



# NAASR NEWSLETTER

NAASR GOAL FOR 1970:  
MILLION-DOLLAR  
ENDOWMENT FUND

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR ARMENIAN STUDIES AND RESEARCH, INC.

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As the year comes to an end, NAASR members can look back with pride at the new milestones which have been reached during the first half of NAASR's fifteenth anniversary year. First and foremost is the appointment of full professors to head up the Armenian programs at Harvard (Dr. Robert W. Thomson), U. C. L. A. (Dr. Avedis K. Sanjian), and Columbia (Dr. Nina G. Garsoian). Second is the reaching of the \$700,000 level in cash and pledges for NAASR's permanent endowment Fund for the Advancement of Armenian Studies. Third was the first Conference on Armenian Studies in the United States held in conjunction with NAASR's Fifteenth Annual Assembly of Members in June under the able chairmanship of Prof. John Hanessian, Jr., of George Washington University.

As we look ahead to the second half of our fifteenth anniversary year, we need to set our sights on other goals we must achieve: (1) increasing the permanent fund to its projected million-dollar level so that the purposes of the fund along the lines of scholarship, research, and publications can be more readily fulfilled; (2) developing multi-faceted activities and programs at our National Headquarters following the completion of the renovations; (3) staffing of the national organization with full-time personnel - an executive director and an administrative secretary; (4) increasing the national membership in all parts of the country; and (5) developing a more regular series of informational publications for the membership.

NAASR PERMANENT ENDOWMENT FUND. Major commitments of support by philanthropist Stephen P. Mugar of Belmont, Mass., and the Armenian General Benevolent Union and a bequest by the late Azniv Beshgeturian, in addition to contributions made at the 15th Anniversary Banquet last June, have sent the pledge total of NAASR's endowment fund for Armenian studies beyond the \$700,000 mark. Mr. Mugar's current pledge of \$250,000 brings his total support of NAASR-sponsored programs to nearly \$350,000. The A. G. B. U. pledged \$125,000 in support of NAASR's "unique service in propagating Armenian studies academically." \$10,000 of Miss Beshgeturian's bequest was assigned to the permanent fund as a memorial.

Projects and programs which are receiving support at present from the income of NAASR's endowment fund are the U. C. L. A. Armenian Chair, the Columbia Armenian Program, research grants to worthy scholars in American universities, conferences on various aspects of Armenian studies, and popular and scholarly publications. Further financial support of the endowment fund will enable NAASR to broaden its support of Armenian studies in America on these and many other levels. The enclosed pledge card will enable you to bring your support to this important program now.

15th ANNUAL ASSEMBLY. The annual assembly was held all day in Harvard's Emerson Hall on Saturday, June 14, and dealt with the organization's programs, activities, and problems. A special report on NAASR's internal organization and operations was presented, a 14-year financial plan was outlined and accepted, a number of constitutional amendments were adopted (and will be submitted for ratification by the membership at a later date), and elections for the Board of Directors were held. (Continued over)

**NOTICE.** The NAASR Board's Executive Committee is currently conducting a search for a qualified person for the newly created position of Executive Director who shall be responsible for organizing and implementing all operations, activities, business, and public relations affairs of NAASR. Although it has a number of applications already on hand, it will gladly consider any other applications which are received on or before January 15. An applicant must be a member of NAASR in good standing and be able to identify with the stated goals and purposes of the organization and be committed to them. Applications should include a resume of pertinent personal information, educational background, experience, related activities, and references. Minimum financial expectations and date of availability should be included.

Re-elected to the Board were Rev. A. A. Bedikian, George H. Boole, Jr., Dr. Lionel S. Galstaun, Peter Sarmanian, Charles Talanian, Prof. Helen R. Vaznaian, and Manoog S. Young. Newly elected to the Board was Massis N. Thomason, Vice President of Maintain Store Engineering Services, Inc., of New England and former chairman of the Greater Boston Chapter. Later, to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Prof. Ara Dostourian, who has accepted a position at West Georgia College in Carrollton, Ga., the Board elected Gregory H. Adamian, attorney, Professor of Law at Bentley College, and former Board member.

**RESEARCH GRANTS.** Three grants totaling \$2,000 have been made to date by the Board of Directors, following recommendations by NAASR's Academic Committee, to graduate students at three different American universities. A grant of \$1,000 was given to John Greppin of U. C. L. A. who is doing his doctoral research on "Aspiration in Classical Armenian" and is working on a Primer of Classical Armenian. Martin H. Halabian of Brandeis University received a grant of \$500 to complete his research on "The Political Biography of James Malcolm" and his activities on behalf of the Armenian Cause. A research loan of \$500 was given to Stephen J. Hammalian of New York University and M. I. T. for his research on "Old Armenian Phonology and Morphology". Applications for research grants for the 1970-71 academic year will be considered if received prior to April 15 accompanied by transcripts and references.

**OTHER NAASR ACTIVITIES AND NEWS.** The Second Annual Dinner-Dance will be held on Friday, March 6, 1970, from 7:30 p. m. to 2:00 a. m. at the plush Sidney Hill Country Club in Chestnut Hill, Mass. Further details will be forthcoming. . . . The Armenian Heritage Tour for 1969 got off the ground on September 22 and, despite several unanticipated schedule changes, made the run from Istanbul to Kayseri, Kharpert, Diyarbekir, Van, Kars, Yerevan, and Moscow in three weeks. News of tours for 1970 and 1971 will be forthcoming in future Newsletters. . . . The Harvard Armenian Lecture Series has been reinstated, and the first two lectures are scheduled for Tuesday evenings, January 13 and February 17. Both will commence at 8:00 p. m. sharp and will be held in the Old Geography Building, 2 Divinity Ave., off Kirkland St. in Cambridge. The first one will be by Prof. Thomson on "Education and Scholarship in Early Armenia" and the second will be on Armenian Coins by Dr. Paul Bedoukian. These lectures are open to the public free of charge. . . . The New York - No. New Jersey Chapter had lectures and demonstrations this fall on the Classical Armenian Dance by Lillian G. Murad and The Liturgy of the Armenian Church by Dr. Arra S. Avakian. Plans are now being formulated for the spring activities. Subsequent Newsletters will have news from other areas. . . . The 16th Annual Assembly and Banquet have been scheduled for Saturday, June 6, in Cambridge and a 2-day Conference on Modern Armenian History is being planned for June 4 and 5.

**NEW PUBLICATIONS.** A consolidated book list of all books available through NAASR is in the process of preparation and should be ready early next spring. In advance of that, we wish to inform you of the following new titles available:

	List price	For members
A14. <u>Contributions to the Archaeology of Armenia</u> , ed. by Henry Field (Russian Translation Series, Harvard Peabody Museum, 1968)	4.25	4.25
A15. <u>New Julfa: The Armenian Churches and Other Buildings</u> , John Carswell (Oxford Univ. Press, 1968)	14.00	12.95
A16. <u>Urartian Art and Artifacts</u> , Guitty Azarpay (Univ. of California Press, 1968)	12.50	10.50
A17. <u>Ancient Civilization of Urartu</u> , Boris B. Piotrovsky (Cowles Book Co., 1969)	10.00	8.00
H34. <u>The Colophons of Armenian Manuscripts, 1301-1480</u> , ed. by Avedis K. Sanjian (Harvard University Press, 1969)	10.00	9.25
C13. <u>The Paulician Heresy</u> , Nina G. Garsoian (Mouton & Co., 1967)	15.50	13.50
C14. <u>History of Eastern Christianity</u> , Aziz S. Atiya (Univ. of Notre Dame Press, 1968)	13.50	11.25
L14. <u>ABC of Armenian - A Prep Book: Conversation, Reading, Grammar</u> , Fr. Luke Arakelian (Mekhitarist Press, 1969) - book & record	9.95	9.95
X7. <u>Revue des Etudes Armeniennes</u> , Vol. V (1968) (Librairie C. Klincksieck, Paris)	12.25	11.25
X14. <u>Armenian Alphabet Coloring Book</u> , Arra S. Avakian (Diocese, Armenian Church, 1968)	1.25	1.25
X15. <u>Experiences</u> , Arnold Toynbee (Oxford University Press, 1969)	8.75	7.25
X16. <u>Gomidas Vartabed: His Life and Work</u> (Diocese, Armenian Church, 1969)	4.00	4.00

Member prices are only available to members in good standing with respect to their annual dues. Postage is prepaid on all orders accompanied by remittance. Massachusetts residents: Add 3% sales tax to total.

The annual dues notice for 1970 is scheduled for mailing in February. Those who have not yet renewed for 1969 and earlier years are urged to remit promptly as dues are vital to National Office operations.