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Address Correction Requested

Three concerns in Capitol 'Life March'

By Sheri Hokokian
Editor

For the first time in history, a large group of grass-roots Armenian lobbyists came to Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., March 4-6 to appeal to the nation's conscience, and to seek justice for Armenian efforts.

A team of Armenians from Fresno and throughout the country constituted the "Armenian Life March."

Everyone who participated joined together in solidarity to have Armenians' past suffering recognized and their present sufferings alleviated.

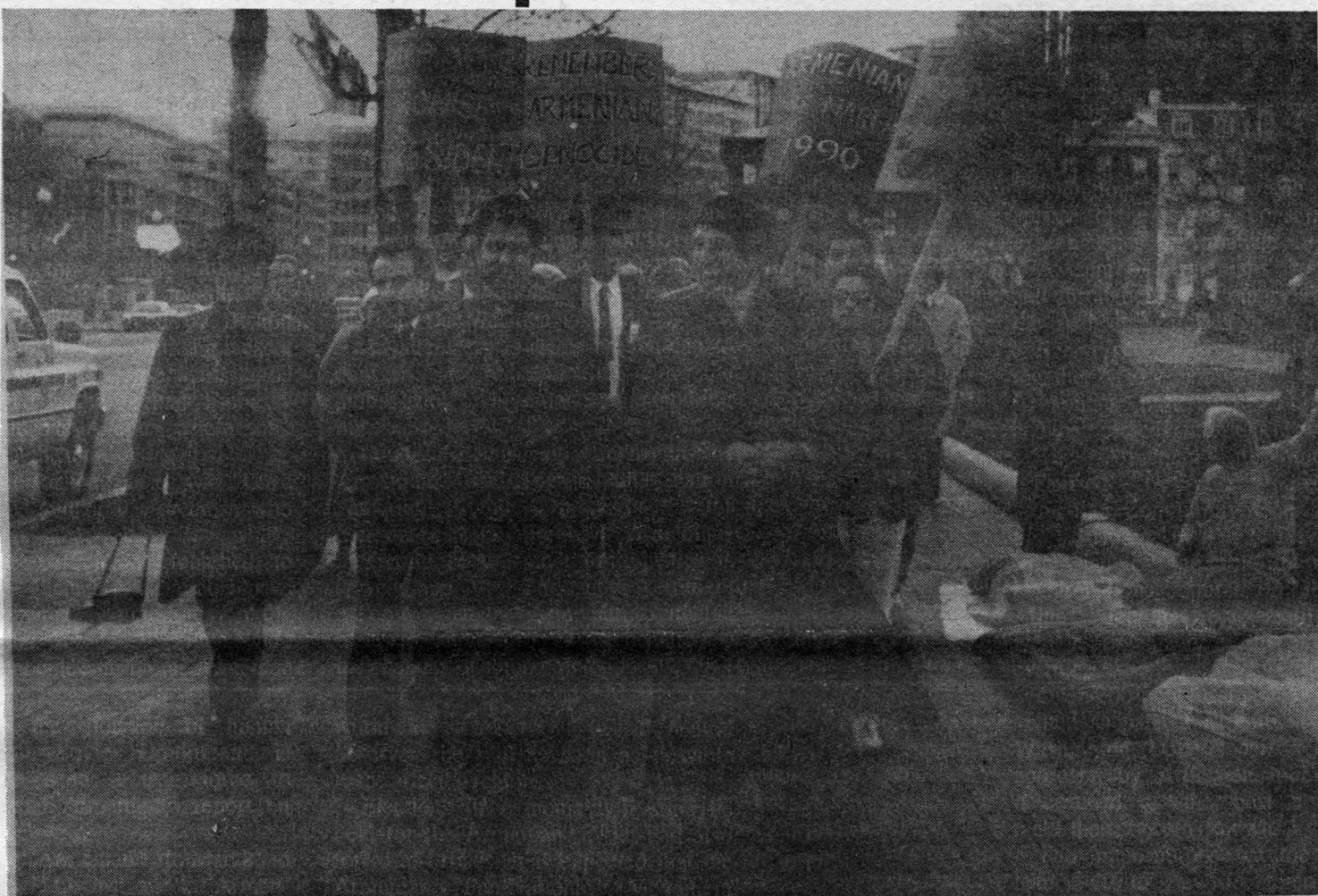
The "Armenian Life March" was organized by the newly-formed Armenian Community Council of the San Joaquin Valley. Rev. Roger Minassian of the Pilgrim Armenian Congregational Church of Fresno, and Allan Y. Jendian, Secretary of the ACC were co-organizers of this nation-wide event.

Over 200 congressional offices were visited as part of a political march in Washington, D.C. A person to person approach by Armenian lobbyists was determined as the best solution to make their concerns known.

The main purpose of the lobbying teams efforts lay in three specific areas.

First to express gratitude to those senators who had voted in favor of Senate Joint Resolution 212, as presented by Senator Dole. In addition, those senators who voted against ending debate on the Resolution were visited and asked to explain their vote.

Lobbyists were told by most senators who voted against ending debate that they did so because it's a historical issue and because Turkey is a valued ally of the United States. These



Armenian clergy, students and church laymen protested at the White House on March 5, 1990 for Armenian's past and present sufferings.

Photo by Sheri Hokokian

arguments were rebutted by Armenian lobbyists who stated that it was a political issue as well as an humanitarian and moral issue.

The next two goals were important since they pertained to the present devastation of Armenians.

When meeting with senators, congressmen, and staff the Armenian lobbyists demonstrated their solidarity with the Armenian and Jewish

victims of pogroms in Azerbaijan and the Transcaucasian Republics.

The teams were instructed to lobby Congress and the Senate to urge them to send a fact-finding team of neutral observers to the area to guarantee the safety of Armenians and Jews. They were urged to press the Soviet Government to allow these observers in, in order to put an end to wide-scale human rights violations.

The last request made to Congress was to reconsider increase of the amount of proposed foreign aid, emergency aid, and refugee relief for the hundreds of thousands of homeless, resulting from the December 1988 earthquake and the forced expulsion of Armenians from Azerbaijan. Five million dollars was appropriated for fiscal year 1990 but this is a minute amount of the aid necessary.

see CAPITOL MARCH pg.8

Armenian genocide resolution

SJR 212 withdrawn following Senate filibuster

By Paulette Kasparian
Staff Writer

Armenians throughout America will once again commemorate April 24 without an approved Genocide Resolution.

Senate Joint Resolution 212, sponsored by Senate Minority Leader Robert Dole (R-KS), would have set April 24 as a National Day of Remembrance for the 1915 Armenian Genocide.

However, in late February Dole and fellow Senate supporters failed twice to obtain the sixty votes necessary to end a filibuster and continue to the final vote of the measure.

The first procedural vote was called on Thursday, February 22 with a 49-49 count.

"I think every one of the 49 who voted against the motion to proceed

certainly cares about the Armenians and is sympathetic with those who were slaughtered in 1915-1923, but I guess, with administration and other opposition, the fact that we had 49 votes is an indication there is strong support for doing something," Dole said.

The opposition that Dole is speaking of is the increased and intensified lobbying being done by the Turkish Government, President Bush and other various special interest groups.

Since a joint resolution needs both the Senate and House of Representative approval, along with the President's signature for complete passage, it is likely that the resolution would die at Bush's desk. The Bush administration, like many of the past, does not want to jeopardize U.S. relations with Turkey.

A few days following the first

procedural vote, Senate supporters tried again for a cloture of the filibuster which had been led by West Virginia Senator Robert Byrd (D), but again fell short with a count of 48-51 against.

Dole has since removed SJR 212 from the floor, but has vowed not to let the issue die. He is currently

Armenians under renewed threat

By Barlow Der Mugardechian
Advisor

The situation in Armenia and Karabagh remains tense as the Supreme Soviet of the USSR voted early last week to keep Karabagh under the jurisdiction of Azerbaijan. Armenian deputies to the Soviet reacted with outrage that the conditions in Karabagh would not be addressed and that the Supreme Soviet

working on rewording the measure and resubmitting it as a "concurrent" resolution instead of "joint" resolution. The President is said to have sent a letter to Dole in support of a "concurrent" resolution, however, this form of resolution does not require Bush's signature.

would not accede to the demands for a referendum for the people of Karabagh.

Meanwhile in Karabagh itself and in neighboring regions Armenian families were being forced out of their centuries old villages by the combined efforts of Azerbaijani and Soviet authorities. The Supreme Soviet decision gave the needed approval to the government authorities to complete their plans for the forced deportation of the population

see KARABAGH pg.8

The meaning of a true Armenian

By Jeff Ahronian
Staff Writer

Michael Arlen, Jr. Charles Aznavour. Cher. Mike Connors. Arlene Francis. Arshile Gorky. Eddie Mecca.

One familiar with the arts would quickly recognize these names and go on to say that all have had a lasting effect on the humanities. Arlen-- Nationals Book Award winner in 1976; Aznavour-- famous international vocalist; Cher-- Academy Award motion picture winner; Francis-- famous television and motion picture star of the 1950's and '60's; Gorky-- one of the most important painters of the 1930's and '40's; and of course Eddie Mecca, who played Carmine Ragusa on the hit television comedy show "Laverne and Shirley." Yet there is an entirely different connection to be made. Something that is an

extremely important aspect of their being. Something that will indeed always be an essential part of them.

They are all Armenians...

But these cannot be Armenians you say. Where's the 'I-A-N' at the end of a long, somewhat hard to pronounce last name? Ah! But they are Armenians-- Armenians who realized rather early in their lives that having an Armenian last name possibly wasn't the best thing for their careers.

The story of the Armenians coming to America is much like the plot of a classic romantic tale--immigrants fleeing their homeland from religious persecution, poverty and political oppression, coming to America where they felt they could make a better life for themselves.

As more Armenians arrived however, the more they became the victims of harsh prejudice and discrimination. For example, the large relative size of the Fresno Armenian

Community was resented; Armenians were hard workers and tough competitors. In 1894, Armenians were assigned to a special section and then barred altogether from a church they had helped to build. As the years went on, they were subjected to restrictive real estate covenants, barred from clubs and civic groups, and even refused office space in professional buildings.

The Armenians were looked upon as outsiders, thus, leaving them no one to depend on except themselves. They developed strong family ties and continued to teach to their young honest morals and a respect for their pride in their heritage. Many, however, were forced to change their names in order to escape persecution and torment. The Armenians were indeed outcasts in a strange, different world.

Yet, times have changed. Who would've believed 50 years ago that

someday the Governor of California would be an Armenian? Or that the coach of one of the best college basketball teams in America would be an Armenian? Over the years the Armenians have fought and broken down the hardships and obstacles that have stood in their way. They have prospered as a people and thrived on success.

The point of this article is, however, not to point out the achievements and triumphs of the Armenians, or to dwell on the wrong done to them years ago by an ignorant society. It is to show what a race of proud and ambitious people can do for themselves even though the odds are heavily against them. One doesn't need to have an Armenian name or fluently speak the Armenian language to be considered an Armenian. It's what is inside of him that counts.

Letters to the Editor

Rabbi Segel expresses his appreciation

Dear Dickran Kouymjian:

I thank you most sincerely for the honor which you bestowed on Temple Beth Israel and me. Your gracious comments were very generous. You are a special man and I look forward to a close and continuing friendship.

Rabbi Kenneth I. Segel
Temple Beth Israel, Fresno

Dear Dr. Kouymjian:

On behalf of our Board of Directors, we thank you most sincerely for the honor bestowed on us by the Armenian Studies Department of Fresno State University. We shall strive to continue to be worthy of our responsibility in the general community. Thank you for the beautiful evening.

Sincerely,
Marc A. Wilson
President, Temple Beth Israel

Dear Editor:

Re: The article published in the December 1990 issue "Early Armenian history reviewed" by Satenig Ohannessian, Staff Writer

Relating to the statement "Kouymjian's lecture was of the history of Armenians beginning in 520 B.C....", I have to remark that Armenia emerges from prehistory as one of the oldest cradles of civilization. Its early history beginning in

early antiquity, third millennium B.C., is attested in the cuneiform inscriptions of Sargon, King of Akkad, and of its grandson Naram Suen, and inscriptions and tablets from Ebla and Cappadocia, as Armanum, Armani, Hai. During the second millennium B.C., the foremost states of the Armenian family are the Hittite state and empire (Classical Armenian K'et), and Hayasa (Classical Armenian Hayk', gen. Hayoc', acc. Hays, meaning native land and people). In the 1st millennium B.C., the leading state of Armenia is referred to in Assyrian inscriptions as Nairi (Classical Armenian Narek) and Urartu (Classical Armenian Ayrarat), and as Biaina (Classical Armenian Van) in Ayraratian inscriptions, while these same lands and states are referred to as Uruatri=Urastu=Armenia (Classical Armenian Rstunik', Armnik') in old Persian of Greek sources. It imports to get acquainted with the original traits and characteristics of Armenian family languages and culture which predate and also relatively minimize the much spoken-of Greek and Iranian influences in Armenian matters.

With my best regards, I enclose my donation for Hye Sharzhoom.

Kajak Balekjian
Garrett Park, MD

English spoken in the Armenian church

By Ara Dolarian
Contributing Writer

The American born Armenians who do not have the Armenian language skills are no less Armenian than those who speak the language. Both share the same culture, traditions, religious heritage. Both are the children of the fortunate survivors of the tragic events of 19th and early 20th century. They are also potentially the catalysts that will keep the Armenian church alive in the United States.

Regrettably, most American Armenians do not have the Armenian language skills. They are unable to fully participate in the practice of their religion. Though the doors of the Church are open, in reality, the doors are closed since the English speaking population does not understand the Church's religious rites and teachings.

Through the years, the Church has protected and preserved our religious, cultural and national identity. It has been the repository of wisdom, truths and philosophical thoughts that have historically bound the Armenian Christian community together.

Most Armenian speaking people believe that preserving the Armenian language in the practice of the religion is a key factor in the preservation of the Armenian Church and the perpetuation of the Armenian culture. Unfortunately, the Armenian language no longer unites the Armenian community. The lack of Armenian language unites the Armenian community. The lack of Armenian language skills prevents the English speaking population from becoming meaningfully involved in the Church.

If the Church hopes to continue its role to teach, unify and lead its followers in worship, the Church must recognize and understand the changing characteristics of American Armenians and celebrate the Church's service in English. This is critical if the American Armenians are to retain their identification with the Church and perpetuate it in this country.

The question of language would not have been a factor had we as Americans lived in a closed Armenian community where Armenian was the spoken language. That is not possible or desirable if the American Armenian is to be a participant in the mainstream of the American society.

The Church's hierarchy must decide whether it wishes to reach out to the American Armenian population. It must decide if it wants to be alive in the lives of these children of the

Church. Without such an effort on the part of the Church, the assimilation process into American congregations will continue to accelerate.

The American churches have and continue to aggressively reach out to attract the American Armenians to their congregations. They clearly and convincingly communicate those fundamental Christian teaching which our people need. In as much as the Armenian Church has been unable to satisfy the religious aspirations of many American born, they have no alternative but to go with those who worship in a meaningful and relevant way.

Though the American born Armenians may have strong emotional and intellectual ties with their background, as they become more integrated into the mainstream of American society, their identification with their past becomes more difficult to maintain.

The power of the dominant American culture is undeniably powerful, rich and attractive. It offers the population all the rights and options a free society can offer. Among those is religious freedom. The concept of religious freedom must be clearly appreciated as a golden opportunity for the Armenian Church.

It offers the freedom to enhance and expand our Church's mission. It would seem to be in the Church's best interest to take advantage of this long awaited opportunity to reestablish our faith in the lives of the American born Armenian and communicate the Church's understandings with its people.

The Armenians have withstood impossible obstacles and challenges throughout their history and sustained themselves with their Christian faith.

The contemporary American culture places another challenge at the door of the Church. Meeting this obstacle and overcoming it will assure it a more meaningful and productive future in this part of the world.

The concerns represented here were ones shared by many of our parents and grandparents. They were builders and believers in the church's cherished religious values. Through their devotion and commitment the Armenian Church was brought to America and nourished. The times now dictate that new strategies be implemented in order to satisfy the demands of the present. The necessary first step is to start communicating with the American Armenians in the English language.

Հայ Շարշոմ Hye Sharzhoom

Editor:

Sheri Hokokian

Staff Writers:

Jeff Ahronian
Scotty Abajian Asmar
Janice Caprelian
Deborah Garabedian
Jonelle Garo
Paulette Kasparian
Sato Ohannessian
Jacqueline Sislian

Armenian Page Editor:

Serop Torossian

Armenian Page Writer:

Matthew Jendian

Copy Editor:

Paulette Kasparian

Layout:

Kristi Harmandarian
Sheri Hokokian
Paulette Kasparian

Photo Editor:

Jon P. Maroot

Photographers:

Scotty Abajian Asmar
Philippe Markarian

Advertising Manager:

Janice Caprelian

Circulation Manager:

Matthew Jendian

Advisor:

Barlow Der Mugrdachian

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Hye Sharzhoom welcomes prose, poetry, articles, manuscripts, and other material from its readers. For further information concerning the newspaper or the Armenian Studies Program, call the ASP office (209) 278-2669.

Banquet honors Archbishop Manoogian

By Scott Abajian Asmar
Staff Writer

The fourth annual Armenian Studies banquet was held in the Residence Dining Facility of CSU Fresno on December 12, 1989 with over three hundred attending. Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, Primate of the Eastern Diocese of the Armenian Church was the guest of honor at the gala affair. Also, a presentation and a tribute to Temple Beth Israel highlighted the evening. Rabbi Kenneth Segel of the Temple gave the invocation.

Introductions were made by Dr. Dickran Kouymjian, Haig and Isabel Berberian Professor of Armenian Studies. Mr. Sarkis Kalfayan, President of the Advisory Board of the Center for Armenian Studies, and also board members were present. Representing the California State University Board of Trustees was Mrs. Marian Bagdasarian. CSU Fresno President Dr. Harold Haak, and Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Judith Kuipers made remarks. Dr. Phyllis Irwin, Acting Dean of the School of Arts and Humanities, Dr. Joseph Penbera, Dean of the School of Business and Administrative Sciences and Dean Barbara Burch of the School of Education were also present. Many faculty members representing different departments at CSUF also were in attendance. The Armenian Students Organization was well represented as over twenty students were in attendance. Mr. Larry Balakian of Fresno, who was instrumental in arranging the invitation of Archbishop Manoogian, was also in attendance. Mr. John Taylor, religion

writer for the The Fresno Bee, was also there.

Dr. Kouymjian presented a plaque to Rabbi Kenneth Segel and Temple Beth Israel of Fresno in honor of their successful effort to pass an Armenian Genocide Resolution at the annual convention of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. The plaque read "To Temple Beth Israel of Fresno, in gratitude for the courageous struggle of its Rabbi and Congregation, for recognition of the Armenian Genocide, on behalf of Armenians of Fresno, the Armenian Studies Program, CSU Fresno, November 1989."

Rabbi Segel, in accepting the award said, "No more meaningful recognition could come to our congregation, than that which the Armenian community and the Armenian Studies Program have bestowed upon us." Accompanying Rabbi Segel at the banquet were the President of the Temple, Mr. and Mrs. Marc Wilson. Their diligent efforts and the inspiration of Rabbi Segel became an example to the Armenian and American communities alike.

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian gave the keynote address at the dinner saying, "I want to congratulate the university, the President, and all those involved in Armenian Studies. It is a very important enterprise that is new in the history of our people in America. We are now blossoming in America and give a true picture of the nature of the Armenian people, which is a nature of being a creative people, a people of civilization, a people with a long history..."

"The last disaster in Armenia (the earthquake) was truly a disaster. It illustrated the strength of the

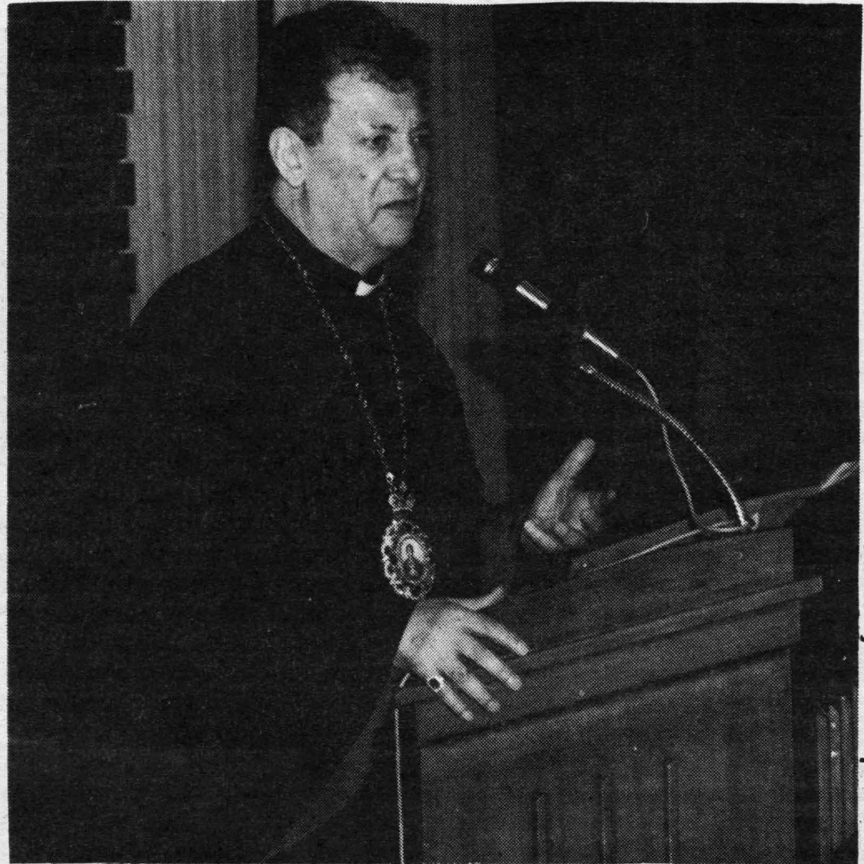


Photo by Jon Philip Maroot

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian lectures at CSUF

Armenian spirit."

He continued to describe the conditions in Armenia after the earthquake. Archbishop Manoogian also gave the benediction.

The annual banquet, which began in 1986, was intended to be a source of information to the Armenian community about the activities of the Armenian Studies Program.

University Lecture Series

After the banquet, the evening continued with the University Lecture Series in the Satellite Student Union. The University Lecture Series annually brings distinguished guests to the

University. Archbishop Manoogian spoke on "Armenian Culture and the Music of Gomidas."

The presentation, punctuated by the singing of Archbishop Manoogian, gave a panorama of the variety of Armenian music and the integral role it plays in Armenian family life. Archbishop Manoogian held the attention of the audience through his knowledge and stage presence and introduced the life and work of Gomidas, a priest of the Armenian Apostolic Church, who in his career made giant contributions to Armenian music.

Armenian Solidarity In Action

By Barlow Der Mugrdchian
Advisor

The "Armenian Life March" organized by the Armenian Community Council of the San Joaquin Valley was one of those unique events in which the participants expectations were exceeded once they went to Washington, D.C. The energy of the sixty-four participants was at a high level throughout the weekend and through the grueling two days of lobbying which took place in the Capitol.

The three events which were held on Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday served as bonding experiences in which those present were linked by the passion that they brought with them. These were not people who knew one another, but they proved to themselves and to the Senators and Congressmen whom they met that the issues which they brought with them were of such importance that they had traveled literally across the United States.

It was the Tuesday afternoon vigil in front of the Turkish Embassy and later the Chancery which proved to be the most emotional as Genocide survivors stood in witness to the terrible tragedy of the Armenian Genocide. No doubt Turkish officials who refused to meet with the group understood well the perseverance and determination that march participants brought with them.

What was the lesson to be learned from the "Armenian Life March?" I don't think it was something very obvious-at least to those who were simply observers or read about the march in the newspaper. It was something more fundamental and profound-namely that Armenians had come together from throughout the United States and together accomplished what individuals could not have accomplished.

Vigil at Turkish Embassy



Photo by Shari Hokokian

Participants of the 'Armenian Life March' gathered for a prayer service at the Turkish Embassy in Washington D.C. on March 6, 1990. These participants included survivors of the Armenian Genocide.

Armenian home cares for Valley elders

By Janice Caprelian
Staff Writer

Did you know that you can enjoy the rest of your twilight years in the family warmth and care of the California Armenian Home of Fresno?

"It's a three star rated facility in great demand," said Dorothy Schlotthauer, Activities Director of the Home, adding, "It's one of the better places when I first walked in because of its warm atmosphere."

The California Armenian Home sits upon a slight hill at the rear of a 40 acre site located about six miles east of Fresno, off of Kings Canyon and Temperance Avenues.

Although it's called an Armenian Home, it's open to anyone. There are three wings designed for the different stages of health care needs from residents, intermediate, to skilled nursing.

"Here the nurses do care and take better care than anywhere because it's not just a job," Schlotthauer

Mary Kassabian, a resident of 13 months at the Home said, "I like all the staff." Kassabian, a widow at age 82, was raised in an orphanage in Beirut, Lebanon and in 1924 she came to the United States to live in New Jersey with her husband Hagop, a dry cleaning factory owner.

"It's nice (at the Home). It can't be like your own home but it's good," Kassabian said.

The Home is full of all kinds of activities for the residents.



Photo by Jon Phillip Maroot

Mary Kassabian

"We have exercise programs, bingo, religious, seasonal and birthday parties, live entertainment, trips to the zoo and a picnic every month," Schlotthauer said. "Once a year, they go to the Fresno District Fair, where some of the residents have entered arts and crafts."

The Home also has an active involvement with many Armenian community organizations such as The Home Guild, The Trinity Guild, ARS, Daughters of Vartan, The Dorcas Guild and the Ani Guild.

The Ani Guild is a major contributor to the Home activities. They have bingo every first and third Tuesday of each month and bring treats to the residents. During Christmas they organize a Christmas party in which Santa Claus distributes gifts to each of the residents.

"The Ani Guild is wonderful," shared Kassabian adding, "They make everything here like home."

Campus "Hye" profile

Students express concerns for Armenians in Azerbaijan

Two Armenian students at CSU Fresno were asked to express their views regarding the following questions:

As you know, the situation in Armenia and Azerbaijan is getting worse as we speak. As a responsible young Armenian, what do you think the Armenians should do in Armenia and Karabagh? Should they keep on fighting for their freedom and their lives? And also, what role do you think the Armenians in the Diaspora should play? How should they react? Finally, how can you personally help this situation in Armenia and Azerbaijan?

TRAISY JEBIAN

Age: 19

Year In School: Freshman

Major: Accounting

Trais was a member of the Armenian Scouts for five years.



Photo by Philippe Makarian

I think the Armenians should try to settle the territorial issues through the Soviet system. The Soviets are their only source of defense since they are surrounded by Muslim people. The violence will only cause the loss of more Armenian lives and in the end, it

may not accomplish the goals of the people fighting for the Karabagh region.

Since our help after the earthquake didn't seem to reach the Armenians, I feel that any additional help now would be wasted.

VARTAN VARTANIAN

Age: 19

Year In School: Sophomore

Major: Business

Vartan attends the Holy Trinity Armenian Church of Fresno. He is also a member of the Armenian Youth Federation.



Photo by Philippe Makarian

I think the Armenians should try to protect the people of Karabagh and Armenia by providing them food, medicine, arms and preparing the masses for the final cause of the liberation of Armenia.

Armenians in the Diaspora should try to help the survival of Armenians in Armenia financially and with all their means.

I can help the different organizations here in Fresno which are trying to send food, medicine, etc. to Armenia.

Let's keep hope alive.

ASO Calendar

Thursday, March 15- ASO Meeting, 6:00 pm
Bedrosian Conference Room, Peters Business Building Rm. 390

Friday & Saturday, March 16 & 17- Arm. St. 120T-
Current events in Armenia, Social Science Room 104 4:00 pm

Saturday, March 17- ASO Tavloo tournament,
Matthew Jendian's home

Friday-Sunday, March 23-25- ASO Statewide Retreat,
Armenian Church Camp

Saturday, April 7 and April 14- Arm. St. 120T-
The Armenian Genocide, 1 unit course, Conley Art 101

Friday, April 20- ASO Shish Kebab Sale, Free Speech Area

Saturday, April 21- ASO Movie Premiere-"Back to Ararat"
7 pm Industrial Arts Room 101

Sunday, April 22- Community Worship Service for April 24th
Pilgrim Armenian Congregational Church

Monday, April 23- ASO Rally, Free Speech Area

Tuesday, April 24- Panel Discussion 12:00 noon
Upstairs Cafeteria, High School Students to Visit

Tuesday, April 24- Community Commemoration of 75th Anniversary of the Armenian
Genocide, Saroyan Theater 7:00 pm

Saturday, April 28- Boomtown Carnival, ASO Shish Kebab Sale

ASO corner

April activities set

By Jacqueline Sislian
ASO President

Welcome back from the Armenian Students Organization.

The ASO was established to help students interested in the Armenian culture get acquainted through classes and friends. You do not have to be of Armenian descent to belong to our organization, just a willingness to be involved.

ASO also offers many things such as internships and an opportunity to become involved in other Armenian organizations on or off the CSUF campus.

The organization has exciting plans for the Spring semester.

The first meeting of the semester was held in February with 25 members in attendance. During this meeting many plans were discussed for upcoming lectures, classes and various social activities.

A one unit weekend class in March will be offered by Professor Barlow Der Mugrdchian. The topic for the class will focus on current events in Soviet Armenia. It's still not too late to sign-up. Call the ASP office at 278-2669 for more information.

A possible Spring dance is also in the planning, so keep an open ear.

April will be a very busy month for the ASO as a week of commemorative events will be held for the 75th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. The week will begin on Wednesday, April 18 with a shish kebob sale on campus. On Friday, April 20, the ASO, together with the Armenian Youth Federation (AYF), will be showing the film "Back to Ararat." A high attendance is expected since this is the premiere showing of this movie in Fresno. The film will be viewed in the Industrial Arts Room. The time will be announced at a later date.

The commemorative events will continue on Monday, April 23 with a youth rally in the CSUF Free Speech area. A panel discussion of local and state politicians will end the week on Tuesday, April 24. Valley high school students are expected to be brought to the CSUF campus that day to also participate.

All events are open to the public. In order to assure success, the ASO urges everyone's cooperation and participation.

The ASO has recently been informed that the Arax Armenian Dancers of Fresno are looking for new members to join their dance group. Anyone interested should attend their practices at the Armenian Cultural Foundation Club on Thursday evenings at 6:30 p.m.

The Armenian Cultural Foundation Club is also looking for teachers to teach the following classes: Armenian history, cooking, language and writing. There are specific requirements. For additional information contact Yerevan Ohannessian at the ACF Club.

The next ASO meeting is scheduled for March. Looking forward to meeting more new members.

ASO Retreat

The CSUF Armenian Students Organization is planning a Winter Retreat on March 23-25 at the Western Diocese Church Camp and Retreat Center located in Dunlap.

A total of eight other ASO groups from throughout California have also been invited to the weekend which will include open discussions, tavloo matches and an overall relaxing weekend.

Cost for the weekend is only \$53 per person which includes food and lodging. Reservations can still be made by calling the ASP office at 278-2669.

Arax Armenian Dancers of Fresno

will perform lovely tradition Armenian folk dances or teach Armenian line dances at your party, luncheon or dinner.

The Arax Dancers will once again host a series of four-one hour dance lessons in May on Thursday evenings to all interested in learning Armenian dancing.

Call 251-1075 for more information

Prayer 'vigil' held at Courthouse

By Kristi Harmandarian
Staff Writer

February 21, 1990 was a chilly night in Central California, far away from Washington D.C., Armenia, and even Azerbaijan and Israel. Even farther away, in time, were the events that took place in far away lands, a long time ago, yet this was a night to remember, and many people were present to recall, this was a night for a vigil.

The small platform was placed in the middle of the Fresno County Courthouse plaza and stood draped in a modest plain paper covering, along with the words *Solidarity* printed, in home-made letters, on a large banner hung just behind it. The stand was

ready to occupy the speakers of the night; a mayor, a Rabbi, a Reverend, a Father, an Armenian National Committee member and a professor.

Solidarity was everywhere--in the dark, wide eyes of the children and in the tired eyes of the old that have witnessed horrors of long ago, and those grown weary from waiting--all were united this evening. This was the mood of the Vigil, organized by the Armenian Community Council of the San Joaquin Valley to demonstrate solidarity with the Armenian and Jewish victims of violence in the Soviet Union, to commemorate the Armenian Genocide and to set the stage for their "Life March" in Washington, D.C.

"My heart goes out for these people," Rabbi Kenneth Segel, of

Temple Beth Israel said, "So many died in vain, and yet no one will admit to it. It's a shame. This issue can't be put to rest until history would recognize and identify the guilty." When the Rabbi spoke he delivered a most poignant address, citing the historical precedent that the genocide of the Armenians had set for the consequent Holocaust of the Jewish people. The somber, yet resolute mood of the evening seemed to engulf everyone.

Fresno Mayor Karen Humphrey described, in passionate terms, the contributions that the thousands of Valley Armenian residents made in Fresno, many of whom were eyewitnesses and ancestors of the victims of the genocide.

Also present were members of the

clergy including the Rev. Roger Minassian, pastor of the Armenian Pilgrim Congregational Church of Fresno, and Fr. Artoon Sempadian, parish priest of St. Mary Armenian Church, Yettam. In the invocation to the vigil, Rev. Minassian made references linking the faith of the Jewish nation with the faith of the Armenians, stressing that collectively the issue must be addressed.

Professor Barlow Der Mugrdchian, acting director of the CSUF Armenian Studies Program, outlined the objectives of the upcoming Washington D.C. "Life March." He briefly described the purpose of the "March" as a three part issue; first by encouraging Senators and Representatives to adopt SJR 212, secondly by demonstrating the solidarity of Armenians and Jews for the victims of pogroms in Azerbaijan, and lastly to ask for aid to be sent to the Armenian homeless and jobless.

Also among those speaking at the vigil was ANC member Berj Karapetian. Citing his own previous experience in Washington, D.C., he stressed how important strong organization and direct approach to the legislators would be.

The cause of the Armenians received good exposure through the presence of the local TV and newspaper media. The evening had in attendance several hundred hopeful people, sitting, standing and huddling closely together, some with their heads hung low in reverence. All had the common feeling of *Solidarity*. Their strong, determined sentiment warmed a rather chilly night as did the heat rising from the many flickering candles, lit in memory of those who perished from 1915-1923.

For all those present the "Life March" started there, that night.



Photo by Jon Philip Maroot

Armenians of all ages attend the candlelight 'vigil' in front of the Fresno Courthouse on Feb. 21, 1990

ASP Fall 1990 Courses

*Elementary Modern Armenian (4 units)

MWF 1210-1300

Introduction to modern western Armenian. Oral & written exercises.

**Intro. to Armenian Studies (3 units)

MWF 0910-1000

TTH 1410-1525

Introduction to the culture of the Armenian people.

***Masterpieces of Armenian Literature (3 units)

TTH 0945-1100

A survey of the great works of Armenian literature in English.

History 108B-Armenian

History I (3 units)

Th 1810-2100

Armenian history from its inception to the 13th century.

*G.E. Division 7

**G.E. Division 9

***G.E. Division 6

For more information call the ASP at 278-2669

Durgarian: Award winning ROTC cadet at Fresno State

By Deborah Garabedian
Staff Writer

The blue shirt covered with a nautical print worn by David Durgarian does not reflect the aviation goals set by this 21-year-old California State University, Fresno student.

Durgarian graduated from Fresno High school in 1986 and went on to join the Air Force ROTC program at CSU, Fresno.

"As of now, I want to become a career officer," he said explaining that he has always been interested in aviation. He relayed memories of wanting to be a pilot that traced back to his mother taking him for a trip to the airport.

Durgarian has been involved with the ROTC program for three years during which he has involved himself with many activities and received a number of awards.

Such awards include "Outstanding First Year Cadet Award" and the "Second Year Cadet Sojourners Award."

He is a member of the Arnold Air Society, which is a fraternal organization that promotes relations between the Airforce ROTC and the community by volunteering in community projects.

Along with everything he is doing, Durgarian still manages to keep up

with his Health Science degree requirements and travel to Selma where he is a student pilot.

Dergarian's brown-eyed, brown-haired features have been inherited from his parents, who are both Armenian. He is the third generation of his family to be born in America. He has lived in Fresno all his life and was brought up attending St. Paul Armenian Church on the corner of First and Dakota streets and also participates in the Armenian Church Youth Organization (ACYO).

He is proud to be Armenian and feels that his heritage enhances his life as an American-Armenian.

"What I like about being an American-Armenian is that unlike many other cultures, we have the freedom here to express our ethnic background," he said.

He displayed interest in current Armenian events and felt saddened that he has not learned as much as he would like to about Armenian history. He hopes to take an Armenian culture class in the future.

Durgarian also wanted to encourage other Armenian youth interested in the ROTC Air Force program.

"If you're curious, just come by and talked with those of us who are in the program," he said, "That's the best way to find out."

"For me," Durgarian added, "It has been a wonderful experience."

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We welcome letters to the Editor

Endowment letters

The following are letters received on the occasion of the appointment of Dr. Dickran Kouymjian to the Haig and Isabel Berberian Chair of Armenian Studies at CSUF. We sincerely appreciate all of the letters received.

Dear Dickran,

It is with great pleasure that I read of your appointment to the Haig & Isabel Berberian Chair of Armenian Studies at California State University, Fresno. It is the just crowning of a prolific and multi-faceted academic, literary, and social career. You have been a solid asset to Armenian studies world-wide and you fully deserve this appointment that honors you, the University and the community that you serve. Arsine and I extend to you our most sincere congratulations.

Vahe Oshagan
San Francisco, California

Dear Professor Kouymjian,

First, I would like to commend the Armenian community of Fresno in establishing an endowed Chair of Armenian Studies in honor of Haig and Isabel Berberian. I cannot think of any two finer people deserving of such a great honor.

I would also like to commend Fresno State University for appointing you to this distinguished chair. You have for many years been one of our brightest lights in Armenian studies, both in America and in France, and are certainly worthy of the honor bestowed upon you.

Finally, I would like to congratulate you for your life of distinguished scholarship in Armenian studies and for being appointed as the first distinguished occupant of the Haig and Isabel Berberian Chair of Armenian Studies.

Sincerely yours,
Dennis R. Papazian
Director, Armenian Research Center
The University of Michigan-Dearborn

Dear friends,

I regret very much I will not be able to participate, honoring my friend Dr. Dickran Kouymjian. His erudition, personality and charm will grace the Armenian Studies Program and at the same time add new dimensions to the California State University.

I want to extend my personal regards to Haig and Isabel Berberian for their wisdom and generosity. How lucky one can be to be born an Armenian and be guided by its time honored principles.

With my best personal regards,

Arthur Gregorian
St. Petersburg Beach,
Florida

Dear Dickran,

It is with great pleasure that I congratulate you on your appointment as the first Holder of the Haig and Isabel Berberian Endowed Chair of Armenian Studies. Your years of scholarship in Armenian and Near Eastern history have been appropriately recognized.

It is also with great satisfaction and appreciation that I congratulate the Berberian-Gazarian family and the Armenian community for the San Joaquin Valley for its foresight and commitment in bringing the Chair to reality. When I spoke at the annual banquet of the Armenian Studies Program two years ago, the goal seemed still distant, yet in a very short time that goal was not only met but surpassed by members of the community who understand the importance of education and a university-presence in the development of Armenian studies.

Vartiter and I wish you many years of continued scholarship and service and extend all good wishes to you, the supportive administration at CSU, Fresno, and the dedicated members of the Armenian community who have made an endowed chair in Armenian Studies a reality in the mother community of the Armenians of California.

Sincerely yours,
Richard G. Hovannisian
Holder, Armenian Educational Foundation Chair in Modern Armenian History, and
Associate Director, G.E. von Grunebaum Center for Near Eastern Studies

Asp thank you to...

Jack Ouzounian of
Liberty Printing for
printing the 1989 ASP
banquet programs.

Spilled the Raki

By Y. Stephen Bulbulian

1.

"A home
is not a home
so perfectly
until you're thrown out,"
whined Khachig,
around the table
drinking the raki
with the old man,
Bedros the shoemaker.
"How could he know?"
thought the wiley old man
"he hadn't been thrown out
of the best bars
down on Broadway,
dragged past the police
station
and Library, south,
because he was Armenian.
In his memory,
Bedros saw himself
as courageous
and prideful.
So what!"

2.

South of Ventura,
where Broadway cuts,
cuts across to the east,
neighbors gather
at the corners
and talk of homeland.
We didn't mind,
that all of us left,
lived here, together
in our own village
where the church bell
rang, clang, past
the small houses in a row.
Where the women laughed
at Khachig, staggering,
weaving on the sidewalk
on J Street and San Benito
laughing uncontrolled.
Whe he came home
drunk, he often
spilled the raki.

Video Presentations
Personal Reports
Photographs

**Armenian Life March
to Washington, D.C.**

Sunday, March 18, 1990, 5 p.m.

Fellowship Hall
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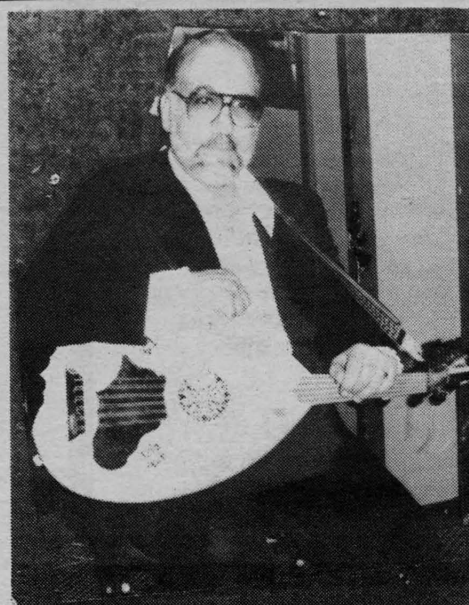
HYE SHARZHOOM NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT

Hye Sharzhoom is the official newspaper of the Armenian Studies Program and the Armenian Students Organization of California State University, Fresno. It is sent, without charge, to thousands of Armenians throughout the world. Though there is no subscription fee, we urge readers to support our efforts with donations of any amount. This request has assumed a special importance because of increased production and mailing costs.

Yes, I would like to support the Armenian Studies Program with a donation of:
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EXTRAVAGANZA

Jon Jon's is sponsoring the first Armenian Folk and Belly Dance Festival March 16, 1990, 8pm. The event is termed "KEF Night Extravaganza." Joe Kouyoumjian, from Boston, will be the guest soloist performing with the John Chookasian Folk Ensemble. Tickets \$10. For more info. call (209) 276-1777 or 266-1220. Don't miss this exciting event! Hopa! Watch for the next event Saturday May 26.



Հայկական էջ

Հարցազրույց՝

Տ. Վարդան ֆինյ. Գասպարեանի հետ

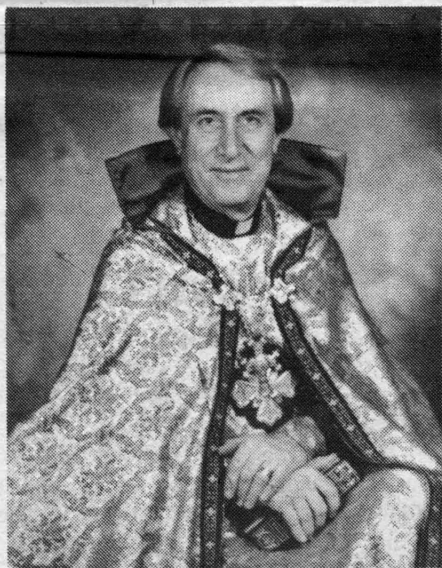
Արժ. Տ. Վարդան ֆինյ. Գասպարեանը, առաջին անգամ ծովահանն է, ծնած է 1939-ին Լոս Անջելեսում: Հայրը Պուրապի եղած է, իսկ մայրը Իրանացի: Նախնական ուսումը կը ստանայ Լոս Անջելեսի կաթոլիկ դպրոցներուն մէջ, որմէ ետք 1957-ին Loyal high school-ը կ'աւարտէ: 1961-ին պատկառը տնտեսագիտական ուսումը կը ստանայ Ս.Ս.Շ. Համալսարանի քաղաքագիտութեան ճիւղէն, արժանանալով M.A. ուսուցչական վկայականի մը: 1970-72 Santa Monica Գոլէճին մէջ քաղաքագիտութիւն կը դասուանդէ:

Նոյն ժամանակ կը դիմէ Վաշէ Սրբազանին եւ Clermont-ի աստուածաբանական դպրոցը կը յաճախէ:

1972-ին կ'ամուսնանայ եւ կը մեկնի Երուսաղէմ:

1973-ին կը վերադառնայ Ամերիկա եւ հոգեւոր մատակարար կը նշանակուի Reedley-ի Ս. Սահակ Մեսրոպ եւ Yetttem-ի Ս. Աստուածածին եկեղեցիներուն:

1973-ի Սեպտեմբերին քահանայ կը ձեռնադրուի: Կը ստանցնէ Երեմի հովութիւնը ու կը ծառայէ մինչեւ 1990, երբ կը նշանակուի Արեւմտեան թեմի Առաջնորդի փոխանորդի պաշտօնը:



Իր սահուն հայերէնը կը պարտի իր մեծ մօր՝ ազգեցեւորութեան: Որով Պատարագները հայերէն կը մատուցէ:

Ստորեւ կը ներկայացնենք մեր ունեցած հարցազրույցը:

Հ.Շ.— Որպէս ատենապետ Ֆրէդնոյի Համայնքային Խորհուրդին «Քայլարշաւ» որ տեղի պիտի ունենայ Մարտ 4-6 Ուաշինկթոնի մէջ որոնք են վերջին լուրերը:

Վ.Գ.— Ընդհանուր գիծերը պատրաստ են: Ամսուն 2-3 ճամբորդութիւններ պիտի կատարուին դէպի Ուաշինկթոն: Կիրակի ամսուն 4-ին Congress-ին առջեւ ընդհանրական արարողութիւններ տեղի պիտի ունենան որուն ընթացքին խօսք պիտի առնեն պաշտօնականներ:

Մարտի 5-ին այցելութիւններ պիտի կատարուին անձնաւորութիւններու որոնք կարեւոր դեր մը կարող են կատարել Բանաձեւին նկատմամբ: Կը յուսանք որ հրեաներու մասնակցութիւնն ալ մեծապէս օգտակար պիտի ըլլայ: Նպատակն է ցոյց տալ Ուա-

շինկթոնի պետական մարդոց, որ հայ գաղութը ոչ միայն համաձայն է այս Բանաձեւին այլ կը պահանջէ անոր վաւերացումը, անոր Նախագահին եւ Կոնկրեսին կողմէ, որպէս պատմական իրողութիւն:

Պէտք է ըսել որ Ֆրէդնոյի հայութիւնը առաջնորդող դեր կը կատարէ «Քայլարշաւին» մէջ:

Հ.Շ.— Բանաձեւին առնչութեամբ ինչ են վերջին նորութիւնները:

Վ.Գ.— Կը կարծեմ թէ արդիւնքը մօտ պիտի ըլլայ. սակայն բանաձեւին վաւերացումը որպէս խորհրդանշան շատ կարեւոր է: Թուրքերուն կողմէ ալ մեծ պայքար կը մղուի, բայց մանրամասնութիւններ չեն տրուիր:

Հ.Շ.— Գալով Հայաստանին, ինչպէս կը տեսնէք վերջին հոլովոյթը, ըլլան անոնք Ղարաբաղ կամ Պարոն:

Վ.Գ.— Անձնապէս կը զգամ, որ կատարուած խոփութիւնները շարունակութիւնն են 1915-ի ցեղասպանութեան: Ազերիները պատրաստ են որեւէ ձեռով հայերը տեղահան ընել իրենց տուներէն: Կորպորացի բանակ զրկելը Բաքու, հայերը ազատելու համար էր: Կը յուսամ թէ արդար լուծում մը պիտի գտնուի եւ այդ պատմական հոգեբար պիտի վերադարձուին հայերուն: Հայ ժողովուրդը պէտք է պաշտպանէ իր արդար իրաւունքները:

Հ.Շ.— Ի՞նչ է ձեր կարծիքը հայերուն արտագաղթին մասին Ամերիկա, Հայաստանէն կամ միջին Արեւելքէն:

Վ.Գ.— Դժբախտաբար Հայաստանի պայմանները գոհացուցիչ չեն անոր համար ալ արտագաղթ տեղի կ'ունենայ: Նոյնը չէ պարզապէս Միջին Արեւելքի հայութեան համար, մասնաւորաբար ապահովութեան հարց կայ այնտեղ: Պէտք է օժանդակել միշտ Հայաստանին արտագաղթը կասեցնելու համար: Հայրենիքին նիւթապէս օգնելու խնդիրը իւրաքանչիւր սփիւռքահայի պարտականութիւնն է:

Հ.Շ.— Ապրիլ 24-ի առիթով ի՞նչ կը ծրագրէ Սան Ուաքինի հայկական գաղութը:

Վ.Գ.— Ֆրէդնոյի Համայնքային Խորհուրդին ջանքերուն շնորհիւ կարեւոր ձեռնարկներ տեղի պիտի ունենայ:

Ապրիլ 22, Կիրակի, ընդհանրական արարողութիւն մը տեղի պիտի ունենայ Հայ Պանդոկաց Եկեղեցւոյ մէջ մասնակցութեամբ Հովիտի բոլոր եկեղեցիներու: Հոգեհանգստեան պաշտօն ալ պիտի կատարուի: Իսկ Ապրիլի 24-ին յայտագիր մը տեղի պիտի ունենայ Մարոյեան Թատրոնին մէջ: Լոնտոնէն Քրիստոֆըր Ուաքըր պատմաբանը պիտի բանախօսէ անգլերէնով:

Հ.Շ.— Ի՞նչ է ձեր ստանձնած նոր պաշտօնը: Ի՞նչ կը հաւատաք Եկեղեցիներու միութեան հարցով:

Վ.Գ.— Ինձի տրուած առաջնորդական փոխանորդի պաշտօնը, երեք մասերու կը բաժնուի:

ԽՄԲԱԳՐԱԿԱՆ

ՀԱՅՐԵՆԻՔ-ՍՓԻԻՌԻ ՀԱԿԱՏԸ

Վերջին 2 տարիներու ընթացքին մեր հայրենիքի հայութիւնը ապրեցաւ, եւ տակաւին կ'ապրի, ծանր օրեր: Բոլորիս ծանօթ է տիրող կացութիւնը անոր համար ալ անհրաժեշտ է, մենք սփիւռքի հայութիւնս, կարելիութեան սահմաններուն մէջ շարունակենք մեր բարոյական եւ նիւթական օժանդակութիւնը դրկել Հայաստանի մեր հայրերուն ու մայրերուն, բոյրերուն ու եղբայրներուն:

Բացառիկ առիթ մը կը ներկայանայ մեզ մասնակցելով Հայաստանին օգնելու աշխատանքներուն եւ ցուցադրելու մեր հայրենասիրութիւնը եւ պատրաստակամութիւնը:

Այսուհանդերձ, հայրենիք-սփիւռք կապերու բարելաւմով իսկական նոր յոյսեր կը բացուին հայութեան համար: Կրնայ նաեւ ներշնչման աղբիւր մը հանդիսանալ սփիւռքի հայութեան, հայապահպանութեան ու համախմբուելու նուիրական գործի կազմակերպման համար:

Հայութիւնը թշնամիներով շրջապատուած է: Պէտք է աշխատինք թոյլ չտալ անոնց օգտագործել մեր տկար կողմերը: Հայրենիք-սփիւռք միասնական ճակատ. ահա մի հզօր գէնք դիմագրաւելու հայութեան սպառնացող ամենօրեայ վտանգներն ու անակնկալները:

Ս. Թ.

ՄԻԱՍՆԱԿԱՆՈՒԹԻՒՆ

ՔԱՂԱՔԱԿԱՆ ՀԱՒԱՔ

Ֆրէդնոյի հայ համայնքային խորհուրդի կազմակերպութեամբ 20րեֆշաքթի, Փետրուար 21, 1990-ին, Ֆրէդնոյի Դատարանի բակին մէջ տեղի ունեցաւ ֆաղափական հաւաք մը ցուցաբերելով միասնականութիւն հայ եւ հրեայ գոհներուն, ինչպէս նաեւ Ազգայնականի մահատակներուն, նպատակով հայկական ցեղասպանութեան յիշատակումի բանաձեւին եւ ֆաղաբերելով մասնակցութիւնը Հայ Կեանքի Քայլարշաւին դէպի Ուաշինկթոն, Մարտի 4-6:

Պրօֆ. Պարթ Տէր Մկրտիչեան, օրուան հանդիսավարը, իր բացման խօսքին մէջ շնչեղ հայութեան միասնական գործակցութեան ոգին, ի պատասխան թուրքիայի եւ Մ.Ն.Ա. նախագահին բանաձեւին ընդմիջութեան:

Պերն Կարապետեան իր ելոյթի ընթացքին ընդգծեց, — «մենք պէտք է ոտքի կենանք եւ ոչ ըսեմք... եւ չձգենք որ խեղադիրտի իրողութիւնը»:

Ռապայի Բենեթ Սիկըլ՝ բանաձեւին գորավիզ կեցող անձնաւոր-

ութիւն մը, ըսաւ աւելի քան 600 ներկաներուն. «չենք կրնար անցեալը փոխել, սակայն ապագայ պատմութեան վրայ կրնանք ազդել»:

Ցեղասպանութեան բանաձեւին բուն նպատակը թուրքիայ կառավարութիւնը մեղադրելու չէ, այլ բոլոր աշխարհին գգուցանել, որ միւս դէպքեր չկրկնուին:

Արժ. Տ. Արթուն ֆինյ. Սմբատեան շնչեղ. — «շատեր կը կարծենք, թէ այս հարցը միայն հայերուն կը վերաբերուի. սակայն այն կը վերաբերի համայն մարդկութեան: Շատ մը ազգեր են քարկուած են ցեղասպանութեան եւ հարցուց ո՞վ պիտի ըլլայ յաջորդը»:

Քաղաքական հաւաքին Ֆրէդնոյի ֆաղափապետ Քէրըն Համֆրիս բերաւ իր մասնակցութիւնը:

Հաւաքի հանդիսութիւնը աւարտեցաւ միասնաբար «Հայր Մեր»-ի երգեցողութեամբ եւ մոմավառութեամբ:

Մ. Ճեմետեան

ա. — Քրիստոնէական դաստիարակութիւն:

բ. — Երիտասարդական հարցեր:

գ. — Ընդհանրական հարցեր:

Առաջնորդ Սրբազանի բացակայութեան ալ Սրբազանը պիտի ներկայացնեն:

Միութեան հարցով, բանակցութիւնները արեւելքի մէջ տեղի կ'ունենան, եւ յոյսով եմ որ եկեղեցիներու միութիւնը իրականութիւն պիտի դառնայ:

Հ.Շ. Հայ Ծարժումի հայկական էջը կը կարդա՞ք: Ի՞նչ է ձեր կարծիքը:

Վ.Գ.— Շիտակը, երբ հայկական էջը առաջին անգամ

կարդացի շատ ուրախ զգացի, մանաւանդ երբ երիտասարդներու կողմէ կը պատրաստուի: Պէտք է շարունակուի այս էջը թէեւ կրնայ դժուար ըլլալ ժամանակի եւ ծախսի տեսակէտով. սակայն այս էջը որոշ նկարագիր կու տայ թերթին: Լաւ է որ տեղւոյն հայկական գաղութը հայերէն ալ կարդայ: Հպարտ եմ հայ լեզուի գոյատեւման համար:

Այդպիսով վերջ գտաւ մեր ունեցած հաճելի հարցազրույցը, Տէր Վարդանի հետ: Հայ Ծարժումի Հայկական էջին խմբագրական կազմը յաջողութիւն կը մաղթէ իրեն իր նոր պաշտօնին համար:

CAPITOL MARCH

continued from pg.1

In particular, the Azerbaijani blockade of supplies has affected the building of homes, and lobbyists encouraged Congress to increase the flow of surplus military supplies to Armenia immediately.

The "Armenian Life March" also consisted of three solidarity and prayer events where Armenian martyrs, past and present were honored.

Amenians throughout the country gathered at the west steps of the Capitol for an inter-faith service. It was conducted by Armenian clergy, Jewish Rabbis, other clergy from across the country, and political leaders.

The purpose of the "Armenian Life March" was explained at the service by Rev. Minassian who said, "We want the President to do with his pen, what he said he would do, and sign the Genocide Resolution."

Fresno Mayor Karen Humphrey was at the ecumenical service to bring greetings and lend her support for the Congressional Armenian Genocide Resolution. Fresno City Councilman Tom Bohigian was also present to lend his support. The purpose of the service was to send a message to the people who work in the Capitol and to the President about the importance of commemorating this terrible crime against humanity, Humphrey said.

The Jewish leaders have been big supporters of the Armenian Genocide Resolution because they can understand the Armenian people's turmoil and sufferings.

Rabbi Richard Stemberger, director of the Mid-Atlantic Council of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, said that the purpose of this "March" is to bring the Jews and Armenians together. "We are people that have suffered, nevertheless, we can march in strength," he said.

The Armenians are lucky to have Rabbi Kenneth I. Segel of Fresno's

not only concerned about his own people's suffering, but the Armenians' as well," Minassian said.

"The Jews and Armenians have been made into a single family by our murders and the torment is so intense that it leaves us speechless," said Segel, the main speaker of the ecumenical service.

"The President of the United States, the moral leader of the free world has turned his back to his campaign pledge to recognize through a Congressional resolution the Armenian Genocide . . . Shame. . . He has nourished cynicism and abdicated his responsibility to set a moral tone for our nation . . . Shame. . .," said Segel.

Segel's emotional speech underlined the suffering of the Armenian and Jewish people. "Our fates, Jewish and Armenian, intertwine. History's pages are stained with our blood, our tears. We have both learned that there are no limits to evil," continued Segel.

"The people of Germany have faced up to their history, put it in perspective, and moved on to face their future. Turkey denies truth and remains callous and insensitive," Segel said.

"Armenian Life March" participants gathered on Monday evening outside the White House gates for a candlelight vigil. A prayer service was led by Rev. Minassian for the suffering of past and present Armenians.

During the "March" many Armenian clergy, students, and church laymen held signs saying "Remember the Armenian Genocide." They chanted in urgency and desperation, "Keep your promise Mr. President."

A team reception and meeting with Congressman Charles "Chip" Pashayan followed. He provided updated information about the prospects for SJ Resolution 212 and the possibility of passage of a concurrent resolution before April 24.

The Armenians owe Senator Dole a lot for his efforts to get the resolution



Valley residents gathered at West Capitol steps for Ecumenical Service, which took place on March 4, 1990, with over 400 in attendance.

passed, Pashayan said. "He has been spending time on a difficult issue and you don't see that kind of dedication to moral issues in Washington."

Pashayan expressed his concern about a concurrent resolution being passed, even if it doesn't include the President's signature; since this is the 75th anniversary commemorating the Armenian Genocide.

The last event of the "Armenian Life March" was the Tuesday afternoon prayer vigil service outside the Turkish Embassy. Headed by Bishop Aris Shirvanian of San Francisco, many Armenians from across the nation arrived at the Turkish Embassy on Massachusetts Avenue where song and prayer set the tone.

The theme for the service was "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you."

Next, the participants marched to the Turkish Chancery, several blocks away, drawing attention along Massachusetts Avenue. Signs were held by Genocide survivors, Armenian

clergy, students, and church laymen.

A protest was lead by Professor Der Mugrdchian, acting director of CSUF Armenian Studies Program, and Sarkis Nazarian of Washington, to remind those within the embassy that the Turkish Government was guilty of the Armenian Genocide.

"We as Armenians know that Turkey is responsible for the Genocide, and we will continue to gather and have the satisfaction of knowing that Turkey will be guilty- until they acknowledge that act," Der Mugrdchian said.

An attempt was made by Jendian to confirm an appointment with the ambassador or his attache, but nothing materialized.

Capitol Hill has not seen the last of Armenians from across the nation gathering and protesting for conscience and morality. Armenians will continue to gather until justice is served and the Turkish government acknowledges the Armenian Genocide of 1915 and April 24 is declared a national day of commemoration.

KARABAGH

continued from pg.1

of Getashen, Khanlar, and Shaumian. There, for months, families have been cut off from any outside contact, and have been slowly starved and eventually forced out of their homes.

Over the past several months over twenty separate instances of violence have been reported against Armenians, in addition to the major pogroms in Baku. All of these actions have taken place without the government interfering in any way, indicating again the complicity of the authorities as well as the Azerbaijan Popular Front.

The Presidium of the Armenian Suprem Soviet issued a declaration in response to the forced deportations calling on the authorities to prevent further acts of violence. In the declaration, the Soviet central government was held to be directly responsible, in as much as they have refused to consider the rights of the people of Karabagh for self-determination.

In the United States, five members of the Senate sent a letter to Gorbachev calling on him to prevent further aggression aimed at Armenians and to bring the perpetrators to justice. The European Parliament has also spoken

out against the violation of human rights in the Soviet Union and is preparing to send a task force to Azerbaijan and Armenia to report on the situation.

During the "Armenian Life March" to Washington, D.C. last week, Armenian leaders asked Congress to form its own team of observers to report first hand on not only the continued violence but also on the long-term effects of the earthquake.

Amnesty International has also been monitoring the situation closely and it is imperative that Armenians

worldwide request that neutral observers be sent as soon as possible to the affected regions.

Elections in Armenia will soon be held for the Armenian Soviet and also for local offices. It is expected that the Armenian Pan-National Movement will pick up many positions. Many new groups have been forming in the last few weeks as the intellectual ferment continues in Armenia.

In the Diaspora, Armenians have been monitoring events closely, but it remains for decisive action to be taken.

Hye Sharzhoom donations

Margaret B. Williams
Fresno, CA
Carla & Harry Donobedian
Fresno, CA
Gloria Mirigian
San Leandro, CA
Peter & Arshaluis Sirabian
Fresno, CA
Ralph Shamsioian, Sr.
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Armenian Fine Arts Festival

hosted by the Fresno A.G.B.U. Chapter

Saturday, April 21- 10 am-5 pm

Sunday, April 22- 1pm- 5pm Champagne Reception

--Come to enjoy the artistic expression of Armenians
of all ages --Enter your creative works

Categories: Painting; Sculpture; Photography-Color and
Black and White; Literature-Poetry and Prose

Entry deadline is Sunday, April 1 1990

Prizes awarded in the 16 years and older division-only

Dend fees and entries to: Armenian Fine Arts Festival

1720 Fulton

Fresno, CA 93721

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Division: _____

15years and under _____ 16 years and above _____

Category: _____ Title: _____

1. _____

2. _____

Limited to two entries in any division.

Fees are : \$2.50 for professionals and 15 and under, per entry

\$5.00 for 16 and above, per entry

Call (209)233-5626 or (209)251-1075 for additional information