



EARLY MODERNITY AND MOBILITY: PORT CITIES AND PRINTERS ACROSS THE ARMENIAN DIASPORA, 1512-1800

Early Modernity and Mobility explores the disparate yet connected histories of Armenian printing establishments in early modern Europe and Asia. From 1512, when the first Armenian printed codex appeared in Venice, to the end of the early modern period in 1800, Armenian presses operated in nineteen locations across the Armenian diaspora. Linking far-flung locations in Amsterdam, Livorno, Marseille, Saint Petersburg, and Astrakhan to New Julfa, Madras, and Calcutta, Armenian presses published a thousand editions with more than half a million printed volumes in Armenian script.

Drawing on extensive archival research, Sebouh David Aslanian explores why certain books were published at certain times, how books were sold across the diaspora, who read them, and how the printed word helped fashion a new collective identity for early modern Armenians. In examining the Armenian print tradition Aslanian tells a larger story about the making of the diaspora itself. Arguing that “confessionalism” and the hardening of boundaries between the Armenian and Roman churches was the “driving engine” of Armenian book history, Aslanian makes a revisionist contribution to the early modern origins of Armenian nationalism.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2023 | 6 PM PT

HYBRID: BUNCHE HALL, ROOM 10383 & ZOOM
LEARN MORE & RSVP AT bit.ly/PAI11-28-23



UCLA Richard Hovannisian Endowed Chair in
Modern Armenian History



UCLA UCLA Narekatsi Chair in Armenian Studies **UCLA** Center for India and South Asia



Sebouh David Aslanian, Ph.D.
Richard Hovannisian Endowed
Professor in Modern Armenian
History; Inaugural Director of the
Armenian Studies Center of the
Promise Armenian Institute, UCLA

