

HYE SHARZHOOM ***Armenian Action*** ***ՀԱՅ ՇԱՐԺՈՒՄ***

26th
Year

March 2005

Vol. 26, No. 3 (89)

Supplement to The Collegian

U. S. Ambassador to Armenia John Evans Visits Campus



Photo: Randy Vaughn-Dotta

Left to right: Ambassador John Evans, ASO Vice-President Zhanna Bagdasarov, ASO President Hakop Tataryan, ASP Director, Dr. Dickran Kouymjian, and Barlow Der Mugrdechian.

STAFF REPORT

The Honorable John M. Evans, U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Armenia was a guest at a reception held at Fresno State on Friday, February 18, hosted by Dr. Jeri Echeverria, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs. Invited guests included faculty, administrators, and students on campus who had visited Armenia over the past

several years as part of various Fresno State projects.

Ambassador Evans was visiting Fresno as part of a nation-wide visit to a number of Armenian communities in the United States and engaged in an open conversation with the faculty and students in attendance at the Fresno State reception.

SEE **AMBASSADOR** PAGE 5

Fresno State Alum Charlie Keyan Donates \$150,000 for Scholarships to Fresno State

BARLOW DER MUGRDECHIAN
ADVISOR

A former Fresno State football team athletic manager has donated \$150,000 to California State University, Fresno.

Fresno State alumnus and retired businessman and farmer Charlie Keyan of Indio, California has established two endowed scholarships, one in the Armenian Studies Program for \$100,000 to establish the Charlie Keyan Endowed Scholarship in Armenian Studies. Income from the endowment will be used to provide scholarships for students at Fresno State who enroll in Armenian Studies courses, with preference for freshmen.

At the same time, Mr. Keyan established a second endowed scholarship of \$50,000 in the Athletic Department of Fresno State. The income from this endowment will be used for scholarships to student-athletes in the Fresno State football program.

Why make a donation to Fresno State? Mr. Keyan's goal for most of his adult life has been to help young people who need help to go to college and to com-

plete their education. He had been assisted when he was in college, and now he wants to help others stay in college.

Mr. Keyan chose to give to Fresno State and in particular to the Armenian Studies Program, because he had heard from former classmates and friends how well the Armenian Studies Program has been doing under the leadership of Armenian Studies Program director Dr. Dickran Kouymjian and Barlow Der Mugrdechian. A conversation with old acquaintances and former classmates Berge Bulbulian and Aram Garabedian, led to the generous endowment. In the future Mr. Keyan plans to add more to the existing scholarships and establish a separate endowment to benefit students studying agriculture at Fresno State.

Mr. Keyan has recently made other generous donations to California university Armenian studies programs and Armenian high schools. He hopes that his donations will set an example for others to follow.

Mr. Keyan was born in Fresno to Ohan and Jouhar

Keyahian. Ohan Keyahian was a native of Karachor (Kharpert) and Jouhar Keyahian was from Hussenig.

Mr. Keyan graduated from Malaga Grammar School, Fowler High School, and began attending Fresno State in 1944, graduating with a major in history and physical education in 1948. He enjoyed his years at Fresno State, fondly remembering how he enjoyed the social life. Fresno State in 1944 had a student population of less than 1,000 students. It was a small school where everyone knew each other and Mr. Keyan made lots of friends. He worked at the old Hanoian's market on Railroad Ave., while in high school and college and worked summers in the grape shipping business with Cy Mouradick.

After graduation Mr. Keyan planned to go to Hawaii, where he would have worked importing sunflower seeds, toasted nuts, melons and cantaloupes and exporting pineapples to the mainland. But instead, he went into the liquor business with his brother-in-law in Los Angeles.

SEE **KEYAN** PAGE 8

“William Saroyan and His World”



**Friday, March 11 • 7:00 PM
Industrial Tech. Building,
Room 101**

**A panel discussion on the life
of Fresno's native-son, author
William Saroyan**

*Co-sponsored by the William Saroyan Society, Armenian Studies Program, and Armenian Students Organization
The lecture is free and open to the public*

Moderated by Dr. Dickran Kouymjian
Director, Armenian Studies Program

with an Introduction by John Kallenberg
President, William Saroyan Society
Berge Bulbulian- “Fresno in the Time of Saroyan”
Fresno author/historian

Barlow Der Mugrdechian- “Saroyan the Writer”
Armenian Studies Program

Ed Hagopian- “Reminiscences and Recollections”
Writer and friend of William Saroyan

William Secrest, Jr. - “Collecting Saroyan”
*Fresno County California Collection Librarian
and Book Collector*

6th Annual Armenian Film Festival

**Friday,
April 1, 2005
7:00PM**

**Alice Peters Auditorium,
Room 194
Univerity Business Center**

Sponsored by the Armenian
Students Organization
and
Armenian Studies Program
Fresno State

*Partially funded by the
Diversity Awareness Program
of the
University Student Union,
Fresno State*

Course Studies Armenian Churches



Photo: Barlow Der Mugrdechian

Dr. Dickran Kouymjian, standing center, with students of the Armenian Studies 123, Armenian Architecture weekend course.

HAKOP TATARYAN
EDITOR

Berberian Professor of Armenian Studies at Fresno State, Dr. Kouymjian began the semester with an architecture class in Armenian Studies. This year, 18 students took three weekends out of their spring schedule and invested it in the study of Armenian Architecture with Dr. Kouymjian. After some delays dealing with faulty slide projectors and

the lack of outlets for students with laptops, the class began.

The main objective of the class was to teach about the Armenian churches that have been erected in the last seventeen hundred plus years. Sub-topics ranged from reviewing plans of the churches, to discussing the architectural innovations used to build them. However, with Dr. Kouymjian teaching the class, students were treated to

SEE **ARCHITECTURE** PAGE 3

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.

His Holiness Aram I, Catholicos of Armenia, for his book *The Christian Witness at the Crossroads in the Middle East*, published in Antelias, Lebanon (2004).

Manuel Balikian, Fresno, for the book *Days of Tragedy in Armenia, Personal Experiences in Harpoot, 1915-1917* by Henry H. Riggs, published by the Gomidas Institute, United States (1997).

Patrick Cazals, *Serguei Paradjanov: Le Rebelle*, film of 52 minutes on the great Armenian film maker, by the well known French documentary filmmaker Patrick Cazals, who made an earlier film of Paradjanov and wrote one of the best books on him. Available through Les films du Horla, filmsduhorla@freemove.fr. Gift of Patrick Cazals.

Columbia University Press, New York, for the book *Contemporary Armenian American Drama, An Anthology*, edited by Nishan Parlakian (2004).

Prof. Helmut Buschhausen, Austria, for the books, *Gold aus Armenien*, *Codex Etschmiadzin* and *Codex Etschmiadzin, Kommentar*.

Armine & Siranoush Haroutunian, Southfield, MI., for the book *Garabed Armen, Short Stories, Poems and Translations* (a collection of their grandfather's writings) printed in the United States by ABRIL Printing (1999).

Dr. Zareh Hovanesian, Old Tappan, NJ, for several copies of his book, *The Philatelic History of Armenia*, New Jersey, (2000).

Ms. Rose Nevart Jerzyk, Tucson, AZ, for several Armenian records and record albums.

Mr. Walter Karabian, Los Angeles, for the Tavloo Board handmade by Mike Haratunian.

Hagop Jacob Kevorkian, Jerusalem, for the copy of the "Hoyetchmen," an Armenian Young Men's Society, a non-political Armenian club in Jerusalem.

Col. Carl Mahakian, Rancho Mirage, for his continuous gifting of books and archival materials by or about William Saroyan and other books pertaining to Armenian themes.

Mr. Jeff Masarjian, Watertown, MA, for the video about the accomplishments during the first decade of the Armenia Tree Project.

Handes, *Grakanutean ev Arvesti*, no. 9, September 2004, Literary Journal from Tehran. The issue is devoted to William Saroyan with many original documents, unpublished drawings by Saroyan, and an interesting introductory article by Arby Ovanessian. Available at handes@softhome.net. Gift of Arby Ovanessian.

Mr. Gary Shekerjian, Fresno, for his grandfather's family Bible.

Astrig Tchamkerten, Fundacao Calouste Gulbenkian, Lisboa, Portugal, for the book by Manuel M. Jinbashian, *Church-State Relations in Armenia During the Arab Domination*, Armenian Library of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, Lisbon (2000).

Sarkis Vahaken, North Hollywood, for his book *Arshile Gorky: A Novel* (in Armenian), Los Angeles (2004).

California State University, Fresno
Armenian Studies Program

Fall 2005 Schedule of Courses

Course	Units	Time	Day	Instructor
General Education				
Social Sciences, Area D3, for students using 1999/2000 catalog and after				
• ArmS 10 Intro to Arm Studies (Class #77017)	3	10:00-10:50A	MWF	B. Der Mugrdechian
• Arm 1A Elementary Armenian (Class #77013)	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 (Class #77018)	3	9:30A-10:45A	TTh	B. Der Mugrdechian
Upper Division Courses				
• ArmS 108A Arm History I (Class #77019)	3	9:00A-9:50A	MWF	B. Der Mugrdechian
• ArmS 105-Arm Genocide Comp (Class #78388)	3	11:00-11:50A	MWF	Kaprielian-Churchill
• ArmS 120T Kazan Visiting Prof. (Class #78438)	3	11:00A-12:15P	MWF	Kazan Professor

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

HYE SHARZHOOM

ՀԱՅ ՇԱՐԺՈՒՄ

Editor

Hakop Tataryan
hakoptataryan@csufresno.edu

Layout

Barlow Der Mugrdechian

Photographer

Barlow Der Mugrdechian
Randy Vaughn-Dotta

Staff Writers

Zhanna Bagdasarov
Alex Bunch
Marine Ekezyan
Carina Karakashian
Sarah Soghomonian

Advisor

Barlow Der Mugrdechian
barlowd@csufresno.edu

Read
Hye
Sharzhoom!

Hye Sharzhoom is also available on the Armenian Studies Program website

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

Armenian Studies Program Faculty and Staff:

Dickran Kouymjian, Haig and Isabel Berberian Professor of Armenian Studies, Coordinator

Barlow Der Mugrdechian, Lecturer, ASO Advisor, Hye Sharzhoom Advisor (barlowd@csufresno.edu)

Frances C. Ziegler, Program Administrative Assnt. (franz@csufresno.edu)

Hye Sharzhoom is a supplement of The Collegian and the newspaper of the CSUF Armenian Students Organization and the Armenian Studies Program and is funded by the Associated Students. Articles may be reprinted provided Hye Sharzhoom is acknowledged. Hye Sharzhoom welcomes prose, poetry, articles and other material from its student readers. For further information concerning the newspaper or the Armenian Studies Program:

Armenian Studies Program
5245 N. Backer Ave. PB4
Fresno, CA 93740-8001
Telephone (559) 278-2669 • FAX (559) 278-2129
http://www.armenianstudies.csufresno.edu

Der Mugrdechian Gives Vartanantz Talk



STAFF REPORT

Barlow Der Mugrdechian of the Armenian Studies Program was the invited guest speaker at the Annual Commemoration of the Battle of Vartanantz, sponsored by the Chicago area Knights of Vartan on Saturday, January 29.

Der Mugrdechian’s talk was titled, “St. Vartan and the Battle of Vartanantz in the 21st century.” Below are some excerpts from the talk.

“It is a pleasure to be with you here tonight to speak on the occasion of the Feast of St. Vartan and the celebration of the Battle of Vartanantz.

When one considers that the event we are here to commemorate took place one thousand five hundred and fifty three years ago, it is indeed a special day.

I would like to talk not only

about the historical events that occurred in the middle of the fifth century, but also about the interpretation of those events, how we today carry on the process of reinterpretation of the importance of the day and how we can also continue the living tradition that is St. Vartan.

If I were to ask you this evening to name a hero or heroes in today’s world, some names might quickly come to mind, or maybe it would be a little more difficult. The newspapers and television are often filled with heroes. Some of the younger generation would probably name a sports figure, others a little older might mention a political figure or a military figure. In fact it is unlikely that different generations would choose the same heroes. Times and circumstances change and we live in a world where things lose their relevance very quickly.

tecture is somewhat esoteric, even in the larger study of art and architecture, thus many students may find it hard to relate to or study with care, but with Dr. Kouymjian teaching this class, most of the students were intrigued and very interested in learning about monuments such as: the Temple of Garni, Holy Etchmiadzin, Aghtamar and the mysterious and amazing Zvartnots. Of course others couldn’t get interested about this class, or any other class for that matter.

Anyone who has visited or plans on visiting these churches that are rapidly becoming vast tourist attractions ought to take the architecture class. After taking this class, there is a whole new level of appreciation and understanding for these monumental buildings. We study them because of the nostalgia that is embedded in every stone, found in every wall, or dug up from excavation.

However, the most endearing

But the point is that each society, each generation defines its own heroes. It is rare that a hero can remain a hero to many people over many generations, unless there is an impact which is felt broadly, and unless the story has meaning to each generation. In reality then, the hero lives in memory only, through our collective reiteration of that memory. And, each generation must “reinvent” the hero, so that the hero can be passed on to future generations. Simply put, the conscious choice to spend time and remember and observe a special day such as the Battle of Vartanantz, is in and of itself an act of memory. It also ties each of us together because of the choice to be part of a larger cultural entity.

Clearly as we look back, St. Vartan fits these definitions of hero. The historical story places him at the center of a fifth century narrative, one where there are choices which will have consequences for generations to come. But in Armenian historiography, St. Vartan is not the only hero, indeed it is the Armenian people themselves, along with St. Vartan, who opposed the Persian policy of forcibly changing their religious beliefs. This idea of collective identity and a collective sense of peoplehood are at the heart of what we need to remember about St. Vartan. We are individuals, but also part of a collective community. By remembering, we actively join the Armenian community and validate the value that we give to St. Vartan and his companions.

aspect of these buildings is the thought of how over two thousand years ago, Armenians were capable of such architectural innovations. Unfortunately, the majority of these churches are in ruins because of either intentional desecration or natural disasters. And since the churches located in historic Armenia are practically unreachable, they are all gradually disintegrating. Since it is difficult to know the exact floor plans and structures of some of the churches, the goal shouldn’t be to rebuild them. Instead, we need to preserve them so that they can be studied and appreciated by future generations.

The class was a requirement for the Armenian Studies Minor, but even if it were not, I would have taken it anyway. Every student at one time or another should experience what it’s like to take a class with Dr. Kouymjian; I can’t articulate it in any other manner.



Left to Right: John Paklaian, Rev. Fr. Haik Donikian, Barlow Der Mugrdechian, Rev. Sam Agulian, Dr. Larry Farsakian.

Therefore, in a sense St. Vartan represents each of us, and the qualities which he embodies are actually qualities which we ourselves also have, in varying degrees.

The main Armenian source on St. Vartan is the historian Yeghishe, whose work, *The History of Vartan and the Battle of Vartanantz*, is devoted to a single event in Armenian history. Yehishe wrote in the fifth century, when the Armenian alphabet had just come into widespread use. He is one of a handful of primary historians whose works laid the foundation of our knowledge of the early history and culture of the Armenian people...

The fifth century historian Yeghishe was a priest, and wrote his history from that point of view. Christianity is a main focus of his work, and he frames his work in Christian terms... There is little ambiguity or idea of spiritual struggle- everything is laid out in stark

choices of good and evil...

But in Yeghishe’s work, St. Vartan is not only depicted as a hero, embodying noble virtues of leadership and self-sacrifice, but St. Vartan is also depicted as a man, a human being. He also has doubts, and second thoughts, concerns about family, about his future, his status in the society in which he lived, and about the overarching issues of life and death.

Because if one talks of St. Vartan as only a historical figure, as a hero only, and not as a person, we would miss the real reason why he has remained alive in the Armenian people today. It is his very human frailty and weakness that makes him so appealing to us today. We can identify more closely with a hero who is also a human in thought and feeling, a man who had to struggle to make the right decision for himself and for his family and ultimately for his people....

Armenians on the Internet

ALEX BUNCH-STAFF WRITER

Touring Ani – Virtually

Address: <http://www.virtualani.freemove.co.uk/>

Main Categories: History of Ani, Maps of Ani, Buildings of Ani, Message Boards, General Pictures, and Travelers Accounts

Brief Summary: Virtual Ani takes you on an in-depth look at the Armenian capital city of Ani. Through many pictures and descriptions viewers are exposed to the once capital and now deserted city. The website looks like a map and by clicking your desired destination new pages fade in. One can also find a profound look at all of the churches that are/were housed within the city walls. Floor plans and history for each are provided. Overall, the site is very good: it is easy to navigate; it has a plethora of information, and a lot of beautiful and vivid pictures. An interesting aspect of the website is the fact that the whole thing can be viewed in Turkish. The webmasters are hoping to bring awareness to the Turkish government of the monumental churches that are slowly disintegrating within their borders.

Little Armenia

Address: <http://www.littlearmenia.com>

Main Categories: Professional links, Armenian supplies including clothing and books

Brief Summary: This Armenian website, Little Armenia, is centered around the theme of being Armenian. Through this website, one can find many Armenian supplies from the Hollywood area. Included are Armenian books, auctions, gas stations, Armenian history, Armenian schools, food recipes, and other services such as Armenian doctors and other professionals. One link even takes people to an Armenian senior center. Other features include links to jobs, shopping, and videos. The idea behind this website is to promote a sense of Armenian community as well as to promote the many Armenian based businesses in the area. The site also allows one to find many Armenian products which are available.

Armenian Studies Honor Program

The Armenian Studies Honors Program is open to eligible students who will be of junior or senior status at Fresno State in the Fall 2005 semester, and who fulfill the minimum requirements as outlined below. Once admitted into the Program, there are other requirements to successful completion of the program.

HONORS PROGRAM STUDENTS ARE GUARANTEED A SCHOLARSHIP:

• Full registration fees for two years (four semesters) (Scholarship estimate for AY 2005-2006 is \$2,700)
* Student must maintain the following GPA to be eligible for the scholarship:
• 3.4 for Junior year

• No less than 3.25 during overall university career.

Note: Up to four of these scholarships can be awarded in any one academic year.

MINIMUM CRITERIA FOR APPLICATION TO THE PROGRAM:

• Entry as Fresno State student with Junior standing or transfer student with Junior standing
• Continuing Fresno State students must have completed at least four Armenian Studies courses. Transfer students must complete the Armenian Studies Minor with minimum progress of one course per semester.
• GPA of at least 3.5 in Armenian

Studies courses.
• Maintain 3.4 overall GPA as a Junior.
• GPA of at least 3.5 in the first three semesters (freshman and sophomore) of course work.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE:

• Two letters of recommendation, at least one from an Armenian Studies faculty member.
• A sample of work, preferably a paper written for an Armenian Studies course.

DEADLINE:

A completed application form, letters of recommendation, and sample of written work must be submitted to the Armenian Studies Program office no later than Friday, March 18, 2005.

Let’s Dance With Tom Bozigian



Tom Bozigian, center, with students of the Armenian dance course offered February 5 and 6 at Fresno State.

SARAH SOGHOMONIAN
STAFF WRITER

The sound of Armenian music and stomping feet rang from Fresno State’s South Gym Feb. 5 and 6 when the 5th Annual Armenian Dance Seminar took place.

Tom Bozigian taught the seminar, which was attended by 40 people: 30 students from Fresno State and 10 people from the community.

Bozigian was born in Los Angeles, but was raised in Fresno. He graduated from Fresno State with degrees in Industrial Arts Education and Russian Studies. Bozigian resides in La Mirada, in Southern California, but travels around the world teaching Armenian dance.

Bozigian began teaching Armenian dancing 41 years ago. He said he was drawn to Armenian dancing at a young age while attending Armenian events such as picnics.

Teaching Armenian dancing has allowed Bozigian to travel the

world. In the coming months he will be traveling to Washington DC, Japan, Holland, Denmark and Germany.



Tom Bozigian

Bozigian conducts classes in Los Angeles every Wednesday and Thursday. The majority of his classes are conducted in Armenian.

An orchestra accompanies Bozigian during many of his classes taught in Los Angeles. The orchestra allows for students to dance to live Armenian music.

Bozigian loves teaching Armenian dance at Fresno State and looks forward to coming each spring. In this, his fifth time teaching on campus, he focused on dances that originated in Van. He taught 10 dances to the class during the fun filled weekend.

Suzie Pogosyan, 18, a freshman majoring in Fashion Design said she took the class “to have fun.” She hoped to learn how to dance in a traditional manner and improve the dancing skills she has learned at parties and weddings.

Bernadette Moordigian a senior majoring in Psychology said she took the course to get closer to her roots. Moordigian did not have any previous Armenian dance experience, but hoped to learn about the origin of dance and gain knowledge about her culture through the course.

Lore Dubusch was one of the non-Fresno State students who participated in the dance seminar. Dobusch took the course because she had both personal and professional interest in the subject. As a counselor at Reedley College she believes cultural development is an important form of study.

Dubusch said, “I loves all types of dance” and hoped to learn Armenian dancing well enough to feel comfortable dancing at festivals.

Poochigian Legislation in California Would Permanently Designate April 24 “Day of Remembrance of the Armenian Genocide”

(Sacramento) Senator Chuck Poochigian (R-Fresno) has introduced SB 424, which would permanently designate April 24 as “Day of Remembrance of the Armenian Genocide” on the occasion of the 90th anniversary of that dark period in history.

“While the California Legislature has recognized April 24 as the Day of Remembrance of the Armenian Genocide for many years, this is the first proposal to permanently commemorate this day in statute,” said Senator Poochigian. “This is an important step toward assuring families of those who perished or were tortured and driven from their historic homeland by the regime in control of the Turkish Ottoman Empire that the tragedy that befell them will never be forgotten.”

April 24 is the date on which Armenians around the world hold solemn observances of the Genocide in recognition of the day in 1915 when a group of Armenian religious, political, and intellectual leaders were arrested and killed. SB 424 will also designate the period from the Sunday before April 24 through the Sunday following as the “Days of Remembrance of

the Armenian Genocide.”

The Armenian Genocide became the world’s standard of atrocity until World War II. That is when Adolph Hitler gave reassurance to his followers about his Holocaust plans, saying, “Who, after all, speaks today of the annihilation of the Armenians?” For decades, California has recognized the Armenian Genocide of 1915-23 when nearly 1.5 million men, women, and children were systematically tortured and murdered or taken on death marches in the Syrian desert.

“While the Genocide took place long ago and far away, the lives of so many living Californians have been touched by it. The issue of the Armenian Genocide’s commemoration is more important today than ever,” said Senator Poochigian. “With growing attempts to revise the historical record of this period, it’s vitally important that false depictions of the tragedies of the Genocide are rejected. The continued recognition of this crime against humanity is crucial to ensuring against the recurrence of genocide and educating people about such despicable acts.”

Dance Source Material
Armenian Dance Seminar Fresno State

Govand (2/4) This is the name of a family of dances of which *Kocharee/Halay* are members. *Govand* means encircled, fortified, close-knit which dancers demonstrate in this dance. Immigrants brought the dance to the U.S. from Vaspurakan/Van Province.

Hashtayee (6/8) This dance was brought by Persian Armenians to the USA during the 60’s & 70’s—it means “8 Times.” It is very popular among the Persian Armenian communities in Armenia.

Hayr oo Mamooqner/Lorge (2/4) Bozigian learned the first dance from Arsen Anoushian (Sepastatsi) an original member of the N.Y. Folkdance Society. The bowing in the dance was a gesture of respect shown to the fathers and grandmothers during a Vanetsi wedding. Bozigian learned this variation of *Lorge* from Yenovk Kazarian in Detroit. Both sources have passed away.

Jurjena (10/4) This dance is named after the rhythm. It hails from Kharpert region. As a child, Bozigian had the opportunity to dance with many elderly Kharpert Armenian immigrants in Fresno. His maternal side immigrated from the region. Many interesting dances have evolved through the centuries with this unique rhythm.

Loorke (2/4) Bozigian had the opportunity to learn many variations of this “Vanetsi” dance during his youth. The meaning is shake in Kurdo Persian. Some variations demonstrate “Gagh” (limping) or “Pati Kael” (duck walk) in their movements.

Oee Naze (2/4) During Bozigian’s dance studies in Armenia (1972-75), he spent time with the famous singer Hovanness Badalian who taught him this Kurdish Armenian dance named after a girl “Naze.” Badalian grew up with Kurds in Tehran, Iran and spoke their language.

Sepo (2/4 - 6/8) This dance is among a list of dances from the region of Sepastia still performed in the USA, Armenia and in various parts of the diaspora. Some others are *Beejo*, *Jahn Perde*, *Hekeree*, *Chekeen Halay*. Bozigian danced *Sepo* as a youth during the mid-1950’s at Fresno summer picnics.

Sjeikhani-Ishkani (2/4) These are a cycle of dances tied to the Assyrian people. Sheikh means Prince in Assyrian—Ishkani is the same in Armenian.

Sulemani/Kerdze (10/8 - 2/4) These 2 dances were learned by Bozigian from Yenovk Kazarian of Detroit during the mid-1970’s. Yenovk came from Van where his father, Khachig, was a noted specialist of regional dances of Vaspurakan. Another famous family member includes grandson clarinetist, Khachig Kazarian.

Eench ga Chga- If you had the opportunity to tell the world one thing about the Armenians, what would it be?

CARINA KARAKASHIAN-STAFF WRITER

Name: Hakop Tataryan
Year: Junior

Armenians are some of the hardest working people in the world. Our ability to succeed in any environment is a testament to that. We are also an extremely fun-loving people who never miss an opportunity to party. What more do you want? We work hard and play hard! Oh, and we use a lot of clichés!



Name: Barseg Abanyan
Year: Senior

Whether in their homeland or abroad, Armenians have overcome obstacles that were presented to them and greatly contributed to their immediate community. Armenians in the Diaspora have created strong ties with one another and with Armenians in Armenia to create a stronger and more effective international Armenian Community.



Name: Armine Sargsyan
Year: Senior

I would tell them about Armenia’s long history-its existence from the pre-Christian Urartian Kingdom to being the first nation to accept Christianity.



Name: Windy Dunbar
Year: Junior

I would inform the world of the Armenians innate ability to succeed under any circumstance. Throughout history we have been faced with many hardships but have survived and surpassed other peoples that have been dissipated.

Support
Hye
Sharzhoom

U.S. Ambassador to Armenia John Evans Visits Fresno State



Ambassador Evans (left) with Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Jeri Echeverria.

AMBASSADOR, FROM PAGE 1

The ambassador’s visit to Fresno State was arranged by Bill Erysian, Executive Director of the Armenian Agribusiness Education Fund, which is housed on the university campus. The AAEF is a non-profit, independent foundation that was established to help sustain educational initiatives in agriculture in the Republic of Armenia.

According to Ambassador Evans, the primary mission of the United States in Armenia is three-fold: to bring greater stability and security to the South Caucasus, to build up the economies of the region in a broad-based and sustainable way, and to foster democratic institutions.

Ambassador Evans spoke openly about the many challenges faced by the Armenian people in transforming their society, based on the old Soviet Union, to a more open and democratic society. He also discussed some of the progress

Armenia is making both economically and politically.

Dr. Dickran Kouymjian, Berberian Professor of Armenian Studies at Fresno State and Director of the Armenian Studies Program engaged in a conversation with the Ambassador about Armenia’s role in the South Caucasus.

Barlow Der Mugrdechian of the Armenian Studies Program introduced the Ambassador to the College/University Partnership Program between Yerevan State University and Fresno State, which he has directed for the past five years. Many of the faculty in attendance at the reception had visited and worked in Armenia as part of the Partnership Program.

Interim Dean of the College of

Arts Humanities, Dr. Vida Samiian, Dean of the School of Agriculture, Dr. Dan Bartell, and Dean of the College of Math and Sciences Dr. K. P. Wong were also in attendance. ASO President Hakop Tataryan and Vice-President Zhanna Bagdasarov represented the Armenian Students Organization.

Mr. Robin Phillips, mission director of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in Armenia, introduced the guests to his agency’s mission and work in Armenia.

The reception provided an opportunity for guests to interact and to discuss many interesting ideas about Armenia.

Later the same evening, Ambassador Evans was interviewed by Barlow Der Mugrdechian of the Armenian Studies Program for the “All Things Armenian” radio program, which airs on Saturdays from noon until 1:00Pm on KFSR 90.7. In a wide ranging discussion, Ambassador Evans candidly discussed the major areas of cooperation between the United States and Armenia.

Ambassador Evans then at-

tended a town-hall meeting at the Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church, where he presented a video “Report from Armenia-2005,” and held a frank discussion with community members. The Ambassador fielded many questions which are of vital importance to the community: recognition of the Armenian Genocide, opportunities for investment in Armenia, and current conditions in Armenia. He mentioned the important role that Diaspora Armenians can play in establishing joint economic and educational projects in Armenia.

The Ambassador stated that he was impressed by the Fresno community and by the warm welcome that he received in all of the Armenian communities that he had visited.

Ambassador Evans was confirmed by the Senate on June 25, 2004 and was sworn in as the U.S. Ambassador to Armenia on August 11, 2004.

A native of Williamsburg, Virginia, Ambassador Evans studied Russian history at Yale (B.A., 1970) and Columbia, where he began a Ph.D. before joining the Foreign Service.

His role in coordinating the

Ambassador’s Remarks on Armenian Genocide Welcomed

STAFF REPORT

U.S. Ambassador John Evans, speaking at a public town-hall meeting held in Fresno made a powerful statement about the importance of Armenian Genocide recognition.

In response to a question from the audience, Ambassador Evans said, “I will today call it the Armenian Genocide.” Ambassador Evans told community members he had studied the Genocide, having read Prof. Richard Hovannisian’s work on the Armenian Genocide, the compilation of U.S. newspaper accounts of the Genocide, a book about the Germany’s involvement in the Genocide, and the recent Nobel Prize winning book “A Problem from Hell,” about the U.S. response to 20th century genocides.

The comments on the Genocide were repeated at forums held at UCLA and UC Berkeley.

“I informed myself in depth about it,” said Evans, “I think we, the U.S. government, owe you, our fellow citizens a more frank and honest way of discussing this problem. Today, as someone who’s studied it... There’s no doubt in my mind what happened.”

Evans said he had also consulted with a State Department lawyer who confirmed that the events of 1915 were “genocide by definition.”

Various past and present US administrations and officials have avoided using the word “genocide” for the Armenian case [President Ronald Reagan acknowledged the Armenian Genocide in an April 22, 1981 statement], using various descriptive phrases and euphemisms, instead. Noting that “No American official has ever denied it,” Evans nevertheless said, “I think it is unbecoming of us as Americans to play word games here. I believe in calling things by their name,” but he pointed out that the official policy of the US has not changed.”

Evans also emphasized that he believed that the International Convention on Genocide, an agreement approved by the United Nations in 1948 condemning and indicating punishment for the crime genocide, applies only to events occurring after 1948. “We do not dispute the facts, but these treaties are meant to apply to future events,” said Evans.

“The Armenian Genocide was the first genocide of the 20th century,” said Evans, remarking that since it was the first occurrence, the world wasn’t equipped to respond appropriately. “We made many mistakes after WWI. They sowed the seeds of WWII.”

“I pledge to you, we are going to do a better job at addressing this issue,” said Evans.

However, the United States State Department issued a statement that Ambassador Evans’ remarks reflected his private opinion. A “corrected version” of the Ambassador’s comments can be found at <http://www.usa.am/news/2005/february/news022805.html>.



Left to Right: Ambassador Evans, Aaron Sherinian, Barlow Der Mugrdechian (ASP), and Tom Burns (Management).

American response to the Armenian earthquake of 1988 earned him a medal and statement of appreciation from the Armenian government.

On his return to Washington in 1999, Mr. Evans assumed the direction of the State Department’s Office of Analysis for Russia and Eurasia, winning a Meritorious Honor Award and the CIA Director’s Exceptional Performance Award. From May 2002 until his appointment to Yerevan, he directed the Office of Russian Affairs at the State Department.

Ambassador Evans was accompanied by his wife Mrs. Donna Evans, former President of the World Affairs Council of Washington D.C.; Mr. Robin Phillips, Mission Director in Armenia for USAID; and Mr. Aaron Sherinian, the Embassy’s Political Officer and Assistance Coordinator in Yerevan.



Left to right: Dr. Matthew Jendian (Sociology), Bill Erysian (AAEF), Dr. Dickran Kouymjian (ASP), Ambassador Evans.

A benefit concert for the Armenian Community School of Fresno and the Armenian Studies Program at Fresno State

“Beautiful”
-Atom Egoyan
Ararat

“Second to None”
-Stacy Meyn
Global Rhythm Magazine

“Admirably Lyrical”
-Rick Anderson
All Music Guide



Shoror: Armenian Folk Music for Guitar Concert Tour
Performed by Iakovos Kolanian

March 5, 2005
7:30 PM
Concert Hall-Fresno State

Tickets: \$15 Adults, \$8 Students and Children

Critically acclaimed Armenian-Greek classical guitarist Iakovos Kolanian makes his exciting North American debut in Fresno, with a program of Armenian folk music arranged for classical guitar. Works by Komitas, A. Barrios, M.C. Tedesco, and various Armenian folk songs.

Iakovos Kolanian

Photos: Randy Vaughn-Dotta

Anthology of Armenian Music-CD Set



Komitas Vartabed

Robert Amirkhanian, President of the Composers' and Musicians' Union of Armenia, has undertaken a project to produce an extensive Anthology of Armenian Music, which is envisioned to be a twelve volume CD set with annotations and historical information about Armenian composers, beginning with Komitas. Volumes 1 and 2 of the series have been released. Below are excerpts about some of the early composers.

Komitas (1869-1935)

The modern school of Armenian music was founded in the 19th century by Tigran Choukhadjian. Through several decades of existence the national form of Armenian music evolved. Classic Armenian artists such as Kristapor Karaturza, Makar Yekmalyan, and others created these developments. The heritage of these natural musical cultural advancements is attributed to Soghomon Soghomonian also known as Komitas. Komitas is considered the founder of classical Armenian music and the forefather of generations of music.

Komitas took Armenian musicology to a new level both as a scholar and as a composer uncovering the foundations of Armenian monophonic and polyphonic musical systems, and applying a number of progressive musical styles from the 19th and 20th centuries in a unique way.

Komitas is a milestone in the history of Armenian music indeed. One can speak of Armenian music "before" and "after" Komitas. Komitas demonstrated the vitality and potential of Armenian music, its rightful place in the world of national and classical music. His work is also deeply individual, providing a window not only of Armenian culture, but also on the mind of a spiritual and music genius.

"Lorou Goutanerge Vardablour Gyoughi Vojov"

Komitas is the founder of both the Armenian national composer school and the Armenian new singers school. His many students included Vahan Ter-Arakelyan and Armenak Shahmuradyan both of whom inherited his unique principles of musical interpretation and methodological notations. Existing musical scores and recordings of

Komitas singing substantiate his originality and creativity. "Lorou Goutanerge Vardablour Gyoughi Vojov" (The Plowing Song of Lori in Vardablour Village Style) is considered a model for Armenian ancient folklore and ethnomusical study. The work provides a glimpse of Komitas' vigorous personality through the artistic rendering of a popular folk song. Komitas uses

highly expressive variations and modulations to portray the main theme.

"Havik"

Another of Komitas' works, "Havik" (Bird), expresses his genius ability to combine Armenian heritage and culture with music. Originally a masterpiece of theological and mystic Saint Grigor Narekatsi of the 10th century, "Havik" is reconstructed by Komitas into beautiful musical phrases and moving melodies. Two other versions of "Havik" exist in archives, which have been published. These recordings, being partly destroyed, are comparable with the works of medieval stone masters, Momik and Poghos, whose lace-type Khachkars (crosses-stones) have also survived in partly damaged state.

"Ounabi" and "Marali"

An important part of Komitas' literature is his works for piano, more specifically the suite of dances. With these works, Komitas fostered the development of a new musical genre among Armenians, as well as literature for newly forming musical instruments. The various suites and dances represent folklore of different Armenian regions. The songs "Ounabi" and "Marali" are taken from this cycle of composition. For example: "Yerangi" is of Yerevan. "Ounabi" and "Marali" are of Shoushi, "Shoushikin" (To Shoushik) is of Vagharshapat, "Yet-araj" (Ahead-backwards) and "Shoror" (Swing) from the region of Karin.

Komitas' principles of maintaining a pure form of folk music led to new expressions of his compositional intentions. Instructions for the musician were very specific and articulate. Notes for the pianist, for example, would be written as "On tar or tambourine style" or "On horn and drum style." The Komitas piano suites are truly examples of Armenian musical literature, with which creative ten-

dencies and emotion show the conscientious and precise attitude Komitas portrayed toward expressing his heritage and beloved people. "Antouni"

One of the most significant symbols of Armenian song is called "Antouni." These medieval songs contain high dramatic quality and are expressed lyrically through love, drama, and various scenes of real-life affairs. The songs are excerpts from medieval large musical poetic works. These songs are known to spiritually and emotionally arouse internationally distinguished composers whom they elaborate and perform Komitas' works. "Antouni" is considered to capture Komitas' own biography and perhaps is the song of all Armenian pilgrims. The deep dramatic tension and tragic accents draw the desires and nostalgia of the homeless wanderer who is far from his fatherland.

Aram Khachaturyan (1903-1978)

One of the most eminent Armenian figures in 20th century world music is Aram Khachaturyan. Created according to his own ideologies, creative principles and dictation of the musical culture of his time, Aram Khachaturyan is the founder of multiple symphony, concerto and ballet genres in classical Armenian music. Khachaturyan succeeded in forming a kind of language style, which is summarized as a combination of international musical styles and languages. The achievements of previous Armenian composers and theoretical bases of Armenian folk music have led to the influences and interpretations of many important features in Khachaturyan's musical thinking. Khachaturyan's



Aram Khachaturyan

art is full of expressive colorful melodies and breathes with vivid melodiousness existing since Armenian urban song culture. This richness and beauty led to many calling him the "Rubens of music." Aram Khachaturyan is a great Armenian composer, and a celebrated classical composer of the current century musical culture.

Due to Aram Khachaturyan's art, the genre richness, quality and high level of musical thinking, scopes and criteria, typical for the 20th century music, have been brought to the Armenian musical culture, synthesized with composers' strong personality. Certain commonness in musical thinking is notable in a number of Armenian composers, followers of Khachaturyan, which allows us to consider them as representatives of the same composer school. The ideological, esthetical and stylistic base of this school is determined by Aram Khachaturyan's art. Thus, Aram Khachaturyan is considered

Kazan Professor Opening

College of Arts and Humanities

Armenian Studies Program

VACANCY # 05LAH01

<http://artshum.csufresno.edu>

Henry S. Khanzadian Kazan Visiting Professorship in Armenian Studies

• **Appointment is for one semester, only.** Available either Fall 2005, Spring 2006, Fall 2006 or Spring 2007. (Candidates must specify semester for which they are applying.)

This is a one time appointment for one semester only.

• **Salary:** Dependent upon academic preparation and professional experience.

• **Teaching Load:** One course in modern Armenian studies (nineteenth or twentieth century) is required, other teaching is optional.

• **Instructional Level:** Undergraduate.

Specific Position Characteristics: The successful candidate will be required to teach a single course in Armenian Studies in the modern period (nineteenth century or later). Candidates should indicate the specific course they propose to offer, including a very brief outline. In addition, the successful candidate will be required to give three public lectures on a single topic to be published later as a monograph. Candidates should indicate their three-lecture topic by title in their letter of application. The successful candidate may be expected to teach in a distance learning mode. The successful candidate will be expected to work cooperatively with faculty and staff in the department and college. The successful candidate may be asked to teach an additional 3-unit course during the semester.

Qualifications: Academic Preparation: an earned doctorate. Preference will be given to candidates with a completed Ph.D. in Armenian Studies or a related field, and who have published books and articles in the discipline of Armenian studies or Armenian history or a related area.

Teaching or Other Professional Experience: The university is seeking candidates who possess a record of distinguished publication and research in modern Armenian studies and whose professional career has been in university teaching or research in Armenian Studies, Armenian History, or a closely related field. The successful candidate must have the ability to work effectively with faculty, staff and students from diverse ethnic, cultural, and socioeconomic backgrounds.

Online application form can be found at <http://www.csufresno.edu/aps/vacancy/sc1.pdf>

Applications: Applicants should send a cover letter describing how they meet the requirements of the position. The letter should also specify the semester for which they are applying. A complete up-to-date curriculum vita; three letters of recommendation; names, addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses for five references must also be included with the application form. All materials should be sent directly to:

Dr. Bruce Thornton, Search Committee Chair, Armenian Studies Program, California State University, Fresno, 5245 N. Backer Avenue M/S - PB4, Fresno, CA 93740-8001. Phone: (559) 278- 7037 Fax: (559) 278 -7878; e-mailto: Brucet@csufresno.edu

Open Until Filled: To ensure the fullest consideration of their application, applicants are encouraged to have all application materials on file as soon as possible.

the creator of new Armenian composer school.

"Concerto for Violin and Orchestra"

The "Concerto for Violin and Orchestra" is one of the important works from the pre-war period of Khachaturyan's creative biography. With its high artistic values it can be considered as one of the best violin concertos of international fame. This work is dedicated to one of the most famous violinists of the 20th century, David Oistrach, who was the first performer of it. In addition, some trios of large-scope works are famous in Aram Khachaturyan's heritage the Concerto for violin, along with concertos for piano and violoncello, complete the works of Khachaturyan's famous concerto trio.

Armen Tigranyan (1879-1950)

Armen Tigranyan's achievements include a number of works from different genres, with his most famous as the operas "Anoush" and "Davit-Bek." These have special importance to Armenian musical history, as his most significant accomplishment was the creation of

the opera "Anoush." Perhaps the most popular Armenian musical and theatrical work is the "Anoush" opera based on Hovhannes Toumanyan's poem with the same title. The entire masterpiece represents Armenia in its musical entirety, though the composer did not use any folk song or themes in its creation. "Anoush" is an opera of national character, and with Armen Tigranyan's vivid national thinking it has been spread rapidly among people and loved by them. Many arias and songs from the opera have become staples of Armenian music. Songs such as Anoush's song, "Asoumen Ourin" (They Say the Willow Was a Girl Like Me...) and Saro's aria, "Bardzr Sarer" (High Mountains). Choral songs "Ampi Takits" (From Under the Clouds...) and "Hambarzoum Yayla" (Merry Ascension) are among the favorite parts of the opera. In the opening overture, the symphonic and choral parts are combined, which summarize the main idea and important thematic groups of the whole opera.

TEXT BY: MHER NAVOYAN,

DOCTOR OF ARTS

TRANSLATION FROM ARMENIAN BY: ARTSVI BAKHCHINYAN

TEXT EDITOR: SEVAN TOPJIAN

2004 Annual Fund Donors

Associates

Hirair & Ann Hovnanian Foundation

Patrons

Alice & Berge Bulbulian
Mrs. Herbert Lion
George Mekjian

Friends

Lena & Varouj Altabarmakian
Mr. & Mrs. Gerard Chahmirian
Armen & Nora Hampar
Oscar & Jan Kasparian

Sponsors

Zaven & Sonia Akian
Angelus Plating Works
Norman & Rose Avedian
Ms. Sara Chitjian
Barlow Der Mugerdechian
Gottschalks
Betty Haak
Michael & Jackie Matosian
John D. Stephens

Supporters

Dr. & Mrs. Zaven A. Adrouny
Zaven & Lisbeth Alejian
Edward & Roseann Alexander
Harriet Aloojian
Elizabeth Ayvazian
Vahe Baladouni
Clara Bousian
Mary Boyte Minore
Emma Bozmagian
Linda Bulbulian & James Baxter
Arsen E. Charles
Shavarsh A.Chrissian, MD
Hasmig Cingoz
Kay & Rose Mary Cloud
Hrant Darakjian
Dr. Nazareth Darakjian
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Der Matoian

Mr. & Mrs. Armen Dildilian
Mr. & Mrs. Dick Dulgarian
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Durgerian
Richard & Anne Elbrecht
Anahit Eleazarian
Dr. & Mrs. Larry Farsakian
Edward Godoshian
Armand Gougasian
Vartan Gregorian
Elizabeth A. Gregory, MD
Dr. A. Grigorian
Simon Guevrekian
Gurdjian-Clay Family
Asadour & Nvart Hadjian
Ms. Elizabeth Hanessian
Allan & Rosemary Jendian
Nevart Jerzyk
Artin & Armine Jibilian
Betty Julian
Albert & Isabelle Kabrielian
Dr. Berj & Nelly Kalamkarian
John & Ruth Kallenberg
Joan Kaprielian Fulrath
Stefan Karadian
Shakeh & Levon Karakashian,
Carpeteria of Fresno
Deneb Karentz
Scott & Otilija Kateian
Madeleine Kermanjian
Aram & Sandra Kermoyan
Ms. Kathy Khatoonian
Joyce & Bob Kierejczyk
Nancy R. Kolligian
Angèle & Dickran Kouymjian
In memory of Harold Haak
Angèle & Dickran Kouymjian
In memory of Hovig Apo
Saghdejian
Karnic H. Kouyoumdjian
John Malkasian
Mr. & Mrs. Harold Manselian
Vicki Marderosian Coughlin
Kourken and Artemis Mardirosian
Harry & Jan (Margosian) Markus
Ms. Shoghere Markarian

Janice Maroot
Martin Marootian
Gina Mechigian
Clifford Melikian
Paul & Stacie Melikian
Sylvia & Stephen Melikian
Murad & Knarik Meneshian
Dr. Barbara Merguerian
Charles Merzian
Arpena Mesrobian
Vahe & Rita Messerlian
Armand K. Mirijanian
Edward & Vergine Missirlian
Dan Momjian
Sam A. Muradian
Rose Narlian
Alice Navasargian
Suren Nazaryan
Prof. Nishan Parlakian
Helen Parnagian-Corrigan
Franklin Penirian
Patricia Peterson Hansen
Robert H. Philiposian
Mr. & Mrs. Leo Piliobsian
Armen Postajian,
Glen-Mac Swiss Company
Joy Renjilian
Stephan Saboundjian
Madeline Sarkissian Kemanjian
Vernon & Sylvia Shahbazian
Danielle R. Shapazian
Mildred & Ed Shirin
Ed Simonian
Rose K. Smithson
Edward Sornigian
Ms. Barbara Stepanian
Mr. & Mrs. Victor Stepanians
Dr. Frank Stone
Grace Tashjian
Esther Tootelian
Martin Tourigian
Jack Zakarian
John H. Zerounian

UAF Reaches \$400 Million Mark In Relief Supplies to Armenia

Glendale, CA - The United Armenian Fund’s 132nd airlift arrived in Yerevan on February 27, delivering \$3.2 million of humanitarian assistance.

The UAF itself collected \$2.6 million of medicines and medical supplies for this flight, most of which were donated by the Catholic Medical Mission Board (\$2.4 million) and AmeriCares (\$196,000).

Other organizations which contributed goods for this airlift were: Medical Outreach for Armenians (\$170,000); Nork Marash Medical Center (\$101,000); Armenian General Benevolent Union (\$80,000); Armenian Eye Care Project (\$31,000); Harut Chantikian of New Jersey (\$26,000); Dr. Stephen Kashian of Illinois (\$23,000); and Fund for Armenian Relief (\$22,000).

Also contributing to this airlift were: Innotech Projects Inc. (\$19,000); American University

of Armenia (\$17,000); Glendale Ghapan Sister City Association (\$17,000); Howard Karagheusian Commemorative Corp. (\$16,000); Bay Area Friends of Armenia (\$11,000); and Armenian Gospel Mission (\$11,000).

Since its inception in 1989, the UAF has sent \$400 million of humanitarian assistance to Armenia on board 132 airlifts and 1,153 sea containers.

The UAF is the collective effort of the Armenian Assembly of America, the Armenian General Benevolent Union, the Armenian Missionary Association of America, the Armenian Relief Society, the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America, the Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Church of America and the Lincy Foundation.

For more information, contact the UAF office at 1101 North Pacific Avenue, Suite 301, Glendale, CA 91202 or call (818) 241-8900.

Four California Armenian Charities Receive \$333,000 Each from a \$20 Million Class Action Settlement

A ceremony in which four California Armenian charities received \$333,000 each from a \$20 million class action settlement between New York Life and descendants of the 1915 Armenian Genocide took place in Los Angeles on Monday, February 28, 2005.

Martin Marootian, age 89 and lead plaintiff in the class-action against New York Life, class attorneys Brian S. Kabateck, Vartkes Yeghiayan, Mark J. Geragos and William Shernoff, California Insurance Commissioner John Garamendi, Bill Werfelman from New York Life and representatives from the Armenian charities were present.

The four organizations receiving \$333,000 each were: Armenian Church of North America Western Diocese, Archbishop Hovnan Derderian; Western Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Church, Archbishop Moushegh Mardirossian; Armenian Educational Foundation, Glendale; and Armenian Relief Society, Maro Minassian, Anahid Meymerian, Watertown, Mass. (headquarters).

Background: Before 1915, New York Life sold life insurance policies to thousands of Armenians living in the Ottoman Empire. New York Life policyholders were among the 1.5 million Armenians massacred during the Armenian Genocide at that time. In the ensuing chaos, many of the rightful policy heirs were unable to obtain insurance proceeds while others

were unaware that they were entitled to benefits. During litigation, New York Life acknowledged its records indicated an estimated 2,400 policies sold to Armenians before the Genocide may remain unpaid. The class includes Armenians living in the United States and abroad who are descendants and heirs of policyholders. They will share the bulk of the settlement.

Legal and Political Significance: The class action is the oldest resolved case in U.S. history—90 years have passed between the original events and the settlement. It is also the first recorded case addressing issues involving the Armenian Genocide. The United States and Turkish governments have never officially acknowledged the Armenian Genocide despite overwhelming evidence and eyewitness accounts. In direct contrast, a private company (New York Life) acknowledged the tragedy and fulfilled its obligation to the victims.

The class action was originally filed in November 1999 in Federal District Court in Los Angeles (Martin Marootian, et al. v. New York Life Insurance Company). Class co-counsel includes California attorneys Brian S. Kabateck, Kabateck Brown Kellner LLP, Vartkes Yeghiayan, Yeghiayan & Associates, Mark J. Geragos, Geragos & Geragos and William Shernoff, Shernoff, Bidart & Darras.

Armenian Genocide Monument Planned for Glendale

(Glendale, CA)-The Armenian Genocide Monument Council of Glendale (AGMCG) recently announced the launching of their website (www.armeniangenocide monument.com) and plans for a Monument design competition. The AGMCG will oversee the design and construction of a commemorative monument in the City of Glendale dedicated to the victims of the Armenian Genocide, the first genocide of the 20th Century. The monument will serve as a fitting venue to begin the educa-

tional process of honoring the memory of those who perished and acknowledging the memories of the heroic deeds and acts of the Americans whose actions helped save thousands of helpless Armenian men, women and children from the rage of the Genocide.

The AGMCG is a newly established organization and is dedicated to enhancing cross cultural understanding amongst the different cultural and ethnic groups in the City of Glendale by promoting respect for past historical events and the

recognition thereof through continuous education, specifically that of the Armenian Genocide. In August of 2001, the City Council of Glendale adopted a motion to accept the gift of a monument to honor the one million five hundred thousand victims of the Armenian genocide and the memory of Americans whose actions helped save thousands of Armenian men, women and children from perishing in the genocide between 1915 and 1918.

“All Things Armenian”

Every Saturday Afternoon
Noon-1:00PM

90.7 FM

Hosted by Barlow Der Mugerdechian
Interviews and Armenian classical music



“Hye Oozh”

Every Saturday Morning
9:00AM-12:00noon

90.7 FM

D. J.s • Sevag Tateosian • Armen Postoyan • Tatevik Ekezian

On the internet at www.kfsr.org!

Deadline:

Descendants have until March 15, 2005 to make a claim for a portion of the settlement.
Details are available at www.ArmenianInsuranceSettlement.com.

KEYAN, FROM PAGE 1

Later he worked the night-shift, while substitute teaching during the day.

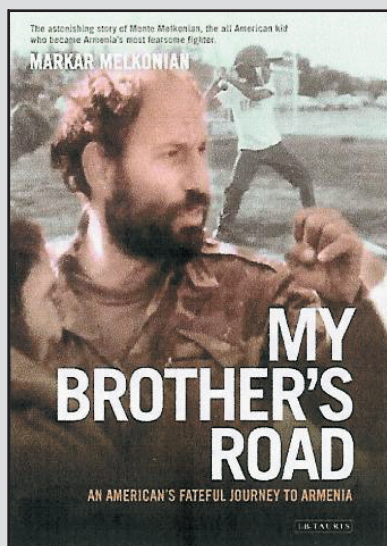
Mr. Keyan also learned the building trade, learning many skills, that would be critical in his future. He began purchasing property in the San Fernando Valley, building duplexes and triplexes, and later built and managed a 50-unit and a 75-unit apartment complex. He later moved to the Coachella Valley, near Palm Springs, and bought, either by himself or with his brother-in-law, some 140 acres of land. He grew grapes on 75 of those acres, shipping and selling his own produce in his own facilities. The vineyard became quite successful.

Later Mr. Keyan began investing in the stock market where he was also very successful. In 1988 he retired.

Mr. Keyan has traveled extensively, visiting every continent. He has traveled on many cruises, and has been to such places as China, Japan, Egypt, India, the European coasts, the Panama Canal, the North Sea, and the coast of Gibraltar.

Perhaps his most memorable journey was taken in 1995 when he visited historic Armenia. There were 10 people in the group, with each person having the opportunity to visit the village or city where their families had once lived. The group traveled more than 2,000 miles in 2 weeks, visiting Aintab, Istanbul, and saw much of historic Armenia. In particular the historic ruins of Ani were a memorable stop.

Mr. Keyan's family includes two sisters, Rose Kasimian (also his former business partner) and Agnes Margosian of Dinuba, a long-time elementary school teacher who recently retired.



“My Brother’s Road: An American’s Fateful Journey to Armenia”

**Author Markar Melkonian to
Speak on His New Book**

**March 15, Tuesday • 7:30 PM
Industrial Technology Building, Room 101**

My Brother's Road is the story of Markar's brother, Monte Melkonian, a third-generation California boy, who grew up to become a promising archaeologist, a witness to revolution in Iran, a militiaman in the streets of Beirut, a guerrilla in southern Lebanon, a prison strike leader in France, and a commander of 4000 fighters in one of the most vicious wars raging on the ruins of the former Soviet Union.

Co-sponsored by the Armenian Studies Program and Armenian Students Organization.

The lecture is free and open to the public.

**Armenian Studies Program
California State University, Fresno**

Armenia Semester Abroad Program- 2005

**Fall 2005 Armenia Semester
Abroad Program
Applications are now being accepted**

Experience a semester abroad in Yerevan, Armenia. The Armenian Studies Program at California State University, Fresno has organized a one semester program designed to introduce students to Armenian language, history, art, and contemporary events. The semester schedule is composed of five courses: Armenian language (4 units); Armenian art and architecture (3 units); Armenia today (3 units); Armenian studies (3 units); Independent study (2 units).

*For details please go the
Armenian Studies Program web site at
[http://armenianstudies.csufresno.edu/
SemesterAbroad/information.htm](http://armenianstudies.csufresno.edu/SemesterAbroad/information.htm)
or contact
Barlow Der Mugrdchian by email at
barlowd@csufresno.edu*

1915 — 2005 90th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide

Fresno Area Events

- **Friday, April 22-7:00PM**
ASO Vigil and Movie
Annual Genocide
Commemoration
at Fresno State
- **Friday, April 22-Noon**
ASO and ASP
Annual Genocide
Commemoration
at Fresno State
- **Saturday, April 23-10:00AM**
Flag Raising
Fresno City Hall
- **Sunday, April 24-6:00PM**
Community Religious and
Civic Observance of the
Armenian Genocide
Pilgrim Armenian
Congregational Church

Photo: Barlow Der Mugrdchian



Armenian Students Organization members gather to fold and label Hye Sharzhoom. Hye Sharzhoom has a world-wide readership of more than 7,000. Hye Sharzhoom is published four times a year, two times a semester. This year marks the 26th year that Hye Sharzhoom has been published.

Thank You Donors

Prof. Antonia Arslan	Padua, Italy
Harry Balukjian	Bethesda, MD
David Barsamian	Pasadena
Berge & Alice Bulbulian	Fresno
Mr. & Mrs. Gerard Chahmirian	Fresno
Greg Dabanian	Belmont
Raffi Demirjian	San Leandro
Armen & Rose Hagopian	Fresno
Ms. Berjoohy Haigazian	
<i>Holiday Village</i>	Mt Laurel, NJ
Shavarsh & Lala Hazarabedian	Moraga
Albert & Isabelle Kabrielian	Fresno
Sam & Zephyr Kalunian	El Dorado Hills
Joan Kaprelian	Hobe Sound, FL
Mr. & Mrs. Malcolm Kasparian	Galt
Martin & Julia Koobatian	Santa Barbara
<i>In Memory of Alice Kinonian</i>	
Mr. & Mrs. Robert S. Manselian	Fresno
Roxie Moradian	Fresno
Alice Muradliyan	Covina
Brenda Najimian-Magarity	Fresno
Irene Peloian	Fresno
Vasgan & Rose Solakian	Valley Village
Rose Terzian	Fresno
Mrs. Araks V. Tolegian	Chico
<i>In Memory of Dr. Ara Hairabedian</i>	
Bob & Frances Tusan	Sanger
Jerry Tusan	Pleasanton
Robert & Cynthia Tusan	Laguna Niguel

HYE SHARZHOOM

NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT

Hye Sharzhoom is sent without charge to thousands of people throughout the world. Although there is no subscription fee, we urge readers to support our efforts with donations of any amount. This request has assumed a special importance because of increased mailing costs.

Yes, I would like to support the **Hye Sharzhoom** mailing expenses with a donation of:

\$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____ **City:** _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Please make checks payable to **Armenian Studies Program** and send to:
Armenian Studies Program
California State University, Fresno
5245 N Backer Ave M/S PB 4
Fresno, CA 93740-8001