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### Armenia and the Diaspora; What Needs To Be Done

Speech at the ARPA Institute 20th Anniversary Celebration Banquet

**H. Panossian, May 19, 2012**

As Armenians living in the Diaspora, the existence of the independent nation of Armenia is one of our greatest sources of strength and inspiration. And similarly, we in the Diaspora are well-poised to become one of the chief forces to strengthen and bolster Armenia on its path towards a strong and prosperous country. In order to achieve this goal, the relationship between the Diaspora and Armenia should be based on well-planned strategies backed by concrete financial and human commitments. The challenge lies in grappling with the implications of the recent global shifts in power and wealth, and moving away from the classical paradigms.

The groundbreaking expert on modern management theory, Peter Drucker, wrote, “The basic economic resource — the means of production — is no longer capital, nor natural resources, nor labor. It is, and will be, knowledge.” Charles Darwin wrote, “It is not the strongest of the species that survive, nor the most intelligent, but the one most responsive to change.” In this modern age, the only constant is change; there are almost daily changes in technology, education, politics, social and economic environments. The ability of any type of organization to be effective, and to stay current and relevant requires a core competence in knowledge management and adaptation to change.

There are 10 major issues to highlight for Diaspora organizations working in Armenia:

1. Establish clear and achievable goals and priorities;
2. Create multiple avenues for harnessing the talent and capabilities of Diaspora and Armenia;
3. Embrace public-private partnerships;
4. Promote the creation of strong knowledge bases and think-tank organizations;
5. Help strengthen the civil society in Armenia;
6. Promote peace and security in the Caucasus;
7. Work towards ensuring the rule of law in Armenia;
8. Pursue joint advocacy on Armenia and Diaspora issues, especially in the rich countries of the world

and among multilateral agencies;

9. Work towards direct Diaspora representation in the Armenian Parliament; and
10. Propose guidelines for the planning of an Armenia-Diaspora roadmap for the future.

### **The Case for a Knowledge Society**

As Armenia is struggling to enter the developed world, in what will presumably be a knowledge society, the key to its future success in the global marketplace is its ability to be more creative and innovative. Armenia has the potential to become not only a supporter of the knowledge society, but a real player and even a leader, by tapping into the technological and knowledge potential of its people inside and outside Armenia. Emigration of high-level human resources – the brain drain – is a phenomenon of long standing that has given rise to a sizable intellectual Diaspora, a potentially important resource for the country.

One key segment in particular, the Diaspora innovators, are those members of the Diaspora who have acquired exceptional innovative capabilities. One may explore the possible use of the Diaspora innovators to help build a culture of innovation in Armenia. In turn, Armenia must encourage and create the right legal and business environment for its organizations and people to acquire, create, disseminate, and use knowledge more effectively for greater economic and social development.

Diaspora members working as “advisers”, however, can be viewed with some skepticism and resistance in Armenia. It is, therefore, critical that they be culturally oriented to adjust and adapt their approach and communication style to that of Armenia today. Armenia is not ready to enter the “developed” world yet. To do so will require taking a hard look at some inherent obstacles to change and innovation, and infusing an even greater openness to creative and new approaches at many levels of society, education, industry and government.

### **1. Establish a Knowledge-Based Society in Armenia**

There is an increasing realization that the next society will be a knowledge society, enabled by the rapidly developing information and communications technologies. The knowledge society will rely heavily on knowledge workers, both traditional professionals such as doctors,

scientists and engineers, and also “knowledge technologists” such as IT technicians, lab analysts and manufacturing experts, who need a basis of theoretical knowledge acquired through formal education. Armenia had a vast treasure house of most of these during the Soviet era, but in recent years it is not turning out large numbers of them any longer. On the contrary, indications are that engineering and science graduates are decreasing in number every year.

To become a rapidly growing economy, Armenia will depend increasingly on the acquisition, creation and use of knowledge. Having knowledge workers is not enough. To carry out those functions well, and be on the cutting edge, a country such as Armenia needs an effective innovation system, linking up with “innovation friendly” enterprises within the country and abroad. Many obstacles must be addressed by dynamic and culturally relevant strategies, and this is already starting to happen in certain segments of Armenia.

## 2. Brain Drain and the Intellectual Diaspora

Unfortunately, some of Armenia’s best talents have emigrated, resulting in low growth rates, less productive educational investments and poorer communities. There has also been a loss of innovators who might have led the way to modernization, as they migrated to educational and working environments that better supported their innovative and creative abilities. In the short run, emigrants send remittances back home. In the longer run, hopefully, under proactive government initiatives and regulations, some highly skilled emigrants return, bringing along useful knowledge, skills, contacts and even capital. But more important is the innovative mindset they are likely to bring back. The experience of many countries has clearly shown that the loss of high level people cannot be stopped successfully by restricting mobility, but rather by a favorable political and economic climate together with better work facilities, adequate pay and advancement through merit. This helps retain exceptional talents within the country and utilize them for the country’s benefit. It may also help to bring back some of those who had previously emigrated. Armenia is at a crucial juncture now, when many of its citizens are doing well abroad and may still be “persuaded” to consider a move back home, or at least to invest in their homeland.

## 3. Diaspora Innovators and Their Utilization

Within the intellectual Diaspora – the collection of high-level nationals living abroad – some individuals have developed truly innovative capabilities. We may call them Diaspora innovators; they have acquired specific knowledge essential to innovation in science, technology, education and entrepreneurship. “Diaspora innovators” who have studied and worked for extended periods in a

modern, open environment have acquired different beliefs and values from those of Armenia. They view the world differently and are able to react to ongoing changes in a more flexible, dynamic and positive manner. Many have acquired core competencies in managerial expertise and technology, which are crucial to creating a culture of innovation in the homeland, and thus developing a knowledge society there. The intellectual Diaspora can enable collaboration with Armenia through contacts, visits, exchanges, teaching activities, joint scientific projects and eventually joint investments. To a certain extent this has been taking place already, but much more can be achieved through reaching out to Diaspora members for advice and support. Members of the intellectual Diaspora may also be induced to participate actively in new productive ventures in the homeland. A promotional mechanism and adequate incentives may help here, such as has happened in Korea, Taiwan and China, where the respective governments have catalyzed and nurtured such initiatives.

## 4. Identifying Diaspora Innovators

*True innovators are only a small segment of the intellectual Diaspora.* However, it is an extremely important one because of their particular skills, knowledge and contacts. If Armenia wants to create a real culture of innovation it should take special pains to identify its “Diaspora innovators”, *particularly those that can really understand and relate to their home culture.* They should be used as fully as possible for such a purpose, with meaningful professional, if not financial, incentives. *They should be invited to Armenia in a planned way, even for limited periods of time, to collaborate with local experts and entrepreneurs and coach young people.* They can help transform attitudes and encourage the spread of new ideas, which will in turn help Armenia take on a leadership role in the coming knowledge society.

A continuously updated database needs to be created, networking the members of the Diaspora and developing mechanisms to allow them to assist the homeland. The database could then be honed to identify Diaspora innovators, according to discipline and area of work.

## 5. National Policies

Building a knowledge society with help from the Diaspora should be supported by explicit policies from the government and other stakeholders, and by the adoption of attitudes of openness and flexibility that are not yet widely embraced in many traditional Armenian institutions and many parts of government. Perhaps the most effective impact may come about through the entry of innovative members of the Diaspora into the educational system at all levels. Armenian entrepreneurs who have founded or are leading successful companies abroad could train others in Armenia and prompt a change in attitudes. Leaders could

also be invited to Armenia to teach the principles and practice of innovation to young people, who could then travel abroad to gain hands-on experience in the leader's organization. Such a program could deliver a significant impact for a moderate cost.

## 6. A National Strategy for Armenia

To help build up a culture of innovation through Diaspora innovators, special "Culture of Innovation" (CI) programs may be envisaged. These programs would involve on-the-job learning, carefully planned education activities, visits, cultural exchanges, and joint scientific projects. A number of such programs may be designed and executed in different spheres of education, health care, industry, finance and government. After consulting with the main stakeholders, the Armenian government needs to identify and network with members of the intellectual Diaspora using an electronic database, and implement mechanisms such as CI programs to allow them to assist the homeland. As a prelude, it may be useful to hold a Working Group meeting to review and discuss the national experiences of other countries in using their intellectual Diaspora; e.g., Brazil, South Africa, Colombia, China, Taiwan and Turkey. The results of this exercise would greatly benefit the design of CI program strategies.

**Conclusion:** Armenia has produced numerous creative professionals. We need to help those still in Armenia to bloom, to support their insights and build on their ideas. The wealth of intellectual resources of the Diaspora should be cultivated by government networking and legislative policies that encourage the free exchange of ideas. Diaspora innovators can transform attitudes and encourage the spread of new ideas. I hope the global upheavals will serve towards changing for the better and bringing about a new era of innovation in Armenia. ARPA Institute will try to do its share. Are you prepared to do yours?

## History of The ARPA Institute

ARPA Institute (Analysis Research & Planning for Armenia) is a non-profit tax-exempt organization under section 501(c)(3) and was founded in 1992 in Los Angeles, California. ARPA promotes international cooperation and understanding for the Republic of Armenia through the provision of consulting, analysis, research and planning services in various fields. ARPA experts have served as consultants to public organizations and the government of Armenia in matters pertaining to education, economy, energy, transportation system, industry, and Armenia-Diaspora relations. ARPA is managed by its Board of Directors and membership is drawn from professionals with expertise in different fields, including specialists in economics, political science, health, education, law,

industry and technology.

During the early years of its founding our members worked with several Ministries of Armenia to help them address numerous issues related to areas ranging from transportation and traffic control to energy, the economy and the new constitution. ARPA helped organize the **first energy conference held in Yerevan** in 1992 where the major decision to restart the Medzamor Nuclear Power Plant was taken. Our engineers, led by Harold DeMirdjian, worked with the Ministry of Energy to help resolve energy related issues. Our economists consulted with the Ministry of Finance and some members critiqued the Constitution in its early development. ARPA established the "**Sarko Tilkian**" **Blood Bank in Yerevan** in 1998 and later helped establish the Gyumri blood bank through Global Healing International. The ARPA **Health Education & Lifestyle Program (HELP)** has taught more than 30,000 students in Armenia and Artsakh about the health risks of smoking, alcohol and drug abuse, and the health benefits of a good diet and exercise, among others. One of the missions of the ARPA Institute is to build capacity for innovation by nurturing remarkable university students in Armenia to develop and explore their genius in science, technology, medicine, agriculture, communications, software, physics, chemistry, biology, genetics, or other fields. Our nation and the world urgently need the talents of applied scientists and engineers to drive innovation, enhance competitiveness and help solve critical problems Armenia faces. ARPA Institute tries to identify young inventors in Armenia and change the mindset, to promote their innovative endeavors from an early stage. ARPA encourages these outstanding young people to innovate in collaboration with leading professors in various fields, through its annual "**Invention Competition**" for university students. To date, 43 inventions have been received in various fields. We have also organized a conference on "**Waste Management**" in 2009 in the State Engineering University of Armenia in order to address the major industrial and domestic waste issues facing Armenia.

ARPA promotes **technology transfer through technical seminars** using a network of communications between Los Angeles and Armenia. Our "**Distance Learning**" program has thus far implemented 5 multi-week seminars on power electronics, advanced motors, modern turbines and energy systems presented by experts. The plan is to expand capabilities to connect to all of the institutions of higher learning in Armenia and organize lectures, conferences and seminars.

ARPA Institute offers **monthly lectures** on various subjects pertaining Armenia and Armenians in the Diaspora. We have organized over one hundred lectures presented by well known experts in various fields. We do our best to provide **Analysis, Research and Planning** for Armenia and Armenians of the world.

## Give A Gift Of Life

Please Donate At

<http://www.indiegogo.com/ARPA-DNA-Project>

Receive a **FREE DNA/genetic test** by contributing \$500 or more to the ARPA Institute DNA Project

### The ARPA Institute DNA Project

Innovative DNA sequencing and genetic screening capabilities are of paramount importance for Armenia, as is training of specialists to allow the discovery of the genetic aspects of thousands of medical conditions. Armenia currently has no advanced DNA testing facilities. *Lebanon, Georgia and Azerbaijan each have one, Turkey and Iran have several, but Armenia has none.* This is unacceptable. If Armenia is to become a viable and competitive economy in this highly competitive global market, ARPA would like to make sure that it is at least equipped with the most advanced technological facilities and has the necessary highly trained personnel. Hence, given the fact that DNA technology is one of the most widespread and useful technologies of the future, Armenia should not lag behind in this arena. On the contrary, Armenia should be the center of excellence when it comes to higher/advanced technologies. Please help us achieve this goal and contribute generously.

**Importance of Genetics Technology:** ARPA Institute realizes the importance of Genomics as the high tech future in genetics that includes gene cloning, gene discovery/characterization, gene and protein expression and characterization, oligonucleotide synthesis and especially DNA sequencing, among others.

**Why Perform DNA Sequencing?** DNA sequencing is important to apply to the human genome. Each person has twenty-three pairs of chromosomes - one copy of the human genome. Since there is a limit to how many bases can be sequenced in one experiment, larger DNA molecules have to be 'broken' into smaller fragments before they can be sequenced and reassembled. Clearly, finding just one single gene amongst the seemingly endless strands of DNA that constitute the human genome needs some very powerful equipment! Once genes are identified and analyzed from the sequence information, scientists look for mutations that cause diseases, thereby providing valuable medical information. For instance, if we compare the 'brain' DNA sequences, we should be able to find how changing that sequence will make one person more or less capable of intelligence. Finding the DNA sequence that tells our cells how to age at a certain rate might be alterable in the far future so we can age more slowly and

live longer as youths. *DNA sequencing is already being used extensively for the diagnosis of various diseases, and the future promises to give patients precise personalized treatment developed on the basis of that patient's unique DNA sequence.*

DNA sequencing is used primarily in genetics laboratories, and also in crime forensics. Genetics - the study of how DNA replicates and transfers from parent to offspring - is perhaps the largest of the DNA sequencing uses. Scientists study genetics to determine how DNA sequences change, how a strand of DNA sunders apart, or 'unzips', how new identical strands come together in DNA for one person, and how they come together differently for DNA that is being used to create offspring. Genetics determines how that offspring will look and operate, how your child will look the same as you, how they will look different from you, and how all their parts will be the same as and yet different from yours. *There are countless uses for DNA sequencing on humans, animals, and plants, and the field of genetics is racing to unlock the secrets of DNA sequencing so they can discover what makes us what we are, and perhaps learn how to alter the building blocks of what we are, hopefully for the better.*

**Microbiome:** Scientists have recently discovered an important new organ in the human body. Incredibly, this organ isn't made of human cells: it is microbes! In fact, there are so many of these microbes in our body that they outnumber human cells by 10 to 1. This is our microbiome - another world inside our body. There are thousands of species, and trillions of tiny organisms. We barely know what they are, let alone what they are doing - or importantly, how they affect our health. It has been described as the greatest scientific mystery of our day.

**Why Indiegogo?** Through the ARPA Institute DNA Project, you can have direct involvement in developing the technological base of Armenia. We are reaching out to all Armenians on Indiegogo in order to build a community base who will want to unlock the mysteries of the genes in Armenia.

**Use of funds:** Your pledged funds will be used to purchase a modern sequencer. This includes purchasing reagents (primers, buffers, enzymes) for sequencing, training specialists, and a full warranty for a year. The actual cost of an **ABI 3130 Avant sequencer is around \$50,000, including training and a full year warranty.** The target amount in this fundraising will cover only about half the cost, and the rest will be raised from other sources.

Receive a **FREE DNA test** by contributing \$500 or more to the ARPA Institute DNA Project today at

<http://www.indiegogo.com/ARPA-DNA-Project>

## ARPA Institute 20th Anniversary Celebrations May 19, 2012

On May 19, 2012, ARPA Institute celebrated its 20th Anniversary with a two-part academic conference addressing “Current Issues Facing Armenia and the Diaspora,” followed by a Gala Banquet. Attending these events were some of the most influential leaders of the community, gathered to celebrate past accomplishments of the ARPA Institute and future endeavors. Congratulatory letters were received from Armenia’s Ministries of Diaspora, Education and Science, and Culture, as well as the Presidents of the Yerevan State University, State Engineering University and the Armenian University of Armenia.



L to R: H. E. Martirosyan, R. Hovannisian, H. DeMirdjian, D. Dalian, H. Der Tsvitian, and M. Chenian.

Chaired by renowned Professor Richard Hovannisian, the conference featured a number of distinguished speakers including David Joulfaian (Senior Economist at the US Department of the Treasury), Marine Kurkchian (University of Oxford, UK), Razmig Shirinian (College of the Canyons), Stephan Astourian (University of California, Berkeley), Simon Payaslian (Boston University), and Hagop Gulludjian (University of California, Los Angeles). The above mentioned experts along with various other professionals discussed issues facing the Armenian Nation both at home and abroad. The morning session was on “Developing Armenia into a Viable Democracy and Sustainable Economy,” and the afternoon session was on “The Changing Nature of the Armenian Diaspora.”

## ARPA Institute 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference Co-Sponsors: ARPA Institute & Glendale Public Library Saturday, May 19, 2012, 11:00 am - 4:00 pm

### Current Issues Facing Armenia and the Diaspora Conference General Chair: Prof. Richard Hovannisian

#### **11:00 Introduction**

**Elizabeth Grigorian**, Armenian Outreach Coordinator,  
Glendale Public Library, CA

#### **11:05 Opening Remarks**

**Richard Hovannisian**, U. of California, Los Angeles, CA

### ARMENIA

#### **11:15-12:30 Developing Armenia Into A Viable and Sustainable Economy**

##### *Chair*

**Edgar Martirosyan**, Pettit Kohn Ingrassia & Lutz, Los Angeles

##### *Speakers*

**David Joulfaian**, U.S. Dept. of Treasury, Washington, DC  
*Prospects of & Challenges to Economic Growth in Armenia*

**Marine Kurkchian**, Univ. of Oxford, UK  
*Problems of Development of Civil Society in Armenia:  
Human Capital & Democratization*

**Razmig Shirinian**, College of the Canyons, Santa Clarita, CA  
*The Dilemmas of Development & Democratic Governance*

#### **12:30-13:15 Panel Discussion and Q & A**

##### *Discussants*

**Ara Khanjian**, Ventura College, Ventura, CA  
**Mark Chenian**, UBS Financial Services, Beverly Hills, CA

#### **13:15-14:00 Lunch Break (Lunch Available)**

### DIASPORA

#### **14:00-15:15 The Changing Nature of the Armenian Diaspora**

##### *Chair*

**Dikran Dalian**, The Aerospace Corp., El Segundo, CA (Retired)

##### *Speakers*

**Stephan Astourian**, Univ. of California, Berkeley, CA  
*Armenia’s Governments, Diaspora Political Parties, & Issues of  
Coordinated Action*

**Simon Payaslian**, Boston University, Boston, MA  
*The Evolution of the Armenian Diaspora:  
A Century of Diasporic Existence, 1900-2000*

**Hagop Gulludjian**, Univ. of California, Los Angeles, CA  
*On The Demotion of Language as the Virtual Territory  
Sustaining Diaspora*

#### **15:15-16:00 Panel Discussion and Q & A**

##### *Discussants*

**Talar Chahinian**, California State Univ. Long Beach, CA  
**Myrna Douzjian**, U. of California, Los Angeles, CA



R. Hovannisian, E. Grigorian and the ARPA BOD Members At The ARPA Institute 20th Anniversary Conference

## Papers Presented at the ARPA Institute 20th Anniversary Celebration Conference

### *Challenges Facing the Armenian Economy*

#### **David Joulfaian**

This paper reviewed the performance of the Armenian economy, with a focus on the contribution of public institutions, the private sector, and educational institutions. Employing survey data spanning a number of years the paper explored questions such as: Are governmental rules and regulations, and governance in general, hindering growth? How competitive is the private sector? How is the Great Recession impacting the economy? What is the contribution of educational institutions to productivity and earnings differentials?

**David Joulfaian** is a Senior Economist at the US Department of the Treasury. His PhD in Economics is from Northeastern University. Dr. Joulfaian taught at George Washington University as well as Yerevan State University (as a Fulbright Senior Specialist). He briefly served as the Treasury's technical advisor in Armenia (1994), and most recently chaired the 2011 annual meetings of the Armenian Economic Association in Yerevan. Dr. Joulfaian has published widely on topics related to entrepreneurship, philanthropy, public sector performance, tax evasion, and the behavioral effects of taxes, among others. His works appear in the *Journal of Public Economics*, *Journal of Political Economy*, the *Review of Economics and Statistics*, the *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, the *Rand Journal of Economics*, and the *National Tax Journal*, among other peer reviewed publications.

### *Problems of Development of Civil Society in Armenia: Human Capital and Democratization*

#### **Marine Kurkchiyan**

The starting point of the discussion was the proposition that established democracy assumes a particular model of civil society, one that is firmly engaged in a contractual exchange with the authorities. At its core is a balance between the exercise of rights and the taking up of responsibilities. The author argued that this balance is the main characteristic of the social contract model that has successfully fostered the western type of democracy, and especially its cooperation around ideas. On the one hand the model stresses the willingness of the middle class to accept social responsibilities; on the other hand both sides show an equal willingness to delegate power and to open up the social space within which middle class groups can assert their various demands. An attempt was made to show that these qualities lie at the heart of any democracy, and their sources were analyzed. The paper then considered the type of civil society that Armenia inherited from its Soviet past. It was argued that it is misleading to assume that there was no civil society whatsoever in the Soviet time. In fact there was a strong one, but it was not built on a model that could support democracy. The paper included a review of the nature of Soviet education, the basic concepts of the state and of the civic responsibilities of the people, the nature and degree of trust, and the relationship between citizens and authority. What happened to the pre-existing civil society? Could the social capital that existed at that time have produced a western type of democracy? How do the characteristics of Armenian civil society that were prominent at the start of the transition compare with those that are visible today? To what extent do they inhibit the development of a democratic form of social contract? Those are the questions that the paper was addressing, concluding with an attempt to summarize the principal features of civil society in Armenia at the present time.

**Marine Kurkchiyan** graduated from Yerevan State University as a Nuclear Physicist, and later moved into the area of statistics and social sciences. She received her PhD in 1988 at the Vilnius Academy of Philosophy, Sociology and Law in Lithuania and continued her studies in Social Policy at the London School of Economics. After periods at the London School of Economics, Cambridge and at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, Marine Kurkchiyan is now at the University of Oxford where she is a Law Foundation Fellow, Deputy Director of the Centre for Socio-Legal Studies and a Fellow of Wolfson College. She specializes in comparative legal cultures, and those of post-communist societies in particular. She also works on the role of law in development, semi-legal practices, and corruption. As a consultant to the World Bank, the DfID,

the Open Society Institute and the UNDP she has prepared a number of official reports on the interaction between law and society in relation to development. She has been an active member of LSA for a number of years, and serves on the Board of the Research Committee on the Sociology of Law as Chair of the Working Group on Comparative Legal Cultures. In Oxford, she works closely with the Foundation for Law, Justice and Society. Along with other publications Marine Kurkchian co-edited with Edmund Herzig a book titled *The Armenians: Past and Present in the Making of National Identity*, 2005.

### ***The Dilemmas of Development and Democratic Governance***

#### **Razmig B. Shirinian**

What conceptual models help us make sense of the relationship between government and society in Armenia? Which of the models best fits and explains the patterns in this relationship and the politics of development (or its absence) since independence in 1991? What are the dynamics of politics of development? Also, what might be their implications for the future of the Armenian politics? The attempt here was to raise and understand questions concerning the government's role in developing the country and the influence the public exercises, or the reflective role it plays. Most students of Armenian politics agree that the presidential model of democracy clearly reflects the workings of the current Armenian political system where power is exercised on a daily basis largely by appointed government officials who are held "accountable" by a "sovereign" public. This understanding and argument of Armenian politics sounds too simplistic. Instead, this presentation focused on two conceptual models to explain how the overall political process operates throughout society and the government: 1) pluralism and 2) elitism. It also explained five key characteristics or principles of political development along with the two conceptual models. Each model provides a different understanding of the distribution of influence and beliefs that exist throughout society and the government. Armenia seems to lack a unique and coherent system of thought. Intellectual battles are necessary to rage over which of the models best captures and advances the basic workings of Armenian developmental politics. Each model provides a different interpretation of the nature of Armenian governance, democracy, and development. Stated succinctly, beginning in the early 1990s, Armenian political thinking reflected on a country in which democratic practice bore little resemblance to the developmental ideal. This presentation attempted to lay down the foundation of that ideal.

**Razmig B. Shirinian** received his PhD in Political Science and M.A. in Political Philosophy from the

University of Southern California. He has published *Politics of Transnational Minorities: Social Welfare and Human Settlements* (English) and *Contemporary Political Thought* (Armenian). He has published numerous articles on International Politics and Politics of Development. Dr. Shirinian has taught political science at the California State University (CSU), Northridge; CSU, Fullerton; Cal-Poly, Pomona; CSU Dominguez Hills, and the University of La Verne. He is currently an instructor of Political Science at the College of the Canyons and CSUDH. He is a founding member and president of Scholars for Scientific, Educational, and Cultural Development, Inc. (SSECD), a charitable non-profit organization that aims to work with scholars in developing countries. He was a panelist in the ARPA Panel Discussion on the Armenia-Turkey Protocols in 12-2009.

### ***On Armenia's Governments, Diasporan Political Parties, and the Question of Diaspora's Coordination with Armenia***

#### **Stephan Astourian**

Armenia-Diaspora coordination has been much debated over the past twenty years. Yet, little, if anything, has been achieved. This paper considered the prospects for such coordination. Its conclusion relied on an analysis of the historical and structural characteristics that have shaped Armenian political life in both Armenia and the Diaspora since Armenia's independence.

**Stephan Astourian** is the Executive Director of the Armenian Studies Program at the University of California, Berkeley. He is also the William Saroyan Adjunct Assistant Professor in Armenian and Caucasian history in the Department of History of that university. Professor Astourian was born in France. He received his Licence (B.A.), Maîtrise (M.A.) and D.E.A (Diplôme d'Etudes Approfondies) from the University of Paris I (Sorbonne), both *summa cum laude*. His interest in modern Armenian history led him to move to UCLA where he earned a second MA and completed his PhD in Modern Armenian and Caucasian History in 1996. He is currently on the Academic Board of the Zoryan Institute; Editorial Board of the *Armenian Review*; Advisory Committee of the Caucasus and Central Asia Program (UC Berkeley); and on the Academic Board of the Center for Contemporary Armenian Studies (Paris, France). Professor Astourian served as editor-in-chief of *Jusur The UCLA Journal of Middle Eastern Studies* (1988-1990), edited *Memorikon* (Los Angeles: Arvest Publishing, 1997) and has authored over twenty articles and essays on modern Armenian, Ottoman, and Azerbaijani history and on post-Soviet Caucasian politics. His latest research on Armenian-Turkish and Armenian-Kurdish relations in the nineteenth century, entitled "The Silence of the Land: Agrarian

Relations, Ethnicity, and Power,” appeared in *A Question of Genocide: 1915: Armenians and Turks at the End of the Ottoman Empire*, edited by Ronald Grigor Suny, Fatma Müge Göçek, and Norman M. Naimark (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011). His most recent publications include “Armenian Demography, the Homeland, and the Diaspora: Trends and Consequences” in *Arméniens et Grecs en diaspora: approches comparatives*. Dr. Astourian is currently completing the manuscript of a book on the origins of the Armenian Genocide, using archival materials from half a dozen countries.

### ***The Evolution of the Armenian Diaspora: A Century of Diasporic Existence, 1900-2000***

#### **Simon Payaslian**

The twentieth century was one of the most transformative periods in the history of the Armenian people. Prior to the Genocide during World War I, the crises experienced in historic Armenian lands in the Ottoman and Russian empires compelled Armenians to leave their homeland in search of societies more conducive to physical safety and stability. The Genocide led to the total destruction of Armenian community life in the Ottoman empire and to the forced dispersion. This paper discussed the evolution of Armenian diasporic communities from exilic communities to the institutionalization of diasporization. The physical departure from the land necessitated the construction or (re)invention of community identity according to the cultural, political, and economic standards found in the host societies. Each generation defined and re-conceptualized the imperatives of *hayapahpanum* (preservation of Armenianness). The independence regained by the Republic of Armenia after the collapse of the Soviet Union enabled the diasporan communities to reconnect and cultivate closer ties with the homeland even if in its territorially truncated form. The paper concluded with an assessment of the extent to which diaspora-homeland ties can contribute to the strengthening of Armenian identity and culture in the diaspora.

**Simon Payaslian** holds the Charles K. and Elizabeth M. Kenosian Chair in Modern Armenian History and Literature at Boston University. He holds a PhD in Armenian History (UCLA, 2003) and a PhD in Political Science (Wayne State University, 1992). His publications include *The Political Economy of Human Rights in Armenia: Authoritarianism and Democracy in a Former Soviet Republic* (I.B.Tauris, 2011); *The History of Armenia: From the Origins to the Present* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2007); *United States Policy toward the Armenian Question and the Armenian Genocide* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2005); *International Political Economy: Conflict and Cooperation in the Global System* (co-

authored with Frederic S. Pearson) (McGraw-Hill, 1999; Chinese translation, Peking University Press, 2006); and *U.S. Foreign Economic and Military Aid: The Reagan and Bush Administrations* (University Press of America, 1996). He has co-edited (with Richard G. Hovannisian), *Armenian Constantinople* (Mazda, 2010) and *Armenian Cilicia* (Mazda, 2008). Professor Payaslian is the author of several articles and book chapters, most recently “Imagining Armenia,” in *The Call of the Homeland: Diaspora Nationalisms, Past and Present*, edited by Allon Gal, Athena S. Leoussi, and Anthony D. Smith (Brill, 2010). His articles include “Hovhannes Shiraz, Paruyr Sevak, and the Memory of the Armenian Genocide,” published in the *Journal of the Society for Armenian Studies* (2007); “The Destruction of the Armenian Church during the Genocide,” published in *Genocide Studies and Prevention*, official journal of the International Association of Genocide Scholars (2006); and “After Recognition,” in *Armenian Forum: Journal of Contemporary Affairs* (2001).

### ***On The Demotion of Language as the Virtual Territory Sustaining Diaspora***

#### **Hagop Gulludjian**

Today’s seemingly strong Armenian Diaspora is a result of most Diasporan organizations concentrating their efforts on education during the first half of the 20th century. Third-generation Diasporans, however, seem to favor action in fields less related to cultural survival. Genocide recognition, assistance to Armenia, and other issues have captured the energy and financial means once obsessively spent towards the maintenance of language. This paper proposed that language is the key avenue for the survival of ethnic identity in a permanent Diaspora — and, in the long run, the only one in the Armenian case. In an increasingly connected and virtualized world, it may constitute one of the superimposed and virtual “homelands” where the transnational man dwells. There should be distinctive strategies, however, in order to recapture *language as place* in a context where it is, at best, only a second or third choice. The paper proposed building and sustaining a critical mass of users as a means to restore creation in the language and to achieve renewal and artistic and intellectual innovation, as opposed to mere survival, stagnation, and ultimate disappearance as a cultural community.

**Hagop Gulludjian** holds a Doctorate of Letters from the Jesuit U. of the Savior (USAL) in Buenos Aires, Argentina and an MBA from the U. of Buenos Aires. He is a Lecturer of Armenian Studies at UCLA, and has been Associate Professor of Armenian Studies at the Universidad Del Salvador, Buenos Aires, where he initiated the studies in that area. He has carried out extensive research and has published chapters in edited



books and articles in specialized journals on a range of topics concerning Armenian Studies, as well as on the interrelation between technology and culture. He has been the publisher and/or editor of numerous periodical publications, and has provided assistance to the Argentine government in technology policy issues as a co-founding member of the Internet2 corporate-academic Consortium. His current research is focused on medieval Armenian poetry; interactions between virtuality, culture, and Diasporas; and modern to postmodern Armenian literature in the Diaspora.

### President's Message Presented at the ARPA Institute 20th Anniversary Celebration Banquet

Twenty short years ago, a group of dedicated professionals, scholars and experts came together to share their knowledge and experience with the newly independent Armenia. A meeting was convened and ARPA Institute was founded, with the main objective of performing analysis, research and planning for Armenia. The fundamental premise was that the Diaspora should do everything it can to help Armenia become an economically, politically and socially viable democratic country. Highly qualified and knowledgeable people worked together, taking a critical approach to address the new developments in the Armenia-Diaspora relations. Now, twenty years later, the challenge going forward is to create a unified and coordinated vision, a blueprint for the future of the Armenian nation. This goal requires a policy process with the absolute involvement of the hearts and minds of all of us. We have come to realize that Armenia and the Diaspora are as different as they are one. We understand that in this transnational, globalized third millennium, Armenia and the Diaspora should fully utilize their shared identities and take full advantage of the unique strengths that each offers. Therefore, the greatest challenge facing Armenia and the Diaspora is the development of the necessary understanding and integration between the various global arms of our nation, our capabilities, knowledge, power and influence within the global system.



The successes of the ARPA Institute in implementing various programs in Armenia and the monthly seminars in Los Angeles are all due to the concerted efforts and the

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Hagop Panossian	Lorig Panossian	Hambik Shirinian
Stepan Simonian	Harutiun Surmenian	Bedros Taslakian
Charles Tateosian	Vartkes Yeghiayan	Dzovig Zeitlian



**Hon. Paul Krekorian, LA City Council Member, recognizing Harold DeMirdjian for his lifetime achievements in the community and for his technical achievements in Petroleum Engineering**



**Hon. Grigor Hovhannissian, Consul General of Armenia in Los Angeles, honoring Harold DeMirdjian with the Mesrob Mashdots Medal for his lifetime achievements and community service**

result-oriented approach of dedicated individuals. They have worked for the benefit of our nation and helped achieve our goals. Our focus is on the new generation, whose fresh minds and willingness to tackle today's challenges bring about positive change. We have collaborated with the government and organizations in Armenia, and have successfully promoted innovation and state-of-the-art knowledge and technology amongst the youth through our "Invention Competition" and "Distance Learning" programs. We have helped educate the youth in Armenia and Artsakh towards adopting a healthy lifestyle through our "Health Education and Lifestyle Program". In addition, we have organized conferences and seminars on "Waste Management", "Project Management" and other important topics. The ARPA monthly lectures in Los

### Here's An Easy Way To Help ARPA Institute

ARPA will earn a penny every time you search the Internet, and a percentage of every purchase you make online will go to support our causes if you use [GoodSearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) as your search engine and select ARPA Institute as your preferred charity. You can also use [GoodShop.com](http://www.goodshop.com) for your online shopping to send 37 percent of each purchase to ARPA!

**Go to <http://www.goodsearch.com> and enter ARPA Institute as the charity of your choice.**

Angeles have attracted large audiences and have covered various subjects related to Armenia and Armenians in general.

The ARPA Institute 20th Anniversary Celebration Conference is a testament to our dedication to present high level analyses, research and planning to help unite the strengths of the Diaspora and Armenia for the betterment of the entire Armenian nation. With your help, ARPA will continue to work towards its original objectives for the coming decades. We believe in our people's ability to achieve a brighter future by combining the wisdom and experience of our established experts, and utilizing the energy and passion of our youth.

I want to thank the ARPA Board members, old and new, for their tireless dedication and commitment to this cause. I would also like to thank the community at large for their continued support. The future is in our hands.



**Candle lighting ceremony at the ARPA Institute 20th Anniversary banquet**

ARPA Institute is now accepting applications for the 2013 Invention Competition

Please visit [http://www.arpainstitute.org/Invention\\_Competition.html](http://www.arpainstitute.org/Invention_Competition.html) for details

ԱՐՓԱ Ինստիտուտը այժմ կ'ընդունի նորարարութեան յայտեր 2013 տարուան համար:  
Հանեցե՛ք այցելել մեր կայքէջը. [http://www.arpainstitute.org/Invention\\_Competition.html](http://www.arpainstitute.org/Invention_Competition.html)

## ԱՐՓԱ Հիմնարկի նորարարության մրցույթ 2012 մասնակիցների ցանկ

“Self propagating high temperature syntheses of gas sensors based on BiFeO<sub>3</sub> thin films” **Առաջին Տեղ**  
Նազարյան Անահիտ, Ռուստամյան Լիանա, Ավետիսյան Պարույր  
Ղեկավար՝ Նորայր Մարտիրոսյան

«Մոլիբդենի եւ մոլիբդենի կարբիդի մանրաճառագիտական փոշիների ստացման նոր եղանակ» **Երկրորդ Տեղ**  
Ֆարյան Լիլիթ, Բաղդասարյան Անի, Աղաջանյան Աստղիկ, Այդինյան Սոֆիյա  
Ղեկավար՝ Սուրեն Խառատյան

«Հողի խոնավության որոշման չափիչի պատրաստում եւ ֆեռոէլեկտրոնային շարժման» **Երրորդ Տեղ**  
Գեորգյան Հարություն, Սարգսյան Արմեն, Մանուկյան Երանուհի  
Ղեկավար՝ Նաիրա Ավետյան

“Field-effect capacitive pH sensors with electrolyte-ferroelectric-insulator- semiconductor structure” **Երրորդ Տեղ**  
Խաչատրյան Վաղինակ, Սուքիասյան Գեորգ  
Ղեկավար՝ Նորայր Մարտիրոսյան

“Data fusion in the problem of programmed tracking of ground objects from aerial vehicles” **Չորրորդ Տեղ**  
Բաղիյան Արամ, Բաղիյան Անի  
Ղեկավար՝ Օլեգ Գասպարյան

“An interesting idea about the association of the work of wind generator”  
Գրիգորյան Միքայել, Գրիգորյան Գրիգոր

«Կաբելային արտադրությունում օգտագործվող պոլիմերային նյութերի մշակումը ճանաչողականների կիրառմամբ»  
Դանիելյան Վարդան

«Էլեկտրոնագնիս»  
Խաչատրյան Վահե  
Ղեկավար՝ Անդրանիկ Հովհաննիսյան

«Աերոխողովակ»  
Մանասյան Նաիրա  
Ղեկավար՝ Զոհրաբ Մինասյան

«Օդասուսերավոր մանածագործական հաստոցի վրա երկու միջնաթելերի միաժամանակ տեղադրման նոր եղանակ»  
Մուրադյան Վարդուհի  
Ղեկավար՝ Աշոտ Պապոսյան

«Հրակայուն բետոնի ստացման եղանակ եւ նրա կիրառման ձեւեր»  
Շուկինյան Գնել  
Ղեկավար՝ Արմեն Հովսեփյան

«YBH-2M-1 տեղակայանքի համալրումը բարձրհաճախակապի մագնետրոնով»  
Դաշտոյան Հարություն

«Հեղուկների տեսակարար դիմադրության չափման տրանսֆորմատորային եղանակ»  
Դալլաքյան Լետոն  
Ղեկավար՝ Ռադիկ Քրմոյանին

«Գոմաղբի ջրազրկման եւ աթարի պատրաստման մեքենա նորարարություն»  
Թոսունյան Սուրեն  
Ղեկավար՝ Զոն Ասատրյան

«Ջերմաստիճանների տարբերության թվային չափիչ սարք»  
Շաղգամյան Նաիրա  
Ղեկավար՝ Բորիս Մամիկոնյան

«Կոշիկի վերնամասի ջերմախոնավային ձեւասեւեռման տեղակայանք»  
Մինասյան Ինէզ  
Ղեկավար՝ Բորիս Մամիկոնյան

«Մեկ բույսը մեկ կյանք է»  
Թումանյան Արուս, Մխիթարյան Հասմիկ,  
Ամիրյան Արեւիկ  
Ղեկավար՝ Զարուհի Վարդանյան

“Polymerase chain reaction based ready to use multi-target analytical system for the detection of bacterial disease of the cattle”  
Դալլաքյան Մարինա, Եսոյան Այուզաննա  
Ղեկավարներ՝ Ալեքսանդր Եսայան եւ Նելլի Հովհաննիսյան

“The Usage of Three Layer Block in Armenia”  
Աբրահամյան Աշոտ

“Microcontroller device for controlling the coordinate table position”  
Դաշտոյան Հովհաննես



2012 Participants of the ARPA Institute Invention Competition

## Trip Report on ARPA Activities in Armenia Hagop Panossian and Vartkes Tomassian

During our trip to Armenia from September to October 2012, Vartkes Tomassian and I had the opportunity to meet with the Minister of Diaspora, Mrs. Hranoush Hakobyan, the Deputy Minister of Culture, Mrs. Arev Samuelyan, and Deputy Minister of Education and Science, Mrs. Garine Harutunyan. Meetings were also held with the Head of the State Science Committee of Armenia, Dr. Samvel Harutunyan, the President of the State Engineering University of Armenia (SEUA), Dr. Ara Avetisyan, Vice President of the Yerevan State University of Armenia (YSU), Dr. Ruben Markosyan, and Vice President of the SEUA, Dr. Areg Grigoryan. We also had a fruitful meeting with the President of the American University of Armenia (AUA), Dr. Bruce Boghosian. Throughout the stay we also met with several university officials, professors, heads of associations and others. The following summarizes discussions during the various meetings:

### September 27

1) The President of the SEUA, Dr. Ara Avetisyan was visited to discuss the Distance Learning Program, the Invention Competition and the Energy Efficiency Laboratory. He suggested that we meet with Dr. Areg Grigoryan, since he would be our liaison for the Distance Learning Seminars, and with Prof. Vostanik Maroukhyan to discuss the Energy Efficiency Laboratory.

2) Dr. Pavel Avetisyan, the head of the Institute of Archaeology and Ethnography, was visited to discuss the appropriate steps to be taken to start the e-archeology project. With this project all antiquities, museum articles, monuments and newly excavated articles will be archived. The program was first presented to the Deputy Minister of Culture, Ms. Arev Samuelyan, Dr. Pavel Avetisyan and their experts in November 2011. At the time, their experts considered it a very important project and a must for Armenia. However, no progress has been made since then. Dr. Avetisyan suggested for us to meet with Ms. Hasmik Boghosyan, the Minister of Culture.



V. Tomassian & H. Panossian with State Engineering University President, Ara Avetisyan

3) We met with Dr. Nelly Hovhannisyan, Associate Professor of Biology at the YSU, and discussed the issues facing the planned DNA Center of Excellence in Armenia. She had been coordinating the effort of writing a full proposal with the participation of all the public centers in Armenia associated with studies of DNA. From November of 2011 to the present, no progress has been registered. She described the problems involving the final decisions on location, structure and management of the center. She suggested that we discuss the details with the head of the State Science Committee, Dr. Samvel Harutunyan.

### September 28

1) We had a meeting with Professors Vostanik Maroukhyan, Laryd Hovhannisyan, and Norik Harutunyan to discuss the steps necessary to start the “Energy Efficiency Laboratory”. ARPA Institute has decided to contribute \$1000 towards the establishment of the laboratory. Prof. Maroukhyan and his colleagues were to purchase a few devices that demonstrate energy efficiency characteristics to the students.

2) A visit was paid to Dr. Samvel Harutunyan, head of the State Committee for Science, to discuss the DNA Center of Excellence. We relayed the opinion of ARPA experts who suggested that the best way to start the process is with a low cost refurbished DNA Sequencer. This will allow the young professionals to be trained and to familiarize with the system prior to purchasing advanced equipment. He agreed and suggested to place such a device in the YSU DNA lab. We promised to discuss this with the ARPA Board of Directors.

### October 1

1) We met with Dr. Areg Grigoryan, Vice President of SEUA in charge of public relations for the university. We asked for him to organize a lecture on “Inventions,

Innovations and Creativity” for the students of SEUA. It was decided to have the lecture on October 9 at 2:30 pm. We then met with Maria Mangasarova, head of the Publications department, who will publicize the ARPA Institute Invention Competition for next year. Also present was Ms. Armine Avetisyan, head of the Scientific Committee of the SEUA, who also promised to work with ARPA and help in our programs.

2) A meeting was held with Ms. Arev Samvelyan, the Deputy Minister of Culture of Armenia. We discussed the reasons for the inactivity regarding the e-archaeology program. She suggested that we write a letter to the Minister of Culture, Hasmik Boghosyan, and ask for a formal consideration to fund the e-archaeology project.

### **October 2**

1) We met with the Deputy Minister of Education and Science in charge of universities and centers of higher learning, Ms. Garine Harutunyan. We informed her about the ARPA activities in Armenia and the US, and provided some historical background. She was very interested in the ARPA activities and promised to work with us, to help out in implementing the e-archaeology and the DNA programs and in promoting the Invention Competition.

### **October 3**

1) We had a meeting with the Director of the Matenadaran of Armenia, Dr. Hrach Tamrazyan. The e-archaeology program was discussed with him and he was asked to support the project by giving positive inputs to the Ministry of Culture.

2) A second meeting was held with Prof. V. Maroukhyan and reconfirmed ARPA Institute’s commitment to enhancing the knowledge of energy efficiency in Armenia through education. He reiterated the need for exhibitory tools and materials to impress upon the university students the importance of modern technologies that allow the efficient use of energy.

### **October 4**

1) We visited the chief public relations officer of the YSU, Dr. Alexander Markarov. Discussions were held around the Invention Competition Awards Ceremony, as well as on organizing a lecture for the university students at YSU on “Innovations, Invention and Creativity”. He promised to make all the arrangements.

2) A second meeting was held in the office of the State Science Committee head, Dr. Samvel Harutunyan. Also present were Mikael Abovyan, the head of the “Technology Transfer” organization and his Co-Chair, Dr. Karen Karapetyan. We were told about their new venture to establish an organization similar to a techno-park. The plan is to develop high technology ventures for the advancement of science and technology in Armenia. He suggested that



**V. Tomassian, J. Manucherialian & H. Panossian with Deputy Minister of Education and Science, Ms. Garine Harutunyan**

ARPA be involved in the venture. We were also told about a new “Linear Accelerator” to be built in Armenia in the near future. We asked them to help ARPA get a higher response from the university students for the Invention Competition, as well as make the Prime Minister and the President aware of what ARPA has done and continues to do in Armenia.

### **October 5**

1) We attended the opening ceremony of the Digitech exhibition at the Mergelyan Institute in Yerevan. There were numerous companies presenting their capabilities and hardware. The President of Armenia was on hand for the opening. There were quite a number of students both from SEUA and YSU working mainly with National Instruments.

2) We met with the Vice President of YSU, Dr. Ruben Markosyan, and explained the activities of ARPA in Armenia for the past 20 years. He was asked to help in ensuring the success of the Awards Ceremony. He was also asked to arrange a lecture for the students. He promised to talk with the student council and ask them to organize such a lecture.

### **October 6**

1) We attended the famous Areni wine festival. The President of Armenia was present for the opening ceremony. There was quite a crowd from various countries and cities. It was an interesting and enjoyable event.

### **October 7**

1) We visited the town of Ashtarag, famous for its tasteful walnuts. We saw the resting place of Mesrob Mashdots, the father of the Armenian alphabet. We also visited the Garmravor church.

## October 8

1) I met with Tigran Saroukhanyan, a young scientist who has apparently worked on issues related to the Armenian Genocide and written numerous scientific articles. He was unsatisfied with the current state of the Genocide Museum and its director.

2) I presented a lecture to the students of SEUA. There were around 35 students and professors present. They were told about the importance of innovation and the creation of new and better products in Armenia, which can not be found anywhere else, for Armenia to be able to be competitive in the global market. They were also presented with the details of the ARPA Institute Invention Competition of 2013 and were encouraged to participate.

## October 11

1) Yerkir Media had a live TV Interview with me on the Invention Competition. I presented the details on how to participate and how to write their proposals/inventions. This was a good publicity for the ARPA Invention Competition.

2) We met with Ms. Hranoush Hakobyan, the Minister of Diaspora. We thanked her for her generosity in providing ARPA Institute with the Mesrob Mashdots Medal to honor our dedicated Board member Harold Avedis DeMirdjian for his lifetime achievements and community service. We also thanked her for all the help the Ministry has provided to the ARPA activities in Armenia, especially in sponsoring the ARPA Institute's Invention Competition Awards ceremony. She was also asked to help ARPA implement its e-archaeology and DNA Center of Excellence programs.

## October 12

1) The long awaited ARPA Institute Invention Competition Awards Ceremony was held on Friday, October 12 at 12:00 noon, under the auspices of the Minister of Diaspora, Ms. Hranoush Hakobyan. There were around 65 students, professors and guests. Ms. Hakobyan addressed the students thanking them for their participation and encouraged them to work hard and create genuinely new and innovative products in Armenia. She thanked ARPA Institute and its members for the initiative and for providing the incentive and guidance to the students of all universities in Armenia. She stressed the need for creative business ventures and entrepreneurship in Armenia. The certificates of participation were first handed out to all the students and their advisors followed by the awards to the winning teams and their advisors. We handed out \$2000 for the winner of the first place, "Self Propagating High Temperature Syntheses of Gas Sensors Based on BiFeO<sub>3</sub> Thin Films", by Nazaryan, Rustamyan and Avetisyan of SEUA. The second place winner received \$1000, and it was on "New Method of Producing Molybdenum and Molybdenum Carbide Powders" by Baghdasaryan,



**H. Panossian & V. Tomassian with Ms. Hranoush Hakobyan, the Minister of Diaspora, browsing the ARPA Institute 20th Anniversary booklet**

Aghajanyan, Faryan and Aydinyan of YSU. This year there were two third place winners: 1. "Soil Moisture Meter" by Gevorgyan, Sargsyan and Manukyan of the Agrarian University; 2. "Field Effect Capacitive pH Sensors with Electrolyte-Ferroelectric-Insulator-Semi-conductor Structure" by Khachatryan, Sukiasyan and Martirosyan of SEUA. Each team received \$600. The fourth place winner received \$400 and the subject was "Data Fusion in the Problem of Programmed Tracking of the Ground" by Baghiyan and Baghiyan of SEUA.

2) We had a second meeting with Rector Ara Avetisyan of the SEUA and discussed the Energy Efficiency Lab, the Invention Competition of next year, the Distance Learning Seminars and the enhancement of student participation in the Invention Competition. We were given the official receipt of the university for the ARPA Institute \$1000 donation for the Energy Efficiency Lab.

3) A lecture was presented to the Student Council of the YSU, which had representatives from all "Faculties" of the university. There were around 30 students. The lecture was well received and they wanted to have the material and the announcement for next year's competition to be distributed to their peers.

4) We had a meeting with the representatives of the Association of Biology Students in Armenia and discussed the possibility of organizing Distance Learning Seminars for them. We also asked them to distribute next year's announcement of the Invention Competition.

## October 13

1) Attended the AUA reception as part of their participation in the Association of Economists of Armenia Conference. Met with Mr. Nerses Yeritsian, the former Minister of Economy and currently the Deputy Chief of the Central

Bank of Armenia, and discussed with him ARPA activities. He showed great interest and asked for information, especially on the Invention Competition, and promised to try to have the Prime Minister be present for next year's Award Ceremony.

### ARPA Institute Lecture Series During 2012

#### “Rural Needs in Armenia and the Turpanjian Rural Development Program” by H. K. Armenian

**Abstract:** In 2006, Gerald Turpanjian donated \$5 million to the American University of Armenia (AUA) to encourage economic development in rural areas. The Turpanjian Rural Development Program (TRDP) was created to educate and assist rural entrepreneurs. An executive committee was formed from AUA faculty and staff, chaired by AUA President Emeritus Dr. Haroutune Armenian. The committee developed an approach and process to offer training, access to financial assistance, and consultation. As a rural development program implemented by a university, AUA-TRDP is unique in Armenia. The AUA Extension Program has adapted existing materials and curricula with the guidance of the AUA School of Business and Management to create a training course that covers the basics of marketing and finance and prepares beneficiaries to write their own business plans. The program also offers financial assistance by helping entrepreneurs obtain bank loans. Beneficiaries present their business plans to a jury made up of bank representatives, local rural development NGOs, program leaders, and trainers. The bank makes the final decision whether to grant the loan. After the loan is approved, AUA-TRDP continues to support, monitor progress and mentor beneficiaries. This presentation discussed the reasons for the success of this rural development program and presented ideas for future economic development of rural Armenia.

**Dr. Haroutune K. Armenian** is Professor in residence and Associate Dean for Academic Programs at the UCLA School of Public Health. He is also Professor Emeritus of epidemiology at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health where he received his MPH, and Dr. P.H. degrees (1972-4). He received his M.D. from the American University of Beirut in 1968. He is one of the earliest to apply epidemiologic methods to study the effects of the civil war on the population during the 1980s in Lebanon, and the long-term effects of the 1988 earthquake in Armenia. He pioneered epidemiologic research by using Armenian Church parish records to study infant mortality and other health indicators in 16 diasporan countries over a timeframe of 300 years. Recently he has studied cancer within the Multi-center AIDS Cohort Study and psychopathology as determinants of physical illness in

Baltimore. Dr. Armenian's academic and development leadership has included program development at the Ministry of Health in Bahrain, Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences at the American University of Beirut, Director of the MPH Program at the Johns Hopkins University, and Dean of the College of Health Sciences at the American University of Armenia. Dr. Armenian is President Emeritus of the AUA. His recent awards include the Ernest Lyman Stebbins Medal for Excellence in Education and the Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, the Movses Khorenatsi Presidential Medal of Service in 2001 from the Republic of Armenia, Presidential Medal of the Order of Cedars from the Republic of Lebanon, and membership in the Alpha Omega Alpha medical and Delta Omega public health honorary societies. Dr. Armenian is also a fellow of the Royal College of Physicians in London, and a member of the American Epidemiological Society. He has been on the central executive council of the Armenian Church in Lebanon as well as on the executive of the Hamazkaine Cultural Association and the Karageuzian Foundation.

#### “Հայերէն, անցեալը, ներկան և ապագան” Ա. Ե. Սարգսեան

**Ամփոփում.** Արծարծուեցան հայոց լեզուին առնչուող զանազան հարցեր, ինչպէ՛ս ա. հայոց լեզուի ծագումը և վաղնջահայերէնի տիպաբանական պատկերը: բ. նախագրային հայերէնի գոյակցութեան դաշտը, միատարր, թէ՛ բազմատարր լեզուական իրավիճակը և բարբառներու գոյութեան հնագոյն վկայութիւնները: գ. գրային հայերէնի ժամանակաշրջանները (գրաբար, միջին հայերէն, արդի արևմտահայերէն և արևելահայերէն), առանձնայատկութիւնները: դ. ազգային մասնատուածութիւնը և երկհիւղ հայերէնի ձևաւորումը: ե. XX դ. հայերէնի զարգացման և ուղղագրութեան հարցը: զ. Հայոց լեզուի արդի փուլը, մարտահերթները, արևելահայերէնի և արևմտահայերէնի մերձեցման ուղիները: ը. լեզուական օրէնսդիր մարմնի ստեղծումը: թ. հայերէնի զարգացման ապագայի հեռուայտկերը:

**Արտեմ Եղիշէի Սարգսեան** ծնած է 8-28-1942 պատմական Գանձակ քաղաքին մէջ: ԵՊՀ աւարտած է 1965 թ. գերազանցութեամբ մասնագիտանալով հայոց լեզուի և գրականութեան մէջ: 1970-ին ստացած է ասպիրանտի և 1987-ին տօքթ. վկայականները, «Արևելահայ և արևմտահայ գրական լեզուներու զուգահըրակական քննութիւն» ատենախոսութեամբ: 1972-82 թթ. պաշտօնավարած է Կիպրոսի Մէլքոնեան կրթ. Հաստատութեան մէջ, իբրև հայագիտութեան առարկաներու պատասխանատու: 1982-92 թթ ան Հայաստանի Հանրապետութեան ԳԱԱ լեզուի հաստատութեան տերմինաբանութեան և խոսքի մշակոյթի բաժնի վարիչն էր: 1993-96 ան պաշտօնավարած Երու-

սարգիսի ժարանգաւորացէն ներս, նախ իբրև փոխ-տեսուչ և ապա տեսուչ: 1995-ին Սարգսեան նշանակուած է լեզուի պետական տեսչութեան Լեզուաշինութեան Վարչութեան պետ: Ան ընտրուած է Հայերենի Բարձրագոյն Խորհրդի փոխնախագահ: 1978 թ. առաջօր Սարգսեանը հեռուստատեսութեամբ կը վարէ իր հեղինակային «Մեր լեզուն, մեր խօսքը» հաղորդաշարը, որուն համար արժանացած է ՀՀ պետական մրցանակի: Արտեմ Սարգսեան հեղինակ է 12 մենագրութեան, շուրջ 100 գիտական հրատարակութիւններու, ինչպէս նաև եօթ հատորեայ «Հայոց Լեզուի Բարբառային Բառարան» և «Գրաբարի Լիակատար Բառարան» հատորներուն: Տարիներ շարունակ Սարգսեան դասաւանդած է ՀՀ բուհերէն ներս: Ա. Սարգսեանն արժանացած է Մովսէս Խորենացի և առաջին կարգի այլ շքանշաններու՝ հայրենիքին մատուցած ծառայութիւններու համար: 2002 թ. ան ՀՀ ԳԱԱ-ի թղթակից անդամ է, միջազգային շարք մը կաճառներու իսկական և թղթակից անդամ:

### **“The housing need in Armenia, causes and solutions” by G. Palyan**

**Abstract:** There are numerous reasons for the housing problems in Armenia. The 1988 earthquake devastated the whole northeastern region and the result was tremendous pain and agony for thousands of families and it is still ongoing for many. The Soviet heritage and practice of building codes is another reason, which has resulted in deteriorating building structures and has caused problems in a host of homes. The Artsakh war has devastated regions of the new republic and many families are still in need of decent living conditions. Finally, the economic crisis has also played its part, making it impossible for a great number of families to put their crumbling homes together. The presentation addressed the housing conditions in various regions of Armenia, the numerous complaints about living conditions coming from households, the impact of poor housing on children’s health, based on research findings, as well as analyzed different target groups of housing issues. Also presented were the various types of housing needs, which are being addressed by the Fuller Center for Housing Armenia (FCHA), and the positive results received thus far through the solutions implemented in regions of Armenia.

**Gohar Palyan** works as resource development manager for The Fuller Center for Housing Armenia. She has over ten years of work experience in the non-profit sector in Armenia, first with Habitat for Humanity and then with Fuller Center for Housing. Besides her work with non-profit organizations, she volunteers with other organizations, such as Yerevan International Women’s Club, TED translator, IVOLUNTEER task force, among others. She is a graduate of the Yerevan State University

and holds MBA from European Carolus Magnus University.

### **“Prof. Dr. Yervant Kassouny - Historian, Author, Editor, Publicist & Educator - A distant look at his life and work” by Z. Khanjian**

**Abstract:** Prof. Dr. Yervant Kassouny is a prominent Armenian Evangelical scholar & intellectual living in Beirut, Lebanon. As an early graduate of Haigazian College (now University) and a holder of a Doctorate Degree from the Yerevan State University of Armenia - Faculty of History - Dr. Kassouny lectured at the Haigazian University for over two decades, covering topics of a wide spectrum in Armenian History. From 1978 to 1988 he chaired the Haigazian College Armenology Department. In 1970 he introduced the renowned Journal of Armenian Studies at the College, becoming the inaugural editor of the first and following nine volumes of the Journal. From 1991 to 2007 Prof. Yervant Kassouny was the Editor In Chief of “Chanasser”, the official bi-monthly organ of the Union of the Armenian Evangelical Churches of the Near East. As a historian, scholar, lecturer, publicist and editor, Dr. Kassouny has been a prolific writer authoring and editing dozens of books and publications. presented a close look at Dr. Kassouny’s intellectual contributions and evaluated his publications.

**Zaven Khanjian** was born in Aleppo, Syria, where he received his elementary & secondary education. In 1967, he graduated from the American University of Beirut with a Bachelor’s degree in Business Administration. Upon graduation, he spent 13 years working in the oil industry in the Persian Gulf, while at the same time creating “Little Armenias” together with like-minded compatriots in the region. In 1979 Zaven moved to California, where he has since been an active member of the community, serving in leadership capacities, in Armenian and Non-Armenian organizations. Khanjian contributes to the Armenian media in Los Angeles. His “letters to the editor” have been published in numerous papers in the Arab, Armenian and American media. Zaven has also published two books: «Այս տունը քու՞կդ է թէ իմս» and «Մտքի և սրտի ցոլքեր» Since 1987 Khanjian owns and operates his Real Estate Company, named KANJYAN REALTY. He is married to Sona Kelligian and they have 3 children and 5 grand children (boys).

### **“Պարոյր Սևակ” Ա. Աղամեան**

**Ամփոփում.** Այս դասախոսութեամբ վեր առնուան Պարոյր Սևակի բացառիկ մտաւորականի, փիլիսոփայի և բանաստեղծի յատկանիշները: Բացայայտուեցաւ իր բերած մեծ նպաստը որպէս իր ժամանակին շունչը, հշմարտութեան ըմբոստ պատգամաբերը, սուտն ու կեղծիքը ձաղկեցնողը, ուղիղ մարդը փառաբանողը,



բռնութեան դատապարտողը և շատագովը ազատութեան: Իր մարգարէաշունչ պատգամները մէջքերելով ցոյց տրուեցաւ թէ ինչպէս ան հրահրեց հայոց սրտերը և նոր հորիզոններ բացաւ Արևելահայ Գրականութեան անդամատանէն ներս: Մանաւանդ արծարծուեցան իր նորարարութեամբ կատարուած հսկայական յեղափոխութիւնը Սովետահայ բանաստեղծութեան մէջ: ներկայացուեցաւ Սևակի ազատ և անկաշկանդ ժողովուրդի բանբերի դերը, հաւատքը դէպի մարդուն մեծութիւնը, արժէքն ու արժանիքը: Խոսուեցաւ թէ ինչպէս ան իր իսկ գրիչով հաստատեց թէ «Գալու է մի օր ուր մարդիկ մերպէսներին պիտի երկրպագեն ոչ Աստուծու պէս, ոչ էլ կուռքի պէս, այլ հերոսի պէս», հաւատաց ազգին յաւերժութեան ու այդ անխախտ հաւատքով ինք ևս յաւերժացաւ:

Հայր Անտոն Ադամեան ծնած է Սուրիա: Ուսումը առած է Լիբանան Չմմառի մէջ: Բարձրագոյն ուսումը ստացած է Հռոմի Կրէկորիանա միջազգային համալսարանը, ուր աւարտած է փիլիսոփայական և աստուածաբանական հիւղերը: 1970-ին ձեռնադրուած է կուսակրօն կղերական: Քսան տարի եղած է Իրաքի Հայ Կաթողիկէ համայնքին ժողովրդապետը: Հայր Անտոն Պաղտատի մէջ ուսուցիչ, գրող ու մտաւորական էր նաև: Հայր Անտոն ծառայած է նաև Դամասկոս, Քեսապ և Աթէնք: 2007 Հոկտեմբեր 1-էն ի վեր՝ ան հովիւն է Տիթրոյթի Ս. Վարդան ժողովրդապետութեան: Ան նաև կազմակերպած է հայ գրականութեան դասընթացքներ: Հայր Ադամեան հրահրուած է շատ մը երկիրներ, ուր գրականութեան, Ապրիլեան Եղերնի, Վարդանանցի և այլ դասախոսական և բանախոսական ելոյթներ ունեցած է: 16 տարեկանին Հայր Անտոն Պէյրութի «Մասիս» թերթին մէջ սկսած է գրել և այժմ ամէն շաբաթ Լոս Անճելըսի «Նոր Հայաստան» օրաթերթին մէջ խմբագրականներ կը գրէ: Հայր Անտոնի գաղափարական կարգախօսն է «Հայ ազգին շահերը ամէն բանէ վեր»:

**“The Case for “Abandoned” Properties of Armenians in the Ottoman Empire (Emvali Metruke)” by G. K. Mounjian**

**Abstract:** The case for the recognition of the Armenian Genocide has thus far been anchored on the human aspect of the calamity befalling Armenians during WWI. There is now a huge library of academic and journalistic treatises which deal with the subject. However, a totally different aspect of the Armenian ordeal that has not yet been fully researched and disseminated is the en masse confiscation of movable and immovable properties during the deportation of the Armenians outside of their ancestral lands. Ironically, these properties have been designated as “Abandoned”. The question is, how did the Ittihadist governments organize, distribute, and in the process amassed huge sums of money in the government’s - and in

the process, their personal - coffers for the war effort? Moreover, how did this same attitude continue during the formative years of the Republic of Turkey? This lecture discussed a sequential rendering of some thirteen laws and directives regarding Armenian “Emvali Metruke” (“Abandoned Properties”) imposed by three consecutive governments that ruled Turkey from 1914 to 1930. The laws and directives were transcribed into modern Turkish alphabet characters and then translated from the Old Ottoman script. The rendering of these laws into English was primarily meant to aid experts in the academic and legal fields who are not knowledgeable in Ottoman Turkish. But since the editors had also decided to make this study available to a larger readership, it was decided that this introduction will remedy the situation by trying to simplify the complexity of the laws by explaining and analyzing them in a straightforward historical analysis.

**Garabet Krikor Mounjian** was born in 1957 in Zahle, Lebanon. He has received a BA from the Institute Superior d’Armenologie, “Hamazkaine” in Beirut, in 1983; a BA in History and Armenian Studies from the University of La Verne, La Verne, CA in 1986 and a MA from UCLA, Department of History in 1990. He is currently completing his doctoral dissertation at UCLA on “Armenian-Turkish Relations, 1890-1909”. Since 1986 he has served in numerous positions, including Lecturer at UCLA and U of La Verne, principal of Mesrobian Elementary and High School. He has authored chapters in books, textbooks and monographs, as well as research articles in Armenian studies. He serves on editorial boards of several newspapers and on the boards of several organizations. Mr. Mounjian is also a political editor and news commentator for the Horizon TV. He has received many awards from Armenian and non-Armenian organizations. He is fluent in Armenian (Western and Eastern Dialects and Classical Armenian), Arabic (Literary language and Levantine dialects), Turkish (Modern and Ottoman Turkish as a research language) and French (Reading capacity, research purposes). Garo is married to Nayeri Harboyan and they are blessed with two children, Hagop and Purag.

**“Armenian Identity, Knowledge and Studies: Synthesis and/or Controversy” by S. B. Dadoyan**

**Abstract:** Avoiding essentialist and traditional approaches, Professor Dadoyan analyzes the concept of Armenian identity, through the triangle of Identity (as consciousness of the self), knowledge (as historical knowledge) and Armenian Studies (as the study of all things Armenian), as a dynamic synthesis and/or a controversial construct. This is an original perspective on the subject of what is known as ‘national identity’ through a break-down of the constitutive elements of the concept at the intersection of subjective-reflective, objective-historical and theoretical-

institutional levels.

**Seta B. Dadoyan** is Doctor of Sciences in Philosophy. She was professor of cultural studies, philosophy, art, history of technology and professional ethics at the American University of Beirut, 1986-2005. Previously, she also taught at Haigazian University and the Lebanese-American University. She was the Ordjanian Visiting Professor of Armenian Studies at MEALAC of Columbia University, during the spring terms of 2002 and 2006. She was visiting professor at St. Nersess Armenian Seminary in New Rochelle, NY (2007-2010), and at the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations of the University of Chicago. In the Fall Semester of 2011 she was invited as visiting professor at Yerevan State University. The focus of her research and publications is the study of Armenian social-political and intellectual cultures in their interactive aspects both medieval and modern. In addition to many lectures in various universities and institutions, she is the author of over fifty extensive papers in scholarly journals in Armenian and English and six books: *Armenian Painting in Lebanon* (Beirut, 1984), *Pages of West-Armenian Philosophy* (Beirut, 1987), *John of Erzinjan (Yovhannes Erznkatsi) – Sources of his ‘Views from the Writings of Islamic Philosophers’: Rasa’il Ihhwan al-Safa’* (Beirut, 1991), *The Armenian Catholicosate from Cilicia to Antelias* (Beirut, 2003), *The Fatimid Armenians: Cultural and Political Interactions in the Near East* (Leiden, Brill, 1997). Her magnum opus is *The Armenians in the Medieval Islamic World Fourth-Fourteenth Centuries: Paradigms of Cultural-Political Interactions in 3 volumes*. (New Brunswick, NJ & London, UK: Trans Publishers, 2011-2013).

#### **“Gomidas Vartabed: His Life, Works, Rare Archival Documents, and Photos” by G. Chugaszyan**

**Abstract:** Visual/interactive presentations were made on: 1. The great Armenian composer Gomidas Vartabed, his life in letters, music, archival documents and memories of contemporaries. Nearly 500 photographs, 100 video clips as well as 550 musical pieces are included in the multimedia DVD-ROM, produced in Armenia. 2. Two World Summit Award winning titles dedicated to Aram Khachaturian and the Armenian Genocide. The latter was produced in 2005 and includes 500 photographs, documents, eyewitness accounts and an interactive timeline. Khachaturian’s life and works were also mentioned through his letters, archival documents, memories of contemporaries, over 400 photographs, video materials, as well as 35 musical fragments.

**Garegin Chugaszyan** has experience in governmental, business, civil society and academic sectors. Currently he is a member of the Bureau of the Steering Committee on the Media and New Communication Services (CDMC) of

Council of Europe, member of the High-level Panel of Advisers of the UN Global Alliance for Information and Communication Technologies and Development (GAID) and a member of Presidential IT Development Support Council of Armenia, under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister. He is co-founder and executive director of ITF (Information Technologies Foundation), Yerevan. ITF has organized the Global e-Content Summit and the Pan European Forum on Human Rights in the Information Society in October, 2006 in Yerevan, as well as three All-Armenian e-Content contests (2005-2008). He has been active in multimedia productions for the last 15 years, managing outstanding projects including the first Web casting of the World Chess Olympiad in 1996 and the World Summit Award winning titles in 2005. G. Chugaszyan is also co-founder and the President of Information Technologies Education JSC, Yerevan.

#### **“Print as Dialogue Medium on Corporate Identity between the Diaspora and Armenian Plateau in the 17th-18th Centuries” by S. P. Cowe**

**Abstract:** Building on insights from Eisenstein regarding the impact of print and Smith and Gellner on the nationalist gestation process, this presentation sought to demonstrate that by the 17th century Armenian diasporic life in cosmopolitan entrepôts over the Eurasian hemisphere forged a novel ethnic inclusiveness among the merchant class. This mutuality is reflected in the discourse of ethnic affiliation expressed in printers’ colophons, establishing affinities with readers through myths of common origin from Hayk, eponymous progenitor of the Armenians. This is then reinforced by published works, like that of the historian Movsēs Xorenac’i, whose narrative presents the received account of Armenia’s early history. The diffusion of proto-nationalist ideology from Europe and America in the 18th century together with the negative impact of mercantilism infused traditional genres with a new territorial dimension. Moreover, whereas the past had been conceived as continuous with the present as in the poet Nersēs Shnorhali’s *Vipasanut’iwn* (Romance), a modernist reading, as Anderson has shown, detached it from the reader’s ‘now’. Similarly, whereas the many political laments (1145-1604) treat the destruction of cities from an eyewitness perspective, 18th century laments idealize Hayk’s rule during a primeval Golden Age as a Paradise Lost. A series of nostalgia-driven compilations then transferred the mythological to the historical plane. This culminated in a tract of the 1770s demythologizing the mystique of earlier kingdoms by critiquing the aristocratic and ecclesiastical elites and empowering the middle class to realize a modern state on democratic republican principles. In this way an ideological shift was posited in print rhetoric from ethnic solidarity in the 17th century to reconstituting a state in the 18th, predicating the

transformation on the incipient movement toward global integration that constituted the matrix of the nation state.

**Dr. S. Peter Cowe** is Narekatsi Professor of Armenian Studies in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures, UCLA. Previously he held positions in Armenology at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Columbia University, New York. His research interests include medieval Armenian intellectual history, modern Armenian nationalism, the Armenian lyric tradition, and Armenian film and theater. The author of five books in the field (including *Modern Armenian Drama: An Anthology*, New York: Columbia University Press, 2001, together with Michan Parlakian) and editor of nine volumes, he regularly contributes to scholarly journals and is the past co-editor of the *Journal of the Society for Armenian Studies*. A recipient of the Garbis Papazian award for Armenology and a Gold Medal of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Armenia, he is currently collaborating on a study on the earliest Armenian encyclopedia with fellowship support from the National Endowment for the Humanities and is researching royal ideology in the Cilician Armenian state on a Fulbright-Hayes Research Fellowship. He also serves on the executive board of the Association Internationale des Etudes Arméniennes.

**“Քեսապ Հայաւանը և անոր ներդրումը Սուրիահայ ազգային կեանքին մէջ” Հ. Թրթոեան**

Ամփոփում. Պիտի ներկայացուի Քեսապի պատմական ամփոփ պատկերը, ներառնելով գաղթականութիւնն ու իր պատճառած անպատմելի ողբերգական ազդեցութիւնը ժողովուրդի հոգեկան և տնտեսական վիճակին վրայ, բնակչութեան կեանքի տարբեր ոլորտներու ուշագրաւ երևոյթները և գիւղական, մշակոյթային, ազգային և հասարակական կեանքը: Նկարներով պիտի ցոյց տրուի Քեսապի ընդհանուր համայնապատկերը, գեղեցիկ տեսարանները, յատկանշական կառոյցներն ու տարբեր շրջանային գիւղերը, իրենց արհեստներու, գործունէութեան և առևտրարդիւնաբերական հաստատութիւններով: Պիտի անդրադառնայ այն գնահատելի ներդրումին որ Քեսապը ունեցած է Սուրիահայ ազգային, կրթական և հասարակական կեանքին մէջ: Պիտի նաև հպանցիկ քննարկում մը կատարուի Սորիահայերու ներկայ ճգնաժամային իրավիճակին և դժբաղտութիւններով լի ապագային մասին:

Հայկազ Թրթոեան ծնած է Քեսապ 1930-ին: Մանկութիւնը անցուցած է 12 հոգինոց (հինգ մանչ և հինգ աղջիկ) իր բազմանդամ ընտանիքին մէջ: Նախնական կրթութիւնը ստացած է Քեսապի Ուսումնասիրաց Միացեալ Վարժարանին մէջ: 1943-ին մեկնած է Անթիլիաս, ուսումը շարունակելու համար որպէս Կիլիկիոյ Կաթողիկոսութեան Դպրեվանքի սան: 1950-ին աւարտած է դպրեվանքի ուսման շրջանը և

նուիրուած ուսուցչութեան: 1964-65 տարեշրջանէն սկսեալ Անհարի Յառաջ-Կիւլպէնկեան Գոլէճին և ետքը Պէյրութի Սոփիա Յակոբեան Գոլէճին մէջ հայագիտական նիւթեր (Հայ գրականութիւն և հայերէն լեզու) դասաւանդելէ ետք, 1977-ին ընտանիքով փոխադրուած է Ամերիկայի Միացեալ Նահանգներ, Լոս Էնճելըս: 1977-էն իվեր, մինչև հանգստեան կոչուիլը (1996-ին), ուսուցչութեան պաշտոնով ծառայած է Ռոզ և Ալէքս Փիլիպպոս Ազգային վարժարանին մէջ, դասաւանդելով հայ գրականութիւն հայ դատ: Թրթոեան ամէն տարի աշնան կայցելէ Քեսապ, վայելելու համար գեղեցիկ բնութիւնն ու իր տոհմիկ շրջանակին հետ ապրելու ուրախ ժամեր:

**Արտեմ Եղիշէի Սարգսեանի 70 ամեայ Յոբելեանական Հանդիսութիւն: Օգոստոս 28, 2012; Ժամը. 7:00 pm**

Յայտագիր՝ 1. Բացման Խօսք - Յակոբ Փանոսեան Նախագահ ԱՐՓԱ Ինստիտուտի 2. Բանախօս - Մինաս Գոնայեան Վաստակաւոր Ուսուցիչ 3. Սրտի Խօսքեր - Ալինա Խաչատրեան US Armenia TV 4. Ռազմիկ Մանսուրեան - Երգ Վաստակաւոր Երգիչ 5. Յոբելյարի Խօսք - Արտեմ Սարգսեան, ՀՀ ԳԱԱ Թղթ Անդ.

Արտեմ Եղիշէի Սարգսեան ծնած է 8-28-1942 պատմական Գանձակ քաղաքին մէջ: ԵՊՀ աւարտած է 1965 թ. գերազանցութեամբ՝ մասնագիտանալով հայոց լեզուի և գրականութեան մէջ: 1970-ին ստացած է ասպիրանտի և 1987-ին սոքթ. վկայականները, «Արևելահայ և արևմտահայ գրական լեզուներու զուգահրըրական քննութիւն» ատենախոսութեամբ: 1972-82 թթ. պաշտօնավարած է Կիպրոսի Մէլքոնեան կրթ. Հաստատութեան մէջ, իբրև հայագիտութեան առարկաներու պատասխանատու: 1982-92 թթ ան Հայաստանի Հանրապետութեան ԳԱԱ լեզուի նշանակուած է լեզուի պետական տեսչութեան Լեզուաշինութեան Վարչութեան պետ: Հաստատութեան տերմինաբանութեան և խոսքի մշակոյթի բաժնի վարիչն էր: 1993-96 ան պաշտօնավարած էր Ռուսադէմի Ժարանգաւորացէն ներս, նախ իբրև փոխտեսուչ և ապա տեսուչ: 1995-ին Սարգսեան Ան ընտրուած է Հայերենի Բարձրագոյն Խորհրդի փոխնախագահ: 1978 թ. առ այսօր Սարգսեանը հեռուստատեսութեամբ կը վարէ իր հեղինակային «Մեր լեզուն, մեր խօսքը» հաղորդաշարը, որուն համար արժանացած է ՀՀ պետական մրցանակի: Արտեմ Սարգսեան հեղինակ է 12 մենագրութեան, շուրջ 100 գիտական հրատարակութիւններու, ինչպէս նաև եօթ հատորեայ «Հայոց Լեզուի Բարբառային Բառարան» և «Գրաբարի Լիակատար Բառարան» հատորներուն: Տարիներ շարունակ Սարգսեան դասաւանդած է ՀՀ բուհերէն ներս: Ա. Սարգսեանն արժանացած է Մովսէս Խորենացի և առաջին կարգի այլ շքանշաններու՝ հայրենիքին մատուցած ծառայութիւններու համար: 2002 թ. ան ՀՀ ԳԱԱ-ի Թղթակից անդամ է, միջազգային շարք մը կաճառներու իսկական

և թղթակից անդամ:

### **“The splendor of Medieval Armenia (11th-14th c.)” by C. Mutafian**

**Abstract:** Armenians will soon be commemorating the centenary of the Genocide. Yet, it is comforting to remember that Armenian history is far from being exclusively made of tears and tragedies. It has some particularly glorious pages, as in the late medieval period, when a substantial part of historical Armenia was liberated from Turkic invaders, while in Cilicia a new “Kingdom of Armenia out of Armenia” came into existence. This fascinating period becomes even more exciting with the appearance of the Crusaders in the 12th century, followed by the Mongols in the 13th. Thanks to a masterly diplomacy and convenient local alliances, this “Armenia of the Levant” became in the middle of the 13th century the most powerful Christian State in the East and the hinge of trade between Europe and the Orient. One reason of this success lies in the permanent link of Cilician Armenia with the Armenian princely dynasties of Armenia proper. As a result of new publications of inscriptions on monuments in Greater Armenia and of colophons of manuscripts, as well as corrections to previously published sources and new translations from Arabic and Persian, the history of the Armenians from the 11th to the 14th century, particularly the political and matrimonial relationships among themselves and with their neighbors, had to be totally rewritten. This is what has been attempted in this newly published book. For every statement, references of the sources and of eventual scholars’ comments have been given in the footnotes, while more than 70 maps and 80 genealogical charts constitute an essential complement of the text. The abundant iconography – about 230 color pictures – reflects the spectacular artistic achievements of that period: splendid monasteries of Greater Armenia, impressive strongholds of Cilicia, superb miniatures, “khatchkars”, metal and wood carvings. Reproductions of inscriptions and manuscripts show the opulence of these sources, while numerous illustrations from the neighboring cultures give evidence of the cosmopolitan nature of this “Armenia of the Levant” and the Armenian world.

**Claude Mutafian** was born in 1942 in the suburbs of Paris. His parents were survivors of the 1915 Genocide. His studies led him towards Mathematics, which he taught for more than 40 years in various universities, in France and around the world. However his passion was always History. He published many books about different topics concerning Armenia, such as a “Historical Atlas of Armenia” (2001) covering thirty centuries. He organized various exhibitions, including “The Armenian Kingdom of Cilicia” (Paris, Sorbonne, 1993), “Roma-Armenia” (Vatican, Great Sixtine Hall, 1999) and

“Armenia, the Magic of Writing” (Marseilles, 2007). His field of interest is essentially the Medieval period, in particular the relations of Armenians with Crusaders and Mongols. At the age of 60 he received a PhD in History. His thesis was about Cilician Armenia: “The Armenian diplomacy in the Levant during the Crusades” (Paris-Sorbonne, 2002). The present two-volume study is an outgrowth of that thesis, extended to the whole Armenian world.

### **“Թուանշային տեխնոլոգիաները և հայ մշակութային յուշարձանների թուայնացման խնդիրները” Մ. Կարապետեան**

**Ամփոփում.** Պայմանաւորուած տեխնոլոգիաների զարգացմամբ, անհրաժեշտութիւն դարձաւ ժամանակակից ինֆորմացիոն համակարգչային տեխնոլոգիաների ներդրումը հայերէնագիտութեան, մասնաւորապէս՝ հայագիտութեան ոլորտում: Անհրաժեշտութիւն առաջացաւ համացանցում ապահովել հայ գրաւոր մշակութի առկայութիւնը: «Հայ մատենագրութեան թրուանշային գրադարան» ծրագրով Հայաստանում սկիզբ դրուեց հայագիտական աշխատանքներին նորագոյն տեղեկատուական ու համակարգչային տեխնոլոգիաներով հայ մշակոյթը առաւել մատչելի դարձնելուն: Ելակէտային է նաև, որ համակարգչային թուային համակարգերը կարևոր դեր ունեն դասական գրաւոր մատենագրական ժառանգութեան պահպանման, զարգացման: Միաժամանակ թուային համակարգերը հնարաւորութիւն տուեցին Հայաստանի ու Սփիւռքի կառոյցներին, հասարակութեան նորանոր շերտերին չմիջնորդաւորուած կերպով հաղորդակցուելու մշակութային ժառանգութեանը: Ներկայումս Հայ մշակոյթի թուանշանացման, շտեմաւորման և մշակութային տուեալների համահայկական բազայի ստեղծման համար օրէցօր էլ աւելի զգալի է դառնում միասնական քաղաքականութեան մշակումը:

**Մերուժան Կարապետեան.** Հայաստանի ամերիկեան համալսարանի «Հայ մատենագրութեան թուանշային գրադարանի» ([www.digilib.am](http://www.digilib.am)) գիտական տնօրէն: Ծնուել է 1956 թուականին Գիւմրիում: Աւարտել է Երևանի պետական համալսարանի Պատմութեան ֆակուլտետը և ՍՍՀՄ Գիտութիւնների ակադեմիայի Միկլուխո-Մակլայի անուան Ազգագրութեան ինստիտուտի ասպիրանտուրան (Մոսկուա): Աշխատել է Հայաստանի Գիտութիւնների ակադեմիայի Պատմութեան ինստիտուտում: Գիտական աշխատանքները վերաբերում են Հայաստանի 17-18 դարերի պատմութեանն ու պատմագրութեանը, Հայաստանի էթնիկական կառուցուածքի ուսումնասիրմանը: 1999 թուականին Հայաստանի ամերիկեան համալսարանի կազմում հիմնել է «Հայ մատենագրութեան թուանշային գրադարանը» ([www.digilib.am](http://www.digilib.am)), որի գիտական աշխատանքները դեկավարում է մինչև այսօր:

A public event on **“Help Stop Irresponsible Mining in the Pristine Mountain Forests of Armenia”** was hosted and co-sponsored by the ARPA Institute and organized by a coalition of numerous organizations in the Los Angeles area, to help enforce legal and sustainable mining in Armenia and to stop the illegal and catastrophic mining practices currently ongoing. There were over 150 attendees, mostly concerned young men and women. Young Armenians concerned with environmental threats in Armenia created the **Save Teghut** civic initiative in Nov. 2007. Many participated in successful actions to save Kacharan, in the Syunik region, from harmful mining and Trchkan waterfall from destruction. These activists are not affiliated with any organization or political party and they insist on covering their expenses either through their own means or donations from the general public. While they started with about 20 activists, today **Save Teghut** has over 10,000 followers on Facebook, and many more supporters in the regions of Armenia without internet access. Groups who support the **Save Teghut** movement have so far been established in Moscow, Germany, and Los Angeles. **Save Teghut** addresses the disastrous environmental situation in Armenia. It aims to raise awareness among Armenians of the environmental dangers looming over our country, as well as the irresponsible, illegal, and secret activities of mining companies in collaboration with the oligarchic system in Armenia. The group works to protect the ecosystem and promote public health by ensuring that Armenia’s water, air, and land are clean. In the Teghut forest, specifically, the civic initiative demands the end of the illegal and catastrophic mining project. A great number of Los Angeles area and other organizations strongly support the legal and environmentally safe mining in Armenia. However, what is currently practiced is far from what Armenia and its younger generation deserve.

**Speaker: Yeghia Nersesian** was born in Aleppo, Syria, in 1978. He graduated from “Mkhitaryan Miabanutyun” seminary in Aleppo, and later studied photography at “Tag Color” Studio. In 2001 he left Syria with the aim to live in his homeland - Armenia. After working at several different places he became a freelance photographer. Photography allowed Yeghia to get closer to nature and the elements which he considers the most important part of his life. His favorite activities include hiking, nature photography, and guiding travel groups. Yeghia has always had a passionate concern for the struggles of Armenia and has been active in participating in different environmental and civic meeting and activities with the intent of creating a clean, ecologically sustainable and peaceful Armenia.

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