# ARMIENIAN' VOICE

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CENTRE FOR ARMENIAN INFORMATION AND ADVICE

#### NEWSLETTER FOR THE LONDON-ARMENIAN COMMUNITY. AUTUMN 2013 No. 62

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Website: www.caia.org.uk Facebook: www.facebook.com/Hayashen

FUNDED BY THE LONDON BOROUGHS OF EALING & HOUNSLOW



over 25 years in the heart of London's Armenian Community

#### Centre for Armenian Information & Advice (CAIA)

is the main focal point of charitable support to the most vulnerable and disadvantaged sections of London's Armenian community. Our aims and objectives are currently pursued through the following main strands of work:



# Health Advocacy & Outreach Project for Older people

Pan-London project offering practical and empowering support to older/disabled Armenians and carers who struggle to live independently.

## 'Armenian Voice' & Social Media

Bi-lingual Newsletter posted free to over Armenian homes in London and CAIA's website at www.caia.org.uk and facebook page at www.facebook/Hayashen to raise awareness about CAIA's services and promote community networking/social cohesion.

#### **Advice & Information**

Community Legal Service Quality
Marked culturally sensitive assistance
and support regarding welfare benefits,
housing, immigration and Health &
Community Care. Monthly outreach
surgeries are held by DWP at Hayashen
to improve access/claimants problems
with language support from CAIA staff.

#### **Social Club for Older People**

Mondays and Fridays, offering a healthy meal, variety of informative & recreational activities, annual Xmas party, outings to seaside, free minibus service to frail and disabled to help attend.

#### **Youth Project**

Recreational and educational workshops targeting children under 18 years of age to learn/socialise together in safe, secure setting. Two evenings a month after school. Annual outings and 2 day residential also.

## Pre-school Provision & Summer Play scheme

Multi-lingual educational for children to help prepare for school and integration.

#### Library

Library/Community digitization project funded by Heritage Lottery Fund.



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#### EASTER SUNDAY FAMILY CELEBRATION



On Sunday 31st March 2013 over 100 people of all ages celebrated Easter with food, music and laughter at *Hayashen*. Many thanks to everyone who attended, helped out and danced.



On 12th May 2013, His Excellency Dr Jonathan Aves, UK's Ambassador to Armenia spoke at *Hayashen* about the work of the Embassy, the improving links between the *Republic of Armenia* and the *UK* especially in the fields of culture and trade. Dr Aves was joined by Mr David Dowell who was involved with the building of the *Lord Byron School* in *Gyumri* following the earthquake in Armenia in December 1988. Donations at the time came from the British government, British business and the British people. However, the school now requires urgent repairs. Mr Dowell showed a short video of the construction of the school, which was officially opened by Mrs Thatcher – the British Prime Minister. Mr Dowell has kept in touch with the school ever since and has been working closely with UK's Embassy in Armenia over the past year to help the school. If you wish to help the school – please contact Nune Hovsepyan at *Nune.Hovsepyan@fco.gov.uk* 



On Sunday 7th July 2013, Professor Barlow Der Mugrdechian, Coordinator of the Armenian Studies Program and Director of the Centre for Armenian Studies at Fresno State gave an illustrated public lecture in Hayashen entitled "From Armenia to California: The Odyssey of the Fresno Armenians (1881-2013)"

Professor Der Mugrdechian, a native of Fresno, initially gave an overview of Armenian emigration to the USA and later focused on the Armenians who settled in the *San Joaquin* valley where from humble beginnings during which time were discriminated, they gradually

integrated and prospered.

The first Armenians to move to *Fresno* were the brothers Hagop and Garabed Seropian, who arrived in 1881. Their letters to their home village of *Marsovan* in the Ottoman Empire brought more immigrants to the *San Joaquin* Valley, which reminded them so much of home. By 1894 the Armenian population in Fresno was 360, a number that grew rapidly with the onset of the *Hamidian Massacres in 1895-96*. Many of the immigrants were Protestant converts; the result of heavy missionary activity in Armenia by American Christians seeking converts from the Armenian Church. During and after the genocide even more Armenians came until the restrictions on immigration in 1921 and 1924 brought this to a virtual end. The early immigrants were primarily involved with farming and agriculture, with the ultimate goal almost always that of land ownership. By 1930 Armenians owned 40% of the raisin acreage in Fresno County. Hence the Nickname of the city is "*Raisin Capital of the World*". Armenians were also pioneers in the melon and fig production in the region as well.

From the very beginning, bigotry against Armenians was common, and led many to Anglicize their names. In the 1890s Armenian Protestants were stripped of membership in local churches. Fear of Armenian land ownership caused the passage of laws restricting their rights to freely buy land. This attitude towards the tight knit Armenian community led some to try to assimilate, while having the opposite effect on others. The problem lasted for many decades, finally abating in the 1950s. Sadly the old *Armenia Town* of Fresno no longer exists instead its been replaced with *Downtown Fresno*!

Some of the most famous American Armenians originated from the region including writer William Saroyan, singer/actress Cher, businessman Kirk Kerkorian, freedom fighter Monte Melkonian and many others. In 1908, *Asbarez (meaning Arena)* Armenian newspaper was first published in *Fresno*. The lecture was organised jointly by *CAIA* and the *Gomidas Institute*.

For the latest information about *CAIA's* forthcoming events and activities please visit *www.facebook.com/Hayashen* 

#### "REPAT ARMENIA" EVENT AT HAYASHEN

On the 10th March 2013, 'Imagine Armenia: London' took place at Hayashen organised by the Centre for Armenian Information & Advice and Repat Armenia's Integration Manager Anahit Galstyan who presented the work of Repat to the London community; this was followed by a Q&A session with Repats in Armenia, via Skype. This gave the audience members a chance to ask questions directly to the panel which included Vartan Marashlyan, Sevan Kabakian, Andre Simonian and Lucy Vartevanian (the latter two are repats from London). There were numerous questions and topics



covered in the Q&A which included questions about the living standard in Armenia and comparisons with London, healthcare, lifestyle, education, the possibility of setting up and maintaining a business in Armenia in addition to how *Repat Armenia* can support Armenians moving to Armenia. This was a fruitful event and *Repat* looks forward to hosting future events in London.

#### **WORKING TOGETHER**



The West London BMER Advice Network was launched on 27th June at Hayashen with over two dozen local organisations present, as well as representatives from the Refugee Council, the Migrant's Rights Network and Advice UK. The six founding members of

the new advice body are CAIA; The Havelock Family Centre, the Bosnia and Herzegovina Community Advice Centre, the Iraqi Association, the East European Advice Centre, and the Iranian Association.

The organisation has been formed in response to a drastic cut in funding available to voluntary groups who have traditionally provided advice, support and guidance to their diverse communities.

"In the current funding and economic climate when there is so much change taking place with the benefits system, legal aid and the NHS, it is imperative that BMER groups cooperate even closer and use this as an opportunity to shape the future of advice provision in West London while at the same time safeguarding the statutory rights of their communities and clients," said Misak Ohanian, the network's chair.



CAIA organised two training events about the massive changes taking place in the welfare system on 26 June and 16 July as part of the Ealing do\$h project aimed at helping social housing tenants become more confident in managing their finances.

#### Hayashen Library Community Archiving Project: One Year On



On Sunday 26 May over 50 people attended the first year celebration of *Hayashen Library's Community Archiving Project*. Following a PowerPoint presentation by Scarlet Sarksan and Argam Shahenian, buffet lunch/refreshments was served and certificates handed to over 30 library volunteers and students who completed the "Introduction to Armenian History, Culture & Heritage" course during February-March 2013.

During the event several guest shared family heir-looms, old photographs, visited the library and viewed the many painting/photographs now on display going up to the library.



On 13 February the *Hayashen Library Digitisation project* organised training on 'Archive and Records Management' for 10 volunteers delivered by Scarlet Sarksan. (Below)



On 19 February a photography training session was delivered by Vahagn Gulakyan benefiting 14 library volunteers and young people. (*Below*)



#### INTRODUCTION TO ARMENIAN HISTORY, CULTURE & IDENTITY

Once again this year, the CAIA organised another successful course about Armenian history, culture and identity thanks to the support of Ealing Adult Education

Over 70 people from all ages and background attended the course with 20 students formally enrolled complet-

ing the six-part course at Hayashen.

The aims of the course are to address the needs of Armenian families and young Armenians born or growing up in this country as well as those connected to them such as people married to Armenians or mixed



heritage to appreciate Armenian history and culture. This year several people with little or no connections to Armenians enrolled also to the course to learn and benefit from the exceptional range of speakers workshop leaders who delivered the course over six Sundays during 17 February to 24 March 2013.

The subjects covered were:

• A History from the Streets: The Bantoukhd Hamal of Istanbul - Art History, Social and Cultural History, Ottoman Armenian History by Vazken Davidian (above).



• An exploration of Armenian identity across cultural boundaries, manifested through contemporary art practice by Karen Babayan (photo above).



• Opera & The Armenians by Prof. Khatchatur I. Pilikian (photo above).



Armenian Natural History, Armenia's World Botanical Position by Guy Moore (photo above).



• *The consequences of denial; the Armenian Genocide* by Dr. Aida Alayarian (above photo).

 Armenian Folk Dances by Shakeh Major Tchilingirian (photo below).



Throughout the course, the students learned together, enjoyed Armenian and Middle Eastern lunch together, networked and contributed to some very interesting debates and discussions long into the afternoons. Some of the positive outcomes of the course were:

• Enabled diverse groups of people (Armenians, non-Armenians and those from mixed Armenian heritage) across the generations to interact and learn from specialists/experts in their field as well as each other.

• Encouraged new learners in becoming interested about Armenia's long history and rich cultural her-

itage.

 Raised the self-esteem, confidence and pride in the identity of those who have never had the opportunity to learn about Armenian history and culture enabling them to speak with increased knowledge with others about these subjects.

# ARMENIAN ARMENTY COMMUNITY PREGROUP

#### **SUMMER PROJECT 2013**



As in the past 26 years, the *ACPG* organised a successful summer project in August. In addition to activities held at *Hayashen* such as baking, hat making, etc, there was a fun picnic at *Bunny Park Hanwell* and two trips to *Acton Fire Station*. In addition there was an all day outing to *Chessington World of Adventure*. (photo below)

During the 3 week project over 80 children benefited thanks to the support of *Ealing Council*, *The Hilden Charitable Trust and Capital Radio's Help a London Child*.



*The Hayashen Parents & Toddlers* group operates every Monday and Friday 10am-12.30pm during school term time. For further information call 020 8992 4621.











During the bitterly cold weather of February-March 2013 *CAIA* took part in the *Warm Homes Healthy People* campaign *funded by Hounslow Council* by visiting and talking to Armenian older people susceptible to harm from the cold weather to raise awareness in how to stay warm.



Simple (chair based) exercises now take place at the Senior Club twice a month thanks to a small *Hounslow Health and Well-being* grant. For details contact 0208 992 4621.



The Ealing Healthy Lifestyle Team in conjunction with CAIA delivered six sessions at the Senior Citizens club during February-June 2013. The first involved taking baseline measurements of over 30 Senior Citizens such as height, weight, blood pressure, (photos above & below) followed by sessions on healthy eating, food shopping, benefits of exercise and a final session to take measures again to find out the positive impact the programme had been.





On 31 July 2013, 60 Senior Citizen and Carers enjoyed a great day out at the seaside town of Brighton.

# COMMUNITY



The third annual *Armenian Street Festival*, took place on Sunday, 14 July 2013 at London's Armenian *St. Sarkis Church*. During the festival opening ceremony speeches were made by Bishop Vahan Hovhannisyan, the Primate of the Armenian Apostolic Church of GB and Ireland, by Ara Margaryan (*Charges d'Affaires at the Armenian Embassy*), Stephen Pound MP, Charles Tannock MEP and the Deputy Mayor of Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea Sam Mackover.

Hundreds of festival visitors enjoyed the Armenian music, dances, food and the many stalls, including CAIA's.

The Armenian Church organises annual Armenian Street Festivals on the streets of Iverna Gardens, where *St. Sarkis Church* is located, with the aim of celebrating and promoting our Armenian culture and heritage.



The Armenian Genocide Centenary Commemoration Committee (AGCCC) organised its first official UK public event on 16th May 2013 in preparation for the centenary of the Armenian Genocide in 2015. The event held at Greenford Town Hall, Ealing, included opening speeches by Mr. Vartan Ouzounian and Mr. Raffi Sarkissian, co-chairs of the AGCCC, followed by a lecture by Dr. Hayk Demoyan, the Director of the Armenian Genocide Museum-Institute in Armenia. After the lecture, Dr Demoyan informally guided those present around an exhibition of over 45 newly acquired posters and front-covers from various international publications/newspapers graphically showing how the international community was first informed of the various atrocities that befell Armenians during the Hamidian Massacres of 1894-96, the Adana Massacre in 1909 and subsequent Armenian Genocide in 1915.

#### **CONGRATULATIONS**



A special evening celebrating the Golden Jubilee of the literary accomplishments of Mr Manuel Atamian, with special guests and artists from Armenia was held on 8 June at St. Yeghiche Armenian Church, Kensington (Above photo).



Congratulations to Mrs Arpine Levonian (*above*) who celebrated her 90th birthday at a private function with over 80 young and old friends and relatives in London, including her older sister Mrs Sirarpi Manoukian. Arpine was born in Larnaca, Cyprus on 1 August 1923 and wishes to thanks all those who attended and made the occasion one she will always treasure.



Congratulations to Mr Manoug Nadjarian born in Famagusta, Cyprus on 30 July 1923 marked his 90th birthday. His parents originally came from Adana and survived the genocide. His wife Azniv (maiden name Tavitian) was born in Beirut on 14 February 1927 and she was also the child of genocide survivors. They married in Beirut on 11 November 1948. Later this year they will mark their 65-year anniversary.

Congratulations to them and their families on both counts.





On Friday 25th January 2013, Haro Zakarian from *Ealing Youth Offending Services* and Sunil Parmar, *Anti Social Behaviour Support Worker/Triage Officer* attended the *Hayashen Armenian Youth Club (HAYC)* where they met

and spoke to the youth.

On 8th February 2013, *HAYC* youth worker Argam Shahenian gave a workshop about the electric guitar and, how young people can enter live music communities. Argam demonstrated on his own guitar, amp and pedals, how different sounds can be created for different genres of music. He explained how he learned playing the guitar and kindly allowed young people to 'play' his guitar also.



Hayashen Armenian Youth Club organised a visit to the Houses of Parliament on 18th February 2013 thanks to the office of Stephen Pound MP. (More photos on CAIA's facebook page)

On 22 February, *HAYC* welcomed Hratch Koundarjian to talk about careers in public relations. Hratch works for a



large UK charity called Water Aid as their Media Officer - Policy & Campaigns. He spoke about his own experiences with politics and campaigning, mainly focusing on CRAG (Committee for the Recognition of Armenian Genocide). After the

talk, the youth had the opportunity to ask many questions about the media industry.



On 8th March, *HAYC* welcomed back previous Youth Worker Anahit Galstyan, to give a talk about repatriation to Armenia. Anahit is currently working in Armenia for *Repat Armenia*, an organisation aimed at helping diaspora Armenians work and contribute to the development of Armenian society. Anahit shared her experience of finding work in Armenia and the vibrant expat diasporan community in Yerevan. She also emphasised the importance of having relevant English and IT skills which are generally welcome abroad. The youths seemed very excited by the talk, and were very pleased to see Anahit once again. Following the presentation all were treated to *Fish and Chips* and *Lamajun!* A combination of all the best of Britain and Armenia!



Mybnk (www.mybnk.org) is an organisation that provides money management and enterprise programmes for young people. On 22nd March, HAYC welcomed Cressida from MyBnk who delivered an entertaining and interactive hands-on workshop exploring real life money skills. Cressida (photo above & below) initially explained the origins of money, revealing that England was the first to introduce banks. Then, everyone participated in two competitions, the winners receiving chocolate coins.

The first competition was to write down as many words associated to money, where as the second one was to after watching a video on the topic, to draw out (in comic book style) the history of money. Even though all this was enjoyable, the most interesting part of the workshop was the final challenge. Cressida gave out fake and real £5 notes with UV lights and magnifying glasses, and asked the youth to compare the two in order to find key differences. The youths were surprised to find the level of detail printed in these notes, and thus clearly enjoyed and learned from the game.





On 12th April 2013, *Hayashen Armenian Youth Club* (*HAYC*) re-started after the Easter break, with an evening of exciting activities, packed with fun games. The usual table tennis, football and snooker were played but, to make things different, we introduced *'wrestling'*. We brought the mats out, and the kids started friendly wrestling. (*Above photo*) This was followed by an arm wrestling contest and a new form of volleyball played across the table tennis, which had no rules and was by far the most enjoyable.

To treat and reward those youth who have attended the most, we handed out t-shirts to inspire to make a difference as volunteers. (photo below)



On 10th May 2013, *HAYC* welcomed *The Challenge Network* to give a talk about how young people can raise money for charity. The organisation helps young people work alongside community organisations and charities to design and deliver projects that have a lasting impact on an organisation and their beneficiaries. After a short video and presentation, our youth seemed really excited, and came up with many ideas on how to contribute to the London Armenian community. The group decided to plan a fundraising event for September time, which involves also a day of spring-cleaning *Hayashen*. In addition to the workshop, we had a volleyball match, which included the two teams of six, an air-float ball and the table tennis table. The enjoyable evening ended with a satisfying supper meal of pasta kindly contributed by one of the parents.



On 24th May 2013, *HAYC* welcomed Vasken Partzigian, a tennis coach who encouraged the young people to play tennis. In the Q & A that followed, young people discussed the logistics/venue of playing tennis together in London, something that eventually could lead to competing at local or international (*Armenian Games*) levels. The workshop was followed by an exciting table tennis knock out tournament, with young people competing against each other. The final saw Richard play Narek; from the beginning, the game was very close, but Richard's fast technique overcame Narek's deadly counter-attack style of play to win the coveted prize of a box of chocolates.



On 7th June *HAYC* we welcomed Narbeh Minassian (photo below) who talked about his experience at *AGBU's New York Summer Internship Program*. Narbeh spend a month a year ago with the program, gave insight into the application process, as well as what to



generally expect. The presentation ended with a fun group exercises, where everyone had a *post-its* stuck on their forehead, revealing a town/city. Then, in small groups, they had to ask questions to figure out which town/city was on their forehead. Everyone was involved, and clearly had a lot of fun learning.



On 25th June, *Acton High School (across from Hayashen)* held its annual *International Day* with over 1000 children visiting 20+ stalls representing different countries/cultures where its school children originate from. *CAIA* was pleased to take part this year to promote Armenia with the help of young volunteers from *HAYC* during the 3 hour long event.

On July 26th, *HAYC* welcomed Ashot Margaryan to give a screening/presentation of his student film '1915. Never Again?' Ashot is also the vice president of *UCL* Armenian Society, so he also shed light on his experiences in higher education with the young people. After watching the film, everyone was clearly moved by the images. The film also covered the Holocaust, as well as other genocides in Bosnia, Darfur and Rwanda. What was even more interesting was the short clip of Raphael Lemkin describing the meaning and root of the word 'Genocide' which he attributed to the experience of the Armenians. At the end of the film Ashot spoke briefly about how he started the Armenian Society, how many members there are, and what they have done to raise awareness of the Armenian Genocide among the many students who study at *UCL*. The film sparked off and inspired great discussion among those present about their own identity and experience growing up in London.



On July 12th, *HAYC* held an *End of Term BBQ*. This year was slightly different as we had a mini disco, which was kindly prepared by our very own young people. During the first half of the session, the youth participated in the usual fun activities, and some even helped with the delicious BBQ-ed burgers and sausages (*photo below*). After eating together, some young people enjoyed the nice weather by playing basketball outside, whilst others enjoyed the music and played table tennis. The BBQ went really well, and the good weather was a bonus.



### **GO KARTING FUN DAY**



On August 8, 2013, *HAYC* organised a Gokarting fun day at *Brentwood Leisure Centre!* 

35 young people travelled by coach from *Hayashen* in the morning to the circuit where following safety instructions and ground rules the eager youngsters competed with each other in groups.

To make the competition fair, the youth were divided into groups according to age.

Lunch was provided which enabled the young people to catch their breath, rest and share the excitement of the day with each other before driving again long into the afternoon before returning to *Hayashen* by 5.30pm.





Winners podium - 1st Artur Abraamian, 2nd Maxim Bagdasarian, 3rd Tenny Karimi.



Go Karting Group photo at the end of the day

#### **Programme of Armenian Studies**

#### **Western Armenian Courses**

The *Programme of Armenian Studies* is delighted to announce the start of the new academic year 2013-2014, beginning from first week of October. We are offering three levels of Western Armenian. The course consists of one two-hour lessons each week, organised into three terms of ten weeks each.

\* Elementary

Tuesdays (6-8pm) starting from 1st of October

#### \* Intermediate

Wednesdays (7.30-9.30pm) starting from 2nd of October

#### \* Advanced

Tuesdays (8-10pm) starting from 1st October

\* Private tuition is also available on request

Tuition fees: £165 per term

Venue: Hye Doon

For more details please contact Dr Krikor Moskofian moskofiank@gmail.com

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#### To donate on line

https://mydonate.bt.com/donation/donation.html



**To donate by Text over the phone** please text "*CAIA01*" followed by your donation to 70070.



You can also follow our latest activities on facebook via https://www.facebook.com/Hayashen

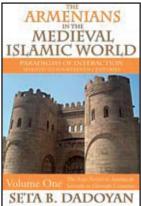
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#### **BOOK REVIEWS**

The Armenianss In the Medieval Islamic World - The Arab Period in Arm nyah—Seventh to Eleventh Centuries - Volume 1 by Seta B. Dadoyan, 235 pages, Hardback, ISBN 978 1412845779,



In this first of a massive threevolume work, Seta B. Dadoyan studies the Armenian experience in the medieval Islamic world and takes the reader through hitherto undiscovered paradigmatic cases of interaction with other populations in the region. Being an Armenian, Dadoyan argues, means having an ethnic ancestry laden with narratives drawn from the vast historic Armenian habitat.

Bone Ash Sky by Katerina Cosgrove ISBN 9781742705859, Published by Hardie Grant,

Bone Ash Sky is the story of an American journalist who goes home to unravel three generations of war and genocide, love and renewal, in Armenia, Beirut and modernday Lebanon. When Anoush Pakradounian steps off a boat and feels Levantine heat on her cheek like a caress, she thinks she knows where she's going: she thinks she knows who's right and who's wrong. Yet nothing about her fam-

ily's past is black and white.

In 1915 at least one million Armenians were marched into Syria by Turks and killed in the first genocide of the twentieth century. In 1982 Beirut came under Israeli siege for three months and 18,000 civilians died, while another 30,000 were wounded. Anoush's quest for answers is interwoven with the memory of ruined cities and vanished empires: Lake Van before the genocide, Beirut in civil war, Ottoman villas and desecrated churches, Palestinian refugee camps and torture chambers turned into nightclubs. Her search to find out the truth about her father, her grandparents, and her own place in the story spans four generations and massive upheavals in the Middle East. With echoes of Barbara's Kingsolver's The Poisonwood Bible and Geraldine Brooks' People of the Book, Bone Ash Sky is a powerful work that examines family, loyalty, love, and secrets long-hidden in the chaos and horror of war and displacement.

Six Armenian Poets - Translated by Armine Tamrazian - Paperback, ISBN 9781906570873 Published by ARC Publications

Featuring the work of Hrachya Sarukhan, Violet Grigorian, Khachik Manoukyan, Azniv Sahakyan, Anatoli

Simonian.



Hrachya Saroukhan creates poems using various tricks, weaving pictures with microstrokes as a confession, as a memory, or sometimes with the thorn wreathes of their losses, throwing a not very confident glance ať the other ẃorld.

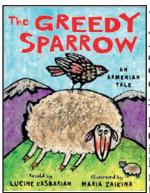
Khachik Manoukyan's struggle against the inhuman nature of this world starts with The Scriptures, with the Old and New Testaments. Violet Grigorian and Hasmik

Simonian belong to the new and younger generation. However, with a united philosophy, they have no fear of endangering the "poetry" in favour of the consolation of creating something from the ruins of their inner worlds. Azniv Sahakyan makes it clear the social creature people see only represents the physical picture of her distorted existence. Her system self expression is in harmony with her psychological state.

Anatoli Hovhannisyan does not aim to cause suffering to the reader by his own torment. Rather, he brings about a feeling of consolation, which could be considered a mirror

of solace.

The Greedy Sparrow: An Armenian Tale, Retold by Lucine Kasbarian; Illustrated by Maria Zaikina; Marshall Cavendish Children; ISBN - 13: 978-0-7614-5821-0



Greedy Sparrow: Armenian Tale is from the ancient Armenian oral tradition and culture, which was nearly obliterated during the Turkish genothe Armenians, cide of Assyrians and Greeks in 1915. The author learned the tale from her father, editor and columnist C.K. Garabed, who would recite it to her at bedtime. He had learned it from his own grandmother, a celebrated storyteller from the Old Country. The tale

was first put to paper by Armenian poet Hovhannes Toumanian at the turn of the 20th century.

The Greedy Sparrow is the first time this tale has been presented in the English language as a children's picture book. The story begins in old Armenia with a sparrow who catches a thorn in his foot. As he asks for help, he sets off an intriguing cycle of action that transports him through the Armenian countryside, encountering people engaged in traditional folkways. *The Greedy Sparrow* ends with a surprising twist and conveys moral messages about greed, selfishness and using one's judgment. To address the ethical and human components of the tale, a companion study guide will be available on the author's website at www.lucinekasbarian.com.

Though intended for readers ages 4 through 8, noted Sesame Street host and storyteller Bob McGrath says, "The Greedy Sparrow is actually for everyone. It's clever and humorous, and the wonderful illustrations not only add color but also truly interpret the story line." The fable is lavishly illustrated with authentic depictions of Armenian folk traditions. The tale's illustrator, Maria Zaikina, researched Armenian costumes, culture and customs before completing the illustrations for this book. Zaikina was selected to illustrate The Greedy Sparrow after the author and publisher viewed her Armenian folk animations on YouTube:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=QJ5NAXT9pLs&feature=player\_embedded.

**To order:** *dswanson@brillianceaudio.com* and/or http://www.amazon.com/The-Greedy-Sparrow-Armenian-Tale/dp/0761458212

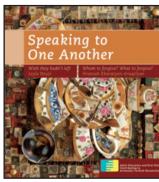
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# Armenian Organisation and Ideology under Ottoman Rule: 1908-1914 - Revised Edition by Dikran Mesrob Kaligian - ISBN 978 1412842457

This book provides a comprehensive picture of Armeno-Turkish relations for the brief period of Ottoman Constitutional rule between 1908 and 1914. Kaligian integrates internal documents of the *Armenian Revolutionary Federation (ARF)*, and existing research on the last years of the empire, as well as the archives of the British, American, and German diplomatic corps. By reducing the overemphasis on central government policies and by describing unofficial contacts, political relations, and provincial administration and conditions, Kaligian provides a unified account of this key period in Ottoman history.

Kaligian sets out to resolve many of the conflicting conclusions in the current historiography--including the most central issue, the *Armenian Revolutionary Federation* relations with the Turkish Committee of Union and Progress. It is impossible to obtain a true picture of Armeno-Turkish relations without an accurate analysis of their two leading parties. This study finds that the ARF was torn between maintaining relations with a CUP that had failed to implement promised reforms and was doing little to prevent increasing attacks on the Armenian population, or break off relations thus ending any realistic chance for the constitutional system to succeed. The party continued to stake its reputation and resources on the success of constitutional government even after the trauma of the 1909 Adana massacres. The decisive issue was the failure of land reform. This book sets the record straight in terms of understanding Armeno-Turkish relations during this short but pivotal period. Kaligian's study, the first of its kind, shows that the party's internal deliberations support the conclusion that it did remain loyal and contradicts the view that the party's only aim was to incite a rebellion against Ottoman rule.



#### Speaking to One Another: Personal Memories of the Past in Another Armenia and Turkey

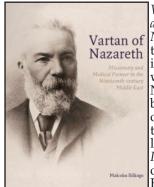
The book is a product of the research project, "Adult Education and Oral History Contributing to Armenian-Turkish Reconciliation" conducted between August 2009 and February 2010 in various locations in Armenia and Turkey. It is based on oral his-

tory methodology and includes the stories of everyday people from the two countries interviewed by the students who were trained during the summer camp in Dilijan, Armenia in oral history skills and methodology. Oral historians study how ordinary individuals narrate historical events as a means of making sense of the past in the present. In remembering the past, multiple sources are used: people's own experiences and memories, as well as other sources such as post-memory (memories transmitted by older generations), history and the media. In this research, individuals in Turkey and Armenia from diverse backgrounds and regions were interviewed in order to document how they remembered and reconstructed recent history. The book is divided into two sections. The first section presents the results of the research in Turkey ("Wish they hadn't left": The Burden of Armenian Memory in Turkey), compiled by Leyla Neyzi from Sabanci University. The second section (Whom to forgive? What to forgive?) presents the results of the research in Armenia conducted by Hranush Kharatyan-Aragelyan from the *Armenian Centre for Ethnological Studies, "Hazarashen"*. To download the book free visit *www.speakingtooneanoth* 

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For further information visit: www.speakingtooneanother.org

Vartan of Nazareth: Missionary and Medical Pioneer in the Nineteenth-century Middle East by Malcolm Billings, 200 pages, ISBN: 978 1 907372 43 8



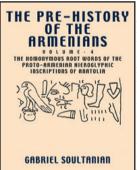
Vartan of Nazareth: Missionary and Medical Pioneer in the Nineteenth-century Middle East, is the little-known story of a medical pioneer and missionary who founded a hospital in Nazareth 150 years ago. This book traces the remarkable life of Pacradooni Kaloost Vartan, the son of a poor Armenian tailor in Constantinople (modern-day Istanbul). Born in 1835 at a time of great change in the Ottoman Empire, the young Vartan

Empire, the young Vartan attended the first American missionary school in the imperial city. He left school to join the British Army as an interpreter in the Crimea and, having witnessed the rigours of battlefield medicine, he was drawn to a career as a surgeon and physician. The book recounts the story of his time in Edinburgh as a missionary medical student, his marriage to Mary Anne, a daughter of the Manse and, with the ink hardly dry on the marriage certificate, the young couple's departure for Palestine.

The book is rich in descriptions of nineteenth-century Nazareth: the plight of people whose remedies amounted to old wives' tales, village bone-menders and leeches to bleed the afflicted; the doctor's struggle to overcome local prejudice and aversion to Evangelical missionaries. *The Edinburgh Medical Missionary Society* sponsored Vartan's work in Nazareth and his quarterly reports to headquarters in Edinburgh preserve a vivid picture of his hard work to establish the hospital. The Vartans were not immune to tragedy. Five of their ten children died in infancy; they are buried with their siblings and parents in the graveyard on the edge of the hospital compound. The Vartans visited Jerusalem as the Holy City became the focus of huge pilgrimage traffic.

Lavishly illustrated, *Vartan of Nazareth* features contemporary photographs taken by royal engineers for the *Palestine Exploration Fund*, including one taken by the young officer who would become famous as *'Kitchener of Khartoum'*. Photographs of the Vartan family, and of day-to-day activities at the hospital where patients with gunshot wounds would arrive by camel, contribute to this unique historical record. The book also tells of Vartan's legacy after his death in 1908 and follows the development of the hospital through the turbulent times of the 1st World War, the British Mandate and the birth of modern Israel. Against all odds the hospital survived. It is still registered in Scotland and, in a remarkable link with the past, the founder's great grand-son, John Vartan, is actively involved.

The Pre-History of the Armenians, Volume 4: The Homonymous Root Words of the Proto-Armenian Hieroglyphic Inscriptions of Anatolia by Gabriel Soultanian – Published by Bennett & Bloom



Volume 4 continues Gabriel Soultanian's epic series on the language and origins of the hieroglyphic script of the Proto-Armenians and its inscriptions. Part I is a comprehensive glossary of the homonymous root words that appear in the hieroglyphic texts studied throughout the series. Part II compiles translations of a range of ancient inscriptions. Part III contains two articles placed as distinct chapters in

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