

## U.S.-Armenian Trade Deal Signed



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## President Meets Senate Leaders, Praises U.S.

President Serzh Sargsyan has praised America's role in maintaining peace in the South Caucasus at a meeting in Washington with four influential members of the U.S. Senate, including its Republican majority leader, Mitch McConnell.

Serzh Sargsyan met with McConnell, John McCain, the Republican chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, and two pro-Armenian Democratic senators, Robert Menendez and Jack Reed, at the start of his trip to the United States on May 5.

"The president highly assessed the USA's role in maintaining regional security and stability, including the USA's active involvement, as a co-chair of the OSCE Minsk Group, in the Nagorno-Karabakh peace process," Sargsyan's office said in a statement.

Serzh Sargsyan also thanked the United States for its large-scale economic assistance provided to Armenia since independence, saying that it has been "aimed at strengthening Armenian statehood."

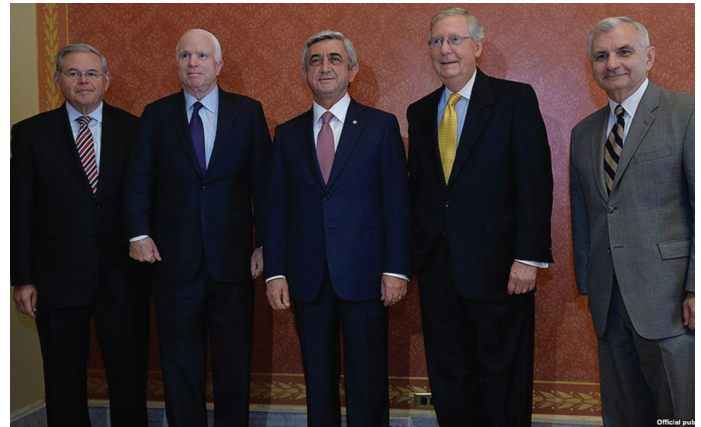
According to the statement, the participants of the meeting discussed the unresolved Karabakh conflict and other "regional issues and challenges." In that context, they spoke about ways of creating "alternative transport and energy options" for Armenia given its closed borders with Azerbaijan and Turkey.

The statement gave no details of that discussion. It said Sargsyan and the U.S. lawmakers agreed that the U.S. and Armenia have developed "strong partnership within bilateral and multilateral frameworks."

That partnership seems to have not been seriously affected by Armenia's recent accession to the Russian-led Eurasian Economic Union (EEU) and the West's standoff with Russia over the conflict in Ukraine. The U.S. ambassador in Yerevan, Richard Mills, said last year that closer ties with the West could "complement" Armenia's membership in the EEU.

"The deep bonds between the United States and Armenia are strong," U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry said in a statement issued around the same time.

Nevertheless, neither President Barack Obama nor any senior member of the U.S. administration was scheduled to meet with Serzh Sargsyan during his visit. The main official purpose of the trip is to take part in Thursday's ecumenical service at Washington's



National Cathedral that will mark the 100th anniversary of the Armenian genocide in Ottoman Empire.

The Armenian presidential press service said this and other events dedicated to the genocide centennial were also on the agenda of Sargsyan's lunch meeting with the American senators. "All senators present at the meeting stressed in their remarks the importance of recognizing and condemning the Armenian genocide," it said.

Both McConnell and McCain have opposed in the past congressional draft resolutions describing the 1915 Armenian massacres as genocide. McCain dropped his opposition to genocide recognition a year ago when he voted, along with most other members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, for one such resolution put forward by Menendez.

The resolution never reached the Senate floor, leading Menendez to introduce another Armenian genocide bill last month. Only 20 senators have co-sponsored it so far. McConnell and McCain are not among them.

"We would need 60 hard votes to pass it," said one Washington source involved in the long-running Armenian-American campaign for genocide recognition. He cautioned that although the Republican majority leader's reported support could give a major boost to Menendez's resolution its passage by the Senate remains "more than a long shot."

## Elections an integral part of the political culture of Artsakh: MFA

"On May 3, 2015, the sixth regular parliamentary elections were held in the Nagorno Karabakh Republic (NKR) with over 70% turnout. The elections were held in a free and competitive atmosphere and in full compliance with the international standards, as assessed by more than 100 international observers from around 30 countries," the NKR Ministry of Foreign Affairs said in a statement.

"The parliamentary elections have reaffirmed the fact that elections, as a key element for the functioning of any democratic system, have become an integral part of the

political culture of Artsakh. Free, fair, transparent and competitive elections, being an inalienable mechanism of political processes in the NKR, are aimed at organizing the public life of the republic and forming the government by democratic means, which, in turn, serves as a basis for promoting human rights, fundamental freedoms and the rule of law," the statement reads. "The elections, as an expression of will of the people of Artsakh, whose role in deciding its future was unequivocally emphasized in the statement of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs on



30 April 2015, are also essential for maintaining the stability in the region as well as for the just and peaceful settlement of the conflict between Azerbaijan and Nagorno Karabakh," the Ministry said.

## Luxemburg Recognizes Armenian Genocide

Luxemburg became on May 6 the latest country to recognize the 1915 Armenian genocide in the Ottoman Empire with a resolution unanimously adopted by its parliament.

Noting similar moves by the European Parliament and a "growing number" of countries around the world, the tiny European state's Chamber of Deputies said it believes the slaughter of some 1.5 million Armenians constituted genocide. It said it is therefore "joining in the commemoration of the centenary of the Armenian genocide in the spirit of European solidarity and justice."

The resolution goes on to praise Turkey's President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu for offering their condolences to descendants of Armenians massacred by the Ottoman Turks. But it says Ankara should go further and explicitly recognize the massacres as genocide.

Such a move would "constitute a national and European gesture important and honorable for the Turkish Republic," according to the Luxembourg parliament.

Armenia was quick to praise the reso-

lution, with Foreign Ministry spokesman Tigran Balayan posting a photocopy of the document on his Facebook and Twitter pages. There was no immediate reaction from Turkey.

The Turkish government reacted furiously to a spate of similar declarations that were made by several other nations, including the Vatican, Germany and

Austria, ahead of the genocide centennial that was marked in Armenia on April 24. Turkey's ambassadors to the Vatican and Austria were recalled as a result. Ankara also condemned the presidents of Russia and France for attending April 24 ceremonies in Yerevan and reaffirming their countries' recognition of the Armenian genocide.



## U.S.-Armenian Trade Deal Signed



The United States and Armenia signed on May 7 an economic agreement which they hope will help to expand their modest bilateral trade and facilitate U.S. investments in the Armenian economy.

The Trade and Investment Framework Agreement (TIFA) was signed by Armenian Foreign Minister Edward Nalbandian and U.S. Assistant Trade Representative Daniel Mullaney during President Serzh Sargsyan's visit to Washington. Serzh Sargsyan was present at the signing ceremony.

"Today's agreement provides a vehicle for deepening and broadening U.S.-

Armenia trade and investment relations," Mullaney said in a statement released after the ceremony.

Under the agreement, the U.S. and Armenian governments will set up a joint Council on Trade and Investment that will meet at least once a year to address obstacles to U.S.-Armenian trade and explore other ways of deepening economic ties between the two countries.

Mullaney said he expects the council to "unlock opportunities for workers, farmers, service providers, manufacturers and consumers in our two countries." The Armenian Foreign Ministry likewise said the body will strive to put in place more

favorable conditions for bilateral commerce and investments.

According to Armenian government statistics, the U.S. accounted for about 4 percent of Armenia's foreign trade last year. The total volume of bilateral commercial exchange fell by 2.5 percent to \$221 million.

The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative reported an even more modest trade figure: \$153 million. "U.S. goods imports from Armenia in 2014 totaled \$96 million in 2014 and included aluminum, woven apparel, brandy, diamonds, and processed fruit and vegetables," it said.

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## Vigen Sargsyan: The Armenian Genocide Centennial Events Served Their Major Goal

*The Armenian Genocide international recognition is an ongoing process*

By **Gourgen James Khazhakian**  
Chief Correspondent

That was common opinion of the Organizing Committee of the State Committee on Coordination of the Events for the Commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, Chief of Staff of the President of the Republic of Armenia, Chief Coordinator of the events dedicated to the centennial of the Armenian Genocide **Vigen Sargsyan** said at a press conference held on 4 May.

*"The first objective was to raise the international community's awareness about the Armenian Genocide as well as to present the Armenian Genocide in a more general context, - within the framework of the international struggle against the crime of genocide and to mobilize public opinion. I think the Global Forum became an important step in the global fight against the crime of genocide. That's not just our evaluation - all the participants including members of specialized organizations recorded that the voice of the international community was heard more loudly during those days, and the crime of genocide which unfortunately continues, became the focus of the international community and the press,"* Vigen Sargsyan mentioned.

He stressed that a number of participants of the Forum suggested and urged Armenia to become a forerunner in the matter of the genocidology and to make the Yerevan Forum a periodic one. Referring to the canonization ceremony of the victims of the Armenian Genocide, Coordinator of the Events stressed that it has become *"the pinnacle of the national-spiritual unity"*.

*"The canonization of the Armenian Genocide victims was an expression of the national solidarity. The bells that sounded in Armenian and other churches of the world, demonstrated common Christian and the international respect for the memory of the victims of the Armenian Genocide,"* Mr Sargsyan stressed. He expressed his special gratitude to the members of the legendary rock group «System of a Down» that caught the attention of young people from different countries to the Armenian Genocide due to their Yerevan concert and the world tour.

*"Despite the unfavorable weather, unprecedented participation in the concert showed that the presence of the SOAD in Armenia was the right decision",* Vigen Sargsyan said. Referring to the 24 April event held at the Armenian Genocide Victims Memorial, Mr Sargsyan noted that there was also political component of the activities there.

*"Those days we have seen a big wave of statements, admissions indicating that the process of recognition continues. In a number of Parliaments the resolutions are being*

*discussed that we believe will reach their worthy goal. On 24 April Yerevan hosted political negotiations, bilateral meetings. We were able to keep Yerevan in the spotlight of the international press,"* he emphasized.

Vigen Sargsyan also noted the importance of the concert "Revival" which also took place "at a high level". *"Museum-Institute of the Armenian Genocide functions fully-fledged; it is open to visitors and is very popular due to its newest exhibition",* he said.



Mr Sargsyan expressed gratitude to all segments of the Armenian society for the solidarity that has been demonstrated.

(Importantly), all the events dedicated to the 100th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide were held thanks to private donations, Vigen Sargsyan informed the mass media reps. *"Every event was supported by a worthy son of the Armenian people who realized that such a patronage was the driving force of such projects,"* Mr Sargsyan stressed.

The events dedicated to the Centennial of the Armenian Genocide will be continued with a great intensity, and the commemoration events held in different parts of the world after 24 April are the proof of it.

In this context Vigen Sargsyan especially stressed the joint exhibition opened in Paris due to cooperation between the Armenian Genocide Museum-Institute and the Paris Municipality.

*"As you know, the delegation headed by the President of the Republic of Armenia Serzh Sargsyan will leave tomorrow (5 May - edit.) for the United States of America to take part in the Armenian Genocide Centennial commemoration events. Ecumenical liturgy will be held at the Washington Cathedral with the participation of the Catholicos of All Armenians Karekin II and the Catholicos of the Great House of Cilicia Aram I",* Vigen Sargsyan said. (US Vice President **Joe Biden** attended the Liturgy as well. See page 2 for more details on the visit - edit.)

According to him, in July Yerevan will host the 12th conference of the Genocidologists' Society and about 400 applications for participation in it have been already received. In August they expect Pan-

Armenian Games in Armenia which will be a good occasion for the next unification of the Armenians. *"Week of the Independence Day of Armenia will be eventful; in the Mother See of Echmiadzin a myrrh blessing ceremony will be held, as well as meeting of the State Commission on Coordination of the Events for the Commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide aimed at summing up and working out a plan of further activities will be held",* Vigen Sargsyan said. Chief Coordinator of the Genocide Commemoration Events considers the process of international recognition of the Armenian Genocide as an ongoing one.

When asked by a reporter if he could distinguish the major outcome that Armenia achieved after the events dedicated to the Centennial of the Armenian Genocide, Vigen Sargsyan mentioned: *"It's hard to distinguish an outcome 'cause all what we call the intl civil society or intl newspress were involved in at the highest level. You yourselves heard the most famous TV anchors, heads of states and political figures who talked about the four ideas on which the events for the commemoration of the Centennial of the Armenian Genocide are being based."*

He attached importance to not only the speeches by the Presidents who were in Yerevan, but also those by the heads of states who preferred to participate in the events organized by the Armenian communities in their countries or to initiate events themselves, as well as the parliaments that touched upon the issue. *"Those all are the outcome. It's hard to distinguish any one,"* Mr Sargsyan noted.

He added that, most probably, the most important thing was the solidarity due to which no one allowed himself to question the fact of the Armenian Genocide. *"None of those who have decided, for whatever reason, to attend or to speak in a more limited format, did not dispute what happened. Just the some openly say that, due to political expediency, today they do not pass this path completely, but they make steps in this direction",* said Vigen Sargsyan. He stressed once again that in parliaments of a number of countries there are draft resolutions which he is confident will reach the goal.

**Acknowledgement:** "Armenpress"  
CJSC

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*On 10 May Vigen A. Sargsyan turned forty... This is a brilliant age when a man is a mature one but at the same time full of energy.*

*The Noyan Tapan Media Holding staff congratulates Mr Sargsyan on this happy occasion and wish him goodhealth, family happiness and all the success in his job of the GREAT responsibility.*

## On 9 May Armenians Celebrate Their Victories

On 9 May Armenians worldwide and the Motherland Armenia (including Nagorno-Karabakh (FREE) Republic) celebrates its ERATON ("The Triple Holiday"), i.e. 1) 70<sup>th</sup> Victory Day in the WWII or *The Great Patriotic War of the Soviet People* in which the-then 1,700,000-strong Armenian SSR participated with 600,000 warriors (more than 30 percent of ALL the population), more than half of who sacrificed their lives in the name of

FREEDOM of the rest of the MANKIND, 2) Liberation of the ancient Armenian City of Shushi of Karabakh and 3) the official formation of the NKR Defence Army.

In The Highlights coming issues we'll return to this important theme, and at the moment we present some pics of the Day.

*Photos by  
News.am and The Highlights*



## Armenia Moves to Reform its Defence and Security Sector

On 30 April, Armenian First Deputy Minister of Defence **Davit Tonoyan** handed over the NATO Building Integrity (BI) Self-Assessment Questionnaire to NATO Assistant Secretary General for Political Affairs and Security Policy Ambassador **Terry Stamatoopoulos**.

The completion of the questionnaire is the first step in the implementation of the NATO BI Programme for Armenia. It provides the foundation for NATO to assist the country in its efforts to enhance national defence capacities and to promote reforms as well as integrity, transparency, accountability and good governance in its defence and security sector.

"We believe in Building Integrity as it has a direct impact on stability and security," said Mr Tonoyan.

This fundamental step will be complemented by Peer Review Visits and the

drafting of a BI Peer Review Report to provide an analysis of national current structures, good practices and capacities



as well as recommendations to strengthen the management of defence establishments.

Armenia is the 13<sup>th</sup> country to com-

plete the Self-Assessment Questionnaire.  
[www.nato.int](http://www.nato.int)

Let's remind that at the Universal Rights Awards Ceremony held by the U.S. Embassy, Delegation of the EU to Armenia, British Embassy, OSCE Office in Yerevan, Council of Europe Office in Yerevan, the United Nations Armenia Office and Counterpart International on 19 June 2012 in Yerevan Mr Tonoyan was presented the "Government Reformer" Award, - for his being "... an ardent champion of human rights mainstreaming as well as democratic oversight of Armenia's armed forces. We appreciate his commitment and efforts to reform the security sector of Armenia and to promote the universal values of security, prosperity and democracy that bind us together".

## Armenia To Tax Migrant Workers

Dismissing opposition objections, the National Assembly approved on May 6 a government bill that will require some of the hundreds of thousands of Armenians working abroad to pay taxes in Armenia.

The bill will primarily apply to construction firms that are registered in Armenia but implement building projects abroad and Russia in particular. The government will be able to levy a 13 percent income tax from their employees.

The payroll tax rate for workers in Armenia is 24 percent.

Presenting the bill to lawmakers, Deputy Finance Minister Vakhtang Mirumyan said the government expects a boost to its tax revenue. "Some of our citizens work abroad and I think that there is nothing wrong with this mechanism," he said. "We are telling them to pay their taxes here, rather than there."

Mirumyan gave no estimates as to the number of Armenian migrant workers likely to be affected by the measure or the amount of extra revenue anticipated by the government.

An estimated 500,000 Armenian nationals are thought to live and work in Russia. Many of them work for construction firms that are often owned by Armenians. Annual remittances from those migrant workers as well as Russian citizens of Armenian descent are equivalent to at least 15 percent of Armenia's Gross Domestic Product.

The bill met with strong resistance from some opposition law-



makers. They said that it will put affected workers at the risk of double taxation by Armenian and Russian authorities. One of those deputies, Hrant Bagratyan, also claimed that the measure could fall foul of Russian laws.

Levon Zurabyan, the parliamentary leader of the opposition Armenian National Congress (HAK), protested against the fact that the proposed amendments are "hastily" debated on the parliament floor without their prior discussion in relevant National Assembly committees.

Nevertheless, the amendments were passed in the first reading by 65 votes to 16, with 21 abstentions.

## American observers say impressed by Karabakh elections

American observers say they are impressed by the parliamentary elections held in Nagorno Karabakh.

Karin Mac Donald, Director of the Election Administration Research Center at Berkeley University, said they have followed the whole process of elections and witnessed transparent, free and fair elections, corresponding to all international standards.

According to Christian Abajian from the David University, the Nagorno Karabakh Republic showed its commitment to democratic processes, which is important from the viewpoint of human rights. He said they will include technical recommendations in the final report, which will help ensure greater turnout at the elections.

The American observers say the elections in Nagorno Karabakh were conducted as in democratic countries. They will present the impressions in their country and will ask for support to greater democratization in Nagorno Karabakh.

## U.S. Ambassador Mills marks World Intellectual Property Day at the Microsoft Innovation Center



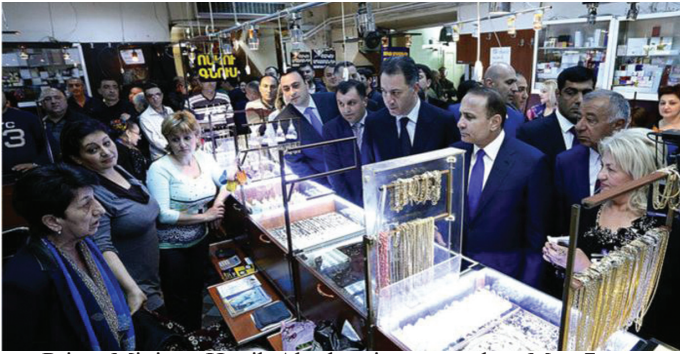
The U.S. Ambassador to Armenia, Richard M. Mills, Jr., visited the Microsoft Innovation Center to highlight World Intellectual Property Day, a day celebrated annually to mark the founding of the World Intellectual Property Organization, otherwise known as WIPO, in 1970. In addition to touring the center and the Armenian National Engineering Lab (ANEL), the Ambassador spoke with a group of IT startups and students and delivered remarks.

In his remarks, Ambassador Mills highlighted the importance of public/private

partnerships such as the one between Microsoft, USAID and the Government of Armenia. "In addition to contributing greatly to developing innovative solutions and technologies, Microsoft in Armenia also contributes to the protection of intellectual property rights (IPR). These types of partnerships unite all the stakeholders and act as an effective platform for addressing such challenges as protection of intellectual property rights, in addition to designing and implementing common IPR strategies that will be beneficial for all the parties involved," he stated.

While annual monitoring by the Business Software Alliance (BSA) shows that the piracy rate in Armenia has been slowly decreasing, it remains very high - 86% as of 2013. An increased commitment to the protection of IPR across all sectors - the government, businesses and private consumers - is essential to enable Armenian entrepreneurs to better capitalize on the potential of their intellectual property, and thus help grow Armenia's economy.

## Prime Minister warns officials against graft



Prime Minister Hovik Abrahamian warned on May 7 government officials handling infrastructure projects financed by Armenia's foreign donors to avoid misappropriating public funds or face prosecution.

The warning was addressed to the heads of the Armenian government's ad hoc "project implementation units" (PIUs) that spend foreign loans earmarked for the construction of roads, schools and other public infrastructure.

Abrahamian said that earlier this week he met those officials and told them to "refrain from any manifestations of corruption." "Or else, they would be not only dismissed but I will also see to it that they are subjected to strict punishment in accordance with the law," he told a weekly cabinet meeting in Yerevan.

"For years large-scale [capital] investments have been made in the country through the PIUs. But as a rule, there has been more talk of corruption scandals and abuses than the work carried out by them," complained the premier.

Many of those abuses have been alleged by the Audit Chamber, a parliamentary body tasked with verifying the proper

use of budgetary funds.

Abrahamian warned the officials following his pledges to reinvigorate the Armenian government's stated efforts to combat corruption. The government announced in February plans to set up a new Anti-Corruption Council (ACC) that will be headed by Abrahamian and comprise several ministers and other top state officials. It also urged the political parties represented in the Armenian parliament and civic groups to nominate their representatives to the council by May 13.

A senior official from Abrahamian's staff said on Thursday that no non-governmental organization has shown an interest in the ACC yet. This fact reflects widespread skepticism among Armenian civic activists about the seriousness of the government's new anti-graft drive. They have for years said that the authorities in Yerevan are not interested in tackling corruption because they themselves have benefited from it.

Karen Zadoyan of the Armenian Association of Young Lawyers said his group will not join the ACC because it will be dominated by senior government officials. "Such a body cannot be independent and effective," he said.

The Yerevan-based Center for Freedom of Information has also decided to shun the ACC. Its chairwoman, Shushan Doydoyan, said she sees "few possibilities of fair decisions" by Abrahamian's council.

"They will execute orders issued from above," she said. "So I doubt that this council can act against any senior official."

Both Doydoyan and Zadoyan argued that Armenian officials have rarely been prosecuted for bribery, embezzlement and other corrupt practices despite anti-corruption campaigns periodically announced by the authorities.

## Armenian concerns over Russian-Azeri arms deals 'addressed'

Russia is addressing serious concerns that have been voiced by Armenia about its large-scale sales of offensive weapons to Azerbaijan, Defense Minister Seyran Ohanyan implied on May 7.

Ohanyan stressed in that context the importance of Russian military aid to Armenia, saying that it is continuing unabated. "Very important [Russian-Armenian] documents signed recently also ensure our progress in the military-technical area," he told reporters.

"Of course we periodically express concerns [about Russian weapons sales to Azerbaijan.] I think that is resulting in a situation where all that is kept under control," he added.

Ohanian did not clarify whether this means that Moscow is planning no more major arms deals with Baku.

Since 2010 Russian defense companies have reportedly supplied the Azerbaijani army with at least \$4 billion worth of military hardware, including hundreds of tanks, artillery systems and combat helicopters.

Unlike many Armenian opposition politicians and pundits, the authorities in Yerevan were until recently careful not to publicly criticize the Russian arms supplies to Armenia's arch-foe. Some Armenian officials claimed that they are offset by Russian military assistance to Armenia.

President Serzh Sargsyan first publicly voiced dismay at the Russian-Azerbaijani arms deals in July last year. He reiterated



his concerns during an international media forum held in Yerevan in March.

"Vladimir Vladimirovich [Putin] and I have talked about this subject for many times," Sargsyan told Russian state television late last month. "We could not have failed to talk about that."

"I am confident that they very well realize in the Russian General Staff what consequences a disruption of the military balance would have," he said, alluding to the risk of a renewed Armenian-Azerbaijani war for Nagorno-Karabakh.

Serzh Sargsyan admitted at the same time that Yerevan's ability to thwart more Russian-Azerbaijani deals is limited. He also noted that the military alliance with Russian has been critical for the strength of the Armenian armed forces.



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### 1 ROOM

- ♦1696.**Tumanyan str.**, 5/4, stone bld, 1 bedroom, h-3m, capially repaired, heating system. Price: 160.000 USD.
- ♦1440.**Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 3rd floor, 110 sq.m., 1 bedroom, h-3m,euro repaired, heating system, furnished,parking,. Price: 350.000 USD.
- ♦1715- **Sayat Nova Ave.**, 5/4, 70sq.m, stone bld, h-4m, 1 bedroom, capially repaired, heating system. Price: 110.000 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
- ♦1698-**Aram str.**, Newly built, 14/5, 62sq.m, 1 bedroom, capially repaired, AC, security system, parking. Price: 120.000 USD.

### 2 ROOMS

- ♦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.**, Hambarzumyan str. 5/3, 110sq.m, 2 bedrooms, capially repaired, heating system, kitchen is furnished. Price: 150.000 USD negotiable.
- ♦2949.**Aram str.**, Newly built, 1st floor, 143 sq.m, 2 bedrooms, zero state, Price: 2000 USD per sq.m.
- ♦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

- ♦3046.**Amiryan str.**, Newly built, 9/9, 81sq.m.,with-out divisions. 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: 550.000 USD negotiable.
- ♦2958.**Pushkin str.**, 5/2, 140 sq.m., stone building,4 bedrooms, capially repaired,heating system. Price: Negotiable.
- ♦2895.**Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 3rd floor, 300sq.m,3bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, climate control, AC. Price: negotiable
- ♦2802.**Amiryan str.**, Newly built,8/4, 166sq.m,3bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, central heating,AC,security system. Price:320.000 USD.
- ♦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: 1.100.000\$ 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,with-out divisions, parkings, 3 access. Price:1.400.000 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 floor300sq.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
- ♦2310.**Monument, Babayan str**, 1000 sq. m, facade-25m, privatized, Price:350 USD negotiable
- ♦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

- ♦3739.**Nork Marash** Land- 2000sq.m, two separate houses, total bld-600sq.m, capially repaired, swimming pool, sauna, guard house. 2 car parking, garden. Price: 950.000 USD
- ♦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, hjeating 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.,3bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, garden. Price: 680.000 USD
- ♦3651.**Blur, Barbyus str.**, Land-900sq.m.,5 storied building-800sq.m.,4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, garden. Price:1.700.000 USD.
- ♦3401.**Antarayan 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

- ♦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.
- ♦93.**Kievyan str.**, Given to the operation in October 2011, 16 floors, walls plastered, windows, exterior doors, h -3, 15 m, gas,parking. Price: 1500-1600USD per sq.m,parking-12 000 USD. Possible with mortgage, for 13 years term.
- ♦94.**Masiv**. 3floors,8 flats,each flat has 3 bedrooms, 210 sq.m., parking. Price: negotiable.
- ♦130.**Antarayan str.**, 34 flats, 110-275 sq.m., 4 penthouses-200-275sq.m,available seives-car wash, cleaning service, garbage removal service, parking. Price: Negotiable
- ♦131.**Busand str.**, commercial, office and residential areas, penthouse, available seives-car wash, cleaning service, garbage removal service, parking. Price: Negotiable



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## 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, capitolly repaired, furnished, equipped. Price: 1000 USD.
- 2099. **Sayat-Nova Ave.**, 12/6, 1 bedroom, capitolly repaired, gas, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped. Price: 600 USD.
- 1972. **Northern ave.**, 8/4, 80sq.m., 1 bedroom, 2 bathrooms, open kitchen, capitolly repaired, climate control. Price: 1200 USD
- 2171. **Tumanyan str.**, Newly built, 5th floor, 94 sq.m., 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, capitolly repaired, central heating, furnished, equipped. Price: 1000 USD
- 2367. **Northern ave.**, Newly built, 9th floor, 98 sq.m., capitolly repaired, heating system, furnished equipped. Price: Negotiable.

## 2 ROOMS

- 2302 **North Ave.**, Newly built, 11/4, 137sq.m, 2bedrooms, 2bathrooms, capitolly repaired, furnished, parking. Price: 2000 USD
- 2295 **North Ave.**, Newly built, 16/15, 173sq.m., 2bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, furnished. Price: 5000 USD
- 2290 **Bayron str.**, Newly built, /5th floor, 220sq.m, 2bedrooms, study, open kitchen, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, climate control, furnished, parking. Price: 4000 USD
- 1780. **Amiryan str.**, Newly built, /13th floor, 82 sq.m, 2 bedrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped. Price: 1700 USD negotiable.
- 942. **Teryan str.** 4/3, 130 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped. Price: 1500 USD.
- 1950. **Buzand/Mashtots area.** Newly built, 8th floor, 163 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, climate control, furnished, open balcony. Price: 2500 USD.
- 1681. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 6/2, 130 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, AC, parking. Price: 2000 USD.
- 1535. **Busand str.**, Newly built, 7/4, 82sq.m., 2bedrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, AC, parking, furnished, equipped. Price: Negotiable.
- 2089. **Northern ave.**, Newly built, 8/6, 120sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, climate control, furnished, equipped. Price: 2500 USD
- 1738. **Amiryan str.**, 8/8, 159sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, parking. Price: Negotiable
- 1951. **Busand str.**, Newly built, 13th floor, 122sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, climate control. Price: 2500 USD
- 1406. **Sayat Nova ave.**, 7/3, 110sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped. Price: Negotiable
- 2109. **Northern ave.**, Newly built, 10/4, 137sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, central heating, furnished, equipped, parking. Price: 2000 USD.
- 2243. **Buzand str.**, Newly built, 17/4, 125sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped. Price: 2000 USD
- **Amiryan str.**, Newly built, 14/5, 120sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, AC, partly furnished. Price: 2000 USD



parking. Price: 2500 USD

•2316 **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 6th floor, 227sq.m., 4bedrooms, 2bathrooms, guest toilet, capitolly repaired, furnished, parking. Price: 2500 USD

•2303 **Hanrapetutyan str** Newly built, 9/5, 165sq.m, 3bedrooms, 1bathroom, 1 guest toilet. capitolly repaired, furnished, parking. Price: 2000 USD

•2286 **Sose str.**, Newly built, 12/2, 154sq.m, 3bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, furnished, equipped. Price: 1700 USD

•2257. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 17/16, 160 sq.m., 3 bedrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, AC, parking. Price: Negotiable

•2021. **Teryan Str.**, Newly built, 9/8, 9, 245 sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, furnished. Preliminary price: 3500 USD.

•2005. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 8/8, 130 sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, furnished, parking. Price: 2200 USD.

•1723. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 8/4., 170 sq.m 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, open kitchen, capitolly repaired, furnished, equipped. Price: 2000 USD.

•1981. **Vardanants Str.**, Newly built, 14/14, 140 sq m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, AC, 3 open balconies, furnished, equipped, parking. Price: 2000 USD.

•1793. **Teryan str.**, Newly built, 8th floor, 260 sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, study, capitolly repaired, climat control, parking, unfurnished (possible to furnish), Price: 3500 USD.

•1720. **Amiryan str.**, Newly built, 16/10, 179 sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly 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, capitolly repaired, climate control, AC, parking. Price: 5000 USD

•2261. **Hin Yerevantsi, /North Avenue/,** Newly built, 10/3, 124sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped, parking. Price: 1700 USD

•2084. **Tumanyan str.**, 4th floor, 200sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, climate control, parking. Price: 5000 USD

•2252. **Northern ave**, 7th floor, 350 sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, study, open balconies, capitolly repaired, climate control, parking. Price Negotiable.

## PRIVATE HOUSES

•1335 **Baghramyan str.**, Land-200sq.m, 3storied bld-300sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 3bathrooms, capitolly repaired, furnished. Price: 3000 USD

•1336 **Aygedzor**, Land-1000sq.m, 2 storied bld-240sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, furnished. Price: 2000 USD

•1337 **Davtashen** Land-406sq.m, 3 storied bld-306sq.m, 4bedrooms, 2bathrooms, capitolly repaired, furnished. Price: 3900 USD

•1323. **Monument, Babayan str.**, Land-400sq.m, 3storied bld-300sq.m, 4bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capitolly repaired. Price: Negotiable

•1248. **Aygedzor**, Land - 1021 sq m, 3 storied bld. - 501 sq.m., 5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, study, capitolly repaired, central heating, AC, sauna, boiler room garden, swimming pool, garage, alarming system, security system. Price: 8000 USD.

•999. **Aygedzor**, Land - 1000 sqm, basement + 2 floors- 310 sqm, capitolly 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, capitolly 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,

capitolly repaired, heating system, sauna, gym, furnished, 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, capitolly 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, capitolly 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, capitolly 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, capitolly 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, capitolly 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, capitolly 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, capitolly repaired, heating system, AC, garden. Price: Negotiable

•1317. **Blur, Barbyus str.**, Land-900sq.m., 5 storied building-800sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capitolly 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, capitolly 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. **Zarobyan str.**, /parallel to Baghramyan str./, 2 storied building, 600 sqm. ground floor- hall and kitchen, 1st floor 5 rooms, bathroom, open balcony, capitolly repaired, gas, heating system, parking. Price: Negotiable.

•1462. **Teryan str.**, 3 storied building, 800 sq.m., capitolly repaired, AC, parking. Price: 10.000 USD.

•1945. **Mashtots Ave.**, 5/1, 2, 140sq.m., window glasses, capitolly repaired, AC. Price: 8000 USD

•1943. **Tumanyan str.**, Ground floor of the building, 265sq.m., 1st line, capitolly repaired, heating system, cellar. Price: 7000 USD

•1868. **Tumanyan str.**, Ground floor of the building, 220sq.m., 1st line, facade-55m., capitolly repaired, h-5m., cellar. Price: 15.000 USD.

•2087. **Northern ave.**, Ground floor of the building, 100sq.m, 1st line, zero level, capitolly repaired, window glasses. Price: Negotiable.

•2033. **Abovyan str.**, 388sq.m, Ground floor of the building, 3 degrees above zero level, window glasses, h-3m., basement-235sq.m., capitolly 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, capitolly repaired. Price: 4.000 USD

## 3 ROOMS AND MORE

- 2277. **Kievyan str.** duplex, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capitolly repaired, with or without furniture. Price: Negotiable.
- 2310 **Busand str.**, Newly built, 190sq.m, 3bedrooms, 3bathrooms, capitolly repaired, furnished,

# "Toumanyan's Fairy Tales and Brazilian Folk Legends": A New Symbol of Brazilian-Armenian Friendship

**The 5th of May is the Day of the Portuguese Language and Culture**



**By Gourgen James Khazhakian**  
**Chief Correspondent**  
**Journalist Emeritus of Armenia**

On 5 May an interesting event took place at the Yerevan House-Museum of the great Armenian poet Hovhannes Toumanyan: joint project between the Embassy of Brazil in Yerevan and the Museum, - a bilingual book entitled "Toumanyan's Fairy Tales and Brazilian Folk Legends" was presented. Poetry of Toumanyan was translated in Portuguese, and the Brazilian tales - from Portuguese to Armenian.

Interestingly, nice drawings for this colorful book were done by the children themselves: students of the Art School in Gyumri, Armenia's second largest city (tremendously damaged 'cause of Spitak earthquake' 1988) illustrated Brazilian tales and vice versa - their fellows in Brasilia and São Paulo prepared drawings for Hovhannes Toumanyan's works.

Among the guests were members of the Armenian Government, Parliament, Diplomatic Corps - Ambassadors and diplomats of the US, UK, EU, Iran, Lebanon, India and other states, reps of international organizations and the Armenian institutions, art lovers and mass media.

In his welcome address Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Brazil to Armenia H.E. Mr **Edson Monteiro** (accompanied that evening by Mrs **Grace Monteiro**) said the following: "I have a special note of thanks for the Esteemed Director of the Toumanyan Museum, Mrs Narine Khachaturyan for having taken the initiative and offered to our Embassy all the support that made it possible to realize a joint project for this book representing "Toumanyan's Fairy Tales and Brazilian Folk Legends".

Many other people deserve also to be thanked for their contributions to this work, like the translators, Mrs. Nara Melikjanyan and Mr. João Gilberto de Souza, both our colleagues at the Embassy of Brazil, and the many children who contributed their designs for the illustration of the book.

*From the bottom of my heart, thank you all.*

*As you can imagine, we at the Brazilian Embassy feel honoured at this opportunity to associate ourselves with the activities of the museum where the memory of the life and works of the great Armenian author Hovhannes Toumanyan's are so lovingly preserved. And we feel privileged for being given an opportunity to put together some of his immortal literary work with some very captivating examples of the Brazilian*

*that must be valued".*

Therefore, on this 5th of May the Day of the Portuguese Language and Culture is being celebrated in the eight countries that compose CPLP: 5 in Africa - Angola, Cabo Verde, Guiné-Bissau, Mozambique and São Tomé e Príncipe; 1 in Asia - Timor-Leste; 1 in South America - Brazil and 1 in Europe - Portugal where the Portuguese Language was created.

I am pleased to note that there are today around 260 million native Portuguese speakers in the CPLP countries. They represent around 4 per cent of the world population. These numbers make Portuguese the 4th most spoken language on the Planet, with one of the fastest rates of growth in the Internet, in social media and in terms of learning a foreign language.

With this in mind, I must express that the Brazilian Government greatly appreciates the decision by Armenian educational institutions - namely the Yerevan State University and the State University of Social Sciences and Languages after Valery Brussov to offer classes of Portuguese Language, an initiative that received support from Brazilian teachers.

We also appreciate very much the interest shown by many Armenians in studying Portuguese.

I take it that these facts are as other evidences of the potential for joint initiatives, in education, literature, arts and also sciences that will bring our two countries and people even closer together in years to come.

Let's strive together to make such goals a wonderful reality.

Thank you."

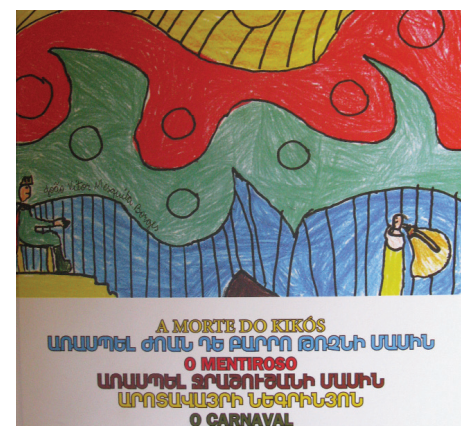


*Folk Stories, or legends.*

*May this book come to be a source of pleasure for young and old readers, in Armenia and in Brazil? May it also be seen as a statement about the many possibilities for mutual cultural enrichment that our two countries can find in each other's artistic and literary heritage.*

*I am also happy to mention that this event is being held on the date, the 5th of May that the Community of Portuguese Language Countries (CPLP) has chosen to celebrate every year the "The Day of the Portuguese Language and Culture".*

*A decision to institute such a date was taken in 2009, based on the fact that the Portuguese Language represents for the peoples in this community "a historical linkage and a common heritage resulting from many centuries of joint existence*



## Biden Attends Armenian Genocide Remembrance Service In U.S.

U.S. Vice President Joe Biden joined President Serzh Sargsyan and over two thousand Armenian Americans at Washington's National Cathedral late on May 7 in a remembrance ceremony that marked the 100th anniversary of the Armenian genocide in Ottoman Turkey.

The ecumenical prayer service led by the supreme heads of the Armenian Apostolic Church was also attended by top clerics of the Roman Catholic, Russian and Syriac Orthodox and American Evangelical churches as well as the secretary general of the World Council of Churches, Olav Fykse Tveit. The two-hour service featured sermons delivered by them and a speech by Serzh Sargsyan.

Biden was accompanied at the ceremony by Samantha Power, the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations known for her strong support for a formal U.S. recognition of the Armenian genocide. Power was reportedly among senior U.S. administration officials who urged President Barack Obama to refer to the slaughter of 1.5 million Armenians as genocide in his most recent April 24 statement on the tragedy.

Obama decided to again avoid using the politically sensitive term, however. He at the same time implicitly praised Pope Francis for honoring the victims of "the first genocide of the 20th century" on April 12. Obama also paid tribute to Henry Morgenthau, America's First World War-era ambassador in Constantinople who tried to stop what he saw as a "campaign of race extermination" by the Ottoman Turks.

These gestures were dismissed by the leading Armenian-American advocacy groups. They argued that Obama repeatedly pledged to explicitly call the massacres a genocide when he ran for president in 2007-2008.

One of those organizations, the Armenian Assembly of America, welcomed Biden's and Power's presence at the Washington ceremony. "We are pleased to have Vice President Biden and Ambassador Power join Armenian President Serzh Sargsyan in honoring the victims of the Armenian Genocide," its executive director, Bryan Ardouny, said in a statement.

Ardouny pointed out that Biden was a staunch backer of Armenian genocide recognition during his long tenure in the U.S.



Senate. In 2005, Biden was among the senators who wrote to then President George W. Bush urging him to ignore Turkish protests and refer to the mass killings as genocide.

Biden co-sponsored a corresponding congressional resolution two years later. It never reached the Senate floor.

The U.S. vice president made no statements during Thursday's church service.

Serzh Sargsyan, meanwhile, expressed hope that the United States will eventually recognize the genocide, arguing that 44 U.S. states have already done so. "I hope that a full recognition by the U.S. of the Armenian genocide is a matter of 'when,' rather than 'if,'" he said.

In his speech, the Armenian president also paid tribute to Morgenthau and U.S. relief agencies who helped many genocide survivors during and after the First World War. "Throughout our 100-year struggle for justice and truth we have felt America's support," he said. "The number of genocide victims would have been much higher and the fate of survivors much sadder had friendly countries, including the United States of America, not stood by our people."

"The Armenian people will forever remember the hundreds of Americans who set up orphanages in Armenia, the Middle East and Europe, saving the lives and taking care of tens of thousands of Armenian orphans," added Sargsyan.

## The United States should have put values over interests: Armenian President

In an interview with the Washington Post Armenian President Serzh Sargsyan explained the reasons behind Armenia's decision to join the Eurasian Economic Union.

"Armenian cognac can't really be sold in Paris," Sargsyan, speaking through a translator, said. "But it does well in the Russian Federation."

In other words, he said, he took a "pragmatic decision." One-third of Armenia's exports go to Russia and its partners, including agricultural products on which thousands of jobs depend. In addition, Russia sells natural gas to landlocked, energy-poor Armenia "at quite a good price."

The president stressed that Armenia still pursues good relations with the European Union. But a free-trade agreement with Europe would not have delivered much, he said, especially as long as Armenia's border with Turkey remains blocked. Armenia's economy would have to evolve over ten to fifteen years to take advantage of a free-trade regime with Europe. "But

in the meantime there is a need to survive," he said, "and people are not ready to suffer during this long term."

Armenians are suffering now from the rift between Russia and the West, he said, in three ways: Armenian exports to Russia, Russian investment in Armenia and remittances from Armenians working in Russia - which account for one-fifth of Armenia's GDP - all are down. This hurts in a country of 3 million people that in 2013 ranked 152nd in the world in income per person.

But, he added, "had we not acceded to the Eurasian Union, we would have faced more painful problems."

Sargsyan said he will not be seeing President Obama on this trip, but he was diplomatic on the president's refusal once again, in deference to Turkish objections, to use the word "genocide" to describe the crimes against Armenians in the Ottoman Empire 100 years ago.

"I think had he said it, it could have been useful," Sargsyan said. "The United States should have put values over interests."

## Denial is not opening the door to reconciliation: Armenian FM

On May 7, Minister of Foreign Affairs Edward Nalbandian who is in Washington DC within the delegation headed by the President of Armenia presented the commemorative events being held in Armenia and abroad dedicated to the Armenian Genocide Centennial and their message during the meeting with leading American and foreign media at the US National Press Club. Co-founder of '100 lives' initiative, Chairman of the US National Commemoration of the Armenian Genocide Centennial Noubar Afeyan reflected on the events scheduled in Washington DC.

Delivering introductory remarks Minister Edward Nalbandian, particularly, said, "As a nation which passed through the horrors of Genocide we feel a deep moral responsibility to raise a worldwide awareness about this scourge and to do our utmost to contribute to the prevention of crimes against humanity. It is in this spirit that the Armenians worldwide pay tribute to 1.5 million innocent victims of the Armenian Genocide and join their voices to the pledge of "never again".

As one of the steps taken in this direction I would like to emphasize the Genocide Prevention Resolution initiated by Armenia and co-authored by 71 states which was adopted this March 27th by consensus in the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva. It emphasizes the importance of combating denial of genocides and crimes against humanity. Denial is not opening the door to reconciliation; it is opening the door to new crimes against humanity. It is with this understanding that Pope Francis I stated during the Mass in St. Peter's Cathedral on the occasion of the Centennial of the Armenian Genocide: "Concealing or denying evil is like allowing a wound to keep bleeding without bandaging it."

Regrettably, Turkey instead of trying to comprehend the message of His Holiness dared to accuse him for being biased. And this was not a sole case, Turkey harshly condemned all those who during the past weeks expressed their sympathies and commemorated the Centennial, to name only few - The European Parliament, France, Russia,

Germany, Austria, USA and others. Turkey has not just condemned those countries and international organizations, it has challenged the truth and has obviously failed in its fight against justice.

The worldwide commemoration of the Centennial of the Armenian Genocide is the testimony to that failure. More than 60 official delegations, including heads of states and parliaments, high level government officials paid tribute to the victims together with the Armenian nation during the solemn commemoration event at the Genocide memorial in Yerevan.

Several thousand commemoration events are taking place worldwide held at the governmental, parliamentary, ecumenical, academic, civil society and community levels.

The statement of German President, as well as the declaration of the Austrian Parliament showed that nations which 100 years ago were allies of the Ottoman Empire are facing their part of the history.

On April 22-23 the Global Forum Against the Crime of Genocide was held in Yerevan which gathered together 600 participants - academicians, genocide scholars, lawyers, parliamentarians, clergy, journalists - from 50 countries. The International Association of Genocide Scholars is planning to hold its annual conference in Armenia in July. We feel the sympathy and support from all parts of the world, international organizations, civil society, academic circles, and the world media. The headlines and the news of the major outlets and the main TV and Radio channels worldwide are providing extensive coverage on the Armenian Genocide and the commemoration events.

The remembrance days could be an opportunity for acknowledging the past and laying foundations for a better future. We hoped that Turkey would embark on that road since we firmly believe that there is a better choice than to justify those who perpetrated the Genocide. In Ankara last August I passed the invitation from the President of Armenia to the President of Turkey to participate in the Centennial events in Yerevan. Once again Turkey rejected to shake the hand extend-

ed to it.

Luis Moreno Ocampo, the first Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court stated in Yerevan during the Global Forum: "If we cannot get the recognition for what happened 100 years ago how we are going to stop genocide today?" Would it be possible to avoid the horrors of Holocaust, Cambodia, Rwanda, Darfur or the sufferings of the victims targeted by the so-called ISIS if the Armenian Genocide was internationally recognized and the perpetrators were brought to justice? We believe that "Yes" is the right answer. If there are still people who doubt it, perhaps they can be convinced by Adolf Hitler's words, that I saw again yesterday at the Washington Holocaust Museum, who on the eve of Holocaust said "Who still talk nowadays of the extermination of the Armenians?"

Ladies and gentlemen,

One of the main pillars of the Centennial commemoration events is the gratitude to those who assisted and supported Armenians during the dark days of the Genocide. In this regard I would like to highlight the huge charitable contribution of the Near East Relief, which was established by the U.S. government at the urging of Henry Morgenthau, the U.S. Ambassador to Turkey to prevent what he called the "campaign of race extermination". It is credited with having cared for more than 130.000 Armenian orphans scattered across the region.

Being in Washington, I would like to extend our gratitude to 44 States of the U.S.A. which have recognized the Armenian Genocide. Later today during the Centennial commemorative service at the National Cathedral we also will pay tribute to the memory of President Woodrow Wilson who will always be remembered as a true friend of the Armenian nation and who shared his conviction that the American people "have made the cause of Armenia their own".

Presentation on the commemoration events in the USA by Noubar Afeyan followed the address of the Minister.

Minister of Foreign Affairs of Armenia answered numerous questions of the journalists.

## Exhibit of Armenian artifacts a century after rescue by Russians



*By Harut  
Sassounian*

*Publisher, The  
California Courier*

On my way back from the Centennial events in Yerevan last week, I stopped in Saint Petersburg, Russia, to attend the inauguration of an unprecedented exhibit of Armenian artifacts rescued by Russian ethnographers from Western Armenia during the genocide.

Here is the incredible background story of that unique exhibit. In 1916, during the Russian military campaign which temporarily liberated Western Armenia from Ottoman Turkey, Saint Petersburg's Russian Museum of Ethnography sought Czar Nicholas II's permission to dispatch a scholarly expedition to the Van area to collect Armenian artifacts from imminent loss. The Czar gave immediate consent in his handwriting: "Approve. Need to hurry."

A small team of ethnographers led by Alexander Miller arrived in Van on June 10, 1916, after a lengthy and perilous journey. During their two-week stay, they managed to purchase from local inhabitants a total of 513 objects: 396 Armenian, 110 Assyrian, five Kurdish, and two Turkish. The artifacts included traditional Armenian costumes, jewelry, and carpets from the city of Van, the towns of Alur, Bitlis, Moks, Mush, Shatakh, and neighboring villages. During their visit, the scholars took 60 photographs of natural landscapes, historical monuments, buildings, and some residents. All of these materials were hauled back to Saint Petersburg under the protection of the Russian military.

Surprisingly, these painstakingly-col-

lected cultural objects remained in the Russian museum's basement for 100 years and were never displayed! No one seemed to remember their existence, until two years ago, when Armenia's Consul General Vardan Hakopyan in Saint Petersburg learned about these artifacts and informed the authorities in Armenia, local community leaders, and the Armenian Jewelry Association.

After extensive joint efforts between the Armenian Jewelers Foundation and the Russian Museum of Ethnography, the items that were kept in storage for a century were finally put on display in Saint Petersburg last week. The Jewelers Foundation and the Russian Museum published an impressive catalog titled, "Treasures of Western Armenia," which showcased the artifacts collected from the region of Van in 1916, before its recapture and genocidal destruction by Ottoman Turkish forces.

The exhibit was officially opened on April 27, 2015, at the Russian Museum of Ethnography. It was attended by Vigen Sargsyan, the Armenian President's Chief of Staff, Olga Kazanskaya, Vice Governor of Saint Petersburg, Vladimir Grusman, Director of Russian Museum of Ethnography, Pierre Akkelian, Chairman of Armenian Jewelers Foundation, Gagik Gevorgyan, President of Armenian Jewelry Association, and Karen Mkrtchyan, the Armenian community leader of Saint Petersburg.

Not surprisingly, after it became known that the Museum of Ethnography had in its possession valuable artifacts from the Van region, the Consulate of Turkey in Saint Petersburg contacted the Museum claiming that these items are the property of the Turkish Republic and sought their return. The Museum's leadership rejected the Turkish request as the

objects were purchased from their owners in 1916.

It is ironic that Turkish diplomats had the audacity to request these Armenian artifacts, after having killed their owners, burned their homes, and stolen their possessions! One would hope that the Turkish government would be foolish enough to go ahead and file a lawsuit against the Russian Museum, trying to claim these items. Such a lawsuit would further publicize Turkish responsibility for the Armenian Genocide, the looting of Armenian cultural objects, and occupation of their ancestral homeland!

One hundred years later, another expedition should be dispatched to Turkish museums and libraries to locate and recover all Armenian artifacts, manuscripts and other valuable items plundered during the genocide. Lawsuits should be filed against all Turkish institutions holding such Armenian materials. If local Turkish courts reject the demand, Armenians should then appeal to the European Court of Human Rights in order to recover these long lost and precious fragments of Armenian cultural heritage. Such a legal effort would be yet another means of seeking restitution for the massive genocide-era losses suffered by Armenians a century ago!

The Russian Museum's remarkable exhibit should go on tour to Armenian communities around the world: Athens, Beirut, Berlin, Boston, Buenos Aires, London, Los Angeles, Montreal, Moscow, New York, Paris, Tehran, Toronto, San Francisco, San Paulo, Sydney, Yerevan and many other cities. Let the world see a small sampling of the vast quantities of valuable cultural artifacts that the Armenian nation lost during the genocide in addition to the 1.5 million human souls.

## Asa Jennings: A failed Minister who saved 250,000 Christians during Armenian Genocide

Asa Jennings was a failed small-town Methodist minister from upstate New York working for the YMCA in Smyrna, Turkey, in 1922, when he saved a quarter of a million Christians from perishing in a brutal final chapter of the Armenian Genocide, according to BU Today.

"A private individual, a guy without portfolio, who held a minor position in the YMCA, came forward and put together this astonishing rescue," says Lou Ureneck, who spent four years researching and writing Jennings' story. "One of the things I

hope the book does is give America another hero. People ought to know about the work of Asa Jennings."

The College of Communication journalism professor's book, *The Great Fire: One American's Mission to Rescue Victims of the 20th Century's First Genocide* (Ecco, 2015) will debut at an event this week in Washington, D.C., amid commemorations of the 100th anniversary of the genocide's beginning. The story's staying power can be seen today in the continuing controversy over use of the word "genocide" and perse-

cution of Christian minorities in other Muslim countries in the Middle East.

"I think the world has awakened to what happened in Asia Minor during those years," Ureneck says. "When will Turkey stop denying it? I have no idea. But clearly there are a lot of people in Turkey who would like to know the truth, who are willing to admit the truth, who want to know the facts. So I think eventually Turkey will reconcile itself to its history. But it's not an easy thing for any country to do, to admit it participated in a genocide."

## On Martyrs Day Syrian President recalls the Armenian Genocide

Syrian President Bashar al-Assad on May 6 attended a ceremony organized by the Martyrs' Sons and Daughters Schools Establishment to honor the children of martyrs who followed in their fathers' footsteps and joined military academies, SANA agency reports.

President al-Assad addressed the children of martyrs and the schools' staff members, saying that he feels great joy when he meets the sons and daughters of martyrs, and that he wanted to join them on this occasion, which takes place on Martyrs Day.

President al-Assad stressed that Martyrs Day has many values associated with it, some of them symbolic, and some very tangible linked to the history of Syria, as around 100 years ago, the Ottomans carried out a campaign of arrests and executions of Syrian patriots and nationalists which culminated in 1916 when a large group of nationalists were executed by the Ottomans for defending the Syrian people from oppression.

The President noted that the Ottomans'



crimes at that time weren't restricted to nationalists; they also committed heinous crimes against millions of Armenians, Syrians, and other groups under their rule at a time, and now these same massacres are being repeated in the same way but with different tools and names, as back then it was the Othman Jammal Basha "the Butcher" who had ordered the executions, and today history repeats itself as his ancestor Erdogan "the Butcher" is the one

committing these crimes.

President al-Assad said that martyrdom is the most noble value to be championed by human beings anywhere in the world when they are defending their homeland, and the nobility of martyrdom isn't restricted to the martyrs themselves; rather it extends to all those who continue to champion this value, and none can champion it better than the families of the martyrs.

## OSCE promotes collaboration amongst Women's Resource Centres in Armenia

In an effort to promote collaboration amongst women's resource centres, the OSCE Office in Yerevan hosted a delegation from European Association of Women Resource Centres (WINNET) Europe.

The Office in Yerevan established Women's Resource Centres (WRCs) in Goris, Kapan, and Meghri, southern Armenia, in 2009. The centres formed a Syunik Women Resource Centers' Network and became a member of the WINNET Europe in 2014.

"The centres have made an amazing progress in the past few years," said OSCE Democratization Officer Oliver McCoy. "The establishment of WINNET Armenia is a testament to multi-lateral co-operation and can serve as an example to others in the country and wider."

During the visit, WINNET Europe representatives shared their experience in promoting women's role and competi-

tiveness in the social, economic, and political spheres at the national, regional and local levels.

President and Manager of WINNET Sweden and WINNET Europe, Britt-Marie Söderberg Torstensson, said: "Until gender equal conditions and opportunities in terms of work, working conditions, national and regional development for sustainable growth, including innovation and entrepreneurship for women and men prevail, and until a uniform balance of power and influence throughout society is recognized we have a value of discrimination."

The President of WINNET Armenia, Ruzanna Torozyan, highlighted the impact of the resource centres in rural communities, where the network has created around 100 job opportunities for women. "Being involved in handicraft projects, these women not only create carpets, souvenirs and other products, but



also restore the old traditional crafts. The WINNET Armenia also works towards women political empowerment, which reflects in the fact that Syunik has the highest number of women representatives in local authorities."

Over the course of the visit, the WINNET Europe delegation met the government officials in Yerevan and travelled to Goris to see activities and explore further collaboration. WINNET Armenia includes women's resource centres from Goris, Kapan, Meghri, Sisian, Dilijan, Ijevan and Eghegnadzor.

## The world's sexiest people are Armenian women and Irish men

According to a new survey by MissTravel, a destination dating website, its customers say the world's sexiest women are from Armenia and the world's sexiest men are from Ireland, the Huffington Post reports.

The travel site polled over 110,000 Americans to determine who they thought was sexiest; last year, Australian men and Brazilian women topped MissTravel's "hot" charts.

The source suggests Kim Kardashian has had a major effect on the "sexiest" list.

"We can't help but wonder if this new awareness has anything to do with a certain curvy Armenian-American recently visiting her ancestral homeland for an episode of Keeping Up With the Kardashians."

The sexiest nationalities for women:

10. Lebanese
9. Bulgarian
8. Filipina
7. Brazilian
6. Australian
5. English
4. Colombian



3. American
2. Barbadian/Bajan

1. Armenian

The sexiest nationalities for men:

10. Spanish
9. Danish
8. Nigerian

7. Italian

6. Scottish

5. English

4. American

3. Pakistani

2. Australian

1. Irish

## Armenian pensioner walks 2,200 km to Moscow to honor WWII Soviet soldiers

An Armenian pensioner is about to complete an epic walk from Yerevan to Moscow, devoted to 70th Anniversary of Victory over Nazism in the Great Patriotic War, Sputnik reports.

Grigory Tepoyan, a 76-years old Armenian pensioner is completing an epic

walk devoted to the 70th Anniversary of Victory in the Great Patriotic War from Armenia to Russia's capital.

The pensioner has decided to travel the same route that his father had gone during the Second World War.

On the outskirts of Moscow almost

three dozen cars with the Armenian diaspora representatives greeted the doughty traveller. The pensioner has walked 2,200 kilometers in 46 days.

"On May 9, after the Victory Parade, I will lay flowers at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. I consider all these people my family. It does not matter to me whether they were Russians or Armenians," he said.

Grigory Tepoyan started planning his tour about a year ago, preparing his body through intensive physical exercises before undertaking his bold campaign. Eventually, on March 22 he quietly left his house at night.

Grigory Tepoyan is planning to visit Dnepropetrovsk in September 2015 to commemorate his father's struggle against the Nazi invaders.

The robust 76-year old traveller had to walk about 50 kilometers a day to complete his tour on time.



## Armenian Church, lawyers seek return of Camp Armen in Istanbul

*Agos - The Gedikpa?a Armenian Protestant Church and volunteer lawyers are initiating a legal campaign for the return of the camp, or compensation for losses. A new appeal will be made for the amendment of the decision for the cancellation of the sale, and the prevention of the demolition planned for the end of May.*

Among the Armenian Community's properties seized by the State, the Tuzla Children's Camp, also known as Kamp Armen, is among those with the most powerful symbolic meaning. When Anatolia was left devoid of Armenian schools in the post-1915 process, orphaned and impoverished Armenian children who made their way to Istanbul received their education at this camp. The camp, once home to around 1500 children, including Hrant Dink, Rakel Dink and member of parliament Erol Dora, is now abandoned and in a derelict state, and faces the threat of demolition.

### Legal campaign fruitless

The land of the camp, purchased by the Gedikpa?a Armenian Protestant Church Foundation, was returned - along with the facilities constructed on the site with the efforts of the children who studied there - by the State to its first owner on the basis of the 1936 Declaration, and the seizure process of the camp was completed when the Court of Cassation approved the decree of the local court in 1987.

The foundation administration tried all legal means for the return of the camp, however the efforts remained fruitless. Even the cases



filed for compensation for the facilities built on the land were inconsequential.

When in 2011, a change in the Law on Foundations triggered a process for the return of seized foundation properties; an application was made to the Foundations General Directorate for the Tuzla Children's Camp as well. However, the Foundations General Directorate, on the basis of the legal cancellation of the sale of the Tuzla Camp, did not treat the file as a 'seized property' file, and thus the return of the camp or the payment of compensation did not take place. The demolition of the camp will begin within the month of May.

The Gedikpasa Armenian Protestant Church Foundation and volunteer lawyers are now initiating a new legal campaign for the return of the camp, or the compensation of losses. A new application will be filed for the amendment of the decision for the cancellation of the sale, and the prevention of demolition.

### The story of the Atlantis Civilisation

Hrant Dink had described the

Tuzla Children's Camp where he grew up, met his future wife, and later assumed its administration along with his wife Rakel Dink as 'the Atlantis Civilisation'. This reference specifically underlines the contribution of the children's own labour in the creation of the camp. The history of the camp is as follows: The Gedikpa?a Armenian Protestant Church Foundation, when the population of its orphanage began to increase, decided to purchase a plot of land for the relocation of the orphanage that was in the basement of the church.

In 1962, the Church Foundation administration, after receiving the necessary permissions from all relevant State institutions like the Foundations Regional Directorate and the Istanbul Governorate, purchased the land plot of the Tuzla Camp from Sait Durmaz, and registered the deed in the foundation's name. Then, the children at the orphanage worked an entire summer to build the camp where hundreds of children would eventually attend.

### How was the camp seized?

Meanwhile, on 6 July 1971, the 2nd Civil Chamber of the Court of



Cassation, by unanimous vote, approved the recognition as foundation vouchers of the 1936 declarations of community foundations that had no foundation voucher. This served as a legal provision to prevent community foundations from acquiring real estate properties directly or through inheritance.

When the General Assembly of the Court of Cassation approved the decree of the 2nd Civil Chamber of the Court of Cassation on 8 May 1974, the legal precedent was set. In cases filed following this approval, the great majority of immovable assets community foundations acquired after 1936 were seized.

On 23 February 1979, the Foundations General Directorate applied to the Kartal 3rd Civil Court for the cancellation of the deed held by the Gedikpa?a Armenian Protestant Church Foundation and the return of it to its former owner. At the end of the case that lasted four years, the court ruled for the return of the property to its former owner. Thus, Sait Durmaz, retook the land he had sold in 1962 as an empty plot, without paying a single penny, and with the camp facilities built on it in the meantime. The Armenian Protestant Church Foundation was forced to return a property it had purchased

years ago by fulfilling every manner of legal procedure to its former owner as if it had stolen it in the first place.

### 'This is a disgrace of the State'

The Gedikpa?a Armenian Protestant Church Pastor Kirkor A?abalo?lu states that the condition of the Tuzla Camp is a disgrace of the State, and adds, "A property of our church is in the State's hands. It was clearly seized from us. It is a disgrace, and the State must relieve itself from this disgrace".

Agabaloglu says that they tried all legal paths following the seizure of the camp, but that the case was not

included within the scope of the new regulation brought to the Law on Foundations in 2011, adding that the State had to bring a new legal regulation regarding the matter.

Agabaloglu relates the struggle so far in the following words: "We are told the site will be demolished, but there has not been an official notification as of yet. We are hurting inside, we are anxious. For years, under difficult conditions, we tried every possible path. After Hrant Dink wrote an article on the subject, the person who at that time was holding the deed, wanted to contact him. We went and met with him. He paid 1 million dollars for the site at that time. "I did not know it belonged to orphans. Pay me the sum, and I will sell it to you," he said. He had good intentions, but we find it offensive to have to purchase for the second time a property that already belongs to us. It is the State that must pay them this sum. The legal regulation introduced in 2011 proves in actual fact that the State admits its crime. The status of the Tuzla Camp lies in a legal vacuum. This vacuum can be filled with a court decision."

Agabaloglu also stated that they welcomed all manners of legal support.



**WHAT? WHEN? WHERE?****Enjoy your leisure****26 April**

**12:00, 14:00.** The Tailless Fox. Author: Hovhannes Tumanyan. Staging: Ruben Marukhyan. Play for kids | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan

**12:30, 14:00, 15:30.** The Real Friend. Ruben Marukhyan. Musical performance. Staging: Anna Elbakyan. 3+. Play for kids | State Marionette Theater

**14:00.** Beauty and the Beast. French folk tale. Children's Musical Fun Show. Director: Armen Margaryan. Play for kids | State Musical Chamber Theater

**15:00.** Princess With a Mustache. A. Grigoryan. Based on Ernst Amadeus Hoffman's "Nutcracker". Play for kids | M. Mkrtchyan Artistic Theater

**16:00, 18:00.** Little Red Riding Hood. Author: Charles Perrault. Director/Producer: Arpi Maghakyan. Play for kids | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan

**19:00.** The Dragon. Yevgeyi Svarts. Staging: Karen Khachatryan. Play | Hamazgayin State Theater

**17:00.** The New Adventures of The Three Piglets. Directed by Samson Stepanyan. Choreographer: Sevag Avakian. Painter: Andre Asatryan. Musical | State Musical Chamber Theater

**19:00.** Eastern Dentist. Authors: Artemi Ayvazyan, Hakob. Paronyan. Stage Director: Yervand Ghazanchyan. Play | State Theater of Musical Comedy after H. Paronyan

**19:00.** Fish Without Water or Suicide. A. Khandikyan, L. Mutafyan. Tragicomic fantasy without a break. Play | Yerevan Drama Theater after H. Ghaplanyan

**19:00.** Scotch & Whisky. Optimistic comedy. Director of the play: Arshaluis Harutiunyan. Play | Yerevan State Chamber Theater

**19:00.** Coma Nostra. Author: Narek Duryan. Staging and music design

by Narek Duryan. Producer: Kristine Hovhannisyan. Play | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan

**19:00.** A Hundred Years Later. Author: Perch Zeytuntsyan. Drama. Staging: Tigran Gasparyan. Play | National Academic Theater after G. Sundukyan

**19:00.** Armenians in Operas of World Composers. Concert performance. Concert | National Academic Theater of Opera and Ballet after A. Spendirian

**20:00.** The Beautified Project: Aragil. The first full band concert of the year before the European Tour of 2015. It is also the premiere of the "Aragil" CD which will be released to coincide with the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. Concert | Kami Club

**27 April**

**19:00.** I've Come to Call Only. G. Marquez. Staged by N. Grigoryan, N. Tsaturyan. Play | Student Theater

**19:30.** ANPO & Maria Guleghina. Soloist: world famous soprano Maria Guleghina. Program: Exerpts form operas by Verdi, Puccini and Giordano. Concert | National Academic Theater of Opera and Ballet after A. Spendirian

**28 April**

**12:00.** The Silly Man. Based on Hovhannes Tumanyan's tale. Small Hall. Play for kids | State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan

**16:00.** Anush. Drama. Author: H. Tumanyan. Director: Davit Hakobyan. Play | State Musical Chamber Theater

**19:00.** State Dance Ensemble of Armenia. Dance | State Theater of Musical Comedy after H. Paronyan

**19:00.** From Here and There. Premiere. Sergey Danielyan's monoplay. Author and Staging Director: Sergey Danielyan. Play | Yerevan State Chamber Theater

**19:00.** Tales. Author: H. Tumanyan. Staging: Henrik Malyan. Play for kids | H. Malyan Theater of Film Actors

**20:00.** As a Beginning. Hrachuhi Utmazyan. Artur Utmazyan. Poetry, Evening of literature and music | Yerevan Drama Theater after H. Ghaplanyan

**29 April**

**19:00.** Morgan's In-Law. Author: Alexander Shirvanzade. 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.** Zhanna. Film-Comedy. Erkat Production, 2015. Movie | Yerevan State Chamber Theater

**19:30.** Kronos Quartet. The concert of the world famous Kronos Quartet. In the framework of "Yerevan Perspectives" International Music Festival. Concert | National Academic Theater of Opera and Ballet after A. Spendirian

**30 April**

**16:00.** David of Sasun. Author: Hovh. Tumanyan. Staged by David Hakobyan. Play | State Musical Chamber Theater

**17:00, 19:00.** 3-4. Children's Interactive Show. Play for kids | National Academic Theater after G. Sundukyan

**19:00.** Jesus of Nazareth and His Second Disciple. P. Zeytuntsyan. Drama in 2 acts. Play | Yerevan Drama Theater after H. Ghaplanyan

**19:00.** Money is Your God. Premiere. G. Sundukyan. Comedy in 2 acts. Play | State Theater of Musical Comedy after H. Paronyan

**19:00.** Amnesia. Melodrama. Staging: Gor Margaryan. Play | Yerevan State Chamber Theater

## Zodiac Weekly Forecast

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

Mars, your ruling planet, shifts attention on the 11th to fresh territory. During the next six weeks, your activities will be intensified in the life sector related to vehicles, short distance travels, politics, communications, education, your neighborhood, and siblings. Use caution while driving, especially between the 11th and the 15th.

### Taurus (Apr. 20--May 19):

Your ruling planet is Venus, goddess of love and the arts. "She" moves into a new sector now through June 4. Your attention will be drawn to parties in neighboring areas and with those of your usual environment. Those with siblings may enjoy improved relationship through this period. You'll be drawn to purchase a new vehicle but Mercury turning retrograde soon suggests the timing is poor for now.

### Gemini (May 20 -- June 20) :

Make a special effort to keep up with keys, tickets, and other small items. Your feelings are easily injured right now. On the other hand, you may be the offender, hurting someone else. Try to stay on the planet and think carefully before you speak. If you feel "hurt", don't leap to a conclusion before you ask what the meaning is of a behavior or a comment.

### Cancer (June 21--July 21) :

Venus enters your sign this week and will be traveling "with you" through June 4. Her presence gives you an air of poise and beauty, and people will simply like how you look. Often when Venus is prominent we become more interested in art forms. She has the power to turn introverts into extroverts for the short period of her journey. We have a greater need and desire to be with others, or they with us.

### Leo (July 22 --Aug. 21):

Aspects particularly favor career and work life. You are in an effective position. Others agree with your guidance and leadership. A project begun near the New Year is showing signs of promise now. At the very least you can see that it is on track to turn out well.

### Virgo (Aug 22--Sep. 22) :

A false accusation or a rumor about you or your partner may cause you considerable worry at this time. The probability is that it is based only upon the assumption of a third party. The reason

you worry is that you and one or more significant others are not communicating well. Concentrate on productive communications and don't carry this "fact" around in your heart.

### Libra (Sep. 23--Oct. 22)

For the next four+ weeks your activities are on display. Others are noticing your performance, so make it great. You may be standing in the limelight. Your leadership gifts come to the foreground at this time. Caretaking of others becomes more prominent.

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

You will be concluding a cycle of several weeks at this time. Your attention will begin to shift toward issues of intimacy and partnership, joint and corporate financial matters, taxes, and/or estate and business planning.

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

Your mood is expansive and optimistic this week. It is one of those "good luck" times that occasionally happen to the Archers. You have a grasp of the big picture and could use this energy to promote your projects and gain support. Or you could simply kick back and enjoy the good feelings.

### Capricorn (Dec 21 -- Jan 19) :

Aspects favor love life and romance. Relationship(s) to your children are positive. A word of caution: your optimistic attitude and belief that you are right could cause you to become arrogant. If you want others to join your ride, give them a special place on the wagon. Share the glory.

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

This is not the best week in the romance department. One or the other of you could be ill or unavailable in some way. These things happen sometimes. They rarely represent the end of the relationship. Keep the faith and maintain a positive attitude. There are better times ahead.

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

A misunderstanding could develop between you and a close friend or family member. The blame game is useless. Do your best to unwind the thread to the point that it began and start fresh. It is possible that you will have a minor case of laryngitis. Pipes, whether in your body or your house may need clearing.

## ARMENIAN POETRY

### Paruyr Sevak

#### Good Evening

The sun slides down,  
The day narrows to a close,  
And again the mountains bear  
children,

Shadowshapes  
That grow little by little  
And bury their mothers.

The whirlwind  
Leaning on its foot  
Soars up into the sky,  
Confirming  
The recanted legend of the  
Ascension.

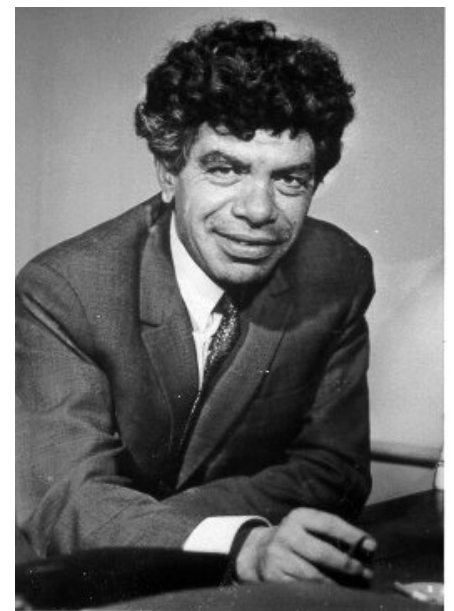
In the chilling air, a small  
Warm body, some say a bird,  
Stumbles in flight.

A woman stands in an enclosed  
field,

And under her feet  
The axis of the earth turns, unseen,  
And unseen, forms a part of her.

Without being caught red-handed,  
Without eyewitnesses present,  
I see myself guilty;

And drawn by fear unto myself,  
I mumble from afar,  
And I mumble now, not to that one,  
But to this one - me, the remote one-  
" Good evening, my solitary one?"



## Kim Kardashian, Cher meet in New York, speak about Armenian journeys

Kim Kardashian met Cher at the Met Gala in New York on May 4. The two spoke about their Armenian journeys.

"This beauty, this icon! I'm so so happy I met her! We spoke about our amazing Armenian journeys!" Kim Kardashian said in a Twitter post.

According to the Daily Mail, Cher, 68, rocked a sparkling floor length Marc Jacobs gown at the Met Gala in New York on Monday, as Kim Kardashian told her Instagram followers that the icon was the inspiration for her own sexy dress.

The singer, who has sold over 100 million records worldwide, wore her black hair in her signature long style draped around her shoulders.

Kim Kardashian shared a snap of the singer from that year's red carpet, clad in a see-through and feathered gown which left little to the imagination.

The reality TV star arrived on Monday at this year's Gala in a nude lace see-through dress - and took to Instagram to explain that Cher's outfit from the 70s was her inspiration. The Daily Mail reminds that Cher, who turns 69 later this month, is - like Kim - part Armenian and also visited the country to pay homage to her roots - much like the KUWTK star did earlier this year.



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