

ԳԱՂՈՒԹԱՅԻՆ

ՆՈՐ ՍԵՐՈՒՆԴ ՄՇԱԿՈՒԹԱՅԻՆ ՄԻՈՒԹԻՒՆ ՀԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԻ ԱՆԿԱԽՈՒԹԵԱՆ ՆՈՒՐՈՒՎԾԾ 11-ՐԴ ՏԱՐԵԿԱՆ ՓԱՌԱՏՈՆԸ



Կիրակի, Մեպտեմբեր 20, 2009ին Լոս Անձելոսահայութիւնը հրատիրուած է Կլենտէլի Վերտուկօ Փարքը, նշելու Հայաստանի Անկախութեան տարեդարձը:

Ցաջորդական 11րդ տարին ըլլալով, Նոր Սերունդ Մշակութային Միութիւնը կը կազմակերպէ այս միօրեայ հանդիսութիւնը, առաւտօնեան ժամը 11-էն մինչեւ երեկոյեան 7-ը: Ինչպէս նախորդ տարիներուն, վատահ ենք որ այս տարի եւս բազմահազար ժողովուրդ ներկայ պիտի ըլլայ վայելելու հայ մշակոյթի եւ արուեստի, երգի ու պարի, ինչպէս նաեւ համարած ճաշերով յագեցուած օր մը:

Գեղարուեստական յայտագիրը կ'ընդգրկէ սիրուած արուեստագէտներ եւ պարախութեր: Պիտի ցուցադրուին արուեստի գործեր, գիրքեր, ձախնակաւուակներ, ժապաւէններ եւայլն: Մանուկներէն մինչեւ մեծահասակներու համար պիտի ըլլան զանազան տեսակի խաղեր եւ մրցումներ, ինչպէս նաեւ մրցանակներ շահողներուն համար:

Միացէք մեզի նշելու այս յոյժ կարեւոր տօնը եւ վայլելու ցիշատակների օր մը: Մուտքը ազատ է եւ ձրի կանգար ապահովուած բոլորի համար:

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ԲԺՇԿԱԿԱՆ ԳՈՅՔԵՐՈՒ ԱՌԱՋՈՒՄ ՄԱՅՐ ԱԹՈՌ ՍՈՒՐԵ ԷՇԻԱԾԻՆ



Արեւմտեան թեմը իր կազմակերպութիւններով եւ հաւատացեաներով կը շարունակէ իր աջակցութիւնը Հայաստանի հայրենակիցներուն:

Արեւմտեան թեմէն ներս երկարամեալ նուիրեալ ծառայութիւն մասուցող Բրշ. Տոքթ. Վարուժ Սրկ. Ալթըպարմաքեան, որ եղած է թեմական Խորհուրդի անդամ, թեմէն ներս վարած է գանազան պատասխանատու պաշտօններ եւ ներկային իր ծառայութիւնը կը շարունակէ ֆրէզնոյի Սուրբ Պողոս Հայց. Եկեղեցւոյ մէջ, ինչպէս նաեւ որպէս անդամ Մայր Աթոռ Սուրբ Էջմի-

ածնի Գերագոյն Հոգեւոր Խորհուրդի, Միացեալ Հայկական Հիմնադրամի միջոցաւ 40 ոտք մեծութեամբ ընդունարանի (container) մը մէջ բժշկական շուրջ 90 սարքասորումներ եւ գոյքեր առաքեց Մայր Աթոռ, որպէսզի Ն.Ս.Օ.Տ.Տ. Գարեգին Բ. Ամենայն Հայոց Կաթողիկոսի անօրինութեամբ փոխանցուին Սուրբ Ներսէս Շնորհալի Հիւանդանոցին: Առաքուած գոյքերուն նուիրատուներն են հետեւեալները.- Kaiser Permanente, Fresno, California, Comprehensive Pain Management Center , Strafford School, Palo Alto, California.

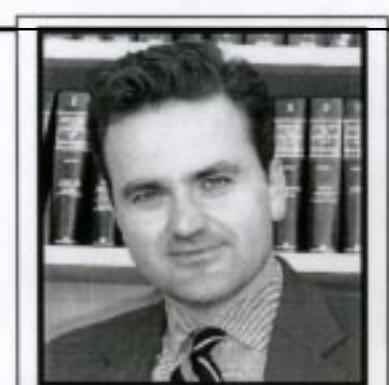
ԳԱՒԱՐԻ ՎԱՐԺԱՐԱՍԻ ԴԱՍԱՐԱՆՆԵՐՈՒ ՇԻՆՈՒԹԻՒՆԸ



Ման ֆրանսիսկոյի Սուրբ Յովհաննէս Հայց. Եկեղեցւոյ Հոգեւոր Հովիւ՝ Արժ. Տ. Սարգիս Աւագ Քհնչ. Փեթոյեան անցնող մի քանի տարիներէ ի վեր ուխտագնացութիւններ կը կազմակերպէ դէպի Հայաստան եւ հաւատացեաներու կատարած նուիրատութիւններուն շնորհիւ Հայաստանի թեմէն ներս ծրագիրներ կ'իրագործէ:

Ցիշեալ ծրագիրներէն մին էր Գեղարքունեաց թեմի մէջ գտնուող Գաւառի Ալանձեան կեղրոնի Սիւզմէնեան Կիրակնօրեայ Վարժարանի երեք դասարաններուն շինութեան ամբողջացումը:

Կիրակնօրեայ Վարժարանի աշակերտները այժմ ունին իրենց վերանորոգուած եւ կոկիկ դասարանները:



Nazareth V. Jansezian, Esq.

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Opposition Deputies Khachatur Sukiasian and Raffi Hovannisian Give Up Parliament Seat

YEREVAN -- Opposition deputy Khachatur Sukiasian, a wealthy businessman supporting the Armenian opposition, relinquished his seat in the national parliament on Monday three days after being released from prison pending trial for his role in last year's post-election unrest in Yerevan.

In a short written statement, Sukiasian said he is giving up his mandate in protest against the "unprincipled position" of the parliament majority loyal to President Serzh Sarkisian. He pointed to the National Assembly's decision to lift his and three other opposition lawmakers' immunity from prosecution in the wake of the March 1, 2008 deadly clashes in Yerevan between security forces and opposition protesters.

Sukiasian, who has represented a central Yerevan constituency in the assembly since 1999, said he has "nothing to do in this parliament anymore." "I am confident that my voters will

welcome this step," he added.

The parliament decision cited by the statement allowed the Armenian authorities to arrest opposition deputies Hakob Hakopian, Miasnik Malkhasian and Sasun Mikaelian and give them prison sentences on controversial and unproven charges of organizing the "mass riots" in the capital. Sukiasian was charged with the same crime but went into hiding and avoided arrest at the time. Malkhasian and Hakopian were released from prison following a general amnesty.

Sukiasian surrendered to law-enforcement authorities and was immediately taken into custody on September 1. Despite being set free three days later, he is still likely to stand trial on what he considers trumped-up and politically motivated charges.

Raffi Hovannisian, the leader of the opposition Zharangutyun party,

Continued on page 4

New Turkish State Structure to Fight With Armenian Diaspora

Along with normalization of relations with Armenia, Turkey establishes a new state structure to fight with Armenian Diaspora.

Turkish State Minister of Human Rights Protection of the Turks residing abroad, Faruk Celik elaborated a bill to be submitted to the Parliament shortly, Turkish Sabah reported.

The document provides for the Ministry to be engaged in lobbying of the interests of Turkey in foreign countries. The structure will comprise a minister, 7 heads of departments and 50 experts.

Jailed Opposition Youth Declares Hunger Strike

YEREVAN -- A young opposition activist who was arrested and prosecuted after handing out opposition leaflets in Yerevan two months ago said on Monday that he will go on a hunger strike to demand his release from prison.

Tigran Arakelian is facing up to five years in prison for allegedly assaulting plainclothes police officers on July 1 while publicizing, together with several other opposition youths, a rally held by the opposition Armenian National Congress (HAK) the next day. He and two teenage HAK supporters were injured in the incident and required hospitalization. They said they were punched, kicked and even pistol-whipped for informing Yerevan residents about the rally.

Arakelian was arrested on July 5 and transferred to a prison hospital in the capital on July 15 after complaining of serious health problems. A Yerevan court extended his pre-trial arrest by two months last week.

In a statement issued on Monday, the 28-year-old condemned the court ruling and said that his condition is deteriorating "day by day." "Thus, the regime has finally proved that it is keeping me as a political hostage," he charged. "I am being persecuted only



Political prisoner Tigran Arakelian

for my political views."

Arakelian added that he will start "indefinitely" refusing food on Tuesday in protest against his imprisonment which he said is part of a broader government effort to bully young Armenians sympathetic to the opposition. Arsen Babayan, a spokesman for a Justice Ministry department overseeing Armenia's prisons, told RFE/RL that Arakelian formally notified the prison hospital administration about his decision. In accordance with the law, the opposition will be transferred to a special prison cell and placed

Continued on page 4

U.S. Names Robert Bradtke New Karabakh Envoy

WASHINGTON, DC -- The United States named its new top negotiator in the Nagorno-Karabakh peace process late Monday, pledging to do "everything possible" to broker a near-term solution to the Armenian-Azerbaijani dispute.

The State Department said career diplomat Robert Bradtke will replace Matthew Bryza as the U.S. co-chair of the OSCE's Minsk Group on Karabakh. "Ambassador Bradtke brings to this position more than thirty-six years of Foreign Service experience and extensive expertise in European security policy," department spokesman Ian Kelly said in a statement.

Bradtke was Washington's ambassador to Croatia until this July and had served as a deputy assistant secretary of state responsible for NATO and the OSCE from 2001-2004. His long professional career also includes a two-year stint as executive secretary of the U.S. National Security Council during the final years of Bill Clinton's presidency.

Bryza has represented the U.S. in the Minsk Group and been closely involved in Armenian-Azerbaijani peace talks since June 2006, combining that role with the duties of deputy assistant secretary of state for European and Eurasian Affairs, of which he was also relieved last month. His replacement in that position, Tina Kaidanow, is also a career diplomat with extensive experience in the Balkans. Kaidanow served until recently as the first U.S. ambassador to Kosovo.



New Minsk Group co-chair
Robert Bradtke

"We have informed the governments of Armenia and Azerbaijan of Ambassador Bradtke's appointment," read the statement issued by Kelly. "Ambassador Bradtke looks forward to his first trip to the region in the coming weeks."

The Minsk Group's American, French and Russian co-chairs are due to visit Baku and Yerevan later this month to prepare for another meeting of the Armenian and Azerbaijani presidents that could take place in early October.

"We welcome recent positive dialogues between President Sarkisian of Armenia and President Aliyev of Azerbaijan," the State Department spokesman said. "Secretary Clinton has indicated to the two presidents her strong interest in the Minsk Group's ongoing efforts to bring the process to a fruitful conclusion, and the Obama Administration is committed to doing everything possible to support this goal."

Soccer World Cup Qualifier

Armenia - Belgium 2-1



YEREVAN -- Belgium crashed out of contention for World Cup qualification after Armenia enjoyed their first competitive win since June 2007.

Hovhannes Goharyan and Sargis Hovsepyan hit the decisive strikes on either side of the break to make it four points for the campaign and knock the Red Devils formally out of the competition.

The first period saw few chances for the hosts and none at all for the Belgians. To the Armenians' credit they took one of theirs, Goharyan netting after his first shot was rebounded back at his feet.

Timmy Simons prevented the Belgians from adding a second shortly

Continued on page 4

Armenia-Turkey: Debate Over Border Opening Becomes Even More Diverse

By Gayane Abrahamyan
ArmeniaNow.com

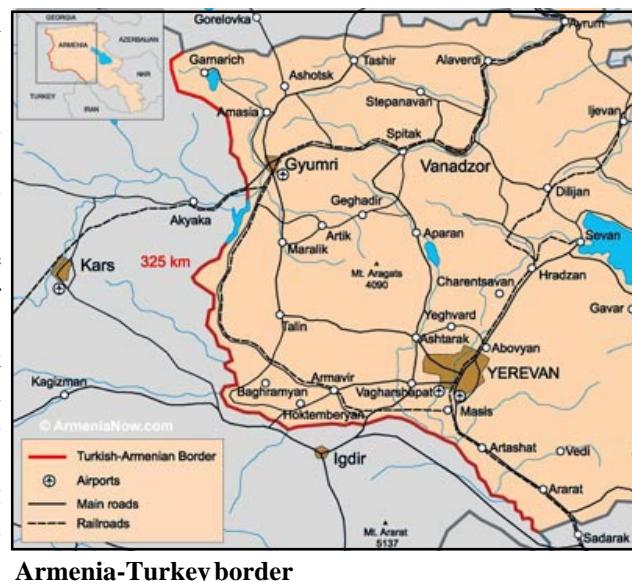
The International Monetary Fund (IMF) resident representative in Armenia stated on Wednesday that the opening of the Armenian-Turkish border will have a positive influence upon the development of Armenia's import and the rise of its level of competitiveness.

"In case of opening the border Armenia will get more competitive resources, and it will become a good stimulus for the economy," says Nienke Oomes.

Meanwhile, Armenian economists insist on the opposite, saying that the local production that is still in the phase of development will not be able to stand the competitiveness of Turkish goods.

"Currently the domestic production goes through a serious decline in Armenia; and under such conditions when the volumes of import are seven times more than those of the export, competition with Turkish producers who have serious capital and market will simply be impossible," says professor Tatul Manaseryan, adviser to the Speaker of the National Assembly on Economic Issues.

According to the data of the National Statistics Service, about 25 percent of Armenia's imports are from Turkey. Meanwhile, economist Narine Mkrtchyan predicts if the border is open, the prices of the goods imported from Turkey will decrease, and domestic production will not be competi-



tive with Turkish goods.

Economist Ara Nranyan, a member of the Armenian Revolutionary Federation (ARF) Dashnaktsutyun parliamentary faction, believes that the opening of the border will have more negative than positive effects on the economy of Armenia.

"The economy in Armenia is not ready yet, and it will not be able to confront future possible problems," Nranyan adds.

Meanwhile, Vardan Ayvazyan, Chairman of the Standing Committee on Economic Affairs of the National Assembly, says that "one should at least be blind not to notice the economic prospective of the Armenian-Turkish border opening, and the possibility of economic growth."

"Of course, there is the threat of Turkish economic expansion, but it is possible to neutralize them by means of legislation, the conditions of the World Trade Organization, the implementation of goods' standardization and customs duties," Ayvazyan says.

What Does Karabakh Wait For?

By James Hakobyan

Almost all the countries, at least those who deal with the South Caucasian processes expressed their official opinion on some level on the latest developments in the Armenian and Turkish relations.

Against this background, the silence of the second Armenian state - Nagorno-Karabakh is very interesting. While the official Stepanakert had to be one of the firsts to express its opinion in relation with the released Armenian and Turkish protocols. Moreover, in case when the necessity of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict settlement is again dwelt on in the context of the fulfillment of the Armenian-Turkish protocols.

Under such conditions, Stepanakert had an opportunity to manifest its unrecognized subjectivity assessing the Armenian and Turkish relations and the attempts to involve Karabakh in them. But the government of Nagorno-Karabakh seems not to have given any official reaction either on presidential or on foreign minister's level.

It is hard to believe that it did not occur to them or they did not know anything about what happened. They just considered superfluous any official response. What do they have to do with this? Let Armenia and Turkey clarify their relations themselves. Then they accuse the international society or complain that Karabakh is not becoming a negotiating side in the Karabakh conflict or that the Karabakh independence is not being recognized.

For example, why does the inter-



Karabakh leaders with Serj Sarkisian

national society have to make Karabakh a negotiating side? Maybe because there is a person in Karabakh called president and there is government and ministries, national Assembly, parliamentarians, governmental buildings and governmental cars, army? So what if all this exists? If Karabakh lives isolated from the rest of the world only complaining from the injustices of the world in case Armenia and Turkey conclude or try to conclude deals which will directly have a relation to the destiny of Karabakh.

Does Karabakh not have anything to say? Does Karabakh not have an opinion which may be released? This stance is clear and understandable not to arouse the interest of the world but only the Armenian media. It is clear and understandable that after, Karabakh independence will not be recognized and Azerbaijan will not be forced to negotiate with it. The international politics is not a table of entertainment from which one has to be far possible and silently possible for the others to notice and to invite you to join it. International politics is work which has to be noticed to evaluate.

Reopening of Turkish-Armenian Border Not a Forgone Conclusion

By Emil Danielyan and Sargis Harutyunyan

The reopening of the Turkish-Armenian border is still not a forgone conclusion despite the newly announced agreement to that effect between Ankara and Yerevan, Foreign Minister Eduard Nalbandian acknowledged on Wednesday.

Nalbandian pointedly declined to dismiss speculation that Turkey could drag out the ratification by its parliament of two draft protocols envisaging a full normalization of relations between the two states. "Whether or not the other side will honor those agreements remains to be seen," he said.

"We are ready to follow this path," Nalbandian told a news conference. "Let's see what and when Turkey will do. We hope that we will continue following that path and implement all agreements."

In a joint statement issued late Monday, the foreign ministries of Armenia and Turkey said the two governments have agreed to sign the protocols in the next six weeks and then submit them to their parliaments for ratification. One of those

documents stipulates that the Turkish-Armenian border will be reopened within two months of the deal's entry into force.

Opposition leaders and analysts in Armenia say Ankara could delay or block the deal's mandatory approval by the Turkish parliament, controlled by the ruling Justice and Development Party, to seek more concessions from Yerevan or avoid opening the border before a settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

"Whenever Ankara will need to put pressure on Yerevan or the international community, it could drag out the ratification by means of parliamentary debates," said Turkologist Artak Shakarian. "They would thereby try to clinch more concessions from both Armenia and the United States."

Aleksandr Iskandarian, director of the Yerevan-based Caucasus Media Institute, took a similar view. "Although I am not a Turkey expert to make predictions on this issue, I will say that even the published documents show that there is a theoretical possibility that the Turkish parliament could turn the ratification of the documents into a lengthy pro-

cess," he said.

Barcin Yinanc, the managing editor of the English-language newspaper "Hurriyet Daily News" in Turkey, likewise asserted that the Turkish parliament may insist on seeing progress on resolving the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict before endorsing the Turkish-Armenian agreement. "Right now, it is a bit difficult to foresee the parliament approving the protocols unless they see substantial progress in the solution of Nagorno-Karabakh," Yinanc told RFE/RL.

"You can't rule out anything in life," Nalbandian said when asked by journalists to comment on such possibility. He warned that the Turkish government will find itself at loggerheads with the "entire world" if it drags its feet over the agreement's implementa-

tion.

Nalbandian at the same time did not exclude that Turkey could lift its economic blockade of Armenia, imposed in 1993 out of solidarity with Azerbaijan, as early as the end of this year. "If things follow the same course, then why not?" he said.

Turkish Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoglu similarly told Turkey's NTV news channel on Tuesday that the Turkish-Armenian border could be opened "around New Year." But in an earlier television interview, Davutoglu said that Ankara will not take any steps that "would hurt the interests of Azerbaijan." The latter has repeatedly warned the Turks cutting a deal with the Armenians before a Karabakh settlement acceptable to Baku.

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New Book**"A Perfect Injustice" Unveils the Effects of the Genocide Which Occurred in Armenia**

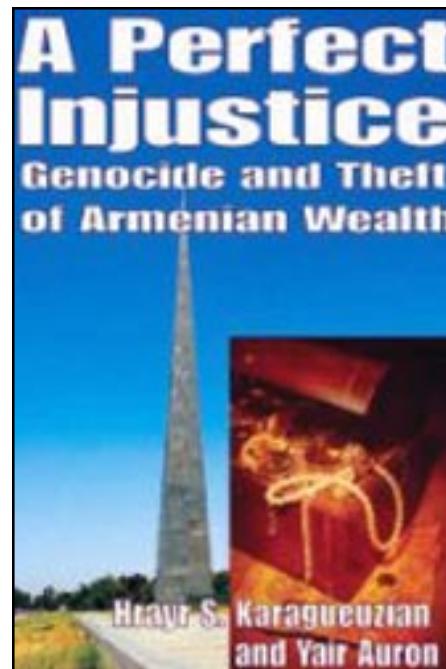
A Perfect Injustice unearths new incriminating evidence about a long-censored mass murder and theft which occurred in Armenia.

Written by Hrayr S. Karagueuzian and Yair Auron*, it is an essential contribution to understanding why the issue of stolen Armenian wealth remains unresolved after all these years—a topic addressed for the first time in this volume.

Except for a short period after the end of the First World War and the ensuing armistice, Turkey has consistently denied that it ever employed a policy of intentional destruction of Armenians. The 1913-1914 census put the number of Armenians living in Turkey at close to two million. Today only a few thousand Armenians remain in the city Istanbul and none elsewhere in Turkey. Armenian sites in Turkey, including churches, have been neglected, desecrated, looted, destroyed, or requisitioned for other uses, while Armenian place names have been erased or changed.

As with the Jewish Holocaust, Armenian properties that were seized or stolen have not been restored. Sixty and ninety years after these terrible events, Jewish and Armenian victims and their heirs continue to struggle to get their properties back. There has been only partial restitution in the Jewish case and virtually no restitution at all in the Armenian case.

"The authors accumulated the material item by item and slowly began to piece together the story of a massive injustice towards the victims of genocide... A fascinating investigation, a book rich in details and full of documents," says Dickran Kouymjian, who



is an Emeritus Haig & Isabel Berberian Professor of Armenian Studies at California State University in Fresno.

No adequate reparation for the deeds committed against the Armenians can ever be made. But resolving claims with respect to stolen property is a symbolic gesture toward victims and their heirs. This is unfinished business for Jewish heirs and survivor of the Holocaust, as it is for Armenians.

To order a copy of A Perfect Injustice, contact Transaction Publishers at 888-999-6778 or order online at <http://www.transactionpub.com>. Editors interested in reviewing this book in a scholarly publication can forward the request along with company information to marketing@transactionpub.com.

* Yair Auron is the author of *The Banality of Denial - Israel and the Armenian Genocide*

Armenian Patriarchate of Jerusalem Protests Deportation of Seminarians

By Arthur Hagopian
Armenian News Network/Groong

The Armenian Patriarchate of Jerusalem has lodged a strong protest against a decision by the Israeli Ministry of Interior to deport two seminarians involved in a fight with a Jewish youth who had spat on a religious procession they were participating in.

Patriarchate spokesperson Father Pakrad Bourjekian noted that this was not the first time such an unprovoked aggression against Armenian or Christian clergymen in Jerusalem had occurred.

He said not only were the clergy singled out for this kind of treatment, but lay members of the Armenian community who wore or displayed crosses bore the brunt of such attacks.

The latest provocation occurred on Sunday evening as Armenian seminarians were returning to the Convent of St James after holding their weekly procession in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.

As they neared the convent, a young Jew wearing a kipa spat on them.

One of the seminarians accosted the youth who responded with another blob of spit, leading to a brawl which

police stopped by arresting two of the Armenian seminarians and holding them for 24 hours.

That same evening, the police informed the Armenian Patriarchate that the matter would be dealt with at court the next morning.

But when the Armenians presented themselves at court, they were summarily informed that the police had referred the matter to the Israeli Ministry of the Interior which had decided on the deportation of the two seminarians, Bourjekian said.

It complained that the Ministry has ignored protests and remonstrations, adding spitting against Christians by Jews is not a new issue, but has been practised for several years, without the police taking any measures to stop it.

Bourjekian also noted that in addition to this "harassment by civilians", the Interior Ministry intentionally delays renewing visas of Armenian monks and priests who have been born in Lebanon, Syria and Jordan, "causing them undue distress."

He voiced concern "this kind of persecution" against the Armenians might escalate to include not only seminarians but priests, bishops and archbishops as well.

Irina Brook's Theater Company at Yerevan's Shakespeare Festival Gerald Papasian in Lead Roles

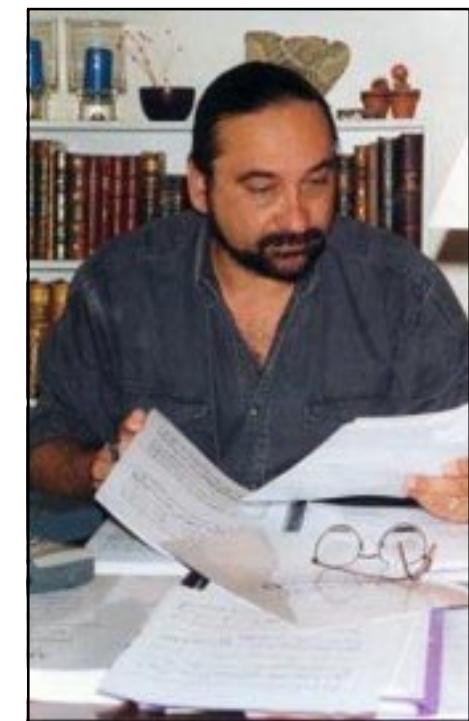
By Jacqueline Hughe

Irina Brook's Theater Company in France is rated as one of the top 10 companies in Europe. Irina Brook is the daughter of the legendary director, Peter Brook, founder of the prestigious Theater des Bouffes du Nord in Paris. She is a celebrated director in her own right. She distinguished herself especially when she won several Moliere awards (equivalent to the TONY Awards in France) when she staged Richard Malinosky's "The Beast on the Moon."

Irina Brook puts her own stamp when she takes on classical plays; she gives her own interpretation, with her own social commentary to make it relevant to modern audiences.

Paris based actor/director Gerald Papasian is one of the six founding members of Irina Brook Theater company and has toured extensively since the company's creation in 2005 throughout France and also in Switzerland, Belgium, Morocco, Greece, Italy, Germany, Canada and most recently in Spain.

Last April, Irina Brook's version of Cervantes' "Don Quixote" had its premiere at the Theater des Bouffes du Nord to a rousing audience. Since then it has been touring Europe, receiving rave reviews. The play is retitled



Gerald Papasian

Egypt," appearing in a non-singing role next to singers such as Andreas Scholl, Alice Coote, Rosemary Joshua and Sonia Prima.

Papasian also appeared in Irina Brook's widely-acclaimed adaptation of Shakespeare's "Midsummer Night's Dream" renamed as "Waiting for the Dream." Papasian assumed two significant roles in Shakespeare's play—as Demetrius and Bottom—in 260 performances as of today.



Aïssa Maïga and Gerald Papasian in « Quand la ville mord » (When the city bites)
photo courtesy of Agora films

"Somewhere...La Mancha" and recently it was performed at the birthplace of Cervantes' oeuvre, in the real La Mancha in Almagra, Spain at the International Classical Theater Festival.

Papasian, in his lead role as Sancho Panza, mesmerized the French theater fans and was nominated as the best actor at the "Souffleur" theater award ceremony in Paris. The influential daily Figaro characterized Papasian as "excellent," while another paper, Le Point, called his acting "genial." "Gerald Papasian has found out how to make Sancho Panza a character so moving as to draw tears from your eyes. His gullibility and his distress, his unshakable childish faith, his generosity give the character a most lovable human dimension" added the newspaper Le Trois Coups.

Sancho is Papasian's fourth collaboration with Irina Brook. He first co-starred with French film star Roman Bohringer in Bertoldt Brecht's "The Good Soul of Szechuan." Then he did Handel's opera "Julius Caesar in

His visit to Armenia will also give him the opportunity to receive personally the presidential Khorenatz medal, which he was awarded last year for his activities to bring the masterpieces of the Armenian theater, opera and literature to the international audiences—with works such as the opera, "Anoush," at the Michigan Opera Theatre (MOT) in 1981, considered "best of the season" by the American press; "Anoush" 20 years later at the MOT with such singers as Hasmik Papian and Aline Kutan; "Let's speak Armenian," the highly-acclaimed and highly entertaining Armenian language audio-visual course commissioned by the Venice University; Sojourn at Ararat the twice "Drama-logue" award-winning play based solely on some of the best Armenian poetry through the ages, in English (later in French), which toured all over the world for 11 years; his dramaturgical restoration of the original version of Tchouhadjian's

Continued on page 4

Nor Serount Cultural Association to Hold its 11th Annual Armenian Independence Day Festival



GLENDALE -- The countdown is on for another day of celebration as members of the Nor Serount Cultural Association's Festival organizing committee are gearing up for a fun filled day in commemoration of the Independence of the Republic of Armenia on Sunday, September 20, 2009 at the Verdugo Park in Glendale, California.

In this tradition of celebration, NSCA will provide a day of fun and activities. The entertainment will be provided by a line-up of well known performers and dance groups including but not limited to Sako, Harout Hagopian, Samvel Sahakian, Armen Aloyan, Hratch Bogharian, Harout Khachoyan, Maggie, Arman Baghachian, Lilia Dance group, Erebouni Dance Group. Armenian businesses, artists and craftsmen will display their works and services. Traditional Armenian food will be served and the youngsters will enjoy the different carnival games setup only for their enjoyment.

So please join us this day to celebrate this most important event. Admission is free.

For more information and to reserve your booth, please call us at (818) 391-7938

Opposition Deputies Give Up Parliament Seat

Continued from page 1

has also decided to end his membership in the country's parliament, a senior party source said on Monday.

Hovannisian announced through aides on Monday that he has decided to end his membership of the National Assembly. Armen Martirosian, the head of Zharangutyun's parliamentary faction, attributed it to "personal reasons stemming from critical national issues" such as the ongoing Turkish-Armenian dialogue and a lack of democracy in the country. He declined to elaborate, saying that Hovannisian will himself explain his

decision in detail soon.

When asked by RFE/RL whether he and the five other Zharangutyun deputies could also abandon their parliament seats, Martirosian said, "Right now such an issue is not being discussed. But nothing can be ruled out in politics."

"We can't rule out anything, from a surrender of our mandates to possible political regroupings," said Stepan Safarian, another Zharangutyun lawmaker. He said such moves would be the result of President Serzh Sarksian's readiness to make what Zharangutyun sees as unacceptable concessions to Turkey and Azerbaijan.

Jailed Opposition Youth Declares Hunger Strike

Continued from page 1

under 24-hour medical surveillance for the duration of the hunger strike, said Babayan.

Speaking to RFE/RL by phone, Arakelian said that he has partly lost his eyesight and is increasingly suffering from dizziness and insomnia as a result of head injuries inflicted on him by a policeman. He said he will go

ahead with the protest against the advice of his opposition comrades and a prison psychologist.

Violent incidents involving plain-clothes police officers and HAK youths were also reported ahead of other rallies held by the opposition alliance earlier this year. The HAK blamed the Armenian government and police for the violence. The police claimed the opposite.

Armenia - Belgium 2-1

Continued from page 1

afterwards as the hosts turned up the pressure.

For the second goal, just after the restart, captain Hovsepyan waltzed through the static Belgian defence before slipping the ball past Gillet.

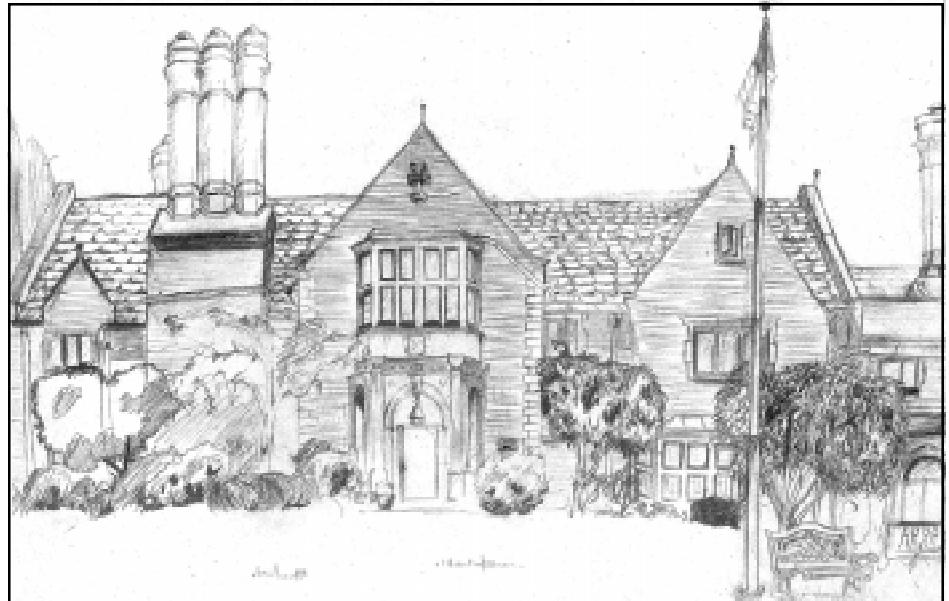
The visitors were in panic mode, but they struggled to turn their urgency into opportunities.

Indeed, their consolation goal came in the very last minute as Daniel Van Buyten netted at the death.

This, though, will not save the players and departing coach Franky Vercauteren from the wrath of the fans after suffering a defeat to a side half their FIFA placing, 125 to Belgium's 62.

Teenager Sketches St. Nersess Armenian Seminary to Auction Off for Benefit of Youth Programs

Artist Alexa Chevian giving back to important institution



NEW ROCHELLE, NY -- Alexa is a typical 16-year-old. In the summers she enjoys sleeping in 'til noon, video games, texting and hanging out with friends, and staying up late watching movies. But unlike a typical teenager, she enjoys watching 90's movies. Another unique trait is that she loves to sketch, something she has enjoyed since the age of four. "My head works in images," says Alexa explaining, "When I get an idea, I draw it because I'm not good at writing." This skill has earned her the cover of her high school's course catalog.

Her artistic talent continues with her most recent sketch of the facade of St. Nersess Armenian Seminary. She attended the youth conferences at the Seminary for the first time this summer, and as she shares, this is her way of giving back to such a great program; a program that her father and mother helped to build into a popular summer curriculum among Armenian youth.

Alexa is the daughter of Fr. Mardiros and Yn. Diane Chevian. Fr. Mardiros served as the dean of St.

Nersess and the director of the summer programs for more than a decade in the 1980s, touching the lives of hundreds of teenagers throughout North America. Now it's an interesting twist that his own teenager has begun to attend these same programs that he helped to make so successful, and in addition, is assisting the Seminary through her time and talent.

The auction is now open for the original, signed pencil sketch, which is double-matted and glass-framed. This silent auction format will culminate with the announcement of the highest bidder during the "Evening Under the Stars" reception on September 26. The bidding will begin at \$250. All proceeds generated from this auction, and subsequent sales of reprints and cards, will benefit the Youth & Vocations programs of the Seminary, including these summer youth programs.

To view Alexa's sketch and place a bid, please visit www.stnersess.edu or call 914-636-2003 for more information on this auction and the "Evening Under the Stars" fundraising reception.

Gerald Papasian in Lead Roles

Continued from page 3

"Arshak II" opera produced with great pomp at the San Francisco Opera in 2001, considered "a triumph!" by critics (The Contra Costa Times, San Jose Mercury News, The Independent Observer of San Francisco Bay Area, The Sacramento Bee, Opera Japonica, the International Herald Tribune, etc.) as Times correspondent Georgia Rowe wrote "The rapturous response by the opening night audience suggested that his *Dikran Tchouhadjian's+ masterpiece might have the kind of future as a repertory piece that Verdi's operas have enjoyed for more than a century. Arshak II deserves a permanent place among its better-known contemporaries."

In France, since he established himself since 1990. Besides his professional engagements in French theater, TV and films, he has continued to translate and present Armenian works to the hard to please Parisian public. Besides the French version of "Sojourn at Ararat," he created Hagop Baronian's "Eastern Dentist" renamed "Taparnigos Dentiste Pour Dames" for the occasion with wonderful French

actors who know how to play a brilliant "bedroom-farce," besides organizing many readings in French with known professional actors of Odian's and Baronian's comedies. He is currently working on the eventual production of Dikran Tchouhadjian's wonderful opera-buffo "Garineh" (Leblebidji Hor Hor Agha, in its original title) in his new and exciting French adaptation, which will be first performed at the National Theatre of St. Maure in Paris, on March 11, 2010.

Papasian's most recent film credits include his role in "The 8th Wonderland," soon to be released. The film won awards for best script and others, recently. At the famous Fantasia International Festival. He

also co-starred with French film star Aïssa Maïga in Dominique Cabrera's "When the city bites" Television production qualified as 'brilliant' acting by critics.

In a recent TV interview Hagop Ghazantchian expressed his excitement that Yerevan's Shakespeare Festival is gaining international dimensions by the participation of Irina Brook's Theater Company.

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PRESENTS



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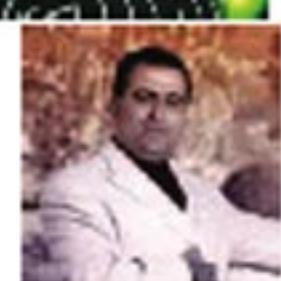
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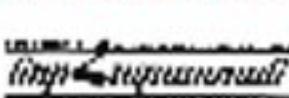
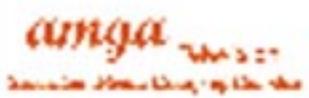
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