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# ՀԱՅ ՇԱՐԺԺՈՒՄ *Hye Sharzhoom*

March 1992

Volume 13, No. 3

Supplement to the Daily Collegian

## Historic First Visit to CSU Fresno *Student Exchange Agreement is reached with Yerevan State University*

By Armen Aghishian  
Staff Writer

and  
Barlow Der Mugrdechian  
Advisor

The historic first visit of Yerevan State University President Dr. Norair Arakelian to California State University, Fresno took place February 9-11, 1992 and culminated with the signing of a five year agreement on cooperation between the two institutions.

Dr. Arakelian, his wife Marietta, and Vice-President for International Relations Rafael Matevossian, were in the United States at the invitation of Dr. John Welty, President of CSUF and Dr. Dickran Kouymjian, Haig and Isabel Berberian Professor of Armenian Studies and Barlow Der Mugrdechian of the Armenian Studies Program.

The Sarkis and Meliné Kalfayan Center for Armenian Studies co-sponsored the visit and also helped organize a series of events with the San Joaquin Valley community.

Dr. Arakelian and his delegation met with President Welty on Monday morning, February 10 in the President's office where after a cordial meeting and discussion, they signed a five-year agreement between the two universities. Dr. Welty

on behalf of the University accepted an 8th century B.C. drinking vessel from the Gumairi region of Armenia, which was given by Dr. Arakelian as a symbol of the ties between the universities and in recognition of the ancient history of the Armenians.

Dr. Kouymjian hailed the agreement as an important first step in the ever growing ties between the Republic of Armenia and the United States. The agreement calls for the exchange of up to five students per year to study in fields of their choosing at the host institution. A summer study option will also be available to CSUF students. Provisions will also be made for faculty exchanges and research to take place in a cooperative atmosphere.

Barlow Der Mugrdechian, who will be coordinating the various programs, remarked that CSUF students now had a very special opportunity before them, through which they could see in person what they had learned about through Armenian Studies courses.

The purpose of the agreement for students is not only to learn through studying, but also to explore a new environment and culture. Dr. Arakelian aptly stated that "The program benefits not only the students involved, but also their fellow students, teachers, and the university as a whole."

A full schedule of activities for the guests included a dinner with the members of the Kalfayan Center for Armenian Studies, a public lecture at the St. Paul Armenian Church, and a special dinner hosted by CSUF President Welty in honor of the guests. During the dinner Dr. Welty received a bottle of specially prepared "We'ty" cognac and in return received an

engraved plaque.

Following the signing of the agreement, an open forum discussion was held with members of the campus community. Faculty and students joined with members of the Armenian Students Organization, and the press to discuss and compare higher

Please see **Visit**, page 8



Left to right: Dr. Dickran Kouymjian, Dr. Norair Arakelian, Dr. John Welty, and Rafael Matevossian.

## Financial Crisis Continues at CSUF

The severe financial crisis gripping the state of California has had its repercussions in the California State University system, and in particular at CSU Fresno. The slashing of millions of dollars from the 1991-1992 budget meant that faculty were laid off and services cut at the university. More cuts are scheduled for next year as the financial impact of the recession increases.

The Armenian Studies Program and its various activities have been threatened by cuts in supplies and services and narrowly avoided faculty layoff through the generosity of a close supporter of the Program. The

Armenian Studies Program has also sharply curtailed its activities this year, foremost the temporary suspension of its annual Lecture Series and the postponement of a symposium devoted to the tenth anniversary of William Saroyan's death. *Hye Sharzhoom* is also in a very precarious situation; circulation beyond the campus is in jeopardy due to the costs in mailing.

We ask all of our faithful readers and supporters to respond in any way possible to guarantee the continuation of our publications and activities.

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## Inside *Hye Sharzhoom*

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# Too Much of an Armenian?

By Jeff Ahronian  
Editor in Chief

Is there such a thing as being too much of an Armenian? That is, while living as a citizen of the United States, is it necessarily wrong to think, eat, drink, and act totally Armenian every day of the week, every week of the month, and every month of the year? To exhibit totally nationalistic Armenian thoughts and actions?

It is indeed a rather subjective question which could be argued and debated over and over. However, it is the author's opinion that acting totally in one extreme, radical manner day-in and day-out may not be healthy. For example, the "professional" or self-righteous Armenian - one who takes issues over obsessively - risks greatly altering the way that person and the rest of that person's culture is subsequently viewed by others.

Thus, I have provided a valuable, proven system in which one can keep tabs on loved ones and make sure they don't succumb to the dangers of total *Armenianism*. The following are five early-warning signs identifying an Armenian who has indeed finally flipped:

\* \* \*

**Being able to recite the entire Armenian National Anthem backwards**

Being able to recite the entire Armenian National Anthem could have been a justifiable criteria in itself - but *backwards*? Now that's going just a little too far, after all, one out of a hundred can't even tell you the title is "Mer Hayrenik."

**Decorating one's car with various unnecessary items**

For example, having a yellow triangle in the back window of one's automobile

that reads "Crazy Armenian Driver on Board." The triangles went out of style several years ago along with the numerous tacky bumper stickers plastered over the entire bumper and windows.

**Watching Armenian Teletime just to check out 'beautiful Armenian babes'**

Now listen, there are a lot of other places to check out 'beautiful Armenian babes.' Watching a television program is not the way to do it. Get outside - go to a picnic - go to church - go to a female mud wrestling match...

**Shaving the shape of Armenia into one's hair**

Everybody has witnessed the recent fad of rebellious youths shaving words or even objects and symbols into the back of their heads, yet, the thought of shaving the shape of Armenia into one's hair would be ludicrous. Just think of how many times

you'd hear the question, "What's that supposed to be?" Followed by, "What's Armenia?"

**Painting one's house the three colors of the Armenian flag**

First off, red, blue, and orange do not match remarkably well. Second off, painting one's house with those colors would be extremely gawdy and eventually take the appearance of the *Partridge Family Bus* - not a smart thing to do if you're thinking about someday selling the house.

\* \* \*

Again, it is extremely important that you keep an eye out for the five early warning signs mentioned above. Remember, having (or even being for that matter) too much of one thing is never a 'wise' thing to do.

The following provided special support for the visit of the Rector and Vice-Rector of Yerevan State University to CSUF

Alice Peters  
Meline & Sarkis Kalfayan  
Dianne & Arnold Gazarian  
Diana & Nerses Dermenjian

Alice & Berge Bulbulian  
Penny & George Emerzian  
Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Shamshoian  
St. Paul Armenian Church

## ASO, Vintage Days Committee reach compromise

By Richelle A. Noroyan  
Staff Writer

During the first week of February, the Armenian Students Organization (ASO) and the Vintage Days Committee (VDC), which presides over the annual CSU Fresno Vintage Days activities, worked out a compromise concerning the April 24 genocide commemoration. This year, Armenian Remembrance Day and part of the Vintage Days Festival will both occur on the same day, Friday, April 24. The compromise states that an area of respect will be established in the Free Speech Area and some Vintage Days activities will be halted between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. on April 24.

Due to problems in the past concerning this scheduling conflict, Khatchig Jingirian Jr., president of the ASO at the time, Robin Saroyan, a member of the ASO, and myself, chair of the April 24 planning committee, went before the VDC originally requesting that no Vintage Days activities take place between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. This included a halt to all vintathalon events, closing of food booths in the Boomtown Carnival, and the halting of music events in the 'Pit' area.

Many ASO members felt that these activities, out of respect for victims of war, should be halted. The ASO made its first proposal at a VDC meeting on January 30. Instead of voting on the requests that the ASO brought before the January 30 meeting, Miguel Magos, chair of the VDC, decided to call a special meeting on Febru-

ary 4 to discuss a compromise between the two groups. Some members of the ASO were upset at not receiving a decision during that January 30 meeting. "We expected an answer at that meeting and did not receive one - they never gave us a straightforward answer." Jingirian said. The ASO also felt the VDC was stalling in making a decision.

At the February 4 meeting, the ASO compromised by suggesting that activities only be halted from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., and also accepted that food booths at the Boomtown Carnival could sell food during those hours. Just as the parties felt the compromise was set, Kathi Waddle, chair of the Vintathalon Events Committee, mentioned that the water event could only be held at 11:00 a.m. because the organization that was sponsoring the event could only be available at that time. The ASO found this unacceptable and requested that the VDC either approve or deny their requests. Magos then stated that the VDC could not vote on ASO requests because the meeting was a special meeting. The ASO was told by Magos that it would definitely receive an answer at the next VDC meeting on February 6.

After the meeting, Jingirian discov-

Please see *Compromise*, page 3

## Hye Sharzhoom

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*Hye Sharzhoom* is a supplement of the *Daily Collegian* and the newspaper of the CSUF Armenian Students Organization and the Armenian Studies Program and is funded by the Associated Students.

Articles may be reprinted provided that *Hye Sharzhoom* is acknowledged. *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.

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# An Editorial on Current Armenian Affairs

By M. Levon Bedrosian  
Staff Writer

Nowdays, all I seem to hear in the Armenian Community is that Armenia needs money. I do not intend to undermine the good intentions of many relief organizations, but I feel compelled to ask, "why are we giving so much money to Armenia?"

Am I reading the paper wrong, or is Armenia currently at war with the Azerbaijan republic of the 'now defunct' Soviet Union. It seems to me that the majority of any monetary relief would go directly to the purchase of weapons instead of food or clothing - something that Armenians most desperately now need.

\* \* \*

It is great that Armenians now have a place to call a homeland, but is that what

we really want? Is the East side of Mt. Ararat our true and God given homeland?

\* \* \*

This time last year, the Armenian Community was rallying for the passage of the bill in the U.S. Congress to set April 24 as a day of remembrance for the Genocide. This year, however, the only thing people seem to be talking about is a free Republic of Armenia. Have I missed something here? Has the Turkish government recognized the Genocide? Have the lawmakers passed a bill for a day of remembrance?

As of today, the Turkish government is in desperate need of aid due to the recent major earthquakes in Turkey. Why don't Armenians use this as an opportunity to get a bill passed. Currently, Turkey is in no position to lobby against any legislation because they are depending on the United States for aid. I am not saying that

what happened to the Turkish people is good, because any loss of human life is a tragedy - the Genocide was a tragedy. But we should take every opportunity avail-

able to try and get a day of recognition in the United States before the survivors of the Genocide are merely part of our memories.

## Compromise, from page 2

ered by reading the VDC bylaws that a vote could have been taken to decide on the ASO requests. When Jingirian approached Magos after the meeting concerning this, Magos admitted he had made a mistake and that he accepted all of the blame.

At the next VDC meeting, eight ASO members and advisor Barlow Der Mugrdechian attended to add support for the requests. Without much discussion, the VDC approved all of the requests that the ASO was asking for.

After approving the requests, Magos felt a lot had been accomplished by the two groups. "I'm excited to sit down with the students," Magos stated. "There is too much administration input and not enough students making the decisions."

ASO members were pleased with the approval of the requests, but were not completely happy with the VDC. Besides feeling resentment for having to attend three separate meetings to get an answer, it is difficult to be civil when Armenian students have to compete with a 'water game' in order to commemorate the Genocide.

## Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

You are to be commended for the great service you render to the Armenian community through your fine informative publication.

With the rapid development and changes taking place in Armenia and the Diaspora your newspaper is a most welcome addition in every Armenian home.

Sincerely yours,

John Baronian

Trustee Emeritus and Overseer

Tufts University

Medford, MA

Dear Editor:

On behalf of the Academician-Secretary of the Armenian Academy of Sciences History and Economics Department Hrachik Simonian, allow us to express our heartfelt gratitude for the *Hye Sharzhoom* newspaper, amiably sent to Presidium by your highly esteemed establishment.

With best regards and cordial respect,  
Dr. Gayane Makhmourian

Secretary of the Armenian Academy  
of Sciences and International

Relations Commission

Yerevan, Armenia

Dear Editor:

Thank you for sending us a copy of *Hye Sharzhoom*. It is nice to know Armenians are numerous and well organized in the U.S.A. I congratulate you in this fact on behalf of Warsaw Armenians.

I enclose our latest English report on our activities. Our group here is small, but a large number of native Poles are interested in our lectures and publications. There are people who lived before WWII in the region of Luvov. There they lived side by side with a numerous and well or-

ganized group of Armenians who were an important group in the social life of the town until WWII dispersed them all over the present territory of Poland.

I thank you once again.

Cordially yours,  
Leon Ter Ohanian  
Warsaw, Poland

Dear Editor:

I am sending you my small contribution in order that you may continue to promote the Armenian culture, history and, above all, the Armenian language among the new generation of Armenians in the U.S.A.

God bless you and may you always work towards Azkabahanoom.

Sincerely,  
Alice Odian Kasparian  
Belmont, MA

Dear Editor:

I enjoy reading *Hye Sharzhoom* (the English parts) so I am enclosing a check to help out with your mailing and postage. May you have continued success.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Araks V. Tolegian  
Sherman Oaks, CA

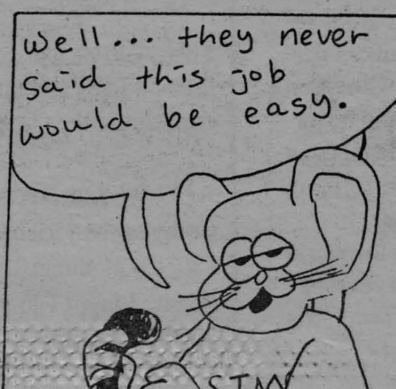
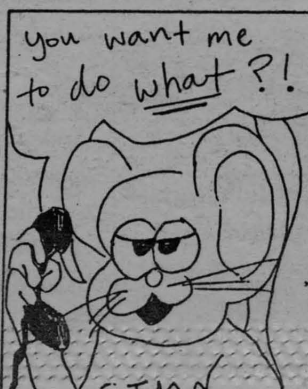
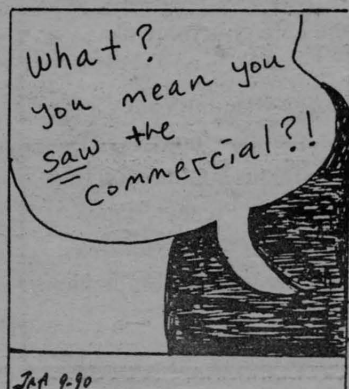
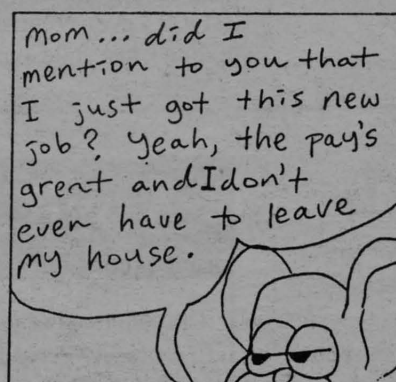
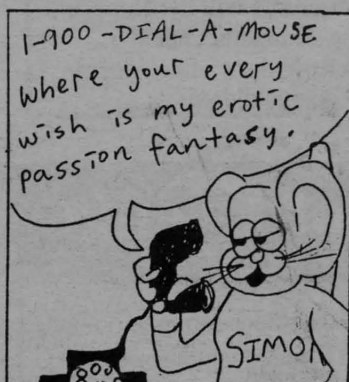
Dear Editor:

I enjoy your publication and your most informative message - thank you. Enclosed you will find a small donation to help cover your mailing costs.

Sincerely,  
Edward Godoshian  
Danville, CA

## Simon the Mouse

By Jeff Ahronian



*H y e Sharzhoom* is once again looking for interested students to fill staff positions.

For more information, contact the Armenian Studies office at 278-2669.

# Chooljian keeps family tradition going

By Jeff Ahronian  
Editor in Chief

Gerald Chooljian, manager of Del Rey Packing Co., decided to get into the raisin packing business because he wanted to keep the family tradition going. For the past 15 years, he has done just that and has seen the company go through many changes.

The packinghouse was started in the 1920's by Gerald's grandfather, Neshan Chooljian, who was looking for a better way to market his own crop. Today, the company ships raisins to different countries all over the world.

Chooljian admits that a lot has changed since when he first started working at the family packinghouse. "Most of the work was done by hand, in fact, I remember one of my jobs was having to glue boxes together with a paintbrush. Now, mostly everything has been automated in order to keep up with the competition."

Chooljian was recently elected chairman of the California Raisin Advisory Board (CALRAB), which is the official marketer and promoter of California raisins. CALRAB uses advertising agencies and public relations firms to market raisins to a world-wide audience. CALRAB also takes up a lot of Chooljian's time and has him travelling at least five or six times a year promoting the raisin industry across the U.S. and abroad. "The travelling is hard," he admits. "There's a lot of meetings and hotels - it's strictly a job."

Chooljian, who has been to such places as India, China, Thailand, Europe, and London, has never been to Armenia, although, he hopes to one day travel there.

Chooljian, who graduated from CSU Fresno in 1976 with a degree in ag-economics and now serves on the Viticulture and Enology Resource Center at CSUF, notices some startling differences beginning to take place on and around the campus. "There's now parking lots where we used to grow grapes," he states. "It seems as if the school is losing some of its 'ag' identity."

Chooljian definitely has a hard time keeping up with all of his diverse activities. Aside from being a devoted family man to his wife Tammy and children Chad and Courtney, he is active in numerous different organizations. He is a member of the Knights of Vartan, the Selma Triple X,

the Del Rey Lions, a coach for his son's basketball team, and is also active within the church, being both a sub-deacon and a past parish council member. He was also once a member of the Ag Leadership Program and, was just recently appointed by the Governor to serve on the Agricul-

ture Co-operative Bargaining Association Advisory Board which meets in Sacramento.

When he isn't busy with attending meetings and conferences, the recent CALRAB chairman loves playing golf and rooting for the San Francisco Giants.

## Hye Profile: Gerald Chooljian

**Occupation:** General manager of Del Rey Packing Co.

**Born:** November 15, 1954 in Sanger, California.

**Marital Status:** Married to Tammy.

**Children:** 2, Chad and Courtney.

**The purpose of my job is:** Overseeing the complete operation of Del Rey Packing Co. from growing to packing to marketing of raisins.

**First Job:** Salvaging raisins out of improperly wrapped packages.

**What I enjoy most about my job:** The interaction with people from around the world. Also, in this business you have very few dull moments.

**I realized I wanted to be involved in raisin packing when:** I used to see my grandfather, father, and uncle working together; I wanted to continue the family tradition.

**My most embarrassing moment ever was:** One year at church camp I set up an alarm system to prevent cabin raiding. Well, one night at about 2 a.m. the staff came by for bed check and set off the alarm. The next morning I had to report to the office. I was so embarrassed because these people knew my parents very well. I was really scared, but everything turned out o.k. To this day we still talk about that alarm system.

**The person who has had the most impact on my life is:** My uncle Dick Osganian. He showed me if you had the determination to do something and worked hard at it you could succeed.

**All time favorite television show:** Leave It To Beaver.

**All time favorite movie:** Field of Dreams.



**Favorite food:** Lamb chops at the Chicago Chop House.

**Favorite vacation spot:** Las Vegas.

**Favorite sport:** Baseball.

**People who make me laugh are:** The Tigers Club.

**Biggest regret:** I did not go to graduate school to continue my education.

**If I could change one thing about myself, I'd:** Be a better teacher in trying to convey a thought or instructions to another person.

**Best gift I ever gave:** My wife's wedding ring.

**Best gift I ever received:** My two children Chad and Courtney.

**Fondest childhood memory:** Spending a lot of time with my grandmother Rose Osganian. She taught me how to play pinochle with her friends.

**Favorite way to relax:** Playing golf.

**Biggest gripe:** I cannot understand why people with the same objectives have to differ on opinions for only personal reasons. In life, people are all looking for the same thing.

**I'm most proud of:** Being elected Chairman of the California Raisin Advisory Board.

**30 years from now, I will be:** Hopefully doing the same thing, but in a reduced capacity and spending a lot of time with my grandchildren.

## Hagopian Gives Concert

On Sunday, March 15, Richard Hagopian and his orchestra, along with the Arax Dancers, highlighted the first program in a series entitled Folk Roots Fresno. The event was sponsored by The School of Arts and Humanities of CSU Fresno as well as The National Endowment of the Arts. The performances took place at the CSU Fresno Satellite College Union.

Project Director Gene Bluestein welcomed those in attendance and thanked all for their participation. "These concerts and programs are being held to celebrate and acknowledge the diverse folk music around us in this community."

The first portion of the program included about a dozen folk selections by Richard Hagopian. Of the many songs performed, were those by Tateos, Seboo Laminian, and Hrant.

The second part of the program included some traditional folk dances performed by the Arax Dancers, who often work together with Hagopian and his orchestra. The Arax Dancers, which began as a church group, have been performing independently for over 18 years.

Hagopian, known throughout the world as 'a master of the oud', now serves on an advisory committee of the California Arts Council.

## April 24 Calendar of Events

The commemoration will begin in the **Free Speech Area at 11:00 a.m.** of the CSUF campus on Friday April 24.

There will be a display table set up with facts and information concerning the Genocide.

**At 12:00 p.m.,** speakers will include: Congressman Richard Lehman, City Councilman Tom Bohigian, Fresno Mayor Karen Humphrey as well as others.

Following the outdoor commemoration, there will be a 'round table' discussion entitled "How to get the Genocide recognized by the U.S. government?"

**6:30 p.m.** the San Joaquin Valley Armenian Community Council is sponsoring a religious commemoration to be held at the First Presbyterian Armenian Church. It will be followed by, at **8:00 p.m.,** by a civic commemoration.

## Armenian/North American Literature is discussed

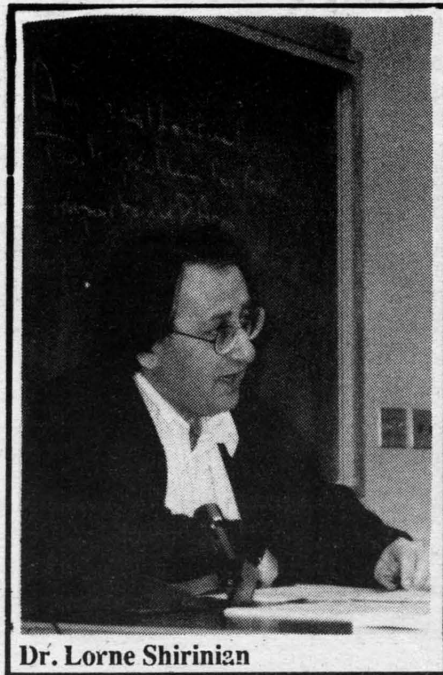
By Armen Aghishian  
Staff Writer

"The usages of symbolism are perhaps the most pertinent aspects of Armenian/North American Literature," stated Professor Lorne Shirinian upon the commencement of the 1-unit Armenian Literature class offered by the CSU Fresno Kalfayan Center for Armenian Studies. The class was held on Friday February 21, and Saturday, February 22.

Dr. Shirinian is presently a professor of English and Comparative Literature in the Department of Literary Studies at the College Militaire Royal de Saint Jean. He received his Ph.D. in Comparative Literature from the Universite de Montreal and has authored several books, including one on Armenian-North American Literature.

Dr. Shirinian began his class with a detailed, yet concise overview and description of the diaspora. "The concept of the Diaspora has numerous implications for Armenians. It was a necessary means of salvation from, among other things, the Genocide by the Turks." He also provided demographical data pertaining to the "Spiurk" diaspora. "Nearly two million Armenians live in what we know and consider to be the Spiurk." The term "diaspora" comes from the Latin word *sperso* which means to scatter things or people. Dr. Shirinian also provided the students with some interesting demographic data pertaining to the diaspora. "Almost half of all Armenians live in the diaspora."

Dr. Shirinian later went on to give an overview of the course. The focus of the class was Armenian/North American Literature from 1930-1992, "a period of our



Dr. Lorne Shirinian

literature which received little analysis." He also added that the Genocide is the active symbol by which we as Armenians are perceived. Specifically, the Genocide has given birth to many motifs, images, symbols and representations in Armenian Literature. "Genocide, indeed, is the most important symbol in our literature."

Among the many various works and authors studied and discussed were Peter Najarian, David Kherdian, William Saroyan, as well as some of Dr. Shirinian's own works. From analyzing and discussing Peter Najarian's *Voyages* and William Saroyan's *Countrymen*, *How Do You Like American?*, Dr. Shirinian commented that in post-Genocidal literature, an overwhelming issue has been the inability of the Armenian male to find a mate or sexual contentment. "This problem has communicated itself through a number of various

Please see Shirinian, page 8

## Graduate Student from Armenia at CSUF

By Eva Sevia  
Staff Writer

Twenty-seven year old Artashes Ghandilian of Yerevan, Armenia is the first student from Armenia to ever study at California State University, Fresno. He arrived in January of 1992 to spend one semester as a graduate student in the field of Crop Sciences at the invitation of the Armenian Studies Program and the School of Agriculture, Sciences and Technology at CSU Fresno.

Ghandilian is a graduate of the Armenian Agricultural Institute in Yerevan, where he is working on his doctoral degree. He completed his graduate work in the field of crops, specifically in his specialty of wheat. San Joaquin Valley farmers have enriched his stay by taking him on day trips to their farms where he is learning the techniques which make Fresno County the world's richest agricultural area.

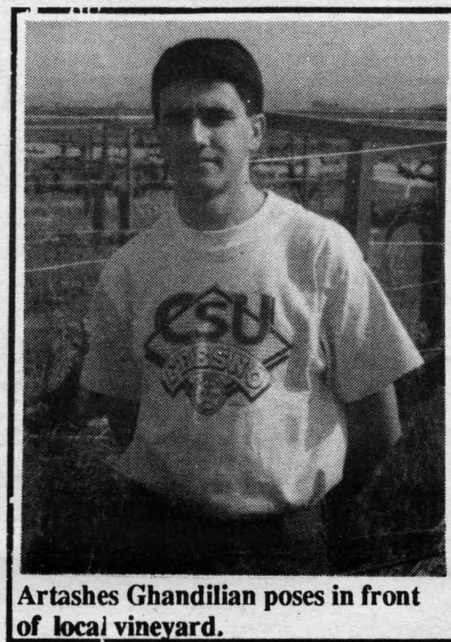
The Armenian farming community in particular has been involved with making sure that Ghandilian has the opportunity to see everything possible during his stay.

Ghandilian's first visit outside of the former Soviet Union has been an eye-opener. From the supermarkets to the department stores, he has been taking in the American experience. Born and raised in Yerevan, he had the chance to visit many of the former Soviet Republics, but this is his first visit to a western country. He is married and has one daughter.

The educational system in Armenia is rapidly changing says Ghandilian, as budgetary realities become ever more important. By the time he returns from his short stay in

the U.S. he expects that Armenia will have changed very much.

Ghandilian is well acquainted with American culture enjoying music and American films. He taught himself English and has become fluent in a short time. While studying at CSUF he is staying in the dormitories where students refer to him by his American nickname of Eric.



Artashes Ghandilian poses in front of local vineyard.

Ghandilian's stay at CSUF has been made possible through grants from the Armenian Studies Program, the School of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, the Armenian Missionary Association of America, and the Armenian-American Citizen's League.

It is projected that more graduate students from Armenia will be arriving next semester as ties between Armenia and CSU Fresno increase.

## STUDY IN ARMENIA FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS

### Armenia Opens Doors to Students from Diaspora for Fall 1992

As part of the Republic of Armenia's efforts to reach out to the world community, Yerevan State University is encouraging American university students to study in Armenia.

Yerevan State University (YSU) is the intellectual hub of the newly independent Armenian Republic. Both professors and students have played a key role in the national democratic movement that has transformed the Republic since 1988.

During the Soviet period, Armenia's system of higher education annually received more than 1500 foreign students, primarily from the Middle East and the former Soviet bloc. Within the framework of reform that has taken shape under Armenia's democratic government, YSU has sought to broaden its outreach to the

United States. Exchange agreements have recently been signed between California State University, Fresno, the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, and Northeastern University. YSU has also set new guidelines for American students wishing to apply directly to study in Armenia.

American students may now enroll at YSU for one semester, a full year, or for a more extensive degree program. Typically students from the United States have focused on language, literature, and history. The majority have begun their course of study without fluency in Armenian or Russian. For the 1992-1993 academic year, YSU plans to make its program more responsive to the needs of foreign students. New intensive language classes are scheduled, as well as introductory survey courses

on Armenia and its culture. The application and admission process has also been streamlined. In accordance with a recent agreement, the Armenian Studies Program at California State University, Fresno will serve as the coordinator and informational clearinghouse for American students wishing to study in Armenia.

Aside from YSU, American students are invited to apply to other institutions of higher learning within the Republic, including the Yerevan State Conservatory, the State Engineering Institute, the Yerevan Fine Arts and Theater Institute, the Yerevan Economics Institute, and the Armenian Pedagogical Institute.

Tuition and fees for a year long course of study in Armenia have been set at \$1500.00 for the 1992-1993 academic year. Students

will be provided with housing at the foreign students dormitory located in the heart of Yerevan between the Opera House and the Archival Library (Matenadaran). Air-fare is not included in the fees. American students will also be entitled to take part in specially organized excursions and cultural events.

Students interested in obtaining an application for study or further information about studying in Armenia 1992-1993 should contact Barlow Der Mugrdchian at the Armenian Studies Program, California State University, Fresno, 93740-0096, telephone (209) 278-2669 or FAX (209) 278-2129. The deadline for submitting a completed application is May 30 for the fall 1992 semester.

## "King Artashes Elected -- Second 4 Year Term"

*This may have been the headline in the Yerevan Daily dated 185 B.C.*

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# ASO Activities

By Armen Aghishian  
Staff Writer

As usual, many interesting and noteworthy events are occurring with regards to the ASO. Due to personal conflicts, ASO President Khatchig Jingirian and Treasurer Arpi Ajamian resigned from their duties on the executive. On a general meeting held at the home of Zulema Robles on Saturday, March 14, the ASO body voted Richelle Noroyan as President and Rosig Kalpakian as Historian. Phil Garo was appointed as Treasurer. The changes are effective until the conclusion of this Spring semester. I remain as Vice-President and Pam Manoogian remains as Secretary.

Early in the spring semester, the ASO co-sponsored a 1-unit weekend course which was held on Friday February 20 and

Saturday February 21. The guest lecturer was Dr. Lorne Shirinian, professor of English and World Literature from Montreal, Canada. Several students, faculty, and members of the community were present for the class in which the works of over a dozen Armenia/North America writers were critically analyzed.

Planned for the remainder of the semester are: a commemoration of April 24; participation in the Annual Vintage Days celebration, including participation in the 'Boomtown Carnival.'

A lecture is being planned as well as a display of Armenian culture, which is scheduled to appear in the CSU Fresno Henry Madden Library in April. A Karabagh rally was held on Wednesday, March 25 in the 'free speech area.' For more information see the April 24 calendar of events on page 4.

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## Youth Folk Dance Festival

### John Chookasian Folk Ensemble

Saturday, May 23, 1992

Folk Dancing Exhibition 7:00 p.m.  
All Armenian church youth groups are welcomed

Holy Trinity Armenian Church Hall  
"M" and Ventura

Armenian Mezza - Hors D'Oeuvres  
Public is cordially invited

Sponsored by the Holy Trinity Armenian Church

for more information call John at 449-1777 or Lucile 486-1141

Donations \$10

## East - West String Quartet in Concert

Performing the works of  
famous Armenian Composers

sponsored by the Knights of Vartan Yeprad Lodge  
to benefit the Youth Educational Service Fund

Saturday, May 9, 1992

7:00 p.m.

Memorial Auditorium

2425 Fresno Street (between N and O streets)

Prior to performance:

Adults: \$12.50

Students: \$7.50

For Tickets or  
Information contact:  
Jerry Baker 439-4887

Day of performance:

Adults: \$15.00

Students: \$10.00



# Հայկական էջ

ԽՄԲԱԳՐԱԿԱՆ

## ՏԻՊԱՐ ՀԱՅՈՒ ՄԸ ՕՐԻՆԱԿՈՎ

Ռաֆֆի Յովհաննեսյանի նշանակումը որպես Հայաստանի Հանրապետության արտաքին գործոց նախարար, զարմանք պատճառեց շատերուն։ Բայց բոլոր անոնք որոնք մանցյալ էին Ռ. Յովհաննեսյանի եւ տեսած էին անոր աշխատանքները հայ ժողովուրդին եւ հայրենիքին համար, տեսան Ռաֆֆիին նշանակումը որպես բնական հետեւանք իր ծառայութիւններուն։

Ռաֆֆիի օրինակով ոչ միայն պետք է հպարտ ըլլանք բոլորս, այլ նաեւ փորձենք հետեւիլ իր ուղիին, որովհետեւ այսօր հայութիւնը որեւէ ժամանակէ աւելի պէտք ունի նուիրեալ գործիչներու։

Հայաստանի ներկայ կառավարութիւնը արդէն սկսած է գործնական արշաւ մը դէպի զանազան երկիրներ համաձայնագիրներ կնքելով, որ կը յուսանք թէ արդիւններ պիտի տայ շուտով Հայաստանի՝ աշխարհի յառաջադէմ ժողովուրդներու շարքերէն ներս ընդունելով։

Այս արշաւին մէջ նախագահ Տէր Պետրոսեանը եւ Ռաֆֆի Յովհաննեսյանը իրենց կարեւոր բաժինը պիտի ունենան։ Միջազգային յարաբերութիւններու մէջ նկույն փառապաշտօնի վարելը շատ կարեւոր է, անոր համար ալ Ռաֆֆիին նշանակումը այս խիստ կարեւոր պաշտօնին կրնանք Հայաստանի կառավարութեան ամենէն խոհեմ քայլերէն մէկը սեպել։

Ճիշդ հոս է որ մնացեալ հայերս, եւ մանաւանդ անոնք որոնք չեն գրադուրի հայկական հարցերով, պէտք է օրինակներ առնենք։ Մեր հայրենիքը մեզ օգնութեան կը կանչէ, անոր համար ալ մենք պէտք է պատրաստակամութիւնը ցոյց տանք եւ կարեւորագոյնը՝ ըլլանք քաջ ու համարձակ։

Ռաֆֆիին օրինակին հետեւելով, կը յուսանք որ ուրիշներ ալ պիտի հասնին իրենց հայրենիքին օգնութեան՝ հայութեան շահը ամէն բանէ վեր դնելով։

Ս. Թ.

## ՄԵԼԳՈՆԵԱՆ ԿՐԹԱԿԱՆ ՀԱՍՏԱՏՈՒԹԻՒՆԸ

Մելգոնեան կրթական Հաստատութիւնը սփիւռքի հայկական մեծագոյն գիշերօթիկ դպրոցներէն է։ Թէեւ չէնքերուն կառուցումը ձեռնարկուած է 1924-ին, բայց անոնք աւարտած են 1926-ին, երբ սկսած են կանոնաւոր դասաւանդութիւնները, եւ անկէ ի վեր շարունակուած են անխափան՝ դարձընելով Մելգոնեանը հայկական ուսումի ամենէն կարեւոր կեդրոններէն մէկը։

Դպրոցին հիմնադիրները եղած են Գրիգոր եւ Կարապետ Մելգոնեանները, որոնք թէեւ թշուառ մանկութիւն մը ապրած են, սակայն տարիներու ընթացքին իրենց ժրջան աշխատանքով յաջողած են ունենալ Միջին Արեւելքի ծխախոտի ամենէն մեծ գործարաններէն մէկը Ալեքսանտրիայի մէջ։

1915-ի ջարդերուն ժամանակ, երկու եղբայրները պարտականութիւն համարած են օգնել իրենց հայրենակիցներուն։ Մեծ եղբոր՝ Գրիգորի մահէն ետք, Կարապետ Մելգոնեան իրենց ունեցած բոլոր հարստութիւնը կը նուիրէ Հայկական Բարեգործական Ընդհանուր Միութեան որպէսզի հիմնէ ու վարէ Մելգոնեան հաստատութիւնը։ Կիպրոս կղզին կ'ընտրուի որպէս հանդարտ ու յարմարագոյն վայրը, ինչպէս նաեւ նկատելով որ տեղւոյն հայութիւնը միշտ վայելած էր երկրի բարեխնամ կառավարութեան յարգանքն ու հիւրընկալութիւնը։

Մելգոնեանը, որ հիմնուեցաւ հայ ժողովուրդի ամենէն գէշ օրերուն, այսօր կը կանգնի որպէս

հայ ժողովուրդի հաւատքին խորհրդանշը։ Մելգոնեանը իր գիրքը բացաւ ջարդերէն հրաշքով փրկուած հայ տղաներու եւ աղջիկներու դիմաց։ Բայց յաջորդող տասնամեակներուն ընդունած պատանիները այլեւս որբեր չէին։ Անոնք մեծցած էին աւելի բախտաւոր պայմաններու մէջ, ու կու գային սորվելու եւ իրենց հայ մեծնալու կարօտով։

Անոր համար ալ այսօր Մելգոնեանէն աւարտողներ պիտի գտնէք հայ վարժարաններու մէջ իբրեւ ուսուցիչ, թերթերու խմբագրութեան մէջ, զանազան եկեղեցական եւ կազմակերպութիւններու մարմիններու մէջ եւ ինչպէս նաեւ հայ իրականութեան բոլոր երեսներուն վրայ՝ հայ կեանքի ամէն արտայայտութիւններու ընթացքին։ Քիչ չեն նաեւ այն Մելգոնեանցիները, որոնք հայրենիքի մէջ տիրացած են վաստակի եւ համբաւի։

Այսօր Մելգոնեանը ունի մօտաւորապէս 200 աշակերտ՝ 15 երկիրներէ, ինչպէս նաեւ Ամերիկայէն։

Մելգոնեանի բուն առաքելութիւնը հայեցի դաստիարակութեան մէջ պէտք է տեսնել։ Մելգոնեանը կրթական տեսակէտով պիտի շարունակէ հայերէն սորվեցնելու եւ հայեցի դիմագիծ ու հոգի ստեղծելու գործը։

Բոլոր այս պատճառներուն համար է որ ան տիրացած է բացառիկ յարգանքի եւ վստահօրէն կը սպասէ գալիք ապագան, որպէսզի նորանոր յաջողութիւններ արձանագրէ։

## ՀԱՐՑԱԶՐՈՅՑ ԴՈԿՏ. ՆՈՐԱՅՐ ԱՌԱՔԵԼԵԱՆԻ

### ԵՒ ՓՐՈՖ. ՐԱՖԳԻ ՄԱԹԵՒՈՍԵԱՆԻ ՀԵՏ

Վերջերս Ֆրէզնոյի դաղուժը եւ Ֆրէզնոյի համալսարանի Հայ Ամպիոնը բացառիկ բախտաւորութիւնը ունեցան վայելելու ներկայութիւնը Երեւանի համալսարանի նախագահ Դոկտ. Նորայր Առաքելեանի եւ փոխ-նախագահ փրոֆ. Րաֆֆի Մաթեոսեանի։ Անոնք ընթաց համաձայնութիւն մը կնքեցին հինգ տարուայ համար փոխանակելու հինգական ուսանողներ։ Ֆրէզնոյի համալսարանի հայկական ամպիոնը մեծ ջանք թափեց յաջողեցնելու համար այս նախաձեռնութիւնը։

Անոնց կեցողութիւնը Ֆրէզնոյի մէջ բաւական արդիւնաւէտ եղաւ. առաջին ձեռնարկը տեղի ունեցաւ համաձայնութեան ստորագրութեամբ, երկրորդ՝ հանդիպում մը կազմակերպուեցաւ համալսարանի ուսուցիչներով եւ ուսանողներով, երրորդ՝ դասախօսութիւն մը կազմակերպուեցաւ Թէքեան Մըշակութային Միութեան եւ Սը. Պօղոս եկեղեցւոյ Մշակութային Մարմին կողմէ եւ ի վերջոյ ճաշկերոյթ մը տեղի ունեցաւ իրենց ի պատիւ։

Դոկտ. Առաքելեանը մաթեմատիկոս մըն է եւ ակադեմիկոս է հայկական գիտական կաճառին. Approximation-ի տեսութեան մասնագէտ է։

Փրոֆ. Մաթեոսեանը տընտեսագէտ մըն է եւ պատասխանատուութիւնը ունի միջազգային հարցերու՝ 1981-էն ի վեր, որու ընթացքին ան գործակցած է բազմաթիւ օտար ուսանողներու հետ։

Հ.Տ.Ֆ. Առաքելեան, կրնա՞ք մեր բաժանորդներուն մասնաշաղկապ տեղեկութիւններ տալ ձեր նշանաւոր համալսարանին մասին։

Պ.— Երեւանի պետական համալսարանը հիմնուեցաւ 1921-ին։ Հաստատութեան նպատակը եղած է ծառայել երիտասարդներուն ուսման կարիքներուն։ Համալսարանը ունի աւելի քան 20 հազար ուսանող, հազար ուսուցիչ-ուսուցչուհի եւ հոգաբարձութեան անդամներ։ Յատկապէս մենք կը պատասպարենք 1000 ուսանող։ Կիսամեայ չըջանը կը սկսի Սեպտեմբեր 1-էն եւ կ'աւարտի Յունիս 31-ին։ Մեր կեդրոնական գրադարանը ունի աւելի քան երկու միլիոն գիրքեր. մեզի մօտ, հռչակաւոր մատենադարանը կայ։

Հ.— Պարոն Մաթեոսեան, ուսանողները ի՞նչ ձեւով կազմակերպուած են։

Պ.— Այժմ ուսանողները սկսած են կազմակերպել Fraternityներ եւ այլ ընկերային խումբեր որ իրենց բարեկամական պէտքերուն կը ծառայէ։

Հ.— Ուսանողները իրենց օրաթերքը ունին, Տ.Ֆ. Առաքելեան։

Պ.— Այո, ներկայիս ունին իրենց սեփական չափաթղթերը, որ կը ստորագրուի իրենց անունով։

յուսանք շուտով վերածուի օրաթերթի։

Հ.— Ի՞նչ է ձեր կարծիքը, Պր. Մաթեոսեան, ձեր ուսանողական մարմնի նկատմամբ։

Պ.— Շատ գոհ ենք մեր աշխատասէր ուսանողներէն՝ հակառակ որ Հայաստանի վիճակը բաւական ծանրացած է։ Մեր ուսանողներուն յառաջդիմութիւնը կը բարոյզէ ոչ միայն ուսանողներուն ապագան այլ նաեւ՝ համալսարանը եւ մեր երկիրը։

Հ.— Տոքթ. Առաքելեան, ուսանողները որ կը փափաքին մասնակցիլ այս փոխանակութեան ի՞նչ վերապահ ազատութիւններ ունին։

Պ.— Կարելի է երթալ մէկ ամսուայ դաստիարակութեան համար ամառային ընթացքին կամ մէկ կիսամեայ չըջանի համար եւ ապա մէկ տարուայ համար։

Հ.— Ձեր համալսարանը զանազան ի՞նչ միւլտիմեդիալ կու տայ ուսանելու, Տոքթ. Առաքելեան։

Պ.— Մեր ուսանողական յայտագիրին մէջ կան Social Science, արուեստագիտութիւն, ճարտարագիտութիւն, ճարտարապետութիւն, բժշկութիւն եւ այլ ճիւղեր։

Հ.— Այս նոր պայմանագիրին ըստորագրութեան մասին խօսք կամ խորհուրդ մը կրնա՞ք տալ մեր ընթերցողներուն։

Պ.— Մեզի համար այս ստորագրութիւնը մեծ պատիւ մըն է, հետեւաբար ասիկա կը նշանակէ ամուսնութիւն մը այս երկու նշանաւոր ու մեծ համալսարաններուն համար։ Ասով կը յուսանք որ փոխանակութիւնները համաձայնուած 5 տարիէն շատ աւելի տեւէ։ Այս պայմանագիրին կարողութիւնները անչափ են, ոչ միայն ուսանողները մեծապէս պիտի օգտուին, այլ նաեւ համալսարանի վարչութիւնը եւ մեր ուսանողները պիտի օգտուին։ Արդ, կ'ուզենք զօրաւոր մշակութային ըզգացումներ ստեղծել բոլոր ուսանողներուն մէջ, մանաւանդ Միացեալ Նահանգներէն եկողներուն։

Հ.— Սովետական Միութիւնը տապալելէ յետոյ ի՞նչ փոփոխութիւններ կը տեսնէք ձեր համար՝ ձեր նկատակներուն նկատմամբ։

Պ.— Քաղաքականութիւն եւ ուսման պատմութիւնը ապագային շատ մը ձեւերով պիտի տարբերի անցեալէն։ Մէկ կողմէ ազատութիւն եւ դրութիւն պիտի ունենանք, ինչպէս օրինակ եղաւ այս ստորագրութեան համաձայնութիւնը, թէեւ միւս կողմէ Հայաստանին ծանր կացութիւնն ալ կրնայ բացասական ձեւով ազդել համալսարանին։

Հ.— Պարոն Մաթեոսեան, համալսարանը նիւթական կամ այլ կարիքներ ունի՞ր։

Պ.— Միշտ արուեստագէտի ուսուցիչներու կարիքը ունինք, ինչպէս նաեւ նոր դասագիրքերու եւ computerի հայ լեզուի։

ԱՐՄԷՆ ԱԿԻՇԵԱՆ

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education in both countries.

Methods of increasing ties between the universities was discussed including connecting Yerevan State University and CSUF through the BITNET computer system. Dr. Wielicki said, "From my experience, this new international connection will serve to benefit any university which is hooked up to it."

Yerevan State University consists of over 500 staff and more than 10,000 students. According to Dr. Arakelian, "The students are very well organized and they even publish a weekly paper."

After visiting several other institutions during their two week stay, the Yerevan State University delegation returned to Yerevan at the end of February to begin to implement the various agreements signed.

## Thank You *Hye Sharzhoom* donors!

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**Shirinian, from page 5**

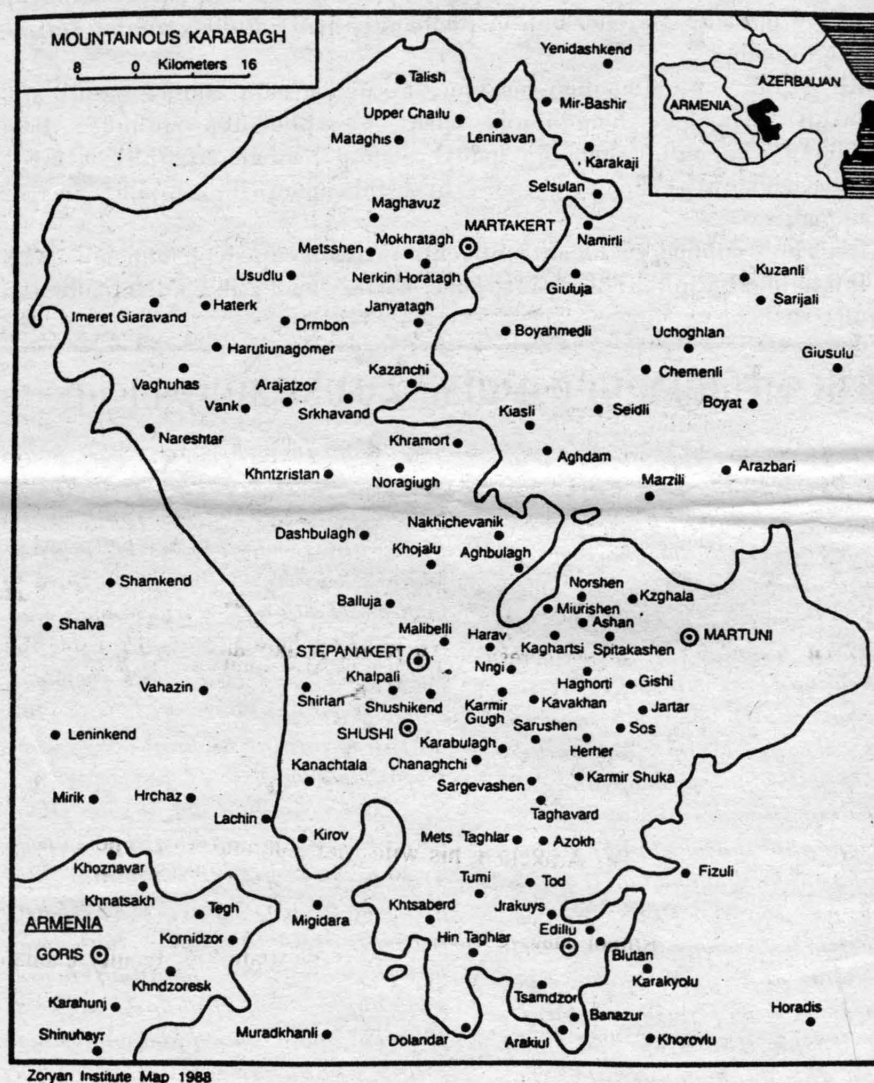
ues to plague Armenians in the Diaspora - the difficulty in Armenian sons getting along and communicating openly and freely with thier fathers. Dr. Shirinian himself even admitted to having a difficulty in communicating with his father. The poems *To my Father* and *For my Father* depict this scenario quite effectively. Seemingly, death is the factor which seems to get "the son" curious about his father - a man who has suffered greatly through the years at the hands of the Turks and at the hands of assimilating into a

"strange new world".

In the new world, many texts seemed to portray dissatisfaction and a longing for the homeland. "This shows that the adaption of a new environment can and has been discontinuous for the Armenian People."

Several other themes and motifs were discussed during the two day lecture. Proceeding the class was a short question and answer session. Dr. Shirinian's visit served as an excellent educational opportunity and instigated thought and analysis at a level beyond the ordinary.

## Mountainous Karabagh (Artsakh)



Zoryan Institute Map 1988

## Facts on Mountainous Karabagh (Artsakh)

Several readers have asked about recent events in Artsakh (Karabagh): The area known in Russia as Karabagh, officially declared itself the independent Republic of Artsakh. 1. **Stepanakert**, the capital of the former Autonomous Republic geographically placed within Azerbaijan by Stalin in 1923, has been 80% destroyed by rocket shelling by the Azeri entrenched in the town of Aghdam, Khojalu, and Shushi. 2. **Aghdam** is an Azeri town outside Artsakh now surrounded by Armenian forces and under fire. 3. **Shushi** is the last remaining enclave of Azeris still left in Artsakh; the Azeris have fled or been driven out of all other regions of the territory. 4. **Khojalu** was an Azeri populated town used to control the airport of Stepanakert and from which the capital was being rocketed.

Armenian forces seized it in a violent campaign against a superior Azeri force. Azerbaijani and Turkish authorities brought journalists in by helicopter to photograph a dead body exchange between rivals forces; the bodies were falsely identified as Azeris massacred by Armenians. The town is entirely in Armenian hands and the airport of Stepanakert is open once again. 5. **Lachin** is an Azeri town on the western border of Artsakh controlling the short four mile corridor and the only road between the Armenian Republic and Artsakh. Today it is virtually surrounded, like Shushi and Aghdam, by Armenian troops. Armenians of the Republic of Artsakh have appealed to the UN and other international bodies to intervene in the conflict and resolve it peacefully. [Material compiled by D. K.]