

Armenian opposition in limbo after government crackdown

Armenia's major opposition parties remain vague on their immediate steps after Prosperous Armenia (BHK), admittedly the most influential of them, came under huge government pressure earlier this month.

The BHK led by tycoon Gagik Tsarukyan dramatically toned down its criticism of President Serzh Sargsyan and his government after suffering the consequences of what appeared to be a crackdown unleashed by the head of state.

Serzh Sargsyan and senior members of his ruling Republican Party of Armenia (HHK) lashed out at Tsarukyan on February 12 after the BHK leader effectively presented them with an "ultimatum" - to give up controversial plans for a constitutional reform or face sustained street protests seeking to oust the current administration.

After a number of BHK members were detained on suspicion of "illegally possessing weapons" and the government ordered tax inspections of businesses owned by Tsarukyan's extended family, the BHK leader made conciliatory



remarks, calling for "peaceful ways" of settling disputes. The BHK effectively stopped its criticism of the government and scheduled a party convention for March 5. Many political observers expect Tsarukyan to step down as chairman of the BHK and retire from politics, which

is one of the key demands of the HHK for the pressure to stop.

Meanwhile, the two opposition parties - the Armenian National Congress (HAK) and Heritage - that formed an informal coalition with the BHK last year

continued on page 10

In This Issue	
Armenian Parliament rejects opposition bill on 'Government Crisis'	p.3
ANC leader announces two month break in street protests	p.4
Electricity tariff hike not excluded	p.6
South Dakota House recognizes Armenian Genocide	p.14
Pope Francis declares Armenian Saint Gregory of Narek Doctor of the Church	p.16

Noyan Tapan Printing House

is offering coloured and black and white offset and digital printing of books, brochures, booklets, journals, etc with high quality and low prices Tel: 060 27 64 62

Address: Isahakyan 28, 3rd floor, Yerevan 0009

Noyan Tapan Video Studio

is offering professional video and photography for indoor and outdoor events such as weddings, birthday parties, official events, seminars and conferences. Tel: 060 27 64 62

Address: Isahakyan 28, 3rd floor, Yerevan 0009

Armenia, Qatar keen to develop mutually beneficial relations

Ali Bin Hamad Al Sulaiti, the newly-appointed Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the State of Qatar to the Republic of Armenia, on February 24 handed over his credentials to President Serzh Sargsyan.

The President congratulated the newly-appointed ambassador and wished him success, expressing the hope that during his tenure he would spare no effort to strengthen and enhance cooperation between Armenia and Qatar.

Serzh Sargsyan noted that Armenia attached great importance to deepening of relations with Gulf states, including Qatar. Stressing that the current effective and multifaceted collaboration between

Armenia and a series of Arab countries has been rooted in an age-old and honest friendship between the Armenian and Arab peoples, the Armenian President expressed confidence that it could provide a firm foundation for Armenian-Qatari relations to successfully develop in all mutually beneficial sectors.

Ambassador Ali Bin Hamad Al Sulaiti assured that he would put every effort into developing bilateral relations and realizing, as he characterized, the full cooperation potential.

The interlocutors placed great value on the activities of the inter-governmental commission and the expansion of legal framework to stimulate multi-sectoral col-



laboration between Armenia and Qatar.

At the meeting, the sides also touched upon current regional and international issues.

Minsk Group Co-Chairs have not called for return of Azeri saboteurs: Armenian FM

Armenian Foreign Minister Edward Nalbandian has dismissed reports that the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs raised the issue of return of the two Azeri saboteurs during the recent visit to Yerevan.

"The crimes committed by the two Azeri saboteurs, including the kidnapping and brutal killing of a teenager, have been revealed, documented and proved," Minister Nalbandian said at the National Assembly.

"The international community is well aware of how Azerbaijan welcomes and glorifies the murderers, as it happened in the case of Safarov and not only. Naturally, the international community speaks about

humanism. But what humanism can one speak about in case of Azerbaijan?" Minister Nalbandian said.

He reminded that a number of Armenian nationals were humiliated and killed in Azerbaijan. He further recalled Baku's refusal to accept the calls of the international organization, including the International Committee of the Red Cross, the OSCE and the Minsk Group Co-Chairs to create conditions for retrieving the bodies of the pilots of the downed helicopter.

"I do not even speak about how 'the great humanists' in Baku are persecuting their own citizens every day, especially the proponents of peace, tolerance, reconcilia-



tion and humanism," Edward Nalbandian added.

"All this comes to prove that Azerbaijan has its unique perception of humanism, and uses it to deepen hatred and xenophobia," the Foreign Minister stated.

Iraq's Transport Minister visits Armenian Genocide Memorial



The delegation headed by Iraq's Transport Minister Jabr Al-Zubeidi visited the Tsitsernakaberd Memorial in Yerevan.

The guests laid wreaths at the Armenian Genocide Memorial and paid tribute to their memory with a minute of silence.

Deputy Director of the Armenian Genocide Museum Institute Suren Manukyan presented the history of construction of the Tsitsernakaberd memorial.

Members of the Iraqi delegation visited the

temporary exhibition hall of AGMI and watched the expo on the Armenian Genocide.



Armenian Parliament rejects opposition bill on 'Government Crisis'



The Armenian National Assembly on February 25 turned down an opposition-drafted resolution describing the current situation in the country as a "government crisis" and calling for measures to deal with it.

Sixty-seven members of the 131-seat legislature dominated by representatives of the ruling Republican Party of Armenia (HHK) voted against the bill, with only 16 deputies supporting it. Six lawmakers abstained from voting.

The debate and vote on the resolution drafted jointly by the opposition Armenian National Congress and its two allies,

Heritage and the Prosperous Armenia Party (BHK), still last fall took place in the absence of the latter. The BHK faction that has more than three dozen members said on Monday it would boycott the four-day session to protest the government crackdown on their leader, embattled tycoon Gagik Tsarukyan.

On February 12, President Serzh Sargsyan, who also heads the HHK, lashed out at Tsarukyan, describing him as "evil" and saying that he should not be allowed in politics. In the following days a number of Tsarukyan loyalists were detained on suspicion of illegally possessing weapons in cases that the police said had nothing to do with their party affiliation. But the BHK said the detentions were an attempt to impose political pressure on announced plans for a joint opposition protest on February 20 to demand Sargsyan's resignation. The party called off the rally after Tsarukyan issued a statement two days prior to the gathering, saying that he was ready to settle all disputes through "peaceful, lawful, and political means".

The BHK's absence in the parliament was construed differently by the government and opposition parties. During the debate on the opposition bill Deputy Parliament Speaker Eduard Sharmazanov, a senior member of the HHK, implied that among other things the BHK walkout meant that the Tsarukyan party did not want to take part in the debate and the vote on the resolution.

Hermine Naghdalyan, the other deputy speaker of parliament representing the HHK, also attacked the opposition, saying that if there was any crisis in Armenia it was within the opposition itself.

"The opposition is lame in both feet," Naghdalian charged. "I don't share the optimism that the opposition can overcome this ailment quickly, because it started to limp not recently, but a long time ago."

Earlier, HAK parliamentary leader Levon Zurabyan warned the government against further pressure on the BHK, saying that "even if the opposition is lame today, it will quickly recover from its foot injury."

Tsarukyan Party confirms meeting with Prime Minister

A group of members of the Prosperous Party of Armenia (BHK) led by embattled tycoon Gagik Tsarukyan recently met with the Armenian prime minister to discuss "problems related to small and medium-sized enterprises", a senior party member confirmed on February 25.

Talking to RFE/RL's Armenian Service, Naira Zohrabyan, the secretary of the BHK parliamentary faction, declined to elaborate on the agenda of the meeting with Hovik Abrahamyan or name the party members who participated in it.

The meeting with Prime Minister Abrahamian, a senior member of the ruling Republican Party of Armenia (HHK) who is also in-laws with Tsarukyan, took place against the backdrop of a government crackdown against the BHK that included detentions of several members and inspections of some of the businesses belonging to Tsarukyan loyalists. Earlier this month Abrahamian himself ordered members of his government to look into "unverified reports" implicating Tsarukyan in large-

scale tax evasion.

What many BHK members described as political reprisals followed an angry speech by President Serzh Sargsyan at the meeting of senior members of his ruling HHK on February 12 when he described Tsarukyan as a man of low intellectual ability who was "evil" for the country and had to be excluded from the political process. Sargsyan was apparently irked by Tsarukyan's earlier "ultimatum" to give up a planned constitutional reform or face large-scale street protests. Many in the opposition camp in Armenia believe Serzh Sargsyan plans the reform to be able to stay in power after leaving his presidential post in 2018. Sargsyan himself has repeatedly denied the

assumption, stressing that the reform is needed for the further democratization of Armenia and strengthening of its political system.

After several days of a tense standoff, Tsarukyan reportedly met with Sargsyan and shortly after that unconfirmed meeting he came up with a statement advocating a "peaceful way" of settling disputes.

After those conciliatory remarks the BHK has been vague on its further opposition to the Sargsyan government that appears to be adamant in its demand that Tsarukyan quit politics.

The BHK plans to hold its "extraordi-

continued on page 4

Noyan Tapan Press-Center

Noyan Tapan Press Center holds different discussions, press conferences, round tables, teleconferences, seminars each week which are broadcast live on the Internet. We invite you to take advantage of the Center, as well as to place your banner in our Press Room.

Tel: 060 27 64 62. Address: Isahakyan 28, 3rd floor

March 1 Rally: ANC leader announces two- month break in street protests

The opposition Armenian National Congress (ANC) will hold no rallies for at least two months, the opposition party's leader Levon Ter-Petrosyan told several thousand supporters who gathered in Yerevan's Liberty Square on March 1 afternoon.



Ter-Petrosyan said the decision was based on the current reality in which, according to him, the ANC again remains alone in the opposition camp. He said that time is needed to assess the potential for further struggle by means of rallies.

The ANC had planned to participate in a joint rally with Heritage and the Prosperous Armenia Party (PAP) on February 20, but after the PAP effectively pulled out of the opposition coalition following a government crackdown earlier last month, the Ter-Petrosyan-led party decided to schedule its rally for March 1, which marks the seventh anniversary of the deadly 2008 post-election clashes.

In explaining his decision to declare a pause in rallies, Ter-Petrosyan also said that the ANC did not want to obstruct in any way the organization and holding of events commemorating the centennial of the Armenian Genocide in Ottoman Turkey. The main events are due to take place on April 24.

After the rally, ANC supporters marched towards the Myasnikyan Statue, the scene of the most violent clashes between demonstrators and security forces on March 1-2, 2008. They laid flowers at the monument in memory of the 10 people who were killed in the unrest that night.

Armenian authorities show proof of Permyakov handover request

Armenian authorities have presented a photocopy of an official document sent from Russia acknowledging the receipt of Yerevan's formal request for the transfer to Armenian custody of a Russian soldier accused of killing seven members of a single family in Armenia last month.

In a statement released on Tuesday, the Prosecutor's Office also said that the request submitted by Armenian Prosecutor-General Gevorg Kostanyan in a letter addressed to his Russian counterpart Yuri Chaika on February 3 is "being considered by partners in the Russian Federation."

The publication of the document dated February 20 follows a series of media publications in Armenia casting doubts that the Armenian authorities have ever submitted a formal request for Valery



Permyakov, a 19-year-old soldier from the Russian military base stationed in Gyumri, to be handed over to Armenian jurisdiction.

The man charged with killing seven members of the Avetisyan family, including a two-year-old girl and six-month-old boy, in a January 12 shooting rampage in Gyumri is currently kept at the base and, as authorities in Moscow say, will be tried by a Russian military court.

On January 15, hundreds of protesters demanding that Permyakov be transferred to Armenian custody clashed with police in the northwestern Armenian city. Prosecutor-General Kostanyan promised then that he would seek Armenian jurisdiction over the case.

The statement issued by the Prosecutor's Office follows protests by relatives of the murdered family, who gathered in the provincial prosecutor's office in Gyumri on Monday demanding a meeting with Kostanyan. They also called on the authorities to provide definitive answers, including on the Permyakov custody issue, and threatened to hold more protests in the city on Friday if their demands are not met.



Tsarukyan Party confirms meeting...

From page 3

nary" convention on March 5 and, according to Zohrabyan, Tsarukyan, who has not been seen in public in recent days, is going to attend the event. Neither Zohrabyan nor other representatives of the BHK have dis-

closed any details of the agenda of the upcoming convention.

Earlier, some Armenian media alleged that Tsarukyan may step down as BHK leader soon, becoming "honorary chairman" of the party with no real instruments to influence its policies.



Armenia considers tax advantages for large exporters



A government-drafted bill setting a considerably reduced profit tax rate for large-scale exporters has sparked debate in Armenia after reaching the National Assembly this week.

In an effort to attract more foreign investment, the Armenian government last month unveiled its plans to cut the tax from 20 to just 2 percent for manufacturing companies annually exporting at least 50 billion drams (\$106 million) worth of goods other than metals and ores.

An elaborated bill setting the export volume threshold at \$40 billion drams (about \$84 million) and envisaging a 5-percent corporate profit tax was put on the agenda of this week's four-day session at the National Assembly.

The parliament leadership first designated the bill as "urgent" that required that it had to be debated and voted on within 48 hours, but on February 26 Parliament Speaker Galust Sahakyan said that the vote on the bill is likely to take place in early March.

Still when presenting the bill at the Cabinet meeting on January 23 Prime Minister Hovik Abrahamyan said: "This is one of the unconventional government steps aimed at stimulating exports."

According to the National Statistical

Service, Armenian exports fell by 22 percent last month as compared with the volumes reported for January 2014. Copper, other base metals and ore concentrates traditionally account for a large part of the export revenue. The government said the proposed tax advantages do not apply to companies engaged in the mining industry.

Despite the government's assurances that the proposed bill will stimulate exports and will also mean more jobs and other tax revenues, many opposition members in the parliament voiced skepticism and pointed at what they believe are pitfalls in the new legislation.

"We consider it as a step aimed at monopolizing foreign trade, another disgraceful step that will ensure super profits for those in the government and will again deprive small and medium-sized enterprises of all opportunities," said Levon Zurabyan, the head of the opposition Armenian National Congress faction.

Hovannes Markaryan, of Orinats Yerkir, meanwhile, noted that the legislation primarily targets foreign investors as there are no such large exporters among manufacturing companies inside Armenia.

"It is clear that our citizens who are engaged in exporting businesses will not be able to take advantage of these tax privileges," he said.

Opposition lawmaker Hrant Bagratyan, who headed the Armenian government in 1993-1996, spoke in favor of providing businesses with tax breaks, but he called for a level-playing field, saying that all exporters should be able to use this opportunity.

Meanwhile, members of the ruling Republican Party of Armenia (HHK)

defended the bill, saying there is no issue of concrete personalities in it. HHK member Vardan Ayvazyan said he would welcome any businessman who makes investments for setting up an exporting business in Armenia.

Earlier, during the first day of the debate on Wednesday, another majority party lawmaker Garegin Nushikyan said that even if a scenario presented by the opposition lawmakers is realized and everything is concentrated in the hands of just one organization, there will be "nothing terrible" about it.

Member of the Armenian Revolutionary Federation Artsvik Minasyan, meanwhile, expressed concern about possible situations when essential goods will be exported from Armenia in large quantities which would lead to a sharp rise in prices. He called on the government to find ways to prevent such possible scenarios.

In postponing the debate and vote on the bill Parliament Speaker Sahakyan said on Thursday that the decision will give the lawmakers more time to discuss the bill.

Meanwhile, opposition lawmaker Khachatur Kokobelyan believes the reason for the decision was "technical". The HHK did not have enough deputies in the chamber to ensure the passage of the bill, he said.

Kokobelyan voiced concerns that exports in Armenia may be monopolized, which, in his opinion, is fraught with risks of more government corruption. "In practice it will be the government that will decide who should be provided with these privileges and who should not," the opposition lawmaker said.

World Food Program Representative, Armenian FM discuss issues of future cooperation



On February 24, Representative of World Food Programme Pascal Misho presented the copies of her credentials to Foreign Minister of Armenia Edward

Nalbandian.

Welcoming the guest, Minister Nalbandian wished good luck in the realization of her mission, and expressed hope that the Representative would foster the deepening of the cooperation between the Government of Armenia and the World Food Programme, productive implementation of joint projects.

Expressing gratitude for the reception

and kind wishes, Pascal Misho assured that she will do her utmost to productively implement the projects currently being realized in Armenia.

During the meeting questions on the cooperation between the World Food Programme and the Government of Armenia and the local authorities were discussed, current programs and perspective projects were touched upon.

Electricity tariff hike not excluded

Armenia is conducting negotiations with Russia for the price of natural gas not to be raised in the near future, the chief of a state regulatory body has told Armenian lawmakers.

During a question-and-answer session in the Armenian parliament on February 25, Robert Nazaryan, the head of the Public Services Regulatory Commission (PSRC), was asked whether a rise in electricity prices was expected this or next year.

Nazaryan first said that the tariffs for electricity and natural gas are "directly interrelated" and then cited "fluctuations" of the national currency exchange rate as a major factor in determining energy tariffs.

The Armenian dram lost more than 15 percent of its value against the U.S. dollar and other major international currencies late last year.

"In this connection at this moment the Armenian side is conducting negotiations with the Russian side for the natural gas price not to be raised because of the dram-dollar fluctuations," said Nazaryan without disclosing any details of the negotiations.

He said that only after the completion of these talks electricity producing stations in Armenia and companies participating in the country's energy market will be able to evaluate the situation and make corresponding requests related to electricity tariffs. "At this moment the situation is still uncertain," the official said.

The PSRC raised the energy price by 27 percent in July 2013, pointing to the increased cost of Russian natural gas, which generates more than one-third of Armenia's electricity. The price went up by another 10 percent in July 2014 as the PSRC cited the need to end mounting



financial losses incurred by the Electricity Networks of Armenia, a Russian-owned national power utility.

Remarkably, in December 2013 when Armenia sold its remaining 20-percent share in the domestic gas distribution network to Russia's state-run gas monopoly Gazprom, chief of the Armenian president's staff Vigen Sargsyan declared that as a result of the sale the price of Russian natural gas supplied to Armenia would not be changed in the next five years.

Armenian IT Firms to Showcase Products in Germany

Several Armenian IT companies will showcase their products at CeBIT 2015, the largest technology exhibition in Europe set for March 16 to 20 in Hanover, Germany, the Union of Information Technology Enterprises (UITE) of Armenia reports. Armenian companies that will be in attendance include Volo, Altacode, E-Works, IU Networks, Technology and Science Dynamics, and others. "Armenia has traditionally participated in this largest European exhibition, but this year is different. This year Armenia participates with a separate pavilion called 'Surprising Engineering and Why Armenia,'" UITE deputy director Hayk Chobanyan said.

The participation of Armenian companies is being coordinated by UITE with the assistance of a specialized agency of the Netherlands' Ministry of Foreign Affairs for promotion of developing countries.

CeBIT is an international platform for discovering the latest IT trends, establishment of business relations and showcasing of products.

CeBIT annually attracts more than 4,000 companies from 70 countries, while the number of visitors exceeded 310,000 from about 110 countries.

Capacity building for six startup teams from Armenia and Turkey

Eighteen young entrepreneurs from Armenia and Turkey will start an intensive 4 months capacity building program as part of the Technology Goes Beyond Borders project (TGBB) funded by the U.S. Embassy in Armenia. The project gives young ICT entrepreneurs from Armenia and Turkey an opportunity to build their capacity through mentorship support and training, advancement of their startups and collaborative partnerships. The project is implemented by the Microsoft Innovation Center and Public Journalism Club in collaboration with the Economic Policy Research Foundation of Turkey (TEPAV).

Three teams from Armenia and three teams from Turkey are enrolled in the project. The teams will have two rounds of online mentorship sessions with select-

ed mentors from Armenia and Turkey and will get together in Armenia for a 4-day crash course at Microsoft Innovation Center. In the first stage of the capacity building program (February 23-March 23, 2015) the mentors will work with teams to identify and address their needs through online sessions. The course in Armenia (March 26-29) will be tailored to the needs of teams and will also focus on such areas as technological capacity, customer development/acquisition, business modelling and developing an impressive pitch. During the second round of mentorship sessions (April 2015) the teams will get support in fine-tuning their ideas and preparing their pitches. In May, the representative of the teams will meet in Armenia once again to pitch their ideas to investors from Armenia and Turkey.



EU remains committed to strengthening bilateral cooperation with Armenia



"Despite Armenia's decision in September 2013 not to sign the Association Agreement/DCFTA with the EU but rather join the Eurasian Economic Union (EEU), the EU remains committed to further engage with Armenia, and to strengthen bilateral cooperation within the Eastern Partnership, in all areas compatible with Armenia's more recent policy choices," Head of the EU Delegation to Armenia Traian Hristea at the conference on "EU-Armenia Cooperation: Perspective in the Actual Political Environment"

"Currently, we are reflecting jointly with our Armenian counterparts on the scope for future EU-Armenia relations. Following the Joint Statement issued at EaP Vilnius summit November 2013 both sides have started a joint reflection on how to revisit the legal basis for their relations," he said.

"On 4 November 2014, the EU and Armenia have launched in Brussels a scoping exercise on the future legal and political framework for EU-Armenia relations, based on information as regards to

Armenia's EEU commitments and their possible implications on future relations with EU. Both sides agreed to "safeguard" the negotiated but not initialled AA/DCFTA and to use it as reference to this aim," Hristea added.

"As long as good governance, reform of the judiciary, rule of law, human rights do not form part of the official Eurasian integration process, there is plenty of room for the EU to engage Armenia, and for Armenia to demonstrate their commitment to reform. The upcoming human rights sector budget support is in that regard a welcome step - and at the same time a litmus test, for which the more-for-more principle also applies," the Head of EU Delegation said.

He also attached importance to making best use of the significant EU assistance of 140-170 million EUR for the period of 2014-2017, focusing on private sector development, public administration reform and justice sector reform.

"Moreover, we need to further promote mobility of citizens of Armenia and people-to-people contacts once a steady and satisfactory implementation of the visa facilitation and readmission agreements is confirmed. Negotiating a Comprehensive Air Transport Agreement with Armenia is a policy objective outlined in the Eastern Partnership Road Map. Armenia has expressed interest and readiness to negotiate the agreement and the European

Commission sent a fact finding mission to assess the possibility of preparing a mandate for negotiations. We will also need to strengthen our cooperation within the EaP's multilateral dimension in 2015, in particular the four multilateral platforms and the flagship initiatives and contribute together to the success of the 4th EaP Summit in Riga. And last but not least to continue the EaP-related dialogue during the Euronest meeting in Yerevan at the parliamentary level," Hristea stated.

The envoy said "the EU is seriously concerned over the security situation in the region, especially after the unprecedented increase of tension and recent events at the line of contact in Nagorno-Karabakh." "The protracted Nagorno-Karabakh conflict does not have a military solution and the status quo is unsustainable. Although we are not part of the OSCE Minsk group negotiation mechanism, the EU further supports efforts towards peace through the EUSR and peacebuilding activities."

"The EU also continues to support the normalisation of Armenian-Turkish relations and encourages both sides to remain committed to the process of normalisation without preconditions, despite the withdrawal of protocols signed back in 2009 from parliaments of both countries. This year's commemoration of atrocities committed by the Ottoman Empire also is considered by us a test-case for Armenia-Turkey relations," he stated.

Rep. Sherman calls on Secretary Kerry to "show courage" and recognize the Armenian Genocide

Congressman Brad Sherman (D-CA) - speaking today from the dais of the U.S. House Foreign Affairs Committee - directly called upon Secretary of State John Kerry, and by extension the entire Obama-Biden Administration, to stop enforcing Turkey's gag-rule against an honest American recognition of the Armenian Genocide, reported the Armenian National Committee of America (ANCA).

"As Senator Kerry, you championed recognition of the Armenian Genocide. We are now at the 100th anniversary and I would hope that you would show the courage, that you are personally known for, and on April 24th use the word geno-

cide to describe what happened in Anatolia 100 years ago," urged Rep. Sherman, as part of a series of questions to Secretary Kerry during today's House Foreign Affairs Committee hearing, titled, "Advancing U.S. Interests in a Troubled World: The FY 2016 Foreign Affairs Budget."

Secretary Kerry's response to this question and others submitted by Congressman David Cicilline (D-RI) and several Committee members on a broad range of Armenian American concerns are anticipated in the upcoming weeks.

Rep. Cicilline, a leading voice for Armenian Genocide justice on the

Committee, explained, "Today, at a hearing of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, I directed questions to Secretary of State John Kerry regarding our bilateral relationship with Armenia and the Armenian Genocide. As we prepare to mark the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, it is especially important to raise awareness of these atrocities and work to ensure that the world never again experiences a similar tragedy. I will continue to closely monitor these issues and I look forward to continuing to work with advocates both in my district and across the country, especially the

continued on page 13



YOUR DEAL IS OUR DEAL

www.mrealty.am

Mrealty@list.ru 12 G. Lusavorich str., Yerevan, Armenia

(010) 564631

(010) 562181

1 ROOM

- 1751 Sayat Nova str. 5/4, 69sq.m, 1 bedroom, old renovation. Price: 85.000 USD
- 1639 Zaqian str, 11/9, 52sq.m, capially repaired. Price: 70.000 USD negotiable
- 824 Nalbandyan str, 5/5, 38sq.m, stone bld, old renovation. Price: 60.000 USD
- 1750. Aleq Manukyan str. 5/3, 72sq.m, 1 bedroom, capially repaired. Price:110.000 USD
- 1696.Tumanyan str., 5/4, 67sq.m., stone bld, 1 bedroom, h-3m, capially repaired, heating system. Price: 160.000 USD
- 1680- Mashtots Ave., 5/4, 68sq.m, 1 bedroom, old repair, possibility of gas. Price: 86.000 USD
- 1674. Abovyan str., 2nd floor, 70sq.m., 1 bedroom, capially repaired, heating system. Price: 135.000 USD

2 ROOMS

- 3038.Aram str, Newly built, 15/15, 115sq.m, 2bedrooms, 2bathrooms, capially repaired. Price: 200.000 USD negotiable
- 3037. Paronyan str., Newly built, 11/9, 2edrooms, 1 bathroom, capially repaired. Price: 2000 USD per sq.m.
- 3015.Tsiternakaberd Highway Newly built, 4th floor, 2bedrooms, zero state. Prece: 1100USD per sq.m.
- 3003.Sayat-Nova str, 5/3, 105sq.m, 2bedrooms, stone building, capially repaired. Price: Negotiable
- 1560.Northern Ave., Newly built, 10/3, 130 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, climate control, parking. Price: 400.000 USD
- 2818.Northern Ave., Newly built, 3rd floor, 120sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, Ac, furnished. Price: 400.000USD
- 1156.Komitas Ave., Hambardzumyan str. 5/3, 110sq.m, 2 bedrooms, capially repaired, heating system, kitchen is furnished. Price: 150.000 USD negotiable.
- 2300.Northern ave., Newly built, 6/2, 130 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, parking. Price: 400.000 USD.

3 ROOMS

- 3025.Northern Ave., Newly built, 10/8, 196sq.m, 3bedrooms, 2bathrooms, capially repaired, parking. Price: 650.000 USD negotiable
- 2918.Tumanyan str. 4/4, 182sq.m., stone bld, 3bedrooms, 2 bathroom, capially repaired. Price: 370.000 USD
- 2801.Vardananc str. Newly built, 23/20, 179sq.m, 3bedrooms, 2bathrooms, capially repaired. Price: negotiable
- 3012.Aram str, Newly built, /7th floor, 136sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, parking, facing to bulvar. Price: 300.000 USD negotiable.
- 2998.North Ave, Newly built, 9/6, 181sq.m, 3bedrooms, capially repaired, climate control, parking, Price: 700.000 USD
- 2682.Aram Str., Newly built, 13/6 187sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 open balconies, capially repaired, heating system, 2AC, 2 garages, view to garden. Price: 600.000 USD with furniture.
- 2895.Northern Ave., Newly built, 3rd floor, 300sq.m, 3bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, climate control, AC. Price: negotiable
- 1104.Komitas Ave., Aram Khachatryan str., 5/2, 125sq.m., stone bld, h-2.75m., 3 bedrooms, office, 2 bathrooms, old repair, gas, garage. Price: 130.000 USD
- 2836.Pushkin str., 4/4, 5, 400sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC. Price: 460.000 USD.
- 2990.North Ave., Newly built, 11th floor, 295sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capially repaired, climate control, parking. Price: Negotiable.

PREMISES

- 1789.Charents str. Land-1270sq.m, 5 storied building, each floor-400sq.m., basement, capially repaired, parkings. Price: 4.000.000 USD negotiable
- 1598.Komitas, Nairy Zaryan str., 1000 sq.m., working restaurant, 1st line, capially repaired. Price: negotiable.
- 1603.Northern Ave., Ground floor of the building, 160 sq.m., zero level, window glasses. Price: 2.600.000 USD.
- 2035.Tumanyan str., Ground floor of the building, 220sq.m., 1st line, facade-55m., capially repaired, h-5m., cellar. Price: Negotiable
- 2013.Tumanyan str., Ground floor of the building, 265sq.m., 1st line, capially repaired, heating system, cellar. Price: 1.300.000\$ negotiable
- 2012.Mashtots Ave., 5/1, 2, 140sq.m., window glasses, capially repaired, AC. Price: 850.000 USD negotiable
- 2155.Mashtots ave., 3storied building, 540sq.m., each floor-180sq.m, window glasses, parking. Price: 3.600.000 USD
- 2020.Hr. Kochar str., Land-300sq.m, 1st line, 4storied building, 1080sq.m., each floor-270sq.m, h-3.6m, without divisions, parkings, 3 access. Price: 1.200.000 USD negotiable
- 1986.Cascade, Land 1000sq.m. 3storied building 1200sq.m., unfinished, parking. Price: 1.000.000 USD.
- 2167.Sayat Nova str., newly built, 38sq. m, capially repaired. Price: 200.000 USD
- 2175.Tumanyan str, Ground and 1st floor of the building, 600sq.m, ground floor 300sq.m, 1st floor-220sq.m, basement-80sq.m, - 1st line, zero level, 2 entrances, facade-15m, 4 window glasses, capially repaired, heating system, AC, Price: 3500 USD per sq.m,
- 2172. Isahakyan str, 92sq.m, 1st line, 7 degrees above zero level, facade-9m, 2 window glasses, h-3.20m, 2 halls, cabinet, bathroom, capially repaired, heating system. Price: 450.000 USD

LANDS

- 2122.Davitashen, 1800 sq.m., water, gas, electricity, possible to sell separately 600 sq.m., and 1200 sq.m. Price: 150 USD per sq.m.
- 2121.Demirchyan str., 1338 sq.m., building permits. Price: 2million USD.
- 2013.Cascade. 1000 sq.m. building permits, first line, gas, water and electricity possibilities. Price 460.000USD
- 1402.Hr. Kochar Str., 1100 sq. m., facade -25 m. Price negotiable.
- 2090.Lori region, close to Stepanavan, Gyargyar village, 6 hectares, forest 2 hectare has building permits, 3 water source, electricity. Price: 100.000USD.
- 2406.Avan, Mher Mkrtchyan block, 1000 sq.m., electricity, gas, water, the district is inhabited. Price: 30USD per sq.m
- 2107.Monument, 2400sq.m, building permits, building project. Price: 400 USD per sq.m.
- 2413.Ashtarak roadway, 1000sq.m, building permits, building project. Price: Negotiable
- 2414.Demirchyan str. land-750sq.m., building permits. Price: 750.000 USD.

PRIVATE HOUSES

- 3348.Blur, Barbyus str. Land - 800 sq.m, 3 storied bld.-700 sq.m, 4bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capially repaired, climate control. Price: 1.2 million USD
- 3146.Aygestan, Land-500 sq.m., 5 storied bld-765 sq.m., each floor-180 sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, study, capially repaired, heating system, elevator. Price: 2.300.000 USD.
- 3583.Nork-Marash, Land-1100sq.m, 2 storied bld-520sq.m, 6 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, capially

repaired, heating system, AC, swimming pool, garden. Price: 1.350.000 USD.

- 3432.Aygedzor, Land - 1021 sq m, 3 storied bld.- 501 sq.m., 5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, study, capially repaired, central heating, AC, boiler room garden, swimming pool, sauna, garage, security system. Price: 1.000.000 USD

- 3576.Avan, Tsarav Akhbyur /near Botanical garden/, Land-560sq.m., 4 storied building-560sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 4bathrooms, a kitchen, office, capially repaired, heating system, swimming pool, garden, 2 car parking. Price: 850.000 USD

- 3606.Avan, Tsarav Akhbyur/near Botanical garden/, Land-1000sq.m., 3 storied building-750sq.m., 6 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, capially repaired, heating system swimming pool, garden, sauna, 2 car parking. Price-1.500.000 USD

- 3574.Blur, Land-779sq.m., 2 storied building-720sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, study, capially repaired, heating system, sauna swimming pool, garden. Price: 2.000.000 USD

- 3590 Blur,

- Barbyus str.,

- Land - 450

- sq.m., 4 storied

- building -

- 470sq.m., 3bed-

- rooms, 3 bath-

- rooms, capially

- repaired, heating

- system, AC, garden.

- Price:

- 680.000 USD

- 3651. Blur,

- Barbyus str.,

- Land-900sq.m., 5

- storied building-

- 800sq.m., 4 bed-

- rooms, 3 bath-

- rooms, capially

- repaired, heating

- system, AC, garden.

- Price:

- 1.700.000 USD.

- 3401.Antarayin str, Newly built, land-700sq.m,

- 3 storied bld-690sq.m, 5 bedrooms, capially

- repaired. Price: 1.300.000 USD

- 3712 Cascade Newly built, land-450sq.m, 4 storied bld-600sq.m, zero state. Price: 550.000 USD

NEWLY BUILT RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS

- 132. Vagharshyan str. 11floors, 1-2 floor-commercial areas, from 3rd floor-residential-54-120sq.m, no exploitation fees. Price: Commercial areas-2600 USD per sq.m, Residential- 1100 sq.m, Parking: 13.000 USD
- 137.Nalbandyan str, Construction works will be completed at the end of 2015, Price: Negotiable
- 74.Cascade, Verin Antarayin. 136-315 sq m., walls plastered, electricity, water, gas, euro windows, no exploitation fees. Price: 1200 USD per sq.m, parking -15.000 USD.
- 107.Monument, Verin Antarayin. inhabited, 8 floors, gas, windows, street view -1000 USD per sq.m., city looking -1500 USD per sq.m., parking -4 million USD preliminary.
- 87.Sayat-Nova str., 21 floors, 3 bedrooms -188 sq.m., 199 sq.m., Price 1900 USD per sq.m., 2 bedrooms have a beautiful sight - 117 sq.m., 120 sq.m., 124 sq.m., Price: 1700 USD per sq.m., climate control, gas.
- 94.Masiv. 3floors, 8 flats, each flat has 3 bedrooms, 210 sq.m., parking. Price: negotiable.
- 130.Antarayin str., 34 flats, 110-275 sq.m., 4 penthouses-200-275sq.m, available services-car wash, cleaning service, garbage removal service, parking. Price: Negotiable
- 131.Busand str., commercial, office and residential areas, penthouse, available services-car wash, cleaning service, garbage removal service, parking. Price: Negotiable



YOUR CHOICE IS OUR CHOICE

www.mrealty.am

Mrealty@list.ru

12 G. Lusavorich str., Yerevan, Armenia

(010) 564631

(010) 562181

1 ROOM

- 2037. **Baghramyan str.**, 5/2, 60sqm, 1 bedroom, euro repaired, gas, heating system, AC, modern furnished, equipped. Price: negotiable
- 2189. **Vardanants str.**, Newly built, 24/12, 90 sqm, 1 bedroom, capially repaired, furnished, equipped. Price: 1000 USD.
- 2099. **Sayat-Nova Ave.**, 12/6, 1 bedroom, capially repaired, gas, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped. Price: 600 USD.
- 1972. **Northern ave.**, 8/4, 80sq.m., 1 bedroom, 2 bathrooms, open kitchen, capially repaired, climate control. Price: 1200 USD
- 2171. **Tumanyan str.**, Newly built, 5th floor, 94 sq.m., 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, capially repaired, central heating, furnished, equipped. Price: 1000 USD
- 2367. **Northern ave.**, Newly built, 9th floor, 98 sq.m., capially repaired, heating system, furnished equipped. Price: Negotiable.

2 ROOMS

- 2308 **Vardanants str.** Newly built, 18/15, 135sq.m, 2bedrooms, 2bathrooms, open kitchen, capially repaired, furnished. Price: 2000 USD
- 2302. **Hin Yerevantsi** Newly built, 11/4, 137sq.m, 2bedrooms, 2bathrooms, capially repaired, furnished, parking. Price: 2000 USD
- 2298. **Baghramyan str.** Newly built, 17/14, 127sq.m, 2bedrooms, 1 bathroom, capially repaired, furnished. Price: 1500 USD
- 1780. **Amiryan str.** Newly built, /13th floor, 82 sq.m, 2 bedrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped. Price: 1700 USD negotiable.
- 942. **Teryan str.** 4/3, 130 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, capially repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped. Price: 1500 USD.
- 1950. **Buzand/Mashtots area.** Newly built, 8th floor, 163 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, climate control, furnished, open balcony. Price: 2500 USD.
- 1681. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 6/2, 130 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, parking. Price: 2000 USD.
- 1535. **Busand str.**, Newly built, 7/4, 82sq.m, 2bedrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, parking, furnished, equipped. Price: Negotiable.
- 2089. **Northern ave.**, Newly built, 8/6, 120sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, climate control, furnished, equipped. Price: 2500 USD
- 1738. **Amiryan str.**, 8/8, 159sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, parking. Price: Negotiable
- 1951. **Busand str.**, Newly built, 13th floor, 122sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, climate control. Price: 2500 USD
- 1406. **Sayat Nova ave.**, 7/3, 110sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped. Price: Negotiable
- 2109. **Northern ave.**, Newly built, 10/4, 137sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, central heating, furnished, equipped, parking. Price: 2000 USD.
- 2243. **Buzand str.** Newly built, 17/4, 125sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped. Price: 2000 USD
- **Amiryan str.**, Newly built, 14/5, 120sqm, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, partly furnished. Price 2000 USD

3 ROOMS AND MORE

- 2290 **Bayron str** Newly built, /5th floor, 220sq.m, 2bedrooms, study, 2 bathrooms, open kitchen, capially repaired, climate control, furnished, parking. Price: 4000 USD
- 2309. **Vardanants str.** Newly built, 23/19, 192sq.m, 3bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, guest toilet, capially repaired, furnished, parking. Price: 2500 USD negotiable.

- 2301. **Blur** Newly built, 18/7, 128sq.m, 3bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, furnished, parking. Price: 2500 USD
- 2286. **Sose str.** Newly built, 12/2, 154sq.m, 3bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, furnished, equipped. Price: 1700 USD
- 2257. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 17/16, 160 sq.m., 3 bedrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, parking. Price: Negotiable
- 2021. **Teryan Str.**, Newly built, 9/8, 9, 245 sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, furnished. Preliminary price: 3500 USD.
- 2005. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 8/8, 130 sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, furnished, parking. Price: 2200 USD.
- 1723. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 8/4., 170 sq.m 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, open kitchen, capially repaired, furnished, equipped. Price: 2000 USD.
- 1793. **Teryan str.**, Newly built, 8th floor, 260 sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, study, capially repaired, climate control, parking, unfurnished (possible to furnish). Price: 3500 USD.
- 1720. **Amiryan str.**, Newly built, 16/10, 179 sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, central heating, AC, cellar - 25sq.m, with or without furniture, parking. Price 3000 USD negotiable



- 2195. **Northern ave.**, Newly built, 3rd floor, 300sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, capially repaired, climate control, AC, parking. Price: 5000 USD
- 2261. **Hin Yerevantsi**, /North Avenue/, Newly built, 10/3, 124sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped, parking. Price: 1700 USD
- 2084. **Tumanyan str.**, 4th floor, 200sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, climate control, parking. Price: 5000 USD
- 2252. **Northern ave.**, 7th floor, 350 sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, study, open balconies, capially repaired, climate control, parking. Price Negotiable.

PRIVATE HOUSES

- 852. **Aygedzor** 2storied bld-365sq.m, 3bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, furnished. Price: 3500 USD
- 1335 **Baghramyan str.**, Land-200sq.m, 3storied bld-300sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 3bathrooms, capially repaired, furnished. Price: 3000 USD
- 1336 **Aygedzor**, Land-1000sq.m, 2 storied bld-240sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, furnished. Price: 2000 USD
- 1337 **Davtashen** Land-406sq.m, 3 storied bld-306sq.m, 4bedrooms, 2bathrooms, capially repaired, furnished. Price: 3900 USD
- 1323. **Monument, Babayan str.**, Land-400sq.m, 3storied bld-300sq.m, 4bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capially repaired. Price: Negotiable
- 999. **Aygedzor**, Land -1000 sqm, basement + 2 floors- 310 sqm, capially repaired, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, newly furnished, equipped, sauna, swimming-pool. Starting Price: 5000 USD.
- 1094. **Noy block**, Land-450sqm, 2 storied building - 220sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped, swimming pool, garden. Price: 2000USD.
- 1195. **Nork, Armenakyan str.**, Land - 2000 sq.m, 4 storied bld.-520 sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 4bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, sauna, gym, fur-

nished, swimming-pool, garden. Price: 4.000 USD negotiable.

- 1142. **Djrevej**, Bagrevand community. Land-1000 sq.m., 3 storied bld.-700 sq.m., 5 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, pantry, playing room, capially repaired, no furniture/ can be furnished, if necessary /garage for 2 cars. Price: 4 000 USD.

- 1293. **Nork-Marash**, Land-1100sq.m, 2 storied bld-520 sq.m, 6 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, swimming pool, garden. Price: 7.000 USD

- 327. **Nork-Marash**, Land-500sq.m., 4 storied building-600 sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped, swimming pool, garden, sauna, 2 car parking. Price-4000 USD

- 1306. **Tsarav Akhbyur** /near Botanical garden/, Land-1000sq.m., 3 storied building-750sq.m., 6 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, capially repaired, heating system swimming pool, garden, sauna, 2 car parking, with or without furniture. Price: 6000-8000 USD negotiable

- 1288. **Tsarav Akhbyur** /near Botanical garden/, Land-560sq.m., 4 storied building-560 sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 4bathrooms, a kitchen, office, capially repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped, swimming pool, garden, 2 car parking. Price: 5000 USD

- 1197. **Blur**, Land-779sq.m., 2 storied building-720sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, study, capially repaired, heating system, sauna swimming pool, garden. Price: 8000 USD

- 1312. **Blur, Barbyus str.**, Land-450sq.m., 4 storied building-470sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, garden. Price: Negotiable

- 1317. **Blur, Barbyus str.**, Land-900sq.m., 5 storied building-800sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, garden. Price: Negotiable.

- 1323. **Monument, Babayan str.**, Land - 400 sq.m, 3 storied bld-300sq.m, each floor-100sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped. Price: Negotiable

PREMISES

- 2049. **Teryan str**, ground floor+basement, 1st line, 200sq.m, repaired. Price: 6.000 USD
- 1693. **Malatia-Sebastia** 4 storied building, 1200sq.m, each floor-300sq.m, 2 separate entrances, climate control, 2 elevators, basement, parking. Price: 15USD per sq.m.
- 1526. **Byuzand str.**, 5/semi-basement, 170 sqm., 4-5 degrees below zero level, window glasses, cellar - 50 sq.m., 6 rooms, the largest is 30 sq.m., 2 entrances, 2 lavatories. Price 2000 USD per month, negotiable.
- 1408. **Zarobyanyan str.**, /parallel to Baghramyan str./, 2 storied building, 600 sqm. ground floor- hall and kitchen, 1st floor 5 rooms, bathroom, open balcony, capially repaired, gas, heating system, parking. Price: Negotiable.
- 1462. **Teryan str.**, 3 storied building, 800 sq.m., capially repaired, AC, parking. Price: 10.000 USD.
- 1945. **Mashtots Ave.**, 5/1, 2, 140sq.m., window glasses, capially repaired, AC. Price: 8000 USD
- 1943. **Tumanyan str.**, Ground floor of the building, 265sq.m., 1st line, capially repaired, heating system, cellar. Price: 7000 USD
- 1868. **Tumanyan str.**, Ground floor of the building, 220sq.m., 1st line, facade-55m., capially repaired, h-5m., cellar. Price: 15.000 USD.
- 2033. **Abovyan str.**, 388sq.m, Ground floor of the building, 3 degrees above zero level, window glasses, h-3m., basement-235sq.m., capially repaired, heating system, AC. Price: 15.000 USD
- 2031. **Vardanants str**, 500sq.m, ground floor of the building, 2 entrances, facade-20m, window glasses, without divisions, ,basement-250sq.m, Price: 8000 USD
- 2027. **Sayat Nova str**, 95sq.m, ground floor of the building, 2 entrances, 7 degrees above zero level, 4 window glasses, capially repaired. Price: 4.000 USD

Armenia ready to receive assyrian refugees



The Armenian authorities on February 27 immediately responded to calls by the Assyrian community to host Assyrian refugees who have been displaced from their native lands in Syria at the hands of the Islamic State.

Head of the State Migration Service of Armenia Gagik Yeganyan said during a press conference that the Republic of Armenia is committed by law to protecting persons subject to persecutions, irre-

spective of nationality, granting them the right to legal residency and social rights. "The problem is that those people have to reach Armenia in some way so that they can present their problems to the Armenian authorities," Yeganyan said. "They have to write an appeal at the border, after which the process prescribed by law begins."

Representative of the Assyrian community of Armenia Razmik Khosroev called on the Government of Armenia to take an adequate decision and allow the Assyrians having been displaced from their homes in Syria by the Islamic State to freely enter Armenia. Professor of the University of Chicago and expert on genocide studies Anahit Khosroeva mentioned that on the night of February 22, the Islamic State attacked nearly 32 Assyrian-populated villages along the Khabur River in Syria, after which nearly 1,200 Assyrian families became refugees.

Assyrians have applied to the Armenian government with a request to give shelter to Christian Assyrians. Also, they have called on the world powers to save the Assyrian people from genocide.

Assyrians say what has been happening in the Middle East since August 2014 is a classic example of genocide.

Speaking about the situation in the Middle East, genocide scholar Anahit Khosroeva reminded that on the morning of February 23 militants from the Islamic State attacked over 30 Assyrian villages and abducted hundreds of Assyrians.

"Assyrians intend to release a video, urging US President Barack Obama to stop the military strikes against the Islamic State, as otherwise the captives will be killed," she said.

"What's happening in the Middle East should become a priority issue not only for Assyrians and Yazidis, but also the whole Christian world," Razmik Khosroev said.

Armenian opposition in limbo...

From page 10

to push for regime change in Armenia, said on Friday that they will clarify their actions after the congress of their embattled ally.

Speaking at a press briefing in the National Assembly, the HAK's parliamentary leader Levon Zurabyan said that the future cooperation of the alliance known as the trio depends on the BHK now.

"We are ready for cooperation with the BHK if this party maintains its resistance and continues to struggle against the regime and against the planned constitutional reform," he said.

According to Zurabyan, the rally that the HAK plans to hold in Yerevan on March 1 will also become a test for opposition parties that feel determined to seek regime change. The rally will also mark the seventh anniversary of the deadly 2008 post-election clashes.

Ruben Hakobyan, the parliamentary leader of the Heritage party, also said that further opposition steps will be specified after the upcoming BHK congress. "It is not a secret that the BHK had a political weight [in the trio]," he said, observing that in the recent days the Tsarukyan-led party has "frozen" its positions.

Speaking at a rally in Liberty Square in Yerevan on Friday, Heritage party leader Raffi Hovannisian reiterated that the trio format did not exist any longer. He stressed, however, that struggle for a change of government is continuing.

The leaders of Heritage, the HAK and Orinats Yerkir, another parliamentary minority party, met with diplomats of more than a dozen European Union-member states accredited to Armenia earlier today. During the meetings the sides also reportedly addressed the internal political situation in Armenia

in the wake of the recent developments.

Meanwhile, the leader of an extra-parliamentary opposition party said on Friday that a number of forces opposed to Armenia's membership in the Russian-led Eurasian Economic Union (EEU) have been holding discussions and a new "political pole" may be emerging in Armenia as a result of these negotiations.

Paruyr Hayrikyan, a Soviet-era dissident heading the Union for National Self-Determination (AIM), named several parties and groups, including Heritage, the Armenian National Movement, Free Democrats, Founding Parliament, Democratic Homeland and the Conservative Party, whose representatives, he said, participated in a series of meetings over February. (But Free Democrats issued a statement later on Friday, confirming an invitation from Hayrikyan and a meeting between Free Democrats leader Khachatur Kokobelyan and Hayrikyan, but the party denied that its representatives had participated in the meetings in the format mentioned by the AIM leader).

"Instead of the pseudo-political pole we ought to create and present to the people a real pole that can be trusted," Hayrikyan told RFE/RL's Armenian Service (Azatutyun), stressing that the first meeting in the format took place before the government began its campaign against the BHK and that their efforts should not be directly linked to these developments.

Hayrikyan did not hide that the initial ground for cooperation among these parties is that all of them are against Armenia's membership in the EEU. "But during our first meeting one of our participants suggested that we forget the 'against' part. In other words, instead of being against Putin's Russia, we are for Armenia's self-determination, we are for democracy and human rights protection in Armenia," he said.

Հավելված N 2

Հայաստանի Հանրապետության
կենտրոնական ընտրական հանձնաժողովի
2012թ. հոկտեմբերի 5-ի N 309-Ն որոշման

ՀԱՇՎԵՏՎՈՒԹՅՈՒՆ

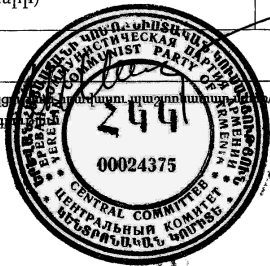
Հայաստանի կոմունիստական կուսակցության 2015 թվականի հունվարի 1-ից դեկտեմբերի 31-ն ընկած
ժամանակահատվածում ստացած և ծախսած միջոցների մասին

ԿՈՒՍԱԿՑՈՒԹՅԱՆ ՀԱՇՎՈՒՄ ՄՈՒՏՔ ԱՐՎԱԾ ԴՐԱՄԱԿԱՆ ՄԻՋՈՑՆԵՐ

Աղբյուրները	Չափը (հազ.դրամով)	Հատկացման ձևը (բանկային հաշիվ / դրամարկղ կանխիկ / փոխանցում)	Արժույթի տեսակը
1	2	3	4
1. Մնացորդը հաշվետու տարվա հունվարի 1-ի դրությամբ	66	Բանկային հաշիվ	ՀՀ դրամ
2. Մուտքի վճարներ	–		
3. Անդամակցության վճարներ ստացված է 167 անդամից	232	Բանկային հաշիվ	ՀՀ դրամ
	52	կանխիկ	ՀՀ դրամ
4. Ֆիզիկական անձանց նվիրատվություններ ստացված է 53 անդամից	1277	կանխիկ	ՀՀ դրամ
5. Իրավաբանական անձանց նվիրատվություններ	–		
6. Օրենքով նախատեսված կարգով ստացված բյուջետային ֆինանսավորում	–		
7. Օրենքով չարգելված այլ աղբյուրներ	–		
Ընդամենը (ըստ արժույթների)	1627		ՀՀ դրամ

Տաճատ Սարգսյան

Կուսակցության ղեկավարի /կուսակցության կենտրոնական կոմիտեի նախագահի/ անուն, հայրանուն, ազգանուն, ստորագրություն



1

ԾԱԽՍՎԱԾ ԴՐԱՄԱԿԱՆ ՄԻՋՈՑՆԵՐԸ ԵՎ ՄԱՍՆՈՐԸ ՏԱՐՎԱ ՎԵՐՋՈՒՄ

Ծախսի ավանումը	Չափը (հազ.դրամով)	Ծախսի կատարումը հավաստող փաստաթղթերի անվանումը և տվյալները	Արժույթի տեսակը
1.	2.	3.	4.
1. Ֆիզիկական անձանց տրված վճարներ (աշխատավարձ, ծառայությունների մատուցման վճարներ)			
2. Մոցիայական վճարներ	–		
3. Գույքի վարձակալության վճար	455		ՀՀ դրամ
4. Կոմունալ վճարումներ	929		ՀՀ դրամ
5. Հարկեր, տուրքեր	–		
6. Գույքի ձեռք բերման համար կատարված ծախսեր	–		
7. Տրանսպորտային ծախսեր	–		
8. Գործուղման ծախսեր	–		
9. Այլ ծախսեր	150		ՀՀ դրամ
Ընդամենը (ըստ արժույթների)			
Դրամական միջոցների մնացորդը տարվա վերջում (ըստ արժույթների)	93		ՀՀ դրամ

Տաճատ Սարգսյան

Կուսակցության ղեկավարի /կուսակցության կենտրոնական կոմիտեի նախագահի/ անուն, հայրանուն, ազգանուն, ստորագրություն



Կուսակցությունը ընդհանուր և շտաբային գույք չի տիրապետում:

OSCE and Unison NGO present report on access to higher education in Armenia for people with disabilities

The findings and recommendations of an OSCE-supported survey exploring the main obstacles encountered by people with disabilities in accessing Armenia's higher education system, was presented on February 24 in Yerevan.

The report commissioned by the OSCE Office in Yerevan was produced by the Unison NGO that supports people with special needs. It provides comprehensive statistical data and focuses on physical and programmatic, as well as the academic inclusiveness of higher education.

"The report is a good example of innovative thinking. It analyzes the system of higher education from the perspective of students with special needs. The report's recommendations and the effort invested are positive steps toward increasing the integrity of higher education in Armenia," said Oliver McCoy, Democratization Programme Officer at the OSCE Office in Yerevan.

The report finds that only one of the 29 higher education institutions surveyed is physically accessible to people with mobility issues. The majority of universities think that inclusiveness of higher education should be guaranteed only to young people with mobility, sight, hearing, speaking or general disabilities, excluding those with mental issues. There are no set mechanisms within universities to adapt the educational process to the needs of people with disabilities. It is only the good will of faculty members and fellow students to make the learning process favorable to disabled students, the report notes.



Armen Alaverdyan, Executive Director of the Unison NGO, said: "The survey outcomes show that Armenian universities mostly lack inclusive policies, facilities and academic programmes for students with disabilities. I strongly believe we should fill this gap by heavily promoting equal opportunities to get a decent education in Armenia."

The survey is based on opinions of students with and without disabilities, administrative and academic staff of higher education institutions and young persons with disabilities, as well as the general public. Twenty-nine universities in Yerevan, Gyumri and Vanadzor were included in the survey which was conducted during September-November 2014.

USAID provides new flow-meters to Armenia's Ministry of Nature Protection

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) presented flow-meters to the Ministry of Nature Protection of Armenia at the official handover ceremony, held on February 24 at "Masisdzuk" fish farm in Sayat Nova village of Ararat province. Susan Fritz, USAID's Acting Assistant Administrator for the Europe and Eurasia Bureau, Karen Hilliard, the head of USAID/Armenia, Simon Papyan, the Deputy Minister of Nature Protection, Vahan Davtyan, the head of the Water Resource Management Agency of the Ministry of Nature Protection, and other state officials attended the event.

The USAID Clean Energy and Water Program (CEWP) purchased latest generation portable flow-meters as part of USAID's technical support to the Ministry of Nature Protection and the Water Resources Management Agency (WRMA), with the aim of strengthening the control mechanisms over the extensive exploitation of groundwater

resources in the Ararat Valley. The flow meters will be used by respective divisions of the Ministry and the WRMA to regularly monitor the level of groundwater extraction by fisheries - currently the largest water consumers in the area.

The assessment of the current status of groundwater resources in the Ararat Valley, conducted by USAID/CEWP in 2014, raised publicly the alarming situation with the shrinking level of groundwater supplies in the Ararat Valley, Armenia's vital agricultural hub. Uncontrolled withdrawal and use of the groundwater by numerous fisheries, which have started to expand in the valley over the past years, was reported as one of the major causes. Recommendations in the study included provisions for the temporary close down or liquidation of illegal or damaged groundwater wells, and the introduction of mandatory monitoring of water quantities consumed by all fisheries. Stricter water permitting practices, consistent



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

oversight, and the introduction of innovative water conservation technologies will help mitigate and eventually reverse the damaging effects of the unregulated use of the groundwater reserves in the Ararat Valley.

The USAID Clean Energy and Water Program is designed to improve water and energy management practices in Armenia, as well as help the country better respond to climate change challenges. The program implements a number of water and energy projects in several rural communities in Armenia to demonstrate best practices in the management of energy and water systems. These projects focus on water supply, efficient lighting, space and water heating, use of biogas, and solar energy.

Los Angeles Cancels \$845,000 Contract with Turkey's Lobbyist Gephardt Group



*By Harut
Sassounian*

*Publisher, The
California Courier*

I wrote a column last August warning that the Armenian-American community and all people of good will would boycott the products and services of Anheuser-Busch, Boeing, Chevron, Enterprise Rent-A-Car, General Electric, Goldman Sachs, Google, Los Angeles Airport, National Football League, Port of Oakland, and United Airlines, unless these companies cancelled their contracts with the Gephardt Group, one of Turkey's notorious lobbying firms.

Ironically, former House Majority Leader Dick Gephardt had championed recognition of the Armenian Genocide during his long years in Congress. Yet, soon after his retirement, Gephardt became a staunch opponent of Armenian issues by peddling Turkish denials of the Armenian Genocide. The latest contract on file with the U.S. Justice Department reveals that the Gephardt Group is paid \$1.4 million a year to lobby for Turkey in Washington.

Documents filed by the Gephardt Group with the Justice Department under the 'Foreign Agent Registration Act' indicate that Gephardt and his colleagues contacted dozens of House and Senate Members last year to lobby against:

1. Congressional resolutions on the Armenian Genocide and return of Christian Churches by Turkey, and
2. Revelations that Turkey supported Islamic Jihadists during their invasion of the Armenian-inhabited town of Kessab in Syria.

More ominously, Justice Department records show that just before April 24,

2014, Janice O'Connell, Gephardt's colleague, contacted Brian McKeon, Chief of Staff of the National Security Council at the White House and Chad Kreikemeier, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Legislative Affairs, to modify Pres. Obama's annual statement on the Armenian Genocide, following Prime Minister Erdogan's deceptive and disingenuous apology for all victims of World War I in Ottoman Turkey.

Justice Department's records also reveal that Gephardt and O'Connell traveled to Istanbul and Ankara on Turkish Airlines on March 3, 2014 to meet Turkey's National Security Advisor. Gephardt flew from Paris to Istanbul and Ankara at a round trip cost of \$1,513, while O'Connell flew from Washington, DC to Istanbul and Ankara at a round trip cost of \$6,986. The two lobbyists stayed at the Conrad Hotel in Istanbul for three nights at the cost of \$710 each. While in Turkey, they spent \$600 on limousine service.

Last month, the Armenian National Committee of America, Armenian Assembly of America, and Armenian Youth Federation (Eastern and Western U.S.) sent over 200 letters to businesses, universities, and NGOs that are clients of the Gephardt Group and four other lobbying firms for Turkey: Dickstein Shapiro, LLC; Greenberg Traurig; Alpaytac; and LB International. One such letter asked the United Airlines to demand the lobbying firm to end its contract with the Turkish government, if not, the airline should then terminate its own contract with the lobbying firm. If neither action is taken by Feb. 28, Armenian-Americans would carry out a protest campaign against both the lobbying firm and United Airlines.

The efforts to counter Turkey's lobbying firms already bore its first fruits. On

February 23, ANCA-WR announced that Los Angeles World Airports [LAWA], a wholly-owned entity of the City of Los Angeles, has decided to terminate its contract worth over \$845,000 with the Gephardt Group, after ANCA called upon Mayor Eric Garcetti last December, "to end any ties between the City of Los Angeles and Dick Gephardt."

ANCA-WR Chair Nora Hovsepien applauded "LAWA and City of Los Angeles officials for their principled stand enforcing a zero-tolerance policy against deniers of genocide. LAWA's action reflects the highest standards of good governance and reinforces the proud standing of Los Angeles as a leader - nationally and internationally - on issues of genocide prevention and human rights. As a genocide denier, Gephardt does not deserve a single dollar from the citizens of Los Angeles, and should have no association with our city."

According to U.S. Government documents obtained by ANCA-WR, the Gephardt Group "had a contract worth over \$845,000 with LAWA, which was agreed to in 2012 during the term of former Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa. Since the approval of the contract with LAWA, the Gephardt Group has been drawing over \$23,000 a month for its work for the airport, while simultaneously representing the interests of the Turkish Government against the interests of the Armenian-American community."

After this first major victory, Armenian-Americans should continue urging the remaining 200 companies that are clients of the Gephardt Group and other lobbying firms hired by Turkey to terminate their contracts, because hiring Genocide denialists is patently unethical and bad for business!

Rep. Sherman calls on Secretary Kerry...

From page 7

Armenian National Committee of America."

ANCA Executive Director Aram Hamparian expressed appreciation to Rep. Sherman, Rep. Cicilline and all Committee members submitting inquiries.

"With Representative Sherman today - as he spoke his powerful words - were the spirits of those killed in this still unpunished crime, and the hopes of all those working for the day when America's response to genocide is not determined by a geopolitical calculation, but rather driv-

en by a moral imperative," said Hamparian.

Secretary Kerry has participated in a marathon set of Senate and House hearings this week focusing on President Obama's proposed Fiscal Year 2015 foreign aid budget.

Billionaire Kirk Kerkorian funding epic feature film about Armenian Genocide

Kirk Kerkorian is 97 years old and worth \$4 billion. The one time owner of MGM, and wealthy Las Vegas real estate and casino over (he also owned the MGM Grand), is not done, however. He still has one more wish. Kerkorian is funding a secret feature film about the Armenian genocide that took place concurrent with World War I, showbiz411.com reports, quoting its sources.

Kerkorian is hoping to produce the Armenian "Schindler's List" to memorialize the Genocide.

There is already an Oscar nominated director and screenwriter signed to the project. Various actors' names have come

up, and some of that may become clear soon. The movie has been described by the director- who asked not to reveal his name yet- as a "Reds" or "Dr. Zhivago", a sweeping World War I romance set against the Armenian genocide.

Kerkorian, who's always been fascinated with Hollywood, is said to have contributed over \$1 billion to Armenian charities and causes over his long life time.

Author of the article Roger Friedman reveals that the still untitled film will begin shooting this summer in Europe. And the budget should be pretty big, considering there's one backer. This movie has the potential to be something on a



large historic scale, unseen for many years.

Friedman is assured the Kardashians, the most famous Armenian Americans since the great writer William Saroyan, will be not be appearing in the film under any circumstances.

South Dakota House recognizes Armenian Genocide

The South Dakota House of Representatives on Thursday in a vote of 51 to 17 passed a resolution recognizing the Armenian Genocide, becoming the 43rd state to call for justice for the Genocide, Asbarez reports.

With 28 original co-sponsors, the resolution calls for a "just resolution," condemns denial and encourages the teaching of the Armenian Genocide in South Dakota schools. It also discusses the genocides of Greeks and Assyrians.

"Designating 2015 as the 'Year of Remembrance for the Centennial Since the Commencement of the Armenian Genocide of 1915-1923' in South Dakota and urging Congress and the President of the United States to formally and consistently recognize and reaffirm the historical truth that the atrocities committed against the Armenian, Greek, and other Christians living in their historical homelands in Anatolia constituted genocide and to work towards equitable, stable,



and durable Armenian-Turkish relations," read the text of the resolution.

US Congressmen to introduce new Armenian Genocide bill

Four members of Congress in the U.S. last week invited their colleagues to become an original co-sponsor of the Armenian Genocide Recognition Resolution, which accuses the Ottoman Empire of committing genocide in 1915 and asking President Barack Obama to pressure the Turkish government to resolve the issue.

A letter addressed to U.S. congressmen, penned by Robert J. Dold (Republican from Illinois), David Valado (Republican from California), Adam B. Schiff (Democrat from California) and Frank Pallone (Democrat from New Jersey), claims that the Ottoman Empire killed 1.5 million Armenians between April 24, 1915 and 1923, Daily Sabah reported.

"Forty-two U.S. states have recognized the Armenian Genocide, as have 11 of our NATO allies. On this special year, it is time for the United States government to officially join with those voices standing against this genocide denial. We can help bring closure to this longstanding moral issue that continues to impact U.S. interests," the letter read.

Representatives declared that they would be introducing the resolution on February 24 and the same language as in House Resolution 227 from the 113th Congress would be used.

Adam Schiff's spokesman Patrick Boland confirmed to Hürriyet that the bill would be presented in the coming weeks. Boland did not mention the reason for the delay.



House Resolution 227, which last year became obsolete, urged President Obama to work toward durable Armenian-Turkish relations based upon Turkey's full acknowledgment of the facts and ongoing consequences of the Armenian Genocide.

The draft resolution also cites President Obama's statements before entering office, saying he held the conviction that the Armenian genocide is not an allegation but rather a widely documented fact supported by historical evidence.

Emmy award winning composer Denise Gentilini to stage musical on Armenian Genocide



A three time Emmy award winning composer Denise Gentilini, along with singer, songwriter Lisa Nemzo, has created *I Am Alive*, a dramatic musical that spans a nearly 75 year love story of her grandparents, celebrating the strength and resilience of the Armenian people.

Denise Gentilini is the granddaughter of Kourken and Malvine Handjian, "My grandfather, Kourken, became an orphan at the age of eight. His father was killed when the Armenian genocide started in central Turkey, in 1915, where he lived with his family. Along with his surviving family, he was sent on what would become the death march of men, women

and children across the Syrian desert to concentration camps. But a Turkish man had pity on this little boy. He rescued him and placed him in an orphanage. He never saw his family again. My grandmother Malvine also lived in Turkey. Her father was poisoned in the genocide and because she had too many siblings for her mother to handle, she was given away to another family to be raised by them. As surviving Armenians were deported from Turkey, both Kourken and Malvine wound up in a refugee camp in Greece where they found each other. When she was 14 and he was 19 they married, and spent nearly 75 years together," Denise Gentilini said, speaking to Fox 31 Denver.

Gentilini says while she's known her history for decades, she chose this year to share what her family went through. "In April it will be the 100th commemoration of the Armenian Genocide, and I wanted to tell the story in a different way. So along with internationally celebrated singer songwriter Lisa Nemzo, we created

I Am Alive, a dramatic musical that spans a nearly 75 year love story of my grandparents, celebrating the strength and resilience of the Armenian people. There have been plays and movies and marches, but I've never heard a musical. I believe music is a universal language, so even those who don't know about this time in history might be interested because the music makes it accessible."

Gentilini, an Emmy award winning composer, says *I Am Alive*, directed by Christy Montour-Larson, is a continuation of the work she's been doing in music for years. "As part of the "We Are Voices" project I've composed music for Children's Hospital on Autism, for the Iliff School of Theology for their Courage Award for Judy Shephard and for genocide awareness. I grew up with my grandparents nearby and always knew what they lived through and handed down to us was amazing. It made me want to be an activist and do something: to be the voice for the voiceless."

A concert in Jerusalem commemorates the Centennial of the Armenian Genocide



A special concert will take place on March 5 at the Jerusalem Theatre. The Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra, under the baton of internationally acclaimed Estonian violinist cum conductor Andres Mustonen, will perform a program dedicated to the commemoration of the Centennial of the Armenian Genocide, the Jerusalem Post reports.

The JSO, in collaboration with the music festival Yerevan Perspectives (Armenia), will perform music written by the foremost Armenian composers, as well as Beethoven's "Eroica" Symphony.

Veteran Armenian composer Stepan Rostomyan, the initiator of the concert, explains that the performance in Jerusalem is the first in a series of international concerts.

"The Centennial of the Armenian Genocide will be noted by remarkable concerts all over the world," he says. "Two dozen renowned musicians will give memorial concerts in the world's most prestigious concert halls through a series of concerts under the title "With you, Armenia," which will start in Israel. Further venues include St. John Church in Tallinn; the Beaux Arts Palace in Brussels; the Mariinsky Theatre in St. Petersburg; Carnegie Hall in New York; Santa Cecilia Hall in Rome; Cadogan Hall in London; and Musikverein Hall in Vienna. The roster of top-class musicians includes the Belgium National and La Scala philharmonic orchestras; the Royal Philharmonic and Mariinsky symphony orchestras; Camerata Salzburg; conductors Valery Gergiev, Pinchas Zukerman, George Pehlivanian and John Axelrod;

and soloists Evgeny Kissin, Maxim Vengerov, Mischa Maisky, Julian Rachlin and Sergei Nakariakov."

In regard to the Armenian Genocide, Rostomyan says that this tragic page in his people's history is a wound that every Armenian bears in his/her heart.

"This was not only the loss of human lives but also of our cities, which are now in Turkey, and of our cultural monuments that were destroyed," he says.

He stresses, "I have nothing against the Turkish people; I have musician friends in Turkey. But the world - and Turkey in particular on the governmental level - has to accept the fact that this terrible thing happened at all. Otherwise, it can be repeated - and that is the fear that every Armenian feels."

The program features the following pieces: Komitas's Fragments from Liturgy (arranged for violin and orchestra by Andres Mustonen); Rostomyan's Fourth Symphony; Adagio from the ballet Spartacus by Aram Khachaturian; and Beethoven's Symphony No. 3, "Eroica."

Pope Francis declares Armenian Saint Gregory of Narek Doctor of the Church

Pope Francis has declared Armenian poet and monk, Saint Gregory of Narek, a Doctor of the Universal Church. Meeting with Cardinal Angelo Amato, Prefect of the Congregation for the Cause of Saints on Saturday ahead of his departure for Ariccia on Lenten retreat, the Pope confirmed the proposal put forward by the Plenary Session of the Congregation to confer the title of Doctor of the Universal Church on the 10th century saint, Vatican Radio reports.

St. Gregory of Narek is widely revered as one of the greatest figures of medieval Armenian religious thought and literature. Born in the city of Narek in about 950 A.D., St. Gregory came from a line of scholars and churchmen.

St. Gregory received his education under the guidance of his father, Bishop Khosrov, author of the earliest commentary on the Divine Liturgy, and from Anania Vartabed, abess of Narek Monastery. He and his two brothers entered monastic life at an early age, and St. Gregory soon began

to excel in music, astronomy, geometry, mathematics, literature, and theology.

He became a priest at the age of 25 and dedicated himself to God. He lived most of his life in the monastery of Narek, where he taught at the monastic school. St. Gregory began his writings with a commentary on the "Song of Songs," which was commissioned by an Armenian prince. Despite his reservations that he was too young for the task, the commentary became famous for its clarity of thought and language and its excellence of theological presentation.

He also wrote a number of famous letters, sharagans, treasures, odes, melodies, and discourses. Many of his prayers are included in the Divine Liturgy celebrated each Sunday in Armenian Churches around the world.

St. Gregory's masterpiece is considered to be his Book of Lamentations. Also known as Narek, it is comprised of 95 prayers, each of which is titled "Conversation with God from the depth of



the heart." A central theme is man's separation from God, and his quest to reunite with Him. St. Gregory described the work this way: "Its letters like my body, its message like my soul." He called his book an "encyclopedia of prayer for all nations." It was his hope that it would serve as a guide to prayer for people all over the world. After the advent of movable type, the book was published in Marseille in 1673, and has been translated into at least 30 languages.

St. Gregory of Narek is remembered by the Armenian Church in October of each year.

"Digging into the Future - Armenia" to premiere on PBS stations

Digging into the Future - Armenia will premiere on select PBS stations in April as part of the commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, Massis Post reports.

Hosted by Joseph Rosendo, Digging into the Future is produced by the Emmy-winning team behind the PBS series, Joseph Rosendo's Travelscope®. Joseph joins archaeologists from UCLA's Cotsen Institute of Archaeology on a journey through Armenia. During this archeological adventure Joseph crisscrosses Armenia to ancient sites where some of the world's oldest artifacts have been discovered. Every site offers viewers insights into how the Armenians of the distant and near past lived - and what is discovered about the past serves the present.

In keeping with the show's focus on cultural connections, Joseph meets modern-day Armenians in roadside fruit stands, riverside wine stalls, bustling markets and is welcomed into their homes to witness traditional artisans at work and join in religious and communal celebrations that inspire, enlighten and reveal the Armenian heart and soul. While this documentary encompasses more than the Armenian Genocide, it is covered in the show and illustrates the resiliency of the Armenian people.

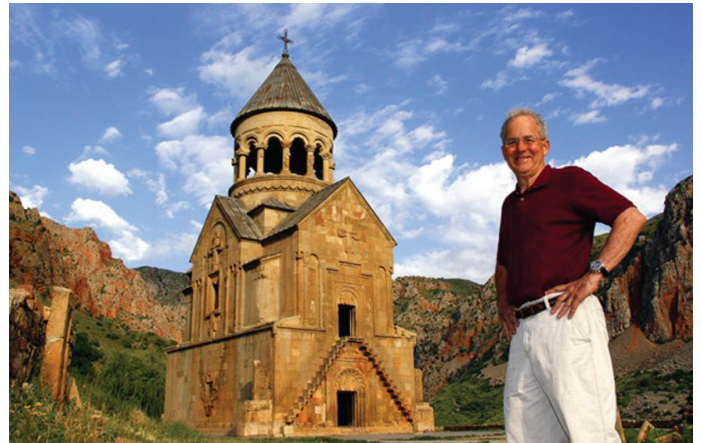
Broadcast Dates:

Chicago - WYCC

Monday, April 6, 9:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 7, 2:00 a.m.

Los Angeles - KVCR



Thursday, April 16, 8:00 p.m.

Friday, April 17, 5:00 p.m.

Boston - WGBH/Channel 2

Sunday, April 19, 11:30 a.m.

San Francisco / Bay Area - KQED

Sunday, April 19, 6:00 p.m. KQED

Saturday, April 25, 4:00 p.m. KQED World

Saturday, April 25, 6:00 p.m. KQED Plus

New York - WYNE/NYC Life

Sunday, April 19, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, April 24, 1:00 a.m.

"KAAR-MED"

PRIVATE CLINIC CENTER FOR WOMEN'S HEALTH

The Private Clinic "KAAR-MED" has been functioning on the market for medical services for more than 15 years. The Clinic is located in Warsaw (10 Bitwy Warszawskiej street) close to the centre of the city within easy reach of Dworzec Zachodni railway station and other city communications networks.

Our Patients can use a private parking located directly at the entrance to the Clinic with special places for ambulance and disabled people. Clinic is fully adapted and friendly for wheelchair users.

The Clinic specialisation is gynaecology and obstetrics including full pregnancy care, "one day surgery" and aesthetic medicine procedures as well as plastic and cosmetic gynaecology. "KAAR-MED" employs gynaecologists and physicians of all specialisations who have clinical experience gained in leading Warsaw hospitals.

We offer a wide range of laboratory, microbiological and genetic tests, diagnostic imaging techniques (USG) including prenatal tests such as pregnancy ultrasound, prenatal imaging findings, Harmony Prenatal Test, Doppler ultrasonography tests and many others.

The "KAAR-MED" Clinic is fully outfitted with the latest medical equipment used for diagnosis and treatment of the entire range of gynaecology and obstetrics diseases:

- Voluson ultrasound imaging system (pictures)
- Toshiba ultrasound imaging system
- Colposcope
- Cryosurgery machine
- Electrocoagulation apparatus
- ELLMAN Pelleve Unit (radio frequency surgery and wrinkle reduction system)
- Other equipment by "Aesculap" and "Stainless" companies

Our clinic fulfils all the official norms (stated by the Direction of the Health Minister of Poland of 02.02.2011) concerning professional, technical and sanitary conditions for health care organizations.

We are looking forward to see You in "KAAR-MED" Clinic and shall do out best to make You feel comfortable, safe and professionally treated here.

**10 Bitwy Warszawskiej,
02-362 Warsaw, Poland**

Information and registration:

**+48 22 823 04 52
+48 22 201 90 95
+ 48 50 910 74 05**



WHAT? WHEN? WHERE?**Enjoy your leisure****2 March**

19:00. Raped Wedding or Deception in the Armenian Way. Director of Theater and Artistic Director: Mkhitar Mos-Musheghyan. Play | Metro Theater
19:30. Marine Ales: Harbors of Love. Charity Concert. State Theater of Musical Comedy after H. Paronyan

3 March

12:00. The Dog and the Cat. By Hovhannes Tumanyan. Play for kids | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan
19:00. Don Juans in Amrseille. Staging and adaptation: Narek Duryan. Play | Russian Drama Theater after K. Stanislavski
19:00. Raped Wedding or Deception in the Armenian Way. Director of Theater and Artistic Director: Mkhitar Mos-Musheghyan. Play | Metro Theater

4 March

11:00. The Little Prince. Play for kids | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan
19:00. Morgan's In-Law. Comedy in 2 acts. Author: Alexander Shirvanzade. Play | State Theater of Musical Comedy after H. Paronyan
19:00. Don Juans in Amrseille. Staging and adaptation: Narek Duryan. Play | Russian Drama Theater after K. Stanislavski

5 March

19:00. The Curtain of Time. Premiere. Hasmik Ter-Karapetyan's mono-performance. Staged by Garnik Seyranyan. Play | Yerevan State Chamber Theater
19:00. Lorkiana - Carmen-Suite. Ballet | National Academic Theater of Opera and Ballet after A. Spendiarian
20:00. Love Bridge. Musical | State Theater of Musical Comedy after H. Paronyan

6 March

14:00. Tom & Jerry. Premiere. Children's Musical Fun Show. Staging: Artur Saribekyan. Play for kids | State Musical Chamber Theater

16:00. The Adventures of Tom Sawyer. Mark Twain. Stage Director: Hranush Chichakyan. Play for kids | State Marionette Theater
18:00. How It Wasn't Staged. Play | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan
19:00. Karine. Tigran Chukhajian. Operette in 2 acts. Play | State Theater of Musical Comedy after H. Paronyan
19:00. Irina Allegrova. Encore. Concert | Sports & Concert Complex after K. Demirchyan
19:00. All Rise, the Court is in Session. Drama in 2 acts. Author: Perch Zeytuntsyan. Staging: Tigran Gasparian. Play | National Academic Theater after G. Sundukyan
19:00. Natalie Filion. Performance in Russian, for adults. Play | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan
19:00. ANPO & Hayk Melikyan. Soloist: Honoured Artist of Armenia, Hayk Melikyan, piano. Conductor: Ruben Asatryan. Concert | National Academic Theater of Opera and Ballet after A. Spendiarian
19:00. Ah, Women, Women. Robert Lamouret. Director: Vigen Stepanyan. Play | Hamazgayin State Theater
19:00. The Last Clown. B. Slade. Comedy in 2 acts. Play | Yerevan Drama Theater after H. Ghaplanyan

7 March

12:00, 14:00, 16:00. Little Ida's Flowers. Author: Hans Christian Andersen. Staging: Larisa Mangasarova. Play for kids | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan
12:30, 14:00, 15:30. The Real Friend. Musical performance. Ruben Marukhyan. Staging: Anna Elbakyan. Play for kids | State Marionette Theater
14:00. Beauty and the Beast. French folk tale. Director: Armen Margaryan. Play for kids | State Musical Chamber Theater
17:00. The New Adventures of The Three Piglets. Directed by Samson Stepanyan. Choreographer: Sevag Avakian. Musical | State Musical Chamber Theater
18:00. Du-Dum the Wise Man and the Ignorant. Play for kids | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan

19:00. Karine. Tigran Chukhajian. Operette in 2 acts. Play | State Theater of Musical Comedy after H. Paronyan
19:00. Ah, Women, Women. Robert Lamouret. Director: Vigen Stepanyan. Play | Hamazgayin State Theater
19:00. Tchao!. Romantic comedy in 2 acts. Marc-Gilbert Sauvajon. Play | Yerevan Drama Theater after H. Ghaplanyan
19:00. Royal Concert. Author and director of the play - Ara Yernjakyan. Play | Yerevan State Chamber Theater

8 March

12:00, 14:00, 16:00. Three Piglets. Author: Ervand Manaryan. Director/Producer: Ruben Babayan. Play for kids | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan
12:30, 14:00, 15:30. Hansel and Gretel. Brothers Grimm. Staging: Lily Elbakyan. Play for kids | State Marionette Theater
18:00. The Silly Man. Based on Hovhannes Tumanyan's tale. Play for kids | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan
19:00. The Last Stop. Premiere. Tamar Hovhannisyan. Serious comedy in 2 acts. Play | State Theater of Musical Comedy after H. Paronyan
19:00. Sexual Chaos in the Hotel. Author: Ray Cooney. Director: Honored Artist of RA, David Hakobyan. Play | State Musical Chamber Theater
19:00. Scotch & Whisky. Optimistic comedy. Director of the play: Arshaluis Harutiunyan. Play | Yerevan State Chamber Theater
19:00. Endless Return. By Sevak. Theatrical fantasy in 2 parts. Play | Yerevan Drama Theater after H. Ghaplanyan
19:00. March 8 with Grand Life. Show | Ararat Hotel
19:00. The Family of Orphans. Premiere. Gurgen Khanjyan. Lyrical Comedy in 2 acts. Play | National Academic Theater after G. Sundukyan
19:00. Ah, Women, Women. Robert Lamouret. Director: Vigen Stepanyan. Play | Hamazgayin State Theater

Zodiac Weekly Forecast

Aries (Mar. 20--Apr. 19) :

See the lead paragraph on the "home" page. This Jupiter/Uranus trine is particularly favorable for you in the romantic and creative activity department. There might also be good news concerning your children (another type of creative activity). Whatever you do that involves high tech or the internet is given a "go" signal.

Taurus (Apr. 20--May 19):

People of the past may resurface. You will be glad to see these individuals, but more likely you will be reminded why they are no longer in your life. Somehow they are associated with old wounds in your life and you would just as soon let those memories go back to the ethers.

Gemini (May 20 -- June 20) :

You have been studying something while Mercury was retrograding through January and February. Now it is time to apply what you have learned. A prominent idea is emerging from the many thoughts and ideas with which you have toyed. It may be well worth a greater investment of time or energy.

Cancer (June 21--July 21) :

Conversations over the weekend will tend toward reminiscence and recollection of bygone events and eras of our lives. Past experiences and relationships have contributed heavily to who you are today. They offer a powerful psychological foundation from which to grow but leave them in memory. Don't try to recreate your past.

Leo (July 22 --Aug. 21):

See the lead paragraph on the "home" page as it pertains to you. Jupiter is offering you "go" signals in the areas of legal activities, publishing, higher education, travel, and other pursuits that you find meaningful. People who are established in these areas will be helpful as you follow your plans.

Virgo (Aug 22--Sep. 22) :

Your mind is flying with thoughts, details, questions and answers. You want to discuss them, but you definitely do not want someone to solve your concerns. You seek the balance of a counterpart, one who may debate things without becoming emotional about it.

Libra (Sep. 23--Oct. 22)

You may have a tendency during this period to slide into old and outmoded patterns of emotional behavior. Maybe this will be brought on by the re-entry of someone in your life. While it may be fun for a short time, very quickly you will become fatigued with it and shake loose of that outdated habit.

Scorpio (Oct. 23--Nov. 21) :

It appears that a new work position or job is coming your way that will ease the pain in your wallet. It requires effort but that doesn't scare you away. Those with rental property will find a new tenant this week. Relationships with coworkers are favorable. If you have been lonely, a stray cat or dog may come to you.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 --Dec. 20):

You have plenty of activity in your solar 5th house of children, romance, and creativity. Whatever you want or need in these areas, the answer is "yes". Take a risk and pursue romance where you find it. You're unlikely to be turned away. Activities involving the law, travel, publishing, and higher education are favored.

Capricorn (Dec 21 -- Jan 19) :

Give attention to caring for "old" things or people in your life. Clean out the basement or attic in your home. Give away or sell whatever you know you will not use in the future. It is a good time to tend to repairs of aging property. It is also favorable for taking actions to secure your future.

Aquarius (Jan. 20--Feb. 17) :

This week especially favors travel, communications, education, and giving attention to community concerns. You may be serving as the center of a wheel of people with a common purpose. Your activities are likely to be purposeful and productive.

Pisces (Feb. 18--Mar. 19) :

Experiences may seem surreal on some level during this week. You may be doing something you never thought you would do. Listen to your intuition. Do this by tending to unbidden thoughts or feelings that you know you did not invent. Dream life may be strong this week.

ARMENIAN POETRY

Varouzhan Khastour

THE SONGS' SONG

Do not hesitate
I will clean with my loughs
all your beared chagrins,
and from your small teeth
on your lips will skim over suns.

Your golden hears,
I will paint with my kisses
and like a fertile fields
they will ripple gained.
I will give your feet power
with my heart breaking carresses,
and you in my soul's winepresses
will crush the bunches of wonder.
And the wine-breath juice of love
will flood.

I will decorate your hands,
with my dreamy bracelets,
and they will hover
in endless blues.

I will sow on your breast
the light's grains,
keeping in my fairy's
and they will become noble
and mysterious,
like the airsink mountains,
and I will atomize
in their magical flower-smell of mists.
I will hang from your neck
of my festive day's stars,
and they will float like a swan,
in my palms dreams.

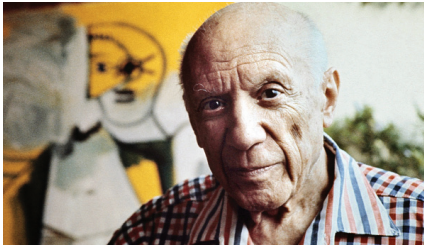
And nights will change to talismans.

At last I will put my destiny
in your esey heavenly deeps,
and they will reduce
to glee of temple
and the space will light
with its perfect and invisible colours.

Do not hesitate...
If from all that,
I will seem you exhausted and hopeless,
you even may depart,
but I will irrevocable devastate,
and will again come life
for flying to creation.
Do not hesitate...

*Translated by
Lusine Avetisyan*

Stolen Picasso painting found in New York



A Picasso painting, snatched more than a decade ago from a storeroom in Paris, has surfaced in New York and will be returned to the French government, US officials said on January 26, AFP reports.

The century-old Cubist oil was smuggled into the United States last December from Belgium with a shipping label that described the contents as a handicraft holiday present worth 30 euros (\$37).

The painting, known as "La Coiffeuse" or "The Hairdresser," is esti-

mated to be worth millions of dollars, US prosecutors said.

It was intercepted by US customs and subsequently seized by Homeland Security Investigations.

"A lost treasure has been found," said Loretta Lynch, attorney for the eastern district of New York.

Painted in 1911, the oil-on-canvas measures 33 by 46 centimeters (13 by 18 inches) and is part of the Musee National d'Art Moderne collection in Paris.

It was last exhibited publicly in Munich, Germany, where it was on loan to the Kunsthalle der Hypo-Kulturstiftung.

It was then returned to Paris and placed in the storerooms of the Centre George Pompidou. Officials only realized it was missing when a loan request came through in 2001 and they could not find it.



ACBA-CREDIT AGRICOLE BANK

THE FIRST BANK
WITH ASSETS, LOAN PORTFOLIO
AND EQUITY

PREMIÈRE BANQUE PAR ACTIFS,
CAPITAL ET PORTEFEUILLE DE PRÊTS

www.acba.am
010 31 8888

The Noyan Tapan Noah's Ark
HIGHLIGHTS
Weekly Newspaper, Since May 4, 1993.
The publisher: NT Holding LTD.
Circulation: 1500 print copies and
15.600 copies by e-mail list in PDF format

President of the NT Media Holding:
Tigran Harutyunyan
Editor-in-Chief of the Media Holding:
Gayaneh Arakelyan
Director of the Weekly:
Marina Harutyunyan
Chief Correspondent: **Gourgen Khazhakian**
Proofreader: **Susanna Mkrtchian**
ISSN 1829-0604
Registration certificate and the date: 273.110.00512, 15.12.1995

E-mail: contact@nt.am, URL: www.nt.am
Address in Armenia: 28 Isahakian Str., Yerevan, 0009, RA.
Tel.: (+374 60) 27-64-62
(+374 60) 27-64-61
Address in France: Masion De L' Armenie, Paris 17e - 95
Bld. Gouvion, France.
Tel.: (+33) 01 43 59 66 72
Address in USA: 1146 E. Lexington Dr., #112, Glendale,
CA, USA, 91206.
Tel.: (+1 818) 646 10 72