Assembly Meets Nov. 7 at Bentley College

The 33rd Annual Assembly of NAASR Members will take place this year on Saturday, Nov. 7, at the Bentley College Graduate Center in Waltham, Mass.

Dr. Jean-Pierre Mahé of Paris, France, will be the guest of honor at the Assembly Luncheon. Professor of Classical and Modern Armenian at the University of Paris (Sorbonne) and editor of the Revue des Études Arméniennes, Dr. Mahé is visiting professor of Armenian at Harvard University during the fall semester.

The day’s activities will begin at 11 a.m. with registration and committee meetings. The Assembly will be convened at 12 noon, followed by the luncheon recess at 12:15 p.m.

In addition to remarks by Dr. Mahé, the luncheon program will include a report, illustrated with color slides, of NAASR’s Heritage Tour to Armenia and the Soviet Union this summer. The report will be given by NAASR Board Secretary Charles S. Sahagian, the tour leader.

The business session beginning at 2:30 p.m. will consist of reports (organizational, academic, and financial) by the Board of Directors, Special Reports, Reports of Assembly Committees, and Election of Directors.

Committee Chairmen for the 33rd Assembly are: Erivan Hagopian, Nominating; Aram S. Karakashian, Constitution and Rules; Hagop J. Nersoyan, New Business and Resolutions; and S. George Jigarjian, Auditing.

Reservations for the Luncheon, at $12.50 per person, should be made by Oct. 31 by mail or by contacting the NAASR office, (617) 876-7630.

All NAASR members in good standing have the right to attend, be heard, and vote at the Assembly of Members, according to the Constitution. Guests are cordially invited to attend the Luncheon and the Assembly Sessions as observers.

Japanese Show Interest in Armenian Studies

Two centers for Armenian studies have been established in Japan, where much interest in Armenian studies is evident.

The Japanese Institute of Armenia in Kawasaki, Japan, was established in 1984, according to a communication from Hideharu Nakajima, who has ordered many books on Armenian history and culture from NAASR for the Institute and has reported on his research.

He writes that he visited Armenia first in 1980 and again in 1984. “In a flash I fell in love with Armenia,” he says. He went to Yerevan, Sardarabad, Ashtarak, Kamarlu, and Vedi. He was also able to visit Armenian sites in Turkey, touring Kara, Ani, Van, Aghtamar, Diyarbekir, Erzerum, and Kharpert. Since then he has been working on a book, Journey to the Armenian Highlands.

To complete his research, he spent this summer again in Armenia and Eastern Turkey. He wrote that he has visited Moush, Kharpert, Hussenig, and other historic areas. The book is scheduled to be published later this year.

A Japanese-Armenian Cultural Center is scheduled to open in Tokyo, Japan, this fall. The guiding spirit for its organization is Prof. Nabouo Satoh of the University of Japan, a scholar who received his doctorate in Indo-European languages from the University of California, Los Angeles, last year. Dr. Satoh is the author of a grammar of Classical Armenian, in Japanese, and has just published the first book about Armenian history in Japanese, titled Armenia: Land of Human Genesis and Tragedy.

Banquet Honors Prof. Bardakjian

Kevork B. Bardakjian, Senior Lecturer in Armenian and Armenian Bibliographer at Harvard University since 1974, was honored at a farewell banquet sponsored by NAASR at the Harvard Faculty Club in Cambridge on the evening of July 30.

Dr. Bardakjian has accepted an appointment as the first occupant of the newly established Marie Manoogian Chair of Armenian Language and Literature at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. The Chair was funded by a $1 million gift from the Alex and Marie Manoogian Foundation.

The evening program provided an opportunity to honor Dr. Bardakjian for his accomplishments and also to review the tremendous strides that have been made in the establishment of Armenian studies programs in colleges and universities in the United States since NAASR funded the first two endowed Armenian Chairs at Harvard and the University of California, Los Angeles, beginning in the late 1950s.

NAASR Board Chairman Manoog S. Young, who opened the program, pointed out that a potential exists for even greater advances in Armenian studies programs, which benefit all the Armenian people, if the community will continue to encourage and support NAASR’s efforts.

Dr. Robert W. Thomson, Mashtots Pro-
Continued on page 6
CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

Priorities and Programs for 4th Decade

NAASR’s current $2.75 million fund drive was launched in 1984 in order to carry on and expand its efforts in support of Armenian studies, research, and publications.

While we are still in the midst of this campaign, the NAASR Board of Directors is in the process of evaluating its programs in the light of the tremendous progress that has been made during the past three decades.

The establishment of Chairs of Armenian Studies in higher educational institutions in this country has had a multiplier effect, bringing with it requests for additional Chairs, more courses, new publications, and improved library/research facilities. Under these circumstances, the Board believes that the time has come to establish priorities that can best meet the on-going and future challenges in the field of Armenian studies in this country.

To aid us in this process, over 125 academic and community leaders have been asked to give us their views, comments, and suggestions that will greatly help the Board in establishing priorities which better reflect current needs and realities and give sharper focus to NAASR’s programs as well as complement their efforts and those of other organizations and institutions with which they are associated.

Through the medium of this Newsletter, we invite all our members and friends to share their views and suggestions with us, also. We urge those of you who would like to participate to send them to us as soon as possible so that we may prepare a report prior to the Annual Assembly of Members.

We invite you to give us your views and suggestions by answering the questions listed below. We wish to thank you in advance for participating and helping us develop a meaningful set of priorities for the next decade. Please include your name and address with your reply.

Manoog S. Young
Chairman, Board of Directors

QUESTIONNAIRE

1. What should be NAASR’s priorities in its 4th decade?

II. Which of the current and projected programs and activities listed below should receive greater emphasis and attention? [Indicate how much more in the case of each one]:

[ ] Expansion and support for Academic Chairs and Programs
[ ] Scholarships, Fellowships, and Research Grants
[ ] Armenian Information, Education, and Documentation Center
[ ] Armenian Reference and Research Library
[ ] Institute for Armenian Studies and Research
[ ] Institute for the Study of Armenian Genocide
[ ] Armenian Book Clearing House
[ ] Curriculum Development (Secondary School Genocide Studies)
[ ] Congresses and Seminars (Annually)

III. What new programs should NAASR embark on consistent with its purposes and objectives?

IV. What programs or activities should be phased out or downgraded?

V. What other comments or suggestions do you have?

NAASR TRAVELERS EXPERIENCE UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES DURING ARMENIA TOUR

Participants in NAASR's Heritage Tour to Armenia and the Soviet Union returned to the United States exhausted after their three-week trip but full of enthusiasm about the sights they had seen and the unique opportunities they had experienced in engaging in frank and open discussion with Armenian and other Soviet citizens. Departing from Boston on July 5, the members of the group spent 2 days in Lensgrad, 2 days in Moscow, 2 days in Rostov-on-Don, 3 days in Yerevan, 1 week in Tbilisi, 7 days in Armenia, and 2 days in London. The group returned on July 26.

In the Armenian capital of Yerevan, tour leader Charles S. Sahagian and Anthony Mirakian were interviewed by Radio Yerevan for two separate programs which will be broadcast in September. Both were asked their impressions of Armenia: It was Mr. Sahagian's second trip, and Mr. Mirakian's first. Mr. Sahagian, who is NAASR Board Secretary, also responded to questions about NAASR and its programs.

In Moscow, just before leaving the Soviet Union, in what appeared to be a manifestation of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's new policy of glasnost, or openness, the group members had a unique opportunity to share their experiences and express their sentiments in an open and free discussion with Soviet citizens that lasted for almost three hours. Questions about the rights of Soviet citizens to travel abroad and about the position of Armenians were raised, along with many other issues of mutual interest.

In Rostov-on-Don, a provincial city not usually on the itinerary of visiting Armenians, the NAASR group realized that the Armenian community there is living outside of the Armenian republic face many of the same pressures toward assimilation as those experienced by Armenians in the United States. The group members included several who are also available on a subscription basis.

Volunteers Needed

Members and friends continue to volunteer their services to the NAASR Headquarters. Mrs. Hilda Sachnowitz, Allston, has been donating one after another lovely gift for various office duties, and Stephanie Ulughbegian has worked tirelessly for two days a week during the summer. Recent volunteers include also Pasla S. Jurjigan, Waltham, and Adrienne Young, Jefferson.

There is an on-going need for assistance in all phases of book sales, library work, mailings, office assistance, and building and grounds maintenance. Senior citizens are especially welcome.

Individuals willing to share their special skills for a few hours or on a regular basis may contact Sandra Jurjigan, Administrative Director, at (617) 976-7630.

Amberian Church in Rostov-on-Don

American visitors were heartened to tour the Armenian museum in the city, a former Russian palace beautifully reconstructed and which contains valuable information and artifacts touching upon the life of Armenians in this area.

In Tbilisi, the capital of Georgia, the group was pleased to tour the Hermitage Museum and Petrodvoretz, and to attend a presentation of the State Academic Choir, which has been named one of the best in the world by the Royal Philharmonic. They were also treated to the world-renowned choir of the Madenataran, Babken (cousin of Metropolitan Opera singer Lili Chookasian), and to the noted group of the Tbilisi Airport, who are customarily invited to perform for the airline passengers. They have already held their first performance at the Armstrong Center for Scholarly and Research Work.

In Yerevan, the group was especially interested in seeing the Armenian Cathedral, which caused a sensation among American visitors. The Armenian museum in the city was heartening to tour, being beautifully reconstructed and which contains many of the same pressures toward assimilation as those experienced by Armenians in the United States.

Last month at the Armenian Church in Rostov-on-Don, the group was able to visit the Armenian Church in Rostov-on-Don, and to witness the making of a manuscript library called the so-called Armenian throne. In Moscow they toured the Armory of the Hermitage Museum and Petrodvoretz, and to attend the world-renowned choir of the Madenataran, Babken (cousin of Metropolitan Opera singer Lili Chookasian), and to the noted group of the Tbilisi Airport, who are customarily invited to perform for the airline passengers. They have already held their first performance at the Armstrong Center for Scholarly and Research Work.

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Agenian Genocide Courses in Schools Proliferate

A growing awareness of the importance of teaching public and private school students about American history in the light of the Armenian Genocide has drawn attention to curriculum development in the field.

The Armenian Genocide is being recognized by educators as an important and timely topic. In schools and students across the nation are increasing recognizing the importance of educating students about the Armenian Genocide, but also the meaning of the tragedy that engulfed the Armenian nation in 1915-23. The presentation of the Armenian Genocide on the curriculum is other than the expectations for subject content on Armenian Americans during World War II and the Holocaust.

In most states of the Northeast, local districts are responsible for the curriculum in their schools, and curriculum is generally mandated by the state government. In both New York and Connecticut, however, the State Departments of Education have prepared extensive resource guides for school districts and for teachers who wish to introduce units on Genocide and Human Rights. The New York State Education Department in 1985 issued a two-volume resource guide on Teaching About the Armenian Genocide, which is focused almost entirely on the Armenian Genocide and Jewish Holocaust education.

After an initial section on the roots of intolerance and persecution of Jews and Armenians, the guide goes on to precursors of the Holocaust and presents the Armenian experience of 1915-23 as a precursor of the Holocaust. In the State Departments of Education, the authors decline to enter into “the conundrum over whether the events of the Ottoman Empire during World I constituted what we now call a genocide.” The guide provides source materials extensively, which “will help students to investigate the complexities of these events. curriculum in 2,500 schools across the nation, 35,000 teachers have been through the training programs (including 500 in California, almost 100 in England, and 25 in Germany), and 10,000 teachers actively use the resource materials.

Research on the segment of the curriculum that includes teaching about the Armenian Genocide was made possible through grants from NAASR totaling over $15,000; from UCLA ($50,000) and the University of Connecticut ($40,000), which appear to regulate the deportation of the Armenian students, the collection of Armenian publications, and the publication of the Turkish government.

Students are urged to look at the material carefully and to answer a series of questions about the reforms sought by Armenian Genocide specialists. The generation of Armenians about the facts of the Armenian Genocide, but also in training. The content of the course includes an introduction to the Armenian Genocide to improving relations between peoples of different national, ethnic, and religious backgrounds.

Human Rights Focus

The Connecticut resource guide includes a section on Human Rights: The Struggle for Freedom, Dignity and Equality. The guide deals with a wide spectrum of human rights issues, ranging from the Armenian and the Cameroonian cases to refugees in modern Africa.

According to Daniel W. Gregg, Social Studies Consultant for the Department of Education, tremendous pressure was exerted on the State Departments of Education by Armenian groups submitting material in the fall of 1987 for review, with the two video presentations for use in the schools, one on the Armenian Genocide, in other than the expectations for subject content on Armenian Americans during World War II and the Holocaust.

Some of the specific content of the teaching on the Armenian Genocide is prepared by Prof. Ronald Suny, Alex Manoogian Professor of Modern Armenian History and Distinguished Professor of Comparative History on Transcaucasian, which will lead to a book on the revolutionary movement in Georgia and Armenia, Renaissance of the modern Armenian nation.

Prof. Suny will return to Michigan for the second consecutive year to teach a graduate course on Armenia and Armenians in the 1960s.

In conjunction with the Armenian studies program, Prof. Daniel Calow has introduced a one-semester course on the Holocaust as events which raise basic issues about stereotyping, peer pressure, and ethnicity. In the course, students use the material as well. The presentation of the Armenian Genocide and Human Rights program, which appeared to regulate the deportation of the Armenian students, the collection of Armenian publications, and the publication of NAASR'sHuman Rights Studies, is now on leave in 1987. He has been named Distinguished Visiting Professor of History at the University of California in recognition of this work.

Ronald Suny, Alex Manoogian Professor of Modern Armenian History, is on leave in 1987. He has been named Distinguished Visiting Professor of History at the University of California, Los Angeles, to teach a course on Armenians in world history for the spring 1987 term. UConn has initiated a search for a non-Armenian associate professor to teach Armenian History and Erdogan has been named Distinguished Professor of Comparative History on Transcaucasian, which will lead to a book on the revolutionary movement in Georgia and Armenia, Renaissance of the modern Armenian nation.

Michigan (Dearborn) Dedicates Mardigan Library

The library at the University of Michigan-Dearborn was redescribed as the Edward and Helen Mardigan Library at a June ceremony.

The rededication was in recognition of a $500,000 gift from the Helen Mardigan family. The library, the gift is the largest-ever cash gift to the University from an individual or family.

Opened in 1980, the library incorporates the strengths of a research library as well as numerous teaching laboratories, studios, faculty research groups, a study room, an education curriculum center, language and audio-visual laboratories, an administrative data processing center, and the Armenian Research Center.

Dr. John Khanjian has been appointed Academic Dean and Dr. Shavarsh Torjigian has been appointed Professor of Armenian Studies and Acting Chairman of the Armenian Studies Department at the American Armenian Institute.

As Dean of the College, Dr. Khanjian will be responsible for all college services. A scholar in the field of Religion and Bible Studies, Dr. Khanjian has taught at several Armenian universities: the American University of Beirut and at Kennes Wesleyan College.

As Academic Dean, Dr. Khanjian will serve as the primary contact for community relations and Armenian culture, as well as a database on all current publications and relevant reviews.

AIC Announces New Teacher Training Center

An Armenian Teacher Education Center will be established at the American Armenian Institute.

The Center will be designed to train educators for service in Armenian schools in America and to prepare educational material as well.

The Armenian Teacher Education Center, to be known as the AIC Board Chairman, Dr. Garbis Der Yeghigian, College President, in announcing the decision, noted that the program is "a response to the needs of the Armenian community. Our major goal is the training of teachers who will be able to teach the Armenian language and culture in schools as an integral part of the curriculum." The program is open to all Armenian teachers, regardless of their level of education, and will be offered free of charge.

The new center will recruit and train preservice Armenian educators; provide an Armenian language course, and prepare educational material as well.

The center will also assemble panels of specialists to evaluate existing Armenian educational materials and to contrast them with modern formats and academic standards. The center will also offer courses in the field of Armenian history and culture, as well as in other academic subjects such as English, geography, and the arts. The courses will be offered in both English and Armenian, and will be taught by Armenian scholars with expertise in these fields. The courses will be held on weekends, as well as during the school year, in order to accommodate the schedules of working Armenian educators.

The new center will be housed in a building on the campus of the American Armenian Institute, which is currently under construction. The building will include classrooms, laboratories, and a library for the use of the Armenian educators.
New NAASR Members

In the three-month period since June 1, the NAASR Board’s Executive Committee has approved 26 new members who have joined the NAASR. For the first time, Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah, has joined the membership. This brings the total since October 1, 1986 to 3,461.

During this most recent three-month period, 33 percent of the group listed below are from Massachusetts, followed by California and the District of Columbia. A total of 11 new and reinstated members.

New York State follows with 12 members and Michigan trails with three, with 12 other states and Canada having two or less members.

The goal of the NAASR is to have a complete set of NAASR Monthly from April 1980 through the present.

From Massachusetts: Mrs. Parouhi Bardakjian, Worcester; Armen Dedekian, Watertown; Mrs. Margot Demirjian, Belmont; Dr. Ruben Derderian, Watertown; Bridgeport, Conn.; (Supporting); Franklin, Mass.; (Supporting); and Krikor Keusseyan, of the AGBU Elementary.

Helen Bardakjian’s contributions to the Armenian community and Armenian culture have been of great importance on the development of Armenian culture in America, 1890 to World War I; Dr. Robert W. Edwards, to the Armenian Kingdom of Cilicia, the largest and most significant medieval Armenian nation; and the Armenian settlements in Armenia Major.

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The goal of the NAASR is to have a complete set of NAASR Monthly from April 1980 through the present.## The Fortifications of Armenian Cilicia

Robert W. Edwards

The Fortifications of Armenian Cilicia, a major publication by Robert W. Edwards, has been published by the Dunbarton Oaks Research Library of Harvard University, providing a wealth of information on the Armenian Kingdom of Cilicia, the largest and most significant medieval Armenian nation.

Examining the characteristics of the Armenian fortresses in Cilicia, Dr. Edwards notes that there is a definite logic to the placement of specific types of fortifications, that the building which is the top of the topographical plan, that the plans are never standard, but also opens up several additional areas for research. Dr. Edwards does not agree that there is a definite logic to the placement of specific types of fortifications, but also opens up several additional areas for research. Dr. Edwards does not agree that there is a definite logic to the placement of specific types of fortifications, but also opens up several additional areas for research. Dr. Edwards does not agree that there is a definite logic to the placement of specific types of fortifications, but also opens up several additional areas for research. Dr. Edwards does not agree that there is a definite logic to the placement of specific types of fortifications, but also opens up several additional areas for research. Dr. Edwards does not agree that there is a definite logic to the placement of specific types of fortifications, but also opens up several additional areas for research. Dr. Edwards does not agree that there is a definite logic to the placement of specific types of fortifications, but also opens up several additional areas for research.
Recent and Selected Titles of Note

A sampling of some recent and noteworthy additions to NAASR’s Armenian Book Clearing House holdings appears below. Figures in parentheses represent reduced prices for NAASR members in good standing. Lists of other titles are in the process of preparation. Postage is paid by NAASR on all prepaid orders. Special discounts are available for libraries and booksellers.

Aghtamar: The Church of the Holy Cross, 915-921. Text by Stephan Mazakiansan, photographs by Rainer K. Lampioen, translated by K. H. Maksoyian (Editions Erebonni, Finland). Beautiful full-color photographs of the architecture, sculptural details, and paintings that have made this 10th century church a subject of fascination to scholars, artists, and travelers. The text provides a history of the island of Aghtamar, the Palace, and the Church, with a complete analysis of the sculpture. A169. $35 ($32.50).


Armenia and the Art of Engraving (Editions Richard A. Chahine, Beirut). Scenes of Armenia and Armenians, chiefly engravings but including also miniatures and paintings, in color, which trace the history of the nation from Noah through the 19th century; many of the illustrations are taken from travel and history books of various periods showing climate, natural resources, arable land, etc., augmented by photographs and textual descriptions. Designed for the needs of teachers, families, and students. In English and Armenian. H309p. $25.50 ($23.75).


Ecology and Empire: The Structure of the Urartian State, by Paul E. Zimansky (Studies in Ancient Oriental Civilization, No. 41. The Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago). An analysis of the factors that led to the emergence of a powerful Urartian State in the 9th century BC, stressing the geographical background and utilizing a wide range of textual and archeological material to develop a thesis of cultural adaptation to ecological exigencies. H311. $16 ($14.95).

Envoy of the Stars: Academician Victor Ambartsumyan, by Ashot Arzumanian (Progress Publishers, Moscow). Biography of a world-famous astrophysicist, president of the Academy of Sciences of Armenia and director of the Byurakan Astrophysical Observatory, based on archival sources and interviews with the scientist’s family and friends. With black and white photographs. Translated from Russian. X200. $6.95 ($5.95).

The Fortifications of Armenian Cilicia, by Robert W. Edwards {Dumbarton Oaks Studies 23, Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection, Washington, D.C.}. A systematic description of the Armenian fortresses in Cilicia built during the Crusades, based on extensive research and several trips to the area, with diagrams and photographs in both black and white and color. A171. $60 ($53.95).


History of the Armenians and the Letter to Vahan Mamikonean, by Ohazaz Farpetsi (Classical Armenian Text Reprint Series, Vol. 8, Caravan Books, Delmar, N.Y.). A reprint of the rare 1904 Tiflis edition of history by this classical Armenian writer of the fifth century, tracing the events that took place in Armenia during the momentous years from 387 to 485. In classical Armenian, with introduction and bibliography in English by Dickran Koutyjian. H314. $50 ($45).


Refutation of the Sects: A Retelling of Yeznik Koghbatzis’s Apology, translated and edited by Thomas Samuelian (Armenian Church Classics, St. Vartan Press, New York). An English-language version of a basic work in Armenian Christian theology, written by one of the great Armenian scholars of the fifth century, a priest and one of the translators of the Bible into Armenian. The work was composed in order to convince the reader of the correctness of Armenian Church doctrine and to point out the errors of other teachings. This English-language edition was designed for the general public, especially young readers. C47p. $5 ($4.25).

The Travels of Marco Polo (Dorset Press, New York). A reprint of the 1908 Everyman’s Library edition of the travel accounts written by this 13th century Venetian trader, whose spectacular descriptions are a mine of information about the peoples and cultures of the Near and Far East, including several sections about the Armenians. H308. $17.95 ($14.95).

*** HELP WANTED *** HELP WANTED *** HELP WANTED ***

Positions Available at NAASR Headquarters

(Part-time or full-time)

RECEPTIONIST-Secretary

(typing, word-processing, filing, data-entry, handling phone calls, book sales)

LIBRARIAN

(maintaining and further organizing English and Armenian collections of books, periodicals, and personal papers)

LIBRARY AIDE

(assisting in library work, light typing, clerical work)

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Knowledge of Armenian language preferred but not necessary in all positions. Will train qualified applicants for word-processing and data-entry/computer work.

Students and Senior Citizens welcome to apply.

Contact Sandra Jurigian, Administrative Director, at 617-876-7630 to request interview, or send resume or letter of introduction to:

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR ARMENIAN STUDIES AND RESEARCH, INC.

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Director of Information and Publications