed over the years.

Various countries and nations have repeatedly tried to gain control of Artzakh. After World War I, with the onset of the Bolshevik Revolution, the Russians began their march from one side while the Turks marched on from the other side. Armenia was stuck in the middle.

After waiting for help from the U.S., the Armenians decided to side with the Russians and the Republic of Armenia was formed. Ironically, it was Russia that split up Artzakh in the 1920's and delegated the land to another of its republics, Azerbaijan.

"As Azerbaijanis realized that Moscow was not going to punish them, they became bolder," Dr. Bournoutian remarked. "Arme-



Dr. George Bournoutian

nians began arming themselves after they realized no one else was going to help them."

Dr. Bournoutian believes that Artzakh, which is comprised of about 81 percent Armenians and 16 percent Azerbaijanis, should not be part of Azerbaijan.

"Azerbaijan is a new creation — a tribute to people made up of Turks, Mongols, Iranians and Kurds," he said.