Major Multi-Million Dollar Campaign To Be Launched

Why Now?

Some have asked why embark on a major national fund-raising drive at this time. With the U. S. economy on the downside and with the needs of Armenia so great and constant, why now?

Why not now? When is the right time? Is there ever a right time when it comes to launching a major fund drive? Are there not always other priorities and competing drives? Actually, this has always been the case in NAASR's entire history from the very beginning when it undertook its very first campaign for the Harvard Armenian Chair in 1955.

If we had listened to the voices of caution, gloom, and doom at the time, we would never have gotten started. The Armenian Studies movement would perhaps never have gotten off the ground, and there may never have been a NAASR. Look what's happened in the 38 years since the eventful day on March 2, 1955, when NAASR was formally launched because a group of 60 founding members had vision, courage, and determination.

Today, the need is perhaps as great and even more urgent than then. With all the advances made in Armenian Studies, many new needs have been exposed. Gaps in history, understanding the historical past in order to forge a more enlightened future, reversing the assimilation trend, counteracting misinformation and, in particular, the denial of the Armenian Genocide, understanding the imperatives of foreign policy determination as it relates to Armenia—these are only a few of the reasons why a major multipurpose fund drive needs to be undertaken now by NAASR in addition to insuring its viability as well as continued growth and success.

The needs of Armenia are great and will remain so for years—even decades—to come if it is to survive as an independent republic. Everyone should and must help, but not at the sacrifice of the diaspora institutions. Every diaspora organization, including NAASR, is hurting because of the shift of charitable giving as

At the last Annual Assembly of Members, the assembled NAASR members voted unanimously to adopt a resolution proposed by the Board of Directors for a major fund-raising drive for $5 million (see text on page 2), the largest in NAASR's history.

The drive would enable NAASR to establish a "Fund for the Future" in order to support its Institute for Armenian Studies and Research and other major programs and operations.

Amid a near capacity gathering at the 38th Annual Assembly held for the first time in NAASR's own facilities, its new Center for Armenian Studies and Research, which was formally dedicated on the following day, the members heard Board Chairman Manoog S. Young outline the purposes and needs of the new Fund.

Mr. Young emphasized the necessity and urgency of the drive in order to fund the many ongoing and future programs in furtherance of NAASR's mission to promote Armenian studies, research, and publication and to render assistance to academic programs in Armenia.

During the period since the Annual Assembly on Nov. 21, 1992, a special committee has been developing the plans for the drive. It has also been soliciting initial contributions with which to kick off a more intensive nationwide effort beginning this fall. To date almost $140,000 has been committed by nearly 100 members, with 24 members of the Board of Directors accounting for $65,000.

As the first multipurpose fund drive undertaken by NAASR, it will help insure its stability and growth. The Fund for the Future will provide, through endowment and current funds, for the Institute for Armenian Studies and Research, whose purpose is to probe neglected areas of history vital both to scholars and to Armenian interests.

"A start-up sum of $100,000 in cash will have to be in hand before the Institute is fully operational," said Chairman Young. Other needs include funds to increase the headquarters staff and to retire the outstanding loans of NAASR's Center.

The immediate goal is to raise a major portion of the $5 million total by NAASR's 40th anniversary year in 1995.

OFFICIAL NOTICE
Annual Assembly of Members

The 39th Annual Assembly of Members of the National Association for Armenian Studies and Research, Inc., will be held on Saturday, November 20, 1993, at 12 noon at the NAASR Center and Headquarters, 395 Concord Ave., Belmont, MA, for the following purposes:

1. To receive and discuss reports from the Board of Directors.
2. To act on new business and resolutions presented for the consideration of the assembled members.
3. To elect ten Directors of the Association.
4. To transact any other business which may properly come before the assembly.

All members in good standing, having paid their dues for the current fiscal (calendar) year, have the right to attend, be heard, and vote at the Assembly of Members.

Members may submit in writing or before October 1 matters which they wish to have the Annual Assembly consider.

By order of Board of Directors,
Shushan M. Teager
Secretary

August 30, 1993
Dr. Richard N. Frye, professor-emeritus at Harvard University and a Founding Member of NAASR, had this to say at the 38th Annual Assembly:

"I have been involved in the Armenia, Artsakh, and Karabagh communities, and in the Armenian and Diaspora Studies fields, for over 60 years. It is my belief that NAASR has been a leading force in advancing both the study of Armenia and the Armenian world. I have always considered NAASR to be the heart of the Armenian Studies movement."

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**Resolution for the "Fund for the Future" and the Institute for Armenian Studies and Research**

Whereas the remaining portion of the outstanding debt in connection with the purchase of the former Soviet Union has been paid off and internalized so that NAASR has no obligations now to external creditors; Whereas new challenges face NAASR in its continuing mission to further Armenian Studies and to seek new support for research and publication in view of the needs developing in the academic fields related to Armenian Studies; Whereas with the emergence of an independence for Armenia there is an urgent need for assistance from diaspora institutions in order to bring about a reorientation of academic programs, activities, and institutions in Armenia along Western lines; Whereas the activation of NAASR's Institute for Armenian Studies and Research is vital to its ability to render such assistance and to meet the new challenges.

Be it resolved that the organization's efforts on all levels -- including the financial, the regional and community officials, and the Board of Directors -- during the next three years be directed towards the realization of the above objectives.

Be it further resolved that a three-year intensive campaign be launched with this 38th Annual Assembly of Members to raise $5 million in order to fund the rest of the world not only the Armenian Studies, but also the remaining portion of the outstanding debt.

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Board Chairman on California Tour Discusses Importance of Armenian Studies

The importance of Armenian Studies for the diaspora and Armenia today was discussed in a series of illustrated talks by NAASR Board Chairman Leo Maghakian on Oct. 13-18 to the 180 in California, including San Francisco and San Jose. Mr. Young coordinated the tour. They were assisted by Regional Representatives Prof. James Ajanian (San Diego), Mrs. Charlotte Mouradian Badalian (Temple City), Mrs. Barbara Bousiani (Fresno), Jacob H. Hagopian (San Jose), Hratch Karamanouian (North Hollywood), John Chillian (Boca Raton), and Charles Tatosian (Walnut Creek).

In Van Nuys, left to right, Charlotte Ballard, Alice Haig Mamoyoung, Varoucis Brousalian, and Roxie Krician.

In San Francisco, left to right, Charles Tatosian, Chairman Young, Varnum Paul, and Everett Berberian.

NAASR has accelerated its publishing activity in recent months with the release by the Armenian Institute, one of the conference organizers, of three new publications.

Armenia During the Crusades

of the Armenian Genocide of the 20th century. He discussed with several major collections in 1941 he began a long career in government.

In San Francisco and San Jose, Oct. 13-20; Sacramento, Oct. 21; Fresno, Oct. 22-23; and Los Angeles, Hollywood, San Fernando Valley, Glendale-Pasadena, Orange County, and San Diego, Oct. 24-30.

In his talks Mr. Young also reported on the important new programs and initiatives which NAASR will be undertaking in transnational education in the near future. Mr. Young, who has specialized in Armenian history and international relations.

The National Conference on Genocide and Human Rights created widespread international interest in the Armenian diaspora.

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors has appointed a committee to prepare a report to the city council on the Armenian Genocide.
Center Programs Explore Armenian Issues Around the Globe

Current developments in Armenia, issues facing the Armenian community in America, the fate of Turkish Armenia, and other topics affecting Armenians were examined at a series of provocative programs held during the 1992-93 season at NAASR’s Center for Armenian Studies and Research.

TELLING THE ARMENIAN STORY

The series opened on September 19, 1992, with a reading prepared by author Jack Hashian, who suggested that the medium of fiction is the surest way to publicize the story of the Armenian Genocide. The author also cautioned that, in order to come to terms with the senseless murder of millions of Armenians in 1915, the world must make every effort to understand the Armenian experience. Hashian argued that a lack of understanding of the Armenian problem is not just a failure of foreign policy, but a failure of human understanding. It is a failure of the human spirit to come to terms with the past, Hashian said.

Armenia Update

The focus shifted to current events in Armenia when a panel of six recent visitors to the homeland shared their impressions and observations at a full-house program on October 8, 1992.

Dudly Itel in Armenia following its abrupt independence from the USSR is a frantic struggle for survival, the panelists agreed, with the Armenians facing great economic hardship and suffering from a lack of foreign aid. Despite these difficulties, the panelists pointed out, the Armenian people are going through a new hopeful spirit is evident among Armenians everywhere. 1993, in which, the panelists pointed out, the Armenian people are going through a new hopeful spirit is evident among Armenians everywhere.

Only after writing this did he realize the impact a work of fiction can have in conveying a better understanding of the Armenian experience. The author also cautioned that, in order to develop mechanisms to permit outside investment in Armenia as well as the importance of developing the Armenian banking system.

Dr. Barbara J. Meguerian, who helped to organize a forum on “Women, Leadership, and Democracy” in Yerevan, noted the challenge faced by the women of Armenia to come with the economic difficulties of everyday life. However, the lack of participation in the government, particularly the women, is a concern.

Marc examinated conditions and attitudes in Yerevan and in the western part of Armenia, directed jointly by Armenian and American scholars. Young Armenians are eager for information about the past, Hashian said, but it is difficult to convey to them the sense of the complexities of life in this country.

Post-Soviet Nationalities Crisis

An academic approach to looking at the current situation in the former Soviet Union was offered by Dr. Raymond Davidian, a business executive and Research.

Panelists Ronan, Atzatian, and Hovsepian (left to right) talked about the conditions facing psychology and psychiatry in the former Soviet Union, a number of remarkable contributions were made.

A definite turning point in Armenia was observed by Dr. Robert Mirak, editor of the Armenian Daily News in Yerevan and a member of the Armenian American group touring the former Armenian provinces in Turkey. Journalist Kurkjian is standing at right and writer Aroyan at left. Kurkjian’s father, Aroskharos, is at the left front.

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SECONDARY EDUCATION

The final program of the season on June 3, 1993, brought together two professionals from Armenia to discuss “Secondary Education in Armenia: Problems and Prospects.”

Dr. Robert Gabrielyan, Chief of the Education Commission in Armenia, a psychologist by training, and Yury A. Galyan, director of the Experimental High School in Yerevan, outlined the changes taking place in Armenian schools since the collapse of the Soviet Union. They explained that the way Armenian schools are going through a transformation, which is still a work in progress. It is about holistic education, which is considered a priority for higher education and for the shifting needs of Armenia’s democratic society.

The panelists were in the Boston area to develop exchange relations between the Lexington Christian Academy and the Yerevan Experimental High School.
In recognition and appreciation of Thomas T. Amirian's abiding interest in his Armenian studies, research, and publica
tion activities, we are grateful to him for all that he was responsible for, and for the
way of perpetually remembering his contributions to these endeavors.
As a person, Tom will be remembered for his humility, gentleness, and
courage. It is still with much sadness that we reflect upon the sudden passing of Thomas T. Amirian, a long-time NAASR member, Mass., last January 18 at age 82 from a heart
attack.

Thom Azis Ayramin

Monday through the years

Tom was professionally an architectural engineer who graduated from the Massa
chusetts Institute of Technology only eleven years after he came to this country as a
refugee. He was associated with several of the leading architectural and construction
firms in the Greater Boston area and later formed his own consulting firm. He was
known for his high standards and attention
to detail. He was responsible for the design or restoration of many landmark buildings in New England and other
states.

The NAASR Board will furthermore match all contributions up to a total of $5,000, for unrestricted funds.

If you would like to make a contribution to NAASR's "Thomas T. Amirian Armenian Studies
Fund" which income shall be used for those further objectives which were clearly de
definable in the purpose statement.

As a past president of NAASR and as one who took great pride in the accomplishments of his fellow Armenians, Tom's
activities, he was a devoted family man, a caring fellow human being, and someone who
anyone could turn to for a sympathetic ear whether it be a personal or an organiza
tional need. This letter would be incomplete without an acknowledgement of the
families and friends who were so dear to his heart.

I (we) wish to make a contribution to NAASR, Inc.

Signed ___________________ Date _____

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NAASR NEWSLETTER

IN TRIBUTE TO THOMAS T. AMIRIAN
Collector, Lecturer, Engineer, and Founding Member of NAASR

NAASR NEWSLETTER

Page 8

Necrology

Continued from page 4

The late Deacon Henry J. Johnson, she founded and
operated Laleebe Cottin, nestled in Mildred, Me.
and businesswoman, she was a founder of the
NAASR, a member of the NAASR Board, and the
NAASR in the year 1957.

In lieu of contributions were designated for
NAASR.

(Continued on next page)

New Members

From the end of August 1992 to the end of July 1993 there have been 122 new and reinstated
members accepted by the Executive Committee.

New Members

Abraham L. Sachar, Educator and Friend of the Armenians

Abraham L. Sachar, founder presi
dent of Brandeis University in Wal	ham, Mass., educator and author, died on
July 24, 1992, at his home in Boston at
the age of 94.

Sachar, a bird of the Armenians, Dr.
Sachar was an enthusiastic supporter of NAASR and was a featured speaker at two major NAASR banquets in support of the Harvard Armenian School and NAASR's Permanent Endowment Fund.

In his popular book, The Course Of Our Times, there is a chapter on Armenia, as well as Dr. Sachar devoted an entire chapter to the Armenian Genocide, during which he spoke at Brandeis, from 1948 to 1968, he was widely credited with transforming it into a major research center and the only nonsectarian university sponsored by the American Jewish community.

as a Republican. Sometimes criticized for his lack of personal style of administration,
he was credited with policies to counter the
economic crisis and business.

The city of Armenian

In the opinion of the

To say that Thomas T. Amirian was a

For the Armenian

Chairman NAASR Board of Directors

NAASR Board of Directors

To: NAASR Board of Directors

935 Concord Ave., Belmont, MA 02178

35 Concord Ave., Belmont, MA 02178

In recognition and appreciation of Thomas T. Amirian's abiding interest in his Armenian heritage, his firm believing in furthering Armenian studies, research, and publication, we are pleased to be one of the initiating founders of NAASR, Inc. (we) wish to make a contribution to the NAASR Endowment fund established in his memory.

(Enclosed find $_

Signed __________ Date __________

NAME (please print)

CITY STATE ZIP
Classical Armenian Short Stories, translated by Sarkis Ashjian and edited by Armen Donoyan. T194p, $18.00 ($16.50).

The Complete Meze Table: Delicious Food from Greece and the Middle East, by Rosamond Man. X333p, $7.50 ($5.95).


The Fertile Crescent, 1800-1914: A Documentary Economic History, by Charles Issawi. H496, $45.00 ($39.95).

The Forty Days of Musa Dagh, by Franz Wezel, with Introduction by Peter Sourian. T195p, $13.95 ($11.95).

Genocide in Our Time: An Annotated Bibliography with Analytical Introductions, by Michael N. Dobkowski and Isidore Wallimann. H489p, $40.00 ($33.95).


The Khoja: Tales of Naer-ed-Din, translated from the Turkish by Henry Barnham. F46p, $15.00 ($13.95).

Learn to Speak Eastern Armenian (Conversation Book & Cassettes). L86, $28.00 ($25.00).

Modern English-Armenian, Armenian-English Dictionary (Western). L22, $35.00 ($29.95).


Pâtisserie of the Eastern Mediterranean: Greece, Turkey, North Africa and the Middle East, by Arto Der Haroutunian. X332, $17.95 ($13.95).

Points of Light: Parables of Faith in the Everyday Experience of Armenian Priests, edited by Hratch Tchilingirian, C76p, $5.00 ($4.25).

Pseudo-Yohannes Mamikonean: The History of Tarom, by Levon Avdoyan. H510c, $49.95 ($42.50); H510p $29.95 ($25.50).

The Role of the Albanian Family in Ottoman Architecture, by Pars Tuglak. A220, $150.00 ($135.00).

St. Nersess of Lambron: Champion of the Church Universal, by Mesrob Ashjian. C77, $15.00 ($13.50).


The Tragedy of Armenia: A Brief Study and Interpretation, by Bertha S. Papazian. H492p, $12.00 (10.50).

Turkey: A Past and a Future, by A. J. Toynbee. H493p, $12.00 (10.50).

Turkish Bands of Past and Present, by Pars Tuglak. X325, $45.00 ($40.00).

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