

### Armenia could become a leading technology center – PM



After the political revolution, Armenia is now in the stage of economic revolution, Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan said in his opening remarks at the WICT 2019 in Yerevan.

He voiced hope that the ongoing economic revolution would lead to a technological one, making Armenia one of the leading innovative country sin the world, a true technology center.

"This goal seems realistic to us also because many sons of the Armenian nation are the creators of well-known technological innovations," Pashinyan stated. The Prime Minister then listed the technologies authored by Armenians.

In 1853, Hovhannes Ghukasyan created the kerosene lamp, thus bringing new power to the era of technological enlightenment, making a revolution in people's everyday lives.

In 1854 Christopher Ter-Serobyan created the green color of the US dollar, and that green is still considered the exclusive color of the dollar.

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## Pashinyan, Putin reiterate strategic nature of Armenian-Russian relations

By Siranush Ghazanchyan

Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan and Russian President Vladimir Putin held a meeting on the sidelines of the sitting of the EAEU Supreme Eurasian Council in Yerevan.

Prime Minister Nikol Pashinayn welcomed Vladimir Putin's visit to Armenia and said it's a good opportunity to discuss issues on common agenda.

"I think that today really significant events took place within the framework of the Eurasian Economic Union: we signed an agreement with Singapore, an agreement on temporary free trade with Iran came into force. And to be honest, I'm very glad that this is all happening in Yerevan," PM Pashinyan said.

"This is a very memorable fact for the chairmanship of Armenia in the Eurasian

Economic Union," he said, voicing hope



that Armenia will still be able to register more results in EAEU.

Speaking about bilateral relations, Nikol Pashinyan said "Russia is our strategic partner and we hope to strengthen this partnership further."

Vladimir Putin, in turn, reiterated the strategic nature of Armenian-Russian relations.

"They [relations] have been reinforced not only by the events of the past years and decades, but also by centuries-long interaction between our nations," he said.

Putin congratulated Pashinyan on the results of the EAEU summit in Yerevan. "

"The results are really good from the point of view of developing relations with our partners from third countries. And which is no less important, and

perhaps even more important for us, there is not a single failure – on the contrary, all agreements have been reached within the organization between the countries participating in this union," the Russian President said.

He hailed Nikol Pashinyan's efforts in the productive work.

## Armenian PM receives U.S. Congressman Frank Pallone

Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan received U.S. Congressman Frank Pallone.

Welcoming the Congressman's visit to Armenia and Artsakh, the Prime Minister expressed confidence that his visit would help

strengthen Mr. Pallone's relationship with the Armenian people.

The Premier hailed the Congressman's efforts in the development of U.S.-Armenia relations and in raising issues of Armenian concern. The



Premier referred to his recent visit to California and expressed confidence that it will help boost cooperation between our country and one of the largest U.S. states.

Congressman Pallone said he was impressed by the non-violent velvet

popular revolution and the democratic process underway in our country. The Congressman assured of his readiness to promote interaction between the two countries, support Armenia and

the Armenian people.

The parties referred to the Armenian government's ambitious reform agenda, the ongoing cooperation with the U.S. Government, as well as to regional developments.

## Iran, Armenia willing to expand "electricity for gas" program

By Siranush Ghazanchyan

Relations between Armenia and Iran should be maximally void of geopolitical influences, Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan said at a meeting with visiting Iranian President Hassan Rouhani.

"We are immediate neighbors, have a lot of common interests, and have to live side-by side and cooperate for millennia," PM Pashinyan said.

The Prime Minister said Armenia appreciated Iran's balanced stance on the Nagorno Karabakh conflict settlement.

Rouhani said, in turn, that Iran highly appreciates the development and deepening of relations with Armenia in all directions.

"We are ready to work with your government to develop and implement new programs, expand the gas for electricity program," Rouhani said.

At the same time, he pledged Iran's willingness to cooperate within the framework of regional programs and infrastructure



projects.

Prime Minister Pashinyan welcomed the Iranian side's readiness to expand the Gas for Electricity project. The Premier and the Iranian President tasked the respective government officials to develop and submit proposals within the shortest possible deadlines on expanded cooperation in the aforementioned field.

Reference was also made to the prospects of joint efforts in railway communications, high technologies, customs, science and tourism.

Hassan Rouhani stressed that the bilateral trade turnover has considerably increased

ever since Nikol Pashinyan's government assumed office in Armenia, noting that the joint projects continue to be successfully implemented. Rouhani said they are ready to discuss the implementation of the Meghri HPP project, boost capital investments and trade turnover via the free trade zones.

The interlocutors exchanged views on the transit routes to connect the Persian Gulf to the Black Sea. Prime Minister Pashinyan emphasized that the realization of this program is in the strategic interest of our country, and Armenia stands ready to take practical steps to that end.

The parties took the opportunity to discuss regional issues, including the NK conflict settlement process. Prime Minister Pashinyan thanked the Iranian President for abiding by a balanced stance on the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. For his part, Hassan Rouhani highlighted the need for reaching a peaceful settlement based on the positions and views of all parties to the conflict.

## Azerbaijan's maximalist stance the main threat to negotiations

The maximalist stance adopted by Azerbaijan, which is the main threat to the negotiation process, remains unchanged despite the latest agreements between the two parties, which envisage preparing peoples to peace, Armenian Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Anna Naghdalyan has said.

She said Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan's formula that the Karabakh conflict settlement should be acceptable to the peoples of Armenia, Artsalkh and Azerbaijan aims at taking this very commitment to prepare peoples to peace to a more practical dimension.

"This formula aims to make the formula of mutual concessions acceptable to all parties, involve the societies in the formation of an atmosphere conducive to peace, and affirm the responsibility and accountability



of leaders before their peoples," Naghdalyan added.

The comments follow Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev's "Karabakh is Azerbaijan" statement.

According to the Spokesperson, in response to the Armenian side, Aliyev not only failed to make reference to the need for a peaceful settlement for the peoples of the region, but also questioned the fact of

existence of the Artsakh people in their historic homeland.

"To justify its maximalistic approach to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, Azerbaijan has always used the rhetoric of dehumanization of Artsakh and the Armenian people in general. Among the manifestations of this dehumanization are the pardoning and glorification of Ramil Safarov by the

Azerbaijani President, the atrocities committed against civilians and servicemen during the Azerbaijani aggression against Artsakh, and the attempts to erase the traces of Armenian historical presence in Azerbaijan," she stated.

Armenia is confident that there is no alternative to the peaceful settlement of the issue and triumph of democracy in the region," Anna Naghdalyan stated.

## Armenian Parliament votes to terminate powers of Constitutional Court judge

The Armenian National Assembly voted 98 to 1 today to call for termination of powers of Hrayr Tovmasyan, member (judge) of the Constitutional Court.

The draft decision adopted by a secret ballot will now be forwarded to the Constitutional Court.

A total of 101 MPs participated in the voting, two ballot were declared invalid, counting commission chair Vahagn Hovakimyan said

Speaker Ararat Mirzoyan declared the decision adopted. The draft required the votes of at least 3/5 of the total number of MPs.

The Prosperous Armenia Party faction had earlier withdrawn from the vote.



## Yerevan hosts second meeting of EU-Armenia Strategic Policy Dialogue



In light of the RA Government's ambitious agenda to carry out comprehensive reform of the justice sector, the EU expressed its readiness to support the Government in its efforts. The EU-Armenia Strategic Policy Dialogue on Justice Reforms aims at developing a justice reform in line with European standards and commitments under the EU-Armenia Comprehensive and Enhanced Partnership Agreement.

As a follow-up to the first meeting of the Strategic Policy Dialogue in September 2018, the meeting today was devoted to the discussion on the recently published draft 2019-2023 Judicial Strategy and 2019-2022 Anti-Corruption Strategy. The dia-

logue served to link the EU support to the actions deriving from the Strategies, as well as to agree jointly on the EU instruments that will be made available to implement them.

The Minister of Justice of the Republic of Armenia Mr. Rustam Badasyan, H.E. Andrea Wiktorin, Ambassador, Head of the European Union Delegation to Armenia, Mr. Vassilis Maragos, Head of the European Commission's DG NEAR Unit responsible for Armenia, as well as representatives of the Supreme Judicial Council, Prosecutor General Office, Human Rights Defender's Office, business representatives and Civil Society Organisations participated in the event.

The Minister of Justice Rustam Badasyan re-confirmed the RA Government strong commitment to move forward with ambitious justice and anti-corruption reforms which will lay ground and serve as an umbrella for both high-level dialogue with the European Union in the Justice sector and for broader cooperation at a technical level. The Minister emphasised the importance to have coordinated and prioritised actions to deliver mutually beneficial results.

Ambassador Wiktorin reiterated that the European Union stands ready to support the commitment of the Government of Armenia to implement reforms in the justice sector and in the fight against corruption which will contribute to efficient and effective administration of justice and a better business, investment climate.

Vassilis Maragos welcomed Government's efforts to improve public trust in the justice system and underlined that inclusivity and ownership of all stakeholders and the capacity and active engagement of all relevant bodies to steer and implement this ambitious reform programme are key to bring tangible benefits for Armenian citizens.

The Dialogue also served as a platform for engagement of civil society organisations, business sector representatives, and the international community present in Armenia in the process of finalising the shape and future directions of the reform.

## Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Artsakh Masis Mayilian received U.S. Congressman Frank Pallone.

The Foreign Minister appreciated Congressman Pallone's consistent efforts and initiatives aimed at promoting the interests of Artsakh in the U.S. Congress, as well as establishing and strengthening stability in the region.

During the meeting, the sides touched upon the relations between Artsakh and the U.S. at various levels and the prospects for their development. Masis Mayilian stressed that the American direction has a special place in the sphere

of international cooperation of Artsakh, taking into account the potential of the Armenian Diaspora and the friendly relations established with the United States.



The sides underlined the need for continued efforts to strengthen and expand the cooperation between the twin cities of Artsakh and the United States, as well as between Artsakh and those States, the

legislatures of which have adopted resolutions in support of the independence of the Republic of Artsakh.

At the request of Congressman Pallone, Masis Mayilian presented the current stage of the Azerbaijan-Karabakh conflict settlement process and the situation on the Line of Contact between the armed forces of Artsakh and Azerbaijan. In this context, the sides touched upon the recent provocations initiated by the Azerbaijani side on the Line of Contact. Ac-

cording to the sides, these incidents reconfirm the urgency of the establishment of an international mechanism for controlling the ceasefire.

## Armenian Genealogy Conference to be held in California

Asbarez – Finding "lost" Armenian relatives a century after the genocide is a daunting task. Genealogical research turns out to be an accessible means for everyday folk to achieve this end.

A small group of dedicated Armenians have been organizing conferences to train people on how to dig into their ancestry.

Three conferences have been held so far in Wa-

tertown, MA (2016), Detroit, MI (2017), and Mahwah, NJ (2018). The response to these events has been overwhelming, with so many individuals interested that some could not be accommodated. Hundreds of



Armenians have become armed with the tools to trace their ancestry through research and DNA technology

For the first time, from November 15 to 17, Armenians on the West Coast will have

the opportunity share in the excitement their East Coast compatriots have experienced. Organizers have reported a demand from people living in communities in the Western United States. Working with them, the Western Armenia Committee has put together this opportunity for individuals in southern [and central] California.

Arrangements are being finalized and details will be released in the com-

ing weeks in regard to registration, hotel availability for conference participants and sponsors, and more. 6 ECONOMY

### EAEU, Singapore sign free trade agreement in Yerevan



A free trade agreement between the Eurasian Economic Union and Singapore was signed today within the framework of the sitting of the Supreme Economic Council of the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) in Yerevan.

Speaking at a press conference following the signing ceremony, Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong said:

"Relations between Singapore and other countries are anchored on mutual respect, cooperation and on the understanding that this cooperation enriches all of us."

He said the signing of the agreement is an important milestone in the relations and will further deepen the ties.

The Prime Minister deeply appreciated Armenia's constructive approach and Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan's role in the successful completion of the negotiations.

Chief of the Eurasian Economic Commission Tigran Sarkissian said, in turn, that the experience should be applied to other countries, as well.

"We currently have an application from Israel, and our Israeli colleagues offer signing a framework agreement that will apply not only to the free movement of goods, but also investments and services," Tigran Sargsyan stated.

### Moscow to present 100 projects at IT congress in Armenia



Moscow will present at the forum more than 100 promising projects at the World Congress on Information Technologies in Yerevan, Moscow's Deputy Mayor Natalya Sergunina has said.

The Russian capital is the official partner of the major international event to be held in Armenia from October 6 to 9.

"These are solutions in the areas of digital government, smart city, security, healthcare, education and human capital. All of them have good prospects both on Russian and foreign markets," Natalya Sergunina noted.

The Moscow Government booth at WCIT-2019 will consist of three sections.

"The "City" zone will be dedicated to the projects implemented in digitization of Moscow. The "Business" Zone will talk about the latest IT solutions in Moscow business. The "Zone of Innovation" will present projects aiming at supporting innovative and technological business, as well as the project of the Moscow Innovation Cluster," said Alexei Fursin, head of the Department of Entrepreneurship and Innovative Development of Moscow.

Minister of the Government of Moscow, head of the Department of Information Technology Eduard Lysenko said, in turn, that today, Moscow is one of the most technologically advanced mega-cities in the world.

"Digital services penetrate into almost all spheres of life of Muscovites, helping them save time and simplifying interaction with the city. On the mos.ru portal, citizens can receive more than 330 services and services electronically. This opportunity is used by more than 80 percent of the economically active population of the capital," he said.

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## CSUN University receives \$2.1 million anonymous gift to support Armenian studies

California State University, Northridge (CSUN) has received an anonymous \$2.1 million gift to support its Armenian Studies Program and special collection holdings, according to the University's official website.

The gift establishes an endowed directorship in Armenian Studies in the Department of Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures in CSUN's College of Humanities, as well as supports the efforts of the special collections and archives unit of the Oviatt Library to maintain the archives and artifacts of the collection accompanying the generous contribution.

"While the donor chooses to remain anonymous, the impact of a generous gift like this will not be unnoticed," said CSUN President Dianne F. Harrison. "The gift will touch so many lives. CSUN educates more Armenian students than any other university in the world outside of Yerevan, Armenia. This gift will strengthen an already strong program that provides a foundation of knowledge about Armenian culture and the impact Armenians and Armenian Americans have, not just in California, but throughout the world."

Vahram Shemmassian, head of CSUN's Armenia Studies Program, hailed the gift "as a true treasure that will enrich young minds and spark further interest in collec-



tive Armenian life, particularly in the last 100 years that have witnessed unimaginable tribulations, as well as revival like a phoenix rising from the ashes."

CUN's Vice President for Advancement Robert Gunsalus called the anonymous gift a "generous confirmation of the important role CSUN plays in the community at large and in the Armenian community specifically."

"CSUN students graduate with an education that empowers them to become change makers, not just in their communities, but in California, the nation and the world," he said.

CSUN's Armenian Studies Program, established in 1983, promotes the study of the language and culture of Armenia and Armenians, and helps prepare the next generation of scholars in the field. The program

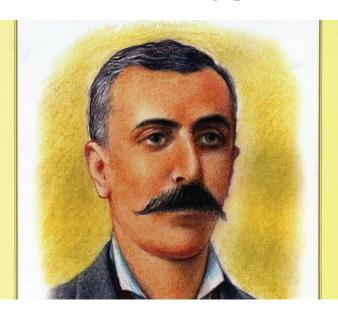
offers students support, workshops, public lectures and outreach programs. Through their work, faculty, staff and students in the program strive to contribute to the scholarly analysis and understanding of the challenges the Armenian people have faced at home, in the Near East and the Caucasus, and in the Diaspora.

Additionally, the program has launched, in partnership with the Liberal Studies Program's Integrated Teacher Education Program, an effort to prepare future public and private school educators who have the skills to teach Armenian culture and language.

Among the holdings of the Oviatt Library's special collections are archives of Armenian families that date back to the pre-World War I Ottoman period, including letters, books, artifacts, clothes, and jewelry. A number of the archival materials chronicle the Armenian Genocide and the Armenian immigrant experience in Los Angeles. Once the archives are processed and ready for viewing, they will be available to the public.

Shemmassian said the anonymous gift ensures that future generations will learn about the Armenian Genocide, and the role of Armenian Americans in Los Angeles and the Southland played in establishing the second largest Armenian community in the diaspora, after that of Russia.

## Armenian writer Hagop Baronian's bust to be unveiled in Istanbul



The bust of renowned Armenian writer Hagop Baronian will be erected in Istanbul. The solemn ceremony will be held on October 5, Akunq. net reports.

The bust will be installed at the Armenian cemetery in Sisli district. The ceremony will be attended by Armenian Patriarch's Locum Tenens, Sahak Mashalian Sahak Mashalyan.

Hagop Baronian was an influential Armenian writer,

satirist, educator, and social figure in the 19th century. Born in Edirne, Paronian is widely acknowledged as the greatest Armenian satirist of all time.

Baronian's most famous work was the novel "Honorable Beggars," which parodies the almost beggar-like state of writers and publishers in that period.

The writer himself suffered the same fate as the characters in "Honorable Beggars," and died penniless on the streets of Istanbul.

He was buried in an Armenian cemetery in Istanbul, but the precise location of his grave has been lost.

The Yerevan State Musical Comedy Theatre was named after Hagop Baronian



In 1911 Gabriel Kazanchyan created the hair dryer.

In 1916 Stepan Stepanyan created a mechanical concrete mixer



that is as common in the modern world as a dryer.

In 1930s, Hovhannes Adamyan formulated and created the algorithm, the technology that enabled the creation of color television sets. The modern world is hard to imagine without a color TV, dollar greens, hair dryers, or a mechanical concrete mixer.

In 1931 Asatur Safaryan created the automobile transmission, opening new perspectives for the further development of automotive industry.

In 1939, Luther Gevorg Simijyan created the well-known ATM that is as popular in the modern world as the dollar, the hair dryer, the mechanical concrete mixer, the color TV, and the automatic transmission.

In 1960s, Michael Ter-Poghosyan became one of the founders of



tomography, a revolutionary innovation in healthcare.

In 1970s, Raymond Tamatyan created a magnetic resonance imaging device, which has revolutionized healthcare.

In 1995, our compatriot Emik Avakyan created a wheelchair for people with disabilities, changing the lives of millions of people with disabilities.

In 2006 Yuri Oganessian discovered the 118th chemical element in Mendeleev's periodic table, which is named ogannesson in honor of the scientist.

The Prime Minister said the list can be continued.

"All this and the fact that the first Soviet computer named "Nairi" was created in Armenia, the fact that many of our compatriots have actively participated in Soviet and American space programs, the fact that today our compatriots are making serious successes in the firld of technology and innovation, give us confidence that Armenia will truly become one of the most important technological centers in the world," Pashinyan stated.

### Kim and Kourtney Kardashian arrive in Armenia

Kim Kardashian has arrived in Armenia with sister Kourtney and children.

Activist, entrepreneur, beauty mogul and producer Kim Kardashian West will be a special keynote speaker and panelist at the 23rd World Congress on Information Technology (WCIT 2019), which will take place in Yerevan, Armenia from October 6 to 9, 2019.

Ms. Kardashian West will address a plenary session of WCIT 2019 called



"Marketplace of Ideas," which will examine how decentralized technologies have democratized the worlds of enter-

tainment, media, and journalism and revolutionized the manner in which we create and disseminate art and information, making new stars along the way. "Marketplace of Ideas" will explore what these developments mean for personal privacy, social relations, trust in institutions and new business models.

Kim Kardashian earlier revealed "big plns" for Armenia.

## Concert of AI-music opens WCIT congress in Armenia

The WCIT World Orchestra, conducted by Sergey Smbatyan, performs the first ever concert of music written live by artificial intelligence.

The WCIT World Orchestra is formed of more than 120 musicians from all over the world, including members of the Armenian State Symphony Orchestra.

The concert opens this year's World Congress

of Information Technology, one of the largest IT events in the world, which is currently being held in Yerevan, Armenia.

The concert highlights this years'



WCIT theme of artificial intelligence, and will also include state-of-the-art visualisations appearing behind the orchestra as they perform.

The special composition will be written on the spot by the new technology - developed specifically for this concert. Using machine-learning, the technology has been fed thousands of pieces of traditional Armenian music over an eight-month period in order to create a new Armenian-style piece for the opening ceremony of WCIT 2019.

The musicians will receive the AI-composed scores live onto individual iPads as it is being composed, which they, plus conductor Sergey Smbatayan, will sight-read live for the audience.

They have practiced the process with the technology in rehearsals, but the first time they see this particular composition will be on stage this evening.

## Guests arriving in Armenia for World Congress on IT

Guests are arriving in Yerevan for the World Congress on IT to be held in Armenia's capital from October 6 to 9.

System Of A Down frontman Serj Tankian, Founder and SEO of GIPHY Alex Chung, Senior Vice President of Pixar Animation Studios Katherine Sarafian, Editor of Defense & Aerospace Report Vago Muradian has arrived in Armenia, CEO of FIFA Foundation Youri Djorkaeff has arrived in Armenia, Managing Director and Head of Transformation BMP Paribas Neil Bansal, President of San Jose State University Dr. Mary A. Papazian, Yale-MIT Technologist-Turned-Technoskeptic, Author

and Commentator Eric Brende, Executive Director of Berkley SkyDeck Caroline Winnett, co-founder of Infosys Narayana Murthy, CTO for Europe and Latin America of Ericsson Javier Garcia Gomez have already arrived in Yerevan.

The WCIT will be opened by the first ever concert of AI-written music, in



which the musicians perform the score live as it is composed. The WCIT World Orchestra, which consists of over 120 musicians from 15 countries, will perform a piece of music composed by artificial intelligence for an audience of spectators in Republic Square, Yerevan.

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ten on the spot by the new technology – developed specifically for this concert. Using machine-learning, the technology



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The heading is authored by Gourgen James Khazhakian, Chief Correspondent

### "ARPI" NATURAL-HISTORICAL RESERVE

Vayots Dzor Marz, Areni Village



Prince House of Syunik were very active here.

The monastery complex surrounded by higher cliffs includes St. Karapet Church, which was originally built in the IXth century. The complex also includes St. Stepanos Church and its Courtyard (XIII c.), St. Gregoy the Illuminator Mausoleum-Church (XIII century) and other monastic buldings. The crown of the Noravank monastery and the Orbelian construction works in general is fairly considered a genius work by architect Momik, - St. Astvatsatsin - Burtelashen two-storied mausoleum - church (1339) and hand-made khachkars of the great master.

Renovation works in the complex were carried out in 1988-1999.

In 2011 the complex was given to the

Arpi Natural-Historical Reserve was established in November` 1988 by the decision of the Council of Ministers of the Armenian SSR.

It is located in the administrative territory of Areni Village of Vayots Dzor Marz, in the area on South of the second kilometer of the Areni-Yeghegnadzor highway, in the Noravank Gorge. The reserve covers a total



area of about 200 hectares, 40 hectares of which are karst caves Bears, Mozrov, Magili and Trchni (Bird). The total length of the Gorge from North to South is 8 km. The Gnishik River originates from the Noravank Gorge, water of which gave birth the rich flora of the reserve with its "golden stock" that encompasses about 200 endemic species. The fauna of the Reserve is also diverse.

The greatest medieval treasure of the Arpi Natural Historical Reserve is the medieval historical-architectural complex of Noravank. It was the Seat of the Syunik Diocese



in XII-XIV centuries. Reps of the Orbelyan



Mother See of Echmiadzin and it is a functioning spiritual center now.

In 2010 museum dedicated to the life and activity of architect Momik has also been opened here.

Address: Vayots Dzor Marz, Areni Village Working days and hours of the Reserve: Tuesday-Saturday, 9.00 - 17.30.

Sunday: 9.00 - 15.30 The day-off is Monday.

### "AGARAK" HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL RESERVE

"Agarak" Historical and Cultural Reserve is located in the administrative districts of Agarak and Voskehat rural communities of Aragatsotn Marz, on both sides of the Yerevan-Ashtarak-Gyumri highway, on the rocky promontory (cape) of volcanic tufa on the right bank of the Amberd River. One of the main features of the Monument/state index 2.4.1/ is that the whole area and surroundings of the settlement are completely

such conformations are ritual-worshipping structures. Some of them are considered to be Hittite, and a considerable part looks like Phrygian for specialists, in particular being associated with the Great Mother of Gods, the Ruler of the Mountains, Forests and Animals, and the fertility sponsoring Goddess Kibela.

Taking into account the unique role and significance of the Agarak ancient set-

these times of habitation of Agarak to the Middle Ages of Shengavit or Qura-Arax archeological culture dating back to BC 29-27 centuries. The presence of an Urartian cave masoleum, an Urartian-stamped huge pots buried there and pottery on the southern side of the platform allows us to say that the Agarak archaeological site was inhabited in the BC 8-6th centuries as well. After the collapse of the Van Kingdom, Agarak was a large urban-type settlement.

Big number of winepresses found in the rocky caverns located at the excavation sites testifies that viticulture and winemaking played a special role in the life of the farmers of Agarak. Being one of the most important hubs of the trade route from Ayrarat to Shirak and Ani, the economic and commercial life of this settlement flourishes especially from the BC 4th-3rd centuries to AC 2nd-4th centuries.

This is evidenced by a silver drachma of Alexander the Great and a silver dinar of Augustus Octavianos found in layers of colored pottery typical of the urban culture of the Hellenistic and Late Antiquity, as well as by a few silver seal rings found in burials (cut in rock) of the late Hellenistic period. The last stage of the settlement of the Agarak archaeological site is presented with materials typical for the 17-18th centuries (pottery, hearth basises, copper coins issued by the Khanate of Yerevan).



surrounded by huge complexes of rocky (with caverns cut inside) and stone structures, most of which are interconnected with the Early Bronze Age settlement of Agarak.

There are caverns cut in the rocks, stairs leading to those caverns, and other structures. Due to all these shapes, as well as



circular, horseshoe, cellular cuts, streams interconnecting those cuts, three-top or table-like places for sacrifice, the natural landscape has become a giant monument. A such an example of a ritual landscape having 200 hectares area was not documented in the Armenian Highlands until the excavations at Agarak. According to unanimous opinion of archaeologists studying these monuments, the rocks covered with

tlement-monument in the study of socio-cultural issues of the earliest period of Armenia, the Government of Armenia, with its decision N 1305 of December 29, 2001, granted "Agarak" ancient settlement a status of a museum-reserve. And, according to decision 1204-N of November 24, 2016, the area of the "Agarak" Historical and Cultural Reserve was designated 118.2 hectares, and was transferred to the category of specially protected land and given to the "Service of Protection of Historical-Cultural Museums and Historical Environment" SNCO of the

Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Armenia on the gratuitous and unlimited base.

## Historical Overview

The large number of excavated pottery, burned claymade statuettes, remains of round and horseshoe hearths, pedestals allow to attribute



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### **VivaCell-MTS: Lighting to Prevent Possible Bear Invasion**



For the residents of Arpi, a village in Vayots Dzor region, the last two months of summer passed in an unusual regime. The villagers had to establish a night guard shift to protect the residents from the possible bears' invasion of the village. The wild animals would particularly target the parts of the village which remained dark in night time. The lighted and crowded main street did not attract the bears. Solving the problem of the secondary streets lighting is now a priority in Arpi.

The main street of the village, an approximately 2 km long section, was illuminated last year with the support of VivaCell-MTS and the Foundation for the Preservation of Wildlife and Cultural Assets (FPWC). The partners have installed 51 LED lamps here. The second phase of the project has kicked off. Another 60 lamps will be needed to light the four other streets of the village. As a result, 2250 m will be illuminated. The safety and community budget saving problems of the biodiversity-rich settlement will

be solved.

"The program implemented in remote villages has always been seen from the perspectives of energy saving, economic efficiency, creation of civilized conditions and environmental issues. The problem of safety is taken into consideration, too, and it is not by occasion. Borderland villages face the issue of protecting themselves



from the enemy, while other villages have an issue with animal invasions. To provide all that, it is said at least 80% of a village has to have lighting. And that implies a bigger project. To reach as many people's needs as possible we oftentimes opt for stage by stage solution: we illuminate the main streets first, and then move on to secondary ones. And it is important to see that the program serves its purpose," VivaCell-MTS Founding General Manager Ralph C. Yirikian said.

The opportunity of developing infrastruc-

tures with modern technologies and the work performed by technical staff have inspired the residents. The efficiency of the LED lamps lighting system has already been tangible in the village. The head of the village states: the cost is low and the lighting is satisfying.

"This summer, our village was heavily covered by the news. The reason was the bears causing major damage to the villagers' properties. I think things will change after the implementation of the second phase of the street lighting program. These lamps are energy-saving and powerful. Their technical capacities ensure good lighting and significantly reduce the energy consumption. The result is obvious as compared to regular lamps," said the head of village administration Gagik Hovsepyan.

The partner organizations continue to focus on infrastructure development project. The problems are being identified; solutions are planned and implemented in different settlements of Armenia.



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## A year without Charles Aznavour

By Siranush Chazanhyan

A year ago, the world lost Charles Aznavour – an artist, singer, composer, humanist and one of the greatest variety performers of the 20th century.

During a career spanning for 70 years, Aznavour recorded over 1,400 songs in nine languages and sold 200 million albums worldwide. He had 250 duets with the biggest names, appeared in 90 films and received over 500 awards.

The legendary French Armenian singer passed away on October 1, 2018 aged 94.

On October 5 France paid a national homage to Aznavour in a ceremony chaired by French President Emmanuel Macron and Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan.

Aznavour was buried in a family vault outside Paris after a private funeral at the



city's St John the Baptist Armenian cathedral

## Drone carrying Artsakh flag flown during FK Qarabag's match against F91 Dudelange



FK Qarabag's Europa League group stage match against F91 Dudelange was temporarily suspended on Thursday night after a drone carrying the flag of the Artsakh Republic was flown over the stadium.

Azerbaijani side Qarabag were

leading their Luxembourg opponents 2-0 when the drone appeared over Dudelange's Stade Jos Nosbaum.

Qarabag forward Abdellah Zoubir picked up the ball and attempted to kick it into the airborne drone, before the match was suspended.

## Google has graciously offered to sponsor entry tickets to WCIT 2019 for 15 deserving Armenian students.

Alexander Yesayan, WCIT 2019 Organizing Committee President and chairman of the Union of Advanced Technology Enterprises (UATE) welcomed Google's step, and pledged to match this commitment, bringing the total number of WCIT 2019 admissions awarded to students 30.

The tickets will be awarded to the first 30 qualified applicants. On October 3 at 9AM, the WCIT 2019 Facebook page will announce the application, where applicants will be asked to give their name, last name, and other information and attach a passport copy and proof of current enrollment in school.

"UATE truly appreciates the importance



of education and industry exposure for preparing Armenia's next generation of tech professionals. Previously, the WCIT 2019 organizing committee awarded 100 free tickets to the best students of Armenian universities that specialize in IT, Engineering and Natural Sciences," said UATE

Chair Alexander Yesayan.

Lecturers, students, and academics have exclusive opportunities for participation in WCIT 2019.

Mr. Yesayan was personally on sight at the Demirchyan Complex to oversee the final preparations for WCIT 2019. Images from the venue are available on the WCIT 2019 Flickr account.

WCIT 2019 will be held in Yerevan on October 6-9, 2019. The Congress is hosted by Armenia with the support and under the high patronage of the Government of the Republic of Armenia.

City Spa, one of the founders of Aesthetic medicine in Armenia, that was established 14 years ago, is still following the main principles that were implemented since the launch: to use only clinically and scientifically approved, highly effective and safe with FDA approval products and equipments imported mainly from UK and Europe.

**Depilation:** Last year City Spa launched a very safe, painless and fast acting new machine for permanent hair removal. It is the "Primelase" produced by Cocoon Medical. The machine has an innovative





international leading brands such as ZO Skin health (Beverly Hills US), GLO therapeutics (ColoradoUS). Skin Ceuticals (US) etc.

## And that's not the all: pedicure, manicure and massage will make your day.

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method (dynamic mode) which allows to treat very large areas of the body within few minutes.

Localized fat removal: In Armenia the first cryolipolysis method was implemented by City Spa in 2016. Cooltech is an innovative machine that acts as a none surgical lyposaction, with a new method of cryolipolysis for permanent localized fat removal and body reconturing. It is safe, painless and very effective. City Spa is equipped also with the Wellashape machine for anti-cellulite treatment.

Anti aging Facial treatments and Care: City Spa offers the latest scientifically approved anti aging treatments and products for care. The doctors are regularly improving their qualifications in London and Paris, bringing the new inventions to Armenia. The products used in City Spa are only





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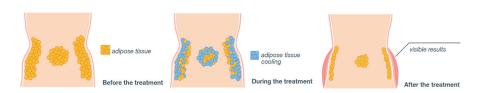


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