

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

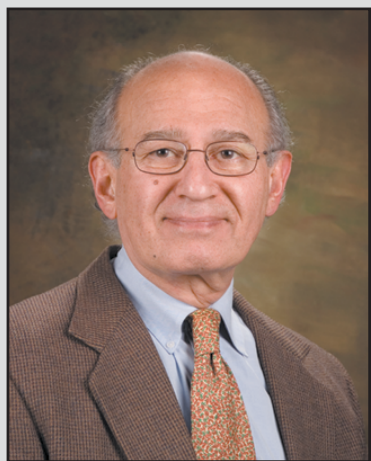
29th
Year

March 2008

Vol. 29, No. 3 (101)

Ethnic Supplement to The Collegian

Armenian Studies Twentieth Annual Banquet Slated for Saturday, April 5 “An Evening with Dr. Kouymjian”



Dr. Dickran Kouymjian

Photo: Randy Vaughn-Dotta

The public is cordially invited to attend the Twentieth Annual Banquet of the Armenian Studies Program at California State University, Fresno.

Dr. Kouymjian will be recognized for his thirty-one years of service to the University as Director of the Armenian Studies Program. He will be retiring in May.

Recipients of student scholarships for 2007-2008 will also be recognized at the Banquet.

Saturday, April 5

6:00PM-Reception

7:00PM-Banquet

**Residence Dining Hall
Fresno State**

\$30 per person

\$20 for Fresno State students

Please send in your reservations no later than March 28.

Shoghaken Armenian Folk Ensemble Performs in Concert in Fresno: Part of 21-City National Tour

STAFF REPORT

On Tuesday evening, February 26, the Shoghaken Armenian Folk Ensemble of Armenia performed in concert to an audience of more than 400 in the Satellite Student Union at Fresno State. The eight-member ensemble was on an international concert tour, which began in Paris, and continued in twenty-one cities in the United States, ending March 7 in Los Angeles.

The Shoghaken Ensemble utilizes traditional Armenian instruments such as the *kanon*, *kamancha*, *duduk*, *dhol*, *oud*, and *shvi*, to produce a captivating and exhilarating sound. It is one of the preeminent traditional music ensembles in Armenia and they proved it in a captivating performance, as they presented a broad spectrum of traditional Armenian folk music.

The audience was involved in their rich program for the entire evening. This was not only the result of the expert skills of the performers, but also due to the beautifully rich voices of a brother and sister duo, Hasmik and Aleksan Harutyunyan.



The Shoghaken Armenian Folk Ensemble performed at the Satellite Student Union at Fresno State on Feb. 26. Net proceeds of the concert benefited the Armenian Studies Program.

Photo: Barlow Der Mugrdechian

Dr. Dickran Kouymjian, Haig and Isabel Berberian Professor of Armenian Studies at Fresno State opened the concert with his remarks. Special visitors Mrs. Karine Khodikyan, Vice Minister of Culture of the Republic of Armenia, and Mr. Davit Muradyan, Vice Chairman of the Writers Union of Armenia, traveled especially from

Armenia to be present at the concert. Mrs. Khodikyan paid special tribute to the Ensemble and also made remarks on behalf of Hasmik Poghosyan, Minister of Culture of the Republic of Armenia, on the occasion of the Saroyan Centennial in Fresno. Mr. Muradyan, who

SEE **SHOGHAKEN** PAGE 5

Class Spends Two Days Studying Church: History, Beliefs, Practices, Architecture, Art, and Music



L. to R.: Thagik Boyadjian, Svetlana Bagdasarov, Pateel Mekhitarian, Jennifer Torosian, Gina Jelladian, Mary Madoyan, Arman Kalamkarian, and Sarkis Manavazian at the front entrance of St. Paul Armenian Church.

Photo: Barlow Der Mugrdechian

GINA JELLADIAN

STAFF REPORTER

What are the major feast days celebrated in the Armenian Church? What are the four true marks of the Orthodox Church? How often is the Holy Oil (Muron) prepared? What is it used for?

These were some of the ques-

tions faced by students on a quiz taken during the first session of a weekend class, Armenian Studies 120T-The Armenian Church, held on Friday, February 8th and Saturday February 9th. The course was taught by professor and deacon Barlow Der Mugrdechian. The class discussion included a detailed history about the Armenian Apostolic

Church and its role as a unifying factor among Armenians. The students in the class learned a lot about the significance of the history, sacraments, liturgy, and worship of the Armenian Church.

In studying the history of the Armenians, one must understand their devotion to Christianity, which was spread in Armenia in the first century by Saints Thaddeus and Bartholomew. St. Gregory the Illuminator converted King Drtad to Christianity in 301 A.D., thus the Armenians became the first Christian nation in the world and Christianity unified the entire Armenian Diaspora until the present day. Catholicos Karekin II, resides in the spiritual capital of Holy Etchmiadzin, in Armenia.

When asked why he was taking the course, Arman Kalamkarian said, “I took this course because it’s necessary to fulfill my Armenian Studies Minor. Aside from necessity, I’m glad I took it, because although I am an extremely active member in the Armenian community and church, I was still able to learn a great deal of infor-

SEE **CHURCH CLASS** PAGE 6

“William Saroyan at 100”

A symposium dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the birth of the Armenian-American author. With the participation of scholars from throughout the United States.

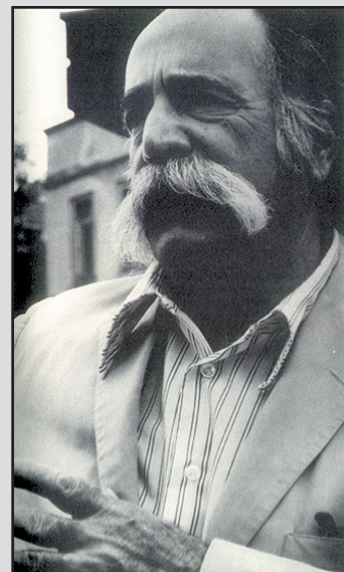
**Organized by the
Armenian Studies
Program at
Fresno State**

**Saturday,
April 5, 2008
10AM**

**University Business
Center,
A. Peters Auditorium**

Fresno State Campus

Free admission



Portrait of William Saroyan during his last East European trip, May 1980. (Photo after Dickran Kouymjian, Warsaw Visitor, Fresno, 1991, courtesy of the author’s archive)

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.

CDs/DVDs

Gevorg Emin, *Ergaran* [Songbook], songs based on 11 poems by Gevorg Emin (1918-1998), CD (Erevan, 2005). Gift of Artashes Emin.

All Time Armenian Favourites, Kohar Symphony Orchestra and Choir, DVD (Hayasa Production, 2003). Gift of the Cilician Catholicosate, Antelias.

Patrick Cazals, director & producer, *Rouben Mamoulian, l'age d'or de Broadway et d' Hollywood*, DVD, hour length film which tells the story of Rouben Mamoulian, pioneer of Broadway musicals in the Golden Age of Hollywood Studios (Pairs, 2006). In English and French with appropriate subtitles, including an interview with Dickran Kouymjian on Mamoulian. Available through Horla Films [filmsduhorla@free.fr]. Gift of the director.

Books

Edward Alexander, *Opus* (Xlibris Corporation: 2000). Gift of the author.

The American Numismatic Society, *American Journal of Numismatics 19*, Second Series (New York: 2007). Gift of the publisher.

Antonia Arslan, *Skylark Farm*, translated by Geoffrey Brock (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2006). Gift of Alfred A. Knopf Publishers.

Peter L. Bergen, *The Osama bin Laden I Know: An Oral History of al Qaeda's Leader*, (New York: Free Press, 2006). Gift of Rev. Fr. Sipan Mekhsian.

Vahram Dadrian, *To The Desert*, translated from the Armenian by Agop J. Hacikyan (New York: Taderon Press, 2003). Gift of Dr. Joan Bergstrom.

Barlow Der Mugrdechian, editor, *The Armenian Bible. A Symposium Celebrating the 1600th Anniversary of the Discovery of the Armenian Alphabet and the Translation of the Bible into Armenian* (Burbank: Western Diocese of the Armenian Church, 2007,) 130 pages. Gift of the editor.

Archpriest Fr. Hovsep Hagopian, *Tiroch Khorane [The Altar of God]*, (California: 2007). Gift of the author.

Mary M. Kandalian-Aslanian, *Here & There* (Yerevan: 2007). Gift of the author.

Christina Maranci, *Medieval Armenian Architecture. Construction of Race and Nation*, Hebrew University Armenian Studies, no. 2 (Leuven/Louvain: Peeters, 2001), viii, 282 pages. Gift of the author.

Matteo Campagnolo & Marielle Martiniani-Reber, editor, *From Aphrodite to Melusine. Reflections on the Archaeology and the History of Cyprus* (Geneva: la pomme d'or, 2007), XVI, 203 pages. Gift of Dr. Martiniani-Reber.

Gaza à la croisée des civilizations, exhibition catalogue from the Musée d'art et d'histoire de la Ville de Genève (Geneva: Chaman, 2007), 256 pages. Gift of Dr. Marielle Martiniani-Reber.

Pazmavep, Annual Armenological Review of the Mekhitarist Fathers of Venice, vol. CLXV (2007), San Lazzaro, Venice, 568 pages. Gift of the Gulbenkian Foundation.

John Carswell, *Blue & White. Chinese Porcelain around the World* (London: The British Museum Press, 2007), 208 pages. Gift of the author.

David Kherdian, editor, *Forgotten Bread. First Generation Armenian American Writers* (Berkeley: Heyday Books, 2007), xiv, 482 pages. Gift of the publisher.

Hask. Armenological Yearbook, Catholicosate of the Great House of Cilicia, vol. 10 (2002-2006) (Antelias: Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation and the Catholicosate, 2006), 451 pages. Gift of the Catholicos, Aram I.

Bonnie C. Marshall, *The Flower of Paradise and other Armenian Tales*, edited and with a forword by Virginia A. Tashjian (Connecticut: Libraries Unlimited, 2007). Gift of Greenwood Heinenmann Publishing.

Assadullah Souren Melikian-Chirvani, *Le Chant du monde. L'Art de l'Iran safavide. 1501-1736*, exhibition catalogue (Paris: Musée du Louvre & Somogy, 2007), 464 pages. Gift of the author and the editor.

Simon Payaslian, *The History of Armenia* (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2007). Gift of the publisher.

Sirak Sarhadian, *My Memoirs* (Armenia, 2007). Gift of Arthur Seredian.

Anna Sirinian & Gabriella Uluhogian, *Forme de comunicazione nel medioeve. Copisti e miniatori Armeni* (Bologna: University of Bologna, 2003), 62 pages with 24 color illustration from medieval Armenian manuscript. Gift of Prof. Gabriella Uluhogian.

Hrachia Tamrazyan, *Grigor of Narek and the School of Poetical Art of Cilicia*, in Armenian (Erevan, 2007), 182 pages. Gift of the author.

Vartan Thomasian, *Varak Perodical, Vol. 54*, (Armenia: 2007). Gift of the editor.

California State University, Fresno
Armenian Studies Program

Fall 2008 Schedule of Courses

Course	Units	Time	Day	Instructor
General Education				
Arts & Humanities, Area C2				
• ArmS 20 Arts of Armenia (Class #76427)	3	8:00A-9:15A	TTh	Staff
• ArmS 20 Arts of Armenia (Class #72510)	3	11:00A-12:15P	TTh	B Der Mugrdechian
• Arm 1A Elementary Armenian (Class #72508)	4	10:30A-11:35A	MWF	B Der Mugrdechian
Arts & Humanities, Area D				
• ArmS 10 Intro Armenian Studies (Class #72509)	3	9:00A-9:50A	MWF	B Der Mugrdechian
• ArmS 108A Arm History I (Class #72511)	3	9:30A-10:45A	TTh	B Der Mugrdechian

For more information call the Armenian Studies Program at 278-2669 or visit our offices in the Peters Business Building, Room 384. Get a Minor in Armenian Studies. Check on requirements for the Minor in Armenian Studies in the 2008-2009 catalog: <http://www.csufresno.edu/catoffice/current/armstudhd.html>

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

Please find enclosed a small donation to assist you in the publication and mailing of *Hye Sharzhoom*. I find your articles very interesting and I enjoy reading them. Thank you for sending *Hye Sharzhoom* to me.

Sincerely,
Greg Dabanian
Belmont, CA

Are you planning to move or have moved?

Do you know someone who would enjoy reading Hye Sharzhoom?

Contact us to add your name to our mailing list.

HYE SHARZHOOM
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Puzant Yeghiayan, *Heroes of Hayastan, A Dramatic Novel History of Armenia* (Cairo: Nubar Printing House, 1993). Gift of NAASR.

Linda Ben-Zvi & Angela Moorjani, editors, *Beckett at 100. Revolving It All* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008), 334 pages, with a chapter on Beckett and Saroyan. Gift of the publisher.

Miscellaneous
Shirley Collins, Fresno, CA, for the collection of Armenian newspapers and archive material.

Martin Tourigian, Drexel, PA, for his three water-color paintings and archival materials.

Armenian Studies Program Faculty and Staff:

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Hye Sharzhoom is an ethnic supplement of The Collegian and is the newspaper of the Fresno State 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 contact us at:
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Der Mugrdechian Gives Presentation on Saroyan Works for Osher Lifelong Learning Program

STAFF REPORT

William Saroyan: Views on Identity and Ethnicity,” was the focus of a course taught by Barlow Der Mugrdechian of the Armenian Studies Program, on two consecutive Thursday afternoons, February 21 and February 28, as part of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Fresno State.

Der Mugrdechian discussed the early influences on Saroyan, those that had a life long impact on the writer, such as the death of his father and living in an orphanage for five years.

Saroyan’s views on identity and ethnicity were informed by his family and the Fresno Armenian community where he grew up. The tightly knit community faced prejudice and discrimination, while Saroyan refused to reject his Armenian heritage.

Two books, *William Saroyan: An Armenian Trilogy* and *Saroyan and the Armenians*, that provided many examples of Saroyan’s thoughts on identity and ethnicity, were discussed by the class.



Barlow Der Mugrdechian (left) with Osher Lifelong Learning Institute director Shirley Bruegman.

Photo: Hye Sharzhoom Archive

Class participation was encouraged and there was lively discussion.

“Armenians” and “Haratch” are examples of plays that Saroyan wrote in the last twenty years of his life, where he carefully expressed his views on Armenian identity. Both plays explore the concept of Armenianness in two very differ-

ent settings, one in Fresno in the 1920s, the other in the office of the newspaper *Haratch* in Paris, France.

Saroyan’s views on identity are an integral part of his literary production. The class enjoyed the discussion and the opportunity to ask questions and offer comments to the instructor.

Presidential Elections in Republic of Armenia

STAFF REPORT

The Republic of Armenia held Presidential elections on Tuesday, February 19 and Serge Sarkisian was elected as the third President of Armenia, garnering 52.8% of the popular vote. His main opponent Levon Ter-Petrosian won an estimated 21.5%, according to the Central Election Commission. 1.6 million voters cast their ballots-about 70% of the eligible voters.

Sarkisian was Prime Minister of Armenia and an ally of President Robert Kocharian. He is also head of the Republican party of Armenia. Sarkisian is from the region of Karabakh, an ethnic Armenian enclave that broke away from Azerbaijan in a bloody war in the early 1990s. A former head of the Karabagh army, Sarkisian has held key posts in the Armenian government, including as head of the Ministry of Interior and Defense Minister.

Ter-Petrosian accused the authorities of resorting to ballot-stuffing, vote-buying, and beating his activists who monitored the election. He asserted that he was actually the winner.

“These figures have nothing to do with reality, we are overwhelmingly ahead of them,” his spokesman, Arman Museian, said of the results announced by the election commission.

Since February 19, tens of thousands of supporters of Ter-Petrosian have been holding daily rallies in Armenia’s capital of Yerevan, to protest against what they see as massive vote rigging and to demand a re-run of the vote. The Armenian authorities have responded to the protests by arresting at least three opposition leaders and threatening to use force against the demonstrators.

An influential international observer mission said there were concerns about the vote count, but is-

sued a generally positive assessment of the election.

The election was “mostly in line with the country’s international commitments, although further improvements are necessary,” the mission from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe said in a preliminary statement.

The vote had shaped up as a two-horse race between Prime Minister Sarkisian, and Levon Ter-Petrosian, the former Armenian president forced to resign by Kocharian and Sarkisian almost a decade ago. The two rival camps fought a tough electoral battle, having already traded bitter accusations over their government records.

Ter-Petrosian, 63, was Armenia’s president from 1991 until his resignation in 1998. He broke 10 years of silence last year to announce his comeback bid for the presidency. Ter-Petrosian has called for a more conciliatory approach with neighbors Azerbaijan and Turkey, both of which have cut diplomatic ties and sealed their borders with Armenia.

Ter-Petrosian was elected leader of Soviet Armenia in 1990, shortly before its independence. He was elected the country’s first post-Soviet president in 1991 and re-elected in 1996, before he was forced to step down in 1998 for advocating concessions with Azerbaijan over Karabakh.

A total of 12 candidates initially announced plans to run for President, and nine succeeded in doing so. U.S.-born former Foreign Minister and *Zharangutiun* [Heritage] party Chairman Raffi Hovannisian was denied registration on the grounds that he acquired Armenian citizenship only in 2001; Armenia’s election law stipulates that presidential candidates must have been citizens of the Republic of Armenia for a minimum of 10 years prior to the ballot. *Zharangutiun* subse-

quently declined to throw its support behind another candidate. *Nor Zhamanakner* [New Times] party leader Aram Karapetian was similarly denied registration as he has not lived permanently in Armenia for the past decade. No explanation was given as to why that requirement did not render him ineligible to register for the 2003 presidential election, in which he polled fourth with 2.95 percent of the vote.

Two other major candidates vied for the open position.

Artur Baghdasarian, 39, is a former speaker of parliament who fell out with the government and joined the opposition. He received 16.67% of the vote to come in third. His *Orinats Erkir* [Rule of Law] party won nine seats in the 131-seat National Assembly in May’s parliamentary elections, the most of any opposition party. A former chairman of the French University in Armenia, Baghdasarian was seen as more pro-Western than the current government, which has fostered strong ties with Moscow. Baghdasarian was first elected to parliament in 1995. Re-elected in 1999 and 2003, he was the influential speaker from 2003 to 2006, when he was ousted for criticizing the authorities.

Vahan Hovhannesian, 41, is the deputy speaker of the Armenian parliament and the candidate of the Armenian Revolutionary Federation (ARF), one of Armenia’s oldest political parties. He received 6.8% of the vote. Born in Yerevan, Hovannisian is a historian and archaeologist who was first elected to parliament in 1999. The party was banned in the early 1990s for an alleged plot to overthrow the government, but was a member of Kocharian’s governing coalition from 1998 until last year. It won 16 seats in May’s parliamentary elections and while not a member of the current coalition, continues to support the government.

Saroyan Centennial Activities Scheduled for Valley in 2008

STAFF REPORT

Over thirty-five San Joaquin Valley and State organizations are cooperating to celebrate the William Saroyan Centennial (the 100th anniversary of his birth) in 2008. They will present a series of exhibitions, musical performances, lectures, school activities, theatrical productions and readings, historical discussions, and literary events focusing on Saroyan’s work and his life in the San Joaquin Valley. Events are planned for the entire year, with special activities planned around his birthday, August 31, and a memorial tribute on the anniversary of his death, May 18.

Saroyan’s art will be exhibited at various art centers in the Central Valley. Vibrant plans of theatrical and cinematic events are planned. Colleges and universities throughout the state as well as Central Valley theatre groups will honor Saroyan with productions of his plays and theatrical readings.

California State University, Fresno is playing a major role in the yearlong centennial with events on campus and with faculty members sharing their expertise throughout the community. The university’s

College of Arts and Humanities and the college’s Armenian Studies Program, with the Theatre Arts and English departments, are among the sponsors of the William Saroyan Centennial. Fresno State’s Osher Lifelong Learning Institute and Henry Madden Library are sponsors, too

The celebration is dedicated to the memory of Fresno’s best-known writer, whose work was inspired by his humble beginnings in Fresno as the son of immigrant Armenians. Saroyan lived in San Francisco, Paris, New York and elsewhere before returning to Fresno in the late 1960s, where he died in 1981. His first collection of short stories, *The Daring Young Man on the Flying Trapeze*, published in 1934, was followed by *The Man with the Heart in the Highlands*, *My Name is Aram*, *The Human Comedy* and *The Time of Your Life*, which earned a Pulitzer Prize. The movie version of Saroyan’s *The Human Comedy* received an Oscar for Best Original Motion Picture Story.

For more information on upcoming Centennial events, please go to the website: http://www.saroyancentennial.org/Cal_JanFebMar.html

Partial Listing of March and April Cctivities

Monday, March 24, 2008

“Saroyan: The Man and His Fresno” with Fresno historian William Secrest

Clovis Regional Library
1155 Fifth Street
Clovis, California
7 PM-Free to the Public

Fresno historian William Secrest, Jr. will present a multi-media program entitled, “Saroyan: The Man and His Fresno.” For more information contact the library at (559) 299-9531.

Wednesday, March 26, 2008

Young Writers’ Conference

California State University, Fresno’s Department of English, College of Arts and Humanities
California State University, Fresno
8 AM to 2 PM-Participation Fee \$15

Each spring, the Department of English and the College of Arts and Humanities at Fresno State host the Young Writers’ Conference for area high school students. This conference provides a valuable opportunity for young writers to hear a professional writer read and answer questions about the creative writing process. The William Saroyan Society sponsors the William Saroyan Award to a young writer. For more information see <http://csufresno.edu/crwr/15ywc.htm>.

Thursday, March 27, 2008

Premiere Stage Performance and Preview of Art Installation

Fresno Art Museum
2233 N. First Street, Fresno, California
6:30 PM Wine and Preview of Art Installation with Artist Carol Tikijian
7:30 PM One-Man Show: My Name is Saroyan-A Question of Will
8:45 PM After-Theatre Supper with artists David Fox-Brenton and Carol Tikijian
Reservations \$50 Call (559) 243-5880

In an elegant evening with artists, David Fox-Brenton and Carol Tikijian, this Centennial event promises a premiere of a one-man show written and performed by David Fox-Brenton, and a preview of art installation *Why Abstract?* with the artist, Carol Tikijian. Both of these talented artists will join guests for this special event, sponsored by the Armenian Museum, in an after-theatre supper.

Saturday, March 29, 2008

Saroyan Bicycle Ride

Begins at the Coke Hallowell Center for River Studies at Riverview Ranch
11605 Old Friant Road, Fresno, California
11:00 AM

The Centennial bike ride will take you along the Eaton trail from Riverview Ranch to Woodward Park. During the ride, readings from the works of William Saroyan will be led by John Kallenberg, Chairman of the William Saroyan Society. Registration for the bike ride is through the Parties for the Parkway at (559) 248-8480.

Armenian Students Collect Donations for Mer Doon



Front row, left to right, Pateel Mekhitarian and Knar Mekhitarian. Back row: Jennifer Torosian and Arman Kalamkarian.

Photo: Barlow Der Mugrdechian

PATEEL MEKHITARIAN EDITOR

There are many organizations, such as Orran and the Nork Childrens' Center in Armenia, that seek to help children from unprivi-

leged families. Another group that assists young women in achieving their aspirations is Mer Doon.

Mer Doon, meaning "Our Home" in Armenian, takes in young women whom have outgrown their childhood homes in Armenian or-

phanages. Mer Doon provides a family environment and an opportunity for the women to become productive members of society.

The Mer Doon family currently has ten women who have a full day's worth of activities, managing to accomplish a lot. Education is a significant part of daily life and classes such as English, Russian, French, religion, and computers give the women a basic education. Carpet making is another talent the women at Mer Doon have learned.

Support for this cause has been very important for the students at Fresno State. The Armenian Students Organization started a penny-drive and containers were placed for two months at local Armenian restaurants, delicatessens, and businesses. With the help of the students at Fresno State and the public, money was raised and sent to Mer Doon.

This organization is just one example of the diverse efforts to educate the young people of Armenia. For more information on how to support Mer Doon, please visit www.mer-doon.org.

Meet the Members of ASO

KNAR MEKHITARIAN STAFF WRITER



Peter Petrosyan

My name is Peter Petrosyan, my major is Business Management. I work at Diamond Auto Body and Paint Inc. My hobbies include working out, hanging out with friends, and playing basketball. Being a part of the Armenian club on campus is something that is very important to me, and I encourage all students to join!

Photo: Knar Mekhitarian

Sevag Jierian

I am a International Business major, as well as an Armenian Studies minor. I am currently working at Bank of America as a teller. I enjoy spending time with my family and friends. I enjoy playing sports, such as basketball and soccer. I decided to join ASO because I wanted to get involved with the events on campus and in the community.



New Book on Armenian Bible Published

STAFF REPORT

The Armenian Bible: A Symposium Celebrating the 1600th Anniversary of the Discovery of the Armenian Alphabet and the Translation of the Bible into Armenian. Barlow Der Mugrdechian, editor (Burbank, CA: Western Diocese of the Armenian Church of North America, 2007), 130.pp

The Armenian Bible has been the topic of much study since it was originally translated into Armenian in the fifth century. 2006 marked the 1600th anniversary of the groundbreaking translation, and a symposium was organized under the auspices of the Western Diocese of the Armenian Church, to celebrate the anniversary. The same event also marked the 30th anniversary of the Society for Armenian Studies.

Seven scholars participated in the international conference and their articles were collected and edited for this volume. They each

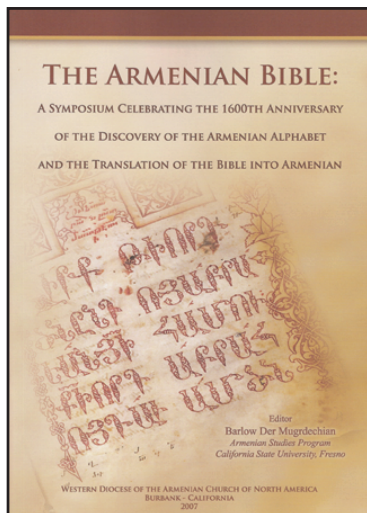


Photo: Hye Sharzhoom Archive

analyzed a different facet of the Bible. Various types of approaches to the study of the Bible were used, from the linguistic, to art and literature.

Two articles in the book are in Armenian: one by Rev. Dr. Fr. Zaven Arzoumanian is on "The Armenian Bible and the Early Formation of the Armenian Church," while the Very Rev. Fr. Dajad

Yardemian, wrote on "Armenian Commentaries on the Books of the Holy Bible."

Barlow Der Mugrdechian wrote an introduction on "The Bible and Armenian Culture."

Claude Cox discussed "Little Words are Important Too: The Use of Particles in the Armenian Translation of Job."

Rev. Manuel Jinbachian discussed "The Prophecy of Jeremiah as it is found in the Hebrew, Septuagint, Syriac, and Armenian."

Rev. Fr. Vahan Hovhannessian contributed with "The Reading is From Third Corinthians-A Glance at the Lectionary of the Armenian Church."

S. Peter Cowe wrote an article "Literary and Theological Considerations Governing the Strata of the Armenian Version of Scripture."

The book is carried by the Western Diocese Bookstore and is available to order on-line at <http://www.armenianchurchwd.com/bookstore/index.html>.

2007-2008 Armenian Studies Program Scholarships/Grants

The Armenian Studies Program awarded more than \$65,000 in scholarships and research grants for the 2007/2008 academic year. These scholarships provide important financial assistance to students and encourage them to pursue minors in Armenian Studies and to enroll in various course offerings. We ask our students and our supporters to tell their friends and relatives about the Armenian Studies Scholarship program and encourage students to apply.

Applying has become simplified and is entirely on-line through the Program website at <http://armenianstudies.csufresno.edu> and the University website <https://scholarship.csufresno.edu/>

Nerces and Ruth Azadian Memorial Scholarship

Windy Dunbar
Gayane Frnzyan

Karine Frnzyan
Arman Kalamkarian

Kirkor and Mary Bedoian Memorial Scholarship

Grigor Kyutunyan
Azniv Orinakyan

Charles K. and Pansy Pategian Zlokovich Scholarship

Avo Arikian
Darren Janigian
Ariana Kasparian
Pateel Mekhitarian
Ani Menendian
Johnny Oganessian
Azniv Orinakyan
Nicholas Sahatdjian
Paul Shapazian
Jennifer Torosian
Kyle Torosian

Norma and Bob Der Mugrdechian Endowed Scholarship Fund

Hagop Ohanessian

Yervant, Rose and Hovannes Levonian Educational Grant

Nona Akopyan
Thagik Boyadjian
Lara Chekian
Hazel Hofman
Bryce Hovannisian
Sevag Jierian
Bradley Kalebjian
Varsenig Keshishyan
Daniel Khushigian
Grigor Kyutunyan
Tara Lee
Knar Mekhitarian
Nayiri Moumdjian
Ara Nalbandian
Hagop Ohanessian
Arthur Petrosyan
Ani Samarjian

The Pete P. Peters Endowment

Timothy Aivazian
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Photo: Barlow Der Mugrdechian

The new Henry Madden Library expansion project is well under way at Fresno State. Plans call for construction of a 283,600-square foot library addition and 68,695 square foot in renovation to the existing library structure. Completion of the project is expected in late fall of 2008.



Hasmik Harutyunyan and her brother Aleksan Harutyunyan.

SHOGHAKEN, FROM PAGE 1

spoke eloquently about how Saroyan’s spirit was present at the concert, presented the Armenian Studies Program with a beautiful carpet, woven with the Armenian alphabet.

Gevorg Dabaghyan (*duduk*) demonstrated his mastery of the soulful instrument, while Karine Hovhannisyan (*kanon*), Grigor Takushyan (accompanying *duduk*), Vardan Baghdasaryan (*kamancha*), Levon Tevanyan (woodwinds-*shvi, tav shvi, blul*), Kam Khatchaturian (*dhol*) each contributed to the memorable evening.

Whether is was gentle lullabies or more powerful melodies, the songs each presented a different facet of Armenian cultural life. Dancing and singing also played an important role in the concert,

with various dances and songs performed from different regions of Armenia. The concluding piece, “Lelum Le Le-Yarhooshta,” was from the region of Mush, and brought the audience to their feet. Several of the pieces featured compositions by Komitas Vartabed, as well as folk songs of Armenia.

The audience was in an enthusiastic mood for the entire evening and left the concert with a desire to hear more.

Harold Hagopian of New York produced the 2008 Shoghaken Concert Tour.

The concert was jointly co-sponsored by the Armenian Studies Program, the Knights and Daughters of Vartan, the Armenian General Benevolent Union, and net proceeds of the concert benefited the Armenian Studies Program.

Ministry of Culture
Republic of Armenia

February 8, 2008

Happy is the writer who has a steady audience. And more than happy is the writer, whose audience is the whole of a nation. However, there are exceptionally happy writers, whose works are an integral part of world literature. Our great compatriot William Saroyan belongs to the latter group.

The works of William Saroyan are a universal human treasure. And there is no people, who has not learned lessons of love of humanity, optimism, and faith from the “Kind Giant.”

2008 is, along with other cultural celebrations, remarkable for the events dedicated to the centenary celebration of Saroyan’s birth. The great humanist’s jubilee will be celebrated in Armenia and the United States, as well as in many other countries. A government committee, presided by the Prime Minister, has been working since last year in the Republic of Armenia and has developed a series of celebratory activities for the whole year.

I am pleased to mention that the Saroyan celebration was kicked off in Fresno, the famous writer’s birthplace. I am confident that the participation of the Shoghaken Armenian Folk Ensemble, one of the best Armenian folk groups, in the forthcoming concert, will be worthy of Saroyan’s memory.

On the occasion of the celebration devoted to William Saroyan, I am very happy to welcome all those who appreciate the work of the great writer. I wish you a year full of reflections on Saroyan.

Hasmik Poghosyan
Minister of Culture
of the Republic of Armenia



L. to R: Dr. Dickran Kouymjian, Karine Khodikyan, and Davit Muradyan, presenting the Armenian Studies Program with an alphabet rug from Armenia.



Gevork Dabaghyan playing duduk.

Photos: Barlow Der Mugrdechian

Bedrosian’s Armenian Deli Offers Delicious Menu



Students from the Armenian Church gathered at Johnnie Bedrosian’s Armenian Deli for lunch. Clockwise around the table, from the left: Mary Madoyan, Arman Kalamkarian, Sarkis Manavazian, Van Khatchadourian, owner Johnnie Bedrosian, Gina Jelladian, Pateel Mekhitarian, Jennifer Torosian, Thagik Boyadjian, and Svetlana Bagdasarov.

Photo: Barlow Der Mugrdechian

SVETLANA BAGDASAROV
STAFF WRITER

On Saturday, February 9, I had the pleasure of dining at Bedrosian’s Armenian Deli in Fresno. I was enrolled in a weekend course on the Armenian Church offered by the Armenian Studies Program at California State University, Fresno. After a morning of lectures and a visit to an Armenian church, Professor Barlow Der Mugrdechian suggested that the entire class visit Bedrosian’s Armenian Deli for lunch – so without hesitation, the group decided to give the restaurant a chance.

As I walked in, I could not believe that this was my first time even hearing about this absolutely adorable place. The décor is memo-

orable. The restaurant is almost completely covered with photographs of Bedrosian’s family and friends. The owner, Johnnie Bedrosian, dedicated the restaurant to his beloved late wife, Virginia, and it is obvious that her memory is kept alive through family clippings on every table and wall. In addition to the photographs, decorative flowers and memorabilia, collected over the years, cover the tables. Also, if you enjoy dining with traditional and modern Armenian music playing in the background, then this restaurant is ideal.

As we were looking at the photos, we were handed our menus. Before even glancing at the food itself, I was delighted to see that every dish was named after Bedrosian’s family and friends. I

have been to many Armenian restaurants over the years and can honestly say that I have never seen such tradition and closeness before. The menu ranged from sandwiches, such as “Sister Neva’s Lahmajoon Sandwich,” to lunch plates such as “Charlie’s Sampler Plate,” and salads such as “Harout (Alla’s son) Chicken Salad.” Alla Sargsyan is the restaurant’s head cook. After several minutes of thought, I decided to try the “Vartan Torosian Special Warm Lulu Kabob – Hye Style Salad.” Personally I enjoyed my meal very much, and by the looks and comments from my classmates, everyone was more than pleased with the taste of their meal.

All in all, the restaurant is small but charming and the service is exceedingly friendly. The coziness of the place and the delicious food will bring you back for more. One thing to keep in mind is that if you are pressed for time, than taking something to go may be wise, because quite a bit of patience is needed when dining in at the restaurant. Armenian grocery items such as *bulghur*, rice, olives, cheese are also for sale at the restaurant.

Bedrosian’s Armenian Deli is open Monday through Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Fridays it remains open until 7:30 p.m. (call to make reservations after 6:00 p.m.). The Deli is located at 3051 E. Ashlan, in the First and Ashlan Shopping Center, and they offer catering. For more information or for reservations please call, (559) 222-1626. The restaurant’s slogan reads “All of our food is like mom used to make!” and let me tell you, the saying lives up to its promise.

Armenians on the Internet
PATEEL MEKHITARIAN
EDITOR

Universities in Armenia

The education of children in Armenia is an important aspect of life, similar to the United States There are three main universities in Armenia where students may receive a wonderful education in whatever field they desire.

American University of Armenia
www.aua.am

www.aua.am is the official website for the American University of Armenia (AUA). This university has colleges of engineering, health sciences, political science, business, management, and departments of English and law. The academic programs at AUA allow students to get the education they need to succeed in their careers and to realize their potential.

State Engineering University of Armenia
www.seua.am

Another prominent university in Armenia is the State Engineering University of Armenia (SEUA). This school is the leader of national technological education. The University, which opened in 1933, currently has 11,000 students enrolled and 1,000 faculty members. 105 majors are offered for the Bachelor of Engineering and the Diploma Specialist degrees, 19 majors offered for the Master of Engineering Degree, and 17 majors are offered for Engineer researchers. This university has 3 campuses located in Gyumri, Vanadzor, and Kapan. Information about this university may be found at www.seua.am.

Yerevan State University
www.ysu.am

Yerevan State University (YSU) was founded on May 16, 1919 in Yerevan. It has more than 10,000 students enrolled, of which 300 are foreign students. Instruction is provided in Armenian, Russian, and English. There are many schools within this university with many career options for the students. There are departments of biology, chemistry, geography, geology, mathematics, mechanics physics, economics, history, law, oriental studies, philosophy, sociology, psychology, and many more. This university provides an excellent education for the students in Armenia. For more information about this university, visit www.ysu.am.

Melkonians Make \$40,000 Bequest to ASP



JOHN AND LUCILE MELKONIAN

Photo: Hye Sharzhoom Archive

STAFF REPORT

A generous contribution of \$40,000 was made to the Armenian Studies Program at Fresno State from the estate of the late John and Lucile Melkonian.

The bequest will be in a permanent endowment to benefit the Armenian Studies Program, for schol-

arships to deserving students and for special programs.

John and Lucile Melkonian were life-long residents of Fresno. Mr. Melkonian was born on January 17, 1912 in Kharpert, Armenia, to Kazar and Haiganoush Melkonian and passed away on May 26, 2006 in Fresno.

In 1913 Melkonian fled the

Genocide with his older sister and his parents and came to the United States, settling in Fresno. In 1942 he was inducted into the United States Army and served as a radio operator with the 302D Signal Company in North Africa and the European Theater. He was honorably discharged in 1945.

On November 16, 1946 he married Lucile Minasian and they enjoyed a long life together. She preceded Melkonian in death. John Melkonian was a long time member of the St. Paul Armenian Church and its Men's Forum and enjoyed cooking pilaf for hundreds at the Church and at events for the Knights of Vartan. Melkonian had a long career as a produce manager for Continental Supermarket.

In addition to the bequest to the Armenian Studies Program, his favorite charities included the Western Diocese of the Armenian Church, St. Paul Armenian Church, and the California Armenian Home.

John and Lucille Melkonian are survived by several nieces and nephews and their spouses.

Scholar From India Visits Fresno For Ten Months to Study William Saroyan

BARLOW DER MUGRDECHIAN
ADVISOR

For a scholar from India, coming to Fresno to study was a natural choice, especially when the focus of the research was on the works of William Saroyan.

Kolkata, India native Debashis Bandopadhyay arrived at Fresno State in November of 2007 to begin a nine-month stay on a Fulbright Fellowship. He was granted a sabbatical by Presidency College, Kolkata, where he teaches, taking a difficult sentimental leave from his wife and seven year-old daughter.

Bandopadhyay's research in India was on the concept of normalcy, framed by the concerns of Anglo-Indian identity during the formation of the Indian nation-state. His interest in the Anglo-Indian author Ruskin Bond, led him to begin investigating the nature of similar anxieties shared by similar communities. Among the major influences on Bond was William Saroyan.

According to Bandopadhyay the Fulbright Fellowship provided him with "an ability to exchange ideas from India, for new impressions culled from America, and thereby make significant contribution to the existing body of knowledge in the domain of epistemological studies." While working on Bond he realized the importance of exchange: how authors socio-culturally as distant in space, such as Bond and Saroyan, can draw on a collective repertoire of consciousnesses and in the process expand the horizons of belonging.

Coming to Fresno gave Bandopadhyay a first hand impression of "the remnants of the socio-cultural construct that primarily helped build Saroyan's aesthetic consciousness." For his research he has utilized the Fresno State Henry Madden Library, the Madden Library Special Collections Department, consulted Dr. Dickran



Debashis Bandopadhyay in the ASP office.

Photo: Barlow Der Mugrdechian

Kouymjian and Barlow Der Mugrdechian of the Armenian Studies Program, Steve Adisasmito-Smith of the Department of English, his friend John Walke, and attended the colloquiums commemorating the 100th anniversary of Saroyan's birth—all contributing to Bandopadhyay's thesis.

The result of Bandopadhyay's research is expected to be published in book form by Ashgate. His research is leading him to newer horizons: interest in western construct(s) of normalcy inspired him to probe further into the fitness of Hispanic and Basque cultural elements in it.

Bandopadhyay is visiting Fresno for the first time, and this is his second visit to the United States. Fresno is unlike the archetypal American megacity, and for Bandopadhyay, Fresno appeared as a "a sort of shock absorbing incubator for an Indian venturing more or less for the first time into the bustle of the United States metros. It is a good place to work peacefully and in a languid pace. My parents always called me lazy and when my daughter gets too fatigued with her studies my wife reprimands

her saying, 'Don't slug like your dad, my child.' Fresno is a perfect fit for me."

When Bandopadhyay was asked what he had found most interesting about American culture, he responded, "I have been intrigued by the American work culture and an average American's sincerity and devotion to work are enviable. I lament the lack of these two elements in an average Indian's work ethics."

Bandopadhyay has just begun to travel outside of Fresno, including an interesting short trip to Bass Lake with Steve Adisasmito-Smith and his two children and an American dinner with John Walke and his family on Thanksgiving. A trip to Yosemite is forthcoming.

While in Fresno Bandopadhyay has had the opportunity to meet with the Armenian community. He has discovered that Armenian notions of identity can be divided into bipolar categories: that of the elderly, mostly first generation immigrants to this country and their grand and great-grand children. In between fit the ideas of people like William Saroyan who were born in this country before the Depression and grew up negotiating with the

UAF Shipped \$56 Million of Aid to Armenia in 2007

STAFF REPORT

Glendale, CA - The United Armenian Fund contributed \$56 million of humanitarian assistance to Armenia during the fiscal year 2007, almost twice as much as during the previous year. The supplies consisted primarily of medicines and medical supplies, according to the latest audit of its financial statements.

The UAF spent less than 1% of its total revenues on administrative expenses, allocating the remaining 99% to assisting the people of Armenia and Artsakh, according to the audit. During its 18 years of operations, the UAF delivered to Armenia a grand total of \$502 million worth of relief supplies, on board 144 airlifts and 1,494 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.

CHURCH CLASS, FROM PAGE 1

mation about the history of our people. Prof. Der Mugrdechian is an encyclopedia of Armenian history and that's part of what makes him such a great professor."

In addition to learning the history and practices of the Armenian Church, other issues were also discussed. Students had the opportunity to present questions relating to the Armenian Church that they felt were important. Several students asked about the administrative division of the Church in the United States, and how it had developed.

For historical and political reasons, the Catholicos often moved. By the thirteenth century the Catholicosate had been established in the Armenian kingdom of Cilicia. After the fall of the kingdom in 1375, there was a movement by the bishops and clergy in greater Armenia to move the Catholicosate back to Holy Etchmiadzin. By 1441, that movement led to the election of the Catholicos in Holy Etchmiadzin, with the continuation of the Catholicosate in Cilicia. During the Armenian Genocide, the Catholicos of Cilicia fled and established his new headquarters in Antelias, Lebanon.

The administrative division of the Armenian Church in the United States dates from the 1950s. Although some aspects of the dispute

are less visible, the division still exists.

Saturday morning the class learned about how the Holy Muron (Holy Oil) is prepared once every seven years and is distributed throughout the world. They also learned about how a Catholicos is elected, with the participation of both laymen and clergy.

Later that morning students had the opportunity to visit the St. Paul Armenian Church in Fresno to see first hand the architecture and symbolism of an Armenian Church.

When asked what was most interesting about the course, Jennifer Torosian said, "As an active member of my school and church, I was surprised by the amount of knowledge I was able to acquire about the history of our people and roots of our religion. An exciting part of our weekend class was the mini-field trip to St. Paul Armenian Church. As a group we studied the detail and meaning of stained-glass windows and frescoes throughout the church. It was also very interesting visiting the rooms behind the altar, where the priest, deacons, and sub-deacons prepare for their service."

It was an intensive weekend of learning about one of the most important institutions in Armenian life today.

ethnic and racial impulses of their migrant parents on the one hand and the insistent demands of Americanization on the other.

The feedback that Bandopadhyay continues to receive through the many meetings he has had across the generations is set in juxtaposition with the notions of ethnicity embraced by the Anglo-Saxon people of the town who grew up and are still living side by side with the Armenians.

Bandopadhyay attended a missionary school in Kolkata and later attended Jadavapur University, majoring in English Language and Literature. At the completion of his undergraduate and graduate studies he enrolled at the Central Institute of English and Foreign Languages at Hyderabad (India) for further studies. He then underwent exhaustive training in pedagogic methods and practices under the rubric of the Cambridge University (UK) curriculum and joined the Ph.D. program in the Critical Humanities category.

Bandopadhyay is happy he had the opportunity to live and study in Fresno, "There is a sort of languor in the Fresno air – and probably it was more intense in Saroyan's time – that made a prolific and energetic writer like our author so fidgety. The Fresno atmosphere promotes this sort of sensibility whose worth Saroyan found more valuable in exile. The aesthetics that developed from his Fresno experiences is so pervasive in Saroyan's oeuvre that it is hardly possible for a commentator to realize it without coming to Fresno."

The resources in Fresno are helping Bandopadhyay reach that persona behind Saroyan the storyteller. The details of his discovery, however, will go into the book that he is enjoying writing. For Bandopadhyay it "is exciting to write about Saroyan in Fresno."

Bandopadhyay will be participating in the "Saroyan at 100" conference sponsored by the Armenian Studies Program, to be held April 5 at Fresno State.

Thank You Annual Fund Donors

(as of February 29, 2008)

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April and May Saroyan Centennial Events in the San Joaquin Valley

Beginning, Thursday, April 3, 2008 (for the month of April only) Gallery Exhibit
Corridor 2122

2122 Mono Street, Fresno, California
Art Hop (April 3rd): 5 PM-8 PM
Hours: Thurs., Sat., Sun.
12 PM-4 PM
William Saroyan was a familiar sight riding through Fresno on his bicycle. This invitational exhibition will showcase the bicycle as allegory for William Saroyan’s impact in the Fresno Community.

Saturday, April 5, 2008 International Symposium “William Saroyan at 100”
Armenian Studies Program, California State University Conference Location: Fresno State, Univ. Business Center, Room 191
10 AM-3 PM-Free Admission
Professors Dickran Kouymjian and Barlow Der Mugrdechian are organizing the Saroyan Writer’s Conference, sponsored by the Armenian Studies Program.
For more information contact the Armenian Studies Office at (559) 278-2669.

Tuesday, April 14, 2008 Film Discussion of the Saroyan Years
Woodward Park Library
944 E. Perrin
Fresno, California
7 PM-Free to the Public
Film historian, Paul Kaser will discuss the Saroyan years in Hollywood, his works which were made into movies, and his relationship with famous stars and film studios.

Film clips will be shown. For more information contact the library at (559) 433-3135.

Saturday, April 19, 2008 Saroyan Town Walk
Start walk: Saroyan Theater in Downtown Fresno at Inyo and M Streets
9:30 AM
The Saroyan Town Walk will take you on a tour of the area in downtown Fresno in which William Saroyan lived during his early years and will present information on his early life and times.

Saturday, April 19, 2008 Saroyan Musical Celebration!
William Saroyan Theatre at the Fresno Convention Center
700 ‘M’ Street, Fresno, California
7 PM
Join the Academy of Classical Music and Art in celebrating the genius of writer, William Saroyan, with a musical extravaganza, featuring virtuoso duo pianists Gianeh and Ovanes Arakelyan, violinist Patrick Contreras, and musical friends. For more information, contact the Academy at (559) 230-2262 or (559) 577-8495.

Wednesday, April 23, 2008
CSU Fresno Satellite Student Union
2485 E. San Ramon
Fresno, CA 93740
Phone: 488-3856
7 PM-Free admission
The Fresno County Library and Henry Madden Library invite you to a panel discussion featuring authors Aram Saroyan, Thomas

Steinbeck, and Susan Cheever moderated by Steve Yarbrough.

Friday, April 25, 2008 Special Guest Appearance by Mickey Rooney at Screening of the The Human Comedy
Fresno County Library and Friends of the Library
Tower Theatre
7 PM and After show Reception
\$20 Screening and Talk About the Movie by Mickey Rooney
\$50 Screening, Talk About the Movie, and After-show Reception with Mickey Rooney
Take great pleasure in viewing Saroyan’s 1943 film version of The Human Comedy, starring Mickey Rooney. For more information, contact Ms. Jeanne Johnson, Fresno County Library, (559) 488-3856.

Saturday, May 3, 2008 Concert of Choral Music by Hovhaness, Stravinsky, and Brahms
Fresno Community Chorus
California State University, Fresno
Concert Hall
7:30 PM
General Admission \$15.00; Students \$8.00
Dedicated to the memory of William Saroyan, as part of the 2008 International Saroyan Festival, celebrating the centennial of his birth, the Fresno Community chorus will perform choral music by Hovhaness, Stravinsky, and Brahms.

Saturday, May 3, 2008 Richard Hagopian and Grandsons—In Concert!
Fresno Art Museum
2233 N. First Street, Fresno, California
2 PM
General Museum Hours- 11:00 AM to 5 PM
Free Admission to Museum Members
Admission for Nonmembers: General \$4.00 and Students/Seniors \$2.00
Sponsored by the Armenian Museum and the Fresno Art Museum, Richard Hagopian and his Hagopian Ensemble are well-known world music and traditional

Armenian musicians. Richard Hagopian has been a musician since childhood. He started playing the traditional Armenian instrument, the oud, at the age of twelve. Now Hagopian is sharing this rich tradition with his grandsons, who will share the stage with him.

Thursday, May 22, 2008 Richard Hagopian Ensemble Salutes Saroyan
Vineyard Farmer’s Market
Northwest Corner of Shaw and

Blackstone, Fresno, California
7 PM
Admission \$5.00
Celebrate William Saroyan under Richard Erganian’s beautiful Vineyard Farmer’s Market with music and dance. Under the evening stars, traditional Armenian music will be provided by the Richard Hagopian Ensemble. Food and drink will be made available. This evening is sponsored by a grant from the Alliance for California Traditional Arts and the Armenian Museum.

California State University, Fresno
Armenian Studies Program

Armenian Studies 120T-
Armenian Genocide

Prof. Barlow Der Mugrdechian

The course will look at the Armenian Genocide of 1915, from a variety of perspectives. Students will learn about the causes of the Genocide and its effects on future generations. Various videos will also be shown in the class.

FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 2008 • 5-10 PM
SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 2008 • 9 AM-5PM

Meet in Science II, Room 307
Fresno State

THE COURSE IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
FOR A FEE OF \$50 PER PERSON.

To register for the class contact
the Armenian Studies Program
or come to the first class session.

Contact the Armenian Studies Program, 278-2669,
for more information.

Fresno State’s
Armenian Radio Show

“Hye Oozh”

Every Saturday morning from 9:00AM-noon
KFSR 90.7 FM
On the internet at www.kfsr.org!

Fresno State students who are interested in
volunteering may contact station manager
Joe Moore at 278-2598.

Armenian Studies Program March and April Events

March 12, Wednesday
7:30 PM
Poet Gregory Djanikian

Djanikian’s new book of poems, *So I Will Till the Ground* (Carnegie Mellon), has just been published. It deals, in large part, with the Armenian Genocide and his immigrant experience here in this country after he left Alexandria, Egypt, as a young boy. Djanikian teaches in the creative writing program at the University of Pennsylvania.

University Business Center,
A. Peters Auditorium, Rm. 191, Fresno State
Co-sponsored by the Armenian Studies Program and Armenian Students Organization

Free Admission.
Parking restrictions relaxed in Lot J.



Photo: Hye Sharzhoom Archive

9th Annual Armenian Film Festival

March 7, Friday • 7:00 PM

FEATURED FILMS:

THE PEOPLES’S ADVOCATE: THE LIFE AND TIMES OF CHARLES R. GARRY

Director Hrag Yedalian will present his film and answer questions.

SACRED DIFFERENCE

Director: Christopher Shuklian

ROADS FULL OF APRICOTS

Director: Nigol Bezjian

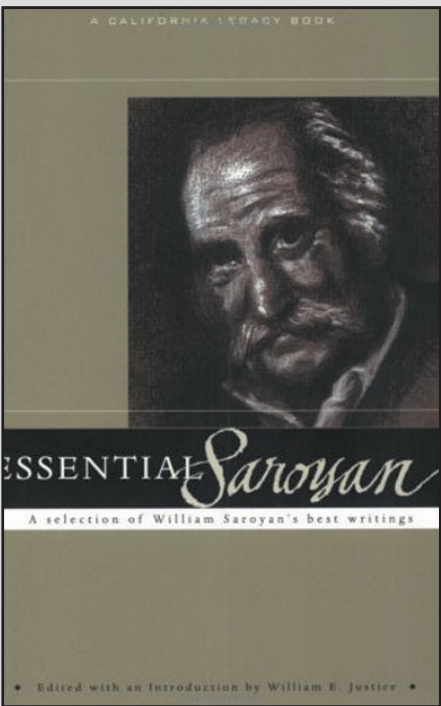
Industrial Technology Building, Room 101, Fresno State
(corner of Barstow and Campus Drive)

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

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

Free admission and open to the public.
Parking restrictions are relaxed in Lots K, L, and Q.

New Book-Essential Saroyan is Topic of Free Discussion at Fresno County Library



By William Saroyan.
Editor, introduction by William Justice.

Photo: Hye Sharzhoom Archive

Tuesday, April 22
and Tuesday, April 29
7PM

Barlow Der Mugrdechian of the Armenian Studies Program will lead a discussion on the book *Essential Saroyan*, a compendium of excerpts from Saroyan’s fiction and nonfiction works, along with selected short stories and plays.

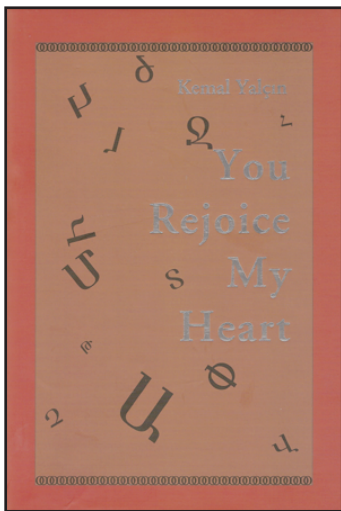
Location:
Woodward Park Regional Library
944 E. Perrin, Fresno

Register at the Woodward Park Regional Library by April 1, 2008 and receive a free copy of the book.
For more information call 559-433-3135.

March 15, Saturday
7:30 PM
Turkish Author
Kemal Yalçın
to Present His Book

Accompanied by publisher Ara Sarafian of London

Kemal Yalçın will present his book, *You Rejoice My Heart* (2001) (translated into English). The novel discusses the massacre of the Armenians and Assyrians. “I bow to the memory of the Armenians and Assyrians who lost their lives on the road of deportation through planned killings... As a Turkish writer, I beg forgiveness from you and mankind,” — Kemal Yalçın



You Rejoice My Heart

Photo: Hye Sharzhoom Archive

University Business Center
A. Peters Auditorium, Rm. 191,
Fresno State

Co-sponsored by the Armenian Studies Program and Tekeyan Cultural Association.
Free Admission. Parking restrictions are relaxed in adjacent Lots.

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