

HYE SHARZHOOM

Armenian Action

ՀԱՅ ՇԱՐԺՈՄ

May 1995

Vol. 16, No. 4 (50)

Supplement to The Collegian

April 24th-80th Anniversary of Genocide

By Tina Attashian
Hye Sharzhoom

The Armenian Genocide of 1915 occurred 80 years ago, but the participation by both the youth and senior members of the Armenian community prove that this event will never be forgotten. To commemorate the 80th year of the Armenian Genocide, the Armenian Students Organization of Fresno State organized a week of events in honor of the memory of the 2 million Armenians that were massacred.

On Monday, April 24th a march and rally took place at the Free Speech area on the Fresno State Campus. The Armenian Students Organization (ASO) and Armenian Youth Federation (AYF-Fresno Chapter) worked together for this event. "We thought that instead of having many different events to commemorate the genocide, the youth should unite and

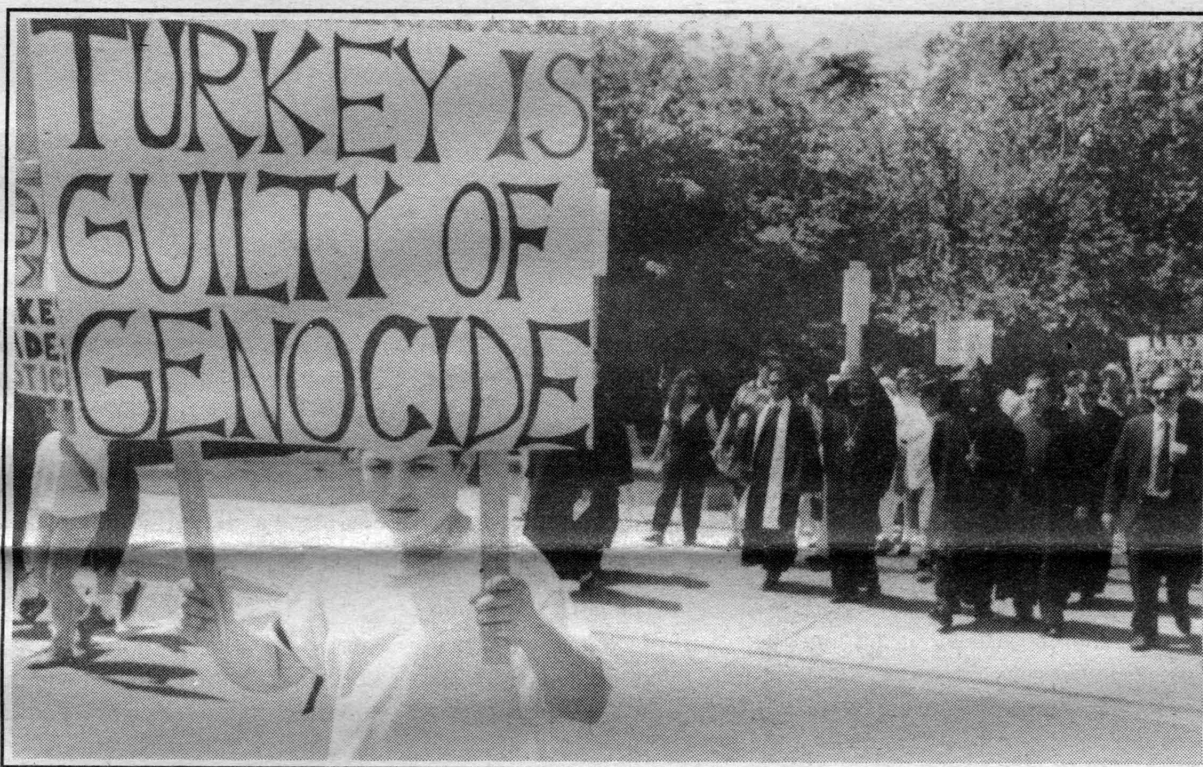


Photo by Gina Kaklikian Taro

The Armenian community of Fresno commemorated the 80th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide of 1915 with a march from the David of Sasoon monument to Fresno City Hall.

organize one large event. Also, we wanted the people to see that although we are the youth of 1995, we will all unify to fight together to remember the Armenian Genocide." said Mike Pogosian, president of Armenian Students Organization.

Beginning the series of events to commemorate the Genocide, Tina Attashian, Vice-President of the Armenian Students Organization introduced the rally saying "Today we will not only mourn for our blood that was spilled in 1915, but show the Turks that their plans for exterminating the Armenian race has failed." President Mike Pogosian's speech for ASO stressed the importance of unity between the youth and senior generations to achieve recognition for the Armenian race. Rose Kalpakian then spoke to represent the Armenian Youth Federation. Her speech fo-

See APRIL 24, page 8

Armenian Studies Program 9th Annual Banquet

By Hanne Bentzon
Hye Sharzhoom

On Saturday, April 1, the Armenian community in Fresno was entranced by the charm of beautiful art, the taste of a delicious dinner and the warmth and intelligence of an admirable speaker.

In conjunction with the Ninth Annual Armenian Studies Banquet,

the CSUF Armenian Studies Program and the Sarkis & Meliné Kalfayan Center for Armenian Studies co-hosted with the Henry Madden Library, a special opening reception for the exhibit "Armenia: Portraits of Survival."

Jerry Brendt, the artist behind the exhibit, grew up in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. His photographs have appeared in major magazines in

Europe and the United States. They are also included in the permanent collections of famous museums, such as in the Museum of Art, New York City.

The symbolic black and white photographs document everyday life in Armenia, focusing on the experience of the survivors of the 1988 earthquake, the refugees and victims of the war in Nagorno-Karabakh, and the hopes and anxieties of citizens who have endured another winter with minimal fuel and electricity.

The exhibit, which opened in Los Angeles August 1993, grew out of a research project headed by Dr. Donald E. Miller, Professor of Religion at the University of Southern California.

Dr. Miller, special guest speaker at the banquet and author of five books, among them "Survivors: An Oral History of the Armenian Genocide," recently visited Armenia to interview 350 survivors for the research project. He was later asked by his sponsors to portray his findings in a visual way to document what his interviews said.

"The research project has meant a lot to me," Dr. Miller said. "It is important to preserve the

memories. The images of the Genocide have scarred my conscience and they have profoundly affected the way I think about life and my responsibilities. I hope this exhibition will have that effect on other people, too."

Stina Katchadourian, author of the book "Efronia," was one of the proud guests who experienced the impact of the powerful exhibit.

"The pictures are just another proof of the Armenian people's strength and superiority," Katchadourian said. "As a foreigner, it is difficult to imagine what the Armenian people have

been through, but the exhibit helps to understand better. I am very touched," she said.

Dr. Dickran Kouymjian, Professor of Armenian Studies, was proud to present a different type of culture to an eager Fresno audience.

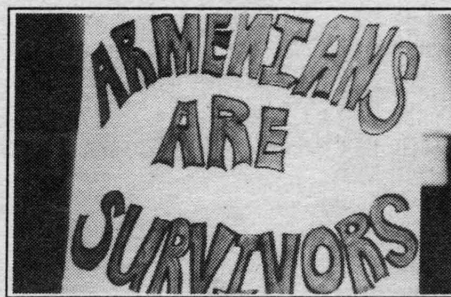
"Apart from general culture in our community, we are now moving into other types of cultural exposure," Dr. Kouymjian said. "It is an extraordinary exhibition, not a very happy one, but very beautiful."

See ASP Banquet, page 8



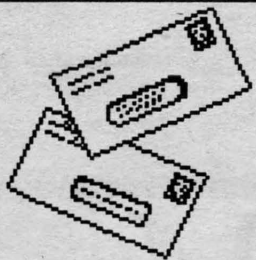
Dr. Donald Miller and Mrs. Lorna Touryan Miller at ASP Banquet

Inside Hye Sharzhoom



April 24 Photo
Essay.....p. 5

Catholicos Karekin I.....p. 3
Monte Melkonian.....p. 3
Armenia Update.....p. 6



Letters to the Editor



Dear Editor,

After reading your paper, I found it impressive. Although I am a new reader of your publication, I found it to be professional in structure and in content. It was well organized, the articles were well written, and there were a variety of articles or aspects to the paper. Such as past, recent and future events throughout that kept my interest. It also seemed to cover all the other aspects any other paper would such as the advertisements and the cartoon drawing for example.

The section I enjoyed the most was the Armenia Update. The reason for this is that you are not usually able to hear or keep up with what is going on in Armenia on a regular basis. So, this helps to keep the average person up to date.

As professional and interesting as I find this publication, there is something I would like to see in it that I think would add to the unique layout of the *Hye Sharzhoom*. This could be done by a feature story written on an Armenian student at Fresno State that has or is making a name for his or herself locally. This way, the individual will be recognized more readily by the Armenian community for their accomplishments. Whether it is academic or athletic, it would give Armenians in Fresno a better look at the upcoming leaders.

Sincerely,
Brandi Critzer
CSUF

Dear Editor,

Being an Armenian that is only partially informed of my ethnic background, I thoroughly enjoyed *Hye Sharzhoom*. Your paper's variety is the main factor that prolonged my interest. Not only did you write of the past historical events in "A History of the Armenian People", and *Armenia: Portraits of Survival*, but of current events in progress too. I would have never known of Tom Bozgian being in town or the "Celebration of Armenian Folk Arts," had I not picked up this edition.

The one specific article that did stick out in my mind was the poem, "Shifting the Sun." Being somewhat ignorant of my own ethnicity, I was still able to relate. This poem really hit home, and reached out to me as if I was the author of these meaningful phrases. This poem didn't contain any exceptionally difficult words or even meanings, but left a symbolic message to the average crowd. I feel that a piece of literature that relates to everyone and is capable of being comprehended by the average Joe is one that is most successful in our community.

I think your staff is definitely on the right track of reaching out to reader's of all ethnic backgrounds. Variety, is the key to it all! The inclusion of the articles on current events in Armenia, the happenings in society here in Fresno, the comics and especially the poetry make the *Hye Sharzhoom* another Fresno Bee in a shorter version! Tell your

staff to keep up the great work!!!!

Sincerely,
Crissi Jelladian
CSUF

Dear Editor,

I am writing in response to the letter written to the editor by Dr. Martha Googooian Ensher. Dr. Googooian Ensher had grown up seeing the oppressive ways of the "American Culture," and how people can overcome those demeaning pressures. I do not think the Armenians were discriminated like the blacks of that time, but I can believe that Armenians-Americans were looked at differently, mainly, because of the Anglo minded society in the early to mid part of this century. To have darker skin, or to have "non-European" name set you apart. However I must say, with a great deal of concern, not all ethnically different people have done so well in the racist society.

The Armenians have a great deal to be proud of: they have endured massive changes in cultures that make up America. America is much more accepting of ethnic differences, because we have greater excess in which to study these many cultures. The Armenian-American community has given full excitability to their history, religious beliefs, art, and cuisine. I think that, at least for me, have been able to understand and have a greater feel for the Armenian culture. I just wonder

if there would be less racism in this country if more education was provided about all ethnicities that make up America. The Armenians are a very proud people and do a great deal to promote their contributions to society. These promotions help to bring forth education and understanding to a culture that is spread all over the world. The Armenian Studies Program has contributed so much, not only to educate young Armenian-Americans, but to educate people like me who never really knew that Armenia was a country. Dr. Googooian Ensher helped me understand that the education and awareness of people can accomplish a great deal— even the destruction of ethnic walls.

Lance Hill
CSUF

Dear Editor,

The fact that *Hye Sharzhoom* is just a supplement to *The Collegian* is quite unfortunate. *Hye Sharzhoom* is apparently informative. For those of non-Armenian descent, who are studying the Armenian culture, history, language, etc., this supplement is very useful. But the one concern I have is that it is only a monthly edition. Perhaps it is too much to request a more frequent issue.

I found that many Armenian youths are not as informed about their own history and community activities. Many are unaware of the contributors that make the Armenian community exist. The first article, "Celebration of Armenian Folk

Arts" gave me a better appreciation for the fine collection of lace I saw in Los Angeles two months ago made by two sisters deal of patience and love to dedicate so much time to the art of lace.

There are many older Armenian artists like Mrs. Vorperian who are not as recognized. The younger generations do not seem to have appreciation. Perhaps it would be ideal to have a more frequent publication of the *Hye Sharzhoom* for more information on a larger scale for the community. The other article that I really liked was *Armenia: Portraits of Survival*. It spoke about the Armenian Genocide.

The Armenian Genocide is going to be commemorated this spring. If there are more publicized articles to inform the younger members of the community, there will be more involvement within the community. Last year, there were more people involved in Los Angeles. Armenians from Fresno should become more aware and involved.

The poetry and other articles (Dalai Lama and History) were a nice touch to diversity. I have read the past publications of *Hye Sharzhoom* and liked what I have read. I don't have much to complain about, just that there should be a more frequent issues available to keep people abreast of what is going on in the community.

Maricel Guillermo
CSUF

Katch Vartan II, No. 3 by Garo Nakashian



HYE SHARZHOOM

ՀԱՅ ՇԱՐԺՈՒՄ

Editor

Ara Jabagchourian

Staff

Tina Attashian

Hanne Bentzon

Sean Clark

Karen Karabian

Mary Melikian

Garo Nakashian

Ali Peyvandi

Vahagn Tonoyan

Photographers

Gina Kaklikian Taro

Barlow Der Mugrdechian

Advisor

Barlow Der Mugrdechian

Hye Sharzhoom is a supplement of the *Daily Collegian* and the newspaper of the CSUF Armenian Students Organization and 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, and other material from its readers. For further information concerning the newspaper or the Armenian Studies Program call the ASP office at (209)278-2669.

Monte Melkonian-evolution of a legend

By Ara Jabaghourian
Hye Sharzhoom

Monte Melkonian: Nov. 25, 1957-June 12, 1993.

Monte Melkonian was a major player in the Armenian liberation movement of the late 1970's through 1980's. After being released from prison in France he got involved in the Nagorno-Karabagh struggle against Azerbaijan. He became the chief defensive strategist and organized the rag-tag fighters into a well-tuned defensive group. Monte led victory after victory eventually pushing the Azeris completely out of Karabagh. An unnamed Armenian was quoted by a *New York Times* correspondent as saying that Monte was "the best god we ever had."

Children are definitely influenced by many factors when they are growing up. One factor that plays a deep role in a child's life is the family. To attempt to understand the devotion and thinking of Monte Melkonian, I thought it would be valuable to pursue my curiosity of the legend by talking with Monte's parents. I visited Monte's parents, Charles and Zabel Melkonian, at their Visalia home.

Monte had quite an impressive childhood. His whole family, including his two sisters Maile and Marcia and his brother Markar went on an overseas trip in 1969 which lasted for 15 months. Charles got a VW wagon and the whole family trekked through 41 countries. They spent five months in Spain, where the parents provided for tutors for their children. This was when Monte began his collection of 9 languages. This trip, Zabel stated,

allowed all of the children to be able to compare different cultures. This trip was a definite experience which broadened the potential mind of Monte.

The following year, when Monte was in eighth grade, he received the American Legion Boy of the Year Award. His parents found out later that he received this award not solely for his achievements in school but for breaking up a fight at school and paying the price of getting hit for it. But to understand his courage, his mother explained that Monte was the second smallest student in his class at Divisadero Jr. High.

His high school years were also quite impressive. He taught Spanish at a private school during his sophomore math period. His principal wanted to graduate him a year early, but his father said that Monte was too young to graduate that early. So his father sent him off to Japan on a foreign exchange program. He came back a year later fluent in both reading and writing Japanese.

"All four of the children were very good students," explained his mother. Maile, the oldest child, would come home after school and sit on the kitchen table and do her school work. The following year, Markar would do the same. Monte also emulated this practice as did Marcia, who wasn't even in school yet. Zabel explained that "the children were very close." Oldest and youngest child were less than four years apart.

When asked about Monte's upbringing in an Armenian culture, his father said "He knew nothing of the Armenian culture until after high school." When his father was grow-

ing up, he had to fight to defend his cultural pride. Assimilation took its toll. Monte was pretty much assimilated into the "American" culture. But his father said that "When he went to Cal (Berkeley), he got away from that [assimilation]. He became an Armenian all over again."

Monte's majors at Berkeley were archeology and ancient Asian history. He graduated summa cum laude in two and a half years. During this time he spearheaded an April 24 exhibit at the library. The Turkish embassy realized this and called the librarian and pressured him to take it down. Monte became furious when he heard this and a dispute occurred. The result was the resignation of the librarian and the exhibit stayed. The ironic thing was because the Turkish government got involved in this, the exhibit received lots of publicity.

After graduation, he turned down a fellowship to Oxford and left for the Middle East. He taught a little in Tehran. While there, he found out that the teachers were being paid mere peanuts and the administration was holding back. The administration gave Monte hush-up money. His mother claims that this was the wrong thing to do. Monte led the teachers to demand more and won. His mother claims that "Monte was always for the underdog."

He then went on to Beirut and defended an Armenian enclave with his brother. He later signed on with hesitation with the Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia, a Marxist group who fought for the PLO. Here he ran into a split, where the leader Hagop



Monte Melkonian

Hagopian, separated means from ends and encouraged suicide missions which killed many innocent lives. Monte broke off and formed another, less violent group in France. Here he was arrested for having a couple of explosive devices and a map in his apartment. He spent four years in prison where he wrote prolifically on the Armenian National question.

After being released from prison, the dispute over Nagorno-Karabagh was under way. This gave Monte an opportunity to help the Armenian cause. He changed the military situation there to the citizens of Nagorno-Karabagh's advantage. He held high ethical standards and established discipline among his troops. He forbade the shooting of civilians and gave bullhorn warnings on his attacks. Melkonian was finally able to push the Azeris out of missile range from Armenia. This with a military which had no money.

Then in June of 1993, Monte's

life came to an end. He was killed while as he entered a village which had been recently recaptured from the Azeris.

A large funeral was held, with estimates of over a quarter of a million people who attended. It was a tragic end to the dramatic life of the humanitarian who fought for the "underdogs."

His influence has affected many. His sister Maile is working for the Armenian Assembly in Washington, D.C. His parents have become increasingly involved in the Armenian community in Visalia. His wife, Seta, is a student at the State University in Yerevan and is still involved in the struggle her husband led. His brother Markar, who is pursuing a doctorate in philosophy, has compiled and edited a collection of Monte's writings, *The Right To Struggle*. As for the children of Karabagh, they can go to school with the temporary comfort of not having rockets being shot at them.

Karekin I Elected as Catholicos of All Armenians

By Barlow Der Mugrdechian
Advisor, Hye Sharzhoom

The National Ecclesiastical Assembly, meeting in Etchmiadzin, Armenia, on Tuesday, April 4, 1995, elected His Holiness Karekin II as the 131st Catholicos of All Armenians. The Catholicos is the spiritual leader of the estimated 7 million Armenians world-wide. His Holiness is the incumbent Catholicos of the Great House of Cilicia.

The election of His Holiness Karekin I holds promise that a new era is being ushered in in the Armenian Church. The Armenian Church is facing several critical questions which must be addressed including: the critical shortage of clergy in the United States, the end to the jurisdictional dispute dividing the Armenian Church in the United States, the challenge of re-Christianizing Armenians in Armenia where for seventy years an atheistic communist government was in power, and various other questions dealing with internal administrative questions in the Armenian Church.

His Holiness Karekin I has been a frequent visitor to the United States and spoke on the Fresno



Fresno delegation meeting with His Holiness Karekin I. From left to right: Zar Der Mugrdechian, Steve Adams, Hovannes Kutnerian, Levon Karakshian, His Holiness Karekin I, Very Rev. Fr. Sasoon Zumrookhdian, Allan Jendian.

State campus in 1980 and 1984.

The National Ecclesiastical Assembly is composed of delegates from all of the Armenian dioceses world-wide. 399 delegates, both layman and clergy, began to arrive in Armenia the week before the scheduled elections.

His Holiness Vazken I, who

held the office of Catholicos of All Armenian for thirty-nine years, died on August 18, 1994 after a lengthy illness.

On April 4, the first round of voting was held in the Cathedral of Etchmiadzin. The first ballot had eight names and the voting results were as follows: Catholicos Karekin

Sarkissian-111 votes, Archbishop Karekin Nersissian-123 votes, Bishop Barkev Martirossian-61 votes, Archbishop Diran Guereghian-42 votes, Archbishop Grigoris Puniatian-38 votes, Archbishop Zaven Chinchinian-9 votes, Bishop Aris Shirvanian-3 votes, Bishop Gueregh Kapikian-2 votes,

(10 invalid votes).

A three name ballot was prepared for the second round of voting. The candidates were Catholicos Karekin, Abp. Karekin Nersissian, Bp. Barkev Martirossian.

The results of the second round of voting were as follows: Catholicos Karekin Sarkissian-184 votes, Archbishop Karekin Nersissian-146 votes, Bishop Barkev Martirossian-61 votes (5 invalid votes).

Fifty per cent plus one of the delegates were needed for the election. However, Archbishop Karekin Nersissian, who had only 146 votes, withdrew his candidacy for a third round and gave his full support to Catholicos Karekin. Thus, the need for a third round of voting was unnecessary. The presidency of the Assembly, announced that Catholicos Karekin is the 131 Catholicos of All Armenians.

The bells of Etchmiadzin tolled the news of the election of Catholicos All Armenians to the multitude of the people who were anxiously waiting outside the gates of the Monastery of Holy Etchmiadzin.

After being elected the 131

See CATHOLICOS, Page 8

Eleventh Annual Saroyan Festival

By Karen Karabian
Hye Sharzhoom

Ben Amirkhanian was one man with a vision. A vision of unity, appreciation, and recognition that begins in 1985. It was the celebration of Fresno County's anniversary and Ben led a walk through Saroyan's "Armenian town." The response and participation was so successful that the William Saroyan Festival Committee was formed to honor a remarkable literary talent.

"Saroyan was a persistent writer with a style of his own. He was fast on a bicycle. Saroyan delivered telegrams on his bike and the first twenty dollars he made was spent on a typewriter. It was a time when making a living as a writer was unheard of," Ben recalled.

To mark Saroyan's riding days, the Festival will feature two days of bicycling for 400 racers. Saturday, May 20, there will be an eight mile course east of town and Sunday, May 21, riders will tackle forty laps around eight city blocks.

Other activities include: The Saroyan Armenian Historical Walk on April 29. Thursday and Friday, May 12 and 13, two plays written

by William Saroyan will be performed live on stage at the Laundromat Performance Space, 1114 N. Fulton—"The California Boyhood of William Saroyan" and "The Best Year in the History of the World." For tickets call 222-0674.

The committee also sponsors a writing contest for students first grade through college. Treasury bonds are awarded to the winners and their names will be announced on 88.1 FM June 4 at 8:00.

On June 26, the Saroyan in the Park Band Concert will take place beginning at 6:30 at Woodward Park. An expected 3,000 will be present to enjoy the festivities.

Fifty short stories written by William Saroyan about famous and not so famous people he met will be available only at the Festival.

The first obstacle appeared when the committee attempted to implement its tradition of activities by publishing a general calendar. This approach was hit and miss since the majority of the public remained unaware of the festivities. Recently a public relations man under former Governor George Deukmejian has organized a media guide, mailing list, and press re-

leases in order to take advantage of the main sources of publicity.

The main priority facing Chairman Don Eskender and committee is to ensure that all events go off smoothly. The committee hopes to expand their activities in the future to encompass as much of the public as possible. They have shown an interest in including adults in the Saroyan writing contest.

Saroyan is the only writer to receive the prestigious Pulitzer Prize (although he did not accept it) and honored with the Drama Critic Circle Award in the same year. Saroyan's Oscar is on permanent display at the Fresno Met.

The William Saroyan Festival Committee anticipates a huge turnout of Armenian and non-Armenians. "For Saroyan was a famous native son, he was born in America and became an American writer," said Ben Amirkhanian.

The Festival Committee is a way of appreciating Saroyan. Amirkhanian stated, "It represents the deserving recognition for Saroyan's literary works, Broadway plays, and as many as 150 unpublished books yet to be discovered."

ARMENIAN STUDIES PROGRAM

FALL 1995

SCHEDULE OF COURSES

ArmS 10-Intro Arm Studies 1010-1100 MWF
ArmS 10-Intro Arm Studies 0945-1100 TTh
Arm S 10-Intro ArmStudies 1245-1400 TTh

Armenian 1A- Elem Arm 1110-1200 MTWTF
Arm S 45- W Saroyan 1245-1400 TTh
Arm S 108A- Arm History I 0900-1000 MWF
Arm S 120T- Arm Film 1810-2200 T

Arm S 120T- Arm Cooking 1710-2200 F
0910-1700 S

Course meets the weekend of Sept. 29, 30

Arm S 120T- Arm Church 1710-2200 F
0910-1700 S

Course meets the weekend of Oct. 13, 14

Armenian Painting Course creates student interest

By Sean Clark
Hye Sharzhoom

What is Armenian art? Art created by Armenians seems like a reasonable answer. However, is an Armenian artist painting New England barns creating Armenian art? Perhaps, then, by definition it is art done in Armenia. Would that qualify an Italian artist sketching Armenian churches? Our need to categorize creativity with labels falls short when describing contemporary works. There was however, one time-period from which art can be separated and identified as purely Armenian. Manuscript illustration or miniature painting done by Armenian artists, with Armenian scribes, bound by Armenian bookmakers in Armenia is an excellent window to the origins of Armenian art. The earliest fragmented pages begin a dramatic progression of art and storytelling, beginning from copied works-of-ten of foreign sources-leading to the unique masterpieces of the Armenian greats.

This journey was recently directed, as a course of study at California State University Fresno, by Dr. Dickran Kouymjian, Haig & Isabel Berberian Professor of Armenian Studies. The intensive three-week study incorporating five centuries of Armenian Gospel miniatures was only an introduction to the immensity of the subject. One would not think the study of manuscripts over a millennia old as ongoing process, but there is still much to be discovered. The information is extensive and the trained schol-

ars are few, therefore the class was encouraged to offer independent points of view. The attendance was composed of students currently enrolled and members of the community-at-large eager to investigate this rare opportunity of study.

The class was assigned the role of the scholar. So much is still unknown about these miniatures that many interpretations are open to fine tuning. We looked at the images deductively and learned from them simultaneously. The dynamic of the course was to be exposed to as many miniatures as possible. The emphasis of individual description was association to time period and other related material. The three week course benefited from these approaches by immersing us in the total scholarly experience. We absorbed and assimilated the material more efficiently than had the format been the normal twelve weeks.

Even with the compressed time advantage the amount of data was over and above what can be covered in a three unit section. There are over 30,000 known manuscripts with some 5,000 to 7,000 containing one or more miniatures. In the first meeting alone, we viewed over one hundred slide reproductions and still barely scratched the surface. Starting from fragments attributed to the late 6th century we discovered images dated beyond 1,000 A.D. The challenge put to us was to find the correlations between images, and then relate them to other known sources, whether Armenian, Byzantine, Latin or Persian. Indi-

vidual topics included references to iconography, text, binding, parchment and even Sunday School lessons for the Biblical stories. In all, Dr. Kouymjian covered more information than time would allow.

We learned that to our instructor Armenian miniature painting was more than a subject to be taught-this is his life's work. The slides of the miniatures were photographed by him. Major scholarly studies have been published by him. And the advancement of the field is his focused priority. For us, on the receiving end, we drew knowledge directly from the source. It is true that a group of students can be overwhelmed by quantity: over twenty-five years of research do not condense easily into three weekends. Despite these limitations, the depth and beauty of the miniatures came through, as did Dr. Kouymjian's own passion for these rarities. His efforts continue in a fashion that bespeaks an expertise not often found at the California State University.

Beyond the course, Dr. Kouymjian seeks to advance the study of the Armenian Arts. His devotion to manuscript research has put him on the cutting edge of technology. Currently he is in the midst of initiating the first CD-ROM database of the Index of Armenian Art, an enormous undertaking unprecedented in its breadth. It is that kind of vision that Armenian Miniature Painting 121 came out of.

Gifts to the Armenian Studies Program Sahatdjian Library and Avedian Archives

Professor Dickran Kouymjian and the Sahatdjian Library of the Armenian Studies Program would like to thank the authors and publishers for the following books and periodicals.

Books

Beledian, Krikor, *Les Arméniens*, in the series *Fils d'Abraham*, Maredsous, Belgium: Editions Brepols, 235 pages with maps and color plates. A handy overview of the religious history, literature, and art of Armenia by one of France's leading authorities on Armenian literature. Krikor Beledian is Professor of Armenian in Paris and Lyon and a poet.

Der Mugrdechian, Jr., Bob, for a copy of Volume 5 of the *Gantzasar Armenian Theological Journal*. The Journal is published by the Diocese of the Armenian Apostolic Church of Artsakh.

Kamalyan, Seyran, *Avon mer achkerov [Avo through Our Eyes]*, Erevan: Nairi, 1994, 238

account of Monte Melkonian and how he was loved and respected in Armenia and Karabagh.

Shemmashian, Vahram, for an important collection of Armenian language books on Armenian history. These books cover a wide period in Armenian history.

Varoujan Mardirian. *Sculptures 1985-1994*, Beirut, 1994, 95 pages, beautifully illustrated with color and black and white reproductions. Available through Marine Mardirian, 1331 Barrington Way, Glendale, CA 91206. A stunning catalogue of Mardirian's sculptures in wood.

Whitmore, Jon, *William Saroyan. A Research and Production Sourcebook*, Westport-London: Greenwood Press, 1994, 268 pages. A particularly rich guide to Saroyan's theater with synopses of his major plays. Full of new information on production and archival material. Jon Whitmore is Dean of the College of Fine Arts at the University of Texas in Austin and holder of the Effie Marie Cain Regents Chair in Fine Arts.

Etian Appointed Peace Corps Director for Armenia

Sylva Etian has been appointed to the position of Peace Corps Director for Armenia. She has been working in the field of international development since she served as a TEFL volunteer in the Ivory Coast in 1973.

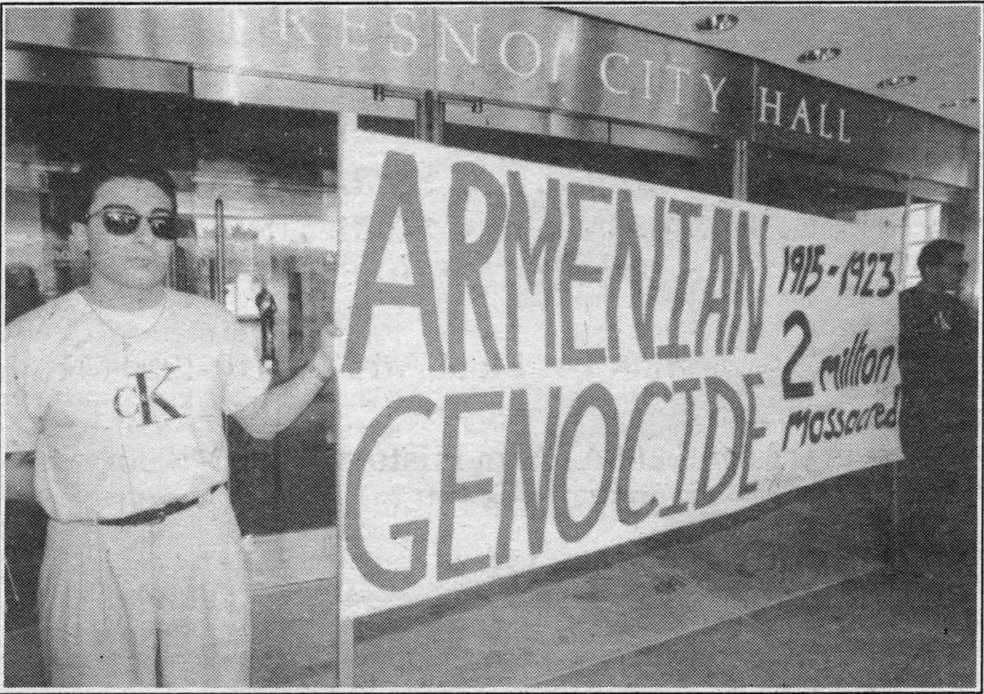
From 1990 to 1994 Ms. Etian was employed by the Centers for Disease Control as a technical advisor for AIDS and child survival to the Nigerian Ministry of Public

Health.

From 1983 to 1987 Ms. Etian worked for USAID as the regional director of the Center for Nutritional Planning, an institute of the Zairian Ministry of Public Health.

Ms. Etian is very excited about the challenges of working and living in Armenia. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hovig Etian of Clovis.

80 years without apology...



April 24th community march culminating in rally at Fresno City Hall.



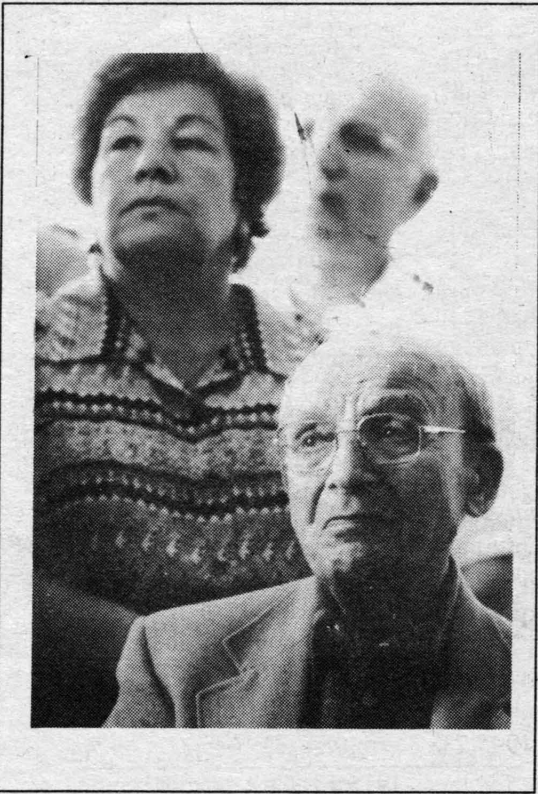
Sunday April 23 ceremony at the monument to Armenian hero Soghomon Tehlerian at Massis Ararat cemetery.



Scouts saluting the Armenian tricolor flag.



Barlow Der Mugrdechian, Chairman of the Armenian Community Council of the San Joaquin Valley addressing the rally



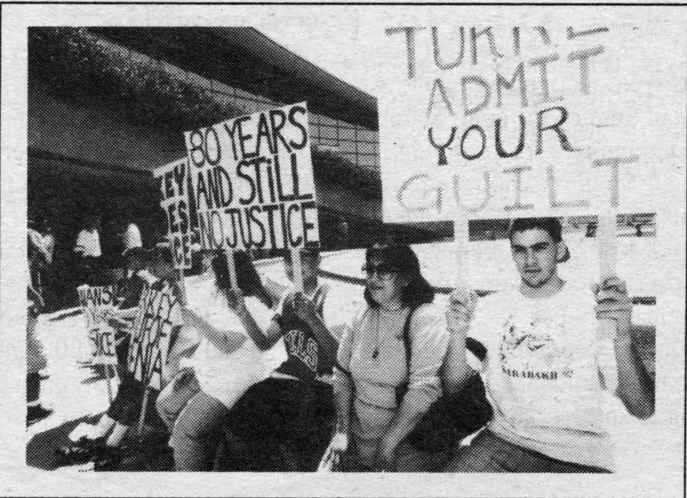
Genocide survivor Sarkis Boghosian.



Young scout.

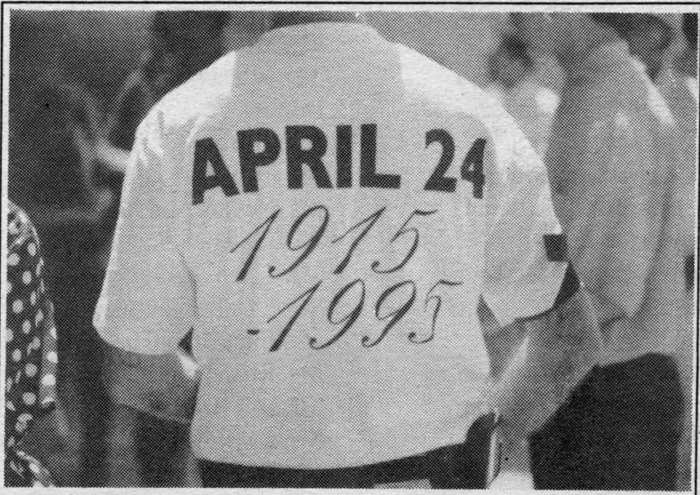


Very Rev. Fr. Muron Aznikian.



The youth make their voice heard.

Photo
Essay by
Gina
Kaklikian
Taro



Armenia Update

80th Anniversary of Armenian Genocide Marked

YEREVAN, Armenia (AP)—Weeping and bearing flowers, Armenians from around the world converged Monday to mark the 80th anniversary of a mass expulsion of Armenians from Turkey.

The deportation became a massacre that Armenians say killed 1.5 million people from 1915 to 1923, and created the global diaspora of Armenians from their Caucasus Mountains region.

Gareky Zarkoian, a 90-year-old survivor of the deportation, laid a modest bunch of flowers at a monument on Swallow's Nest hill in the Armenian capital Monday.

"The horror of genocide cannot be expressed in words, it has to be experienced to be understood," said Zarkoian, who lost his entire family in the deportations.

Among those joining Zarkoian at the monument were Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosian; His Holiness Karekin I, Catholicos of the Armenian Church, and ethnic Armenians now living everywhere from France to Lebanon to the United States.

Thousands of people marched past the monument, enveloping it in wreaths as an orchestra played traditional Armenian songs.

Ter-Petrosian also opened Armenia's first museum of the massacre, which contains letters, photos and other documents about the deportations.

"The genocide was a purely political event dictated by the interests of the Ottoman Empire, and aimed at the extermination of Armenians on its territory," the president said.

On April 24, 1915, soldiers in the crumbling Ottoman Empire killed 235 Armenian intellectuals and political leaders, accusing them of helping the invading Russians during World War I.

The Turks then began deporting Armenians living in eastern Turkey to Syria. Turkey says 300,000 Armenians died in the deportation but rejects accusations of genocide.

In the 4th century, Armenia became the first nation to make Christianity as its state religion. Western Armenia was invaded by Ottoman Turks in 1405. Eastern Armenia was annexed by Russia in 1828, and was part of the Soviet Union from 1920 until 1991.

Genocide Museum Opened in Dzidzernagabert

YEREVAN (Fact)—The highlight of this year's pilgrimage to the Dzidzernagabert Genocide memorial monument was the inauguration and opening of a Genocide Museum Monday as government officials, guests and tens of thousands of people gathered to commemorate the Armenian Genocide.

His Holiness Karekin I, Catholicos of All Armenians, was on hand to bless the museum. He brought with him the remains of a Genocide victim, he had personally retrieved from Der-el-Zor Genocide victims, he had personally retrieved from Der-el-Zor desert, where thousands of Armenians perished in grueling death marches.

Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosian, accompanied by Harutunian, Armenian Parliament Chairman Babken Ararktsian, Prime Minister Hrant Bagratian and Robert Kocharian, president of the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic, performed the ribbon-cutting ceremony and toured the museum's facilities.

Following the opening ceremonies, Armenia's leaders went to the Dzidzernagabert monument, where they observed a moment of silence for Genocide victims.

Beginning at dawn and lasting

late into the night, Armenians climbed the hill to Dzidzernagabert to pay their respects to the martyrs. **Kurdish Parliament in Exile Recognizes the Armenian Genocide** THE HAGUE—The Kurdish Parliament in Exile, which began operating last week despite massive Turkish opposition, issued a statement Sunday commemorating the 80th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. In the statement, the parliament also discusses Kurdish complacency in the Genocide during the early part of the century.

Azerbaijan Refutes The Genocide Of Armenians

YEREVAN ("Lragir" daily), 04/25/95 — On April 24 the Azeri TV was flooded by programs which not only reject the massacres of 1.5 million people in Turkey in 1915, but reportedly evidencing for massed beating of Turkey's Muslim population on the same year.

In addition to this, a proposal was made to name the streets of Baku by the names of the leaders of Ottoman Turkey. An explanation was given "that Azerbaijan would not exist today, if Turkey have not in time behaved so".

World Bank Provided A Total Of \$200mln Credits To Armenia

YEREVAN ("Lragir" daily), 04/22/95 — World Bank has only been providing interest-free or low interest credits to Armenia so far, since the republic is not able to carry the heavy burden of high interests.

World Bank representative to Armenia Vahram Nersissian said that their financial organization has allocated a total of \$200 mln. credits for Armenia.

Four Hours Power Supply Schedule Restored

YEREVAN ("Hayastani Hanrapetutyun" daily), 04/20/95 — With restoring the supply of natu-

ral gas to Armenia, four hours power supply schedule was established for the population of Yerevan, starting on April 19.

Parliamentary Elections Held In Artsakh

YEREVAN ("Respublika Armenia", "Lragir", "Azg" dailies), 05/02/95 — The elections to the new permanent parliament of the RMK have started by 7am on April 30. According to the Chairman of Central Elections Commission M.Ohanjanian, they are being carried out based on the RMK law about elections, with consideration of international norms for implementation of similar political actions.

Swedish Company To Install Payphones In Armenia

YEREVAN ("Golos Armenii" daily), 04/27/95 — A Swedish company "Telephonica NTD" is installing interurban payphones in Yerevan.

20 payphones were already installed in the central telephone communications center of Yerevan, in "Yeritasardakan" and "Barekamutyun" metro stations. These are "Urmet" debit-card payphones, made in Italy. The owner of a corresponding card can make phonecalls to any CIS country, a connection with foreign countries will be established in the future.

It is expected that all the telephones will be replaced with time. An agreement was reached in this

regard with RA Ministry of Communications. Main partner of the company in Armenia is Yerevan's "Telephone" enterprise.

Armenia In The Eyes Of Its Leaders Exclusive Interviews For Respublika Armenia

YEREVAN ("Respublika Armenia" daily), 04/26/95 —

According to Armenian Prime Minister, operation of the nuclear plant will start in 45-50 days, probably in mid-June. Nevertheless, it will not supply electric power to the network for 15-20 days. During this period, its "behavior" will be under close investigation of scientists, and if a single parameter would not be corresponding to norms, it will be shut down again, despite \$70mln spent for its re-opening. This is not probable though, and the supply of electricity to the network is expected to start by the end of summer. Mr. Bagratian confirmed that population will be receiving 10-12 hours of electric power per day if operation of the plant is successful.

ARAGIL News provides this news summary for information purposes only and does not assume responsibility for the accuracy or the content of the news reports contained herein. ARAGIL News as well as the original source of any materials printed herein, should be cited if this information is reproduced.

BANQUET, from p. 1

Michael Gorman, dean of CSUF Library Services, was excited to host the opening reception of the exhibit in CSUF Henry Madden Library, where he was able to enrich the library with Armenian cultural material.

"This library exists to serve the region and to reach out to the community," Mr. Gorman said. "This exhibition confirms, once again, the chaotic state the world is in today."

And the younger generation also enjoyed the exhibition.

"I really like it. It is a very special kind of art, and I wish more younger people can get the chance to experience it," said Joseph Krajekian, a 20 year old biology student.

With different thoughts and feelings going through their minds, the guests slowly began moving to the University Restaurant, where they were greeted with the relaxing sounds from an *oud* and a *kanon*.

Delicious hor d'oeuvres, assorted wines, dinner and dessert allowed the 175 guests to enjoy themselves while waiting for the special guest speaker of the night, Dr. Miller.

During the banquet CSUF students were recognized by the Armenian Studies Program Scholarship Committee for receiving Armenian Studies scholarships and grants for the 1994-1995 academic year. Most of the recipients are working to complete minors in Armenian Studies.

In the beginning of his talk, Dr. Miller announced that he was going to speak on a very personal level.

particular need to counter the denial of the Genocide by the Turkish government," Dr. Miller said. "Instead I want to share with you a few of the survivor stories that have moved me deeply."

In his personal approach, Dr. Miller managed to remember the Genocide and its effects in a very memorable way.

"I cannot get out of my mind the image of a mother from Hadjin, who every night cut a portion of their blanket and sewed little booties for her children to wear the next day as they walked on the rough and stony deportation route," Dr. Miller said. "I can also never forget the story of Aghavni, whose husband had been drafted into the army and was then killed in a mass execution of Armenian soldiers, which left Aghavni with a nine month old boy and a three and a half year old girl."

In his closing remarks, Dr. Miller reached out to his younger audience with an encouraging message.

There is an odd irony regarding the Armenian Genocide, Dr. Miller stated. "The Genocide of 1915 created a diaspora, and many of you are in a position to repay the debt incurred by the intervention of others in the lives of your parents and grandparents," he said.

Other special guests at the banquet were Dr. Alex Gonzalez, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs CSUF, Dr. Louis Costa, Dean of the School of Arts and Humanities, and Dr. Peter Klassen, Dean of the School of Social and Director of the International Programs. Many other guests from around the state were also present.

ASP Annual Fund Donors-1994

(donations received as of May 1, 1995)

Associate

Dr. & Mrs. Arnold & Dianne Gazarian, Janalee & Brian, Mechelle & Johnny, and Alyssa in honor of the 25th wedding anniversary of Dennis and Donna Parnagian and in memory of Henry Barsarian

Dr. & Mrs. Andrew Hagopian, DDS

Leon S. Peters Foundation
William Saroyan Foundation

Patron

M/M Gerard Chahmirian
Ms Penny Mirigian Emerzian

Friend

Mr. Hagie Kandarian
Mr. Edward M. Kashian

Sponsor

The Wearhouse-Mr. Larry Balakian

Mr. Jeff Atmajian

Mr. Dennis Badvaganian

Mr. Everett H. Berberian

M/M John Chookasezian

Mrs. Lilyan Chooljian

League

M/M Varoujan Der Simonian

Mr. George N. Francis

Dr/M Leon George

Dr/M Ara Hairabedian

Mr. Albert S. Hovannesian

M/M Albert Kabrielian

M/M Sam Kalfayan

M/M Deran Koligian

M/M Harold Manselian

M/M Gregory Mazmanian

Irene and Edward Peloian

Ms. Sona Saroyan

Mr. Walter Sepetjian

Yergat Packing Co., Inc.

Donor

Anonymous

Anonymous

Ms. Nevart Apikian

Mrs. Satenig Arabyan

Mr. Arten J. Avakian

M/M Walter Bakoian

Mr. John Baronian

Ms. Roxanne L. Bezjian

Mr. Bill Bohigian

Mr. Mark Bohigian

Mr. Harry Bujulian

Mr. Harper Gabrielson

Mr. John Garabedian

Ms. Carol A. Harootian

Mr. George Hagopian

Mrs. Stella Helghatian

Ms. Kathleen Jenanyan

M/M Zaven Johnson

Mr. Samuel G. Kadorian

Mr. John Kalashian

M/M Amos Khasigian

M/M Aram Khushigian

Mrs. Rose M. Ohanesian

Mr. Jack Peloian

Mr. Harry A. Sachaklian

Mr. Albert Sarkessian

Mr. Richard Shahbazian

M/M Richard Shirin

John and Diane Tekirian

Mr. Hrayr Terzian

Mrs. Araks V. Tolegian

Ms. Anna Tookoian

Mr. Harry Topoozian

Mr. Mark Topoozian

Mr. Topoozian Acres

Mr. Martin M. Tourigian

M/M Haig Varoujean

Հայկական Էջ

ՈՐՊԵՍ ՎԵՐՋԱԲԱՆ

Գրեց Վահակն Տոնոյան

Համաձայն Երեսանի պետական համալսարանի եւ Կալիֆորնիայի Ֆրեզնոյի նախագահի համալսարանի Հայկական Ուսումնական Ծրագրի միջեւ կնքված պայմանագրի՝ ամեն տարի Հայաստանից ուսանողներ են թերվում Ֆրեզնո՝ իրենց ուսումը մեկ տարով այստեղ շարունակելու: Ինչպես գիտեք, այս տարի այդ ուսանողներից մեկը եւ էի: Քանի որ մեկ ամսից էլ պակաս ժամանակ է մնացել պայմանագրի ավարտին, ուստի ուզում եմ ամօժով վերլուծություններ անել անցած ուսումնական տարվա վերաբերյալ:

Ինձ համար շատ օգտակար էր Ամերիկայում սովորելը մի քանի նկատառումներով: Նախ, անգլիական լեզուն ինձ համար անհրաժեշտ էր, որովհետեւ այստեղ բոլորը, ինչ-որ պատկերացում կազմեցի Ամերիկայի կյանքի եւ կենցաղի վերաբերյալ, մոտիկից ծանոթացա սփյուռքահայ համայնքին: Երրորդ, եւ ամենակարեւորը, բավականին լուրջ գիտելիքներ ստացա ծրագրավորման ասպարեզում: Գիտելիքներ, որոնք կարող եմ արդյունավետորեն օգտագործել Հայաստանում: Այս կիսամյակը անցրել էի ծրագրավորման երկու դասընթաց: Դրանցից բացի, ուսանեցի նաեւ մաթեմատիկա եւ ինֆորմացիոն համակարգեր:

Ընդհանուր առմամբ, կարծում եմ կարողացա հասնել իմ գլխավոր նպատակին: Իհարկե, եղան որոշ թերություններ, դժվարություններ, անհարթություններ, բայց դրանք էական խոչընդոտ չհանդիսացան իմ ուսման ընթացքում: Բացի այդ, իր հնարավորությունների սահմաններում ինձ օգնում էր ծրագրի պատասխանատու Պարույր Տեր-Մկրտիչյանը: Կուզեմանի նաեւ իմ գոհունակությունը հայտնել Հայկական Ուսումնական Ծրագրից, որ

դիմում էի ամեն անգամ, երբ դժվարությունների էի հանդիպում:

Անդամակցեցի Հայ Ուսանողներին Կազմակերպությանը: Այն բավականին ակտիվ եւ գործուն էր այս տարի եւ կազմակերպեց մի շարք միջոցառումներ: Այս կազմակերպության միջոցով ծանոթացա հայ երիտասարդության հետ եւ մինչեւ հիմա ջերմ հարաբերությունների մեջ եմ բոլորի հետ: Կազմակերպությունը համալսարանում ամենաակտիվներից է: Հատկապես ուշադրության է արժանի ապրիլի 24-ին կազմակերպած միտինգը, որը հրավիրված էր հիշելու 1915-ին Օսմանյան Թուրքիայի կողմից կազմակերպված ցեղասպանության նահատակների անմար հիշատակը:

Ֆրեզնոյի հայ համայնքը ավելի կազմակերպված եւ դիմագիծ ունեցող է, քան ես պատկերացում էի նախկինում: Հայ առաքելական եկեղեցին վճռական դեր է խաղում այդ կարեւորագույն հարցում: Ի դեպ համայնքի շատ անդամների հետ առաջին անգամ ծանոթացել եմ հենց եկեղեցում: Բայց մի հարց կա, որի վերաբերյալ կցանկանալի արտահայտել իմ խորը մտահոգությունը: Դա համայնքի տարանջատման, ավելի ստույգ՝ երկու մասի բաժանվելու հարցն է: Գտնում եմ, որ դրա հետեւանքները կարող են կործանարար լինել հայ համայնքի համար: Բարեբախտաբար, ամեն ինչ հուսահատական չէ, եւ որոշ առաջընթաց կա հարցը կարգավորելու ուղղությամբ: Հաճելիորեն զարմացա՝ տեսնելով երկու տարբեր թեմերի պատկանող եկեղեցիների բարյացկամ վերաբերմունքը միմյանց հանդեպ: Վստահ եմ, որ ամենամոտ ապագայում լուրջ քայլեր կձեռնարկվեն՝ խթանելու համայնքի միասնականացմանը:

Վերջապես, կցանկանալի իմ ջերմ շնորհակալությունը եւ

Գրեց Մերի Մելիքյան

Յուրաքանչյուր գարնան բացվելու հետ մեկտեղ, մարդկանց սրտերը լցվում են ուրախությամբ: Գարունը մեծ նշանակություն ունի բոլորի համար - ծաղկում, վերապրում ... Բայց հայ ժողովուրդը այլ կերպ է ողջունում գարունը՝ ուրախությամբ հաջորդում է տխրությունը:

Յուրաքանչյուր տարի ապրիլի 24-ին հայ ժողովուրդը իր հարգանքի տուրքն է մատուցում 1915 թվականի հայ ցեղասպանության նահատակներին:

Ինձ համար շատ հուզիչ էր գտնվել Ֆրեզնոյում եւ մասնակցել ցեղասպանության 80-ամյակին նվիրված քայլարշավին: Հուզիչ էր տեսնել հայ երիտասարդության բաբախումները սրտի եւ զայրույթի անարդարության նկատմամբ:

Բոլորը արդար դատավճիռ են պահանջում: Հպարտությունը պատում էր ինձ, երբ լսում էի, թե ինչպես են

օտարազգիները գովաբանում սփյուռքում բնակություն հաստատող հայերին: Իրենց շնորհիվ է, որ քաղաքը վերապրելու եւ ծաղկման շրջան է ունեցել: Թուրքիայի նպատակն էր զավթել հայոց հողերը, ճնշել հայ ազգին, ջնջել "Հայաստանը" քարտեզից: Բայց դա երբեք չիրականացավ:

Ժամանակն է, որ արդարության դռները բացվեն եւ ոսոխին կանգնեցնեն համայն դատաստանի առջեւ: Դեռ միայն վերջերս մեծ պետություններից Ռուսաստանը ճանաչեց հայոց ցեղասպանությունը, իսկ մնացածը: Աշխարհը դեռ լուռ է մնում:

Հայ ժողովուրդը՝ անվերջ տառապանքների միջով է անցել, եւ պանդուխտության արահետն է բացվել նրա համար: Գաղթեցին եւ աշխարհով մեկ տարածեցին "հայ" անունը:

Այո, հայ համազգային սուգը մշվում է եւ՝ Հայաստանում, եւ՝ սփյուռքում: Բայց սգալու իրավունք

չունենք: Հայ ժողովուրդը երբեք չի կորցրել հզորությունն ու հպարտությունը: Այժմ պայքարը ուրիշ ընթացք է ստացել: Գնում են կովի Սասնա Դավթի պես խակ պատանիները, Դավթի մամն ծուռ, բայց մեծ մի օրում արիացած արդեն: Իրենց բազմակերպում արյան եղբւր կովելու նոր ուժ եւ կարողություն է տալիս:

Ժամանակն է, որ բոլորս տեղ կանգնենք մեր հոր շիրիմներին, հողից հանենք Քուրկիկ Զալալուն եւ Թուր Կեծակին: Ծառ շուտով հայ ժողովրդի վերջնական պոթկումներով աշխարհը կթնդա:

Հողվածս ավարտելուց առաջ կուզեմանի Յուրի Սահակյանի բանաստեղծություններից մեկը գրել, որը նորից ապացուցում է, որ հայ ժողովրդին ճնշել անհնար է: Նա միշտ հզոր է եղել, կա եւ կլինի:

Դա՛ր ու դարե՛ր, դա՛ր ու դարե՛ր, դա՛ր ու դարե՛ր
Լեռների մեջ, ձորերի մեջ, դաշտերի մեջ, արեւանիստ,
թնդացել է մեր այս պարը հին հայկական:
Թմբուկների որոտընդոտ զարկերի մեջ,
Զուռնաների արեւածոր հնչյուններում...
Ու եղել ենք ինքնամոռաց, արիական
Ու պարել ենք գոյատևման պարը վսեմ,
Ինչպես ոչ՝ որ դեռ չի պարել պարն այս կյանքի ու
պայքարի:
Է՛յ, Հե՛յ, ո՞վ է զսպում թվածումը իր թելերի
Ո՞վ է զսպում արյան եղբւր իր ոտքերի,
Ելե՛ք, ելե՛ք, այս ծաղկաշատ ձորերի մեջ,
Այս դաշտերում արեւանիստ,
Մենք դեռ պիտի պարենք, պարենք
Մեր այս պարը մաքառումի, մեր այս պարը
հարատևման,
Լեռների մեջ, լեռների հետ
Դա՛ր ու դարե՛ր, դա՛ր ու դարե՛ր:

բարեկամներից բաժանվելը: Այս տարվա ընթացքում Ֆրեզնոյում ձեռք բերեցի շատ ընկերներ եւ թանկագին մարդիկ, որոնցից շատ դժվար կլինի բաժանվել: Ուստի կջանամ

հնարավորին չա՞ծ շատ կապ պահպանել նրանց հետ, եւ հուսով եմ, որ մի օր ճակատագրի բերումով նորից կհանդիպենք իրար:

Կարդացե՛ք Հայ Շարժում

Please make checks payable to Armenian Studies Program and send to:
Armenian Studies Program
California State University, Fresno
Fresno, CA 93740-0004