

NAASR Newsletter

Winter 1988-89 (Vol. V, No. 4, Issue 18)

National Association for Armenian Studies and Research

Harvard Fund Exceeds One Million Dollars

The total value of Harvard University's funds for Armenian Studies now exceeds \$1 million, according to the financial report issued by the University last December. The figures include all interest and transfers as of June 30, 1988.

The largest portion of the funds consists of the endowment for the Mesrob Mashtots Professorship, at \$694,344; followed by the Calouste Gulbenkian Fund, at \$173,024; the Sarkis and Vosgitel Mugar Fund, at \$86,629; and the Helen and Edward Mardigian Fund, at \$70,115. Taken together, these funds at Harvard total \$1,024,112.

The income from the funds is used to support Armenian Studies at Harvard, particularly the Mesrob Mashtots Professorship now occupied by Dr. Robert W. Thomson, as well as to promote the publication of scholarly works and to enhance the Harvard Library's Armenian collection.

The Professorship in Armenian Studies at Harvard was established in 1959 as a result of NAASR's successful effort to raise the \$300,000 then needed for the endowment. (The total amount raised at that time was \$388,000.)

The program was initiated at Harvard in 1957 when Dr. Avedis K. Sanjian, now Narekatsi Professor of Armenian Studies at the University of California at Los Angeles, was appointed Research Fellow in Armenian Studies. Since that time a number of courses have been offered on the Armenian language (both classical and modern), literature, history, and related subjects.

The program has sponsored visiting scholars, graduate fellowships, lectures, and publications in the Harvard Armenian Texts and Studies series and has stimulated the initiation of Armenian Studies programs in other universities in the United States, including the UCLA Chair for which NAASR also spearheaded the fund drive.

"The establishment of the Harvard Chair and NAASR's activities during the past 34 years have resulted in the virtual spawning of a worldwide movement which has contributed significantly to the Armenian cultural renaissance and intellectual reawakening throughout the diaspora," said NAASR Chairman Manoog S. Young.

NAASR Acquires New Headquarters; \$1.5 Million Fund Drive Launched

A new \$1.5 million fund-raising drive for the purchase of a larger headquarters building in Belmont, Mass., and for the establishment of an Institute for Armenian Studies and Research was launched at NAASR's 35th Anniversary Progress Report Dinner on Thursday evening, April 27.

The announcement of the acquisition of a new headquarters building by NAASR Board Chairman Manoog S. Young came as a surprise at the dinner, which was held at the Oakley Country Club in Watertown. The announcement was accompanied by a slide presentation and was greeted with sustained applause.

According to Mr. Young, NAASR has signed a Purchase and Sale Agreement to acquire a three-story, 10,000 square foot office building located at 395 Concord Avenue in Belmont.

The new building, which is almost four times larger than the present headquarters building in Cambridge, will provide the space and facilities for NAASR's planned Institute for Armenian Studies and Research. It will also provide sorely needed additional space for NAASR's Armenian Reference and Research Library and other entities as well as warehouse facilities for the Armenian Book Clearing House.

A portion of the facility will be occupied by other Armenian organizations with space needs. Negotiations are currently

under way with two such organizations, Mr. Young said.

The new building, consisting of two floors plus a full finished basement, is conveniently located on public transportation lines and in close proximity to Cambridge and the Armenian communities in Belmont, Watertown, Arlington, Waltham, and other Boston suburbs. It contains ample parking facilities (33 spaces) and is next to the U.S. Post Office. The First Armenian Church is across the street.

The building will be funded through the sale of NAASR's present headquarters at 175 Mt. Auburn Street in Cambridge and through internal borrowing of NAASR funds and a mortgage.

The success of the \$1.5 million fund drive is crucial for NAASR's future programs and projects. It will permit not only the rapid retirement of the mortgage, but will fund the projected Institute and other NAASR programs.

NAASR expects to move into its new location by July 1, Mr. Young said. It has occupied the existing headquarters building for more than 20 years.

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This issue of the NAASR Newsletter was delayed in order to include news of NAASR's new headquarters.



NAASR's New Headquarters Building

Pilgrims, Computers, and Bible Stories

By Michael E. Stone

The following is the text, slightly condensed, of the talk given at NAASR's 34th Annual Assembly Luncheon last November by Dr. Stone, who is Professor of Armenian at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

This afternoon I want to mention at least three of the areas to which I have devoted my research. They are connected to one another in strange ways. I started out with an interest, still far from dead, in the apocryphal literature, those stories about biblical themes and topics which are not to be found in biblical literature. I started off looking for material, data, which would contribute to our knowledge of ancient Judaism. Indeed, I discovered in Armenian much material that fitted into that category. How had it come there? Through translation. Works which were originally written in Hebrew, Aramaic, or Greek came to be translated into Armenian and then, when the originals were lost, it was the Armenian translations that survived.

We knew about this, of course. The works of Eusebius, of Irenaeus, and of Philo present famous examples of this phenomenon. So, I reasoned, why not the apocryphal books, non-biblical Jewish works written at the time of Christ? Here I discovered, over the years, many writings of this general sort. Not all have claims to be as old as that, but one that did is a work called *The Penitence of Adam* (*Abashkharutewn Adamay*), which I published nearly ten years ago. This belongs to an extensive literature telling tales about Adam and Eve, but forms a particularly ancient and important example of it. Indeed, one of my present areas of research is about Adam and Eve; but now, instead of being interested only in works that might be direct translations from ancient Jewish originals, I find that my field of vision has widened extraordinarily. I have become interested in how these works functioned in the Armenian church, what role they played in Armenian literature and art.

Virtuosos of Apocryphal Literature

In the course of pursuing this interest, a fascinating phenomenon became evident. The Armenians were virtuosos of apocryphal literature. For reasons I do not fully understand yet, there is an extraordinary number of such apocryphal writings in Armenian. To remain with the Adam books alone, in 1981 I published a list of 14 such writings. I am still working through them, but I would estimate that the number of Adam apocrypha has doubled. Most of these were not translated into Armenian from Greek or Syriac, but were composed in Armenian. Why? Why were the Armenians so creative in the preservation, in-

deed in the creation, of such apocryphal literature? I must admit I do not know, but I am very curious.

It is not only Adam: I have published texts, unknown in any other language, relating to Solomon and to Moses, to the three companions of Daniel, and to Ezra, to Ezekiel, and to Seth—and the list can be extended even more. This is a major dimension of Armenian imaginative and exegetical literature, and one that has been little studied.

Research into these works associated with the bible brought me into the study of Armenian manuscripts. Manuscripts, after all, are the major means by which ancient cultures are transmitted to us, and the Armenian manuscripts are no different. Some manuscripts contain dates in their colophons (the often autobiographical notes left in them by the scribes), but many do not. How then are we to date them? Usually we use writing. The shapes of the letters and the styles of writing change, and by studying the changes in manuscripts of which we do know the dates, we are able to establish dates for those manuscripts that are undated.

Defining Classical Forms

But the problems that one faces when copying a text from a manuscript and editing it have to do not only with the shapes of the letters but with the grammatical forms, and often even with the vocabulary. You are all familiar with the term "Classical Armenian" (*krapar*), the language of the first half of the fifth century. Yet we have no document actually written in that time that survives. Our oldest dated manuscript is of the ninth century, and some few fragments may be older. The way that we spell and write Classical Armenian is the result of the decisions of medieval and modern editors. Furthermore, in the middle ages, scribes very often inadvertently introduced into the manuscripts they were copying grammatical forms and spellings that stemmed not from the original but from their own spoken language.

To give an example: in *krapar* the past tense of the verb *mdanem* is the form *mdi*. The form used in modern Armenian (*ashkharhapar*), which is *mda*, is in fact a form that occurs in medieval Armenian. We knew it from the 12th century, and it is the opinion of most linguists that that is the date at which the form arose. I have just studied an interesting text in the oldest Armenian paper manuscript, written in the year 981, and in it, in the same sentence, I have found both *mdi* and *mda—mda* slipped in, I suppose, from the scribe's spoken dialect. This means that the "modern" or "medieval" form is much more ancient than suspected. How old, then, is that sort of Armenian language which lies behind the modern dialects?

This sort of question led me to an interest in inscriptions. If we do not have very ancient manuscripts on paper and parchment, perhaps inscriptions on stone have survived longer. Lady Luck dealt me good cards, and in the Sinai peninsula were discovered a number of Armenian inscriptions. These are generally rather short and are written on rocks, out in the middle of the desert. After a number of survey trips, we discovered in all about 120 Armenian inscriptions, which were notable, indeed, because the oldest of them should be dated into the seventh (or perhaps even the sixth) century. These Sinai inscriptions form some of the oldest writing in Armenian that survives. I had the privilege of studying these inscriptions on the spot and also of publishing them. They yield a good deal of data about the Armenian language. But they are also important for another reason.

Pilgrims to the Holy Land

How, you may ask, did Armenians, usually regarded as sensible people, get out into the middle of the Sinai desert and write their names on rocks? The answer is that the inscriptions were written by pilgrims, making their way to Mt. Sinai (or at least the traditional spot of Mt. Sinai, known as Jebel Musa). The number of the inscriptions intrigued me! The Armenians were, to judge by the numbers of inscriptions, the second most numerous group of Christian pilgrims after the Greeks. That is out of all proportion to the number of Armenians! So I started to look for information dealing with Armenian pilgrims to the Holy Land. It turns out that the Armenians were deeply involved in pilgrimage from the moment when we can identify them, that is to say when they started to write in Armenian, or when the sources written in Greek mention that so-and-so was an Armenian.

In the fifth century there were so many Armenian monks in the great monasteries of Palestine that the Mass was celebrated in the monastery of Mar Saba in Armenian in a special chapel. We hear of groups of hundreds of Armenian pilgrims travelling to the Holy Land in the fifth, sixth, and seventh centuries. This was an expensive and perilous journey, witness to the special bonds that have always bound the Armenians to the Holy Land.

Standards for Computing

Finally, to the computers. In recent years, I have had three focuses to my interest in Armenian computing. The first is a project in which I am gathering all the inscriptions from Sinai and the Holy Land in a major computerized data base which will enable us to answer many questions and broach many issues otherwise unavailable. This data base already contains more than 7,000 items, quite a number of which are Armenian. Second,

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Yerevan Vice-Mayor at NAASR

A 12-member Cambridge/Yerevan Sister-City delegation headed by Yerevan Vice-Mayor Babken Vartanyan visited Cambridge in January. NAASR Headquarters were used for the group's orientation session, and members of the delegation later visited again. Consisting of prominent officials in the fields of government and finance, the delegation explored trade opportunities with their counterparts in the United States and met with President Bush in Washington and Massachusetts Governor Michael S. Dukakis in Boston. Shown, left to right, are Dr. Robert Mirak of Arlington, NAASR's Director of Information and Publications Barbara J. Merguerian, Vice-Mayor Vartanyan, and NAASR Board Chairman Manoog S. Young.

Pilgrims, Computers

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together with Dr. J. J. S. Weitenberg of Leiden, I have created the Leiden-Jerusalem Armenian Data Base. This is a collection of texts on computer, designed in the final analysis to contain as much of classical and medieval Armenian literature as possible. The Data Base will have many applications for scholars of Armenian literature and language.

The third issue with which I have been much concerned has to do with the establishment of recognized international standards for Armenian computing. This is essential if we are to avoid duplication of effort and facilitate data exchange. A set of preliminary standards has been developed and has been published in the *Bulletin of Armenian Computing*, which is sponsored by the Association Internationale des Etudes Arméniennes, of which I have the honor to be president. We have also had discussions with the computation institute of the Academy of Sciences in Yerevan on these matters. Our proposals have gone before the International Standards Organization, and we are all now awaiting the final publication of the responding proposals from Yerevan.

These three areas of interest, then, have been prominent in my work over the past decades. I could speak much longer on all of them; in some ways and to some of you they may seem like byways of Armenian studies, and perhaps they are. But often the byway, or the back road, goes through beautiful countryside and even arrives in the city before the main expressway.

NAASR BRIEFS

PUBLICATIONS DIRECTOR INVITED TO LECTURE

In response to requests for presentations about the Armenians, Barbara J. Merguerian, NAASR's Director of Information and Publications, delivered two lectures in the Greater Boston area recently.

On Sunday, Feb. 26, Dr. Merguerian spoke on "Armenia: The Past Is Always Present" to an Adult Education group at Temple Emanu-El in Haverhill.

At the request of Miroslav Kerner, who has been coordinating a course on Russian History at Harvard University's Institute for Learning in Retirement, Dr. Merguerian made a presentation to a group of retired academicians and professionals on the topic "Who Are The Armenians?" on Wednesday morning, March 22.

On May 20 Dr. Merguerian participated in a symposium at the University of California at Los Angeles on "Armenian Women in History and Literature."

TOUR TO ARMENIA RESCHEDULED TO 1990

As reported in the last issue, the massive earthquake that struck Armenia in December forced NAASR to reassess its plans to sponsor a Heritage Tour to Armenia in June and July of 1989.

Because no word had been received from Armenia about the availability of tourist facilities, the NAASR Board decided reluctantly last month to postpone the 1989 tour. However, as this issue of the *Newsletter* was going to press, approval was received

for the NAASR tour; nevertheless, due to the lack of time to properly organize the tour and to notify members and friends, it has been decided to reschedule the tour for the summer of 1990.

It is planned to have the tour leave Boston in late June 1990; included will be at least seven days in Yerevan as well as two to three day stops in Leningrad, Moscow, and Tbilisi. Armen Dedekian of Pioneer Travel Service in Arlington is responsible for the arrangements.

FUND-RAISING FOR EARTHQUAKE IN ARMENIA

As a result of NAASR's efforts, a total of \$1,635 was raised to benefit the victims of the earthquake which struck northeastern Armenia in December.

Of that total amount, \$435 was raised from the benefit premiere presentation sponsored jointly with the Armenian General Benevolent Union of the documentary color film *Madenataran* at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts and \$1,200 by direct mail. The latter amount will be divided equally between the AGBU, the Armenian Relief Society, and the Armenian Missionary Association of America for relief and reconstruction purposes.

NAASR did not embark on a separate fund-raising effort for earthquake relief out of the conviction that the long-established Armenian philanthropic and benevolent organizations are best organized and equipped to administer aid effectively. Contributions are being accepted, however, in order to accommodate those who prefer to direct their donations through NAASR.

Earthquake Victims Remembered

The last candle on the menorah at the Hanukkah observance in December at the Coolidge Corner Convalescent Center in Brookline, Mass., was lighted in memory of the earthquake victims in Armenia. A delegation from the Armenian community joined in this celebration symbolizing the Maccabean victory of right over might. The lighting of the final candle signified the eternal hope for the reconstruction of the Armenian nation, according to coordinator Stephen Kaye. Shown in the photo, left to right, are Mr. Kaye, Rev. Vartan Hartunian of the First Armenian Church in Belmont, Cantor Sheila Cline, and NAASR Board Chairman Young.



Nina Garsoian Honored at Progress Report Dinner

Continued from page 1

Nina G. Garsoian, Centennial Professor of Armenian History and Civilization at Columbia University, was honored at the dinner for her outstanding efforts to advance Armenian Studies in America.

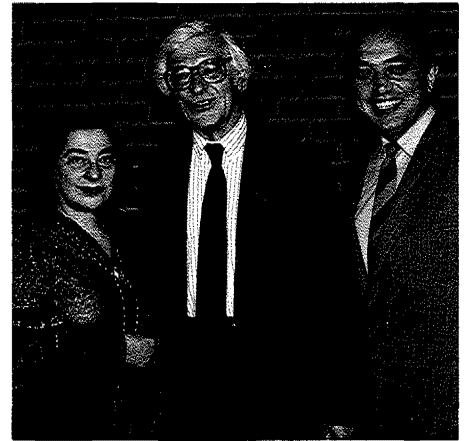
A native of Paris, France, Dr. Garsoian has held numerous teaching and administrative positions in several universities and has published extensively in the fields of Armenian, Byzantine, and Medieval history. She has directed Columbia's Center for Armenian Studies since its establishment in 1979.

Dr. Garsoian was introduced by Ihor Sevchenko, Dumbarton Oaks Professor of Byzantine History and Literature at Harvard University. He had served on her doctoral examination committee and later was responsible for bringing her to Columbia.

Prof. Aram Karakashian, of the University of Lowell and Second Vice-Chairman of the NAASR Board, presented Dr. Garsoian with a framed Honorary Life Membership certificate as well as a book gift on behalf of the Board.

Featured speaker of the evening was Dr. Ashot Galoyan, a historian from Yerevan, Armenia, who has spent the current year as a visiting scholar at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor and the University of California at Los Angeles. Dr. Galoyan spoke on "The Contemporary Situation in Soviet Armenia."

Raffi P. Yeghiayan, First Vice-Chairman of the Board, served as master of ceremonies for the evening. The committee planning the dinner was co-chaired by Dr. Elizabeth Gregory and Joanne Peterson.



Award recipient Nina G. Garsoian with Ihor Sevchenko and Ashot Galoyan at the NAASR Dinner. (Photo: Stephen Fenerjian)

Archaeologists Use New Tools to Study Prehistoric Patterns of Exchange in the Caucasus

A unique collaboration between Armenian, Georgian, and American archaeologists is producing new evidence about prehistoric patterns of exchange in the Middle East, according to three scholars who described the project at an illustrated presentation sponsored by NAASR on Monday, April 17, at the St. James Armenian Church Hall in Watertown, Mass.

Dr. Ruben Badalian of the Institute of Archaeology and Ethnography of the Armenian Academy of Sciences in Yerevan, Dr. Zaak Kikodze of the State Museum of Georgia in Tbilisi, and Prof. Philip Kohl of the Department of Anthropology at Wellesley College joined together in making the presentation, which was entitled "American/Armenian Collaborative Archaeological Research: Obsidian Analysis and the Beginnings of Trade."

The research project centers around the chemical analysis of obsidian, a dark volcanic glass found in large quantities in the region north of Yerevan to Lake Sevan. A homogeneous substance, obsidian is amenable to sophisticated trace chemical element analysis, a process which can essentially "finger-print" artifacts and

determine their places of origin.

Caucasian Sites Little Studied

According to Prof. Kohl, it is known that obsidian was exchanged over vast distances in very early times. On a trip to the Soviet Union in 1978, he realized that the prehistory of the Caucasus had been little studied by Western scholars. Upon his return to the Soviet Union in 1986, Prof. Kohl was able to spend considerable time in Armenia and Georgia and to develop the collaboration with Dr. Badalian in Yerevan and Dr. Kikodze in Georgia.

The two Soviet archaeologists have been on a brief visit to the United States to confer both with Prof. Kohl at Wellesley College and with Dr. James Blackman of the Smithsonian Analytical Laboratory at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., where much of the technical work on the project is being carried out.

Dr. Kikodze described briefly the large, major source area for obsidian located in eastern Georgia and showed slides of nearby fortresses which have not yet been excavated.

Dr. Badalian, who spoke in Armenian, stressed the prevalence of obsidian throughout Armenian history (it was known by many different names, including *Vanakar*, in recognition of the large amount of the volcanic glass found in the region of Lake Van, and *Sadana kar*, or "Satan's stone"). Obsidian has had various uses: for example, in making early agricultural implements, for arrowheads used in hunting or warfare, as millstones for grinding grain, as scalpel in neurosurgery and eye surgery, and in combination with other materials in construction.

The collaborative archaeological project is designed to take advantage of the fact that Armenia and Georgia are rich in archaeological sites while the United States

LECTURE ON ARMENIA, SEMINAR ON THE GENOCIDE SPONSORED BY NAASR

In addition to the illustrated presentation on American/Armenian Collaborative Archaeological Research, NAASR sponsored two other programs in the Greater Boston area in April and May.

On April 26, a seminar on the Armenian Genocide was conducted by William S. Parsons, co-author of *Facing History and Ourselves: Holocaust and Human Behavior*. The event was co-sponsored by NAASR and by the St. James Church Sahag Mesrob Armenian School.

Mr. Parsons, who has taught the Armenian Genocide in the classroom, discussed the importance of the universal lessons of the Armenian Genocide for American children. He also presented the recently released videotape about the Armenian Genocide and its effects, entitled "Everyone's Not Here: Families of the Armenian Genocide."

Current Developments in Armenia

On May 1 Dr. Ashot Galoyan of Yerevan State University, visiting scholar this year at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and the University of California, Los Angeles, spoke about "National Democratic Movements in the Soviet Union and Armenia: Impact of Glasnost and Perestroika." The lecture took place at the St. James Armenian Church Hall.

has the technical means (laboratories and computers) to conduct sensitive analyses.

According to the three archaeologists, if enough of these artifacts are found and studied, patterns will emerge that may enable scholars to reconstruct ancient systems of exchange and trade. The research feeds into a larger project that is examining evidence of early technology in bronze and metalworking, both of which were highly developed in the Caucasus in very early times.



Prof. Philip Kohl, Dr. Zaak Kikodze, and Dr. Ruben Badalian, left to right, at an archaeological site in the Caucasus.

Armenian Studies Programs

Dickran Kouymjian Named To Chair At CSU, Fresno

Dickran Kouymjian, director of the Armenian Studies Program at California State University, Fresno, has been appointed first occupant of the newly established Haig and Isabel Berberian Chair of Armenian Studies at the University.

On April 9 CSUF President Harold Haak announced Dr. Kouymjian's appointment to the new chair, which was established in December following a successful campaign to raise \$300,000.

Four-Session Seminar at University of Connecticut

A four-session Armenian Studies Seminar on current Armenian affairs was scheduled by the University of Connecticut Armenian Studies Advisory Council in April.

Speakers and their topics were: Dr. Gerard Libaridian, "The Question of Karabagh" on April 4; Dr. Rouben Adalian, "The Armenian Diaspora" on April 11; Dr.

Lucy Der Manuelian, "The Lost Art of the Armenians" on April 18; and Dr. George Bournoutian, "Russo-Armenian Relations from the Seventeenth Century to the Present" on April 25.

Co-sponsored by the Armenian Studies Program, the Department of History, and the Isaac N. Thut World Education Center of the University of Connecticut, the seminar sessions took place on the Greater Hartford Campus in West Hartford.

Graduate Fellowship in History Established at UCLA

Bob and Nora Movel of Los Angeles have established a \$100,000 endowed fellowship at the University of California, Los Angeles, for graduate students specializing in modern Armenian history.

The fellowship has been established in conjunction with the Chair in Modern Armenian History at UCLA.

At current rates, the Bob and Nora Movel Fellowship will generate an annual fellowship of about \$8,000 to help support

a graduate student.

In presenting a check for \$100,000 to UCLA Provost Raymond Orbach, Mr. Movel stated: "It is my hope that our example will be followed by other members of the community, so that all students in Armenian studies at UCLA may receive the support and encouragement they deserve."

University of Venice Plans Summer Culture Course

A one-month course in Armenian language and culture organized under the auspices of the Department of Eurasian Studies at the University of Venice will be held in Venice on Aug. 1 through Aug. 30 this summer.

The course will be divided into five grade categories and will include conferences and round-table discussions on Armenian literature, history, art, and current Armenian issues. Applicants must be 18 years of age or older and have at least a high school diploma.

Information can be obtained by writing to: Associazione Padus-Araxes, c/o Dipartimento Studi Eurasiatici, 2035 S. Polo, 30125 Venezia, Italia.

Conferences and Meetings

Scholars In Armenia Discuss Diaspora Communities

Karlen Dallakian, Chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations with Armenians Abroad (Spiurk Committee), opened a conference in Yerevan in the fall on the Armenian diaspora by observing that the introduction of "restructuring" and "openness" into Soviet society calls for a new assessment of relations between Soviet Armenia and the Armenian diaspora.

The conference, sponsored by the Department of History and Culture of Armenian Communities in the Diaspora of the Armenian Academy of Sciences, brought together a number of scholars, historians, and intellectuals who presented papers on several aspects of Armenian community life in the diaspora.

Mariam Der Grigorian, who is currently visiting the United States for the second time, traced recent developments in the Armenian-American community; H. Pahlevanian described changes in the Armenian community in Iran resulting from the eight-year Iran-Iraqi war; and other scholars offered papers about Armenian-American attitudes toward terrorism as described in the memoirs of the late Kourken Yanikian and about Armenian communities in Istanbul, France, Lebanon, and other countries.

Armenian Behavioral Scientists Meet in Boston

A report on the future role of behavioral scientists in serving the psychological needs of earthquake survivors in Soviet Armenia was presented at the first gather-

ing in Boston of the Armenian Behavioral Science Association on Sunday, April 2, at the Marriott Copley Place Hotel. The session was organized in conjunction with the 1989 meeting of the Eastern Psychological Association.

Haikaz Grigorian, professor of psychiatry at the Robert Wood Johnson Medical Center in New Jersey, who traveled to Yerevan on a fact-finding mission in February, and Rosemary Demirjian, a practicing counseling therapist and coordinator of Social and Educational Services for the Armenia Children's Earthquake Task Force at Massachusetts General Hospital, reported on current needs, the initiatives under way to address these needs, and the role concerned professionals can play.

An informal report on the Armenian Behavioral Science Association was presented by Dr. Harold Takooshian of Fordham University.

Gov. Deukmejian Opens Genocide Conference

A symposium on "The Armenian Genocide: History, Politics, Ethics" took place on April 13 and 14 at California State University, Sacramento. California Governor George Deukmejian opened the symposium by stressing the importance of "competent, professional research" and "overwhelmingly documented facts" that would insure that "no one can dispute that the Armenian Genocide was anything but a stark reality."

Richard G. Hovannisian, professor of Modern Armenian History at UCLA and organizer of the symposium, chaired the

first session, which included papers by Roger W. Smith, "The Armenian Genocide: Memory, Politics, and the Future"; James J. Reid, "The Prusso-Ottoman Ideology of the Offensive and the Armenian Genocide, 1870-1918"; Robert Melson, "Revolution and Genocide: On the Causes of the Armenian Genocide of 1915 and the Holocaust"; and Suzanne E. Moranian, "Bearing Witness: The American Missionary Archives as Evidence of the Armenian Genocide."

The second session, chaired by Dr. Gus Plessas of CSU, Sacramento, consisted of papers by Donald E. Miller, "Women and Children of the Genocide: An Oral History Perspective"; Kevork Bardakjian, "The Armenian Genocide in the Records of the Ottoman Courts-Martial"; Annette Hoss, "The Trial of Perpetrators by the Turkish Military Tribunals: The Case of Yozgat"; and Ioannis K. Hassiotis, "Greece and the Armenians, 1915-1923."

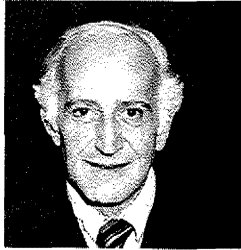
Dr. Peter Mehas, Assistant to the Governor in the field of Education, chaired the final session, which consisted of papers by Richard G. Hovannisian, "Denial, Politics, Ethics"; Mary Johnson, "Teaching about the Armenian Genocide in Secondary School Settings"; Frank Chalk, "Teaching about the Armenian Genocide: A University Perspective"; and Leonardo Alishan, "Plots, Fictional Plots, and Real Tragic Endings."

The symposium, which was repeated on April 15 in Los Angeles on the UCLA campus, was sponsored by the UCLA Armenian Educational Foundation Chair in Modern Armenian History, with the support of the Angelo and Sofia Tsakopoulos Fund and CSU, Sacramento.

NECROLOGY

Martin H. Halabian, who served for many years as NAASR's Director of Information, Research, and Publications, passed away on April 1, 1989, after a long illness. He was 75 years old.

Dr. Halabian had a long association with NAASR. A Charter Member, he served on the Board of Directors from 1971 to 1976 and on numerous committees, most recently the planning committee for the 1985 Conference on Genocide and Human Rights. He was the first recipient of a NAASR grant for research, and lectured both for NAASR and other organizations on many topics in Armenian history and culture.



A respected educator, Dr. Halabian held teaching positions in several Boston-area educational institutions, including lecturer in Islamic History at Boston University, lecturer in Ancient and Modern Near and Middle East History at Northeastern University, and professor of History and Social Sciences at Massachusetts Bay Community College. For many years he was special assistant to the Curator of the Nieman Foundation at Harvard University.

A native of Chelsea, Mass., Dr. Halabian received his undergraduate degree from Harvard, JD degree from Northeastern University Law School, and MA in Near Eastern Studies from Brandeis University.

His particular field of scholarly interest was the project for an Armenian National Home during and immediately after World War I and particularly the role played by the prominent British-Armenian statesman, James A. Malcolm.

In 1976 Dr. Halabian played a leading role in the Armenian Bicentennial Commemorative Committee, which sponsored a number of activities highlighting the role of Armenians in America. He was active in the campaign to have April 24 recognized in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as Armenian Martyrs Day, in the successful effort to install an Armenian Plaque at the Massachusetts State House in Boston, and in planning the annual commemorative programs at the State House during the month of April.

He was a member of the Middle East Institute, American Friends of the Middle East, and the Middle East Studies Association of North America.

Dr. Halabian's extraordinary kindness in helping students with their research projects, his unflinching patience in dealing with other people, his consistent dedication to the advancement of the interests of the Armenian people, and his constant good humor will long be remembered.

Dr. Halabian is survived by his wife, Helen. In-lieu-of-flowers donations have

New NAASR Members

Since the last issue of the *NAASR Newsletter* 36 new and reinstated members, as listed below, have had their applications approved by the Executive Committee of the NAASR Board of Directors. This brings the total to 73 members who have joined since the 34th Annual Assembly of Members in November. Of this latter number 36 are from Massachusetts, 13 from California, 20 from 14 other states, and 4 from foreign countries. An asterisk (*) denotes reinstated membership.

From Massachusetts: *Noubar Afeyan*, Brookline; *Bruce H. Bagdasarian*, Boston; *Drew R. Bagdasarian* (student), Boston University; *George Elanjian*, Woburn; *Lisa Gennetian* (student), Wellesley College; *Mrs. Eleanor Gower* (*), Lexington; *Mrs. Louise E. Homer* (*), Stow; *Dr. Marjorie LeMay*, Cambridge; *Mrs. Andrea E. Movsessian*, Waltham; *Peter Onanian* (Sponsor), Weston; *Vartan Oskanian* (*student), Tufts University; *Mrs. Alice Pahigian* (*Supporting), No. Andover; *Lazarus A. Pahigian* (*Supporting), No. Andover; *Tigran Papazian*, Belmont; *Mrs. Helen Shushan*, Belmont; *Nancy J. Speroni*, Brookline; *Janette Surabian*, Waltham; *Mrs. Lucy A. Tashjian* (*), Lexington.

From California: *Jack Abadjian*, Pasadena; *David P. Kazarian* (*), San Francisco; *Prof. Dickran Kouymjian* (*), California State University, Fresno; *Mrs.*

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From other states: *Vartan Ajamian* (student), Herndon, VA; *Armen S. Casparian*, Johnston, RI; *Mrs. Alice Dadourian* (*Supporting), Guilford, CT; *Paul Demirdjian*, Lutz, FL; *Armand K. Mirijanian*, Skokie, IL; *Mrs. Kathleen S. Ohannesian* (*), Augusta, GA; *Shemavon Perperian*, Salem, NH; *Amy Russian*, Putney, VT; *Haig Zeytoonian*, Rochester, NH.

From foreign countries: *Aghassi Azizian*, London, England; *Hagop Y. Manjikian*, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Since the last listing through December 1987 the following members, having been in good standing for 10 or more consecutive years and having remitted a minimum of \$875 with their applications, have been voted Life Members by the Board of Directors. This brings the total to 23 Life Members.

- Edward A. Kazanjian, Jr.
Belmont, Mass.
- Edward Mardigian
Birmingham, Mich.
- Mrs. Nevert Talanian
Belmont, Mass.
- James G. Timourian
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

been designated to NAASR or to the St. James Armenian Church in Watertown, Mass. A special endowment fund in memory of Dr. Halabian has been established by the NAASR Board of Directors through whose income research projects in Armenian studies will be supported.

The Very Rev. Dirayr Dervishian, 80, a celibate clergyman (*vartabed*) of the Armenian Church for over 55 years, on Feb. 25 in Los Angeles. A native of Kharpert, he lost his father during the 1915 Genocide and grew up in various orphanages in the Middle East. A graduate of the Armenian Theological Seminary in Jerusalem, he held several positions at the St. James Monastery in that city prior to coming in 1950 to California, where he served as pastor in several churches. He was a NAASR member for 25 years.

Dr. Armen Sarafian, 67, founder of the American Armenian International College in La Verne, Calif., and a well-known educator, on March 11 in Long Beach. Son of the late author and educator Kevork Sarafian, he had been president of Pasadena City College, president of the University of La Verne, a member of the California State Board of Education, the California Commission on Education

Quality in the Public Schools, and several other educational boards. He joined NAASR in 1966.

Aram Tolegian, 79, author and educator, on Dec. 19 in Los Angeles. A native of Fresno, he was a graduate of the University of California at Los Angeles and received his PhD degree from the University of Southern California. After teaching English and comparative literature in several California colleges, he was appointed dean of East Los Angeles College. He was the author of several publications, including a translation into English of the Armenian folk epic *David of Sassoun* and a bilingual anthology titled *Armenian Poetry Old and New*. He was a NAASR Charter Member.

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To Fulfill Its Mission**

**Contribute to the New
Headquarters Building Fund**

Can We Count on You?

Membership Support Increases by 50% in 1988

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For the 1988 fiscal (calendar) year the number of members who voluntarily increased their annual support of NAASR's operations, programs, and activities by becoming Supporting, Sustaining, or Sponsor Members grew to 215 from 132 in 1987. This represents a 63% increase over 1987. The renewal rate to date of the 1987 members in these categories is 88%. With 200 in good standing to date, the net overall increase is 50%.

The geographical distribution of these members shows Massachusetts in the lead again with 75, California next with 42, New York - 20, New Jersey - 13, Rhode Island - 7, and 16 other states with 5 or less members - 39. There were, also, 4 members from 3 foreign countries.

This significant increase of membership support has helped to meet the constantly rising cost of operations. It is hoped that other members will recognize the need to increase their membership support so that NAASR's programs, functions, and services will continue unabated and expand.

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Is Vital for NAASR's Operations
and Effectiveness**

Recent and Selected Titles of Note

The NAASR Armenian Book Clearing House's most recent and noteworthy additions appear below. Figures in parentheses represent discounted prices for NAASR members in good standing.

A short list of over 175 recent and selected titles is available free of charge by sending NAASR a self-addressed stamped large (#10) envelope; a complete short-title catalog of books offered for sale by the Armenian Book Clearing House is available for \$2.50 (to cover postage and handling).

Postage is paid by NAASR on all prepaid orders. Special discounts are available for libraries and booksellers.

The Armenian Evangelical Movement: Why Needed? Why Separated? An Inquiry, by Hagop A. Chakmakjian (privately printed, Fresno). A survey of the history of the Armenian Protestant movement and the role of the American missionaries in it, an assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of the Armenian Evangelical Church, and a consideration of recent ecumenical proposals. C55p. \$12.00 (\$10.75).

The Armenians: A People in Exile, by David Marshall Lang (Unwin Paperbacks, London). A new, paperback edition of this concise and insightful survey of the Armenian people written by the now retired professor of Caucasian Studies at the University of London and former British diplomat in Tabriz. With chapters on the Genocide, the relations of Armenians with other peoples, and Armenians in the arts. H358p. \$9.95 (\$8.50).

The Cambridge Encyclopedia of the Middle East and North Africa, Trevor Mostyn, executive editor, and Albert Hourani, advisory editor (Cambridge University Press, Cambridge). A reference aid describing the land, peoples, history, cultures, and religions of the Middle East and North Africa, from earliest times to the present-day, written by academics and journalists who are international experts in their fields. Contributors include Kevork B. Bardakjian of the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor; Vahe Petrosian of the *Middle East Economic Digest*, London; and Christopher Walker, journalist, London. With maps, photographs (many in color), charts, and suggestions for further reading. X288. \$49.50 (\$42.50).

The Economic Challenge of Perestroika, by Abel Aganbegyan (Indiana University Press, Bloomington and Indianapolis). A candid analysis of the problems facing the Soviet economic system and a blueprint for the economic restructuring currently under way, written by the chief economic advisor to Mikhail Gorbachev. With an introduction by Alec Nove. H356. \$18.95 (\$16.25).

Emperors, Tzars and Commissars, by A. Chalabian (privately printed, Southfield, Mich.). A treatise on Armenia's relationship with its neighboring great powers (the Byzantine Empire, Tsarist Russia, and Soviet Russia). With 2 maps. H348p. \$5.00 (\$4.25).

Facing History and Ourselves: Holocaust and Human Behavior, Annotated Bibliography, edited by Margaret Drew (Walker & Co., New York). Description of selected books that best explore the wide range of human responses to the Jewish Holocaust and the Armenian and Cambodian Genocides, including an extensive overview of both children's literature and adult materials. Part IV deals with the Genocide of the Armenian people. H346. \$15.95 (\$13.50).

General Andranik and the Armenian Revolutionary Movement, by Antranig Chalab-

ian (privately printed, Southfield, Mich.). A biography of this famous Armenian military hero who played such an important role in Armenian history of the early 20th century. Written for a popular audience and condensed from the original Armenian text with new material added. Contains black-and-white photographs. Cloth, H349c. \$40.00 (\$37.50); paper, H349p. \$30.00 (\$28.00).

Gharabagh, Vol. 19 of *Documents of Armenian Architecture* (Oemme Edizioni, Milan). The latest volume in this outstanding series prepared jointly by scholars at the Faculty of Architecture of the Milan Polytechnic Institute and the Academy of Sciences of the Armenian SSR. The text consists of a brief history of Karabagh (Artsakh) by Setrag Manoukian, a summary of architecture in Karabagh by Maria Adelaide Lala Comeno, a concise catalogue of the religious monuments of the historical region of Artsakh by Paolo Cuneo, and color photographs, maps, plans, and charts. In English and Italian, with a summary in Armenian. A194p. \$32.00 (\$27.50).

A History of the Crusades, by Steven Runciman (Cambridge University Press, Cambridge). This three-volume study, considered one of the classics of English historical writing, now reissued in paperback form. Includes a great deal of information about the relations between the Crusaders and the Armenians of the Middle East. Complete set of 3 paperback volumes, H361p. \$42.95 (\$39.95).

Vol. I: The First Crusade and the Foundation of the Kingdom of Jerusalem. H362p. \$14.95 (\$13.95).

Vol. II: The Kingdom of Jerusalem and the Frankish East, 1100-1187. H363p. \$14.95 (\$13.95).

Vol. III: The Kingdom of Acre and the Later Crusades. H364p. \$14.95 (\$13.95).

Images: National Currencies and Stamps of Armenia, 95 BC-1920 AD (Megahertz Productions, Chatsworth, Calif.). A 1989 calendar with reproductions of the coins of Tigranes the Great (1st century BC) and King Levon I (12th century AD) on the front and back covers, respectively, and enlarged photographs, in color, of the banknotes and stamps issued by the Armenian Republic (1918-1920). X245. \$10.00 (\$8.50).

Edward Issabekian: An Album (Sovetakan Grogh Publishers, Yerevan). Reproductions, in color and black and white, of paintings by this contemporary Armenian artist who excels in portraits, landscapes, and scenes from Armenian history (David Beg, The Battle of Avarair, The Revolt of Haghpat in 1903, An Answer to Hazkert). The artist is also a master of graphic design and book illustration. With an introduction by Poghos Haytayan. In Armenian, Russian, and English. A196. \$15.95 (\$13.50).

Minorities of Isfahan: The Armenian Community of Isfahan, 1587-1722, by Vartan Gregorian (in *Studies on Isfahan*, Part II, *Iranian Studies, Journal of The Society for Iranian Studies*, Boston, Mass.). A study of the unique position of the Armenian community of Isfahan and the nature and aim of Safavid policies in regard to it, from the establishment of the Armenian community in Isfahan in the late 16th and early 17th centuries to the undermining of the community through the actions of the successors to Shah Abbas and changing international conditions. H357p. \$15.00 (\$13.75).

My Six Trips to Armenia, by Souren Tashjian (privately published, Watertown, Mass.). A diary-style account of six trips taken to Armenia and the Soviet Union over a span of 18 years,

ANTIQUARIAN BOOK SERVICE ESTABLISHED

The Antiquarian Book Service, a new department of NAASR's Armenian Book Clearing House, will offer for sale used, out-of-print, scarce, and rare books on various aspects of Armenian history, culture, and related topics.

Books will be offered in several areas, including the Byzantine Empire, Central Asia, Georgia, Trans-Caucasia, Kurdistan, Persia, Turkey, and the Ottoman Empire. Topics covered encompass Art, Architecture, Literature, Poetry, Travel, Religion, Massacres, and Protestant Missions.

Descriptive catalogues of available books will be issued periodically at \$2.50 each (to cover postage and handling).

with black-and-white sketches of some of the leading tourist attractions. X244p. \$5.00 (\$4.25).

The Peoples of the Soviet Union, by Viktor Kozlov (Indiana University Press, Bloomington and Indianapolis). Statistical information about the different rates of natural growth, ethnic interrelations, levels of urbanization, intermarriage, and the use of languages among the many national groups that make up the present-day Soviet Union, written by a leading Soviet ethnographer. H355. \$37.50 (\$31.95).

Russian Azerbaijan, 1905-1920: The Shaping of National Identity in a Muslim Community, by Tadeusz Swietochowski (Cambridge University Press, Cambridge). A study of the emergence of ideas, and then actions, that created a new collective identity among the Turkic-speaking Muslims living to the east of the Armenians. The book describes Russian rule in Azerbaijan in the 19th century, the Revolution of 1905, and the events of World War I and its aftermath that led to the incorporation of Azerbaijan into the Soviet Union. H360. \$42.50 (\$38.50).

Sahak Sahakian: An Album (Sovetakan Grogh Publishers, Yerevan). Reproductions, in both color and black and white, of the folk sculpture, statuettes, clay and bronze jugs and trays, paintings, dolls, chess pieces, and wooden carvings (doors and windows) by this contemporary artist whose works are based on Armenian tradition or on characters from folk literature and popular fiction by Armenian authors. With an introduction by Mariam Aivazian. In Armenian, Russian, and English. A195. \$15.95 (\$13.50).

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