

# NAASR Newsletter

Autumn 1988 (Vol. V, No. 3, Issue 17)

National Association for Armenian Studies and Research

## Assembly Calls for Support of Research Institute

Addressing urgent needs in the field of Armenian Studies, NAASR's 34th Annual Assembly, meeting at Bentley College in Waltham, Mass., on Saturday, Nov. 19, urged in a resolution adopted unanimously that priority be given to the creation and funding of an Institute for Armenian Studies and Research and the acquisition of a new Headquarters building.

The action followed a vote to increase the size of the Board of Directors from 21 to 27 members in order to give greater representation to other areas of the country.

In assessing the current status of the



Prof. Michael E. Stone (right) and Dr. Thomas J. Samuelian, conferring at the NAASR luncheon at Bentley College.

movement to advance Armenian Studies in American universities, a movement spearheaded by NAASR's successful drive to endow Chairs in Armenian Studies at Harvard University and the University of California, Los Angeles, NAASR Board Chairman Manoog S. Young in his report to the Assembly stated that there are now six Chairs of Armenian Studies in American universities and, based on efforts that are now under way, as many as twelve Chairs may be endowed within the next five years or no later than the end of the century. *[See accompanying story about the seventh Chair since endowed.]*

The challenge today in the field of Armenian Studies is to make certain that the young scholars educated by these Chairs are provided the opportunity to make good use of their talent and their training, Chairman Young asserted.

Creation of an Institute for Armenian Studies and Research by NAASR would not only provide a setting in which these and other scholars could conduct research and interact, Mr. Young emphasized, but it would also encourage research in areas which have been neglected—for example, the role of the Armenian Question within

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## Armenian Studies Chair Endowed at CSU, Fresno

The campaign to raise \$300,000 for the establishment of an endowed Chair in Armenian Studies at California State University, Fresno, has been successfully concluded.

At a reception held at his home on Dec. 14, CSUF President Dr. Harold H. Haak announced that the largest single contribution to the endowment, \$151,000, was made by Dr. Arnold and Mrs. Dianne Gazarian of Fresno, and that the Chair will be named in honor of Mrs. Gazarian's parents, Isabel and Haig Berberian.

The Haig and Isabel Berberian Chair of Armenian Studies is the first endowed Chair at CSUF and only the second in a School of Humanities in the entire 19 campus California State University system. As the seventh endowed Chair in Armenian Studies in the United States, it will insure that Armenian Studies will be taught in perpetuity at Fresno State.

The campaign for an endowed Chair in Armenian Studies at CSUF was inaugurated in 1986, when Dickran Kouymjian, CSUF Director of Armenian Studies, was presented with the Outstanding Professor Award by the University. Prof. Kouymjian has directed the Armenian Studies Program at CSUF for the past 12 years.

Last fall marked the inauguration of the Center for Armenian Studies at CSUF and the relocation of the Armenian Studies Program into its new offices in the Leon S. Peters Business Building. The new facilities include a library, archive, gallery, and conference room.

The late Haig Berberian was born in Armenia, saw his father and brother killed in the Turkish massacres, and managed to escape to the United States in 1923. He established a nut processing business in Modesto, Calif., that eventually evolved into the world's largest independent walnut shelling plant. His wife, the former Isabel Baker, is a first generation Armenian American.

Joining the donors and friends of the Armenian Studies Program at the official announcement were Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Judith Kuipers and other CSUF officials.

## Earthquake Brings Rash of Media Calls to NAASR

The devastating earthquake in northwestern Armenia on Dec. 7 brought a rash of telephone calls to NAASR from television, newspaper, and radio reporters seeking background information and assistance in the interpretation of events.

From the national television networks ABC and CBS in New York City, PBS in Washington, D.C., local television stations in the Boston area, and newspaper reporters from as far away as West Palm Beach, Florida, and Austin, Texas, NAASR's resources and staff have been called upon constantly to provide information and analysis.

The questions have ranged from population statistics to ways of reaching sources in the stricken areas. NAASR staff members have made every effort to pro-

vide the information requested and to insure that the media coverage on Armenia is as accurate as possible.

Many of the callers have been seeking information about reaching various organizations involved in the earthquake relief effort or have been looking for assistance in directing their own contributions.

NAASR has not embarked 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 to the victims. To accommodate those who wish to donate through NAASR, however, contributions to the relief effort in the form of checks made out to "NAASR — Armenia

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### NAASR PROVIDES GRANTS TO TWO INSTITUTIONS FOR ARMENIAN STUDIES PROGRAMS

NAASR has granted \$1,000 to each of two institutions of higher education in the United States for the development of Armenian Studies Programs.

The Armenian Studies Program at California State University, Fresno, was granted \$1,000 by NAASR in support of its successful campaign to establish an Endowed Chair in Armenian Studies.

Bentley College in Waltham, Mass., whose president is Dr. Gregory H. Adamian, was granted \$1,000 in support of its Armenian Studies Program.

Both grants were made from the income of NAASR's permanent endowment Fund for Armenian Studies.

### Earthquake Forces Reassessment Of 1989 Tour to Armenia

The massive earthquake that struck Armenia in December has forced NAASR to reassess its plans to sponsor a Heritage Tour to Armenia in June and July of 1989.

At this time, the earthquake relief and rebuilding effort is dominating all activity in Armenia, and no facilities are available for tourists. It is not clear when the conditions may ease enough to permit the resumption of tourist travel.

If the situation permits, NAASR will sponsor a revised tour to Armenia, to provide an occasion for Americans to convey their solidarity with the stricken people of Armenia and to contribute to the rebuilding effort.

No definite plans can be made at this time, according to Armen Dedekian of Pioneer Travel Service in Arlington, Mass., who has been responsible for the tour arrangements.

According to the original plan, a 17-day NAASR Heritage Tour to Armenia was scheduled to depart from Boston on June 28 and to include a 7-day stay in the Armenian capital of Yerevan as well as stops in the Russian cities of Leningrad and Moscow and the Georgian capital of Tbilisi.

Round-trip air passage on Finnair, first-class Intourist accommodations, the services of an Intourist guide, and twin-bedded rooms with private bath or shower were features of the trip.

NAASR is now awaiting definite word on whether a trip to Armenia of any kind will be possible in the summer of 1989. Specific information and details will be announced as soon as they are available.

*We are the custodians of our  
past and caretakers of our  
future — James A. Michener*

## Film Series on Armenian Manuscripts Premieres in Boston

A premiere presentation of a documentary color series of films, *Madenataran*, based on the collection of the Library of Ancient Manuscripts in Yerevan, Armenia, took place at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts on Dec. 29 under the joint auspices of NAASR and the Armenian General Benevolent Union (New England District). All proceeds from the showing were donated to the AGBU's Armenian Earthquake Disaster Fund.

Attending the Boston premiere were five members of the television crew from the Yerevan Telefilm Studio of Armenia, who were in the United States to film medieval Armenian manuscripts in several depositories in the United States for inclusion in future segments of the series.

The project to prepare a series of 30-minute film segments focusing on the ancient manuscripts at the *Madenataran* and other libraries began six years ago. Four of the segments, which include historical scenes of Armenia and Armenian monuments as well as manuscripts, were

shown in the Boston film event.

The five-member team, consisting of director Hovik Hoghverdian, scenario writer Kim Bakshi, cameraman Ashod Movsesian, sound technician Ardavast Davtian, and chief engineer Victor Hayrabetian, left Armenia on Dec. 6 and were in Moscow en route to the United States when the earthquake struck. Although they initially wished to return home, they decided upon reflection that their mission, to prepare a film record of Armenian culture, should not be abandoned.

While in the Boston area, the team met with NAASR Board Chairman Young and discussed cooperative efforts in the dissemination of information about Armenian history and culture. They also promised to make available to NAASR copies of the film series.

In addition to Boston, the film crew has visited libraries and museums in New York, Baltimore, Los Angeles, and Washington, D.C.

## Israeli Scholar Michael E. Stone Receives Kolligian Award, Speaks on His Research

Michael E. Stone, professor of Armenian at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and visiting professor at Harvard Divinity School this fall, was presented with the Jack H. Kolligian Memorial Award for "outstanding achievements and contributions to Armenian studies and culture."

The award, which was presented by NAASR Board Chairman Young at the Luncheon preceding the Annual Assembly, was established by the family of the late Jack Kolligian of Winchester, Mass., and carries a stipend.

Speaking at the Luncheon on the topic "Pilgrims, Computers, and Bible Stories: Some Recent Directions in Armenian Studies," Prof. Stone explained that his interest in Armenian Studies was sparked by the discovery of the wealth of Biblical apocrypha to be found in Armenian sources.

Not only have Armenian sources preserved apocryphal stories originally written in Hebrew, Aramaic, or Greek and which have since been lost, but these sources indicate that Armenians themselves were extremely imaginative creators of apocrypha, Prof. Stone said.

The scholar from Jerusalem then described another aspect of Armenian Studies that has been neglected: the analysis of Armenian manuscripts to trace the development of the modern Armenian language from the classical form. Such a

study will indicate that modern grammatical forms in Armenian actually developed at a much earlier period than is usually assumed by most scholars, Prof. Stone suggested. The use of computers for these and other studies of the ancient and medieval Armenian language is only beginning to be developed, he said.

The visiting scholar then went on to describe briefly his research into the Armenian inscriptions found in the Sinai desert, which bear witness to the important role played by Armenian pilgrims to the Holy Land beginning as early as the 6th and 7th centuries. He has published a book, *The Armenian Inscriptions from the Sinai*.

A native of Australia, Prof. Stone received both BA and LittD degrees from Melbourne University. His PhD is from Harvard, where he first studied Classical Armenian.

Prof. Stone's wife Nira, an art historian, is also interested in Armenian Studies, particularly in the history of Armenian art and manuscript illumination.

"My interests may seem to lie along the byways of Armenian Studies," Prof. Stone said in concluding his NAASR talk. "But often the byway, or back road, goes through beautiful countryside, and even reaches the city before you can on the expressway."

*(The next issue of the NAASR Newsletter will have the full text of Prof. Stone's remarks.)*

# 34th Assembly Calls for Support of Research Institute and New Headquarters

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the context of international relations or the development of Armenian culture in the medieval period.

## Awards Presented

The featured speaker at the luncheon preceding the Assembly was Dr. Michael E. Stone, visiting professor at the Harvard Divinity School, who described some of his current interests in the field of Armenian Studies. Dr. Stone was presented with the Jack H. Kolligian Memorial Award for his noteworthy achievements and contributions to Armenian Studies.

A Certificate of Appreciation for "contributions and activities in the field of Armenian Studies" was presented to Dr. Thomas J. Samuelian, former Tarzian Lecturer in Armenian and Assistant Director



Edward A. Kazanjian, Chairman of the Constitution and Rules Committee.

of the Center for Soviet and East European Studies at the University of Pennsylvania, who is now pursuing legal studies at the Harvard Law School. Dr. Samuelian spoke at the luncheon on the topic "The Armenian Scholar Between the University and the Community."

Twenty-five year membership certificates were presented to John M. Terzian of Dedham, Mass., and, in absentia, to Archie Arpiarian of Cambridge, Mass., and Michael Kilijian of Redwood City, Calif.

## Election of Directors

The terms of seven members of the Board of Directors expired with this Assembly. John S. Bogosian of Havertown, Pa., and Arminé Dikijian of Brooklyn, N.Y., were elected to the NAASR Board to succeed Sonia Bogosian of Flushing, N.Y., and Dr. Pergrouhi N. Svajian of Brooklyn, N.Y.

The Assembly also reelected five incumbent Directors: Dr. Gregory H. Adamian, President of Bentley College, Waltham, Mass.; Dr. Richard N. Frye, Aga Khan Professor of Iranian at Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.; Nancy R. Kolligian, Watertown, Mass.; Hagop J. Nersoyan, professor-emeritus at the University of Dayton, Ohio; and Raffi P. Yeghiayan, Lexington, Mass. Dr. Nishan Goudsouzian was

Chairman of the Nominating Committee.

The Assembly unanimously approved a constitutional change presented by Edward A. Kazanjian, Chairman of the Constitution and Rules Committee, to increase the size of the NAASR Board of Directors from 21 to 27 members. The increase, which is subject to ratification by the membership in a mail ballot, will allow increased representation from California, the East Coast, and the South, and is scheduled to go into effect at the 1989 Assembly.

The resolution on the Institute for Armenian Studies and Research and New Headquarters was presented by Nancy R. Kolligian, Chairman of the New Business and Resolutions Committee; and was adopted unanimously.

## NAASR's Plans and Finances

In his report to the Assembly, Board Chairman Young cited the success of NAASR programs in the past, but pointed out that "we are only as good as our last success — we can't rest on our laurels."

Funding for the proposed Institute for Armenian Studies and Research will require a minimum of \$500,000 to \$1 million. NAASR also needs funds for a larger headquarters facility and for expanded staff, Mr. Young reported.

Fund-raising efforts will be intensified during the coming year, particularly in view of the fact that it is the final year of the five-year matching grant offered by Edward Mardigian of Michigan on the occasion of NAASR's 30th anniversary.

Concerning special NAASR programs, Mr. Young said that additional information



Nancy R. Kolligian, Chairman of the New Business and Resolutions Committee.

would be made available to members shortly about an Armenian Heritage Tour to Armenia next June and July, an upcoming workshop for public school teachers, and two planned conferences, one on Armenia in World Politics (in 1990) and a World Congress of Armenian Studies (scheduled for 1992).

NAASR Board Treasurer Erivan Hagopian presented the financial reports to the Assembly. According to the five-year Statement of Receipts and Disbursements, NAASR's annual budget has grown from \$85,000 in 1983 to \$175,000 in 1987. The net worth of NAASR, including endowment funds, Headquarters property, and Library and Book Clearing House inventory, increased to \$1.85 million in 1987.

The Chairman of the Auditing Committee, Sahag Kalashian, certified that the financial accounts had been audited and that the records were found to be in order.

## INSTITUTE FOR ARMENIAN STUDIES AND NEW HEADQUARTERS

*The following is the text of the resolution approved by the Annual Assembly.*

*Whereas* as a consequence of the proliferation of Chairs and Programs in Armenian Studies due to NAASR's pioneering efforts there is now a need to emphasize and foster research on many vital aspects of Armenian history and culture;

*Whereas* the interests of both the academic and Armenian communities need to be served through a coordinated and directed program of research activities in an independent, non-political, and non-sectarian manner and environment;

*Whereas* there is an ever-increasing number of young scholars specializing in Armenian Studies whose talents need to be more fully utilized and not wasted; and

*Whereas* an extensive survey conducted by NAASR among a representative group of educators, scholars, community leaders, and other interested individuals has indicated an overwhelming need for support of scholarships, fellowships, and research grants and the development of an Institute for Armenian Studies and Research;

*Be it therefore resolved* that the NAASR Board of Directors direct its efforts during the next year primarily towards the funding of such an institute and accumulating and providing more funds for vital research activities; and

*Be it further resolved* that NAASR's efforts during the immediate future be redoubled to secure the funds to acquire a larger headquarters facility in which such activities as well as NAASR's many other programs can be adequately conducted.

# The Armenian Scholar Between the University and the Community

By **THOMAS J. SAMUELIAN**

*The following is the text, slightly condensed, of the talk given by Dr. Samuelian at the NAASR Annual Assembly luncheon on Nov. 19 at Bentley College.*

A few weeks ago there was an article in *The New York Times* about an American professor of political science and communications named Kathleen Jameson. You may have seen her name quoted in connection with the recent presidential elections. This is what she had to say about the relationship between the American public and the university:

The academic community has a basic distrust of popularizers. To the extent that you become a Carl Sagan, who is very competent, you lose some of your standing in the academic community. To the extent you increase the audience for your ideas, you also end up devaluing them. It's a very delicate line, and I don't think you ever know when you cross it.

The Armenian academic who holds a chair endowed through the generosity of the Armenian community is constantly called upon to straddle this line.

This quotation provides some indication of the mentality and atmosphere of American academic life and its uneasy relationship with the public. In part this uneasiness is but the reflection of tension between the elitist pretensions of intellectual life and the democratic convictions of the American political creed. In part it is a measure of how completely theory has been separated from practice in our institutions of higher learning and how thoroughly social responsibility and community service have been supplanted by careerism and self-promotion.

## Conflicting Agendas

All this then should be kept in mind as we think about what we expect of the academics who are appointed to chairs and programs in Armenian Studies. Many Armenians in the community mistakenly think of these academics as employees of the community. They are not. The academic is first and foremost an employee of the university and a member of the discipline in which he or she practices.

The agenda of the university is at odds with the agenda of the community. The university places greatest emphasis on those activities which enhance its prestige and wealth, namely, funded research, publication, and visibility in influential circles. Basic research, usually far removed from the policy issues most on the minds of the community, takes precedence over all aspects of teaching and public service, including curriculum development and attention to students. Perhaps the most important work for Armenians, namely, integration of information about Armenians into the general sphere of world information, is a very low priority both because

prestige attaches most easily to the specialized, innovative, and esoteric and because academics are not rewarded by their institutions for this kind of integrative work.

Speaking more concretely, when you open a world history book, what is there on the Armenians? Are the Armenians mentioned where it is appropriate—in connection with the Hittites, Persians, Greeks, Romans, Arabs, Byzantines, Seljuks, Ottomans, Crusaders, Russians, Western Europeans? Are the few references to Armenians accurate?

On a par with integrative work, the community seeks policy-oriented research. For the reasons already discussed, such research is not high on the academic agenda. Scholars follow their temperament, which is often not activist and usually leads them to seek refuge above the fray. Scholars work best when they do that for which they are uniquely suited by training and inclination; thus there arises a disparity between the expectations of the community that endows the chair and those of the scholar who holds it.

## The Community's Agenda

The community has a different agenda. It seeks 1) instruction in Armenian subjects for university students and the Armenian community at large, 2) civic training for future community leaders, 3) training of future teachers and scholars, 4) integration of information about Armenians into the reservoir of world information, and 5) policy-oriented research. The community is still looking for an all-around community leader and enlightener. This is something of a throwback to the nineteenth century, when the Armenian intellectual was a priest, teacher, journalist, satirist, political leader, and anti-defamation league all wrapped into one. Our age of specialization and bureaucratization is not conducive to the emergence of such individuals. Other benefits the community is less likely to articulate, but which are nevertheless legitimate, are recognition and prestige for the Armenian community and entrée into American institutions.

## Scholar at the Tension Point

The problem of competing agendas is by now apparent. Academics by training and nature are not likely to espouse the community's agenda. Not only is it out of character, but it is also considered suspect by their peers. Moreover, academics have only so much time and energy. They cannot do everything even if they are among the few full-time Armenian professionals. There must be a division of labor, each person doing that which he or she is comparatively better able to do within the restraints of time and talent. Seen in this light, the scholar should produce that which he or she is uniquely able to produce.

The tension between agendas is focused

upon the academic, who is called to serve two masters. The tension is greater still for the academic of Armenian origin. Viewed objectively, the community has one set of expectations for Armenians in Armenian Studies and a different set of expectations for non-Armenians doing the very same work. Moreover, Armenian and non-Armenian academics have different expectations of themselves. All this must be taken into account when we consider what we expect of Armenian academics at American universities.

## Toward a Solution

The agendas of both the community and the academic are valid. Clearly there are points of overlap which could become sources of fruitful collaboration. Just as clearly, simply waiting for the academic to carry out the community's agenda is not likely to be effective or satisfying.

The community is overcapitalized and understaffed. Our community has a tendency to focus all its resources on institutions, instead of what these institutions do. Institution-building is an exhausting activity. Once the institution is established, the community appears to consider its work done, when in fact the work has only just begun. For this reason we have dozens of buildings and organizations, few of which meet our needs. Since it is the institution that we focus on, loyalties to the institution take precedence over the work to be done. There is a wasteful duplication of effort and, in general, beneficial competition is replaced by counter-productive rivalry, which takes its toll more on the dedicated individuals who work in these institutions than on the community which engendered them. In time these rivalries take on a life of their own; they overshadow and undermine the work to be done.

So I propose that we look at each item on the community's agenda and find ways to carry out those items through programs for which the community is willing to allocate funding (adequate funding and not just token funding), equipment, and manpower. The community has invested too much of its resources in paid-up buildings and not enough in people and programs. The edifice is not going to do much good after the people who were supposed to be served have wasted away out of neglect. On the other hand, there are now several generations of Armenians in America with a wide range of expertise who could be hired as free-lance writers, artists, designers, teachers, business administrators, consultants, or office workers and could be organized under the aegis of a consortium of existing institutions to realize virtually any project the community chooses.

Finally, we must set priorities and make

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## Two Recent Conferences

### *European Studies Association Honors Prince Max of Saxony*

More than 50 scholars from 15 countries attended the Fourth Conference of the Association Internationale des Etudes Arméniennes in Fribourg, Switzerland, on Oct. 13 to 15.

The principal event of the conference was a memorial program on Thursday evening, Oct. 13, in honor of Prince Max of Saxony (1870-1951). Dr. Iso Baumer, a member of the faculty of the University of Fribourg, opened the program by describing the Prince's efforts on behalf of the Armenians. Following her talk a memorial plaque was dedicated to this illustrious Armenologue who was also an ardent defender of the Armenian cause.

Prince Max of Saxony renounced the throne to become an ordained priest and dedicated his life to the study of Eastern Christianity. His research in classical Armenian began early in the 20th century in the University of Fribourg and lasted until his death, except for a brief interruption during World War I when he served as chaplain to the Saxon troops. Author of several scholarly works in Armenian and German, he bequeathed to the University of Fribourg his extensive Armenological library, which included documents dating from the Middle Ages.

A man of great learning, Prince Max of Saxony was also a humanist. He denounced the World War I massacres of the Christians in the Ottoman Empire which was allied with Germany, his native country. After the war he engaged in relief efforts for the Armenians, dedicating a large portion of his personal fortune to these efforts.

Presiding over the conference was Dr. Michael E. Stone, professor of Armenian at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, who was reelected to a three-year term as president of the Association. Professor Dirk Van Damme, who teaches Classical Armenian and Syriac at the Seminary of Patristics of the Faculty of Theology at the University of Fribourg, was in charge of the arrangements.

Five academicians from Yerevan participated in the conference, along with 12 scholars from East and West Germany.

Participants included Nicole and Jean-Michel Thierry, who presented a paper on paleochristian architecture in Armenia; Dr. H.C. Bernard Outtier, conservator of the Library of the Caucasus in Lavau, near Saulieu, France; Martiros Minassian, who holds the Armenian Chair in the faculty of letters at the University of Geneva; Father Viken Aykazian of Geneva, who discussed the role of the priest in Armenian canon law; Prof. Avedis K. Sanjian of UCLA; and Prof. Nina G. Garsoian of Columbia University.

### *Panels on Armenian Women At MESA Conference in LA*

Two panels on Armenian Women were presented at the annual meeting of the Middle East Studies Association (MESA) in Los Angeles Nov. 3-6 at the Beverly Hilton Hotel, reflecting a growing recognition of the insights into Armenian history and culture that can be gained through a study of the position and images of women.

The first panel, which was chaired by Kevork Bardakjian, professor of Armenian Language and Literature at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, was a historical one, looking at the "Changes in the Armenian Perception of Women in the 18th and 19th Centuries." The impact of Western ideas on traditional Armenian concepts of women was the central focus of this panel, which included papers by Loretta Topalian Nassar of Columbia University on "The Development of Armenian Women's Education in India"; S. Peter Cowe of Columbia on "The Portrayal of Women in Armenian Lyric"; and Barbara J. Merguerian of NAASR on "The Impact of American Missionaries on Armenian Women in the Ottoman Empire."

The second panel, chaired by Avedis K. Sanjian, professor of Armenian Language and Literature at the University of California, Los Angeles, consisted of analyses of the concept of women in Armenian literature. Papers were given by four doctoral students at UCLA: Gia Aivazian, whose paper was entitled "Women in Classical Armenian Texts"; Anahid Hasmig Tashjian, "The Heroine Dzovinar: A Psychoanalytical Approach"; Rita Vorperian, "A Feminist Reading of Krikor Zohrab"; and Rubina Peroomian, "The Armenian Woman: Victim of the Genocide."

The panels were organized through the auspices of the Society for Armenian Studies, which held its annual meeting on Nov. 2 also at the Beverly Hilton. A reception for SAS members and Armenian scholars present for the MESA conference was hosted by Dr. Richard G. Hovannisian, professor of Armenian History and associate director of the von Grunebaum Center for Near Eastern Studies at UCLA, and his wife, Vartiter.

Other Armenian American scholars participating in the MESA conference were H. Richard Dekmejian, professor of Political Science at the University of Southern California and member of the Program Committee; Joseph Kechichian, professor of Government at the University of Virginia and chair of a panel on "Political Conflict and Change"; and Elise Sanasarian, professor of Government at the University of Southern California, who had presented a paper on "Women in the Armenian Genocide" at the Political Science Convention last summer.

## Armenian Studies

### *UC Berkeley Alumni Launch Drive for Chair*

Armenian alumni of the University of California, Berkeley, have launched a fund drive to establish an endowed Chair for a Distinguished Visiting Professor in Armenian Studies at Berkeley.

Representatives of the faculty and officers of the campus Armenian Students Association are cooperating with the alumni group, which has received encouragement for this effort from Provost Leonard Kuhi, Dean of the College of Letters and Science.

The fund drive was launched with a banquet on Nov. 12 at which Dr. Kevork Bardakjian, Marie Manoogian Professor of Armenian Language and Literature at the University of Michigan, was the keynote speaker.

### *University of Michigan Offers Language Institute in Yerevan*

The Armenian Studies Program at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, is sponsoring an eight-week Armenian Language Summer Institute at the University of Yerevan. Dr. Kevork Bardakjian is director of the program, which provides instruction in beginning and intermediate Western Armenian. Both undergraduate and graduate students are eligible for the program, which is scheduled to run from June 12 to Aug. 9.

Eight credit hours will be granted by the University of Michigan for successful completion of the course. The \$2,000 fee includes airfare, board and lodging, tuition, and excursions. Limited financial aid is available through the AGBU Scholarship Fund. Application forms are available from Ms. Marysia Ostafin, Armenian Studies Program, University of Michigan, 216 Lane Hall, Ann Arbor, MI 48109. The deadline for applications is March 15, 1989.

### *Summer Study Tour to Armenia Sponsored by CSUF*

The Armenian Studies Program at California State University, Fresno, is offering a one-month summer study tour in Armenia in 1989. Selected participants will stay in the Armenian capital of Yerevan as guests of the Committee for Cultural Relations with Armenians Abroad and will visit nearby historic and cultural sites.

According to preliminary plans, the study tour will operate from May 31 to June 28 and the tentative cost is \$1,400. Barlow Der Mugrdechian, Lecturer in Armenian Studies, will direct the tour.

Information and applications are available by contacting Armenian Studies Program, California State University — Fresno, Fresno, CA 93740.

## NECROLOGY

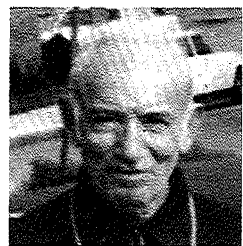
**Vahey S. Kupelian**, pioneer in the evolution of ballistic missile defense, on Dec. 9, 1988, in Washington, D.C., at the age of 76. A graduate of MIT, Mr. Kupelian spent a decade in the private defense industry before joining the U.S. Department of Defense, where he served for 39 years, retiring in April 1988 as Deputy for Ballistic Missile Defense within the Office of the Secretary of Defense. Earlier he had served as director of missile technology for the Defender Program and Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Systems Engineering. He had been a NAASR member since 1981.

**Bedros Norehad**, editor, scholar, and community leader, on Dec. 6, 1988, in New York City. Born in Sepastia in 1901 and a survivor of the Genocide, he settled with his family in Chicago, where he received his education. He then served for many years as editor of the *Armenian Mirror-Spectator* and later held writing and editing positions with the Armenian General Benevolent Union and the Diocese of the Armenian Church. A matchless translator from Armenian to English, he was the author of several books and articles. Mr. Norehad was a Charter Member of NAASR.

Sarkis M. Casparian Papers  
Donated to NAASR Library

The personal papers and writings in Armenian of the late Sarkis M. Casparian, a chemist by profession and an active member of the Armenian-American community, have been donated to NAASR's Armenian Reference and Research Library. A number of Mr. Casparian's collection of Armenian-language books and periodicals has also been donated.

The papers relate mostly to Mr. Casparian's activities as executive secretary to the American Committee to Aid Armenia, a position he held from 1933 to 1939, and also as executive secretary to the Gurin Committee to Aid Culture in Armenia, in which he helped to raise funds for the purchase of television broadcasting equipment sent to Yerevan in 1975. The papers also include first drafts of articles written by Mr. Casparian.



The donations were made by Mr. Casparian's son, Armen S. Casparian, associate professor in the Department of Chemistry and Physics at Wentworth Institute of Technology.

Born in Gurin, Armenia, shortly after the turn of the century (his exact birth date is

## New NAASR Members

There have been 50 new and reinstated members whose applications have been approved by the NAASR Board's Executive Committee since the listing in the last issue of the *NAASR Newsletter*. Of this total 14 joined before the 34th Annual Assembly of Members on Nov. 19, 1988, bringing the total of new members joining in the period between the last two annual assemblies to 123. Of this number 54 are from Massachusetts, 28 from California, 10 from New York and New Jersey, 5 from Minnesota, 18 from 13 other states, and 8 from Canada and other foreign countries.

Listed below are all the members who have joined since the previous listing. An asterisk (\*) denotes reinstated membership.

**Massachusetts:** *Robert Aghababian*, Lexington; *Mrs. Sandra Aghababian* (\*), Lexington; *Anjel Bejanian* (Student), Canton; *Mrs. Virginia Ensher* (\*), W. Bridgewater; *Jennifer Garabedian* (Student), New England Conservatory of Music; *Mrs. Nairi Havan* (Student), Mass. College of Art; *Glenn Herosian*, Lexington; *Victor M. Kazanjian* (Student), Boston University; *Kenneth C. Krikorian* (\*), Watertown; *Jack Medzororian* (Supporting), Winchester; *Shawn R. Movsessian* (Student), Babson College; *Mrs. Phyllis M. Okoomian* (\*), Wayland; *Mardiros B.P. Petrossian*, Belmont; *Mrs. Zabel M. Quimby* (\*), Beverly; *Alex Sarafian* (Student), Suffolk University; *Mrs. Jeanne Karagosian Silver*, Waltham; *Mrs. E. Seta Terzian*, Dedham; *Dr. John K. Terzian*, Needham; *Laura S. Terzian*, Needham; *Richard M. Wilbur* (Student),

Tufts University.

**California:** *Peter V. Amirkhanian* (\*), San Carlos; *Karoon Balian* (\*), San Francisco; *Vrej Bonyadian*, Glendale; *Dr. Ralph P. Ermoian* (\*), Fresno; *Paul Jorjorian*, Sacramento; *Mrs. Stina Katchadourian* (Supporting), Stanford; *Rev. Arshag Khatchadourian*, Los Angeles; *Harold S. Manselian* (\*), Fresno; *Mrs. Diana Markarian* (\*), Daly City; *Elizabeth S. Rustigian* (Student), Beverly Hills; *John Shahabian* (\*), Sacramento.

**Michigan:** *Narses Gedigian*, Dearborn Heights; *Jennifer Gurahian*, (Student), Univ. of Michigan, Ann Arbor; *Dickran Toumajan*, Southfield.

**Minnesota:** *Francis Bulbulian* (\*), St. Paul; *Aram S. Charchian*, Eden Prairie; *Mrs. Lucille Desteian*, Minneapolis; *Mrs. Nairy M. Hassett*, Minneapolis; *Krikor Heghinian* (\*), St. Paul.

**Other States:** *Mrs. Thelma Der Avedisian*, Gilford, NH; *Prof. Michael M. Gunter* (\*), Tennessee Technological University; *Ara Jilajian* (\*), Teaneck, NJ; *Henry S. Kazan*, Juno Beach, FL; *Prof. Joseph A. Kechichian*, University of Virginia, Charlottesville; *Katherine Malconian*, Portland, ME; *Meline Melikian* (Student), New York University; *Mrs. Virginia G. Rivers*, Rosemont, PA.

**Foreign Countries:** *Nubar Goudsouzian* (Student), McGill University, Montreal, Canada; *Prof. Michael E. Stone*, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel.

*NOTE: The next issue will contain a complete list of all Supporting, Sustaining, Sponsor, and Patron Members and the members accepted into Life Membership since the last listing in the Spring 1988 issue.*

unknown), Mr. Casparian lost both of his parents in the Armenian Genocide and, at the age of approximately ten, was left with the responsibility of caring for his younger brother Avedis and sister Takouhi.

After living with a friendly Turkish family and, later, in orphanages in various parts of the Middle East, Mr. Casparian attended Anatolia College in Salonica, Greece, for two years and in 1927 came to Boston to study at Northeastern University in its internationally recognized cooperative education program. Upon graduation with a BS degree in Chemical Engineering, Mr. Casparian accepted a temporary position in New York City as executive secretary to the American Committee to Aid Armenia.

In 1939 Mr. Casparian entered the graduate program in Chemistry at Columbia University and graduated with an MA degree in Organic Chemistry in 1942.

After serving as research chemist with the Barrett Division of Allied Chemical in

New Jersey for two years, Mr. Casparian accepted an offer to head the Analytical Department and Quality Control Division of Arnold Hoffman and Co., Inc., in Dighton, Mass., where he supervised a staff of over 200 technicians and chemists on three working shifts and was responsible for servicing a chemical plant which manufactured several hundred products and used over a thousand different chemicals. He was listed in the *American Leaders of Science*.

He retired in December 1971 and moved, with his wife Mary, to Johnston, R. I. His wife passed away in 1972. His retirement years were spent in a variety of activities—reading, writing, managing his investment portfolio, and gardening. In the summer of 1976 he made a long-desired trip to Armenia, a pilgrimage he cherished. More recently he donated funds to establish the Sarkis M. Casparian Science Fund through the Armenian General Benevolent Union. He passed away on Christmas Eve in 1987.



Board Chairman Manoog S. Young appeared before the Armenian Cultural Organization of Minnesota on the first stop of his western trip last October. Above he appears with Vahram Cardashian, President of ACOM (right). His subsequent stops were in San Francisco, Sacramento, Fresno, and Los Angeles, where he spoke to gatherings of NAASR members and friends and brought them up to date on NAASR's programs, plans, and needs.

## Soviet Armenian Scholar, Movie Producer Among Recent Visitors to NAASR

Gayane Makhmourian, a research specialist at the Institute of History of the Armenian Academy of Sciences in Yerevan, Armenia, visited the NAASR Headquarters and Library on Dec. 6 and 7 in connection with her one-month study tour to the United States.

A specialist on American historiography of Armenian cultural history, Dr. Makhmourian came to the United States after her research project had been approved by the USSR All-Union Academy of Sciences in Moscow as part of the five-year Soviet-American Agreement on Scientific Exchange initiated in 1985. The tour was arranged by IREX (International Research and Exchanges Board).

While in this country, Dr. Makhmourian was searching for concrete data describing research carried out in America during the past 20 to 25 years on Armenian cultural history of the period from 1870 to 1923. Prior to coming to Boston, she had toured libraries in Princeton, N.J., as well as in San Francisco, Fresno, and Los Angeles, California. After one week in Boston, she was scheduled to spend a few days in New York City and Washington, D.C., before returning home.

A native of Yerevan, Dr. Makhmourian moved at the age of 3 with her family to the Ukraine, where she attended school, graduating from the pedagogical college in Kiev. She returned to Yerevan for post graduate studies and, upon completing her degree, joined the Institute of History.

Her paper about American historiography on Armenian culture will appear in a volume entitled *Problems of Modern Armenian History in Foreign Historiography*, which is scheduled for publication in Yerevan by the Institute of History in the spring.

Andranik Terteryan, Vice-President and technical director of Andranik Film, Ltd., Inc. of Burbank, Calif., also visited NAASR recently and discussed the distribution of films made in Armenia. Mr. Terteryan, a former official with the Ministry of Culture in Moscow, is associated with the international effort to make a film version of the life of the Armenian hero, General Andranik.

Other recent visitors to NAASR Headquarters included:

**Dr. Rouben Adalian**, Director of Academic Affairs of the Armenian Assembly of America in Washington, D.C., who discussed recent trends in curriculum development on teaching the Armenian Genocide.

**Dr. David Calonne** of Ann Arbor, Mich., author of *William Saroyan: My Real Work Is Being* and lecturer at Siena Heights College and the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

**Sylvia Der Stepanian**, Director of the Armenian Language Lab at the Diocese of the Armenian Church in New York City, who reviewed recent publications.

**The Rev. John Mokokosian** of Salem, N.H., Eastern Region Youth Director of the Armenian Evangelical Union of North America, accompanied by Rev. Ron Tovmassian of the Armenian Memorial Church in Watertown.

**Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Orfali** of Napa, Calif. Mr. Orfali is author of the recently-published autobiography, *An Armenian from Jerusalem*.

**George and Lorne Shirinian** of Toronto, Canada, who are preparing a bibliography of recent articles on Armenian subjects for publication by the Society for Armenian Studies.

## Earthquake Brings Calls

Continued from page 1

Aid" are being accepted and are being forwarded to appropriate relief agencies.

The reporter for *The American Statesman* who telephoned NAASR from Austin, Texas, for example, was writing a feature story about a local elderly woman who recalled with regret that she had been too poor to be able to contribute to the Armenian relief effort in the United States following World War I and expressed gratification that she was now in a position to contribute generously to Armenians in need. The reporter, who indicated that he was familiar with the Armenian Genocide of World War I, had no knowledge of the massive American relief effort that took place in 1915 to 1923 and was very interested in information and statistics about the Near East Relief.

Generally speaking, NAASR has been receiving an increasing number of calls from the media recently on various questions in Armenian history and culture, particularly since the Artsakh-Karabagh situation has become newsworthy. *Time* magazine, the *Christian Science Monitor*, and ABC-TV have utilized NAASR resources numerous times for background information on a variety of other subjects.

Several recent callers from New York City and Boston asked about Armenian Christmas customs in connection with articles they were writing for newspapers and magazines about holiday traditions.

For NAASR's Director of Information and Publications, Dr. Barbara J. Merguerian, there is no telling what request the next telephone call may bring. One day recently it was the editor of the *Stanford University Daily*, seeking recommendations for a book suitable for review on an Armenian subject; the next day it was a librarian at the Haverhill Public Library asking for information about an Armenian count who married a Haverhill heiress in London in 1894. On another occasion it was a request for titles of books to be translated into Serbo-Croatian.

The majority of calls seeking information, however, continue to come from students planning to do research papers on Armenian topics for high school and college courses in such diverse fields as history, anthropology, music, architecture, and sociology. A number of requests continue to come from individuals who are preparing family histories.

Some inquiries can be easily answered, others require considerable research effort that may take time away from important NAASR projects. Determining how much staff time to allocate to this information function involves difficult questions of priorities, but in general NAASR makes every effort to satisfy callers, whoever they may be, in order to encourage inclusion of accurate information about the Armenians.

## Recent and Selected Titles of Note

NAASR's Armenian Book Clearing House continues to offer for sale a large number of English-language publications on Armenian subjects. The most recent and noteworthy additions to the Armenian Book Clearing House holdings 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 \$2.00.

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

*The Armenian Americans*, by David Waldstreicher (The Peoples of North America Series, Chelsea House Publishers, New York). With an Introductory Essay by Daniel Patrick Moynihan, this book provides a brief overview of Armenian history and then describes the Armenian immigration to the United States and the Armenian community in this country. Profusely illustrated in black-and-white photographs and some color photographs. H342. \$16.95 (\$14.50).

*The Armenian Genocide*, Documentation, Volume II, edited by Artem Ohandjanian (Institute for Armenian Problems, Munich, Germany). Volume II of this series reproduces documents from the Austrian archives corroborating the Genocide of the Armenian population of Turkey during World War I and providing evidence of the complicity of Germany and Austria-Hungary; the documents are particularly significant because they were written for the most part by diplomatic representatives of one of Turkey's allies, Austria-Hungary. The documents are dated 1912 to 1918 and most are in German. H344. \$50.00 (\$45.00).

*Armenian Genocide Resource Guide* (Arme-

nian Assembly of America, Washington, D.C.). An introduction for teachers to some of the best material available on the Armenian Genocide for use in the classroom. The material is targeted to secondary school students and includes curriculum guidelines, books, historical surveys, films, and posters designed for instructional purposes. X243p. \$3.00 (\$2.75).

*Documents of Armenian Architecture*. Additional titles in this series prepared jointly by scholars at the faculty of architecture of the Milan Polytechnic Institute and the Academy of Sciences of the Armenian SSR, with text in Italian and English, summary in Armenian, color and black-and-white photographs, diagrams, and plans. (Oemme Edizioni, Milan).

No. 16, *Ptghni/Arudch*, with essays by Francesco Gandolfo and Armen Zarian. Presents the domed halls built in the 5th and 6th centuries in Ptghni, Arudch, Zovuni, Bdchni, etc., with one black-and-white and 44 color plates as well as a series of surveys in 9 plates. A157p. \$20.00 (\$17.50).

No. 17, *Gandzasar*, with essays by Bagrat Ulubabian and Murad Hasratian. Describes this beautifully decorated 13th century monastery located in Karabagh, with 42 color photographs and a complete series of surveys in 5 plates. A192p. \$20.00 (\$17.50).

No. 18, *Sevan*, with essay by Stephan Mnatsakanian. Discusses the series of monuments, churches, and monasteries built in the 9th to 12th centuries around Lake Sevan, the cradle for many successive civilizations; with 54 color and 3 black-and-white photographs, complete series of surveys in 10 plates, and 2 reference maps. A193p. \$32.00 (\$27.50).

*Portrait of the Soviet Union*, by Fitzroy Maclean (Henry Holt & Co., New York). A survey of the cultural, religious, social, and economic forces at work in the Soviet Union, written by a widely-travelled British observer who is particularly interested in the nationalities

that make up the country. With a chapter and several photographs of Armenia. H243. \$23.95 (\$19.95).

### ALSO AVAILABLE:

*Armenians: A Look Back — 1989 Calendar* (Project SAVE, Watertown, Mass.). Profusely illustrated with black-and-white photographs documenting the modern history of the Armenian people. X242p. \$10.00 (\$8.95).

*Bible: Old and New Testaments* (Bible Society of Lebanon, Beirut). In Western Armenian. C53. \$12.00 (\$11.00).

*New Testament and Book of Psalms* (Bible Society of Lebanon, Beirut). In Western Armenian. C54. \$7.50 (\$7.00).

*Junior Armenian Encyclopedia: Inch Eh, Ov Eh?* (Soviet Armenian Encyclopedia Publishers, Yerevan). The four-volume set of this reference work for young students, prepared by the Soviet Armenian Encyclopedia Editorial Board and profusely illustrated in both color and black-and-white, is now available. In Armenian. X236. \$65.00 (\$55.00) for the set. Individual volumes, \$18.50 (\$16.00) each.

*Many Hills Yet to Climb: Memoirs of an Armenian Deportee*, by John Minassian (Jim Cook, Santa Barbara, Calif.). Now available in hardcover as well as paperback. X187c. \$19.95 (\$16.95).

### VIDEOTAPE ON ARMENIAN GENOCIDE AVAILABLE FOR CLASSROOM USE

A videotape about the Armenian Genocide and its effects on the survivors, their children, and their grandchildren has just been released by Intersection Associates. The 28-minute video was prepared for use in classrooms studying genocide; its educational consultant was William S. Parsons, co-author of *Facing History and Ourselves: Holocaust and Human Behavior*.

In preparing the video, Susu Wing of Intersection Associates consulted many libraries and research centers, including NAASR's Armenian Reference and Research Library, for historical photographs to accompany the film narrative.

The videotape, "Everyone's Not Here: Families of the Armenian Genocide," is available for \$35 (including shipping) in VHS or 3/4-inch format from Intersection Associates, 56 Chestnut St., Cambridge, MA 02139, or from NAASR Headquarters.

### NAASR Newsletter

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## The Armenian Scholar

*Continued from page 4*

choices about the programs we support. While establishing the truth about the genocide is an overarching concern for the entire community, it cannot be allowed to divert our energies from other needs. Every allocation has its opportunity cost. The community is in need of general enlightenment; basic textbooks on Armenian history, literature, art, architecture, music, dance, folk art, church history, and theology are sorely needed, as are programs to teach these subjects at a high quality and to a broad audience. The lines of cultural transmission were severed several generations ago. A real effort has to be made to reestablish those lines of transmission if the community is to grow in the Armenian tradition.

In short, we should consider carefully what our aims are. We should transcend institutional divisions which have vitiated our community life. We should understand that our resources are limited and that there is an opportunity cost exacted by

each and every allocation we make. Instead of proliferating institutions, we should address our problems with programs of actions aimed at solving those problems. If we want visibility, let us target visibility. If we want decision makers to have information about Armenians, let us put it in their hands. If we want to bring the community together, we should consciously design projects which require concerted effort and staff them with talent from all parts of the community. Though antithetical to scholarship in the purest sense, sponsored research is possible and becoming more common, even in the humanities. Sponsoring research in areas it deems important is, therefore, one route the community can take.

We live in a society in which civic association for short- or long-term projects is virtually unfettered. Moreover, we live in an Armenian community that is probably better off financially, physically, emotionally, and educationally than it has ever been. We have tremendous opportunities before us. It would be unfortunate if we did not seize those opportunities.