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## ԿԱՊԵՐՆ ԸՆԴԱՅՆՎՈՒՄ ԵՆ

«Ագրուպրես» խմբագրական կենտրոնը սերտ համագործակցության մեջ գտնվելով Հայկական գյուղատնտեսական ակադեմիայի և ԱՄՆ գյուղղեպարտամենտի Մարկետինգի աջակցության ծրագրի հետ, «Ագրուլրատու» թերթի էջերը համախառն տրամադրում է Հայկական գյուղատնտեսական ակադեմիայի, Կալիֆոռնիայի նահանգի Ֆրեզնոյի համալսարանի պրոֆեսորադասախոսական կազմի ներկայացուցիչներին ու մասնագետներին, մարկետինգի աջակցության ծրագրի միջազգային խորհրդատուներին և նրանց, ովքեր իրենց աշխատանքային փորձը ցանկանում են փոխանցել մեր ժողովրդին:

Ձեզ ենք ներկայացնում մեր թերթի այսօրվա հյուրերին՝ Ֆրեզնոյի համալսարանի բիզնեսի և մարկետինգի գծով պրոֆեսոր Վիլյամ Ռայնսին և նույն համալսարանի հայագիտության ամբիոնի դասախոս Պարույր Սկրտչյանին: Ի դեպ, մեր հայրենակիցը (մեջտեղում) առաջին անգամ չէ Հայաստանում:



**Հարց.- Հարգարժան պարոն Ռայնս,** հողագործությունը Ձեր գերդաստանում սերնդե սերունդ անցնելով, հասել է ձեր փոքրիկ տղային, որը պատրաստվում է ընդունել հերթափոխը: Դուք այդ բնագավառի գիտակներից եք և աշխատանքի բերումով եղել եք Բելառուսում, Լեհաստանում, Նախկին սոցիալիստական լագերի այլ երկրներում: Արդեն մեկ շաբաթից ավելի է Հայաստանում եք: Խնդրում ենք Ձեր տպավորությունները կիսել մեր ընթերցողների հետ:

**Ռայնս.-** Նախ՝ ուրախ եմ, որ Հայաստանում եմ: Երկրորդ՝ առիթը ներկայանալուն պես դարձյալ չէի հրաժարվի: Հայերը ակտիվ ժողովուրդ են և իրենց հանապազօրյա հացը սեփական ձեռքով են ստեղծում: ԽՍՀՄ-ի փլուզումից հետո առաջացան նոր հարաբերություններ, նոր հիմնահարցեր: Երջափակման ու տնտեսական դժվարին պայմաններում անգամ

հայերը շարունակում են աշխատել ստեղծագործել: Դ ժ վ ա թ | ճանապարհն աստիճանաբար հարթվում է:

Ուրախալի է նաև այն հանգամանքը, որ մեր համագործակցության և փոխադարձ կապերի շնորհիվ Հայկական գյուղատնտեսական ակադեմիայի համակարգը կրել է որոշակի փոփոխություններ: Չ'է որ ագրոարդյունաբերական արտադրության, գիտահետազոտական ինստիտուտների, գիտաարտադրական միավորումների, քոլեջների ու բարձրագույն հաստատությունների համար կադրեր պատրաստող հայկական գյուղատնտեսական ակադեմիան է՝ մագիստրատուրայի, ասպիրանտուրայի և դոկտորանտուրայի միջոցով: Ուշադրության է արժանի տվյալ տարածաշրջանի համար կրտսեր մասնագետների պատրաստումը, խոսքը ներակադեմիական քոլեջների մասին է:

Արժեքների շուկա, ֆոնդային բորսա, հարկային քաղաքականություն, մարկետ, բիզնես... Հայաստանում այս ամենը նոր է իմաստավորվում: Առաջիկայում դրանք ավելի գործնական բնույթ կկրեն: Ամեն ինչ պետք է ծրագրավորել: Եվ, եթե ուզում ես դուրս գալ միջազգային շուկա, ուրեմն պետք է ունենաս միջազ-

գային բիզնես ծրագիր: Ամեն ինչ սկսվում է հենց այդտեղից. ո՞ր արտադրանքն ավելի մեծ հնարավորություն ունի արտաքին շուկա մուտք գործելու, հաշվի առե՞լ եք դրա հնարավորությունը ներքին շուկայում, կբավարարի՞ այն գնորդի որոշակի, կոնկրետ պահանջ՝ ինչպիսիք են զինը, շուկայի կամ գնորդի պահանջարկը տվյալ արտադրանքի նկատմամբ և այլն: Պետք է նկատի ունենալ նաև, թե ինչպիսի՞ արժեք է այն ներկայացնում տվյալ երկրում:

Բիզնես ծրագիրը կօգնի գնահատելու շուկա դուրս գալու ձեր ներկա հնարավորությունը, դրա նպատակներն ու հաջողության ճանապարհը: Իհարկե, այս և նման թեմաների մասին խոսելու, ուսուցանելու ժամանակ մենք դեռ կունենանք: Մարկետի և բիզնեսի բնագավառի մեր երկրի բազմամյա փորձը սիրով կփոխանցենք ձեզ: Դրանով, կարծում եմ կկարճվի ցանկալիին հասնելու ձեր ճանապարհը: Ինչ վերաբերում է մեր առաքելությանը, ապա նպատակ ունենք տեղում ուսումնասիրել կրթական համակարգը, այնուհետև որոշել հետագա քայլերը: Ինչ խոսք, Հայկական գյուղատնտեսական ակադեմիայում անհրաժեշտություն է մեթոդական կենտրոնի ստեղծումը, կրթության, գիտության և արտադրության կապի ապահովումը, այսինքն՝ այն համակարգը, ինչը կա ԱՄՆ-ում, իհարկե, ելնելով տեղական պայմաններից:

**Հարց.- Հարգարժան պարոն Սկրտչյան,** ինչպիսի՞ն են Ձեր տպավորությունները: **Պատասխան.-** Հայաստանը մեր տունն է և պարզ է, թե ինչքա՞ն լավ ես գգում հարագատ հարկի տակ: Նախորդ այցելությունից հետո կատարվել են բավականին դրական տեղաշարժեր:

ԱՄՆ գյուղղեպարտամենտի Մարկետինգի աջակցության ծրագիրը մեզ միմյանց հետ շփվելու, իրար օգնելու, նոր տեխնիկայի ու նորագույն տեխնոլոգիաների ներդրման լայն հնարավորություններ է տվել: Այսօրվա ծրագրերը ուսանելի են: Եվ, քանի որ թե՛ մարկետի, թե՛ բիզնեսի բնագավառում Հայաստանը փորձի պակաս ունի, ուստի պետք է տեղայնացնենք և կիրառենք այլ երկրների լավագույն փորձը: Ֆրեզնոյի համալսարանի հայագիտության ամբիոնը և նահանգի հայությունը, իբրև սփյուռքի մի մաս, ամեն ինչով կաջակցեն հայրենիքին:

## Books on Armenians by Major Publishers Continue to Proliferate

This past year has seen not only the continued proliferation of books in English on Armenian subjects but a significant increase in the number published by major American and European publishers.

The most noteworthy has been the recent publication of the two-volume history by St. Martin's Press in New York, *The Armenian People from Ancient to Modern Times*. Edited by Prof. Richard G. Hovannisian of UCLA, it is the combined work of 17 Armenian and non-Armenian authorities on Armenian history. Volume I covers "The Dynastic Periods: From Antiquity to the 14th Century" and Volume II deals with "Foreign Dominion to Statehood: 15th to 20th Centuries."

Dr. Hovannisian has contributed three chapters. Prof. Nina G. Garsoian, the first holder of the Gevork Avedissian Chair in Armenian History and Civilization at Columbia University, has six chapters on Armenian history through the 14th century.

Other contributors include Prof. Ronald G. Suny of the University of Chicago, Prof. Robert W. Thomson of Oxford University, Prof. James Russell of Harvard University, and Prof. Dickran Kouymjian of California State University at Fresno.

For readers ages 9 and up, Simon & Schuster's Dillon Press has just come out with *Armenia: A Rugged Land, An Enduring People* by Lucine Kasbarian, who introduces the reader to the land, history, and culture of the Armenian people. It is illustrated with color photographs and has a glossary of Armenian words and places and "Fast Facts about Armenia."

Among other major publishers who have published books on Armenian subjects are Harry N. Abrams, Inc., Beacon Press, Basic Books, Harper Collins, Little Brown, Scholars Press, and Smithsonian Institution Press. The university presses include the University of California, Indiana University, University of Michigan, New York University, and Oxford University.

### Literary Gems and Survivor Accounts

Literary publications were featured prominently this year by the publishing houses, and NAASR's Armenian Book Clearing House carries many of those volumes. For example, there are now available reprintings of William Saroyan's short stories, including the acclaimed *Daring Young Man on the Flying Trapeze*.

Other literary works include Kevork Ajemian's first book published in English entitled *A Time for Terror*, Montreal-based writer Benet Davetian's new collection of short stories called *The Seventh Circle*, as well as a new book of poetry by the acclaimed poet Diana Der-Hovanessian.

Of the increasing number of first-hand accounts of the Armenian Genocide which were published this past year all but two of them dealt also with the trials and tribulations of life in America. Two of the memoirs are written by second-generation American-Armenians, Peter Balakian and David Kherdian, who have many other literary works to their credit. Their new books are, respectively, *The Black Dog of Fate* and *I Called It Home*.

A best friend's daughter, Mae Derdarian, pens the biography of Virginia Meghrouni in *Vergeen: A Survivor of the Armenian Genocide*. The book details Meghrouni's harrowing experiences during the forced marches in the Syrian desert. In *Silences, My Mother's Will to Survive*, Alice A. Tashjian marvels at her mother's strength of spirit that allows her to survive the ordeal of the Armenian Genocide on her own.

### Related and Other Titles

Prof. Ronald G. Suny has not only contributed to the definitive history of the Armenian people but has authored an up-to-date history of the former Soviet Union entitled *The Soviet Experiment*, as well as edited a collection of essays on *Transcaucasia, Nationalism, and Social Change*. Both have been published by university presses respectively, Oxford University Press and the University of Michigan Press.

Ben H. Bagdikian, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, former assistant managing editor of the *Washington Post*, and Dean emeritus of the Graduate School of Journalism at the University of California at Berkeley, has seen his provocative *The Media Monopoly* go into a fifth printing with major new sections on the digital revolution and the media conglomerates' unprecedented power. His memoir, *Double Vision*, has now come out in paperback edition.

### New Beautifully Illustrated Books

Publishers are also focusing on the various aspects of Armenia, including its physical beauty and its evolution through the ages. In *A Field Guide to Birds of Armenia* authors Martin S. Adamian and Daniel Klem, Jr., describe through words and pictures the birds native to Armenia.

Two top-notch photographers present the beauty of Artsakh (Karabakh) and Armenia. In *Artsakh, A Photographic Journey* by Hrair Hawk Khatcherian, the beautifully framed photographs of the people, nature, and structures are accompanied by text in French, English, and Armenian. *Armenia in the Sky* by Michael Ter-Minasian focuses on the Armenian landscape and architecture.

And finally a new edition of *The Armenians: 2000 Years of Art and Architecture* brings an Italian as well as Armenian perspective to the history of art and architecture in Armenia.

Gift books were also published in increasing numbers this year. Several focus on art, including *Iran-Armenia Golden Bridges: 20th Century Iranian-Armenian Painters* by Alice Navasargian. *Ottoman Silver Marks* by Garo Kurkman features the works of many Armenian gold and silversmiths. *The Glory of Byzantium: Art and Culture of the Middle Byzantine Era, A.D. 843-1261*, published by the Metropolitan Museum of Art, is filled with color photographs of religious icons and illuminated manuscripts. One chapter by Helen C. Evans is devoted to Armenia and its illuminated manuscripts. Other chapters by S. Peter Crowe, Thelma K. Thomas, and Speros P. Vryonis, Jr., also deal with aspects of Armenian art.

In addition, many videos, music tapes and CDs, posters, post cards, and note cards were issued during the year.

### Complete Catalog Now Available

An updated listing of over 1,600 book titles as well as maps, posters, cards, calendars, recordings, and videos available through the American Book Clearing House has just been published. To receive a copy send \$3.00 (\$4.00 for foreign requests) to cover postage, printing, and handling costs.

## Gumri Armenian Educators Group Receives Training in Fresno Visit

FRESNO, CA - A group of ten teachers and administrators from Gumri, Armenia were in Fresno recently for a two-and-a-half-week training and observation program. The program was funded by the United States Information Agency and managed by California State University, Fresno. The group was given a special tour of Fresno. Stops included a visit to Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church and a tour of the Valley Lahvosh Baking Company facilities, led by Agnes Saghatelyan. A trip to the Ararat Armenian Cemetery included a visit to the monument dedicated to Soghomon Tehlerian and a visit to many sites made famous by William Saroyan.

CSUF President Dr. John Welty welcomed the group in his campus office and discussed the scope of the visit and the activities of the group.

The Armenian Community School of Fresno and Principal Seth Atamian hosted the group for a tour of the facilities, followed by lunch. Group members had the opportunity to observe the students and staff of the school. Later a trip to the William Saroyan permanent exhibit at the Fresno Metropolitan Museum was of immense interest to the group, who spent several hours in exploring the museum.

Each day group members observed and participated in activities designed to make them aware of how the primary and secondary school system in the United States functions. Site visits to local high schools were planned and there were opportunities to interact with students, teachers, and administrators.

Classes on the usage of computer technology for instruction were taught by Otto Benavides, Director of Instructional Technology for the School of Education. Hands-on experience introduced the participants to how the computer can be utilized in the classroom.

A trip to San Francisco was the highlight of the first week. Mrs. Jacqueline Kazarian, founder of the William Saroyan San Francisco Cultural Resource Center, hosted the group for an informal tour of her home and a discussion on William Saroyan.

The following week, principal Jim Green welcomed the group to North Fork Elementary School nestled in the foothills of Fresno County and took them on a tour of the rural school. The visitors were impressed by the use of technology in the classrooms and the modern equipment that students had the opportunity to use, including laptop computers.

That afternoon, a visit to Victor Packing Inc. in Madera introduced the group to the rich agricultural heritage of the San Joaquin Valley. Sarkis Sahatdjian and son Victor Sahatdjian greeted the group and gave them a tour of the raisin-packing facilities. Sarkis Sahatdjian explained the history of Armenians in agriculture in the area. Raisins were given to all of the visitors.

After visiting local schools another day, the group was hosted to a lunch at the monthly luncheon meeting of the Armenian General Benevolent Union of Fresno. Many community members had a chance to ask questions to the group about the current conditions in Armenia. Later that same evening, teacher Zaroohi Der Mugrdchian hosted the visitors at a dinner held at her home. Local area Armenian educators joined the visitors from Armenia and a lively exchange of ideas took place.

The group also visited the CSU Fresno Child Development Center and had an opportunity to visit and observe how children are taught in the program. That evening, the Fresno Armenian community had a chance to visit with the group at a gathering held at the Armenian Community School of Fresno. Highlights from the evening included viewing a video from Gumri and a display of children's art.

A visit to the Fresno County Office of Education followed with the guests visiting schools which included students who are physically or intellectually challenged. Charlene Samuelian and Armen Bacon from the Fresno County Office of Education accompanied the group on their site visits. This visit impressed the visitors with the care that the American school system has for students.

The second weekend was highlighted by a visit to Los Angeles and to Disneyland. Members visited the large Armenian community of Los Angeles.

Culminating the training course was a going-away dinner held at the King of Kebobs Restaurant in Fresno. Group participants received a diploma signifying their satisfactory completion of the training program. Barlow Der Mugrdchian of the Armenian Studies Program, who acted as coordinator for the interpret-

ers and arranged the logistics for the program, also distributed mementos of the Fresno stay.

The Armenian principals and vice principals returned to Gumri at the beginning of November.



Gumri educators in front of the William Saroyan sculpture at the Varaz Samuelian Museum in Fresno.

## Spring 1988 Semester Armenian Studies Classes at Fresno State

FRESNO - The Armenian Studies Program of Fresno State is offering a diverse and comprehensive program of courses for the Spring 1998 semester.

The following areas of Armenian Studies will be offered in the Spring semester: History, Language, Literature (including William Saroyan), Culture, and Film. Several new courses are being offered as well.

### Armenians in America

This course, Armenian Studies 120T, will examine the experience of Armenians in North America from the 1870s to the 1990s. The course will be taught by Dr. Isabel Kaprielian, from 2:20-3:25 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

### Armenian Film

Dr. Michael Krekorian will teach a course on Armenian Film - Armenian Studies 120T, which will look at the images of immigrant experiences in America. The course will be taught from 12:45-2:00 p.m. on TTh.

### History

Modern Armenian History - Armenian Studies 108B - covers the history of the Armenians from the 14th century to the present. Special emphasis will be placed on 19th and 20th century Armenian history, especially the areas of the Genocide, the 1st Republic of Armenia, the 2nd Republic of Armenia, the current issues involving the collapse of the Soviet Union, and the Karabagh issues. The course will be offered on TTh 8:10-9:25 a.m.

### Language

Armenian 1B - Elementary Armenian is the second semester of the first year course in modern Western Armenian. Barlow Der Mugrdchian will teach the course on MTWF from 11:10-12:00 noon.

### Literature

The life and work of Fresno born William Saroyan will be offered on TTh from 3:45-5:00 p.m. in Armenian Studies 45. Writer Michael Krekorian will teach the course.

The rich literature of the Armenians will be the topic of Armenia 148-Masterpieces of Armenian Literature - which explores Armenian literature in English translation. The course will be offered on MWF from 1:10-2:00 p.m.

### Culture-Armenian Studies 10

Three sections of Armenian Studies 10 - Introduction to Armenian Culture - will delve into the general aspects of the discipline of Armenian Studies, including the history of Armenian immigration to the United States. One section will be taught on TTh 9:45-11:00 a.m. and another on MWF 10:10-11:00 a.m. The other section will be taught as a special one day a week course on Wednesdays from 5:10-8:00 p.m., a time ideal for high school students to take the class.

Armenia Today and Armenians in Fresno are two weekend course which will be offered on weekends in February and March. The one-unit topics courses take the opportunity to intensively discuss issues related to the main themes. The Armenia Today course will look at current events in the Republic and also survey the modern history of Armenia. The Armenians in Fresno course will take an in-depth look at Armenian immigration to the Fresno Area.

For detailed information on courses contact the Armenian Studies Program at (209) 278-2669 or by FAX at 278-2129 or consult the Armenian Studies Program Web Page at <http://www.csufresno.edu/ArmenianStudies/>.

## Spring 1998 Armenian Studies Program Courses at Fresno State

FRESNO, CA - The Armenian Studies Program of Fresno State is offering a diverse and comprehensive program of courses for the Spring 1998 semester.

The following areas of Armenian Studies will be offered in the Spring semester: History, Language, Literature (including William Saroyan), Culture, and Film. Several new courses are being offered as well.

### Armenians in America

This course, **Armenian Studies 120T**, will examine the experience of Armenians in North America from the 1870s to the 1990s. Six different waves of Armenian immigration to North America will be discussed within the context of US immigration policy and practice. Special emphasis will be placed on Armenians in America. The course will be taught by Dr. Isabel Kaprielian.

### Armenian Film

Dr. Michael Krekorian will teach a course on **Armenian Film-Armenian Studies 120T**, which will look at the images of immigrant experiences in America. The course will center around the analysis and discussion of film technique, dramatic structure, narrative, and various visuals.

### History

**Modern Armenian History-Armenian Studies 108B** covers the history of the Armenians from the 14th century to the present. Special emphasis will be placed on 19th- and 20th-century Armenian history, especially the areas of the Genocide, the 1st Republic of Armenia, the 2nd Republic of Armenia, the current issues involving the collapse of the Soviet Union, and the Karabagh issue.

### Language

**Armenian 1B-Elementary Armenian** is the second semester of the first-year course in modern Western Armenian. Students will continue from the first semester, practicing speaking, writing, and reading skills. Barlow Der Mugrdechian will teach the course.

### Literature

The life and work of Fresno-born **William Saroyan** will be offered in **Armenian Studies 45**. Writer Michael Krekorian will teach the course. In a highly interactive and informal classroom atmosphere, students will discover just how Saroyan's stories redefined the landscape of modern Armenian fiction with unusual themes that are still important today.

The rich literature of the Armenians will be the topic of **Armenian 148-Masterpieces of Armenian Literature** which explores Armenian literature in English translation. A survey of the general history of Armenian literature will also look at 19th- and 20th-century Armenian writers in Armenia and the Diaspora. A theoretical basis for an understanding of the course will also be offered.

### Culture-Armenian Studies 10

Three sections of **Armenian Studies 10-Introduction to Armenian Culture** will delve into the general aspects of the discipline of Armenian Studies, including the history of Armenian immigration to the United States.

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## Paris and the Arts

By Dickran Kouymjian

PARIS, France (International Press Service) - As one of the cultural capitals of the world, Paris attracts talent from around the world. This includes Armenian talent able to perform in the larger context of French musical and theatrical life as well as contribute to events organized by associations and individuals in the community. Such events are often community events presented free or at nominal cost to a public which is a mixture of sophisticated concert and theater goers and a core group of loyal followers.

Both audience and performers are also exposed, often directly involved, in non-Armenian cultural events. This cross-fertilization leads to an enrichment of what might otherwise be parochial events. It is never possible to report comprehensively on the great variety of programs offered even in a single month. Nor are these lines intended as a chronicle of Paris culture, a sort of "Letter from Paris." On the other hand, from time to time, events of major importance deserve to be reported to a larger audience. Last year, major exhibits at the Bibliotheque Nationale de France and the Dobree Museum in Nantes of Armenian art, both with magnificent catalogues, were well covered in the English-language press.

Among the more remarkable community-sponsored events of the past few months have been a theatrical workshop presentation and a memorial concert. The latter, held on Sunday, November 30, 1997 at the Centre Culturel Alex Manoogian in Paris, was entitled "In Memoriam: Koharik Gazarossian," on the occasion of the ninetieth anniversary of the composer's birth and the thirtieth anniversary of her death in Paris. Koharik Gazarossian was born in Constantinople in 1907. She did her advanced studies at the National Conservatory of Music in Paris with Paul Dukas, Lazare Levy, Roger Ducasse, Paul Fauchet, as well as Edward Weiss, a disciple of Busoni, on whom more later.

In Paris she was composer and teacher of music, but also organized a series of remarkable concerts, the most famous of which were entitled "24 Well-Tempered Programs." She admired Gomidás Vartabed and used the wealth of his folk song collections in her own compositions. The Paris concert featured a large number of artists who interpreted a remarkably diverse selection of Gazarossian's compositions. Specially invited from New York, Sahán Arzruni, who had worked with her in Paris in the early sixties, presented a recital of eleven short piano works with commentary. These included one of her earliest compositions, the 1934 "L'oiseau ma fenetre," a remarkably fresh and rhythmic work. This was followed by four selections from a series entitled "The Armenians" of 1947 and six of her 24 Etudes for piano, among those rare works of Koharik Gazarossian to have been published. Mr. Arzruni, also originally from Istanbul, felt a clear sympathy with the person and the music of the composer and, as is customary, his explanation in Armenian of the method of Gazarossian's composition was well received by an overflow and enthusiastic audience.

Works of diverse instrumentation followed. Haik Davtian, an increasingly popular violinist who received his early training in Moscow and Yerevan, and pianist and composer Arthur Aharonian, trained in Yerevan and Moscow too, gave a passionate rendition of Gazarossian's Moto Capriccioso (1962), a Paganini-like virtuoso piece for violin and piano but with a decided Armenian flavor. The duo Davtian and Aharonian have performed widely in Western and Eastern Europe for the past seven years and have cut two CDs.

The carefully prepared and quick-moving program reached mid-point with a reading by Nora Armani of two poems dedicated to Madame Gazarossian by Hayganouch

Mark and Zahrad. Nora Armani is well known to American, French, and Armenian audiences not only for her theatrical interpretations, alone and with her husband Gerald Papazian, but also as a filmmaker. She just returned from a six-week tour in Istanbul and will be off to Egypt soon to do a large television series there. In the meantime she is finishing a documentary on "Armenian Women of the Diaspora."

Sahan Arzruni returned to accompany the exceptional soprano Chouchig Bulbulian, originally from Beirut but with studies at the Yerevan Conservatory, in a series of songs written by Gazarossian early in her career. Ms. Bulbulian,

who performs regularly in France and Germany, interpreted these often witty and dramatic songs with much emotion. Arthur Aharonian returned to give performances of the andante movement of Ms. Gazarossian's 1956 sonata and another of the Etudes. Elements were again evident from the Armenian melodic heritage, but encapsulated in the modality of the French school of the first half of this century with a respectful bow to Chopin. The concert concluded with Koharik Gazarossian's string quartet of 1952 by one of those remarkable "pick-up" groups that took on no particular name as a quartet. In addition to Davtian, who as first violinist kept the group together, there was Anton Matalaev, the



Composer Koharik Gazarossian (1907-1967)

second violinist, trained in Moscow, a major recording artist with a number of well-known string quartets, violist Rudolf Sulzenbacher from Alsace, a student of Gerard Causse and Walter Trampler, and cellist Henri Alecian of Paris, who most recently gave a remarkable concert of the solo suites of Bach at the church of St. Julien le Pauvre, one of Paris's major chamber music concert halls. The short, four-movement quartet reflected all the joy and spirit that Gazarossian seemed to infect her music with. Armenian themes moved in and out, with rhythm which made one think of Bela Bartok, but not of the quartets, rather the duos for violin and other works more directly associated with Hungarian folk elements.

The concert was a privileged event, presenting to a fascinated public the works of a nearly forgotten Armenian composer of the diaspora. Though it is true that Mr. Arzruni presented one of her compositions at the special concert in Paris this summer during the Armenian Women's conference sponsored by AIWA and many in the audience who knew Ms. Gazarossian during her active Paris years were familiar with one or two of her piano pieces, never in recent years has such a variety of compositions been performed by such a selection of outstanding artists.

The concert was organized by Madame Sona Bedrossian, who wanted to make sure that this fine composer not be forgotten. On the musical side she was aided by one of the permanent promoters of Armenian music in Paris, Gregoire Hampartsumian, who like Madame Bedrossian and many among the large team of helpers, are also originally from Constantinople. The concert was a fine tribute not only to the composer Koharik Gazarossian, but also to the organizers, proving again that one or two dedicated individuals even with limited means can accomplish as much as sophisticated institutions with paid staff. The warmth of the evening was con-

tinued during the splendid reception offered the audience, who, captured by the charm of the evening, wanted to stay as long as possible.

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Among other major musical events in Paris in November was the visit by the Mariinsky Theater of St. Petersburg, formerly called the Kirov, founded in 1874, with a program of Russian operas presented at the Theatre des Champs-Elysees. The major opera on the program was Modest Mussorgsky's Boris Godounov, perhaps the most famous of all Russian operas, composed in the late 1860s. The staging under the direction of Alexandre Adabashian was extremely traditional. Everything needed refreshing. But the musical direction under Valery Gergiev was superb and the choruses, so important in Mussorgsky's masterpiece, sang remarkably well and seemingly without effort. Gergiev opted for the original version of the opera and performed it in one act of about two hours. Unfortunately, Adabashian's sets and direction did not compare with recent versions of the opera, nor even with the overly dramatic setting of the Bulgarian Opera group which presented Boris in Paris eight years ago.

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Though the Paris operatic season has been rather dull at the new Opera de Bastille, the program at the recently renovated Opera National de Lyon is once again innovative. Most Americans are unfamiliar with the Lyon Opera and unaware that its musical director is an American, Kent Nagano, who also still directs an occasional concert with the Berkeley Symphony Orchestra. Among this year's new productions is the remarkable and seldom performed Doktor Faust of Ferruccio Busoni (1866-1924), a work of his last years, the culmination of a lifelong fascination with the character made famous by Goethe. In this long opera of three and a half hours, left unfinished at his death and completed by Philipp Jarnach shortly after, Faust is far from the character refashioned by Goethe or Gounod in his opera, rather closer to the medieval legend. In the end, Busoni's Faust, rather than displaying the high-minded character of a philosopher-scholar, becomes the mean-spirited cause of the evil in the various episodes of the scenario and dies an abandoned street person with Mephistopheles not much concerned with his soul.

Busoni was one of the enigmatic performer-composers of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries: Italian by

birth but German by culture, his brilliance at the piano (a child prodigy) and his totally personal style of music set him apart. I became interested in Busoni in the early 1950s because of the regular references to him by his student Gunnar Johanson, then pianist in residence at the University of Wisconsin, who on occasion would play Busoni's tour de force for the piano, the Fantasia contrapuntistica. In the early sixties I heard Johanson at Carnegie Hall give one of the rare performances of Busoni's piano concerto, a massive work in five movements with chorus. The chance to see the Busoni opera was not to be missed.

Nagano's direction of Doktor Faust was sublime. The strings have the dominant role throughout the opera where text and voice flow continuously in the Wagnerian sense. Though a combination of modern and romantic, of Wagnerian and Mahlerian orchestration, with an edge like Alban Berg's Lulu and Wozzeck, though never dodecaphonic, Busoni created his own music, one that is not heard enough. Clearly the Lyon Opera's production was a great success, and, as has been the case in recent years, the production will most likely move up to Paris in a couple of years.

A word should be said about the Lyon Opera house, renovated by the distinguished architect Jean Nouvel, who is also responsible for the innovative Institut du Monde Arab in Paris. Preserving the old building in the center of the Lyon, situated at the end of a mile-long chic pedestrian mall, Nouvel added six floors to the building, three above and three underground, creating quite a remarkably spacious and elegant combination of the ancient and the modern, a structure entirely of black marble stone. The view from the seventh-floor restaurant looking on to the City Hall and the hills of medieval Lyon is quite spectacular. The Opera is nearly entirely funded by the city and region of Lyon with little help from the French Ministry of Culture. It is supported by the Association of the National Opera of Lyon, whose secretary is Vabe Muradian, architect and well-known Armenian community activist. Only two hours from the center of Paris by the rapid train (TGV), Lyon and its Opera have become a favorite outing for the capital's opera buffs.

There is also much to report about Armenian film and theater in Paris, but that must wait a future article.

## CSUF Armenian Studies Program Offers Various Courses in Spring '98

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Among the classes are History, Language, Literature (including William Saroyan), Culture, and Film.

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SOURCE The California Courier, Glendale, CADATE 2-12-98SUBJECT Der Mugerdechian Class on ArmeniaPAGE 1 of 1

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### *CSUF Offers 'Armenia Today' Workshop*

FRESNO - The Division of Extended Education at Calif. State University, Fresno is offering a workshop entitled "Armenia Today."

The workshop is scheduled for Feb. 27, from 5 to 10 p.m., and Feb. 28, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., in Room 104 of the University's Social Science Building. The cost for the workshop is \$40 non-credit.

Instructor for the course is Barlow Der Mugerdechian, Lec-

turer, Armenian Studies Program at CSUF. He is a frequent traveler to Armenia.

The workshop covers the history of the formation of the Republic of Armenia and the challenges, opportunities, and current situation.

Registration forms are available by calling the Division of Extended Education at (209) 278-0333. Pre-registration is recommended as class size is limited.

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SOURCE CSU, Fresno Monday Report

DATE 02-16-98

SUBJECT ASP Annual Banquet

PAGE 1 of 1

## Armenian dinner

Oratorio and concert performer Janet Momjian will be the featured entertainer at the Armenian Studies Program's 12th annual dinner on Sunday, Mar. 15, in the Residence Dining Facility.

A graduate of the University of Southern California, Momjian is a past national finalist in the Metropolitan Opera Auditions and has appeared with the Glimmerglass Opera, Kentucky Opera, Opera San Jose, and the Los Angeles Philharmonic, performing such roles as Violetta, Susanna, Rosina, Gilda, and many others.

The evening will begin with a reception at 4 p.m., followed by dinner and a program that will recognize last year's student recipients of scholarships and grants.

Tickets are available at \$40 per person, with a special price of \$10 for students. For more information, call Ext. 8-2669. ▲

## Armenian students explore Valley farms

■ Visit is part of project aimed at helping Armenian agriculture.

By Donald E. Coleman  
The Fresno Bee

Only a few days into his visit from Armenia to the Central San Joaquin Valley, Koryun Grigoryan knew he had much to learn.

Grigoryan, a professor of agricultural economics at the Agricultural Academy in Yerevan, Armenia, is among a group of seven students and three faculty members exploring agriculture in the Valley.

"What we've found out so far is that the focus is on the consumer," Grigoryan said after visiting the California Farm Equipment Show and International Exposition in Tulare last week. "We have a lot of things to learn in terms of serving the consumer and getting produce from the field to the marketplace without losses."

What better place to learn than in Fresno, with its agricul-

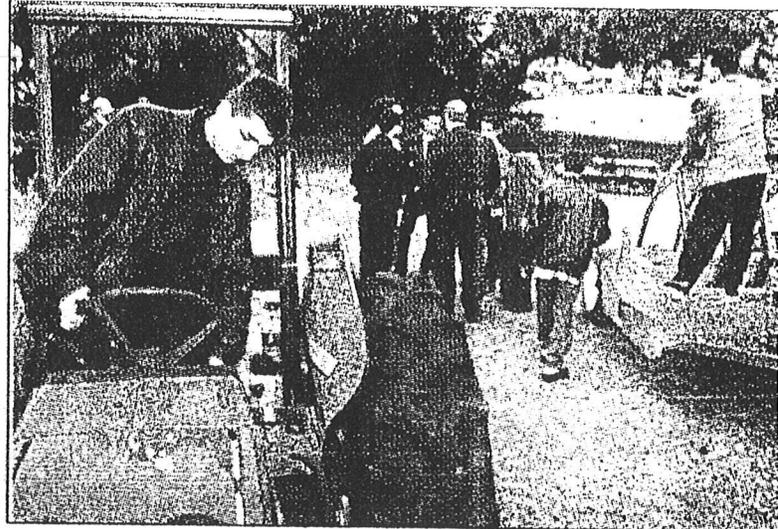
ture similar to that of Armenia's, plus the largest population of Armenian farmers outside that country, and a university — California State University, Fresno — that boasts a prestigious Armenian Studies Department.

The group visiting last week, and another coming soon, are participating in the Marketing Assistance Project in Armenia. The project was created by Fresno State and the U.S. Department of Agriculture in 1995.

Its goal: To make Armenia agriculturally self-sufficient.

With offices in Armenia and Washington, D.C., and at Fresno State, the project has helped create a nationwide Agricultural Extension Service, which assists Armenian farmers and others, and an aggressive agricultural export program. It's trying to help the country move to a market economy that is no longer controlled by the government.

The project was launched with a grant from the U.S. Agency for International Development. Within a year, its annual budget has increased from \$1.8 million



Darrell Wong — The Fresno Bee

**Learning.** Mihran Movsisyan, left, and other Armenian students look over farm equipment at Jensen Avenue and Highway 99 Friday.

to \$6 million. Eighteen Fresno State faculty members are involved, along with 35 educators from the Armenian Agricultural Academy.

"They'll spend about two weeks touring different kinds of operations," said William E. Rice, Fresno State marketing professor and the project's director. "They'll look at transportation, processing, packaging, how

we get agricultural products out of the Valley."

Gayane Mkrtchyan, who works for the Agricultural Academy and acts as the group's interpreter, said participants have seen the large and small of it during this visit.

"We've seen the huge farms and gotten a sense of what big industrialized agriculture is



Darrell Wong — The Fresno Bee

Lesson. Levon Gulkhasian, left, Hayk Haykyan, center, and Vahe Heboyan listen to director Bill Rice Friday.

## Armenia: Group visits U.S. farms

Continued from Page B1

like," Mkrtychyan said. "In the Soviet Union, we had collective farms and didn't have one farmer making decisions about huge farms."

She pointed out a visit to Harris Ranch, with its restaurant and motel in Coalinga. That's an example of one type of farm that hasn't been done in Armenia, she said.

The group has traveled around the Valley and will attend the

San Francisco International Food Show later this month. This will be the first year for Armenia to display some products, Mkrtychyan said.

The products were grown with help from Fresno State; they include items like red pepper jam and various preserves made with walnuts, rose petals, chocolate, apricots and walnuts.

John R. Shields, a professor of agricultural economics, has visited Armenia several times in the

past year and is preparing to take off again Friday.

Shields has helped in strategic planning for the academy and developing a curriculum.

Involvement in a country like Armenia has been "exciting and intellectual," he said, and has helped him re-examine his whole approach to teaching.

"We have a richer appreciation of the things we do," Shields said. "It really forces us to grow, and we'll be better teachers."

# C A L E N D A R

## MASSACHUSETTS

**St. James Lenten Lecture Series.** Thursday evenings at 7:45 pm, preceded by a Lenten Vigil at 6 pm and a Lenten meal.

**FEB 26** — "Armenian Christian Folk Beliefs and Practices," Prof. James Russell, Harvard.

**MAR 5** — "The Heraldry of Armenian Princes and Kings," Dr. Levon Chookaszian, Yerevan State University.

**APR 19** — **Concert** by popular singer **Levon Katerjian**. Organized by St. Stephen's Armenian Elementary School at Belmont High School Auditorium. Sunday, 4 pm. Tickets: \$20 Adults, \$10 Children under 12. For more information, call school office 926-6979 or Elo Artinian 893-3346.

**MAY 3** — **RETIREMENT BANQUET for the Rev. Vartan Hartunian**, for 40 years of service to the First Armenian Church, Belmont. Sunday, at the Marriott Hotel, Burlington. Reception 5:6 pm; Banquet 6 pm; Program 7:30 pm. Tickets: \$50 per individual or \$500 for a table of ten. For further information call 617-484-4779.

## NEVADA

**MAY 23** — 5th Annual Fashion Show Luncheon sponsored

by the Armenian Ladies Society of Las Vegas. 11 am. Caesar's Palace, Las Vegas Blvd.

**MAY 23** — **2nd Annual Hye Holiday Dinner Dance** — Details will be forthcoming.

## RHODE ISLAND

**MAR 6,7,8** — **3rd Annual "Sail Hye to Newport" Getaway Weekend** at the Doubletree Hotel on Goat Island, Newport. For reservations call 401-849-2600. Mention "Sail Hye to Newport" to receive special rate. For info call 401-421-7457.



Soprano Janet Momjian will be the featured performer at the Armenian Studies Program Annual Dinner on March 15 at California State University, Fresno.

# C A L E N D A R

• R A T E S •

\$3 per line, per week. Minimum insertion: \$15



Janet Momjian

## Janet Momjian to Headline Fresno ASP Annual Dinner

FRESNO, CA – Oratorio and concert performer Janet Momjian will be the featured entertainer at the Armenian Studies Program 12th Annual Dinner, to be held at 5 pm on Sunday, March 15, in the Residence Dining Facility on the campus of California State University, Fresno. The evening will begin with a reception at 4 pm, and the dinner will follow at 5 pm.

Janet Momjian is a native of California and a graduate of the University of Southern California. She is a past national finalist in the Metropolitan Opera Auditions and has appeared with the Glimmerglass Opera, Kentucky Opera, Opera San Jose and the Los Angeles Philharmonic, performing such roles as Violetta, Susanna, Rosina, Gilda and many others.

She is an experienced oratorio and concert performer, having sung in Handel's *The Messiah* and Mozart's *Requiem*.

The Annual Dinner of the Armenian Studies Program will also recognize the 1997-1998 student recipients of scholarships and grants.

SOURCE The Armenian Reporter, Fresh Meadows, NY

DATE February 28, 1998

SUBJECT Momjian to Highlight ASP Dinner

PAGE 1 of 1

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The Annual Dinner of the



Janet Momjian

Armenian Studies Program will also recognize the 1997-1998 student recipients of scholarships and grants.

Tickets are available at \$40 per person, with a special price of \$10 for students.

For more information about the dinner, interested individuals should contact the Armenian Studies Program at 278-2669.

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For more information about the dinner, please contact the Armenian Studies Program at 278-2669.

## Kherdian and Hogrogian to Speak in Fresno

FRESNO - "An Evening with Two Authors" will be held on March 13th at 7:00 p.m. in the St. Paul Haig Berberian Hall, 3767 N. First St., Fresno. David Kherdian and Nonny Hogrogian, a husband-and-wife duo, will present their works.

Kherdian will present his newest work, "I Called It Home," a novel that traces his growing up in an Armenian community in Racine, Wisconsin. It is a sequel to his Newbery Honor book, "The Road From Home," which tells the story of his mother as a child in Armenia through her migration to America.

He is the author and editor of over fifty books that include novels, poetry, memoirs, children's books, critical studies, translations, and retellings. His awards include the Jane Adams Peace Award, the Friends of American Writers Award, and a nomination for The American Book Award. Kherdian was a former editor of the *Ararat* quarterly, the founding editor of *Forkroads: A Journal of Ethnic-American Literature*.

and instructor at CSU, Fresno.

Hogrogian is well known as an author and illustrator of children's books. Born in New York City, she is a graduate of Hunter College where she majored in art. She is a three-time recipient of the Caldecott Medal for her illustrations in "One Fine Day," "The Contest," and "Always Room for One More." Her creative, unique style of illustrating is sought out by other authors as well. Armenian folktales will be the highlight of her presen-

tation.

David Kherdian and Nonny Hogrogian are married and recently moved from upstate New York to Sebastopol, California.

The event, co-sponsored by the St. Paul Parish Mission program and the Armenian Studies Program of CSUF, is being coordinated by Deacon Allan Y. Jendian. It is open to the public, and admission is free. Books by both authors will be available for purchase and autographing.

## Momjian Will Headline ASP Dinner

FRESNO — Oratorio and concert performer Jane Momjian will be the featured entertainer at the Armenian Studies Program 12th Annual Dinner, March 15, at 5 p.m. in the Residence Dining Facility on the campus of the California State University, Fresno. The event will begin with a reception at 4 p.m.

Momjian is a native of California, and a USC graduate. She is a past national finalist in the Metropolitan Opera Auditions and has appeared with the Glimmerglass Opera, Kentucky Opera, Opera San Jose, and the Los Angeles Philharmonic.

She has sung in Handel's *Messiah*, and Mozart's *Requiem*.

The annual dinner will also recognize the 1997-98 student



*Janet Momjian*

recipients of scholarships and grants.

Tickets are available at \$40 per person, student tickets are \$10.

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

## Authors Kherdian, Hogrogian Will Present Works March 13 at St. Paul

FRESNO — “An Evening With Two Authors” will be held March 13 at 7 p.m. in St. Paul’s Haig Berberian Hall, 3767 N. First St., in Fresno. David Kherdian and Nonny Hogrogian, a husband-and-wife team, will present their works.

Kherdian will present his newest works, *I Called it Home*, a novel that traces his growing up in an Armenian community in Racine, Wisconsin. It is a sequel to his Newbery Honor Book, *The Road From Home*, which tells the story of his mother as a child in Armenia through her migration to America.

He is the author and editor of over 50 books that include novels, poetry, memoirs, children’s books, critical studies, translations, and retellings. His awards include the Jane Addam Peace Award, the Friends of American Writers Award, and a nomination for the American Book Award. Kherdian was a former editor of the *Ararat Quarterly*, the founding editor of

*Forkroads: A Journal of Ethnic-American Literature*, and instructor at CSU, Fresno.

Hogrogian is well known as an author and illustrator of children’s books. Born in New York City, she is a graduate of Hunter College where she majored in art. She is a three-time recipient of the Caldecott Medal for her illustrations in *One Fine Day*, *The Contest*, and *Always Room for One More*. Armenian folktales will be the highlight of her presentation.

Kherdian and Hogrogian recently moved from upstate New York to Sebastopol, California.

The March 13 event, co-sponsored by the St. Paul Parish Mission Program and the Armenian Studies Program of CSUF, is being coordinated by Deacon Allan Y. Jendian.

Admission is free. Books by both authors will be available for purchase and autographing.

# Musical menus for every taste

By David Hale

The Fresno Bee

Whatever your taste in music, you have a good chance to hear it during the coming week at California State University, Fresno.

Consider the schedule:

■ Thursday, guitarist David D. Chapman of Sacramento will present a concert of classical and flamenco works at 8 p.m. in the Arthur G. Wahlberg Recital Hall. Chapman is a student of guitar professor Juan Serrano at Fresno State and past winner of the Fresno Guitar Society competition. Admission will be free.

■ The annual dinner of the university's Armenian Studies Program will be held next Sunday with a former Fresnan, soprano Janet Momjian, as guest artist.

Momjian is a New York-based performer in opera and oratorio with credentials that include performances with the  
Please see **Music**, Page G4

## Continued from Page G1

Kentucky Opera, Opera San Jose and the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra. Her early performing experience included musical activities at Hoover High School.

The dinner program also will feature 1997-98 student scholarship and grant winners.

Tickets are \$40, \$10 for students. The celebration will begin at 4 p.m. in the university's residence dining facility. Information: 278-2669.

SOURCE The California Courier, Glendale, CADATE March 12, 1998SUBJECT Armenians in Fresno Part of ClassPAGE 1 of 1

## Fresno Armenians Are Topic of New CSUF Workshop

FRESNO - "Armenians in Fresno" is the topic of a two-day workshop at California State University, Fresno, organized by the Division of Extended Division.

The workshop is scheduled for March 20 from 5 to 10 p.m., and March 21, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., in Room 281 of the University's McLane Hall.

Taught by instructor Barlow Der Mugrdchian, the lecturer for the University's Armenian Studies Program, the course is an introduction to the more than 100-year-old Armenian community of Fresno and the San Joaquin Valley. Cost for the workshop is \$40 non-credit.

For more information, or to register, contact the Division of Extended Education, at (209) 278-0333.

SOURCE The California Courier, Glendale, CADATE April 6, 1998SUBJECT ASP Sponsors April 24th ActivitiesPAGE 1 of 1

## Fresno Armenians Prepare Community-wide Programs to Commemorate 1915 Genocide

FRESNO - The 83rd anniversary of the 1915 Armenian Genocide will be commemorated in Fresno with a series of programs starting on April 17.

The programs, sponsored by the Armenian Studies Program and the Armenian Students Organization of Cal State, Fresno open on campus with an April 17 lecture and video presentation by Dr. Levon Marashlian, Professor of History at Glendale Community College. Marashlian's lecture is entitled "Turkish Revi-

sionism and the Armenian Genocide."

On April 21, the "Back to Ararat" Swedish-prepared film documentary will be shown, also on campus, and will be followed by a discussion. Campus events will be held at 7 p.m., in the University Business Center, Alice Peters Auditorium, Room 191.

A candlelight vigil will be held in front of the Fresno County Courthouse Walkway, "M" and Mariposa Streets on April 23, with Armenian and English speakers,

film, and poetry reading. It is co-sponsored by the ASO, Armenian Youth Federation, and Homenetmen Sassoon chapter.

On April 24, a rally will be held at the Fresno State Free Speech Area starting at 12 noon, with guest and student speakers. A panel discussion will follow.

Later that day, at 6:30 p.m., Armenian Martyrs Day will be observed at a Community Ecumenical Service and Civic Commemoration at Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church.

## Armenian genocide remembered

■ Descendants at Fresno State join International Day of Remembrance.

By Donald E. Coleman  
The Fresno Bee

It happened when most of their grandparents and great-grandparents were children, but this generation remembers the Armenian genocide.

"All we want is for them to say they did it," said Sosi Thomassian, 19, referring to the Turkish government.

Thomassian joined others Friday at California State University, Fresno, in honor of the estimated 1.5 million Armenians who perished at the hands of Ottoman Turks. The program began in 1915, wiped out nearly two-thirds of the

Armenian population and drove them from their homeland. The Turkish government denies it ever happened.

"We've grown up with this through our grandparents," said Rita Aramian, 19.

Aramian and other students read poems commemorating April 24, the International Day of Remembrance.

Her poem was "The Dance" by Siamanto. It describes the death march of 20 maidens forced into a vineyard and made to dance naked for Turkish soldiers. "They were told they had to dance to death, and they were then burned with kerosene," Aramian said.

The soldier who carried out the vile act committed suicide "and yet people still deny it happened," Aramian said.

About 150 people — most

wearing black — gathered at the campus Free Speech Area for the remembrance.

"It's important," Thomassian said. "It's all we have, even though it is the past. If you don't remember the past, you're growing out of the future."

April 24 has been established by the state Legislature as "California Day of Remembrance of the Armenian Genocide of 1915-1923."

A model of the Armenian Martyr's Monument in Yerevan, Armenia, was constructed by students for the service.

Twelve slabs on the monument represent the 12 provinces of Armenia taken over by the Turks and the more than 6-foot-tall sphere represents the diaspora, said Talin Mekhitarian, 19.

## ACADEMIA

# Canadian Scholar Appointed at Fresno State

The appointment of Dr. Isabel Kaprielian to the Henry S. Khazadian Kazan Professor of Modern Armenian and Immigration History at California State University Fresno adds a different perspective to the university's Armenian studies courses.

The Kazan Endowment is intended to develop a major emphasis on Armenian immigration history, Armenians in the diaspora, their immigration and settlement in North America, the Armenian Genocide, and modern Armenian history. CSU Fresno recently awarded Professor Kaprielian a Legislative Grant to start up a social history project focusing on the history of Armenians in Fresno County and to collect archival material, such as photographs and documents, relating to that experience. Discussions are also underway with the Armenian American Citizens' League regarding using Prof. Kaprielian's advice and expertise in establishing a museum of Armenian artifacts pertaining to settlement in the San Joaquin Valley. "Because the Armenian community in Fresno has thrived for over a century, it deserves to be examined by scholars interested in how a diaspora group evolves and flourishes, how it balances a commitment to its cultural heritage rooted in the old land and its commitment to the cultural richness of the new land," Kaprielian remarked.

She is a professor in the History Department and is also cross-appointed to the Armenian Studies Program at Fresno State. "In addition to undergraduate programs, the History Department offers master's programs. We are hoping to expand the graduate component of Armenian history in the future," Kaprielian added. Her special areas of teaching and research include: immigration and ethnic



Dr. Isabel Kaprielian

conference proceedings. She has also presented papers at the Social Science History Association annual meetings in the US and has spoken at international congresses in Europe such as "Children: War and Persecution," held at Hamburg University, in Germany.

A prolific writer, Kaprielian has authored more than thirty scientific articles, four books and a variety of materials for schools. Kaprielian's books include: *The Pulse of the World: Refugees in our Schools*, *Facing Pluralism: The Future of Francophone and Acadian Communities in a Pluralistic Society*, and *Polyphony: Armenians in Ontario*. She was a co-author of *Looking into My Sister's Eyes: and Exploration in Women's History*, which won the Marion Porter Prize. She has also contributed chapters to *Armenian Women in a*

SOURCE Asbarez, Glendale, CA DATE April 18, 1998  
 SUBJECT Kaprielian Appointed as Kazan Professor PAGE 2 of 2

studies, genocide and renewal, the Armenian diaspora, refugees, education of minorities, and the history of women and children.

Shortly after taking up her post at Fresno State last year, Kaprielian organized a symposium that drew an overflow audience to the Alice Peters auditorium. Entitled "Armenians in the Raisin Industry: 1890-1990," the symposium brought together academics and community participants to discuss one of the most successful branches of Armenian endeavor in the San Joaquin valley. Because of the community's interest in the topic, the papers from the symposium are now being compiled into a book.

Fresno State attracted Prof. Kaprielian from a senior research post at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education of the University of Toronto, where she was known as a scholar of Armenians in Canada and of issues related to immigration, the Armenian Genocide, and refugee settlement and rehabilitation.

In Toronto she also taught in graduate and undergraduate programs at Ryerson Polytechnic University, York University, and the University of Toronto.

Kaprielian has presented academic papers in many forums in Canada, the United States, Armenian, and Europe. She recently gave a paper at the Paris Conference of the Armenian International Women's Association entitled "Intermarriage: Integration or Alienation?" The paper, which examines the issue of intermarriage within the scope of community development, will appear shortly in the

Changing World; La Langue Armenienne: Defis et Enjeux, and Reform and Relevance in Schooling: Dropouts, Destreaming and the Common Curriculum. Other recent publications have appeared in such scholarly journals as the Canadian Historical Review, the Journal of American Ethnic History, the International Migration Review, The Armenian Review, and the International Journal of Education.

In addition to her scholarly work, Prof. Kaprielian has produced three video documentaries in Armenian and English about Armenian picture brides and Armenian orphans following the Genocide. Themes relating to family and community are extremely important in her writing, particularly as they portray the story of the revival of community life after the Genocide.

Kaprielian has received many honors notably doctoral and post doctoral fellowships granted by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, the University of Toronto Open Doctoral Fellowship, and the Ivey Award. Dr. Kaprielian's major history of Armenians in Canada entitled Like Our Mountains: Armenians in Canada, is forthcoming. Her current research and writing focus on Armenian orphans and orphanages after World War I.

To pursue research, Kaprielian has received grants from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, the Ontario Government, and the University of Toronto, in addition to the Legislative Grant mentioned above from CSU Fresno.

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## Prof. Isabel Kaprielian Adds Perspective To CSUF's Armenian Studies Program

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*Prof. Isabel Kaprielian* component of the Armenian history in the future. Her special areas of teaching and research include immigration and ethnic studies, genocide and renewal, the Armenian diaspora, refugees, education of minorities, and the history of women and children.

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 See Dr. Kaprielian... on Page 2

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*Continued on p. 28*

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SOURCE

Fresno Bee; Fresno, CA

- ARCHIVE -

DATE May 17, 1998

SUBJECT ASP Sponsors Concert

PAGE 1 of 1

## Concert features Armenian painters' works

### THE FRESNO BEE

The paintings of William Saroyan and other outstanding artists of Armenian descent will be represented in Karoon, a celebration of spring, art and music at 3 p.m. next Sunday in the Concert Hall at California State University, Fresno.

Maria Amirkhanian, 26, is an award-winning pianist and alumni of Fresno State. She'll be heard in selections by Schumann, Liszt and Rachmaninoff.

Aroussiak Baltaian, a violinist, and her brother Sarkis Baltaian, a pianist from Bulgaria by way of London and partially educated in the United States, will perform as a duo and as soloists.

The Baltaians are the children of Garo

Baltaian, composer and former professor at the Academy of Arts in Plovdiv, Bulgaria. Their contributions will include pianist Baltaian in Mussorgsky's "Pictures at an Exhibition," a Sarasate piece by violinist Baltaian, Cesar Frank's "Sonata in A major" for violin and piano and selections by Armenian composers including their father.

Violinist Aroussiak Baltaian, 28, is a well-traveled concert artist who has performed and won prizes in a number of competitions in both Eastern Europe and the United States. Sarkis, 22, won awards in Bulgaria and the Czech Republic and is finishing up in the University of Southern California school

of music.

Saroyan will be represented by works from the William Saroyan Foundation's archives at Stanford. Those paintings will be for viewing only, but oils by Robbie Setrakian and watercolors by Norma Yaglijian will be for sale.

Proceeds will go to the Fresno chapter of the Armenian General Benevolent Union which is presenting the concert with the cooperation of the Armenian Studies Program at Fresno State. A reception will follow the concert.

Admission will be \$15 general and \$7 for students. Information: 278-2669 (days) or 298-1111 or 439-492131 (evenings).

## *California State University Helps Westernize Armenian Agricultural Academy*

FRESNO, CA – Once considered the premier educational institution of its kind, the Armenian Agricultural Academy in Yerevan is struggling to find its place in a country where land privatization and shifting economy have transformed the role of agriculture in this newly independent nation.

Experts agree that in order for the Academy to reclaim its leadership in Armenian agriculture, it must adapt to rapidly changing economic conditions throughout the Caucasus. That means developing westernized curricula, acquiring modern teaching methods and resources, intergrating technology and even refurbishing classrooms.

It was in 1992 that the US Agency for International Development (USAID) first recognized the need to assist Armenia in making the shift toward a westernized economy. That long-term strategy includes developing a nationwide agricultural extension service and an aggressive export program.

In 1995, California State University, Fresno was chosen from a nationwide pool of universities to administer the academic portion of the grant, concentrating on specific needs of the Academy. According to USDA officials, CSU Fresno was the perfect match to help change the landscape of the Academy.

"CSUF has a combination of elements that no other university can offer to the Academy, namely a premier Armenian Studies department, a very strong and supportive Diaspora, a leading agricultural school and outstanding business school," explained Dr. Bill Rice, professor of marketing at CSUF and director of the project in the US.

Rice outlined four areas of assistance that CSUF has been implementing at the Academy. The first has been to completely modernize the courses that have been traditionally offered. CSUF is also integrating current teaching technology into the Academy's classrooms, including the development of labs and introduction of computers and audio/visual equipment.

Increasing student involvement at the Academy has also been a priority. Faculty development remains one of the highest priorities of the project, according to Rice, and the challenge is to train Academy teachers to shift from a reading mode to an exploratory mode during classroom time.

Perhaps CSUF's biggest contribution to date has been to coordinate donations of nearly 100,000 textbooks and 50 computers to the Academy to help increase what Rice calls the "information process." In fact, donations are still being accepted for computers, books and

other classroom equipment, which Rice plans to ship in bulk to Armenia at the end of May.

Other projects include the design of a web site for the Academy, renovation of the school's facilities, revamping administration procedures, establishing a career placement office and the creation of a \$100,000 endowment.

The Armenian Agricultural Academy was founded in 1928 and currently has 45 department chairs. Students can specialize in 26 professions with doctoral theses possible in five areas: Agronomy, Farm Mechanization and Machines, Food Technology, Cattle Breeding and Zoverterinary. Currently, there

are 75 students taking post-graduate courses and some 4,300 students enrolled in undergraduate programs. The 45 chairs have a staff of 419 lecturers.

According to Armen Khachatrian, rector of the Armenian Agricultural Academy, the benefits to the Academy and to Armenia are profound. "CSUF is helping to bring the graduates of the Academy a window to the world that they are not going to get from any other institution. Our graduates will become world citizens who know how to play on the chessboard of economic change," Khachatrian said. "That is a positive step for the future of Armenia."

### California State University, Fresno Helps to Westernize, Modernize Armenian Agricultural Academy in Yerevan

FRESNO, CA - Once considered the premier educational institution of its kind, the Armenian Agricultural Academy in Yerevan is struggling to find its place in a country where land privatization and a shifting economy have transformed the role of agriculture in this newly independent nation.

Experts agree that in order for the Academy to reclaim its leadership in Armenian agriculture, it must adapt to rapidly changing economic conditions throughout the Caucasus. That means developing westernized curricula, acquiring modern teaching methods and resources, integrating technology and even refurbishing classrooms -- the ingredients necessary to guide the Academy in its new role within a market economy.

It was in 1992 that the US Agency for International Development (USAID) first recognized the need to assist Armenia in making the shift toward a westernized economy. That

long-term strategy includes developing a nationwide agricultural extension service and an aggressive export program that would allow Armenia to become self-sufficient in agriculture. Subsequent funding, administered through the US Department of Agriculture, quickly established the USDA Marketing Assistance Project in Armenia, and the Academy was to become a special focus of the effort.

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The Central San Joaquin Valley has similar agricultural practices as Armenia, and CSUF is one

*Continued on p. 23*

### California State University, Fresno Helps to Westernize, Modernize Armenian Agricultural Academy in Yerevan

Continued from p. 22

of the leading agricultural institutions in the nation, with a faculty experienced in working outside the US in developing economic training and providing educational experiences for students. The university also boasts one of the most active Armenian Studies programs in the country with longstanding ties with Armenia.

Dr. Bill Rice, Professor of Marketing at CSUF and Director of the Project in the US, has identified four areas of assistance that CSUF has been implementing at the Academy: complete modernization of the courses; increasing student involvement; faculty development; and coordination of donations of nearly 100,000 textbooks and 50 computers to the Academy to help increase what Rice calls the "information process."

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## Kaprielian, Peroomian and Jendian Present Papers at Annual Conference of NAES Held in Fresno

FRESNO - Matthew Ari Jendian presented his research at the 26th Annual Conference of the National Association for Ethnic Studies, held in Fresno, California, March 25-29.

The session, "Ethnic Identity in North America: The Armenians," was organized by Dr. Isabel Kaprielian, the Kazan Professor of Modern Armenian and Immigration History at California State University, Fresno, who presented "Armenian Neighborhoods: Their Rise and Fall." Dr. Rubina Peroomian (UCLA) read "Literature as Witness to the Formation and Transformation of the Armenian-American Ethnic Identity." Jendian's paper entitled "Family Relations and Community Relations of Intermarried Armenian Couples," emerged from his background research and pilot study for his Ph.D. dissertation in progress at the University of Southern California. The session was lively, as the papers sparked interesting discussion.

From interviews with intermarried couples (one spouse Armenian), Jendian found that these couples were more involved with the Armenian side of the family, even when their non-Armenian relatives lived just as close. Furthermore, the non-Armenian spouses were very understanding of the tendency to spend more time with the Armenian in laws. With



Left to right: Isabel Kaprielian, Rubina Peroomian and Matthew Jendian.

regard to the Armenian community, however, the couples were less involved. Jendian noted, "What appears to be most important in determining the level of involvement of the non-Armenian spouse, and the couple, in general, is the extent to which the Armenian spouse identifies with being Armenian, deems it important, and shows an interest and is involved with the Armenian Church and community." This dynamic suggests that strengthening the connection between the Armenian community and its members will ensure its survival, despite assimilation inevitabilities.

Matthew Jendian graduated from California State University, Fresno in 1991 with a BA in Sociology, while minoring in Psychology and Armenian Studies. He received his MA in Sociology in 1995 at the Uni-

versity of Southern California. Currently, he is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Sociology at USC and teaching part time at CSU, Fresno. Supervising the dissertation research is Dr. H. Edward Ransford, chair of the committee, and Professors Richard Hrair Dekmejian and Roseann Giarusso.

Soon, Jendian will mail a survey to Armenian-American households randomly selected from the Haines Criss-Cross Directory of the San Joaquin valley. To be considered a valid and scientific study, more than 50% of the respondents, who will remain anonymous, must complete and return the survey.

## Jendian Presents Research & Conducts Survey Of Central California Armenians

FRESNO, CA - Matthew Ari Jendian presented his research at the 26th Annual Conference of the National Association for Ethnic Studies, held here March 25-29. The session, "Ethnic Identity in North America: The Armenians," was organized by Dr. Isabel Kaprielian, the Kazan Professor of Modern Armenian and Immigration History at California State University, Fresno, who presented "Armenian Neighborhoods: Their Rise and Fall." Dr. Rubina Peroomian (UCLA) read "Literature as Witness to the Formation and Transformation of the Armenian-American Ethnic Identity."

Jendian's paper, entitled "Family Relations and Community Relations of Intermarried Armenian Couples," emerged from his background research and pilot study for his Ph.D. dissertation in progress at the University of Southern California. The session was lively, as the papers sparked interesting discussion.

From interviews with intermarried couples (one spouse Armenian), Jendian found that these couples were more involved with the Armenian side of the family, even when their non-Armenian relatives lived



(l. to r.) Isabel Kaprielian, Rubina Peroomian, Matthew Jendian

just as close. Furthermore, the non-Armenian spouses were very understanding of the tendency to spend more time with the Armenian in-laws. With regard to the Armenian community, however, the couples were less involved.

Jendian noted, "What appears to be most important in determining the level of involvement of the non-Armenian spouse, and the couple, in general, is the extent to which the Armenian spouse identifies with being Armenian, deems it important, and shows an interest and is involved with the Armenian Church and/or community." This dynamic suggests that strengthening the connection between the Armenian community and its members

will ensure its survival, despite assimilation inevitabilities.

Matthew Jendian graduated from California State University, Fresno in 1991 with a B.A. in Sociology, while minoring in Psychology and Armenian Studies. He received his M.A. in Sociology in 1995 at the University of Southern California. Currently, he is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Sociology at USC and teaching part time at CSU, Fresno. Supervising the dissertation research is Dr. H. Edward Ransford, chair of the committee, and Professors Richard Hrair Dekmejian and Roseann Giarrusso.

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## *Research on California Armenians Yields Interesting Results*

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From interviews with intermarried couples (one spouse Armenian), Jendian found that these couples were more involved with the Armenian side of the family, even when their non-Armenian relatives lived just as close. Furthermore, the non-Armenian spouses were understanding of the tendency to spend more time with the Armenian in-laws. With regard to the Armenian community, however, the couples were less involved. Jendian noted, "What appears to be most important in determining the level of involvement of the non-Armenian spouse, and the couple, in general, is the extent to which the Armenian spouse identifies with being Armenian, deems it important, and shows an interest and is involved with the Armenian Church and/or community." This dynamic suggests that strengthening the connection between the Armenian community and its members will ensure its survival, despite assim-

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From left to right, Dr. Isabel Kaprielian, Dr. Rubina Perroomian, and Matthew Jendian.

## Research on Armenian Inter-marriage Presented at CSU, Fresno Conference

FRESNO -- Matthew Ari Jendian presented his research at the 26th annual Conference of the National Association for Ethnic Studies, held in Fresno this spring.

The session, "Ethnic Identity in North America: The Armenians," was organized by Dr. Isabel Kaprielian, the Kazan Professor of Modern Armenian and Immigration History at California State University, Fresno. She presented "Armenian Neighborhoods: Their Rise and Fall."

Dr. Rubina Perroomian (UCLA) read "Literature as Witness to the Formation and Transformation of the Armenian-American Ethnic Identity."

Jendian's paper, entitled "Family Relations and Community Relations of Inter-married Armenian Couples," emerged from his background research and pilot study for his Ph.D. dissertation in progress at USC.

From interviews with inter-

married couples (one spouse Armenian), Jendian found that these couples were more involved with the Armenian side of the family, even when their non-Armenian relatives lived just as close. Furthermore, Jendian found, the non-Armenian spouses were very understanding of the tendency to spend more time with the Armenian in-laws.

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### Continued on Page 1

were less involved, Jendian noted.

"What appears to be more important in determining the level of involvement of the non-Armenian spouse, and the couple, in general, is the extent to which the Armenian spouse identifies with being Armenian, deems it important, shows an interest and is involved with the Armenian Church and/or the community."

Jendian graduated from CSUF in 1991 with a BA in Sociology, while minoring in Psychology and Armenian Studies. He received his MA in Sociology in 1995 at USC. Currently, he is a doctoral candidate at the USC Department of Sociology, and teaching part time at CSUF. Supervising the dissertation research is committee chair Dr. H. Edward Ransford, and Professor Richard H. Dekmejian and Roseann Giarrusso.

Soon, Jendian will mail a survey to Armenian-American households selected from the Haines Cross-Cross Directory of the San Joaquin Valley. To be considered a valid and scientific study, more than 50% of the respondents, who will remain anonymous, must complete and return the survey.

## Film Foundation Receives Grants from California Council for the Humanities

THOUSAND OAKS, CA - The Armenian Film Foundation received two matching grants in May and June from the California Council for the Humanities to adapt the film *From Bitlis to Fresno* for public television.

The first grant for \$750 enabled the Film Foundation to hold a teleconference between humanities scholars in Fresno and Los Angeles.

"Based on the success of this conference, the California Council for the Humanities invited us to apply for a script development grants for \$10,000" said film producer Dr. J. Michael Hagopian.

Participants of the teleconference were Dr. Peter Cowe, Professor of Armenian Language and Culture at UCLA, Barlow Megerdichian of the Armenian Studies Program at California State University at Fresno, and Dr. Mary Margaret Locke, chair of the Socio-

logy Department of California Lutheran University, of Thousands Oaks. Dr. Hagopian chaired the conference and Barbara Gilmore, associate producer of the film, arranged and managed the event.

The original film was produced last year, with special treatment of the Karabian family in Fresno. The film is a saga of Krikor Karabian (attorney Walter Karabian's great uncle) who left the highlands of Bitlis and resettled in Fresno in 1896.

This was the third grant received within the space of one month by the AFF. The first was a \$20,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts for the *Witnesses* film project.

"Now it is up to the Armenian community to match \$30,000 to make the grants operative," Dr. Hagopian stressed.

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"Based on the success of this conference, the California Council for the Humanities invited us to apply for a script development grant for \$10,000, stated Dr. J. Michael Hagopian. "With this grant we will be able to re-script with input from humanities scholars and the inclusion of viewpoints from the younger generation of Armenians in Fresno."

"The merits of this family film was so great", said Mrs. Gilmore, "that it earned immediate recognition, and the Armenian Film Foundation was urged by the Humanities Council to apply."

The original film was produced last year. It was a compatriotic statement, with special treatment of the Karabian family in Fresno. The film is a saga of Krikor Karabian (Attorney Walter Karabian's great uncle) who left the remote highlands of Bitlis and resettled in Fresno in 1896.

This was the third grant received within the space of one month by the Armenian Film Foundation. The first one was for the Witnesses film project for \$20,000 by the National Endowment for the Arts a very prestigious and difficult grant to get. Dr. Hagopian stressed, "These government grants are extremely difficult to receive. Finally, because of Senator Barbara Boxer's help we have our feet in the door. Senator Boxer was of great assistance by giving advice and encouragement and by shepherding the project to a successful conclusion. Now it is up to the Armenian community to match \$30,000 to make the grants operative."