34th Assembly to Hear Noted Scholars

Dr. Michael E. Stone, Professor of Armenian at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Visiting Professor at the Harvard Divinity School this fall, will be the guest of honor at NAASR’s 34th Annual Assembly and Luncheon on Saturday, November 19, at the Bentley College Graduate Center, Forest and Beaver Streets, in Waltham, Mass.

Prof. Stone, who received his PhD from Harvard, will be honored for his life-long endeavors in the field of Armenian Studies.

An authority on Armenian Biblical literature and the history of Armenians in the Holy Land, he will speak on “Pilgrims, Computers, and Bible Stories: Some Recent Directions in Armenian Studies.” He is the founding chairman and president of the Association Internationale des Etudes Arméniennes, based in Europe.

Speaking also at the luncheon will be Dr. Thomas J. Samuelian, former Tarzian Lecturer in Armenian and Assistant Director 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, who has taught both classical and modern Armenian at Columbia University, the University of Pennsylvania, and St. Nersess Armenian Seminary, will present a report on “The Armenian Scholar Between the University and the Community.”

NAASR Board Chairman Manoog S. Young will open the Business Session of the Assembly with a report by the Board of Directors on organizational, academic, and financial matters. Also on the agenda are special reports, reports of assembly committees, and election of Directors.

Chairmen of the Assembly Committees are: Nishan Goudsouzian, Nominating; Edward A. Kazanjian, Constitution and Rules; Nancy R. Kolligian, New Business and Resolutions; and Sahag Kalashian, Auditing.

The Assembly will convene officially at 12 noon and recess at 12:15 p.m. for the luncheon, during which presentations will be made to 25-year members. The Business Session is scheduled to begin at 2:30 p.m.

NAASR members and guests are cordially invited to attend the Annual Assembly and Luncheon. Guests may attend the Business Session as observers. Reservations for the luncheon, at $12.50 per person, should be made by November 12 by contacting NAASR Headquarters.

Memorial Service Held for Emmanuel Varandyan

Friends, associates, and relatives of the late Emmanuel P. Varandyan, professor-emeritus of English at Ohio State University, participated in a special memorial service and program in his honor on Sunday, October 2, at the St. James Armenian Church in Watertown, Mass.

An outstanding speaker, educator, and author of several novels, short stories, essays, and poems, Prof. Varandyan was killed in an automobile accident on Saturday, June 25, in eastern Tennessee, where he had been living in retirement.

The memorial service and program was arranged by NAASR, with whom Prof. Varandyan had a long and close association. A Charter Member, Prof. Varandyan served on NAASR’s Board of Directors for six years, from 1958 to 1964, and was a member at the time of his death of its National Advisory Board. In 1961 he was

Continued on page 2
NAASR NEWSLETTER

NAASR BRIEFS
NAASR Provides Material for Ethnic Study Exhibit

Information provided by NAASR about efforts of Armenian missionaries in the Ottoman Empire and Armenians suffering from the threat of violence or persecution has been included in an exhibit on display at the Wesleyan Tufts University, Medford, Mass., from September 19 through November 23.

The exhibit, "Sacredly: From Captivity to Covenant," traces the religious and humanitarian responses to the suffering and violence in their homelands. NAASR provided a brief overview of the efforts made by American missionaries to shelter the Armenian population of the Ottoman Empire, particularly during the massacres of 1895, the Adana massacre of 1909, and the Genocide of the Armenians in the Ottoman Empire in 1915.

Documents in Gulbenkian Exhibit Included in Balch Exhibit

Several items from the NAASR Archives are included in the exhibit. The exhibit of Armenian rugs is accompanied by photographs, documents, and art to provide a comprehensive view of Armenian culture. NAASR has loaned several items to the Balch Institute for inclusion in the exhibit. These include letters and photographs from the Gulbenkian archives and an order for medical supplies for the Armenian refugees in the Middle East. Early newspapers and programs for Armenian events are also included.

Armenian Exhibits Available Through NAASR

An exhibit of 40 works of art prepared by school children of Yerevan, Armenia, is a former NAASR member, is on display at the Balch Institute for Armenian Studies and Research.

The exhibit was presented to the City Sister Sister City Association, at (617) 547-1944. The exhibit is currently housed in the NAASR Headquarters.

NAASR NEWSLETTER

Page 2

NAASR BRIEFS

CHAIRMAN'S LETTER: For NAASR to Fulfill Its Mission

Over the past 34 years NAASR has grown from a single-purpose organization to a multi-purpose, multi-focused enterprise in the interests of both the academic and Armenian communities.

An organization which has grown so far to establishing America's first Chair of Armenian Studies at Harvard University, NAASR has continued to support and give impetus to Armenian Studies both in this country and abroad. As a result there are now six Chairs of Armenian Studies in the United States and from Paris and Armenia.

Though it was originally planned long before the events of recent months propelled the Soviet Armenian Republic into the international news headlines, the conference was of tremendous help to the efforts of the new glasnost and perestroika in the Soviet government and the movement to reunite Karabagh to the Armenian Republic.

The conference, "Armenias: Historical Background," was opened by Elliott Manoogian, NAASR Board Chairman and East European Studies at the University of Pennsylvania. In the first paper, Richard Manoogian, NAASR Board member, presented some of the controversial questions which surround "The Armenian Republic" in 1921 and the clarifications that might result if the Soviet and other archives are opened to scholars. Next Stephen Blank [Air University] described the bureaucratic organizations present during the "Formation of the Transcaucasian S.F.S.R."

Further papers were presented by Ruben Sahakyan [Institute of Oriental Studies, NAS of Armenia], by Gevorg Garinian [Babkakan, RAFT Journal], and by Ronald G. Sury [Youngstown, OH].

The second session, "The Soviet Response," was dominated by questions about the effects of the new glasnost and perestroika in the Soviet Union on the international news headlines. The two sessions were combined and 8 attracted a large number of scholars in the Arts and Sciences, of the United States and from Paris and Armenia.

The two sessions were combined and the speakers presented papers and discussion on the following topics: "Recent Events in Karabagh" [Serge Attar, N. Paris, "Social and Political Impact of the Karabagh Demonstrations in February" [Nora Dudwick, Pennsylvania], "Soviet Armenian Language and Literature" [Leo Chovorjian, Long Beach], and "Science and Economics: The Rug Weaving Industry in Soviet Armenia" [Lucy Der Manoukian, Tuft University].

If, for example, the six leading astrophysicists in the world all attend the same conference, they may very well be asked to take separate airplanes so that an accident will not wipe out a crucial body of knowledge.

Sitting here with us this afternoon is a critical mass of scholarship into the Armenian culture. It is such a rare company in world learning that we urge them to avoid being asked to take separate airplanes so that an accident will not wipe out a crucial body of knowledge.

We are a society that is comprised of thousands, The Mayflower. Happily, the dominant present form of ethnic pride is a reminder that George Washington was to the Armenians in this country what they are to the Armenian community.

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New Courses Scheduled at Univ. of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Two new courses in Armenian literature will be introduced this fall by Professor Vartan Der Merdzejian, an Armenian-English academic year by Kevork Bardakjian, Saroyan: My Real Work is Being. Herrmann, who is on the faculty of Siena Heights University in Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Back by popular demand in the Winter term is the course "The Works of William Saroyan," taught by Dr. David Kaloustian, who is the son of Siena Heights College and is the author of the book William Saroyan: A Life.

For the first time at Michigan a special course for graduate students in Armenian Studies will be offered: an analysis of major texts in English, Armenian, and Russian conducted by Ronald G. Suny, Alex Manoogian Professor of Modern Armenian History.

Dr. Edwards Teaching Art and Architecture at Chicago

Art historian Robert W. Edwards has been named visiting instructor in Art at the University of Chicago this year. He will teach a two-semester course on Armenian Art, focusing on Armenian history and Mediterranean Archaeology. Edwards is headed by President Yeghiashickian, who also teaches homiletics; and faculty members Dr. Han­na G. Alamanian (Armenology), Dr. James S. Kassian (Scriptural Knowledge); Rev. Carl L. Hayes (Misiology); and Rev. Jerry Wilson (Systematic Theology).

An independent interdenominational college, ABC is accredited through its af­liation with the Association of Member Schools of the United Church of Christ. It is located on the 17-acre campus of William Carey University in Passadena.

OTHER UNIVERSITY PROGRAMS

Armenian Rugs: Fabric of a Culture

An international association for Arme­nian Computing was founded last year by UÇA students at the University of California: the Medes­teran Repository of Ancient and Rare Books and the Armenian American College, which was founded to promote the study of Armenian history and culture. The Armenian Rug Society, headed by President Yeghiashickian, also organizes the exhibition and the conference which focuses on the Armenian Genocide. The Rug Society is co-sponsor of the "Armenian Rugs: Fabric of a Culture." The Rug Society is co-sponsor of the Conference.

DAY SCHOOLS IN AMERICA, SAN FRANCISCO

A seminar on ‘Armenian Day Schools in America: Prospects and Challenges’ will be held on November 29 at the Krouzian-Zakarian School in San Francisco. The program has been designed to add­dress questions of the function, perceptions, organization, and quality of Armenian day schools in America. The number of schools will address various aspects of the schools, some of them pro­vided by the day school principals and others specialists in Armenian issues or general educational philosophy. Following the speakers a panel discus­sion will focus on the future of Armenian day schools. The papers presented at this day schools will be transcribed and made available at a future date. Sponsor of the seminar is the Armen­ian Professional Society of the Bay Area.

Armenian Computing Group Formed in Yerevan
An international association for Arme­nian Computing was founded last year by UÇA students at the University of California: the Medes­teran Repository of Ancient and Rare Books and the Armenian American College, which was founded to promote the study of Armenian history and culture. The Armenian Rug Society, headed by President Yeghiashickian, also organizes the exhibition and the conference which focuses on the Armenian Genocide. The Rug Society is co-sponsor of the "Armenian Rugs: Fabric of a Culture." The Rug Society is co-sponsor of the Conference.

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NAAHS Members in the News

Haig H. Agabian of Winchester, Mass., has accepted an appointment on the Admissions Committee, R.1, of the NAASR Board, he recently re-joined the Board as Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of the Harvard Coop in Cambridge, Mass.

Zaven Dadalian of Saddle River, N.J., was honored by the Armenian Church of America with a tribute din- ner at the home of the late Dr. H. J. and Mrs. Y. K. Dadalian in New York City. The event was hosted by the Armenian Church of America’s New York Archdiocese, an active and generous member in the Armenian Church. Mr. Dadalian holds several patents in the field of mer- cial real estate development and in- dependence. In honor of the occasion, he was presented with the title of “Mr. Dadalian,” has been issued in several editions.

A Patron member of NAASR.

Maghrer Nairiyan of Newburyport, Mass., Director of Administration at the Boston University Law School, was recognized with the Silver Stingle Award, the highest honor the Law School bestows on an individual at a ceremony last June. Ms. Der Hagopian Newburyport, Mass., Director of Calls,” has been issued in several editions.

Ansocia of the Diocese of the NAASR Consulting practice to provide professional services to the retail industry. A former NAASR Board member, he recently rejoined the Board as Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of the Harvard Coop in Cambridge, Mass.

Vartan Gregorian of New York City has been named president of Brown University, Providence, R.I. He succeeds Dr. Phoebe A. Rozycki, N.A. Der Hagopian, who is leaving his post at the New York Public Library next spring. Previously he served on the faculties of San Francisco State University, the University of Texas, and the University of California, where he was an associate professor in the Philosophy Department and vice chairman of the state Board of Prisons. Terms before being named secretary of the youth and Adult Correction Agency in 1982 by Gov. George Deukmejian. He was placed in charge of the system in 1983. He joined NAASR during its first decade.

Martins Martinian of Arlington, Mass., Grand pri- mate of the Armenian Church of America and president of the Diocese of the NAASR, was this year’s recipient of the Award of Honor. He has been a NAASR member for 10 years.

Alice Nahabedian of Belmont, Mass., has joined the named acting principal of the Winook Brook Elementary School where she has been a fifth grade teacher and teacher- coach for the past seven years. Na­ habedian holds two undergraduate degrees as an Associate in Science and a master’s degree in education from Boston College and has been a class- room teacher for 19 years. A NAASR mem- ber for five years, she has been a member of the Greater Boston Chapter Executive Committee.

Armenian Church of America and the Diocese of the NAASR, has been appointed as the first Chair for Armenian and Caucasian History. He has been a NAASR member for 10 years.

Riauq D. Sadjian of Pacific Palisades, Calif., is an associate professor in the Department of Armenian Studies at the University of California, Los Angeles. He was a member of the Armenian Students’ Association’s Diana Award for outstanding contributions to the Armenian American community culture to the world. An outstanding scholar and prolific writer, he has written several books and numerous articles. Prof. Sadjian is a former member of the NAASR Board of Directors and is currently serving on the National Advisory Committee.

Persygn Najarian of Boston, Mass., is an associate professor at the California State University, Los Angeles. He was a member of the NAASR Board of Directors and is currently serving on the National Advisory Committee.

A Pyrga Hajian of New York City was awarded the 60th anniversary of his ordination at a gathering at the Holy Cross Cathedral in New York City in November. The former Primate of the Armenian Church of America in the United States at the conclusion of this summer’s Teacher’s College® sponsored by the Department of Language and Resource Center, Dr. Sjavian is Professor of Armenian Epic Literature and History at the City University of New York. A member of the Board of Directors and chairman of the Board of Supervisors of the General Benevolent Union, he has been a member of the NAASR Board of Direc­ tors since 1983.

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Recent and Selected Titles of Note

Books on Armenian subjects in English continue to proliferate. The most recent and noteworthy additions to NAASR's Armenian Book Clearing House holdings appear below. Figures in parentheses represent discounted prices for NAASR members in good standing. Postage is paid by NAASR on all prepaid orders. Special discounts are available for libraries and booksellers.

Annual of Armenian Linguistics, Volume 9, 1988, edited by John A.C. Greppin, [Cleveland State University]. Ten articles by distinguished scholars on various aspects of the history of the Armenian language, a review article, and several book notes. L72p. $12.00 ($11.00).


Priscilla Armenian Needlepoint Lace Book (Soviet Armenia, 1988, edited by John A.C. Greppin, [Cleveland State University]). Ten articles by distinguished scholars on various aspects of the history of the Armenian language, a review article, and several book notes. L72p. $12.00 ($11.00).

Armenian Literature, by Ronald Grigor Jbara, (Bloomington, in association with Hoover Institution Press). A comprehensive history of Armenia's neighbor, Georgia, from the earliest times to the present day, tracing the emergence of the Georgian people as a coherent and conscious nationality, their integration into the Russian Empire, the collapse of the Russian Empire, and the effects of the Soviet Union, 1918-1921, and finally the effects of 70 years of Soviet rule as well as the role of Armenian revolutionaries and parties. Cloth, H338c. $45.00 ($38.50); paper, H338p, $17.50 ($14.95).

The Memoirs of Anastas Mikoyan, Vol. 1, The Path of Struggle, edited by Vardik Mikoyan with a foreword by W. Averell Harriman, preface by Harrison E. Salisbury (Sphinx Press, Madison, Conn.). The long-awaited English translation of the first volume of the memoirs of the late president of the Soviet Union, covering his childhood in Abkhazia and his life as a Sanabian teacher, court days at the Nerejson Seminary in Tiflis and the Religious Academy at Etchmiadzin, volunteer military service under General Antranik during the early months of World War I, and activities as a Bolshevik organizer in Baku which ended with the occupation of Azerbaijan by the Red Army in 1920. With 35 pages of black-and-white photographs. X240p. $27.50 ($23.50).

Necklace, Thread and Button, by John Yervant Manoogian (Zoryan Institute, Cambridge, Mass.). Autobiography of an Armenian born in Garin (Brazzam) who survived the deportation of World War I and then wandered from Istanbul to Yerevan, Greece, Sicily, France, and finally the United States. A shoemaker by trade he was also a successful dancer and restaurateur. X241p. $9.95 ($8.75).


Reply from Wilderness Island: Poems, by Peter Balakian (Sheep Meadow Press: Riverdale-on-Hudson, N.Y.). The third book of poems by this Armenian-American author in which the poet explores feelings of grief and loss following the death of his father, then describes the wonders of nature and flowers, and finally finds life in a cycle of love poems. T148p. $10.95 ($9.65).


Saints and Sacraments, by Abp. Shnorh Kaloustian, (Diocese of the Armenian Church, New York). Brief sermons outlining the essential tenets and practices of historic Armenian Christianity in an easily understood form, prepared by the present-day Patriarch of the Armenian Church in Turkey. C52p. $4.75 ($3.75).

William Saroyan: The Man and the Writer Remembered, edited by Leo Hamalian (Associated University Presses, Rutherford, N.J.). A compilation of critical essays, intimate recollections, biographical notes, and interviews, with a preface by Leo Hamalian, which sheds fresh light on Saroyan's life and work. X237. $35.00 ($29.95).

In the Shadow of the Fortress: The Genocide Remembered, by Bertha Nakashian Ketchian, edited by Sonia Ketchian (Zoryan Institute, Cambridge, Mass.). Born in Husenig just before the Genocide of 1915-17, the author recreates the horrible events which took place, the difficult choices faced by her mother, the cruelty as well as the devotion of relatives and neighbors, and her miraculous survival against all odds, ending with her immigration to Providence, R.I. X239p. $11.50 ($10.25).

Sources of the Armenian Tradition. A series of translations by Robert Bedrosian of classical and medieval Armenian writers who are important sources for Armenian and Near Eastern history. Issued in tryponed and photocopy form.

History of the Armenians (4th century), by P.awotos Buzand. H328p. $55.00 ($52.00).

History of the Armenians (4th-5th centuries), by Ghazar Parpedit. H339p. $65.00 ($62.00).

History (Study of Armenia and the Middle East, 6th-7th centuries), by Sebeos. H339p. $35.00 ($33.00).

History of Taron by John Mamikonean. "A historical" romance describing events of the late 6th and early 7th centuries. H331p. $15.00 ($14.00).

History (Regarding the Sufferings Occasioned by Foreign Peoples Living Around Us, 11th century), by Aristakes Lastiverci. Describes events up to and including the battle of Manzikert (1071). H332p. $35.00 ($33.00).


History of Tamar and His Successors, by Tovmâ Metsobetsi. An account of events taking place on the Armenian highlands and in Georgia during the Turco-Mongol invasions of Timur Leng (14th-15th centuries). H334p. $20.00 ($19.00).

The Turbulent Years in the Caucasus: Contradictions in Nagorny Karabagh (Novosti Press Agency, Moscow). A booklet with materials presented at a briefing for Soviet and foreign correspondents at the Novosti Press Agency in Moscow in March 1988, with the official Soviet interpretation of the events in Transcaucasia in 1917 to 1920 that provide the background for the present Armenian demands for annexation of Nagorny Karabagh. H336p. $1.50 ($1.25).

NAASR Newsletter

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