

HYE SHARZHOOM Armenian Action ՀԱՅ ՇԱՐԺՈՈՄ

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Year

March 2004

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Supplement to The Collegian

Armenian Insurance Claims Settled in Landmark Case

Opinion

SEVAG TATEOSIAN
Editor

On January 27, 2004, the New York Life Insurance Company signed a "Settlement Agreement" with the descendants of policyholders who were killed in the Armenian Genocide. The agreement, which still has to be approved by United States District Court Judge Christina Snyder, ensures payment for twenty-four hundred open life insurance policies.

Armenians living in the Ottoman Empire up to 1915 had purchased between eight and nine thousand life insurance policies and twenty-four hundred of them remained unsettled until this year. After New York Life heard about the tragic events that took place in the former Ottoman Empire in 1915, they hired an Armenian attorney to locate policyholders and found a majority of them.

Although the official details of the settlement have not been finalized, what is known is that New York Life will pay \$20 million to be distributed as follows: up to \$11 million will be distributed to the heirs of the twenty-four hundred policy holders and \$4 million will be paid to the four law firms which brought the class action suit to court. \$3 million will be shared among the following Armenian charitable organizations: the Eastern Diocese of the Armenian Church of North America, Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Church Eastern United States and Canada, Western Diocese of the Armenian Church of North America, Western Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Church, Armenian Apostolic Catholic Exarchate for Armenian Catholics in the United States and Canada, Armenian Missionary Association of America Inc., the Armenian Relief Society, the Armenian General Benevolent Union and the Ar-

SEE **INSURANCE** PAGE 6

Yerevan State University President Dr. Radik Martirosyan Pays Official Visit to Fresno State

NYRIE KARKAZIAN
AND
BARLOW DER MUGRDECHIAN

Dr. Radik Martirosyan, President of Yerevan State University, paid an official visit to Fresno State on February 2-3. This was the second visit of the President to Fresno; his first visit was in 2000.

Dr. Martirosyan's visit was part of the NIS College and University Partnership Program grant, which has partnered Yerevan State University and Fresno State in the field of business and economics for the past five years. Accompanying Dr. Martirosyan was Mr. Edmond Azadian, a board member of the Friends of Yerevan State University. Barlow Der Mugrdechian of the Armenian Studies Program hosted the visitors and arranged their schedule.

Dr. Martirosyan had a luncheon meeting with Fresno State President Dr. John Welty on Tuesday, Feb. 3, where they discussed the



Photo: Barlow Der Mugrdechian

L to R: Mr. Edmond Azadian, Dr. Dickran Kouymjian, Fresno State President Dr. John Welty, YSU President Dr. Radik Martirosyan.

continuing ties between the two universities. Dr. Welty and Dr. Martirosyan signed a preliminary agreement for continued cooperation between the two universities. Dr. Dickran Kouymjian, Haig and Isabel Berberian Professor of Armenian Studies, and Barlow Der

Mugrdechian of the Armenian Studies Program, joined Dr. Welty for the luncheon meeting.

Later in the afternoon, Dr. Martirosyan met with Fresno State faculty who have visited Armenia as part of the program. The faculty

SEE **YSU** PAGE 5

National Geographic Features Armenia in March 2004 Issue



Photo: Alexandra Avakian, National Geographic

STAFF REPORT

"For 3,000 years Armenians survived conquerors, calamities, and diaspora. Defiance and a long memory continue to sustain them as they rebuild their Caucasus homeland."

The March 2004 issue of *National Geographic*, now on newstands, is featuring a special 22 page story and photo essay on Armenia, entitled "The Rebirth of Armenia." The story is by Frank Viviano with photographs by Alexandra Avakian.

Excerpts from the story by Frank Viviano:

"You are looking at the great Armenian paradox," Jivan Tabibian said. We stood at the second-floor window of the Foreign Ministry building in Yerevan, watching clouds scuttle across Mount Ararat's ice-capped 16,854-foot (5,137-meter) crown. Tabibian, a diplomat whose portfolio includes ambassadorships to four countries and two international organizations, was discussing a policy initiative when he abruptly fell silent, gazing at Ararat. It's impossible not to be distracted by Ararat in Yerevan. Despite its enormous mass, the great peak seems to float weightlessly over the city, engaged in perma-

nent dialogue with Little Ararat, its 12,782-foot (3,896-meter) neighbor.

The vast snowy brow of Ararat glowers, pronounces, with hallucinatory power. Its name is derived from that of a Bronze Age god, Ara, whose talismanic cult of death and rebirth mirrored the seasonal transitions of Ararat from lifeless winter to fertile spring. Little Ararat, by contrast, is an exercise in calm, rational idealism, a volcanic cone so perfectly shaped that it suggests not so much what a mountain is as what a mountain ought to be.

You can't ponder the two Ararats for long without drifting into philosophical reflection, and the Armenians have been pondering them since the birth of civilization."

A "Related Links" section gives readers pointers on where to go to find out more on Armenia and the Armenians.

Armenia Diaspora

www.armeniadiaspora.com/home/index.html Get the latest news on Armenia.

The Armenian Church

www.armenianchurch.org/church/etchmiadzin.html Learn more about the founding of the Armenian Church.

Armenian History

www.armenianhistory.info/origins.htm Discover more about Armenia's history.

Hye Sharzhoom at 25

CHRIS TOZLIAN
STAFF WRITER

Though it's difficult to admit, I am currently enrolled in my twelfth consecutive semester at Fresno State. I know what you're thinking... "Boy, he has really taken his time, hasn't he?" Well, it's true; I have been taking my time.

When I began attending Fresno State in the fall of 1998, there was no SaveMart Center, nor was there a Smittcamp Alumni House. Jerry Tarkanian was coaching basketball

and the soccer program wasn't in danger of being "cut." I have seen six different Associated Student governments on campus, and have joyfully watched the multiple enlargements to the Q parking lot. Simply stated, there have been a great number of changes at Fresno State since I began my academic career.

While it may seem as if everything is changing on campus, there are a few elements of the university that have remained throughout the

SEE **YSU** PAGE 6

Shoghaken Armenian Ensemble to Perform in Campus Concert April 12



Photo: Courtesy of Traditional Crossroads

SEE **SHOGHAKEN** PAGE 8

Armenian Studies Program
Book/Video/CD/Archival Gifts

Dr. Dickran Kouymjian and the Armenian Studies Program would like to thank the donors, authors, and publishers for the following books, periodicals, videos, and archival gifts either offered personally or to the Program.

Aram I Catholicos Keshishian, *Havadk Arakelutiwn*, (The Apostleship of Faith), Antelias, Lebanon, 2003. Gift of His Holiness Aram I, Catholicos of the Great House of Cilicia.

Armenian Assembly of America, Washington, DC, for the copy of the book by Peter Balakian, *The Burning Tigris*.

Archbishop Mesrob Ashjian, compiler, *The Etchmiadzin Chronicles, Recorded by Missionaries and Merchants, Diplomats and Scholars*, [Erevan]: Moughni Press, 2003, 872 pages, 96 color and 176 black and white illustrations. Text offered in English, Russian, Italian, French, German, and Armenian. The final scholarly work of the late Archbishop. Available through the Armenian Prelacy of New York: books@armenianprelacy.org.

Mr. Carl Bardakian, Pasadena, for the books *Karekin I Theological and Armenological Studies Series* and *Children’s Badarak Book*.

Dr. Antranig K. Chalabian, Southfield, MI, for the copies of his two books, *General Andranik and The Armenian Revolutionary Movement* and *Armenia After the Coming of Islam*.

Vahakn N. Dadrian, “Children as Victims of Genocide: The Armenian Case,” offprint from *Journal of Genocide Research*, vol. 5, no.3 (September 2003), pp. 421-437, courtesy of the Zoryan Institute of Canada.

Rev. Demosthenis Demosthenous, *The Occupied Churches of Cyprus*, Nicosia: Byzantine Academy of Cyprus, 2000, xiv, 337 pages, illustrated with hundreds of photos. This impressive book lists and illustrates many of the 520 Christian monuments occupied, desecrated, or simply destroyed by the Turkish occupying forces of northern Cyprus. No similar work exists in the form of a complete illustrated list of “occupied” or destroyed Armenian churches in Turkey.

Duke University Press, Durham, NC, for the copies of the book *In the Aftermath of Genocide, Armenians and Jews in Twentieth-Century France* by Maud S. Mandel.

Dr. Arnold Gazarian, Fresno, for the documents of the *European Fact-Finding Trip* by Ross Vartian, 1981.

Dr. Robert Hewsen, Fresno, for the two books, *Miscellaneous Translations from Oriental Languages II* and *The Pre-History of the Armenian People* by Igor M. Diakonoff.

Nina Jidejian, Beirut, the copy of her booklet *Les Sarcophages Anthropoides du Musee National*.

Journeying to Mount Athos, Catalogue, KEDAK, Centre for Preservation of Mount Athos Heritage, Thessaloniki: Ministry of Macedonia and Thrace, 1999, 256 pages. A remarkable catalogue of an exhibit of 1999 describing in detail each of the 20 monasteries of Mt. Athos with hundreds of photographs of the monasteries, their treasures and the restoration and preservation work done by KEDAK.

Journal of Armenian Studies, NAASR, vol. VII, no. 2 (2003), 217 pages, special issue: *Rethinking Armenian Studies* with contributions by Richard Hovannisian, Robert Hewsen, Barlow Der Mugrdechian, Dickran Kouymjian and others.

Journal of Armenian Studies, vol. VII, no. 1 (Fall-Winter 2002-2003), 131 pages, courtesy of NAASR.

Mr. Walter Karabian, Los Angeles, for the scrapbook that his father kept on the history and events of The Tigers Club of Sanger.

Prof. L. G. Khacherian, Glendale, for the copy of his book, *Armenological Studies and Publications, Third Volume*.

Mr. Carl Carl Mahakian, Rancho Mirage, for the books by William Saroyan.

Virginia Meltickian, Fresno, for the additional pages to the *Memory Album of the Armenians in China from the Beginning of the Last Century to the 1950’s*.

Arby Ovanessian and Jirair Jolakian, *An Anthology of Armenian One-Act Plays* (in Armenian), 3 vols., Erevan: Armenian Theatre Association, Paris and “Spiurk” Publications, Erevan. 2001-2003, vol. I, 12 plays 303 pages; II, 13 plays 343 pages; III, 15 plays, 375 pages. A monumental undertaking presenting works written between 1841 and 2001 by director and theatrical and film scholar Arby Ovanessian, who continues regularly to produce these plays in dramatic readings in Paris. Available through the author: 24 rue Lucien Sampaix, F-75010 Paris, France.

Vartan Ozinian, *M.E.I. and the Others, Aren’t They for Sale? Really?!* (in Armenian), Paris: Grtasser, Gamma Institute, 2003, 124 pages. A collection of articles and essay on Armenian pedagogy. Gift of the author.

Sergio Poggianella, *Garò Keshishian*, exhibition catalogue of the works of the Armenian photographer from Bulgaria held in Ca’ Zenobia, Venice, 11 October – 16 November 2002, Venice: Nicolodi, 2002, 169 pages. For information p.Sergio@email.it. **Gift of Herman Vahramian, Milan**.

Revue des études arméniennes, vol. 28 (2001-2002), 529 pages.

Sarkis & Iris Sahatdjian, Fresno, for the three boxes of Armenian books to add to our library.

The Treasury Museum, St. Etchmiadzin, Etchmiadzin: Ereboundi editions, 1984, booklet, with 25 color plates of some of the liturgical treasures kept at Holy Etchmiadzin. **Gift of Randy-Vaugh-Dotta**.

Mr. Martin M. Tourigian, Drexel Hills, PA, for the watercolors, booklets and magazines.

United Armenian Fund, Glendale, for several copies of the book by Peter Balakian, *The Burning Tigris*.

Nadia H. Wright, *Respected Citizens. The History of Armenians in Singapore and Malaysia*, Middle Park, Australia: Amassia Publishing, 2003, xiii, 350 pages, with 71 illustrations. A carefully researched history of a little known Armenian community with tables, bibliography, and index. Available at info@amassia.com.au. **Gift of Vicken K Poochikian, M.D.** of Bladensburg, Maryland.

California State University, Fresno
Armenian Studies Program

Fall 2004 Schedule of Courses

Course	Units	Time	Day	Instructor
General Education				
Social Sciences, Area D3, for students using 1999/2000 catalog and after Division 9-Other Cultures, for students using 1998/1999 catalog and before				
• ArmS 10	Intro to Arm Studies	3	10:00-10:50A MWF	B Der Mugrdechian
• Arm 1A	Elementary Armenian	4	11:00-11:50A MTWF	B Der Mugrdechian
Arts & Humanities, Arts, Area C1 for students using 1999/2000 catalog and after				
• ArmS 20	Arts of Armenia	3	9:30-10:45 A	TTh B. Der Mugrdechian
Upper Division Courses				
• ArmS 108A	Arm History I	3	9:00-9:50A	MWF B. Der Mugrdechian
• ArmS 120T		3	3:30-4:45 P	TTh Kazan Visiting Professor

For more information call the Armenian Studies Program at 278-2669 or visit our offices in the Peters Business Building, Room 384.

Letters

Dear Dr. Kouymjian:

You probably don’t remember me. I had taken a few history courses with you at AUB in 1971-72.

Recently I came across this book, *Respected Citizens*, by Nadia Wright. While I was reading it I remembered a paper that I had written for one of my history classes with you-“Merchants of the Caspian Sea.” It was a short research paper on the Armenian mer-

chants of the 17th-19th centuries. My memories went back and I remembered you and your dedication to teaching.

If you have the book already, please accept it as a token of appreciation for the beautiful years of studying with you. I am grateful for you teaching me. If you don’t have it then it will also be another reading for you.

I had heard that you are teaching at Fresno State. Hope this book and

letter finds you well. Hope to see you sometime in the future. Your “old” student,

Vicken K. Poochikian, M.D.
Bladensburg, MD

Dear ASP:
Congratulations on another successful year filled with great projects, classes and lectures!

Zaroohi Der Mugrdechian
Fresno CA

HYE SHARZHOOM
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Read
Hye
Sharzhoom!

Hye Sharzhoom is also available on the Armenian Studies Program website

www.armenianstudies.
csufresno.edu/
hye_sharzhoom/
index.htm

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● Armenians on the Internet ●

ARMEN POSTOYAN
STAFF WRITER

Website Address: www.TeachGenocide.org

Categories: Home, Video, Survivor Accounts, Books, Teaching Guides, Website, Documents & Maps and History of Genocides

Brief Summary: This website was established at the beginning of 2004 by the San Francisco Armenian National Committee. This website was developed to inform high school teachers throughout California on the Armenian Genocide and to teach them how it could be used in their curriculum. Along with having a teacher’s guide, there is also a section on Survivor Accounts. This website is a great tool for those who want to learn more about the genocide. I recommend this site to people of all ages and to those who are interested in teaching about the Armenian Genocide.

Website Address: www.ArmenianTeens.com

Categories: Armenian Jokes, Funny Pictures, Poems, Satellite Images, Personal Motivation, Random Quotes, Miscellaneous Facts

Brief Summary: This Website must be viewed by all youth ages 12 and older. This is a site designed to keep kids interested about different topics such as Jokes, Pictures, Satellite Images of Armenia and the different Historical Lands. As you search through this site, you can’t stop from laughing at the jokes but can’t help the fact that it is educational as well. If you have some extra time in your busy life, this website is worth looking at. I recommend this site to young people looking to have some fun searching the World Wide Web.

Alexander *History* Published

La Storia di Alessandro il Macedone
(*The History of Alexander of Macedonia*)

Codice miniato armeno del secolo XIV (Venezia, ms. San Lazzaro 424),

Giusto Traina, editor, in collaboration with Carlo Franco, Dickran Kouymjian, and Cecilia Veronese Arslan. Volume 5 in the series “Helios” Collana editoriale del Centro Veneto Studi e Ricerche sulle Civiltà Classiche e Orientali, 2 vols., Padua: Also Ausilio Editore, 2003.

Volume I. *Il testo* (The Text), pp. 194, size 21.5x31.5 cm, introduction to the text, analysis of the miniatures, translation, bibliography and index.

Volume II. *Le miniature*, facsimile color reproduction of all 254 pages, size 25x35 cm, plus an appendix of reproductions from other illustrated Armenian manuscripts of Alexander, on separate sheets, boxed in sturdy buckram.

The *History of Alexander the Great* is a universal work that has been translated into scores of language and adopted by nearly every civilization. The most popular version of the story and the one that served as the source for almost all other versions was composed in Alexandria in the third century by an anonymous Greek author who was later given the name of (Pseudo-)Callisthenes, after a contemporary of Alexander. The Armenian translation of the work is safely attributed to the fifth century, just a couple of centuries after its composition. Scholars of

Pseudo-Callisthenes, to establish and check the much later surviving Greek versions, have used it.

Among the more than 80 surviving Armenian manuscripts of the *History* or *Romance of Alexander*, the most important and most beautiful is codex no. 424 of the Library of the Mekhitarist Fathers on the island of San Lazzaro, Venice. It was copied and illustrated with magnificent miniatures in the early fourteenth century; the manuscript today contains 128 folios and 85 miniature paintings. The Venice manuscript is also the oldest to preserve the additional *kafas* or poems added by Khatchadour of Ketcharis at the end of the thirteenth century. These moralizing poems were added to virtually every episode of the *History* and seem to turn this very secular and pagan work into an acceptable book for Armenian Christians, especially the monks responsible for the copying and illustrating manuscripts in medieval times.

The extraordinary manuscript, difficult of access because of its fragile state (a restoration was carried out in recent years), is now available in its entirety in a luxurious facsimile edition. A companion volume analyzes the text philologically, historically, and iconographically, while providing a diplomatic translation in Italian, in-



Alexander receiving the ambassadors of Persian King Darius from the *History of Alexander the Great*, Armenian manuscript no. 424 of the Venice Mekhitarist Fathers collection, San Lazzaro, Venice, folio 30.

cluding all the *kafas* of Khatchadour.

The integral publication provides the major resource for the study of the Armenian Alexander and provides historians and especially art historians with one of most famous and important illustrated manuscripts of the entire Christian Orient.

Price: Euro 1.020 about \$ 1,190
Available through: Aldo Ausilio Editore in Padova, via A. Da Bassano 70/d, 35135 Padova, Italia; tel. 049.8642829, 049 8642828; fax 049 8642828

Mosaix- A New Lifestyle Magazine



MITCHELL PETERS
STAFF WRITER

Looking at the first issue of *Mosaix*, a new high-end Armenian lifestyle magazine, one might think that he was flipping through an Armenian version of *Vanity Fair*.

The cover of the fall 2003 issue angelically displays the beautiful Armenian pop singer Cher, who the magazine deems as one of the top ten most influential Armenians, while also exploring the world of fashion, art, travel, health, finance, entertainment, food and fitness.

With a crossover appeal that is geared toward both a young and

mature audience, *Mosaix* Magazine provides something of interest to people from all walks of life.

“We are a young, hip publication,” said Tamar Kevonian, publisher of *Mosaix*.

The new monthly magazine will focus on issues facing the nearly one million Armenians living in North America with subject matter that isn’t restricted to topics about Armenians

only. With this, *Mosaix* hopes to reach a larger mainstream audience that isn’t restricted to Armenian readers only, she said.

“We don’t feel it matters whether somebody is Armenian or not to be involved with the magazine,” Kevonian said. “We’re not just looking at things that are about Armenians, but what interests us.”

In contrast to other Armenian-oriented magazines, *Mosaix* is a non-political magazine that focuses on contemporary social issues. Rather than focusing on the country of Armenia itself, *Mosaix* attempts to localize their subject matter to a national level.

“Through the magazine we’re trying to create a community,” Kevonian said. “It’s what’s happening on a national scale.”

The magazine was first conceived when Kevonian and a friend, now editor-in-chief R. Alexander Jaime, determined that there were no publications that served the Armenian community in a non-partisan and non-political fashion.

With virtually no experience in publishing magazines, Kevonian decided to surround herself with a team of people who have experience in putting together publications. Instead, Kevonian brings with her a background in business along with her knowledge and ties to the Armenian community.

“Overall, the responses have been extremely positive, far above industry standards,” she said. “We value everyone’s opinion.”

Along with the chic advertising and educationally entertaining articles, *Mosaix* provides crisp, colorful pages, which inform its readers in a non-confrontational fashion. The wide range of content should accommodate anyone who picks it up.

“There’s something in it for everyone,” Kevonian said

Mosaix is currently available through subscription and is sold on newsstands in some regions. Subscriptions can be done through their website, www.mosaixmag.com, or by mail, P.O Box 1164, Burbank, California 91507.

“All Things Armenian” Completes 20th Program

STAFF REPORT

“All Things Armenian” is a weekly, one hour long cultural arts and information program produced by KFSR and the Armenian Studies Program at Fresno State. The program airs on Saturdays from noon till 1 o’clock, immediately following the “Hye Oozh” program. Hosted by Prof. Barlow Der Mugardechian, the program features interviews with noted Armenian guests, as well as music by Armenian composers and musicians. “All Things Armenian” also features Armenian news from around the world, as well as local news and events.

“All Things Armenian” is live-streamed and can be heard throughout the world at <http://www.csufresno.edu/kfsr/ata.html> and the archived shows can be accessed at <http://www.csufresno.edu/kfsr/ata.html>. Following are some of the shows which have aired:

Program #1 - 11/01/03 - Aram Khatchatourian

The debut edition of “All Things Armenian” focuses on noted Armenian composer Aram Khatchatourian. The program includes performances of some of his most famous works, including the Sabre Dance from the Gayane Ballet, as well as an interview with pianist and world-renowned Khatchatourian expert Sahan Arzuni.

Program #2 - 11/08/03 - Dr. Peter Balakian

This week’s edition of “All Things Armenian” features an interview with current New York Times best selling author, Dr. Peter Balakian, author of the new book *The Burning Tigris: The Armenian Genocide and America’s Response*. This week’s program also features the music of Alan Hovhaness.

On Line Bonus: Listen to Dr. Peter Balakian’s lecture at Fresno State 11/02/03...

Program #4 - 11/22/03 -Dr. Ara Sanjian

This week’s edition of “All Things Armenian” features an interview with Dr. Ara Sanjian, Henry S. Khanzadian Kazan Visiting Professor in Armenian Studies at California State University, Fresno. This week’s program also features the works of Armenian composer and conductor Loris Tjeknavorian.

Program #7 - 12/13/03 - Guest: Mark Arax

This week’s edition of “All Things Armenian” features an interview with Valley native Mark Arax, who is San Joaquin Valley correspondent for the Los Angeles Times, and the author of the new book *The King of California: J.G. Boswell and the Making of a Secret American Empire*.

Tom BozigianTeaches Armenian Dance

CARINA KARAKASHIAN
STAFF WRITER

Fresno State students and guests woke up exhausted on Sunday, February 1st, following a weekend full of nothing but Armenian dancing! Special guest instructor, Tom Bozigian, came to Fresno State for the third year in a row to add to the diversity of classes offered by the Armenian Studies Program.

The Armenian 120-T course began Friday evening at 5pm. Twenty-five Fresno State students were in attendance, intrigued to learn more about the dances of the Armenian culture. The first session ended at 10pm with a number of dances taught. The second session began bright and early Saturday morning at 9am. The session began with a review of the dances taught the prior evening and continued until 5 pm.



Students take a break during the Armenian dance course.

About ten dances were taught to the students in this single weekend. The history and origin of each dance was taught, along with the steps. The dances taught originated in various parts of Armenia ranging from Van to Erzerum. Some of the

dances that were taught during this weekend included “Chors Goghk,” “Agar Magar,” and “Yerzengatzi Tamzara.” A great number of these dances were taught with the special hope of revitalizing Armenian dancing in the Central Valley.

Dance instructor Tom Bozigian is a Fresno native. As a graduate of Fresno State, he has always had a special connection with the Armenian community of Fresno. Bozigian has traveled all over the world learning original Armenian dances and teaching them to various communities. He attended a

dance school in Armenia where he gained most of his dancing expertise. He now teaches in Glendale, California, where he has established his own dance studio.

This dance class has had another successful year and all who attended are already looking forward to what’s in store next spring!



Photos: Barlow Der Mugrdchian

Learning one of the many Armenian dances taught in the Friday afternoon and all day Saturday weekend course.

Eeench Ga Cheega

CARINA KARAKASHIAN AND NYRIE KARKAZIAN
STAFF WRITERS

QUESTION: HAVE YOU EVER TRAVELED TO ARMENIA? IF SO, SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCES AND IF NOT, WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO, AND WHY?

Christina Zvart Karakashian:

When I was 10 years old I went to Armenia with my family. Since I traveled there at such a young age, I was not able to experience the full effect and could not appreciate being in Armenia. I would love to go to Armenia again, to be able to see where my culture comes from and to see all the historical sites. Although I have already gone, I would love to go again to see and experience my Armenian heritage.



Ernest Martirosyan:



When I traveled to Armenia, it was a big change for me because I hadn’t been there since I was 7 years old. It was a good experience because I saw how everything had changed. It was completely different from what I remembered as a child. Although everything had changed, the people were still the same, loving and caring.

Sebough Krioghlian:

I traveled to Armenia in my junior year of high school. I was able to see many of the churches like Etchmiadzin and Geghart, and also the Dzidzernagapert (Armenian Genocide) Memorial. I truly feel that one can’t fully appreciate Armenia until they actually see it.



Photos: Barlow Der Mugrdchian

2003-2004 Scholarships & Grant Awards

The Armenian Studies Program awarded scholarships and research grants from seven different endowment or scholarship funds and research grants for a total of \$46,800. These scholarships encourage students to pursue minors in Armenian Studies and to enroll in the various course offerings. We ask our students and our supporters to tell their friends and relatives about the Armenian Studies Scholarship program and encourage them to apply.

Nerces and Ruth Azadian Memorial Scholarship
Christopher Tozlian, Fresno, History and Business Ad

Kirkor and Mary Bedoian Memorial Scholarship
Carina Karakashian, Fresno, Pre-Law

Norma and Bob Der Mugrdchian Armenian Studies Endowed Scholarship Fund
Vahan Papyan, Armenia, MBA

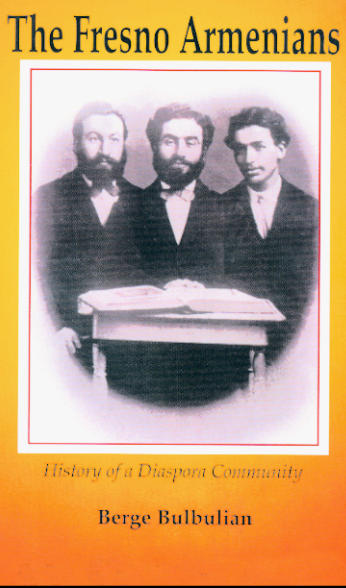
Yervant, Rose and Hovannes Levonian Educational Grant
Christina Ajamian, Fresno, Kinesiology; Jack Ajamian, Fresno, Undeclared; Zhanna Bagdasarov, Fresno, Psychology; Alex Bunch, Concord, Biology; Dikran Chekian, Fresno, Business; Lara Chekian, Fresno, Business; Joseph Dobbins, Fresno, Health Science; Mher Ekezzian, Fresno, Music and Business; Alison Garabedian, Fresno, Criminology-Victimology; Anna Hakopyan, Fresno, Nursing; Christina Karakashian, Fresno, Business Ad.; Bryan Kirkorian, Fresno, Economics; Alyssa Klasen, Fresno, Biology; Gor Krboyan, Fresno, Biology; Tara Lee Clovis, Business Ad.; Mary Madoyan, Clovis, Undeclared; Kimberly Marsh, S San Francisco, Biology; Ernest Martirosyan, Fresno, Liberal Studies; Zarui Oganessian, Fresno, Liberal Studies; Azniv Orinakyan, Fresno, Liberal Studies; Vahan Papyan, Armenia, MBA; Kristine Pogosyan, Fresno, Pre-law; Armen Postoyan, Fresno, Business; Benjamin Risha, Fresno, Counseling; Hakop Tataryan, Fresno, Business; Ryan E. Tellalian, Fresno, Psychology; Dustin Topoozian, Clovis, Business Ad.; Ryan Topoozian, Clovis, Business Ad.; Aida Vareldjian, Fresno, Business Ad.; Nancy Vartanian, Modesto, Economics

Charles K. and Pansy Patigian Zlokovich Scholarship
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The Harry and Mary Toopozian Armenian Studies Merit Scholarship Fund
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YSU President in Fresno



Photo: Bill Erystian

L to R. Barlow Der Mugrdechian, Dr. Berta Gonzalez, interim Vice President for Continuing and Global Education, and Dr. Radik Martirosyan.

YSU

FROM PAGE 1

reported on their work in the exchange program and in their specific discipline. They then discussed the achievements that they had witnessed. Dr. Karen Bowerman, interim Dean of the Craig School of Business and Associate Dean Garo Kalfayan also joined the meeting.

Dr. K. P. Wong, Dean of the College of Science and Mathematics, met with the delegation later that day. Dr. Martirosyan, a radio-physicist, detailed the research ac-

tivities of YSU faculty and where there might be opportunities for joint research projects. Dean Wong expressed his interest in pursuing the possibilities. Dr. David Grubbs, Associate Dean of the College, and Dr. Stanley Ziegler, Assistant to the Dean, also participated in the meeting.

On Monday evening, February 2, Dr. Martirosyan and Mr. Azadian held a public forum about the university and about the Friends of Yerevan State University (FYSU). Dr. Martirosyan spoke of the relationship between Yerevan State University and Fresno State, which

has grown since it started in 1992. He added that the people in Fresno had been a great help to the University and he would like them to continue their support.

Unfortunately, with all the support and help they have had, the University continues to struggle financially. During the Soviet era the government fully funded the University, while today the Armenian government only provides 25 percent of the university budget. The remainder comes from student fees and support from the local community and the Diaspora.

Despite the monetary difficulties, the number of students enrolled in the university has actually increased during the past ten years. During its peak the university was ranked in the top 30 universities in the Soviet Union and is still considered one of the top universities in the former Soviet Union. Yerevan State University will celebrate its 85th anniversary in 2004 and has had more than 90,000 graduates.

Dr. Martirosyan said he came to California to better establish the relationship between friends and acquaintances of the University. He wants to start a branch of the Friends of YSU (see accompanying box on the Friends of YSU) in Los Angeles where there are many alumni. The FYSU branch on the East coast has proven to be very

successful. Dr. Martirosyan was very enthusiastic about starting the organization and looks forward to getting the West Coast chapter established as soon as possible.

Before speaking, Dr. Martirosyan was entertained by a delightful program put on by the children who attend the Armenian Saturday School of St. Paul Armenian Church. From a girl dancing to

Armenian music in a soft blue dress, to children proudly reciting poems, they proudly displayed their heritage. Mrs. Margarite Doumanian Ijjan, principal of the school, organized the program.

It is expected that a delegation from Fresno State will visit Yerevan State University in May of this year to continue the relationship between the two universities.



Photo: Barlow Der Mugrdechian

Some of the Fresno State faculty members of the Craig School of Business who have been involved in the Yerevan State University/Fresno State partnership program. Dr. Sasan Rahmatian, Dr. Ali Peyvandi, Mr. Edmond Azadian, Friends of YSU, Dr. Radik Martirosyan, President of Yerevan State University, Craig School of Business Associate Dean Garo Kalfayan, Prof. Elizabeth Shields, Prof. Emil Milevoj, and Prof. Diana Decker. The partnership program has been active for more than five years and has achieved substantial success.

ANCA-Genocide Postcard Campaign

MITCHELL PETERS
STAFF WRITER

In yet another attempt to encourage the U.S. government to recognize the Armenian Genocide, the Armenian National Committee of America (ANCA) has initiated a grassroots campaign that involves using postcards to "Help end the cycle of Genocide."

ing new to the ANCA according to Ohannessian. In the past, they have sent postcards to lawmakers to bring specific issues to their attention.

The current campaign is in response to H.Res.193, a genocide prevention measure that was introduced in April of 2003 by Representatives George Radanovich and Adam Schiff and Armenian Caucus Co-Chairmen Joe Knollenberg

The measure, says Radanovich, commemorates the fifteenth anniversary of the U.S. implementation of the Genocide Convention and reinforces our nation's dedication to the landmark human rights treaty. Approved in the shadow of the Holocaust, he said, the Convention stands today as the international community's best hope for the realization of the noble aim of eradicating forever the crime of genocide.

With the financial support and creative input of the Armenian-American rock band, System Of A Down, the ANCA was able to distribute approximately 100,000 postcards throughout the U.S. to anyone who cares about human rights said Ardashes Kassakhian, Director of Government Relations for the ANCA-Western Region.

"The response has been tremendous," Kassakhian said. "We are going to get it passed."

In Fresno, Calif., members of the ANCA went to various Armenian churches and distributed the cards to their members during fellowship hour. In order to make sure the cards got mailed, signatures were obtained and the postcards were mailed for the parishoners. "The ANCA in Central California has mailed close to 1,700 postcards to Washington D.C." according to Ohannessian.

Although the hopes for passing this resolution are high, it is not the first time recognition of the Armenian Genocide has been attempted. Lena Kaimian, Director of the Armenian Assembly Western Office, feels the prospects for the current House and Senate resolutions are daunting.

During the 101st Congress (1989-1990), the Armenian Assembly worked with former Senator Bob Dole, and again with Rep.

Friends of Yerevan State University Branch to be Formed in Fresno

STAFF REPORT

A branch of the Friends of Yerevan State University, Inc. has been established in Fresno following the visit of Yerevan State University President Dr. Radik Martirosyan to Fresno in February.

The purpose of the Friends of Yerevan State University is to develop and advance the educational curriculum at Yerevan State University, to promote the educational and scientific training of individuals at Yerevan State University for the purpose of improving and developing their capabilities, and to foster educational and scientific discussions and forums for alumni of YSU who reside in Armenia and the United States.

Among the projects that have already been completed are renovation of classrooms and allocation of scholarships. Funding for a new building on the YSU campus has been secured and construction should start this year.

Mr. Edmond Azadian, Secretary of the Friends of YSU accompanied Dr. Martirosyan to Fresno to discuss the formation of the Fresno chapter. The Central Board of Directors of the organization includes Vartkes Balian, Benon Sevan, Rouben Terzian, Osep Sarafian, Judge Armand Arabian of California, Armand Norehad, and Dr. Simon Simonian.

Barlow Der Mugrdechian of the Armenian Studies Program announced the formation of the Fresno Branch and those in the Central Valley who are interested in participating in the activities of the Friends are invited to contact him by calling 278-2669 or by email at barlowd@csufresno.edu. An inaugural meeting of the Friends of Yerevan State University will be held in the near future.

The Friends of Yerevan State University is a non-stock charitable and educational organization (501c3).



The postcards, which display six horrifying pictures of genocide, are being sent to the offices of Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist and Speaker of the House Dennis Hastert, in an effort to bring House Resolution 193 (H.Res.193) to the House floor for a vote as soon as possible according to the ANCA. Frist and Hastert were not available for comment.

"If the House and Senate leadership does not bring this resolution to the floor before Congress goes out of session at the end of this year," said Hygo Ohannessian, Chairwoman of the ANCA in Central California, "the resolution will die."

The postcard campaign is noth-

and Frank Pallone. The measure was adopted unanimously by the Judiciary Committee and has been cosponsored by 110 Representatives and endorsed by a coalition of more than 100 organizations.

The resolution cites the importance of remembering past crimes against humanity, including the Armenian Genocide, the Holocaust, and the Cambodian and Rwandan genocides, in an effort to stop future atrocities says the ANCA.

"We must make sure that we apply the lessons of past genocide to prevent future crimes against humanity," Radanovich said in a letter encouraging a vote on the resolution. "Clearly, the struggle against genocide is not over."

James Rogan during the 106th Congress (1999-2000) in hopes of getting the U.S. government to recognize the Armenian Genocide. Both attempts failed.

"The administration has been abundantly clear and consistent that it does not want such resolutions scheduled for votes," Kaimian said. "The Majority House and Senate Congressional leadership continue to accede to the Administration's demands."

The reason for this, said California State University, Fresno, Armenian Studies professor Barlow Der Mugrdechian, is because (U.S.) recognition of the Armenian Genocide would directly affect Turkish

and American relations. The resolutions have an effect says Der Mugrdechian, because when they do pass, Turkey always responds with a threat.

Despite the discouraging past of the issue, Kaimian says the Armenian Assembly will continue to press for the universal reaffirmation of the Armenian Genocide.

For more information on the ANCA postcard campaign for the H.Res.193 Genocide resolution, you can visit their website at www.anca.org. E-mail requests for postcards can be sent to anca@anca.org. A free WebFax can also be sent to Members of Congress through the Web site.

Fresno State Graduate Armen Devejian Ordained in Etchmiadzin



L to R: Bishop Vasken Mirzakhanian ordaining Deacon Armen Devejian as the new Fr. Ktrich Devejian.

STAFF REPORT

Fresno State alumnus Deacon Armen Devejian was ordained a priest in the Armenian Apostolic church on Thursday, February 19, becoming the first American-born clergyman ever ordained in Holy Etchmiadzin.

Deacon Armen Devejian had first visited Armenia in 1990, while a student at Fresno State, participating in an Armenian study tour under the direction of Barlow Der Mugrdechian of the Armenian Studies Program.

For the past two and a half years Deacon Armen has been living in Armenia with his wife Paula, work-

ing as Foreign Press Secretary for the Holy See of Etchmiadzin. Deacon Armen's parents Michael and Yeran Devejian and in-laws Bob and Sara Der Matoian were in attendance at the moving and emotional service.

On February 19 the Armenian Church commemorated the Feast of Saint Vartan the Commander and His Companions. A solemn Divine Liturgy was celebrated in the Cathedral of Holy Etchmiadzin with His Holiness Karekin II, Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians, presiding. During the Liturgy, two deacons were ordained into the Holy Order of Priesthood by the celebrant, His Grace Bishop Vasken Mirzakhanian, Pri-

mate of the Armenian Diocese of Georgia.

Before a large crowd of faithful witnesses, His Grace placed his right hand on the two young candidates, and consecrated their foreheads and right and left hands with Holy Chrism (Muron), calling them by their new names. Deacon Armen Devejian was named Father Ktrij (the baptismal name of His Holiness Karekin II) and Deacon Vartan Movsissian was named Father Shahan.

Immediately following the ordination, His Holiness Karekin II, bishops and all members of the Brotherhood of Holy Etchmiadzin, ascended the bema and congratulated the newly ordained by kissing their anointed foreheads and hands.

The worldwide Armenian Church also celebrates the "naming day" of His Holiness Karekin II on this feast day. During the Divine Liturgy, the faithful joined with the class of clergy in offering a special Pontifical Blessing service, wishing His Holiness a long, productive reign and a healthy and fruitful life.

Rev. Fr. Ktrij Devejian and Rev. Fr. Shahan Movsissian will continue their service to the Armenian Church in the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin, following their forty days of seclusion.

INSURANCE FROM PAGE 1

menian Educational Foundation. The final \$2 million of the settlement was allocated for administrative fees to publicize the settlement and to find the heirs.

Vartkes Yeghiayan of Yeghiayan & Associates, who was one of the co-counsels in the case, in an interview on P R W E B Newswire said, "I know that this settlement will not bring back the life of even one Armenian child. But this settlement is important, because it symbolizes our resolve to achieve justice for our ancestors who were massacred in the Armenian Genocide."

"The settlement is fair under the circumstances and payment is at a higher rate than that of the Holocaust," said Brian Kabateck of Kabateck & Garriss, another co-counsel in the case. "This settlement reignites discourse about the Genocide and brings attention to April 24," he added.

Kabateck, who is a grandson of the late Fr. Nerses Odian of St. Paul Armenian Church in Fresno, was especially recruited for this case by Yeghiayan because of his strong background in lawsuits. He was excited to take part in this case because of his family's experience

with the Genocide. His grandfather's family was completely wiped out by the Ottoman Turks. His grandmother, who was the only one in her family to escape the Genocide, witnessed the Turks massacring her family.

Mark Kassabian of Geragos and Geragos, was also optimistic about the settlement. "I feel great about the settlement," he said. "No amount of money will ever compensate for genocide. This settlement is not about genocide, it is about insurance policies, and as far as insurance policies, it is great."

Mark Geragos of Geragos and Geragos, who was also involved in this case and is a well-known attorney, was also supportive of the settlement. "This settlement with New York Life is an important first step toward seeking financial recovery for the losses resulting from the Armenian Genocide," he said in an interview with PRWEB Newswire.

However, not everyone is excited about the outcome of the settlement. Many people are disappointed, confused or will not comment about the settlement.

The Armenian Assembly of America Inc (AAA Inc), one of

America's largest and most well-known Armenian-American grassroots organizations, has not expressed an opinion on the issue and is closely reviewing the settlement. Interestingly enough, the Armenian Assembly is a strong proponent for United States genocide recognition.

Another American-Armenian grassroots organization left out of the settlement is the Armenian National Committee of America (ANCA). "It's a Band-Aid on a bullet wound," said Ardashes Kassakhian, executive director of the ANC Western Region offices, in an interview with the Associated Press.

California Courier publisher Harut Sassounian, in a lengthy article published in the February 5, 2004 issue of the Courier, after obtaining a copy of the settlement, points out the same question. "Many Armenian American groups are wondering why they have not been included in the list of organizations selected to receive \$3 million."

Sy Sternberg, chairman and chief executive of New York Life, said in a press release, "When it became clear that many of our Armenian policyholders perished in the tragic events of 1915, New York Life hired an Armenian lawyer in the region to assist the heirs of those who died, so as to promptly pay claims. Time after time, the company would waive normal claims procedures and reinstate lapsed Armenian policies in order to pay the heirs."

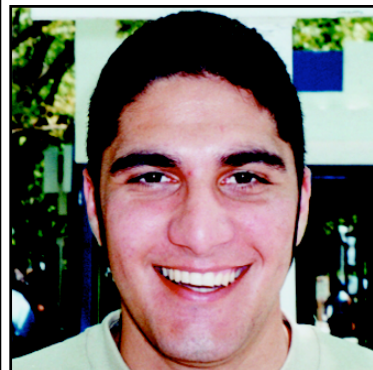
"Records confirm that the company succeeded in paying benefits in about a third of those Armenian

HYE SHARZHOOM

FROM PAGE 1

years, providing stability for those of us who aren't exactly fond of change. One such is *Hye Sharzhoom*, which has withstood the test of time... twenty-five years to be exact.

When *Hye Sharzhoom* began publication in April 1979, Dr. Dickran Kouymjian, director of the Armenian Studies Program, and since 1991 Haig and Isabel Berberian Professor of Armenian Studies, was the newspaper's advisor, and its first edition editors were Mark Malkasian and Bill Erysian. Now, twenty-five years later, which is exactly one advisor and twenty-seven editors later, the advisor is professor Barlow Der Mugrdechian and the editor is Sevag Tateosian.



John Jabaghourian

Though the advisor, the editor, and the writers have changed over the years, *Hye Sharzhoom* has remained the same. Its ongoing mission to provide accurate, timely information about Armenian people and events at the local, national, and global levels hasn't changed.

In December, I had the opportunity to interview Matthew Maroot and John Jabaghourian, both of whom were past editors of *Hye Sharzhoom*. They reflected on *Hye Sharzhoom* and its successful longevity. Maroot was a staff writer for four semesters before becoming the newspaper's editor during the Fall 1999 semester. Jabaghourian was a staff writer for two semesters before he became the newspaper's editor for three semesters, from March 2000 through May 2001.

When asked about his favorite part of the *Hye Sharzhoom*, Jabaghourian explained that his favorite portion was, and still is, the varying opinion pieces. "The opinion pieces are what give the *Hye Sharzhoom* its flavor, a voice for Armenian students." Jabaghourian went on to say that "These were the pieces that made the readers think; they were more than just a reporting of events." Conversely, when asked the same question, Maroot responded, "I look forward to coverage of what's going on with the Armenian Studies Program. *Hye Sharzhoom* serves as a vital link between the Program, current and former students, and the Armenian

policies. Our willingness today to resolve policies that may remain unpaid from that era shows that New York Life adheres to the same values of integrity and humanity that guided us then," he added.

His comments, although somewhat reassuring to the Armenians, fail to say one word, the same word you or I will not find anywhere in the settlement. That word is *Genocide*! "Tragic events" is how New

community throughout the world."

Further along in the interview, Maroot explained that Fresno State students benefit from the *Hye Sharzhoom* because it "allows other students not involved with the Armenian Studies Program to gain a better insight into a program that has had such a tremendous impact on the campus and community as well." Jabaghourian also discussed the newspaper's on-campus presence, saying, "Students in general get an invitation to learn more about the diversity of their campus. The *Hye Sharzhoom* is a piece of literature that represents the history of Fresno and of the important contributions the Armenian Studies Program and [its] students make to the university."

Both interviews ended with a question regarding *Hye Sharzhoom's* ability to maintain reader interest, thereby maintaining both its reader base of 7,000 world-wide and its benefactor support over the years. To this question, Jabaghourian responded, "*Hye Sharzhoom* is one of a kind; no other Armenian student newspaper is what *Hye Sharzhoom* is. The unique perspectives that the students bring to Armenian news and the goings-on of the Fresno community provides readers and benefactors with something other Armenian newspapers do not." Maroot mentioned "*Hye Sharzhoom* serves as an important link between the community and the students as well... [It] continues to be one of the most important publications available to the Armenian-American community, not to mention to Armenians the world over."



Matthew Maroot

Though the answers vary, the underlying sentiment is uniform. *Hye Sharzhoom* has been, and continues to be, an effective means of Armenian political, social, and cultural information at the local, national, and global levels. It is a welcomed source of information within the Armenian community, and it has benefited me personally, as it has brought stability to my ever-changing college experience. My personal sentiment toward *Hye Sharzhoom* is most clearly expressed in the words of Matthew Maroot: "Best wishes for another twenty-five years!"

York Life refers to the *Genocide*. How can the attorneys approve a settlement that does not include the word *Genocide* in it?

If you can answer that question, you are ahead of me.

I concede this settlement is not about genocide, but about those who lost their lives, lost it because of the genocide, and for that word not to be included anywhere in the settlement is upsetting to many.

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Charitable Giving to ASP

Ways to give to the Armenian Studies Program at California State University, Fresno while retaining lifetime rights.

Gifts to California State University, Fresno most commonly are in the form of cash, stocks and bonds or real estate that provide funds for current needs. Such current, outright gifts are highly valued because they enable the University to respond immediately to critical needs or unexpected opportunities.

Alumni and friends have become increasingly generous in recent years, for which the University is most grateful. However, many alumni and friends who feel strongly about Fresno State, its students, its faculty and its particular mission, are faced with personal or financial circumstances that simply do not allow them to give funds for current use. This article provides information about other forms of giving, generally called “life income” gifts. The distinguishing characteristic of a life income gift is that the donor retains lifetime rights to the gift property-typically the income from the property, or the right of occupancy in the case of a residence.

Although life income gifts can be complex, depending upon the donors’ circumstances and objectives, they are fundamentally simple. By taking a formal step now to benefit Fresno State in the future, a donor not only receives income for life (or for a term of years) but also realizes Federal and California income and other tax savings. Other non-tax benefits, as described below, are also available depending upon individual circumstances.

There is a great deal of flexibility with life income gifts. Although each involves a future gift to support the work of the University, each also works to benefit the donor in important ways. We can provide specific information that will enable you and your advisors to determine whether a life income gift can help fulfill personal or family objectives. Such detailed analysis and expert assistance are available to you without charge or other obligation.

To help you consider whether a life income gift could benefit you, here is a general information about the life income alternatives available through Fresno State.

Tax benefits. Each of the following life income alternatives offers four distinct and valuable tax benefits. Life income gifts can be a very attractive alternative to many alumni and friends who may not have thought they could provide significant gifts to the University.

No Capital Gains Tax. If appreciated assets are used to fund a life income gift, neither the donor nor the University will pay Federal or California capital gains tax on the appreciation.

Partial Income Tax Reduction. Life income gifts provide a current charitable income tax deduction. That deduction is based on the full fair market value of the assets put into the life income arrangement, but is limited to the “present value” of the University’s future or “remainder” interest. Because the University must wait for a period of time until the gift can be used, the deduction is adjusted accordingly. The amount of the deduction is based on the age (life expectancy) of the life income beneficiary, an assumed investment return as determined by the IRS (the “discount” rate) and the expected level of income to be paid out to the life income beneficiary.

Tax-Free Compounding. All future income and capital gain earned by the life income assets compounds on a tax-free basis, just as with funds held in a retirement account or pension plan. The distributions of income to the life income beneficiary are currently taxable to the beneficiary, but all undistributed income and gain is reinvested free of tax.

No Estate or Gift Taxes. When the University receives the remainder assets of the life income arrangement, those assets are not subject to any estate or gift tax. With the life income gift paying income to the donor or the donor’s spouse, all estate and gift taxes are avoided. A life income beneficiary other than the donor or the donor’s spouse may give rise to an estate or gift tax, but such consequences can be minimized or avoided with proper planning.

Alternative Methods
Fresno State offers the four basic life income gift arrangements available under the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. Here is a brief description of each.

Charitable Remainder Annuity Trust. An Annuity Trust is established as a separate legal and tax entity to hold the gifts of one particular donor or a related group of donors. An Annuity Trust pays to the life income beneficiary a fixed dollar amount of income each year. Payments are made quarterly and do not change if there is any decrease or increase in the underlying value of the Trust’s assets. This life income arrangement is generally preferred by donors who seek a stable, assured income, often those who are older or who may have a fixed dollar obligation they are seeking to offset (e.g., a home mortgage).

This article will be continued in the next issue of *Hye Sharzhoom*. Call the Armenian Studies Program at 278-2669 for more information.

2004-2005 Scholarship Applications Still Available
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<http://scholarship.csufresno.edu/>

The scholarship application for California State University, Fresno is only available online.

For Armenian Studies scholarship information and special supplemental form go to
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5th Annual Armenian Film Festival on March 19

HAKOB TATARYAN
STAFF WRITER

The Armenian Students Organization and the Armenian Studies Program will once again join forces to host the 5th Annual Armenian Film Festival. Starting at 7 pm on Friday, March 19, 2004, movie goers can enjoy coffee, snacks and the best Armenian related films selected by a student committee composed of: Barseg Abanyan, Gevorg Aristakesyan, Zhanna Bagdasarov, Marine Ekezyan, Kristina Pogosyan and Alyssa Sahakian.

For four years community members of all ages have gathered to watch movies and have a good time. Films will vary in theme, length and message. Student, as well as professional films will be screened. Members of the Armenian Students Organization will introduce each movie. Following the screening there will be a discussion of the movies.

The purpose of the Festival is to entertain as well as enlighten those who attend. There will be an opportunity for everyone to vote on his or her favorite film of the night, and the winner will be announced in the next *Hye Sharzhoom*.

The night will include a film by director Arthur Stepanian, entitled “Rebirth,” and Nigol Bezjian’s “Roads Full of Apricots.”

The 5th Annual Armenian Film Festival is funded by the Diversity Awareness Program of the University Student Union. Admission is free, so everyone is encouraged to come and have a fun time.

SHOGHAKEN
FROM PAGE 1

The Shoghaken Armenian Folk Ensemble was founded in 1991 by dudukist Gevorg Dabaghyan in Yerevan. The group uses only traditional Armenian instruments, maintaining an authentic sound with the duduk, zurna, dhol, kanon, kamancha, shvi, and other instru-

ments. Singers Hasmik Harutyunyan and Aleksan Harutyunyan are known throughout Armenia, the former Soviet Union, and Europe for their unique interpretation of Armenian folk and *ashoughagan* (troubadour) music.

In 1997, Shoghaken recorded folk music for Celestial Harmonies in the *Music of Armenia* series.

In August, Shoghaken recorded

an album of Armenian folk music for Traditional Crossroads. The recording included Armenian folk, *ashoughagan*, patriotic, and epic songs. The CD, entitled *Armenia Anthology*, was released in May 2002. You can order the CD directly from Traditional Crossroads by going to <http://www.traditionalcrossroads.com>.

Shoghaken Armenian Folk Ensemble
2004 Tour

Co – Sponsors

Knights & Daughters of Vartan
Armenian Studies Program, Fresno State
Armenian Community School of Fresno

Monday, April 12, 2004
7:30 P.M.

Fresno State Satellite Union
Relaxed Parking - Lot O and P
after 6:00 P.M.



Gevorg Dabaghyan

Donation • Adults \$20 • Students \$12

Armenian Community School of Fresno office 233-1800
Kevork Oflazian – evenings 435-3078

Proceeds to benefit the
Armenian Community School of Fresno

1915 ————— 2004

April 24
Armenian Genocide
Commemoration

Friday, April 23,
2004

12:00 noon
Free Speech Area
Fresno State

Donations

Angèle and Dickran Kouymjian in memory of Prof. Leo Hamalian, editor of *Ararat Magazine*, New York.

Angèle and Dickran Kouymjian in memory of President Harold H. Haak, classmate, University of Wisconsin, class of 1956.

Angèle and Dickran Kouymjian in memory of Aram Jack Kevorkian of Paris, attorney, scholar, friend.

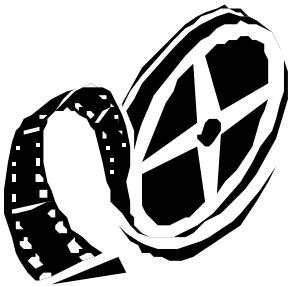
Angèle and Dickran Kouymjian in memory of Vehanoush Kouyoumdjian of New Jersey, a cherished aunt.

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Armenian Studies Program
Armenian Students Organization
5th Annual Armenian Film Festival

Featuring the films of a new generation of Armenian film makers-films have a variety of themes and may be in English or Armenian.



Friday, March 19, 2004
7-10:00 PM

Industrial Technology, Room 101
Fresno State

Free Admission-The public is welcome.

Funded in part by the Diversity Awareness Program
of the University Student Union

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