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"Diaspora and 'Stateless Power'‘: Social Discipline and Identity Formation Across the Armenian Diaspora during the Long Twentieth Century"

A Conference in Honor of Khachig Tölölyan

October 12-13, 2019
Rolfe Hall 1200
University of California, Los Angeles
Saturday, October 12, 9:00am-5:15pm

WELCOMING REMARKS

Sebouh Aslanian (University of California, Los Angeles)

OPENING REMARKS

Bedross Der Matossian (President of the Society for Armenian Studies (SAS) and University of Nebraska, Lincoln)

SESSION I: THE LIMINAL SPACE: ARMENIAN IMMIGRANTS IN THE TRANSNATIONAL CONTEXT

9:30-11:00am

Chair: Salpi Ghazarian (University of Southern California)

Nareh Galstyan (University of Milan)
“Diaspora-Homeland Relations Re-Examined: Case Study of the Dutch-Armenian and Dutch-Assyrian Communities”

Carlos Antaramian (El Colegio de la Frontera Norte, Mexico)
“Waiting for the Quotas and the Formation of an Armenian Community in Tijuana, 1923-1932”

Boris Adjemian (AGBU Nubar Library, Paris)
“In Search of the Sedentary: Armenian Diaspora Homelands between Addis Ababa, Jerusalem, Valence and Paris”

Gegham Mughnetsyan (University of Southern California) “Armenian Displaced Persons: From Funkerkaserne to Montebello”

Q & A/Discussion

11:00-11:15pm Coffee Break

SESSION II: IMAGINING THE DIASPORIC SPACE: SOCIAL MEMORY AND CULTURAL PRODUCTION IN THE ARMENIAN DIASPORA

11:15-12:45pm

Chair: Houri Berberian (University of California, Irvine)

Lilit Keshishyan (University of Southern California)
“Defiant Adherence: Cultural Critiques in Late Twentieth Century Armenian Diaspora Literature”

Helen Makhdoumian (University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign)
“Transnational Memory Work and Kinship-Making in Michael Arlen’s Passage to Ararat”

Talar Chahinian (University of California, Irvine)
“The Literary Canon and Nation-Building in the Diaspora”

Sylvia Alajaji (Franklin & Marshall College)
“Komitas and the Diasporic Musical Imaginary”

Q & A/Discussion

Lunch: 12:45-2:00pm

SESSION III: INSTITUTIONS, GOVERNMENTALITY AND POWER RELATIONS IN THE SHAPING OF ARMENIAN DIASPORIC DIVERSITIES

2:00-4:00pm

Chair: Vahram Shemmassian (California State University, Northridge)
Hasmik Khalapyan (American University of Armenia)
“Serialized Struggle for Power in the Armenian Periodical Press of Europe, Late 19th and Early 20th Centuries”

Simon Payaslian (Boston University)
“Contending Diasporan Conceptualizations of Homeland Independence According to the American Armenian Press (1900-1921)”

Nareg Seferian (School of Public and International Affairs, Virginia Tech)
“Hints of “Pre-Diasporan Governmentality”: Norms and Expectations in the Ottoman-Armenian Constitution”

Christopher Sheklian (Zohrab Information Center)
“Recent Immigration to Established Armenian Communities: The Role of the Church in Shaping Immigrant Identity”

Daniel Fittante (University of California, Los Angeles)
“The Rise of Glendale’s Ethnopolitical Entrepreneurs”

Q & A/Discussion

4:00-4:30pm Coffee Break

4:30-5:15pm

KEYNOTE SPEECH

Khachig Tölölyan (Wesleyan University)
“From the Study of Diasporas to Diaspora Studies”

SAS 45th Anniversary Banquet: 7:00pm
Organization of Istanbul Armenians Banquet Hall
Sponsored by the Organization of Istanbul Armenians

Sunday, October 13, 9:30am-4:30pm

SESSION IV: AT HOME IN THE DIASPORA: ARMENIAN COMMUNITIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST
9:30-11:15am

Chair: Barlow Der Mugrdechian (California State University, Fresno)

Sossie Kasbarian (University of Stirling, UK)
“Diasporizing the Modern Middle East – Armenian Remnants, Resilience and Reconfigurations”

Ara Sanjian (University of Michigan, Dearborn)
“When in Lebanon, Do as the Lebanese Do! Armenian Parties as ‘Buyut Siyasiyah’”

Tsolin Nalbantian (Leiden University, Netherlands)
“Beyond Diaspora: How Armenians Made Lebanon Their Own”

Talin Suciyan (Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich)
“Our good Armenians”: Survival and Denial in Post-Genocide Turkey”

Q & A/Discussion

Coffee Break 11:15-11:30am

SESSION V: GIVING VOICE TO THE DIASPORA: THE ARMENIAN DIASPORA SURVEY PROJECT
11:30am-1:00pm

Chair: Sossie Kasbarian (University of Stirling, UK)

Khachig Tölölyan (Wesleyan University)
Hratch Tchilingirian (Oxford University)
Razmik Panossian (Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation)

Q & A/Discussion
Lunch: 1:00-2:30pm

SESSION VI: DIASPORA POLICY AND DIASPORA POLITICS: 
DISCOURSES, IDEOLOGIES AND GOVERNMENTALITY IN 
(SOVIET) ARMENIA-DIASPORA RELATIONS

2:30-4:00pm

Chair: Marc Mamigonian (NAASR)

Hradzin Vartanyan (Ministry of Diaspora, 
Republic of Armenia) 
“Typologies of Diasporas and the Armenian Diaspora”

Arman S. Yeghiazaryan (Yerevan State University) 
“The Influence of Relations of Soviet Armenia and Diaspora 
on the Modern Armenian Diaspora Formation”

Vahe Sahakyan (University of Michigan, Dearborn) 
“State(less) power and Beyond: The (Im)possibility of 
Governmentality in the Armenian Diaspora”

Hagop Gulludjian (University of California, Los Angeles) 
“Shifting Visions” 

Q & A/Discussion

Concluding Remarks

Peter Cowe (University of California, Los Angeles)