

Debbie Poochigian Scores Big Victory in Tough Race for Fresno County Board of Supervisors

CLOVIS, CA – With over 55% of the vote, Poochigian soundly defeated Clovis City Councilman Nathan Magsig for a seat on the 5th Supervisorial District of Fresno County. The competition involved 14 months of intense campaigning throughout the large, 3,200 square mile district comprised of urban, rural and mountain communities.

Debbie Poochigian has been a businesswoman, teacher, political leader and community volunteer who



Debbie Poochigian and her husband is former State Senator Chuck Poochigian

served on numerous boards of charitable organizations ranging from the St. Agnes Medical Center to Crime Stoppers. Her father was former five-term supervisor Deran Koligian, and her husband is former State Senator Chuck Poochigian. While there were other very important elections in Fresno County (including an 11-candidate competition for Mayor of Fresno and several other supervisorial and city council contests), the Poochigian-Magsig battle was the most hotly contested and expensive local race in Central California.

The candidates spent over \$1 million and conducted a very active campaign involving television, radio and mail. With over 275 volunteers, the Poochigian campaign had an exceptionally strong grass roots organization.

Poochigian had strong, bi-partisan support. Her supporters included former Governor George Deukmejian, former Secretary of State Bill Jones, Assemblyman Mike Villines, Senator Dave Cogdill, Congressman Jim Costa, Fresno Mayor Alan Autry and former Congressman Rick Lehman. She was also supported

by the Fresno County District Attorney, Elizabeth Egan; three former sheriffs, Steve Magarian, Richard Pierce and Hal McKinney; Mike Reynolds, the father of “Three Strikes and You’re Out; the leaders of Crime Victims’ Rights organizations; the superintendent and all 7 members of the board of the Clovis Unified School District; and many other political, civic and business leaders.

“I have had an interest in public service for as long as I can remember. This campaign was long and tough. I am humbled and grateful for the depth of support I received and the confidence placed in me by so many outstanding, highly respected local and state leaders,” said Poochigian. “Like many other local governments in California, Fresno County faces enormous challenges – beginning with big budgetary shortfalls. I hope to bring a fresh perspective to the task and earn a reputation for showing common sense, being well-informed and prepared, and being prudent with our limited resources. I will advocate policies that guard public safety, protect taxpayers, and are conducive to economic growth.”

Popular Movement Supporters Rally in Gyumri

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claimed the ex-president. “We also know from which circles they are. Some of them are from Karabakh, others are the ‘shaven-heads’ (bodyguards) of our notorious oligarchs.”

Ter-Petrosian also brushed aside the ambitious reform agenda of Serzh Sarkisian and his prime minister Tigran Sarkisian, saying that the “kleptocratic”

essence of the ruling regime remains unchanged. “I do believe that there are individuals who have just joined the government and may have honest goals: Tigran Sarkisian, [Foreign Minister] Eduard Nalbandian and a couple of other ministers,” he said. “But I don’t believe that these people will be able to take any practical steps because the system will strangle them.”

Paradise Lost

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immigrate to Athens and other Greek cities to start their lives over. The paradise of Smyrna, with its prosperous and heterogeneous population, was now just a memory after only a few gruesome days.

PARADISE LOST provides a long-neglected reminder that the destruction of Smyrna was a tragedy of epic proportions. And that it was, at least in part, facilitated by the apathetic attitude that the Great Powers displayed toward the Near East in the wake of the First World War. With British and American attention focused squarely upon Europe, the former Ottoman Empire was neglected, allowing dangerous fissures to quickly develop and

deadly rivalries to form. The annihilation of Smyrna and its non-Muslim population was one to the first catastrophic results of this new modern landscape and it foreshadowed the disastrous clash between East and West that defines our own age today.

Chilling and heartbreaking, PARADISE LOST adeptly takes readers to the nexus of one of modern history’s most controversial tragic, and gruesome moments and offers a potent reminder of how the modern region was born.

About the author:

Giles Milton is a journalist and bestselling author of five previous works of non-fiction: Nathaniel’s Nutmeg, Big Chief Elizabeth, The Riddle and the Knight, Samurai William and White gold. He lives in London.

Osmanli Sadlik Hizmetlerinde Ermeniler

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observations concerning home remedies in Tokat region.

The author Arsen Yarman does not have good news from Tokat. As mentioned above, he dedicates this voluminous book to the brother of his grand father, Dr. Minas Yarmayan. The Yarmayan family, including Dr. Yarmayan, originally are from Tokat. Dr. Minas Yarmayan was born in Tokat, probably around 1880, studied at Merzifon College, and then continued his studies at The American University of Beirut, from where he took his Medical degree in 1906. He returned to his native land, and was sent by Ottoman government to the Azizie Ottoman hospital in Erzinjan to work as a physician. However he was killed by the Ottoman authorities in 1915, in the hospital where he was working. More about the fate of Armenian physicians during the World War I, at the end of this review..

(G) Sivas (Sepasdia). Page 403. Sivas had an Armenian hospital, and several Armenian physicians.

(H) Merzifon (Marzvan), page. 407. Had an American College. The Armenian hospital here had a school for nursing too.

(I) Marash. Page 410, There was no hospital in Marash until 1895, when the German Mission built one, and was called German Hospital. After the end of World War I, Americans managed the hospital as an American hospital.

(J) Harput (Kharpert) page 413. Kharpert had been an important missionary center, A college named Hayasdan College erected 1875, but later, by Sultan Hamid’s order the name was changed to Euphrates Collage. The Hospital of Kharpert was called “Annie Tracy Riggs” hospital in honor of Annie Riggs missionary.

(K) Urfa. In 1897, the German mission to Urfa inaugurates a hospital, that was called a Municipal Hospital In addition to Armenian doctors, most of the nurses were Armenian. During 1915, the Turkish government made it into a military hospital.

(L) Aintep (Ayntab or Aintab, now Gaziantep)..Page 417. The Missionary physician, Dr. Azaria Smith visited Aintab in 1840ies, to “renew the Christian faith” of Armenians. In 1848, Dr. Van Lennep is sent from Boston to Ayntab, and the first hospital here is innogurated and later called Azariah Smith Hospital, A placard is put over the door of the hospital that read, “All diseases are cured by God”.

The American Mission also established the Central Turkey College, including a Medical School. In 1876. This medical school gave Doctor of Medicine diplomas even before the American University of Beirut. The medical school part was unfortunately closed in 1889. Rumor has it that the missionaries in Boston thought that the Armenians of Ayntab needed more spiritual, rather than medical education and care. The most famous physician of Ayntab was the medical missionary Dr. Fred Shepard, He passed

away in 1915 during a typhus epidemic. (His biography recently 2001, reprinted, titled “Shepard of Aintab”. It is written by Alice Shepard Riggs, published by Taderon Press, London, England, by arrangement with Gomidas Institute, of Ara Sarafian).

(M). Mardin (Merdin). The first hospital here was established by the American Missionary, Dr. Alpheus Newell Andrus and his wife Louisa. During 1915, the Turkish government deports and imprisons Dr. Andrus to Sivas, for no apparent reason. After the War, Dr. Andrus goes to USA, and plans to return to Mardin in 1919. However, he dies the same year.

(N) Cairo. (Page 422) In 1828, the first hospital for non Moslems is established by the Armenian Archbishop Giragos. However later on, this building was made into the Surp Asdvadzadzin Armenian church.

(O). Aleppo. (Page 422). The most famous physician in the first half of twentieth century, in the Middle East was Dr. Aram Asadur Altunyan. He was born in Sivas (Sepasdia) in 1854, studied medicine in Medical School of Central Turkey College of Aintab and took his M.D. degree in 1881. He was sent by missionaries to Columbia University in New York, in 1884, from where he took his second .M.D, diploma in 1885. He returned to Ayntab in 1887, But then left for Aleppo and settled there in 1890, and built the best hospital in Syria single handedly. His fame spread from Istanbul to Iran. His son, Ernest Altunyan and grand son, Dr. Roger Altunyan became famous in their own right.

Arsen Yarman’s book, page 171 makes an error in the biography of Dr. A. Altunyan. He states that Dr. Altunyan was the first M.D. to get an X-ray machine to Syria in 1934.

This is not correct. It is true that Dr. Altounyan was the first doctor to bring an x-ray machine to Aleppo, but this was in 1896, one year after Reontgen invented the machine. (The life of this most interesting Altounyan family was published by the grand daughter of Dr. A. Altunyan, Taqui Altunyan. The book is titled “Chimes From a Wooden Bell”; Taurus & Co. London and New York. 1990, I wrote a review of this book in the English section of “Nor Gyank” weekly of Los Angeles. Sept. 29, 2005).

Dr. A. Altunyan represented Western Armenians at the Peace Conference in Paris in 1920. Once the conference ended he returned to his busy practice in Aleppo. An article in the British medical weekly the “Lancet” in 1927 stated that “the Altunyan Hospital in Aleppo had to date performed no fewer than 28,000 operations, some of them being plastic surgery. One can estimate that by 1950, more than 50,000 operations were done at Altunyan hospital, One of these patients being Jemal Pasha., Minister of Turkish Navy, and a second one, the writer of this review.

Section 8. Pages 425-444. The friendship of Sultan Mahmud II and Kazaz Artine Amira Bezjian.

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