

# NAASR Newsletter

Autumn 1989 (Vol. VI, No. 2, Issue 20)

National Association for Armenian Studies and Research

## NAASR Marks Its 35th Anniversary

The acquisition of the new headquarters building in Belmont and the plans to establish an Institute for Armenian Studies and Research have aroused new enthusiasm and support for NAASR's programs and activities.

The enthusiasm was evident during the 35th Anniversary celebrations, which began on Friday evening, Nov. 3, with an Open House and tour of the new building



*Boston Globe Washington Bureau Chief Stephen Kurkjian, NAASR Board Secretary Nancy Kolligian, and Harvard Professor Robert W. Thomson at NAASR's 35th Anniversary Banquet.*

at 395 Concord Avenue; continued with the 35th Annual Assembly and Luncheon on Saturday, Nov. 4, at the First Armenian Church Hall in Belmont; and came to a climax with the Gala Anniversary Banquet held on Sunday, Nov. 5, at the Charles and Nevert Talanian Hall of the Holy Trinity Armenian Church in Cambridge.

"The new building has revitalized the organization, as we have turned along a new path," observed NAASR Board Chairman Manoog S. Young in his report to the Annual Assembly.

Summarizing the status of the current \$1.5 million fund drive, the Chairman said: "We have received a very heartwarming response, not only from our members, but from others as well who have had no previous connection with the organization but have obviously approved of our efforts."

Despite this outburst of support from the community, which has resulted in nearly \$260,000 in pledges and donations during the current fund drive, there is a long way to go to raise the \$1.5 million that will make possible the retirement of the mortgage on the new building and the expansion

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## Fund Drive Total Nears \$260,000

Sparked by the 35th Anniversary weekend activities, the current \$1.5 million fund drive for the new headquarters building and the Institute for Armenian Studies and Research has topped \$259,000 in donations and pledges as of Nov. 15.

Several major benefactor donations were announced at the 35th Anniversary Banquet. They are:

Alice Ohanian of Arlington, who has donated \$25,000 in memory of her parents, Nerses and Lucia Ohanian;

Mrs. Nevert Talanian of Belmont, who has donated \$25,000 in memory of her husband, Charles Talanian;

Mrs. Rose Kolligian of Winchester, who donated \$10,000 in memory of her husband, Gregory Archie Kolligian; and

An anonymous contributor from Belmont who donated \$10,000.

To date 284 members and friends from 22 states have contributed to the current

fund drive, which is only in its fourth month. Massachusetts leads with 149 contributors followed by California with 44, New York and New Jersey together with 33, and Rhode Island with 12.

"With the drive gaining widespread momentum, it is hoped that this number will double by the end of the year," stated Board Chairman Manoog S. Young. He pointed out that the earlier the drive is completed the sooner NAASR will be able to retire the mortgages on the new building and devote more of its energy and resources to program development and establishing the Institute so that vital research and studies can get under way.

"Everyone who subscribes to NAASR's basic mission to advance Armenian studies, research, and publications has a stake in the early realization of the fund drive's goal of \$1,500,000," stressed Mr. Young.

## Tufts Announces Chair In Armenian Art and Architectural History

Tufts University President Jean Mayer has announced the establishment of the Arthur H. Dadian and Ara Oztemel Professorship of Armenian Art and Architectural History.

The professorship at the Medford, Mass., campus becomes the eighth endowed chair in Armenian studies in the United States.

Dr. Lucy Der Manuelian, who for the past five years has headed the unique rotating program in Armenian art and architectural history that has been based at Tufts University and involved six universities, is the first person to be named to the new Chair. Her appointment was confirmed by the fall Board of Trustees meeting at Tufts.

## Memorial Funds Set For Der Nersessian and Nersoyan

Memorial funds have been established in the name of two prominent members who played important roles in NAASR's formative years: Sirarpie Der Nersessian and Archbishop Tiran Nersoyan.

The NAASR Board has allocated \$5,000 each to establish Armenian Studies Funds in their names. Additional contributions will be welcome in order to augment the funds and provide more income for the purposes of the funds.

Sirarpie Der Nersessian, who passed away in Paris on July 5, was a member for 34 years and had been elected an Honorary Life Member of NAASR.

She was Professor of Art and Architecture at Harvard University and Senior Fellow at Dumbarton Oaks Research Center in Washington, D. C., as well as a prolific scholar.

Abp. Tiran Nersoyan, a former Primate of the Armenian Church of America, who passed away on Sept. 1 in New York City, was a Charter and Honorary Life Member of NAASR. He was elected to the very first Board of Directors in 1955 and served on NAASR's National Advisory Board.

*More information on page 6.*

## 35th Anniversary Celebrated Amid Renewed Enthusiasm

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of the staff that will be necessary to carry out NAASR's programs to advance Armenian studies, Mr. Young cautioned.

### Globe Bureau Chief Is Speaker

Featured speaker at the banquet was *Boston Globe* Washington Bureau Chief Stephen Kurkjian, who discussed "The Media's Role in American, Foreign, and Armenian Affairs."

Brief messages of congratulations to NAASR were given by the leaders of two organizations who are sharing space in the



The Rev. Vartan Hartunian (left) receives a special citation from Board Chairman Young for his assistance in acquiring NAASR's new headquarters.

new building: Dr. Michael G. Mensoian, Board of Trustees Chairman of the Armenian Students' Association of America, and Mrs. Seta Terzian, Executive Council President of the Armenian Renaissance Association.

Dr. Robert W. Thomson, Mesrob Mashtots Professor of Armenian at Harvard University, cited the increased acceptance and appreciation of Armenia's role

in Byzantine and medieval studies as a concrete example of the accomplishments of NAASR's efforts to advance Armenian studies in America initiated 35 years ago.

Also appearing briefly at the banquet program was William H. Flaherty, Jr., retired Superintendent of Schools in Billerica, Mass., who spoke eloquently of his own Irish background and of the importance of maintaining ethnic traditions.

Four young Armenian musicians, all currently students at the Longy School of Music in Cambridge, provided an appropriate musical interlude during the banquet. They were: Anna Soukiasian, pianist, Nune Karapetyan, soprano, and Aram Talalian, cellist, all of Yerevan, and Jen-

nifer Garabedian of Belmont.

Erivan Hagopian, Treasurer of the NAASR Board of Directors, summarized the results of the fund drive to date and announced new donations and pledges.

Master of Ceremonies was Edward A. Kazanjian, Jr., NAASR Executive Committee Member and Banquet Committee Co-chairman. Board Secretary Nancy Kolligian co-chaired the committee.

Special recognition was given to the Rev. Vartan Hartunian, pastor of the First Armenian Church in Belmont, who had first brought to NAASR's attention the availability of the new headquarters building and had strongly supported its acquisition by NAASR.

## Assembly Elects New Board Members

At the business session following the luncheon, 12 members were elected to the Board of Directors, which has now been expanded from 20 to 27 members as a result of action taken at last year's Assembly and ratified by the membership by referendum in September to give greater geographic representation on the Board.

The newly elected directors are: from Greater Boston, Paul T. Boghosian, Jr. (3-year term) and Mrs. Marie Nahigian and Mrs. Nevert Talanian (1-year terms); from the Middle Atlantic states, Barry Zorthian of Washington, D. C. (3-year term); and from the West Coast, Varnum Paul of San Francisco (2-year term).

Reelected to three-year terms were: from Greater Boston, Edward A. Kazanjian, Jr., Gregory S. Kolligian, Charles S. Sahagian,

and Manoog S. Young; from New England, Paul Davis of Worcester, Mass., and Bertha Mugurdichian of Providence, R. I.; from the Southern States, Erivan Hagopian of Deerfield Beach, Fla.

The nominees were presented by Armen Dohanian, Chairman of the Nominating Committee. Members of the committee were: James Giragosian, Jack Medzorian, Harry Surabian, and Raffi P. Yeghiayan.

The continuing members of the Board are: Dr. Gregory H. Adamian, President of Bentley College; Richard Ashton of Fresno, Calif.; John S. Bogosian of Newtown Square, Pa.; Arminé Dikijian of Brooklyn, N.Y.; Albert Armen Erkel of Los Angeles, Calif.; Prof. Richard N. Frye of Harvard University; Dr. Nishan Goudsouzian of Harvard Medical School; Dr. Elizabeth A. Gregory of Arlington; Dr. Hagop J. Nersoyan of University of Dayton, Ohio; and Dr. Dennis R. Papazian of University of Michigan, Dearborn.

Four NAASR members were presented with 25-year membership certificates: Anahid Avakian of Arlington, Joanne A. Peterson of Brookline, and Bernard L. Zulalian of Belmont, all of Massachusetts; and Haige J. Garabedian of Hartford, Conn., a 35-year Charter Member.

Twenty-five year members receiving their certificates in absentia were: Anne M. Avakian of San Francisco, Armen Chakerian of New Mexico, Ara Dostourian of Georgia, Suren D. Fesjian of New York, Leon W. Kachadorian of Belmont, Zarvin J. Kasparian of Worcester, and Elsie T. Oppenheim of Washington, D.C.

Board Treasurer Erivan Hagopian presented the Statement of Receipts and Disbursements for the years 1984 through 1988 and reported that the Net Worth of the organization, as of December 31, 1988, was \$1,993,908.

Serving on the other assembly committees were: Auditing, S. George Jigarjian (chairman), Merritt Agabian, and Sahag Kalashian; Constitution and Rules, Charles

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## Role of Armenia Is Increasingly Recognized

In the field of Byzantine and medieval studies, the role of Armenia and the Armenians is increasingly recognized and appreciated, according to Prof. Robert W. Thomson, Mashtots Professor of Armenian at Harvard University.

Greeting the guests at NAASR's 35th Anniversary Banquet, Prof. Thomson summarized some of the highlights of his just completed five-year tenure as Director of Harvard's Dumbarton Oaks Research Center in Washington, D.C.

Armenian topics were prominent in three major conferences held at Dumbarton Oaks during this period, Dr. Thomson pointed out: the 1986 International Congress on Byzantine Studies, the 1987 Colloquium on Byzantium and the Armenians (jointly sponsored by the Society for Armenian Studies), and the 1988 Symposium on Byzantium and the Caucasus.

Dr. Thomson also reported that, just prior to her death last summer, Sirarpie Der Nersessian had entrusted to him her last study, a major work representing 60 years of research on Cilician manuscript

painting, for publication by Dumbarton Oaks. In addition, Dumbarton Oaks has published the important study by Robert W. Edwards of *The Fortifications of Armenian Cilicia* and has in press the historical and artistic analysis by Avedis K. Sanjian and Thomas F. Mathews of an Armenian Gospel Book of the 13th century.

While at Dumbarton Oaks, Dr. Thomson said, he had offered courses in Classical Armenian for the first time in the Washington area.

Another significant event in Armenian studies has been the recent publication by Harvard University Press of Nina Garsoian's translation and commentaries on *The Epic Histories Attributed to P'awstos Buzand*.

These scholarly achievements represent the fruits of the efforts begun 35 years ago by NAASR to advance Armenian studies and research in institutions of higher education, Dr. Thomson said. These efforts have resulted in a spate of courses, preparation of scholars, and publications that are making a significant impact in the field of Byzantine and medieval studies.

## Kurkjian Spotlights the Media's Role in Politics

"Few politicians tell outright lies," Pulitzer-prize winning journalist Stephen Kurkjian told the guests at NAASR's 35th Anniversary Banquet on Nov. 5, "but even fewer politicians tell the entire truth."

Speaking on the topic "The Media's Role in American, Foreign, and Armenian Affairs," Kurkjian asserted that the role of the press is to bring out inconsistencies and contradictions in the statements and actions of political leaders.

The Washington Bureau Chief for *The Boston Globe*, Kurkjian recently interviewed President Bush in the Oval Office, an experience which left him, he said, with a better understanding of the power, beauty, and awe that surrounds the American presidency.

"President Bush likes to be friendly with reporters, but he doesn't like to be questioned closely or contradicted," Kurkjian pointed out. "In that way he is like every other politician, for example [Massachusetts] Governor Dukakis or [Boston] Mayor Flynn."

Bush gave evasive answers when questioned about US policy toward Israel, and the Administration's policy toward General Noriega in Panama has been full of contradictions, Kurkjian said.

"We can see the same situation regarding the Armenian Resolution," Kurkjian continued, referring to the effort to have Congress approve a bill recognizing April 24,

1990, as a day commemorating the Armenian Genocide during World War I.

Although Vice President Bush promised during the election campaign that he would support such a resolution, once in office geopolitical reality weighed heavily; and President Bush recently wrote a letter to Congress opposing the Armenian Resolution.

While not denying the right of the President to change his mind on issues, the public has the right to know all the facts so that the question can be debated openly and intelligently, the journalist pointed out.

"An organization such as NAASR can play an important role in focusing attention on the hypocrisy of the President's position and bringing the true facts to light," Kurkjian stated. The press can raise the issue, but organizations such as NAASR are needed to supply the necessary background information, he added.

Although it seems that money, contributions, and access are the determining factors in national politics, there is also power in principles and ideas.

"I see this in connection with the Armenian Resolution," Kurkjian said. "Here it is important to have strength, facts, and commitment to our heritage."

"It may seem like an uphill struggle, but there is no mountain that is so high that we cannot climb it," Kurkjian concluded.



Seta Terzian (center) of the Armenian Renaissance Association and Dr. Michael G. Mensoian (right) of the Armenian Students' Association extended greetings to NAASR, represented by Board Chairman Young.

## Students, Renaissance Associations Share New NAASR Headquarters

Two Armenian-American organizations, the Armenian Students' Association of America (ASA) and the Armenian Renaissance Association (ARA), will share space in NAASR's new building for their national headquarters.

Leaders of the two organizations were on hand at NAASR's 35th Anniversary Banquet to extend their greetings.

Dr. Michael G. Mensoian, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the ASA, expressed the hope that ASA's move into offices on the second floor of NAASR's headquarters would herald a long and fruitful association between the two organizations.

He pointed out that the ASA, which is celebrating its 80th anniversary this year, is the oldest major Armenian organization founded in the United States; it makes grants in excess of \$60,000 annually to students.

Mrs. Seta Terzian, President of the Executive Council of the Armenian Renaissance Association, praised NAASR's policy of offering the new NAASR building as a home for other Armenian organizations and observed that "the walls of separation are crumbling all over the world."

The ARA was founded ten years ago to advance Armenian education and culture in America.

By welcoming independent Armenian organizations to share the new building in Belmont, NAASR anticipates that its headquarters will become a true community educational and cultural center.

### REPORTS AVAILABLE

Copies of the 34th Annual Assembly minutes and the financial statements presented to the 35th Annual Assembly are available free of charge from the NAASR Headquarters to anyone sending in a large self-addressed envelope with 25 cents in postage affixed.

## Adalian Calls for Research that Looks to the Future

The swift pace of change taking place in Armenia during the past 20 months has taxed the ability of the community to comprehend, let alone to respond adequately to, current problems and needs.

This was the message delivered to NAASR members and guests at the Assembly Luncheon by Dr. Rouben Adalian, Director of Academic Affairs at the Armenian Assembly of America in Washington, D.C., and a historian with a doctorate from the University of California, Los Angeles.

Dr. Adalian spoke on the topic "Academic Research and Contemporary Problems."

The events in Armenia beginning in February 1988 — the Karabagh movement, large-scale demonstrations, economic reorganization, ideological struggles — have brought about rapid, radical change, compounded by the effects of the December 1988 earthquake and the potentially most significant reassessment of the strategic balance between the United States and the Soviet Union, Dr. Adalian pointed out.

Under such circumstances, the role of an organization such as NAASR to bring about important research into contemporary problems cannot be overestimated.

The most disturbing aspect of this situation is the growing divergence between the

Armenians in Armenia and the Armenians in the diaspora, Adalian pointed out. While Armenians in Armenia are being forced by events to relinquish the tragic legacy of the past and to assume a more progressive attitude about who they are, Armenians in the diaspora—partly out of a fear of assimilation—cling to the past.

"We live in a world and a society which looks forward and not a society that looks backward," Adalian stated. "Yet as Armenians, a people of great antiquity, it's very convenient to look back over 3,000 years of history."

"How about looking ahead for 3,000 years? That's more difficult," Adalian said. In this dilemma, Adalian assigned an important role to scholars.

"While respecting the need for academic and intellectual freedom, we must impress scholars with the responsibility to find meaning and relevance in their research," Adalian stressed. "We need to interject a sharper sense of the applicability of the knowledge that has developed in Armenian studies, the facts that are being unearthed, the new understanding that is being gained in order to find the tools, the knowledge, the instruments, the concepts, and the ideas which will keep us who we are, but with greater fortitude, for tomorrow."

# The Importance of the Study of Medieval Armenian Literature

By Jean-Pierre Mahé

Delivered at NAASR's 33rd Annual Assembly Luncheon in November 1987 at Bentley College in Waltham, Mass. Dr. Mahé is professor of Classical and Modern Armenian at the University of Paris (Sorbonne).

From my standpoint as a French Armenologist, the present state of Armenian studies in America is amazingly good. One would never expect an industrial society, founded on the search for material efficiency and profit, to have created so many schools, newspapers, journals, libraries, and endowed university chairs of Armenian language and history. This is a sign of vitality and deep moral concern for Armenian national culture.

Now I'm well aware that studying classical Armenian, the etymology of the Armenian tongue, medieval Armenian literature, or Armenian church history may seem to be very far from everyday life's reality both in the diaspora, where I come from, and in Soviet Armenia, where I've lived for two years. However, I think that this kind of study is most necessary not only from the scholarly standpoint, but for historical truth and for the study of the Armenian people.

Let me remind you of P'awstos Buzand's story about Vasak Mamikonian, the valiant *sparapet* of Armenia in the time of King Arshak II. This dauntless military leader was very short and thin. So when he was captured and taken to King Shahpuhr of Persia, the king began scoffing at him because of his small size, saying: "You were nothing but an irksome fox and you gave us so much trouble! How were you able to hold out against the host of the Persians during so many years? But now you cannot harm us anymore, and since you're a fox, I'll kill you as a fox." And Vasak replied, "Today, since you see my small size, you call me a fox. But thus far I have been a lion for you. Nay, as long as I've been Vasak, I have been a giant, with one foot on the top of one mountain and the other foot on the top of another one. You were the first mountain, and the second one was the king of the Greeks."

## The Real Measurement of Armenia

Here we have a prophetic image of the Armenian fate. Ancient Armenia was a large country with an area of at least 400,000 square kilometers—that is more than today's Great Britain, West Germany, and Italy—which according to the standard of antiquity was quite considerable. Now it has shrunk to the size of a small country of 28,000 square kilometers. But it would be completely out of place to commit the same mistake as the arrogant king of Persia with Vasak Mamikonian by despising its small size.

The fact is that ancient Armenia's literature enables us to take the real measurement of Armenia and to know

what a giant this country has been in world history. Twelve centuries BC the ancestors of the Armenians defeated the most powerful empires of that time, the Hittites and the Assyrians, and they settled on the western bank of the upper Euphrates, near the town of Malatia. Six centuries later they subdued the kingdom of Urartu and invaded the Armenian highland, where they became a powerful state which lasted until the second half of the 11th century AD, building the most magnificent architectural monuments of the Christian Near East and creating one of the most varied and imaginative literatures of medieval Christianity.

The power and the influence of a nation does not depend on the size of its territory alone, but also on the strength of its culture and the activity of its inhabitants. Belgium is just as small as Soviet Armenia, and thanks to favorable circumstances and the cleverness of its citizens, it remains an important part of Europe. Likewise Soviet Armenia also carries much more weight within the USSR than one would expect from the smallest of the Soviet Republics.

The spiritual mountain, which for centuries has been backing Armenia with steady support as firm as a rock and on the eve of the Genocide was about to turn it into one of the most modern countries in the Middle East, is its deep-rooted culture. This culture may also account for the fact that Soviet Armenia, unlike other republics in the USSR, can tell the Russians: "Here is a book which was written (or a church which was built) by our ancestors when Russia didn't even exist." Many Russians do not care about learning the Armenian language, but they must still confess that a book written in Armenian may potentially be read by three million people abroad and that many scholars of every nationality—except Russian unfortunately—have been studying Armenian since at least the sixteenth century.

## Armenian-Latin Glossary

Now I'd venture the paradoxical opinion that no time has been more auspicious for Armenian studies than the present. I'm teaching in France in an Armenian chair which has been in existence since the end of the eighteenth century, but beyond this I feel somewhat that I am the heir to a much more ancient tradition which started in the ninth century when a French priest, whose name has not come down to us, met a similarly unknown Armenian, asked him about the words of his native tongue, and wrote an Armenian-Latin glossary which is still kept in the town library of the French city of Autun.

Since then, many Frenchmen have been learning and speaking Armenian. Some of them, in the seventeenth century, educated Armenian boys in a suburb of Constantinople. I even met an old woman in Yerevan who told me she had learned

French from French Dominican nuns in Western Armenia. But none of these Armenian-speaking French people has ever been able to live in an all Armenian-speaking city such as Yerevan, to learn colloquial language from taxi drivers or from neighbors, to send their children to an Armenian school, to teach in an Armenian university, or to go to the theater and see Hrant Matevosian's play "Ashkharin Mer Pokrig Ankiume," thereafter meeting the playwright at home. When has it ever happened that 15,000 Armenian manuscripts—more than one half of all extant Armenian manuscripts in the world—have been gathered in one Matenadaran (Library of Ancient Manuscripts) and made available indiscriminately to all Armenian and foreign scholars? I will not burden you with a list of all the books of tremendous scholarly interest which have been published in Yerevan, from the new critical edition of the Armenian Bible to the works of medieval writers; or from the Grand Catalogue of the Armenian Manuscripts in the Matenadaran, planned to include more than 50 volumes, to the collection of Armenian colophons.

Today ancient Armenian literature is becoming more and more available, and it is nothing like dry and fusty scholarship but a boundless span of true liberty. First, there is an uncommon variety in this literature. You have a wide range of genres, such as touching Biblical legends, learned commentaries, and homilies, which are by no means tedious, but on the contrary, as fresh, vivid, and colorful as French medieval plays performed at the doorsteps of the cathedrals. When I read Armenian collections of these homilies, which are called *Charendir*, I completely forget our contemporary world, and I feel as if I were in a remote village of the French central highland, looking at the Roman sculptures on the facades of the churches.

In addition to this, Armenian medieval literature includes grammars, books on philosophy and medicine as well as all the sciences which were taught in Armenian medieval universities. All of this is very important for the general history of science, because at the beginning of the sixth century, when Justinian the Emperor of Byzantium, in a gesture of stupid fanaticism, banned all pagan knowledge from his empire, Armenian Christians were intelligent enough to translate the most significant works into their own language and to rescue them from oblivion and final destruction. Thus it happened that Armenian science developed earlier than either Arabic or Byzantine science. Let me add that very few persons—even among the Harvard specialists of the History of Sciences—know about that. So it's an urgent task to work on this scien-

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## Sister City Group From Yerevan Visits

A group of visitors from Yerevan, Armenia, who were in the Boston area as part of a Cambridge-Yerevan Sister City exchange paid a visit to NAASR's new headquarters building on Tuesday, Nov. 14.

NAASR Board Chairman Manoog S. Young briefly described NAASR's programs to advance Armenian studies in America over the past 35 years. Krikor Gharibian, prorector of the University of Yerevan, was particularly interested in efforts to coordinate research among specialists in the field, both in America and in Europe.

The delegation included also a heart surgeon, a member of the Yerevan Soviet, a representative of the writers union, and a translator. Harry Parsekian of Watertown made the arrangements on behalf of the Sister City Association.

## MEDIEVAL LITERATURE

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tific literature and to publish it in European languages.

Finally, the most beautiful branch of Armenian medieval literature is historiography, which since the beginning of the nineteenth century has been made available to European scholarship in a wide range of French translations, whereas new English translations taking into account the recent advances in Armenian studies have been published or are still in progress by Prof. Robert Thomson, Prof. Nina Garsoian, the Reverend Krikor Maksoudian, the Reverend Zaven Arzoumanian, and others. The existential value of Armenian medieval historiography lies not only in the information it provides about the history of the Middle East, but also very often in its deep philosophical and theological contents as well as in its brilliant literary form. For instance Eghishe, in his *History of Vardan and the Armenian War*, is not only a very valuable source for fifth century Armenia and Iran, but he is a thinker meditating on the fate of his nation, the trends of his time, and the manifestations of divine providence.

## Age-Old Witnesses of the Past

But Armenian medieval literature also provides another kind of wisdom most of us have been deprived of for many years. Let us read, for example in Anania Shirakatsi's *Geography*, the chapters concerning Armenia. All the provinces and counties, *nahang* and *gavar*, of ancient Armenia, just as it was before Arabic invasions, are listed there along with the names of their towns, their rivers, their mountains, sometimes even their plants and their animals. Most of us will never go

## Conferences and Meetings

**The Glory of Ani.** New York Historical Society, New York City, Oct. 21. Papers by Armen Zarian of Yerevan and the late Dr. T. Hagopian (paper read by Dr. Herand Markarian), A. Apago-Novello, Paolo Cuneo, and Gabriella Uluhogian of Italy, Patrick Donabedian of France, Lucy Der Manuelian, Alice Taylor, and Helen Evans from the United States; panel discussion on the preservation of Ani with S. Peter Cowe, Patrick Donabedian, Ailvida Mirzoyan, Vazken L. Parsegian, and Nina Garsoian (moderator). Sponsored by the Prelacy of the Armenian Church.

**Mother of God and Daughters of Hayk: Women and Gender in Armenian Culture.** Columbia University, New York City, Nov. 4. Papers by James R. Russell, "The Rites of the Armenian Goddess"; Gia Aivazian, "Sainly and Profane Women in Classical Armenian Sources"; and S. Peter Cowe, "Representations of the Feminine in Armenian Lyric."

Also, Loretta Topalian Nassar, "Curriculum, Methodology, and National Identity: The Education of Armenian Women in India, 1750-1850"; Patricia Constantian, "Mounch Pahel: The Custom of Mouth-Binding Among Armenian Women at the Turn of the Century"; and Anny Bakalian, "To Be or Not to Be an Armenian Woman: The Question of Identity in Contemporary Armenian Culture." Moderators: Nina G. Garsoian, Khachig Tololyan. Sponsored by the Columbia University Armenian Center and funded by the Haigouhie Takakjian Fund.

**Middle East Studies Association.** Sheraton Center, Toronto, Canada, Nov. 16. Two panels were organized:

to Vaspurakan, to Taron, to Balahovit, or even if we go there for a short time we shall feel grief and sorrow at the sight of the beautiful Armenian monuments neglected and left to decay and final destruction.

Indeed, it may happen—God forbid—that nothing will remain from Akhtamar or the churches of Ani, but even then we shall keep Thomas Artsruni's or Aristakes Lastivertsi's descriptions as well as the works and the photographs of modern scholars who have studied these monuments. Moreover, even if we are no longer allowed to go about as we like in the western Armenian provinces, we can dwell on them as long as we wish in the works of the historians. The most famous example of that was Father Ghewond Alishan, who from his monastic cell in Venice became an eminent geographer of ancient Armenia and most accurately described provinces he was never able to visit. Thanks to Armenian medieval literature, these lost provinces still belong to the Armenians; and even if fanaticism aims to destroy all the Armenian monuments, to remove or erase all the Armenian stone inscriptions, it will never be able to suppress

**Economic and Political Dimensions of Armeno-Turkish Relations: 1840-1923.** Stephan H. Astourian, "The Peripheralization of Cilicia and Its Impact on Local Interethnic Relations, 1840s to 1890s"; Aram Arkun, "The Young Turks and Ottoman Armenian Land Ownership"; Berch Berberoglu, "The Role of Ethnic Minorities in the Transformation of the Ottoman Economy and Society"; and Levon Marashlian, "Economic and Political Influences on US Policies toward Turkey and the Armenians, 1919-1923."

**Literary Movements in the Armenian Diaspora.** Gia Aivazian, "The Periodical *Mehean* and Its Mission Toward a New Armenian Literature"; Abraham Boghogian, "The *Menk* Journal: Transition into the Western Literary Tradition"; Rubina Peroomian, "Hagop Oshagan's Role in the Armenian Diaspora Literature"; Anahid Hasmig Tashjian, "Nor Kir: New Letters in the New World"; and Rita Vorperian, "Pakine: A Cry For Life."

## UPCOMING

**April 1990** - International Conference on the Medieval City of Ani. To be held in Europe.

**October 1990** - Conference on "75 years after the Armenian Genocide." Sponsored jointly by Bentley College and NAASR.

**September 1991** - Fourth International Conference on Armenian Linguistics, Cleveland State University. Theme: Armenian prehistory as revealed through linguistics and archaeology. Information: Dr. John A. C. Greppin, Program in Linguistics, Cleveland State University, Cleveland, Ohio 44115.

age-old witnesses of the past, who created one of the most impressive literatures of the Christian Middle Ages. What does the word "liberty" mean? Let us put it into Armenian—*azadutiun*. That means having an *azn*, an *azg*—a nation—and knowing the life and the works of one's *harazat*, i.e. parents and ancestors. In this meaning of the word nothing may claim to be closer to liberty than studying this kind of national literature.

I belong to France, a nation whose fate was much happier than Armenia's, and I deeply feel that I'm French even when—I should say most of all when—I speak Armenian and read Armenian literature. I am a lover of your language and your literature and have been a very grateful guest of Soviet Armenia. I hope I'll contribute, as much as I can, to make my fellow countrymen better acquainted with Armenia, and I trust that all the efforts spent by your community shall result not only in a blossoming of Armenian studies in this country but also in a restoration of the glorious image Armenia deserves in the eyes of the world as a country of ancient and brilliant civilization.

NECROLOGY

Sirarpie Der Nersessian, an outstanding scholar in the field of Byzantine art and a pioneer in the development of Armenian studies in the United States, passed away in Paris on July 5, 1989, at the age of 92.

In a career that spanned six decades in the United States and Europe, Dr. Der Nersessian was Professor of Art at Wellesley College, Professor of Art and Architecture at Harvard University, and Senior Fellow at Dumbarton Oaks Research Center in Washington, D. C.



Born in Constantinople, she was the niece of the prominent theologian and historian of the Armenian Church, Patriarch Malachia Ormanian. Her primary and secondary education took place in Constantinople, but during World War I the family was forced to flee to safety in Geneva, Switzerland, where she enrolled in the College de Geneve. In 1919 she moved with her sister Arax to Paris, where she earned her doctorate at the Sorbonne.

Dr. Der Nersessian came to the United States in 1930 where, in addition to her

teaching duties, she conducted research, lectured widely, and participated in scholarly meetings and conferences. After her retirement in 1963 she returned to Paris.

Her publications include *Armenia and the Byzantine Empire: A Brief Study of Armenian Art and Civilization*; *Armenian Manuscripts in the Freer Gallery of Art*; *Aghtamar: Church of the Holy Cross*; *The Armenians*; and *Armenian Art*. Just before her death she completed a manuscript on Cilician manuscript painting which will be published by Dumbarton Oaks Research Center.

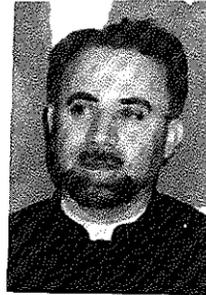
A member of NAASR since 1956, Dr. Der Nersessian played a key role in the organization's development. In 1961 she was elected an Honorary Life Member.

**Abp. Tiran Nersoyan**, former Armenian Patriarch of Jerusalem and Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America, passed away in New York City on Sept. 1, 1989, at the age of 85.

A native of Aintab, Cilicia, Abp. Nersoyan was deported with his family to Syria during the Armenian Genocide of 1915. He was a graduate of the Seminary of the Armenian Patriarchate of Jerusalem and later pursued theological studies in England. He served in various positions in the Jerusalem Patriarchate before being appointed Armenian Vicar in Paris for two years and later pastor for the Armenian

community in London during World War II.

Abp. Nersoyan served as Primate of the Armenian Church of America for the decade from 1944 to 1954, a period of rapid growth during which 11 new churches were established, 21 priests were added to the clergy, the Armenian Church Youth Organization of America was established, a choir association was formed, and property in New York was acquired that became the site for St. Vartan Cathedral. He was responsible for the establishment of the St. Nersess Armenian Seminary in 1947 and continued his active interest in the Seminary until his death.



In 1956 Abp. Nersoyan was elected Locum Tenens of the Armenian Patriarchate of Jerusalem and in 1957 as Patriarch. His tenure came to an abrupt end in August 1958 as the result of political tensions in the country, and he returned to the United States.

A prolific writer, a scholar with many interests, and a popular speaker who could discuss topics touching the Armenian community and the broader American community with equal facility, he was an enthusiastic participant in the ecumenical movement.

Abp. Nersoyan took an active interest in NAASR from the time of its establishment in 1955. A Charter and Honorary Life Member, he was elected to the first Board of Directors and later served on NAASR's National Advisory Board until his death.

BOARD ELECTIONS

Continued from page 2

Sahagian (chairman), Thomas T. Amirian, Armen Dedekian, Aram K. Johnson, Aram S. Karakashian, Michael G. Mensoian, and George Nersessian; New Business, Edward Kazanjian, Jr. (chairman), Rev. Arten Ashjian, Edna Bogosian, Paul Davis, Haige Garabedian, Peter Onanian, and Joanne Peterson.

Following the Assembly, the new Board of Directors held a brief meeting to elect the officers, who constitute the Executive Committee. Reelected were: Manoog S. Young, Chairman; Raffi P. Yeghiayan, First Vice-Chairman; Prof. Aram S. Karakashian, Second Vice-Chairman; Nancy R. Kolligian, Secretary; Bertha Mugurdichian, Assistant Secretary, and Edward A. Kazanjian, Jr., Assistant Treasurer. Armen Dohanian was elected Treasurer, replacing Erivan Hagopian, who will now represent the Southern States on the Board since he will be residing in Florida for the greater part of the year. He had served as treasurer for 12 years.

New NAASR Members

With the 42 new and reinstated members listed below, the total number of members who have joined since the 34th Annual Assembly in November 1988 reached 112. An asterisk (\*) denotes reinstated membership.

**From Massachusetts:** Mrs. Linda Abkarian, Belmont; Mrs. Andrea Barber (Supporting), Belmont; David J. Barber (Supporting), Belmont; Charles Der Kazarian, Worcester; Stephen Fenerjian (\*), Foxboro; Harry Hoogasian (\*), Framingham; Mrs. Anna Kaloostian, Medford; Edward A. Kazanjian, Sr., Watertown; John H. Kurkjian, Weston; Mrs. Matilda Masrof, Waltham; Joanne P. Melikian (Supporting), Brookline; Mrs. Ann Najarian, Worcester; Mrs. Deborah B. Raptopoulos, Framingham; Samuel Salibian, Belmont; Harry Sarkisian (\*) Woburn; Mrs. Irene Sarkisian, Woburn; Edward Seffilian, Cambridge; Mrs. Danila Terpanjian (\*), Belmont.

**From Other States:** Ms. Laura Akgulian, Washington, DC; Mrs. Alice I. Andonian, Levittown, PA; Mrs. Nora Azadian (\*), Southfield, MI; Yervant Azadian (\*), Southfield, MI; Major Richard Baboian (\*), U.S. Army; Mrs. Dawn S. Begian, Fairfield, CT; Mrs. Barbara Bejoian, Providence, RI; Richard Dagdigian, Chicago, IL; Mrs. Shoushig Dagdigian, Chicago, IL; Richard A. Hagopian, Visalia, CA; Dr. Peter B. Johnson

(\*), Bakersfield, CA; Harry Nakashian, Stamford, CT; ALEN Petrossian, Washington, DC; Mrs. Annette Z. Provinzano, Craryville, NY; Mrs. Sharon K. Saroyan, Hillsborough, CA; Sarkis Sardarian, Winter Park, FL; Mrs. Negdar K. Tabibian (\*), Ormond Beach, FL; Alice P. Taylor, Charlottesville, VA; Deacon Hratch Tchilingirian, Van Nuys, CA; John W. Wingate (\*), New York, NY.

**From Foreign Countries:** Rouben Galichian, London, England; Mrs. Nora Pilibossian, Burlington, Ontario, Canada; Thomas A. Sinclair (student), University of Birmingham, England; Varty Tanielian (student), University of Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Since the last issue of the NAASR Newsletter, the following members have applied and been voted Life Members by the Board of Directors. All have been members in good standing for 10 or more consecutive years and have remitted a minimum of \$875 with their applications. There is now a total of 27 Life Members.

Everett H. Berberian  
Hillsborough, Calif.  
Mrs. Artemis Karagheusian  
New York, N.Y.  
James C. Poloshian  
Hamden, Conn.  
Sarah Yagoobian  
New Britain, Conn.

New Contributors to Campaign for Headquarters Building and Institute

<p><b>BENEFACTOR</b> (\$25,000-\$49,999)</p> <p>Alice Ohanasion in memory of parents, Nerses &amp; Lucia Ohanasion Arlington, Mass.</p> <p>Mrs. Nevert Talanian in memory of husband, Charles Talanian Belmont, Mass.</p> <p><b>BENEFACTOR</b> (\$10,000-\$24,999)</p> <p>Anonymous Belmont, Mass.</p> <p>Mrs. Rose Kolligian in memory of husband, Gregory Archie Kolligian Winchester, Mass.</p>	<p><b>SUSTAINER</b> (\$1,000-\$2,499)</p> <p>A Friend Belmont, Mass.</p> <p>Mrs. Anna T. Alexander Belmont, Mass.</p> <p>Mrs. Elizabeth Arakelian in memory of husband, Badrig Arakelian Belmont, Mass.</p> <p>Caro M. Carapetyan in memory of wife, Edna G. Carapetyan Dallas, Texas</p> <p>Sahag &amp; Margaret Dakesian* in memory of their parents Sudbury, Mass.</p> <p>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Karnig S. Dijnjian Arlington, Mass.</p>	<p>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Arpiar Gopoian Watertown, Mass.</p> <p>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Erivan Hagopian* Deerfield Beach, Fla.</p> <p>Albert &amp; Rose Hovannessian* Winchester, Mass.</p> <p>The Jurigian Family Waltham, Mass.</p> <p>Edward &amp; Mary Ann Kazanjian* Belmont, Mass.</p> <p>Edward A. Kazanjian, Sr. in memory of wife, Araxie Kazanjian Watertown, Mass.</p> <p>Nancy R. Kolligian* in memory of father, Gregory Archie Kolligian Watertown, Mass.</p> <p>Nazar &amp; Artemis Nazarian* Englewood Cliffs, N.J.</p>	<p>Catherine &amp; George K. Papalian Westbury, N.Y.</p> <p>Harry S. Sarkisian* Short Hills, N.J.</p> <p><b>SUPPORTER</b> (\$500-\$999)</p> <p>George M. Boyajian Fresno, Calif.</p> <p>Manuel Der Torossian* Watertown, Mass.</p> <p>Suren D. Fesjian* Pelham Manor, N.Y.</p> <p>S. George Jigarjian* Watertown, Mass.</p> <p>Alice Astrid Kalustian Arlington, Mass.</p> <p>Dr. &amp; Mrs. Edward Karian* Watertown, Mass.</p> <p>John M. Mugar* Marco Island, Fla.</p>	<p><b>SUPPORTER</b> (\$250-\$499)</p> <p>William Aznavourian* Providence, R.I.</p> <p>Mrs. Gihon Balian-Sears Chestnut Hill, Mass.</p> <p>Paul T. Boghosian, Jr. Belmont, Mass.</p> <p>Walter G. Vartanian Belmont, Mass.</p> <p>Mrs. Mary Samoorian Vican E. Greenwich, R.I.</p> <p>*Increase of previous contribution</p> <p><b>OTHER NEW DONORS</b></p> <p>24 other new contributors from 5 states have donated between \$10 and \$249 for a total of \$2,252. (Figures as of Nov. 15, 1989)</p>
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KASPAR AND KOHAR HAGOPIAN

As noted in the last issue of the NAASR Newsletter, the lecture room in the new NAASR headquarters will be named "Kaspar and Kohar Hagopian Hall," in recognition of the pledge to the NAASR Fund Drive made by the Hagopian family. The following biography of Kaspar and Kohar Hagopian was provided by the family.

Kaspar and Kohar Hagopian were natives of Pazmashen, a village near the city of Kharpert. They were born in 1885 and 1887, respectively; he, the son of Hagop and Mariam, and she, the daughter of Ohannes and Yeghsapert Oksuzian.

Pazmashen was an all-Armenian village, with a number of schools and churches. Its people, who were engaged primarily in agriculture, suffered a major disaster during the general massacres of Armenians ordered by the Turkish sultan in 1895. Having received a timely warning brought by a friendly woman from a nearby Kurdish village, most of the population of Pazmashen took refuge elsewhere before the outbreak of violence; so the casualties were few. However, the fanatic Muslim invaders inflicted so much damage to the homes, schools, and churches and carried away so much property and livestock that recovery was still incomplete when tragedy struck again in 1915.

Kaspar and Kohar grew up during this period of recovery and reconstruction when sustaining life itself was the primary concern. Consequently they, along with most other young people of their generation, did not receive any significant amount of formal education.

It was in either 1903 or 1904 that Kaspar and Kohar were married. Their first two children were born in Pazmashen: Mary (Mariam) in 1905 and Eva (Varvar) in 1910. For economic reasons Kaspar left his family in 1906 and came to the United States to work for almost three years. He returned to Pazmashen in 1909 with enough saved from his wages earned at the Whitin Machine Works in Whitinsville, Mass., that he

was able to help his father purchase additional land for their family farming activities.

But within months after his return, two personal experiences convinced Kaspar that there was no future for the Armenians in their Turkish-dominated homeland. First, he was arrested and imprisoned briefly in Mezreh, the area government center, for putting up a fight against four Turks who were stealing the produce he had taken to the open market there to sell. Soon afterwards he was drafted into the Turkish army and was subjected, along with his fellow Armenian soldiers, to harsh treatment by Muslim officers. On a particular occasion, he was severely punished for complaining that Christian soldiers were being denied leave to attend church on Sundays while, in contrast, Muslim soldiers were allowed absences on Fridays to go to their mosques. After his release from the army, upon payment to the government of a special tax, he began making preparations to again leave Pazmashen.

Kaspar returned to the United States in 1911 and settled in Whitinsville, where he resumed employment in the foundry of Whitin Machine Works. Now his savings were earmarked for the expenses of bringing his young family also to this great land of freedom two years later.

Had it not been for Kaspar's older brother Enoch, who had established and was carrying on a trading business using wagons for transporting merchandise to and from the interior and two or three Black Sea ports, the safe exit out of Turkey by Kohar and her two small daughters might not have been possible. As a sideline of his business travels, Enoch, probably by bribing officials when necessary along the way, was transporting emigrants from the Pazmashen region to northern seaports, where they boarded European ships headed west. The many individuals who received Enoch's help to get out of Turkey at the time certainly did not realize that they were escaping the coming Genocide

of 1915, and they undoubtedly felt great sorrow later upon learning that Enoch had become one of its many victims.

Kaspar's family joined him in Whitinsville in 1913, and by early 1920 four more children were born: Elizabeth, Helen, Jacob, and Liberty. As in other immigrant Armenian families of that period, the joy which the children brought to their parents was very often tempered by the sadness and grief over the fate of the rest of the extended family left behind in "Yergir," the old country.

Despite her lack of formal education, Kohar was a woman of great natural wisdom. Very often her guidance and advice were sought by her friends, especially the new arrivals in Whitinsville. In the middle 1920s the Hagopian home was the frequent gathering place of the few Pazmashen young women survivors of the 1915 Genocide. They felt compelled to recite to Kohar and to each other, with great anguish and tears, detailed accounts of the barbarisms and cruelties they witnessed and personally suffered at the hands of the Turks. From them it became known that Kaspar's younger brother, Michael, had been hanged on the gallows in Mezreh. The lives of all the other family members had been destroyed in the deportation death marches.

Kohar Hagopian's life in America was cut short in 1937 when, as a result of her physician's incorrect diagnosis, she died at the age of 50.

Kaspar Hagopian lived to age 73 and had the satisfaction of seeing his children and some of his grandchildren enjoy the life and liberty he had sought and found in this country for himself and for them. But he had to pay a high price. Owing to his limited education, he was obliged to work for over 40 years in the dust-polluted environment of the iron foundry, where he developed a severe condition of lung silicosis. After his retirement, he had to be hospitalized for the last four years of his life. He passed away in 1958.

## Recent and Selected Titles of Note

The most recent and noteworthy additions to NAASR's Armenian Book Clearing House offerings of English-language publications on Armenian subjects appear below. Figures in parentheses represent discounted prices for NAASR members in good standing.

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.

**Addressing Turkish Genocide Apologists**, compiled by David Davidian (S.D.P.A. Center for Regional Studies, Cambridge). Lengthy discussions carried over the international electronic information network UNIX in 1988 and 1989 concerning the Turkish Genocide of the Armenians. Vols. I-IV. H380p. \$48.00 (\$43.00).

**Armenian Art**, by Jean-Michel Thierry, Principal Sites by Patrick Donabedian (Abrams, New York). Comprehensive survey of the characteristic manifestations of Armenian artists, craftsmen, calligraphers, and architects through the ages. Includes 959 illustrations (173 in full color), diagrams, plans, elevations, maps, and genealogical tables. A202. \$130.00 (\$110.00).

**Armenian Day Schools: Prospects and Challenges**, Roxanne Bezjian, editor (Armenian Professional Society, San Francisco). A transcript of the articles and discussions held at a symposium in November 1988, with sociolinguist Guadalupe Valdes, Jewish day school principal Alison Beskin, University of La Verne psychology department chairman Hagop Der Karabetian, and others. Prof. Richard G. Hovannisian was moderator. H375p. \$10.00 (\$8.50).

**The Armenian Earthquake Disaster**, by the editors of the Novosti Press Agency and translated by Elliott B. Urdang (Sphinx Press, Madison, CT). Hundreds of dramatic black-and-white photographs describing the tidal wave of destruction that swept over Armenia on Dec. 7, 1988, the brave struggle of the survivors, and the massive international relief effort. With an introduction and statements by several personalities. H381p. \$19.95 (\$17.50).

**Conversations in Silence**, by Garbis Der Yeghiayan (University of La Verne, La Verne, CA). A pilgrimage to the land of his grandparents made in 1987 by the president of the American Armenian International College. This book describes his experiences and encounters on a trip from Istanbul through Adana, Aintab, Birecik, Marash, Malatya, Kharpert, Mush, Aghtamar, Van, Mt. Ararat, Kars, and Erzerum. With black-and-white photographs. X250p. \$20.00 (\$16.95).

**Corridor: Fictions**, by Michael Krekorian (Ashod Press, New York). A collection of fictional writing, some of it published earlier in *Ararat*, *Fiction International*, *The Iowa Review*, and other publications, by this second generation Armenian American, a native of Los Angeles, who teaches fiction and popular culture courses at the University of California, San Diego. T153p. \$10.00 (\$8.50).

**The Cross and the Crescent**, by Lindy V. Avakian (USC Press, Phoenix). A reprint of the book first published in 1965 about Soghomon Tehlirian, "The Avenger," who executed Young Turk leader Talaat Pasha in Berlin in 1921. A large portion of the book deals with the evidence of the Armenian Genocide and Talaat's leading role that was presented before the German court that found Tehlirian innocent. With black-and-

white photographs. H367. \$18.95 (\$15.95).

**The Epic Histories Attributed to P'awstos Buzand (Buzandaran Patmut'wnk')**, translation and commentary by Nina G. Garsoian (Harvard University Press, Cambridge). The first translation into English of this most detailed early account of the events that took place in Greater Armenia during the fourth century, with particular emphasis on the Arshakuni kings, Armenian ecclesiastical history, and the early leaders of the Mamikonean House. With an introduction, commentary, five appendices detailing the proper names and technical terms found in the text, and two maps. H378. \$49.95 (\$42.95).

**Everyone's Not Here: Families of the Armenian Genocide—A Study Guide**, by William S. Parsons (Armenian Assembly of America, Washington). Suggested readings, lessons, and activities centered on various aspects of the Armenian Genocide and developed primarily for use with the educational videotape of the same title. Designed for use in secondary school courses on the holocaust, genocide, and human rights. H368p. \$10.00 (\$9.00).

**Germany and the Ottoman Empire, 1914-1918**, by Ulrich Truempener (Caravan Books, Delmar, NY). A reprint of this important historical study which was originally published in 1968 by Princeton University Press. Contains a great deal of information about German influence on the policies of the Young Turk government and German attitudes (official and private) in the face of the Armenian Genocide, which took place during those years. H354. \$50.00 (\$45.00).

**A Historical Survey of the Armenian Case**, by Kersam Aharonian, edited and with a Preface by Edmond Y. Azadian, translated from the Armenian by Krikor Maksoudian (Baikar Publications, Watertown). An overview of the Armenian case, dealing with its origins, the struggle for freedom in modern times, the genocide, and political developments in the post-World War I period, written by the influential Armenian teacher, journalist, and intellectual. H365p. \$12.00 (\$10.95).

**The Rise and Fall of the Ethnic Revival: Perspectives on Language and Ethnicity**, by Joshua A. Fishman, et al (Mouton, Berlin). A collection of studies on the ethnic revival in North America and Western Europe between the mid-1960s and mid-1970s, with particular attention to the relation between language and ethnicity. The articles raise broad theoretic questions and look at the implications of bilingualism, for example in the ethnic press and in schools. One article contrasts the ethnography of Armenian, Greek, Jewish, and French day schools. Cloth, H371c, \$98.00 (\$89.95); paper, H371p, \$29.95 (\$27.95).

**The Slaughterhouse Province: An American Diplomat's Report on the Armenian Genocide, 1915-1917**, by Leslie A. Davis, edited by Susan K. Blair (Aristide D. Caratzas, New York). The lengthy eyewitness report by the American Consul in Kharpert from 1914 to 1917 of the annihilation of the Armenian population of that province in what he describes as "probably the most terrible tragedy that has ever befallen any people in the history of the world." With introduction, notes, maps, and photographs. H379. \$29.95 (\$25.50).

**Sojourn at Ararat: Poems of Armenia**, compiled and edited by Gerald Papasian (Counter Productions, Los Angeles). A collection of Armenian poetry translated into English that forms the basis for the award-winning dramatic presen-

tation by the author and his wife, actress Nora Armani. The poetry provides both an interpretative presentation of Armenian literature and an attempt to convey the spirit of one of the oldest surviving civilizations. T154p. \$15.00 (\$13.50).

**Soviet Armenian Encyclopedia — Soviet Armenia**, edited by V. H. Hampartsumian, M. V. Arzumian, and others (Armenian SSR Academy of Sciences, Yerevan). A special supplemental volume to the Soviet Armenian Encyclopedia (XIII) devoted to the Soviet Armenian Republic, including history, government, economics, and culture. Illustrated, with maps and a historical chronology. (In Armenian) X98m. \$35.00 (\$30.00).

**Symbol, Myth, and Rhetoric: The Politics of Culture in an Armenian-American Population**, by Jenny Phillips (AMS Press, New York). An analysis of the dynamic relationship between symbols and politics in the expression of the Armenian identity in the United States. The study is based largely on interviews conducted with Armenian Americans in the Greater Boston area in the 1970s. H366. \$47.50 (\$43.50).

### PERIODICALS

**Annual of Armenian Linguistics**, edited by John A.C. Greppin (Cleveland State University, Ohio). Vol. 10, 1989. L74p. \$12.00 (\$11.00).

**Journal of the Society for Armenian Studies**, edited by Avedis K. Sanjian. Vol. 3, 1987. X251p. \$25.00 (\$23.75).

**Raft: A Journal of Armenian Poetry and Criticism**, edited by Vahé Oshagan (Cleveland State University, Ohio). Vol. 2, 1988, T151p. \$7.50 (\$7.00). Vol. 3, 1989, T152p. \$10.00 (\$9.25).

### CURRENT EVENTS IN ARMENIA

**Peoples of the Soviet Union** (Novosti Press Agency, Moscow). An illustrated reference work about the nationalities of the Soviet Union, their cultures, and their traditions. H377p. \$5.95 (\$4.95).

**Soviet Life**, June 1989. Special section on Armenian Earthquake. X254p. \$3.50 (\$3.00).

**Suffering Shared By All: Armenia, December 1988**, compiled by Valerian Tarkhanovsky (Novosti Press Agency, Moscow). A brief report, with photographs, of the Armenian earthquake. H359p. \$2.00 (\$1.75).

**The Turbulent Years in the Caucasus: Contradictions in Nagorny Karabagh** (Novosti Press, Moscow). Material from a news briefing held in Moscow to explain the background to the present dispute. H336p. \$1.50 (\$1.25).

### NAASR Newsletter

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