

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR ARMENIAN STUDIES AND RESEARCH
AND
THE ARMENIA TREE PROJECT

PRESENT



**THE BATTLE OF BASH ABARAN:
WINNING INDEPENDENCE FOR THE FIRST
REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA**

by Dr. Dikran Kaligian

Thursday, October 19, 2017, 7:30 p.m.

NAASR Center, 395 Concord Avenue, Belmont, MA



In the spring of 1918, the Armenian people faced a desperate situation. The Russian Revolution meant that the Russian armies that had liberated much of Western Armenia had gone home and Turkish armies were now attacking Eastern Armenia. Russian Armenian troops and former *fedayis* were joined by streams of civilian volunteers in three battles on the three roads to Yerevan.

At Bash Abaran, General Drastamat Kanayan (Dro) fought Turkish forces more than twice the size of those he led. Despite the odds, Dro not only stopped the advance on Yerevan, but drove the attackers back beyond Hamamlu (Spitak). The breakneck changes in diplomatic, political, and military fortunes during these key days will be outlined as they lead to the establishment of the first independent Armenian state in nearly six centuries.

Dikran M. Kaligian is the Managing Editor of the *Armenian Review*. He received his Ph. D. in history from Boston College. His book, *Armenian Organization and Ideology under Ottoman Rule, 1908-1914* was published by Transaction Publishing. His articles have been published in the *Journal of Genocide Research*, *Genocide Studies International*, the *Armenian Review*, and in the books *Through a Lens Darkly: Films of Genocide*, and in *Genocide in the Ottoman Empire: Armenians, Assyrians, and Greeks*.

Admission free (donations appreciated). Doors open at 7:00 p.m.

Contact NAASR at 617-489-1610 or hq@naasr.org for more information.