

30th Anniversary Year Activities Continue

Assembly to Hear Progress Report and Plans for Next Decade

The 30th Annual Assembly of NAASR members will take place on Saturday, November 10, 1984, at the Sheraton-Commander Hotel in Cambridge, Mass.

Registration and Committee Meetings will be held at 11 a.m., the Luncheon will take place at 12:15 p.m.; and the Business Session will begin at 2 p.m.

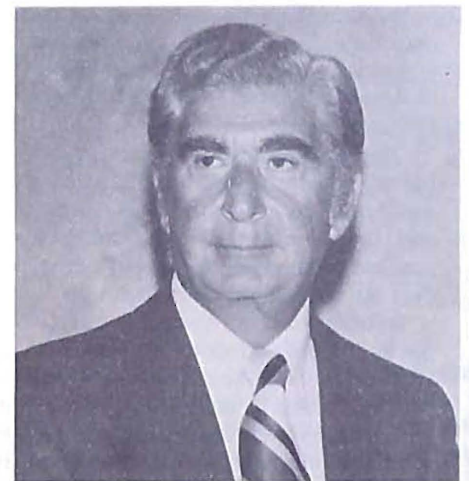
NAASR Board member Richard Ashton of Fresno, Calif., will be the Luncheon speaker. The Committee chairmen are: Nominating, Jacob Pilibosian; Constitution and Rules, Dr. Martin H. Halabian; New Business and Resolutions, Charles Sahagian; and Auditing, Rose Hovannesian.

Edward Mardigian To Be Honored At Annual Assembly Banquet

Edward Mardigian, of Taylor, Mich., businessman, philanthropist, and charter member of NAASR, will be honored for his efforts to foster Armenian studies and heritage at NAASR's 30th Annual Assembly Banquet, which will be held on Sunday evening, November 11, at Memorial Hall in Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.

Mr. Mardigian will be awarded NAASR's first Distinguished Service Award.

The Banquet has been planned as a reunion for the hundreds of NAASR members who have participated in the success of the organization's programs to promote



Edward Mardigian

Armenian studies. For this reason, Memorial Hall was chosen as the site for the Banquet; it was here that, in 1959, the suc-

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Genocide Conference Planned

NAASR will join Bentley College in sponsoring a major conference next April focusing on the lessons of the Armenian Genocide.

Leading scholars from the United States and abroad in the fields of Armenian Studies, human rights, and related subjects are being invited to present papers on the general theme: "70 Years After the Genocide: Lessons from the Armenian Experience."

The conference is designed to look at the effects, 70 years later, of the campaign by the Turkish government during World War I to exterminate the Armenian people. It will consider the experiences of other peoples who have been faced with near annihilation and will emphasize particularly issues of human rights, international morality, and the effects of the failure of the international community to recognize the tragedy experienced by the Armenian people.

The 2½-day conference, which will be held on the Bentley College campus in Waltham, Mass., will open on Thursday evening, April 18, 1985, with registration and welcoming banquet. The program includes: a series of papers on the general theme "The Armenian Holocaust, 70 Years Later" on Friday, April 19; a panel discussion on the topic "The Armenians and the Jews: Exploring Common Grounds" on the evening of Friday, April 19; and a full-day session of papers on the general topic "The Armenian Genocide and the Status of Human Rights Worldwide" on Saturday, April 20.

Prof. Richard Geehr of Bentley College and Manoog S. Young, NAASR Board Chairman, are serving as co-chairmen of the organizing committee. Dr. Gregory H. Adamian, President of Bentley College, is the honorary chairman.

Anyone who wishes to submit a paper at the conference is urged to contact either chairman of the committee. Abstracts of papers must be submitted before December 15, 1984 for consideration.

Further information is available from NAASR or from the Conference Headquarters, Attn: Prof. Richard Geehr, Bentley College, Beaver and Forest Streets, Waltham, Mass. 02154, Telephones: (617) 891-2930 or 891-2115.

ALMA & NAASR Join in Search For New Facility

The Armenian Library and Museum of America (ALMA) and NAASR have agreed to join forces in a search for a new location in the greater Boston area to house the two organizations together.

According to the agreement, ALMA and NAASR would merge their respective libraries, share some common facilities and personnel, but at the same time retain their separate identities and functions.

Other compatible groups will be invited to share the facilities as well. It is anticipated that the result of the cooperative venture could be a major Armenian educational and cultural center.

Sub-committees of members of the two organizations will search for a suitable location and work out the other aspects of the agreement.

Chairman's Letter

NAASR's 30th anniversary year commenced in an auspicious manner last May with the highly successful and widely acclaimed Conference on the Armenian Experience in America at Harvard University.

During this year we have made two major staff appointments which will enable us to improve the quality and quantity of the services provided by NAASR to scholars, students, and the general public in furthering Armenian studies, scholarship, and research and in contributing to the enhancement of Armenian culture and the perpetuation of the Armenian heritage. We have also joined forces with the Armenian Library and Museum of America (ALMA) in search of a combined and larger facility to house both organizations as well as others who may wish to join.

The activities which have been scheduled on the occasion of the 30th Annual Assembly will serve to bring together NAASR members, supporters, and friends in a reunion atmosphere and to focus attention on the needs and programs to meet the challenges of the next decade to further Armenian studies, culture, and heritage.

Next spring, a major national conference, under the joint sponsorship of NAASR and Bentley College, will draw national — and even international — attention to genocide and human rights on the occasion of the seventieth anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. The 30th anniversary year will witness other major events in this and other parts of the country and will be climaxed by a major celebration next fall designed to highlight this milestone in the history of NAASR and the American Armenian community.

The purpose of these activities is not only to celebrate but to give, as well, impetus to our programs and activities during the next decade which will be critical for the continued growth and image of the Armenian communities in this country and abroad during these troubled times. NAASR's programs are positive and everlasting in effect and, as its past programs have shown, have influence and impact far beyond the immediate goals and the Armenian community.

In order to bring about the effective realization of NAASR's programs and goals the nationwide effort to increase NAASR's Permanent and Advancement Funds to \$2.5 million will be greatly intensified during this 30th anniversary year.

The success of the fund drive will insure continued publication of this *Newsletter*, resumption of the publication of our *Journal of Armenian Studies*, acquisition of needed equipment for our Armenian Reference and Research Library and headquarters operations, improvement in the services of our Armenian Book Clearing House which has become the world's largest distributor of English-language books on Armenian and related subjects, increase of the functions of our Armenian Information and Education Center, and — last but not least — acquisition of larger facilities to house all these operations and to increase our undermanned staff.

Its success will also enable us to continue and increase our support of academic programs, offer scholarships and research grants, expand the publication of scholarly works, translations, and reprints, development of curricula on the Armenian Genocide, enhance library collections, sponsor conferences, congresses, seminars, and lecture series, and ultimately establish an Institute of Armenian Studies.

The NAASR saga is one that every member and supporter should be proud of and should continue to be a part of in order to guarantee the success of its historic mission to continue and expand Armenian studies and to further the Armenian culture and heritage.

*Manoog S. Young, Chairman
NAASR Board of Directors*

Briefs

KHERLOPIAN LECTURE. Dr. Kevork Kherlopian, Professor of Cultural History at the State University of Yerevan, Armenia, gave a fascinating lecture to a near-capacity audience last June at Boylston Hall, Harvard University, under the auspices of NAASR.

The topic of his talk was "The Armenian Renaissance of the 11th to the 14th Centuries." In describing the creative approaches to law, philosophy, science, literature, art, music, architecture and city planning displayed by Armenians living in these centuries, Prof. Kherlopian suggested that Armenians should emphasize their cultural history to a greater extent instead of concentrating, as in the past, on political history.

NEW STAFF. NAASR has announced two staff appointments designed to improve and greatly expand its information and publications activities and services. Dr. Barbara J. Merguerian, former editor of the weekly newspaper *The Armenian Mirror-Spectator*, is the new Director of Information, Publicity, and Publications, and Mrs. Danila Jebejian Terpanjian, a graduate of the Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Services, has been appointed Librarian.

The two appointments increase the NAASR headquarters staff to five persons. The administrative staff is headed by Executive Secretary Mrs. Sandra L. Jurigian, who has been with NAASR for over 20 years. The staff includes also part-time college students.

LIBRARY DONATIONS. Several new donations of books and papers have been made to the NAASR library, and there has been an increased use of the library facilities by scholars and students.

The library is open every day, Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The collection now exceeds 10,000 volumes. **COMPUTER.** A committee has been actively studying NAASR's need for a computer/word processing multi-station system, and will shortly make a recommendation to the Board of Directors. It is hoped that a computer will be in use at the NAASR headquarters by the end of the year.

Following an initial "shake-down" period, it is expected that the computer will enable the organization to more efficiently serve its members and the community, particularly through periodically updated book lists, improved membership files, library services and many other aspects of NAASR's programs.

Members of the committee are: Raffi Yeghayan, Aram Karakashian, Kaigham Gabriel, Gregory Tutunjian, and William Aznavourian.

NAASR NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Committee:

Chairman: Manoog S. Young; First Vice-Chairman: Raffi P. Yeghayan; Second Vice-Chairman: Armen Dohanian; Secretary: Aram S. Karakashian; Treasurer: Erivan Hagopian; Ass't Secretary: Charles Sahagian; Ass't Treasurer: Elizabeth A. Gregory.

Members-at-large:

Gregory H. Adamian, Aharon G. Aharonian, Richard Ashton (Calif.), William Aznavourian (R.I.), Andrea Der Boghosian, Richard N. Frye, Nishan Goudsouzian, Jack Guevrekian (N.Y.), Aram Johnson, Gregory S. Kolligian, Hagop J. Nersoyan (Ohio), Dennis R. Papazian (Mich.), Arthur S. Petoyan (Calif.), Pergrouhi N. Svajian (N.Y.).

Prof. Thomson Directs Harvard's Dumbarton Oaks

Robert W. Thomson, Mashtots Professor of Armenian Studies at Harvard University, has been named Director of Harvard's Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection in Washington, D.C. The appointment is for five years, beginning July 1, 1984.

A scholar in patristic literature and Eastern Church history, Dr. Thomson was appointed Harvard's first Professor of Armenian Studies in 1969. His endowed professorship was made possible primarily by contributions from Armenians throughout the United States through the efforts of NAASR. From 1973 to 1978 and in 1980-81, he served as Chairman of the Department of Near East Languages and Civilizations.

"Robert Thomson is especially well qualified to take over the leadership of Dumbarton Oaks," Harvard President Derek Bok said in announcing the appointment. "A prolific author and dedicated researcher himself, he will be able to inspire and encourage other scholars to take advantage of the unique cultural resources the library and collections afford."

Scholars from all over the world are attracted to Dumbarton Oaks because of its unparalleled collection of rare books and art works. The center is particularly known for its research library for Byzantine studies, which contains nearly 100,000 volumes and more than 56,000 photographs. Its art collection and renowned gardens are open to the public.

A native of Surrey, England, and the author or co-author of ten books and numerous articles, Prof. Thomson has had a lengthy association with Dumbarton Oaks. He was named a junior fellow there in 1961, and has been a senior fellow since 1979.

It was in fact at Dumbarton Oaks that Prof. Thomson became attracted to Armenian studies. "As a junior fellow there, I met Sirarpie Der Nersessian," Prof. Thomson recalled in a recent conversation, in a reference to the noted scholar and author who is a leading expert on Armenian art and manuscripts. "It was a result of her influence that I became irrevocably involved in Armenian studies."

This involvement continues as Prof.

Thomson takes up his new position. Although directing a research center with a staff of 130 persons and with programs in pre-Columbian art and landscape architecture, along with Byzantine studies, is a challenging assignment, Prof. Thomson finds time to teach a course on Classical Armenian at Dumbarton Oaks.

During the five years that Prof. Thomson will be away from Cambridge, Armenian courses will be taught by Kevork Bardakjian, who has been on the Harvard faculty since 1974. Dr. Bardakjian returns to Harvard after a year of teaching at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. To fill out the academic program at Harvard, various scholars in the United States and abroad will be invited to serve as visiting lecturers in Armenian studies.

The appointment of Prof. Thomson to head Dumbarton Oaks can be expected to strengthen the position of Armenological subjects within the broader context of Byzantine studies and to stimulate scholarly investigation of the many important questions associated with Armenian and Byzantine history and culture.

UCLA. Dr. Avedis K. Sanjian, Narekatsi Professor and Director of the Armenian Studies Program, has announced that the Art Department this year is offering an undergraduate course on the art and architecture of medieval Armenia and a graduate seminar on manuscript art, concentrating on the relation of Armenian miniature painting to Byzantine art.

The two courses are being taught by Alice Taylor, who is joining the UCLA faculty as a visiting professor. She is completing her doctoral work at the New York University Institute of Fine Arts and has spent two years in the Soviet Union — one year in Yerevan and one year in Leningrad — conducting research on her dissertation, which deals with 15th century Armenian miniature painters.

Following a sabbatical last year, Prof. Richard Hovanissian has returned to UCLA this year, where he is a professor of history and associate director of the Grunebaum Center for Near Eastern Studies.

COLUMBIA. Dr. Nina Garsoian, Centennial Professor of Armenian History and Civilization, is teaching the survey courses in Armenian history this year. In addition, she offers a doctoral seminar on Armenian Historical Geography (first semester) and Problems of Armenian History (second semester). Prof. Garsoian is working on a translation of the history by Pawstos Buzand under a grant from the National

Endowment for the Humanities and has been invited to lecture at the Oriental Institute of the University of Rome in January on "Armeno-Iranian Relations in the pre-Islamic Period."

Dr. Peter Cowe has been named assistant professor of Armenian language and literature and is teaching the Armenian language courses this year. In addition, Dr. Cowe is offering a course on Armenian poetry, focusing on "The Lament as a Genre, 14th to 18th Centuries" (first semester) and "Lyric Poetry" (second semester). A native of Scotland, Dr. Cowe has studied at the Armenian Patriarchate in Jerusalem.

MICHIGAN. At the Ann Arbor campus Dr. Ronald Grigor Suny, Alex Manoogian Professor of Modern Armenian History, who was on a research leave last year as a Guggenheim Fellow, has returned and is teaching the survey course on the history of the Armenian people, which has an enrollment of 22 this fall. Ared Missirlian, a graduate student in linguistics from Cornell University, is teaching the language classes.

At the Dearborn campus, Zareh Melkonian is offering the Armenian language classes this year. The program at Dearborn is coordinated by Dr. Dennis R. Papazian, professor of Russian and Middle East History, who teaches a course on "Armenia and the Middle East."

FRESNO. The Armenian Studies Program at California State University, Fresno, offers five courses this year, according to a report from Prof. Dickran Kouymjian, Director. There are 26 students in the elementary Armenian language class, and 10 students in the intermediate level class. The "Introduction to Armenian Studies" class had to open a second section to accommodate the 46 students who signed up, and Armenian History I (Ancient and Medieval) and Armenian Architecture are also offered.

TUFTS. A novel program in Armenian Art and Architecture made its debut this fall at Tufts University in Medford, Mass., with Dr. Lucy Der Manuelian as the lecturer. "Survey of Armenian Art, 4th to 14th Century," is being offered in the fall term, and "Armenia and the West, Architecture and Sculpture, 4th to 14th Century," will be offered in the spring semester.

The program is part of a unique Lectureship in Armenian Art and Architecture that will be taught successively at six universities in the Greater Boston area: Harvard, Boston University, Boston College, Northeastern University, the University of Massachusetts, and Tufts. Montreal's McGill University is also a participant in the program.

News about these and the many other Armenian Studies Programs across the nation will be a regular feature of the Newsletter.

Most Recent Titles of Note

The number of books published on topics related to Armenia and Armenians continues to grow at a rapid rate and exceeds 800 since the inception of NAASR's Book Clearing House. A sample of some of the recent additions now available appears below. A complete and up-to-date list of recent titles as well as special sale books is available upon request. The NAASR Clearance Sale has been extended one month to November 15. (Figures in parenthesis below are reduced prices for NAASR members in good standing.)

Academies for Anatolia, by Frank Andrews Stone (University Press of America). A study of the rationale, program and impact of the educational institutions sponsored by the American Board for Foreign Missions in Turkey (1830-1980), with considerable reference to the role of Armenians. H233. \$29.95 (\$27.50).

Ani, by Paolo Cuneo, Armen Zarian, et al (Edizioni ARES, Milan). Volume 12 of the Documents of Armenian Architecture Series, written by an international panel of

art historians and profusely illustrated with color and black and white photographs. A123p. \$17.50 (\$15.95).

Armenian National Costumes: From Ancient Times to Our Days, by Arakel Patrick (Sovetakan Grogh, Yerevan). A pictorial survey of the garments and ornaments worn by Armenians in the periods dating from the ninth century BC to the mid-nineteenth century AD, with text in Armenian, English and Russian. A121. \$25.00 (\$19.95).

Britain and the Armenian Question, 1915-1923, by Akaby Nassibian (St. Martin's Press). An analysis of British policy toward the Armenians during and immediately following World War I, based largely on an exhaustive analysis of official documents. H234. \$30.00 (\$25.00).

Edgar Chahine: La Vie Parisienne, with essay by Gabriel P. Weisberg. (Smithsonian Institution). Catalogue issued for the Smithsonian Institution's recent retrospective exhibition of works by the Armenian artist who captured in his prints the spirit and style of life in Paris at the turn of the century. A122p. \$15.00 (\$12.75).

Gurdjieff: Seeker of the Truth, by Kathleen Riordan Spèth and Ira Friedlander (Harper Colophon Books). The story of the Armenian mystic with a description of his philosophy, his childhood in Gumri and Kars, and his studies in various centers of the Middle and Far East, including Etchmiadzin. Photos in black and white. X156p. \$5.95 (\$4.95).

The New Saroyan Reader: A Connoisseur's Anthology of the Writings of William Saroyan, edited by Brian Darwent (Creative Arts). An anthology of Saroyan short stories spanning the author's

exuberant early years as well as the mature pieces from his later work. Cloth, T106c, \$17.95 (\$14.95); paper, T106p, \$11.50 (\$9.50).

Root River Run, by David Kherdian (Carolrhoda Books). The final book in the award-winning trilogy about the author's mother, who fled from Turkey and made a new life in the United States. Illustrated by Nonny Hogrogian. X157. \$9.95 (\$8.50).

Weavers, Merchants and Kings: The Inscribed Rugs of Armenia, by Lucy Der Manuelian and Murray L. Eiland. A catalogue published on the occasion of an exhibition of Armenian rugs at the Kimbell Art Museum in Fort Worth, Texas, with the cooperation of the Armenian Rugs Society. 68 color plates and 23 black and white reproductions. Cloth, A125c, \$38 (\$32.50); paper, A125p, \$19.95 (\$16.95).

30th Anniversary

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Successful conclusion of the Campaign to endow a professorship in Armenian Studies at Harvard University was announced to an enthusiastic assemblage of over 1,000 persons.

The Banquet program will include an address by Dr. Richard N. Frye, Aga Khan Professor of Iranian at Harvard University and member of the NAASR Board. In order to encourage wide attendance at the Banquet, the tickets have been priced at a low \$15 per person. The evening's activities will begin with a reception at 6 p.m., to be followed by dinner at 7 p.m.

President of the Armenian General Benevolent Union of America for the past 14 years, Mr. Mardigian has held responsible positions in many organizations and is being recognized for his many contributions to Armenian educational and cultural organizations, including the Armenian museum in Jerusalem, the Mekhitarist Center in Venice, and churches and monasteries in Armenia.

President Carter appointed Mr. Mardigian a US Representative to the Helsinki Accord Conference, and President Reagan has asked him to continue his participation on the Helsinki Accords Committee.

How You Can Help:

- ▶ Join
- ▶ Renew
- ▶ Reinstate
- ▶ Participate
- ▶ Publicize
- ▶ Contribute

Contribution and Pledge Form

National Association for Armenian Studies and Research, Inc.
175 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge, Mass. 02138

On the occasion of the 30th anniversary of NAASR I wish to support its objectives and programs by making a contribution or pledge for the Permanent Endowment Fund and/or Advancement Fund as follows:

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 500 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$2,500 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$10,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> other: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$5,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$25,000 | _____ |

I will remit my pledge in 1 , 2 , or 3 years beginning on _____ or according to the following schedule: _____

Enclosed is \$ _____. I will remit the balance as follows: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

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All contributions are deductible for income tax purposes
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National Association for Armenian Studies and Research, Inc.

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