

## ՄԵՐ ԱՆԿԻՒՆԵՆ

### Հայաստանը Պատերազմին Ամիս Մը Ետք

Ամիս մը առաջ՝ Նոյեմբեր 9-ին Ռուսաստանի միջնորդութեամբ ստորագրուեցաւ Հայաստանի եւ Ատրպէյճանի միջեւ պատերազմը դադարեցնելու համաձայնագիրը, որ գործնականօրէն կու գար հաստատելու հայկական կողմի պարտութիւնը եւ Արցախի Հանրապետութեան հողերու մեծ մասին վերադարձը Ատրպէյճանին:

Ներկայիս Հայ ժողովուրդը կը գտնուի բարոյական եւ հոգեբանական անկումային վիճակի մէջ: Հայաստանի նախապէս դիմագրուած տնտեսական, ընկերային, առողջապահական եւ այլ դժուարութիւններուն վրայ եկան կուտակուելու նորերը: Հազարաւոր զոհեր, տեղահանուածներ, անորոշ քիւլով անյայտ կորուածներ ու զերիներ, որոնց համար պատասխանատուութիւն կը կրէ բնականաբար Հայաստանի ներկայ կառավարութիւնը, որոն ուսերուն կից՝ նայ այս ու բազմաթիւ այլ հարցեր լուծելու դժուարին պարտականութիւնը:

Այս խնդիրներուն վրայ կու գայ աւելնալու նաեւ ներքին քաղաքական ճգնաժամը եւ անկայունութիւնը, որ կը հրահրեն գլխաւորաբար նախկին ռեժիմին յարող ուժերը, որոնք օգտագործելով առիթը կը ձգտին վերատիրանալու իրենց աթոռներուն եւ շարունակելու 2018-ի թաւշեայ ժողովրդային յեղափոխութենէն ետք կիսատ մնացած՝ երկիրը թալանելու իրենց գործը:

Անցնող մէկ ամսուայ ընթացքին 17 կուսակցութիւններէ բաղկացած ընդդիմադիրներու շարժումը չկարողանալով հասնիլ իր համար ցանկալի արդիւնքի՝ վարչապետ Նիկոլ Փաշինեանի հրաժարականին: Վերջին օրերուն յայտարարուեցաւ «Ազգային փրկութեան շարժում» ստեղծելու եւ վարչապետի պաշտօնին համար նախկին վարչապետ Վազգէն Մանուկեանի անունը ներկայացնելու անոնց որոշումը: Ընդդիմադրութեան պահանջը այն է որ, իշխանութիւնը յանձնուի իրենց եւ տարի մը ետք իրենք կազմակերպեն արտահերթ խորհրդարանական ընտրութիւններ՝ իրենց գիտցած նախկին ձեւերով:

Կասկած չկայ, որ պատերազմին ետք Փաշինեանի վարկանիշը արձանագրած է անկում: Սակայն, Հայաստանի քաղաքացիները որոնք անցնող երկու տարիներուն տեսան ու վայելեցին մարդավարի ապրելու գոհունակութիւնը, այսօր կը սարսափին նախկիններու վերադարձի ուրուականէն ու առ այժմ պատրաստ չեն երթալու ընդդիմադրութեան օրակարգերու ետեւէն:

Վերադառնալով Վազգէն Մանուկեանին, անոր դարձեալ յայտնուիլը քաղաքական թատերաբեմին

## Փաշինեան Անտեսց Ընդդիմադրութեան Պայմանաժամը Վարչապետի Հետ Եւ Դէմ Ցոյցեր Երեւանի Մէջ

Անցեալ Շաբաթ օր, Հայաստանի ընդդիմադիր ուժերը «Ազատութեան» հրապարակին վրայ կազմակերպուած հանրահաւաքի ընթացքին պայմանաժամ տուին վարչապետ Նիկոլ Փաշինեանին՝ մինչեւ Երեքշաբթի օրը ժամը 12-ը հրաժարական ներկայացնելու համար:

17 ուժերու կազմակերպած ցոյցին ներկայ եղած են մօտ 8 հազար քաղաքացիներ, որոնց առջեւ ելոյթ ունեցողները յայտարարեցին որ, իրենց պահանջը չկատարելու պարագային, կոչ պիտի ընեն ժողովուրդին՝ դիմելու զանգուածային անհնազանդութեան գործողութիւններու:

Հրապարակի վրայ ելոյթ ունեցաւ նաեւ 17 ուժերու առաջարկած վարչապետի թեկնածու Վազգէն Մանուկեանը, յայտարարելով. «Նիկոլ Փաշինեանը մի բան էլ պէտք է հասկանայ, որ ինքը ինչքան շուտ կամաւոր հրաժարական տայ, այնքան իրեն լաւ: Շարժումը չյաղթեց՝ գազազած ժողովուրդը իրեն կը յօշոտի: Այս շարժումն այն ճանապարհն է, որը հնարաւորութիւն է տալիս քաղաքակիրթ ձեւով փոխել իրավիճակը Հայաստանում, ձախողուեց՝ աւելի վատ է լինելու, բայց ինքը բոլոր դէպքերում զնալու է»:



Փաշինեանի հրաժարականի պահանջով հանրահաւաքի մասնակիցները՝ Երեւանի Ազատութեան հրապարակին վրայ

Երեքշաբթի օրը, վարչապետ Փաշինեան անտեսելով ընդդիմադիրներու ներկայացուցած պայմանաժամը, շարունակեց իր բնականոն աշխատանքը:

Ցուցարարներու ոչ մեծ խումբեր սկսան բողոքի հաւաքներ կատարել, ինչպէս Երեւանի, այնպէս ալ Գիւմրիի, Վանաձորի ու որոշ այլ քաղաքներու մէջ:

Շրջելով Երեւանի փողոցներով, ցուցարարները վարչապետ

Փաշինեանի դէմ ուղղուած բացականչութիւններ կը հնչեցնէին: Որոշ վայրերու մէջ, ստիկանութիւնը ուժ գործադրելով կը վերականգնէր երթեկուծութիւնը: Եղան նաեւ բերման ենթարկուածներ:

Ընդդիմադիրներու կազմակերպած քաղաքացիական անհնազանդութիւններու գործողութիւններէն ետք, նոյն օրը վարչապետի

Շար.ը էջ 5

## ՍԴՀԿ Վարիչ Մարմինի Յայտարարութիւնը

Արցախի 44 օրուան պատերազմի վաղորդայինն Հայաստանի նախկին ռեժիմի հրապարակ իջնելն ու բռնի ուժով իշխանութեան տիրանալու փորձերը սկսած են մտահոգութիւն յառաջացնել սփիւռքի եւ Հայրենիքի մէջ:

Այս օրերուն, երբ մեր ազգը կը գտնուի դժուարին պայմաններու տակ ու անոր առջեւ ծառայած են բազմաթիւ խնդիրներ, փոխանակ համագործակցութեան կոչեր հնչեցնելու, աթոռամուլական շիլ հաշիւներէ տարուած բոլորիս ծանօթ ուժերը իրենց հրապարակային ամբոխավարական ելոյթներով ու վտանգաւոր գործողութիւններով երկիրը կը տանին ապակայունացման, յոյս ունենալով շրջելու պատմութեան անիւր ու Հայաստանը վերադարձնելու տասնամեակներու փտած վարչակարգի օրերուն:

Այս առթիւ մտահոգիչ կը գտնենք նաեւ սփիւռքահայ որոշ քաղաքական եւ ոչ քաղաքական կազմակերպութիւններու կողմէ հնչող կոչերը, որոնք ոչ մէկ ձեւով կը նպաստեն Հայրենիքի շահերուն, եւ ընդհակառակը պատճառ կը դառնան համայնքէն ներս պառակտումի յառաջացման, մեզ վերադարձնելով անցեալի ոչ ցանկալի իրավիճակներուն, որմէ պետք է խուսափինք բոլորս: Սփիւռքը բազմերանգ մտածողութիւններու խճանկար մըն է եւ որեւէ կազմակերպութիւն չի կրնար արտայայտել ամբողջ համայնքի տեսակետը:

Հայաստանի վարչապետի հարցը պիտի ճշդուի բացառապէս երկրի քաղաքացիներու մեծամասնութեան կամքով՝ Սահմանադրութեան շրջանակներէն ներս ու ազատ եւ արդար ընտրութիւններու միջոցաւ: Մենք որպէս սփիւռքեան կառոյցներ պարտաւոր ենք զօրավիճակներէն Հայաստանի ժողովուրդին՝ Հայրենիքը դուրս բերելու համար այսօրուայ դժուարին իրավիճակներէն:

Առ այդ, կոչ կ'ուղղենք համայնքի բաղկացուցիչ բոլոր տարրերուն որեւէ ձեւով չնպաստել Հայաստանէն ներս իրավիճակի վատթարացման եւ պառակտումի խորացման, որմէ պիտի տուժենք բոլորս:

Ս.Դ. Հնչակեան Կուսակցութեան Արեւմտեան Ամերիկայի Վարիչ Մարմին

## Արա Այվազեանի Առաջին Այցը Մոսկուա

Հայաստանի նորանշանակ արտաքին գործոց նախարար՝ Արա Այվազեան առաջին այցը կատարած է Մոսկուա: Դեկտեմբեր 7-ին, կայացած են անոր բանակցութիւնները Ռուսաստանի արտաքին գործոց նախարար՝ Սերգէյ Լաւրովի հետ:

Հանդիպումը տեւած է մօտ երեք ժամ: Նախարարները նախ դէմ առ դէմ ձեւաչափով բանակցած են, այնուհետեւ անոնց միացած են պատուիրակութիւններու անդամները: Բանակցութիւններէն յետոյ կայացած է նաեւ համատեղ մամուլի ասուլիսը:

Լաւրովի հետ իր առաջին ոչ հեռավար բանակցութիւններուն, ապա ասուլիսի ընթացքին Արա Այվազեան չէ խօսած Արցախի կարգավիճակի մասին: Իր խօսքով միայն շեշտած է. «Հայաստանը հանդէս է եկած եւ շարունակուած է հանդէս գալ այն դիրքորոշմամբ, որ Արցախի ժողովուրդը ունի ինքնորոշման իրաւունք»:

Հայաստանի արտաքին գործոց նախարարը, որ այս պաշտօնը համաձայնած է ստանձնել Նոյեմբեր 10-ի յայտարարութենէն յետոյ, այսօր նշեց, որ Արցախի խնդրի կարգաւորման շուրջ բանակցութիւնները պէտք է շարունակուին եւ ԱՀԿ Մինսքի խումբի ձեւաչափով:











# Massis Weekly

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## Pashinyan Ignores Opposition Ultimatum to Resign

YERVAN -- Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan ignored on Tuesday opposition parties ultimatum to resign and pave the way for snap parliamentary elections.

The parties making up a “homeland salvation front” issued the ultimatum as they rallied a few thousand supporters in Yerevan on Friday. They gave Pashinyan until Tuesday noon to step down or face a nationwide campaign of “civil disobedience” over his handling of the war in Nagorno-Karabakh that resulted in heavy Armenian casualties and territorial losses.

The prime minister has continued to reject these demands through his aides and political allies. They have

said that he is determined to stick to his six-month plan to “restore stability” in Armenia.

Alen Simonyan, a deputy parliament speaker and leading member of Pashinyan’s My Step bloc, denounced the protests as a coup attempt by the country’s former rulers keen to return to power.

Simonyan also scoffed at opposition calls for the fresh elections to be held within a year. “Why one year later? Let’s hold the elections now,” he told RFE/RL’s Armenian Service.

Asked why the ruling political team is not calling such a vote, Simonyan said: “Because there is no decision regarding it. I personally do not exclude it.”

## Putin Calls on CSTO Member States to Support Pashinyan and His Government



MOSCOW — Russian President Vladimir Putin on Wednesday praised Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan for agreeing to the “painful” ceasefire in Nagorno-Karabakh and said Russia and its allies should help him implement the Armenian-Azerbaijani agreement brokered by Moscow.

“Armenia and the Armenian people have endured a really difficult period in their history,” Putin said during a virtual summit of the Russian-led Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO). “The leadership of Armenia, the prime minister had to take very hard but necessary, for the Armenian people, decisions.

“I must say that those decisions were painful but, I repeat, necessary, and their adoption required the Armenian prime minister’s personal courage. This is obvious, and each of us participating in this meeting understands the extent of responsibility needed for making such decisions. He [Pashinyan] took that responsibility.”

“And our task now is to support both the prime minister and his team in order to establish a peaceful life, ensure the implementation of all adopted decisions and help people [in the

Karabakh conflict zone] who have found themselves in a difficult situation,” added Putin.

Addressing the CSTO summit from Yerevan, Pashinyan again thanked Putin for helping to stop the war with Azerbaijan and deploying Russian peacekeepers in Karabakh.

“The Russian peacekeeping contingent deployed along the line of contact in Nagorno-Karabakh and along the Lachin corridor, which provides communication between Artsakh and Armenia, today is the guarantor of the preservation of peace and security in the region,” Pashinyan said. In this regard, he pointed out the exceptional role of Russian President Vladimir Putin.

“Throughout all the 44 days of hostilities, we were in constant contact with Vladimir Putin and discussed the necessary measures to stop the bloodshed and protect the lives of people,” Pashinyan said.

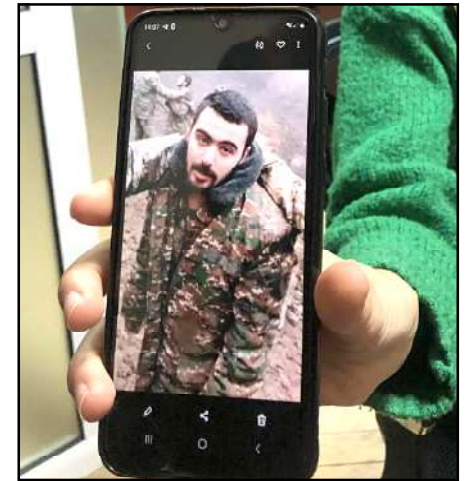
He added that today too he is working very closely with the President of Russia to solve such problems as the search for the missing, the exchange of prisoners of war and other captives and the recovery of the bodies of the killed soldiers.

## HRW: Armenian Prisoners of War Badly Mistreated in Azerbaijan

BERLIN – Azerbaijani forces have inhumanely treated numerous Armenian military troops captured in the conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh, Human Rights Watch said today. They subjected these prisoners of war (POWs) to physical abuse and humiliation, in actions that were captured on videos and widely circulated on social media since October.

The videos depict Azerbaijani captors variously slapping, kicking, and prodding Armenian POWs, and compelling them, under obvious duress and with the apparent intent to humiliate, to kiss the Azerbaijani flag, praise Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev, swear at Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan, and declare that Nagorno-Karabakh is Azerbaijan. In most of the videos, the captors’ faces are visible, suggesting that they did not fear being held accountable.

“There can be no justification for the violent and humiliating treatment of prisoners of war,” said Hugh Williamson, Europe and Central Asia director at Human Rights Watch. “Humanitarian law is absolutely clear on



the obligation to protect POWs. Azerbaijan’s authorities should ensure that this treatment ends immediately.”

Although some of the prisoners depicted in videos Human Rights Watch reviewed have, in subsequent communications with their families, said they are being treated well, there are serious grounds for concern about their safety and well-being.

International humanitarian law, or the law of armed conflict, requires

Continued on page 3

## Artsakh’s Right to Self Determination Cannot Be Removed from Agenda

The right to self-determination has been one of the cornerstones of the negotiation process, and cannot be removed from the agenda through the use of military force, Armenian Foreign Minister Ara Aivazian said at a joint press conference with his French counterpart Jean-Yves Le Drian.

“By launching a military aggression against Artsakh’s self-determination, Azerbaijan and Turkey violated their international commitments, while Azerbaijan also violated its commitments in the peace process,” the Foreign Minister said.

“Since September 27, there has

been a new watershed in the international community, as the international community has come to realize that the Nagorno-Karabakh issue is not just a territorial dispute,” he added.

Minister Aivazian said ethnic cleansing and war crimes were committed in all parts of Artsakh that came under the control of Azerbaijan, which once again proves the need to address the recognition of Artsakh’s right to self-determination.

Only in that case, he said, “will it be possible to achieve a just and lasting peace, and only then can we think of a new era of peaceful existence in the South Caucasus.”

## US Concerned Over Turkey’s Role in Recent Nagorno-Karabakh War

Acting Assistant Secretary of State in the US Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs Philip Reeker said on Tuesday the United States is extremely concerned over the role that Turkey played in the recent hostilities in Nagorno-Karabakh, TASS reported.

“We have many questions regarding Turkey’s role there. We are extremely concerned and have expressed this concern during discussions on Turkey’s role, the transfer of foreign fighter jets and the delivery of weapons. These are troubling issues and remain a part of our dialogues with Turkey and Russia,” Reeker said during a briefing for members of the Commission on Security and Coopera-

tion in Europe (US Helsinki Commission) adjunct to the US Congress.

Reeker stated that the US welcomes the secession of hostilities in the Nagorno Karabakh conflict zone, but deeply regret the really brutal and certainly unnecessary loss of life, including among civilians.

“We continue to stress that there is no military solution to that longstanding conflict,” Philip Reeker stated, adding that the solution should be attained at the negotiating table.

He said the Minsk Group Co-Chairs will visit the region this weekend “to see where we can get the co-chairs back into a role to try to move forward on a diplomatic solution.”

## Armenian Prosecutors Start Confiscation Process for Illegally Acquired Assets



YEREVAN — Armenian prosecutors have started scrutinizing assets of more than 200 people to determine whether they were acquired illegally and can be confiscated under a controversial law enacted earlier this year.

The law drafted by the Armenian government allows the prosecutors to conduct such inquiries in case of having “sufficient grounds to suspect” that the market value of an individual’s assets exceeds their “legal income” by at least 50 million drams (\$100,000). Should the prosecutors find such discrepancies they can ask courts to nationalize them even if their owners are not found guilty of corruption or other criminal offenses.

The latter will have to prove the legality of their holdings if they are to retain them. They will also be given the option of reaching an out-of-court settlement with the authorities, which would require them to hand over at least 75 percent of their assets in and outside Armenia to the state.

The process is handled by a special team of prosecutors formed in

September and overseen by Deputy Prosecutor-General Srbuhi Galyan.

Galyan told RFE/RL’s Armenian Service on Wednesday that the team is now investigating 206 people suspected of having enriched themselves illegally. She declined to name any of them or say whether there are well-known individuals among them.

“I hope that the public will hear in the near future about the practical application of this legal instrument,” said the 28-year-old official.

Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan has repeatedly portrayed the law as a major anti-corruption measure that will help his administration recover “wealth stolen from the people.” Pashinyan has indicated his intention to use it against the country’s former rulers and their cronies.

Final decisions on asset forfeiture are due to be made by special anti-corruption courts which the Armenian authorities plan to set up soon. The government has already drafted a bill on such courts. It is not yet clear when it will be debated by the National Assembly.

## SOHR: Death Toll of Mercenaries in Azerbaijan is More Than 540

LONDON — The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights has obtained new details on the case of Turkish-backed Syrian mercenaries in Azerbaijan from several fighters who recently returned from Nagorno-Karabakh to Syria. According to SOHR sources, the fighters who had returned to Syria received varying payments, as some were given 3,500 USD and 600 TL, another group was given 1,000 USD and 1,000 TL each, while some others were given two payments of an estimated 5,000 TL. Furthermore, all the fighters confirmed that there were “unpaid sums of money” that were supposed to be given to these fighters in the next few days.

On the other hand, SOHR sources say that the number of Syrian mercenaries killed in Azerbaijan exceeded the number of those killed in Libya, as the death toll of the Turkish-backed Syrian mercenaries in Azerbaijan has reached 541. In Libya, however, the death toll is 468 fighters.

SOHR sources have also confirmed that further bodies of Syrian fighters killed in Nagorno-Karabakh battles have arrived in Syria with the recent batches of returnees, bringing the number of fighters whose bodies were brought to Syria to 340.

Accordingly, nearly 825 fighters

of the Turkish-backed factions are still in Azerbaijan, out of 2,580 fighters transported earlier by Turkish government. However, it is not known yet if they will return to Syria soon or Turkey will maintain them in Azerbaijan in the present. Moreover, there are probably more fatalities among the fighters, who are still in Azerbaijan, whose death has not been confirmed or documented yet by SOHR sources.

Yesterday, reliable sources told SOHR that new batches of Turkish-backed Syrian mercenaries returned to Syria from Azerbaijan, as all Turkish efforts failed so far to maintain them in Azerbaijan. It is worth noting that the Azerbaijani government refused to allow these mercenaries to be settled in Nagorno-Karabakh or other Azerbaijani areas.

According to SOHR sources, over 900 fighters of Turkish-backed Syrian factions returned to Syria in batches, with latest batch arriving in Syria on last Thursday. While more batches were expected to return in the following hours or days.

Meanwhile, the returnees receive a part of their payments, an estimated 10,000 Turkish liras, and it was expected that they would get the rest of their salaries in the following few days.

## OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs Call for Prompt Departure of All Foreign Mercenaries from Nagorno-Karabakh

The Heads of Delegation of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chair countries – Foreign Minister of the Russian Federation Sergey Lavrov, Deputy Secretary of State of the United States Stephen E. Biegun, and Minister for European and Foreign Affairs of France Jean-Yves Le Drian – welcome the cessation of military activities in the area of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict in accordance with the statement by the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia, and President of the Russian Federation from November 9, 2020.

The Co-Chair countries of the OSCE Minsk Group call upon Armenia and Azerbaijan to continue implementing fully their obligations under the November 9 statement, in Nagorno-Karabakh and the surrounding districts, as well as their previous ceasefire commitments. The Co-Chair countries highlight the significance of measures taken by the Russian Federation, in agreement with Azerbaijan and Armenia, to guarantee the non-renewal of hostilities. They also call for the full and prompt departure from the region of all foreign mercenaries, and call upon all parties to facilitate this departure.

The Co-Chair countries remind Armenia and Azerbaijan of their obligation to comply with the requirements of international humanitarian law, in particular with regard to the exchange of prisoners of war and the repatriation of remains. They underline the importance of guaranteeing conditions for the voluntary, safe, dignified, and sustainable return of people displaced by the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, including during the recent hostilities. They underscore the importance of protecting historical and religious heritage in and around Nagorno-Karabakh. The Co-Chair countries call on Azerbaijan and Armenia to cooperate fully with the relevant international organizations to implement their obligations in these areas and ensure humanitarian access.

## Armenian Authorities Implicate Opposition Groups in Yerevan Riots

YEREVAN — The National Security Service (NSS) on Wednesday accused Armenian opposition members and supporters of organizing violent protests in Yerevan following the announcement of the Russian-brokered ceasefire in Nagorno-Karabakh.

Hundreds of angry men broke into Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan’s office and residence and the Armenian parliament and ransacked them early on November 10. They condemned the ceasefire agreement as a sellout.

Some of the protesters also beat up parliament speaker Ararat Mirzoyan. The latter underwent several surgeries as a result.

In a statement, the NSS said it has indicted about 50 people and arrested 18 of them in a continuing criminal investigation into what it de-



The Co-Chair countries appeal to the international community including ICRC, UN institutions, and other appropriate structures as well as OSCE Minsk Group individual countries to take concrete steps to improve the humanitarian situation in Nagorno-Karabakh and adjacent areas in a coordinated way. The Co-Chairs also reiterate their strong support for the continuing work of the Personal Representative of the OSCE Chair-in-Office (PRCiO) and his team.

The Co-Chair countries urge Armenia and Azerbaijan to take advantage of the current ceasefire to negotiate a lasting and sustainable peace agreement under the auspices of the Co-Chairs. In that context, the Co-Chair countries urge the parties to receive the Co-Chairs in the region at the earliest opportunity and to commit to substantive negotiations to resolve all outstanding issues in accordance with an agreed timetable.

The Co-Chair countries of the OSCE Minsk Group recall their firm commitment to the non-use or threat of force to settle disputes. They reiterate their consistent and united position in favor of a negotiated, comprehensive, and sustainable settlement of all remaining core substantive issues of the conflict in line with the basic principles and elements well-known to both Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Co-Chair countries remain fully committed to pursuing this objective in line with their long-standing efforts to promote peace, stability, and prosperity in the region.

scribed as “mass disturbances” aimed at facilitating a violent overthrow of the Armenian government.

The statement claimed that the participants of the riots were recruited by “supporters of political forces acting in the opposition field and having anti-government views.” Many of the rioters support former Presidents Robert Kocharyan and Serzh Sarkisyan or are affiliated with the Dashnaksutyun and other opposition groups, it said.

The security service added that it is now taking “large-scale investigative measures” to ascertain “the role of the organizers of the mass disturbances” and identify more people involved in the violence. It did not say whether it has already brought relevant criminal charges against any opposition politicians.



## Letter to the Editor:

### Mr. Armen Sarkissian and the ARF

“And behold, a greater than Solomon is here” (Matt.12:42)

Dear Editors,

I have heard the broadcast and read the text of the Armenian President on the crisis in Armenia and Artsakh, calling for the resignation of the Prime Minister, the only elected head of state by the people of Armenia. While the President has changed his tune smelling an opportunity to rise the greasy pool, the ARF is circulating a statement calling for the resignation of the Prime Minister in the name of the Diaspora. The Dashnak part has no legitimate authority or validation to make infallible sounding ex cathedra pronouncements like the Pope of Rome. Fortunately, neither the President nor the Dashnak Party have been endowed with these two dogmatic epithets (a) to make ex cathedra pronouncements and (b) assuming infallibility. As in the case of the President and now the ARF by blustering chicanery scramble to power, a party that has had only governed a country for two years in their 100 year old history: Behold there is no salvation for the Armenian people outside the ARF – like there is no salvation for the faithful of the Armenian Apostolic Orthodox church outside the Church of Rome  $\xi\Delta\acute{\epsilon}\acute{\alpha}\acute{\iota}\acute{\Upsilon}\acute{\O}\acute{\sigma}$  ‘áōñē āÇù ÷ñĪáōÃÇōÝ|. They lend themselves to mockery by inflaming the situation by joining the mob in the Freedom Square, demanding the Prime Minister’s resignation. Their jaw dropping hypocrisy and arrogance beggars belief. While the country is in war, the President traveled to every corner of the globe seeking support from foreign institutions, and returned empty handed in total disgrace. Did he consult the Prime Minister or the Foreign Minister for his personal advancement. When he returned from his tours did he meet the Prime Minister or the Foreign Minister and report to them the results of his self seeking importance? Did he ever think that as President his visit to the soldiers in the front, would have raised the moral well-being of the fighters.

Does he consider as a seasoned diplomat, his contribution to this conflict as ambassador and President a success or a failure? For thirty years since the inception of the independent Armenia, he has been a central figure in the diplomatic core of the country and in that period he failed to secure the support of any country, most of all his adopted country the United Kingdom of Britain and Ireland. Like all the others he used his position to mass wealth, act as expert consultant on the Caucasus for British companies, for which he was handsomely rewarded by obtaining British citizenship. Since then he has traveled to the countries in the Middle East whose source of oil supply is Baku. Is this an attempt to make sure that his consultation fees are not cancelled.

He has been the most malign figure in the present government. Every intervention of his in the political sphere has been negative – the gold mines of Amulsar, his nomination of a candidate to the Supreme Court a fig-

ure who had twice been rejected on corruption charges. His intervention to establish an Armenian Embassy in Israel was the worst diplomatic decision. The Ambassador of the Independent Republic of Armenia, who when dismissed from his post assembled a crowd of his supporters whom he had convinced that he was irreplaceable, lowers down the country’s flag and hands it over to the Chairman of the London Armenian Community. It is interesting that while the whole nation is calling for the return of the wealth robbed by the former two Presidents, he has remained silent. Why is that so? Is it the case that he does not agree with the nation or is it because he is part of the gang? He was appointed President by Serge Sarkissian, his patron and it is not surprising that he will not speak against him but seek the resignation of the Prime Minister. The Prime Minister’s actions will soon or later expose his corrupt dealings. His scurrilous bellicose polemic that the Prime Minister had not consulted him has now been proved to be both dishonest and a shameless lie. The Prime Minister had informed him of his decision. The President first called for his resignation then he changed his mind and now he is supporting him, smelling an opportunity to gain the favor of the population, hoping to present himself as the Savior of the country. Rather than passing strictures he should acknowledge his miserable failure as a diplomat.

In his speeches he continues to shamefully exploit the diaspora, have been proved to be bluffs and fibs, which have been condemned in the diaspora. When in 1999 a mob invaded the parliament building and murdered 8 parliamentarians among them the Defense Minister Vazgen Sarkissian (who had sacked him as Prime Minister) he was in Moscow. This time round, when the mob was ransacking the Parliament building Mr Sarkissian was abroad. Armenia is not the 52 state of the United States or a colony of the diaspora. Each time he speaks, he identifies himself and validates his pronouncement by appealing to the diaspora, forgetting that his foremost duty is to speak on behalf of the people of Armenia. He is the President of the Republic of Armenia. His posturing is cynical, self-indulgent, insincere and to endorse his credibility, constantly reminds the public that he is one of them and to prove that he once stood outside the Presidential palace and distributed ice-cream. His parents were from Iran but he was born in Yerevan. In the same vein the ARF is a party that has no right or authority to seek the resignation of a Prime Minister. The only authority that can demand the resignation of the Prime Minister are those fathers, mothers, sisters and brothers who sent their sons and daughters to the front to fight the enemy. Patriotism requires sacrifice.

As a priest, I am very upset that the Catholicos who came to the throne of St. Gregory the Illuminator on the day, that a mob invaded the parliament building and massacred the cream of Armenian political figures, should give his consent to a priest to stand in a

square and call for the resignation of the Prime Minister. As Catholicos of All Armenians instead of taking selfies on every possible occasion with the corrupt former two Presidents, he should use his moral standing and call upon them to return their looted wealth.

The ARF has been part of the former governing body. Is it not hypocritical of them to blame the Prime Minister for the tragedy? It is typical of a party of 100 years history to always side with the minority and the Western powers rather than the nation. The first Armenian Republic was born out of chaos. The ARF committee sitting in Tiflis were given the power to run the country. It came into existence on 28 May 1918 and ceased to exist in November of 1920. In 1918 the entire nation came together for the first time at the battle of Sardarabad to save the country from total extinction. Their first action of the infant republic was to make peace with Turkey by signing the infamous treaty of Batum on 5th June. The Dashnak party clung blindly to the Allies, but received nothing tangible in return. The Communists introduced Soviet rule, an action that at least forestalled the complete Turkish takeover of Armenia in April 1921.

The Dashnak party members fled the country and began sabotaging activities in the diaspora creating two conflicting factions WE and THEM which continues to this day. The tension even split the only institution that had protected and maintained the unity of the Armenian people for centuries – the Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Church. In 1952 the break in relations between the two church jurisdictions was sealed, exacerbated by the East-West divide of the Cold War, in which the Dashnak party has played a leading role. The creation of the third republic gave hope that the two factions would unite. Even the installment of a key figure in the campaign of schism, in the person of Garegin II Sarkissian Catholicos of Cilicia [Garegin I st] to the throne of Holy Etchmiadzin, failed to dis-validate the schism and bring reconciliation among the church communities in the west, which is crucial if the destiny of present newly found independence was not to suffer the

same destiny as the first republic. For some unknown reasons the Dashnak Party assumes it is their God given, autocratic or totalitarian right to govern over the Armenian people and church.

Emperor Maurice of Byzantium [Armenian by birth) (582-602) in a letter to Khosrov the Persian king concerning the Armenian princes and their troops writes «They are a perverse and disobedient race, he said; they are between us and cause trouble. Now come, I shall gather mine and send them to Thrace, you gather yours and order them to be taken to the east. If they die, our enemies die; if they kill, they kill our enemies; but we shall live in Peace. For if they remain in their own land, we shall have no rest» [«Ազգ մի խոտոր և անհնազանդ են, ասէ, կան ի միջի մերում և պղտորեն: Բայց եկ? ասէ, ես զհմս ժողովեն և ի Թրակէ գումարեմ. և դու զքոյդ ժողովէ և հրամայէ յԱրևելս տանել: Չի եթէ մեռանցին թշնամիք մեռանցին. և եթէ սպանանեն? զթշնամիս սպանանեն. և մեր կեցցուք խաղաղութեամբ: Չի եթէ դրքա յերկրի իւրեանց լինիցին, մեզ հանգչել ոչ լինի» Պատմութիւն Սերբոսի Եպիսկոպոսի ի Հերակլէն, Թ ի Ֆ լ ի ս , 1 9 1 3 , Գ լ ո լ խ 2, էջ. 74]. While this Machiavellian scheme to siphon off a significant percentage of Armenian military manpower was adopted by the Greeks, the Persians policy was to encourage Armenian nobles and their military followings to enlist by offering them substantial cash inducement to fight in their campaigns..

Time is needed to evaluate the leadership of the Prime Minister Mr. Pashinyan. Major world powers have drawn small Armenia into a dirty war of regional interests that will have long lasting implications. We are witnessing the Balkanization of the Transcaucasus. This is just the beginning of a process.

«ՆՇԱՆԱԻ ՍՈՒՐԲ ԵՒ ՊԱՏՈՒԿԱՆ ԽԱԶԻ ՔՈՂՅԱԼԱԾԵԱ ԶԵՐԵԻԵԼԻ ԵՒ ԶԱՆԵՐԵԻՈՅԹ ԹՇՆԱՄԻՆ Ի ՍԱՅՍԱՆԱՅ ՍԵՐՈՑ Ի ԲՆԱԿՈՒԹԵՆԵՍ ՍԵՐՄԷ»

Yours respectfully,  
Rev. D. Nerses Vrej Nersessian

## Armenian Prisoners of War

Continued from page 1

parties to an international armed conflict to treat POWs humanely in all circumstances. The third Geneva Convention protects POWs “particularly against acts of violence or intimidation and against insults and public curiosity.”

While exact numbers are unknown, Armenian officials in Yerevan told Human Rights Watch that Azerbaijan holds “dozens” of Armenian POWs. Armenia is known to hold a number of Azerbaijani POWs and at least three foreign mercenaries.

Dozens of videos alleging abuse of Armenian POWs have been posted to social media. Human Rights Watch closely examined 14, and spoke with the families of five POWs whose abuse was depicted. The videos were posted to Telegram channels, including Kolorit 18+ and Karabah\_News, and to several Instagram accounts. None of the

videos have metadata that could confirm the time and location where they were recorded attached, as it was stripped when the videos were uploaded to Telegram and other platforms. But Human Rights Watch is confident that none of these videos were posted online before October-November 2020.

Human Rights Watch also examined numerous other images and legal documents, and spoke with two lawyers, Artak Zeinlyan and Siranush Sahakyan, who represent the families of close to 40 POWs in requests filed with the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) for interim measures (urgent measures to protect people whose cases are pending with the court and who are at “imminent risk of irreparable harm”). The court granted all the requests on behalf of individual POWs to instruct the Azerbaijan government to provide information on the POWs, the lawyers said.

## New Prosthetics Laboratory for the Homeland Defenders' Rehabilitation Center

YEREVAN — The Homeland Defender's Rehabilitation Center will soon be equipped with a state of the art German / Dutch gait and prosthetics laboratory for the treatment of the brave young men who heroically put their lives on the line for us all.

The center currently houses 120 soldiers receiving treatment for injuries sustained during the war. The new laboratory will provide both upper and lower limb functional prosthetics. The 360degree 3D gait analysis laboratory will increase the functionality of the center by providing in depth analysis of the specific needs of patients while the prosthetics lab will create customized state of the art prosthetics for each patient. The project will also have a training component where doctors and prosthetics experts from Armenia will take part in training programs in Europe to ensure a higher quality of care for the patients of the rehabilitation center.

"This is the first such prosthetics lab in Armenia and it will allow us to provide the type of state of the art prosthetics which will not only maximize the functionality of each patient but more importantly avoid any additional complications and surgeries. We are grateful to all Armenians who supported this crucial project through the Hayastan All Armenian Fund." said Haykuhi Minasyan, Director of the Homeland Defender's Rehabilitation Center

This joint venture is made possible with financing of the Armenian community in the Netherland and the Hayastan All Armenian Fund's partner



Vereniging Armeniëfonds Nederland as part of the We Are Our Borders fundraising campaign.

The treatment and care of our injured young men is of paramount importance to the Fund as well as the Armenian nation and this is the first in a long line of project developed to ensure the sacrificed made by our soldiers in defense of our homeland is valued and their physical needs taken care of. A number of initiatives are currently in development to support both soldiers and their families.

It is our duty, as Armenians from every corner of the world, to show our appreciation for the incredible sacrifices made by these brave young men, and we will continue to support them and ensure their injuries do not result in a decrease in their quality of life.

## AMAA's Artsakh Centers and Kindergartens Reopen



During the recent Artsakh war, hundreds of families from Artsakh took refuge in Armenia. Along with other organizations, the Armenian Missionary Association of America took care of these families in its multiple facilities.

On November 15, eight employees and ministers from AMAA Armenia and the Evangelical Church of Armenia left for Stepanakert to restore and prepare the AMAA's war-torn office and the sanctuary of the Evangelical Church of Armenia. For the first time since September 27, a Worship Service was held in the Church.

Today, AMAA's kindergartens are fully operational in Stepanakert, Askeran and Martakert. The "Shogh"

Day Center in Askeran has also opened its doors to serve the children of Artsakh.

Gayane Yeghiazaryan, Social Worker of "Shogh" Day Center, and Sarik Gasparyan, Camp Director of Bedrosian Camp in Shushi, took care of 30 elderly people who found refuge at these centers, feeding them and taking care of all their basic needs until October 29, when they were evacuated.

These are difficult times for our people of Armenia and Artsakh. We mourn the loss of Shushi, Hadrut, Karvajar and other regions of Artsakh. But we also realize that we must move forward and do everything possible to support the restoration of our beloved Artsakh.

## Armenia Artsakh Fund Delivered \$15 Million of Aid to Armenia and Artsakh in the Last Five Months

GLENDALÉ -- The Armenia Artsakh Fund (AAF) delivered \$15 million of humanitarian assistance to Armenia and Artsakh during the last five challenging months. Of this amount, the AAF collected \$14.9 million of medicines and other supplies donated by Americares (\$7.1 million); Direct Relief (\$4.3 million) and MAP International (\$3.4 million).

Other organizations which contributed valuable goods during this period were Armenian Missionary Association of America (\$330,000); Project Agape (\$65,000); The Howard Karagheusian Comm. Corp. (\$57,000) and Dr. Albert Phillips of CA (\$9,500).

The medicines, medical supplies and hygiene products donated during this period were sent to the AGBU Claudia Nazarian Medical Center for Syrian Armenian Refugees in Yerevan, Aleppo Compatriotic Charity Organization, Arabkir United Children's Foundation, Armenian Missionary Association of America, Avak Medical Center, Fund for Armenian Relief, Metsn Nerces Charitable Organization, Muratsan Children's Endocrinology Center, National Hematology Center, St. Grigor Lusavorich Medical Center, and the health ministries of Armenia and Artsakh.

During the eleven months of 2020 AAF delivered much needed medicines and medical supplies for treatment of COVID-19 patients as well as emergency medicines and supplies to treat war injuries. In the past 31 years, including the shipments under its predecessor, the United Armenian Fund, the AAF has delivered to Armenia and Artsakh a grand total of \$913 million worth of relief supplies on board 158 airlifts and 2,486 sea containers.

The AAF shipments from June – November included much needed medicines for treatment of COVID-19 patients, war injuries, mental disorders, oncology, cardio vascular and gastrointestinal cases.

"The Armenia Artsakh Fund is regularly offered free of charge millions of dollars of life-saving medicines and medical supplies. All we have to do is pay for the shipping expenses. We welcome your generous donations to be able to continue delivering this valuable assistance to all medical centers in Armenia and Artsakh," stated Harut Sassounian, the President of AAF.

For more information, call the AAF office: (818) 241-8900; Email: [sassoun@pacbell.net](mailto:sassoun@pacbell.net).

## Armenia Issues Stamp Dedicated to Aurora Laureate, Yazidi Activist Mirza Dinnayi



YEREVAN — A postage stamp dedicated to the theme "Aurora Humanitarian Initiative. Laureates of "Aurora" Prize. Mirza Dinnayi" has been cancelled and put into circulation.

The postage stamp was cancelled by the Deputy Minister of High-Technological Industry of the Republic of Armenia Stepan Tsaturyan, the Chief Executive Officer of Aurora Humanitarian Initiative Nicola Stanisch, 2019 Aurora prize laureate Mirza Dinnayi, the Chief Executive Officer of "HayPost" CJSC Hayk Karapetyan, the President of Philatelists' Armenian Association Hovik Musaelyan.

The postage stamp with nominal value of 350 AMD is printed in "Cartor" printing house in France with print-run of 12 000 stamps. The designer of the stamp is Alla Mingalyova, a member of the Aurora Humanitarian Initiative team.

"HayPost" CJSC has issued a

donation coupon for 150 AMD attached to the postage stamp. "HayPost" CJSC will transfer 150 AMD donation value to the Aurora Humanitarian Initiative.

The postage stamp depicts the fourth Aurora Prize Laureate, the Co-Founder and Director of "Luftbrücke Irak" ("Air Bridge Iraq") humanitarian organization, a Yazidi activist Mirza Dinnayi who works with the victims of ISIS. He has saved hundreds of women and children during the Iraqi war. Risking his own life, Mr. Dinnayi has personally evacuated and transported people from ISIS-controlled territories, after which his organization "Luftbrücke Irak" provided them with necessary treatment and support.

Mirza Dinnayi was named the 2019 Aurora Laureate on October 19, 2019, at the ceremony in Yerevan that was held during the Aurora Forum.











