Genocide Institute Board Meets

A number of scholars from various educational institutions gathered at the NAASR Headquarters on Saturday, Sept. 6, for the first meeting of the Advisory Board of NAASR’s newly established Institute for the Study of the Armenian Genocide.

After a general discussion of the need for a scholarly and comprehensive approach to the field of Armenian Genocide studies, the Advisory Board members outlined the following strengths.

Throughout the discussion, members stressed the need for a coordinated approach to genocide studies among all institutions and organizations involved and suggested that NAASR might perform a valuable function by serving as a clearing house for the various organizations engaged in activities in this field.

In view of the large amount of work to be done in the relatively new field of genocide studies, the proliferation of activity among Armenian organizations is to be encouraged, the scholars agreed, as long as efforts are coordinated and there is no duplication of effort. Organizations should be in a position to benefit from each other’s strengths.

Such a coordinated approach is essential, given the resources available to the Armenian community in the face of a massive effort by the Turkish government to deny the Armenian Genocide and to distort the historical facts.

The Institute for the Study of the Armenian Genocide was founded by the NAASR Board of Directors as a consequence of the National Conference on Genocide and Human Rights held in April, 1985, and sponsored jointly by NAASR and Bentley College.

Specific Projects

Among the specific projects discussed by the Advisory Board, it was proposed that NAASR establish grants for research in the field of the Armenian Genocide. It was also pointed out that NAASR is already committed to the publication of a volume consisting of the papers presented at the 1985 session of the NAASR conference.

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NAASR Plans 20-Day Heritage Tour to Armenia, The Soviet Union, and Greece

A twenty-day NAASR Heritage Tour to Armenia, the Soviet Union, and Greece will leave from Boston on June 30, 1987.

Included in the itinerary will be the Armenian capital city of Yerevan (7 days), Leipzig (3 days), Yalta (5 days), Moscow (3 days), and as an added bonus a visit to Athens, Greece (3 days).

NAASR Board Secretary Charles S. Sahagian, who heads the committee planning the trip, urged interested NAASR members to send in deposits ($200 per person) to reserve space on the tour, which will center on sites and activities of particular interest to Armenian Americans. A special feature of the visit to Greece will be a full-day cruise of islands in the Aegean Sea.

The tour price of $1,850 will cover all costs, including travel, lodging, three meals per day, taxes, and other fees. English-speaking guides will be provided in all countries. Bogosian Travel Service of New York is in charge of the arrangements.

Detailed information about the tour will be mailed to all NAASR members shortly and will be available from the NAASR Headquarters.
Heritage Press Announces New Releases

NAASR’s Armenian Heritage Press an-

nounces the release of a new edition of Rev. Abram Hartunian’s memoir of the Armenian Genocide Neither to Laugh nor to Weep. The book has been rewritten as a memoir by the original Armenian manuscript by the author’s son, a current member of the Armenian Church in Belmont, Mass., the book was first published by Beacon Press in Boston in 1971. The book has been the recipient of various awards and honors, and this new edition is expected to be well received by readers.

For this new edition, an introduction has been written by Robert Arzoumanian, a professor at the American University of Armenia, and a biographical note by a member of the Armenian Missionary Association of America.

The book includes two editions of the original text, one in English and one in Armenian. The publication is a testament to the enduring legacy of the Armenian Genocide and the resilience of the Armenian people.

Tax Benefits for Prospective Donors

Individuals planning to make a donation to NAASR are advised to consult with their tax advisor. Contributions made in the calendar year of 1988 are more valuable than donations made in subsequent years. In particular, donations made in 1988 can be deducted in full, subject to the limits of the gift.

For individuals in the upper tax brackets, the relative benefit of making such gifts under the present law appears to outweigh the benefits of gifts in trust.

Growth in Programs Reported

The success of NAASR’s programs over the past three decades has been due to the dedication and hard work of many volunteers. The organization has been able to expand its programs and activities, thanks to the support of many donors.

The organization is committed to supporting the Armenian people and their culture, and to promoting a better understanding of their history and heritage.

Awarded Grants

As part of the annual activity, a number of leading Armenian Americans in various fields of endeavor were honored by NAASR. The awards were presented at the NAASR Annual Meeting held in Boston in November.

The awards were presented to: Gerald Abrahamian, President of the American University in Beirut, Lebanon; Aram S. Haroutunian, Chairman of the Board of Directors; and Richard G. Hovannisian, President of St. Vartan Armenian School.

A top priority for the organization now is to expand its programs and activities, and to increase its membership. The organization is hoping to attract more young Armenians to participate in its programs.

We are proud to be a part of this important work, and we hope that you will continue to support NAASR in its efforts to promote a better understanding of Armenian culture and history.
Three New Chairs in Armenian Studies Planned

The rapid growth in Armenian studies programs in the United States in the past three decades has led to announcements of plans to establish new chairs and chairs in academic institutions in Constantinople, Boston, and other cities. Tufts University in Medford, Mass., Columbia University in New York City, and Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles (CAL) are planning to establish chairs.

Modern History at UCLA

At UCLA, a junior faculty position in Modern Armenian History will be established at the request of the Armenian Historical Institute in Yerevan. The chair will be named after the prominent historian and diplomatakhk, Professor Dr. S. Young, Chairman of the NAASR Board of Directors. The chair at UCLA is already in existence, and has been invited to remain anonymous at present,Mr. Young.("Armenian Language and Literature," Page 4)

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Cambridge-Yerevan Sister City Project

The Armenian-American Club of Las Vegas, Nevada, has successfully completed the first phase of its project to supply local libraries with books on Armenian history and culture. In cooperation with NAASR's Armenian Book Clearing House, the Club established a book display in its library with books on Armenian history and culture. The Club then raised over $1,000 to purchase three sets of the books for the Las Vegas-Clark County Library, the Library of the University of Nevada at Las Vegas, and the Armenian Library and Information Center in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Invest in your Armenian Heritage.

How have you included NAASR in your will?

Genocide Institute

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New NAASR Members

Beginning with this issue of the NAASR Newsletter, new members of the Armenian Genocide and Culture Committee will no longer be acknowledged in these pages. NAASR has endorsed the project, and the following 13 members have signed up for this project: Dr. Robert Lewis, Harvard; E. William Jenkins, Harvard; William Avakian, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Vartan Hartunian, First Armenian Church; William Derderian, President of the NAASR Board of Directors; William Hovsepian, University of Southern California; Vartan Manougian, Smith College; Aron Ramian, University of Massachusetts; Francois Galstian, University of California; Sam Borderian, University of California; Gerald Welch, Harvard; William Aris, New York; and Dr. Lucy Der Manoukian, member of the NAASR Board of Directors.

Local Armenian libraries for systems books for ArmenianAmericans.

In order to encourage donations of this kind, NAASR's Armenian Book Clearing House has adopted a 15 percent across the board discount on books ordered for libraries. The Book Clearing House also offers guidance on other available books that might be of interest to members.

Genocide Institute

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Conference as well as reprinting Rev. Vartan Hartunian's "The Crucible of Silence in Modern Armenian History and Culture." The Institute in Jerusalem which Dr. Charny noted.

General Purposes

The Institute was established with the following general purposes in mind:

1. To encourage and support further study and research about the Armenian Genocide and the Holocaust through sponsorship of multidisciplinary research.
2. To provide scholar in-residence grants for Fellows from institutions in any country.
3. To publish original research and articles on the Armenian Genocide and the Holocaust, including academic journals, reviews, and documentary data and information; and
4. To support and assist in the development and dissemination of curriculum materials in the classroom and the schools and to provide and expand archival material, documentation, and sources on the Armenian Genocide.

5. To organize and sponsor seminars, symposia, and conferences on various aspects of the Armenian Genocide.

Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis signs the proclamation which set the week of June 15-21, 1986, as "Armenian Studies Week" in commemoration of the NAASR's 25th anniversary, which was celebrated last summer. Standing, left to right: NAASR Board Chairman Mounir S. Young, Assistant Secretary Nancy R. Rofffignon; Treasurer Steven Hagnagian, Assistant Treasurer Rose A. Hovanessian, and Board member Arnold Johnson. Text of the proclamation was in the Summer Newsletter.

No group of people possesses uniqueness in the arena of suffering and pain. Dr. Israel Charny, a psychiatrist and scholar from Jerusalem, Israel, pointed out in a lecture on the "Armenian Genocide and the Holocaust: Uniqueness versus Universality" sponsored by NAASR on Sunday evening, Sept. 7, at the St. James Armenian Church Hall in Watertown, Mass., "That the essence of a universal event is not something which is visible and identifiable in the early stages, but that indeed genocide will appear only after the human race is tricked by the perpetrators into believing that the_genocide is something which is not for them to do about it, regardless of who is behind it or behind it."

Under these circumstances, "is there any point to the argument about universality versus uniqueness?" Dr. Charny asked. "Isn't it time to get together to decide what to do about it, regardless of who is behind it or behind it?"

Only by cultivating a feeling of the universality of humankind will we be able to look for ways to avoid the recurrence of genocide, he asserted.

The Institute in Jerusalem which Dr. Charny heads is involved in several projects which bring together people of different professions and backgrounds on ways of focusing on genocide. One project that has been suggested is to spotlight events involving human suffering by making these events visible and identifiable in the early stages, a much greater tragedy may be averted in the end.
Recent and Selected Titles of Note

A sampling of some recent and noteworthy additions to NAASR's Armenian Book Clearing House list appears below. Figures in parentheses represent reduced prices for NAASR members in good standing. A list of other recent titles is available upon request. Postage is paid by NAASR on all prepaid orders.


The *Armenian Genocide and the West,* by Ara Balian (Armenian Case Committee, Jerusalem). An essay describing the reaction of Western writers, in particular Arnold J. Toynbee, to the Armenian Genocide of World War I. H286p. $34.45 ($2.95).

*Armenian Studies: An Index of Articles on Armenian Studies in Western Journals,* by V. Nersessian (Luzac & Co., London). A compilation of published articles written in English languages in the fields of Armenian religion and theology, history, numismatics, mythology, manuscripts, linguistics, and architecture, and the dispersal, with an introduction by Prof. David M. Lang of the University of London. X185p. $4.95 ($4.50).

The *Armenians,* by Adriano Alpago Novello (Rizzoli International Publications, Milan and New York). A comprehensive and richly illustrated volume presenting typical examples of Armenian art through the ages in all its variety, with essays devoted to history, art, and society. By the director of the Center for Studies in Armenian Culture, Milan. A164. $75.00 ($65.00).

Still Available:

**ARMENIAN NEEDLELACE AND EMBROIDERY: A Preservation of Some of History's Oldest and Finest Needlewor**

By Alice Odian Kasparian

This sumptuous book breaks new ground in the study of Armenian textiles, a widely neglected tradition in Near Eastern arts, and pays tribute to the artistry of generations of women whose people vanished at the hands of the Turks. Like a few others who survived the holocaust, Mrs. Kasparian brought the techniques, patterns, and rare examples of laces and embroideries to her adopted land. By teaching how to make the knotted lace in both text and diagrams [and the more complicated Armenian interlaced embroidery], the author puts ancient art at the fingertips of modern lacemakers. A111. $29.95 ($25.95).

**ASALA: Irrational Terror or Political Tool,** Tel Aviv University. Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies, Study No. 2, by Anat Kurz and Ariel Merari (The Jerusalem Post, Jerusalem, and Westview Press, Boulder, CO). An in-depth study of the Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia (ASALA), tracing the factors that brought about the formation of the terrorist organization in the 1970s, an outline of its activities, a brief assessment of current trends, and selected documents bearing on the 1915 genocide of the Armenians. H281p. $15.00 ($12.95).

*Caucasian Carpets,* by E. Gano-Ruedin. (Rizzoli International Publications, Milan and New York). A historic overview of the provinces (Armenia, Georgia, Azerbaijan, and Daghestan) from which these carpets originate, followed by a series of color plates of classic Caucasian carpets with an explanation of the symbols found in the most typical patterns; prepared with the assistance of the Peruvian expert J. Kerimov. A163. $95.00 ($80.00).


*Many Hills Yet to Climb: Memoirs of an Armenian Deputy,* by John Minassian (Jim Cook, Publisher, Santa Barbara, CA). Born in 1895 in Sivas, the author recounts his education in American missionary schools in Turkey and his escape from death during the World War I deportations of the Armenians; his life in the United States in 1920. X187p. $9.95 ($8.50).


"Pursuing the Just Cause of Their People": *A Study of Contemporary Armenian Terrorism,* by Michael M. Gunter (Contributions in Political Science No. 152, Greenwood Press, Westport, CT). Analysis of the beginnings, in the 1970s, of current Armenian terrorism, the terrorist organizations involved, their modus operandi, transnational connections, the question of Turkish harassment and counterterror, and some conclusions and recommendations. H282. $29.95 ($27.50).

The *Quest for Noah's Ark,* by John Warwick Montgomery (2nd revised & expanded edition, Bethany House, Minneapolis, MN). Eyewitness accounts by individuals who have tried to climb the Biblical Mt. Ararat, beginning with a Babylonian account written in 275 BC and ending with the author's own successful ascent in 1979; with maps, bibliography, and essay on "Science, Satellites, and Noah's Ark." H287p. $4.95 ($4.25).


*Soviet Armenian Encyclopedia: Volume 11* (Academy of Sciences, Armenian SSR, Yerevan). The latest volume of this comprehensive reference work, with information about a variety of Armenian and non-Armenian persons, places, and objects, with pictures, diagrams, and maps, covering entries between "sovetakan" to "tieterk" (in Armenian). X98k. $25.00 ($21.95).

*Soviet But Not Russian: The "Other Peoples of the Soviet Union,* by William M. Mandel (University of Alberta Press, Edmonton, Canada, and Ramparts Press, Palo Alto, CA). A comprehensive account based largely on personal interviews on the history and present position of the non-Russian ethnic minorities who make up nearly half of the population of the USSR. Cloth, H283c. $20.00 ($16.95); paper, H283p. $10.00 ($8.50).

*Survival Against All Odds:* The First 100 Years of Anatolia College,* by Everett and Mary Stephens (Caratzas Publishing Co., New Rochelle, NY). A history of the college which played such an important role in the education of Christians in "Arzoy; founded by American missionaries in Marsovan in 1886, the College was transferred to Thessaloniki, Greece, as a result of the upheavals of World War I. With black and white photos. H284. $37.50 ($31.95).

*William Saroyan: An Armenian Trilogy,* edited and with an introduction by Dickran Kouymjian (California State University, Fresno). Three volumes in "Arzoy: "Biris," "Ardzor," and "Haratch" written by the late Armenian American writer during the last decade of his life in which the impact of his Armenian background on his philosophical world view is explored. With numerous black-and-white photographs. Cloth, T127c. $21.95 ($18.95); paper, T127p. $12.95 ($10.55).