

**ՄԵԾԱՐԱՆՔԻ ԵՐԵԿՈՅ ՆՈՒԻՐՈՒԱԾ՝ ԱԶԳԱՅԻՆ
ՀԱՍԱՐԱԿԱԿԱՆ ՎԱՍՏԱԿԱՆԱՏ ԳՈՐԾԻՉ
ՓԱՆՈՍ ԹԻԹԻՉԵԱՆԻՆ**



Ի ներկայութեան թեմական դրյգ առաջնորդներ՝ Գերշ. Տ. Յովնան Արք. Տէրտէրեանի, Գերշ. Տ. Խաժակ Արք. Պարսամեանի, ինչպէս նաև, Գերշ. Տ. Վաչէ Արք. Յովսէփանեանի, Գերշ. Տ. Վիգէն Արք. Ազքաղեանի, Հ.Հ. Հիւպատոսի փոխանորդ Ռազմիկ Ստեփանեանի եւ ազգային-հասարակական կազմակերպութիւններու ներկայացուցիչներու եւ ընտրանի հրաւիրեալ անձնաւորութիւններու փանու թիթիզեան, Պըրպէնքի Հայոց Առաջնորդաբանի «Արմէն Համբար» սրահին մէջ, Կիրակի 12 Մարտ 2017-ին, արժանաւորապէս պարզեւատրուեցաւ Հայրապետական Կոնդակով եւ «Ս. Սահակ եւ Ս. Մեսրոպ» շքանշանով:

Այս ուրախ առիթով իրենց բարձր գնահատանքի եւ լիարժէք մեծարանքի սրտի խօսքերով հանդէս եկան առաջնորդներ՝ Գերշ. Տ. Յովնան Արք. Տէրտէրեան, Գերշ. Տ. Խաժակ Արք. Պարսամեան, թեմական Խորհուրդի ատենապետ իրաւաբան՝ Ժողէֆ Կանիմեան, Հայ իրաւաբաններու Միութեան կողմէ Կարօ Ղազարեան, մեծարեալի դուստրը՝ Տիկ. Նելլի Քազման, Տօքթ. Ռաֆֆի Պալեան, Հ.Բ.Լ.Մ.ի փոխ նախագահ Տիար Մինան Մինանեան։ Նաեւ կարդացուեցան շնորհաւորական գիրեր, որոնք առաքուած էին Հ.Բ.Լ.Մ.ի նախագահ Պերճ Սեղրակեանի եւ ՌԱԿ-ի Կեդրոնական ու Շրջանային վարչութիւններու կողմէ։

Հ.Բ.Լ.Մ.ի նախագահ Տիար Պերճ Սեղրակեան խօսքը ուղղելով մեծարեալին կը գրէր. «...մէնք խոր յարգանք եւ համակրանք ունինք ձեր արժանաւոր վաստակին, կատարած առաջնորդ գերին եւ անսակարկ նուիրումին հանդէպ»։ ՌԱԿ-ի Կեդրոնական Վարչութիւնը պիտի գրէր. «...ձեր անգնահատելի ներդրումը ունեցած էք Սփիրուքի ազգային, քաղաքական եւ հասարակական կեանքին մէջ»։ Իսկ շրջանային վարչութիւնը պիտի հաստատեր մեծարեալի մասին. թէ «...Փանու թիթիզեան եղա՛ւ եւ կը մնա՛ իր սերունդին ներկայացուցիչը, որ հայրենասիրութիւնը, Հայաստանասիրութիւնն ու Ս. էջմիածինը դասեց ամէն բանէ վեր...»։

Մեծարանքի ներկայ իւրաքանչւառուկ հանդիսութեան աւարտին, Տ. Վիգէն Մըրբագանի «Պահպանիչ» աղօթքէն առաջ իր անմնացորդ շնորհակալական խօսքով եւ պատգամով հանդէս եկաւ մեծարեալ Տիար թիթիզեան։ Ան շնորհակալութեան խօսք ուղղեց ներկայ

**ԱՐՄԵՆ ԱՆԱՍԵԱՆԻ ԵՒ ՅԱՐՈՒԹ ՍԵՆԵՖԵՐԻՄԵԱՆԻ
ՄԻԱՑԵԱԼ ՀԱՄԵՐԳՈՅ**

Երաժշտասէր ընտրանի հասարակութիւն մը փութացած էր Կլենտէյլ Սուրբ Մարկոս դարաւոր եկեղեցւոյ սրահը, ուր Մարտի 26ին, 2017 տեղի ունեցաւ դասական երաժշտատութեան միջազգային տիտաններու ստեղածգործութեանց նուիրուած համերգ մը։

Օրուան գլխաւոր աստղերն էին տաղանդաւոր արուեստագիններ՝ Արմէն Անասեան որդին է բազմավական երաժիշտ, յօրինող եւ խմբավար Հենրիկ Անասեանի։ Ան իր երաժշտական ուսումնամ առած է ԱՄՆ-Հայուստանի եւ Գերմանիոյ մէջ։ Բազմահարիւր ելոյթներով հանդէս եկած է Անդիլիոյ, Պելճիզայի, Խոալիոյ, Զուխցերիոյ, Ջինաստանի, Աւարալիոյ, Գանատայի, Ճարոնի եւ այլ քաղաքներու մէջ։

Արդարեւ, հանրայայտ ջութակահար Արմէն Անասեան կատարողական մեծ արուեստով եւ իւրայատուկ մեկնաբանութեամբ նուագեց Պեթհովէնի երեք մասերէ բաղկացած թիւ 9 հատանուագը (Violin Sonata No. 9) ընկերակցութեամբ շնորհալի դաշնակահար Յարութ Սէնէքէրմիմեանի։ Սոյն երկարաշունչ եւ հոգեզայլ կատարումն արժանացաւ ներկաներու բարձր գնահատականին։

Համերգի երկրող մասին հանդիսականներուն հրամցուեցաւ գողարիկ ծաղկեփունջ մը, բաղկացած Պալսի, Գլու Տէպիւսիի, Պելլա

Շար. էջ 16

Շար. էջ 16

Մեծ Եղեռնի 100+2-րդ տարելիարձի առթիւ

In commemoration of

100+2 Anniversary of The Armenian Genocide

Organized by

GAIIDZ Youth Organization & ACA San Gabriel Chapter



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THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE
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Three Political Parties Issue Announcement on April War Anniversary

GLENDALE—The leading bodies of the three traditional political parties—the Social Democratic Hunchakian Party, the Armenian Revolutionary Federation and the Armenian Democratic Liberal Party—Ramgavar Azadagan—issued a joint announcement on the first anniversary of the four-day war in Artsakh, during which Azerbaijani forces brutally attacked all frontier positions of the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic, which emerged victorious, once again.

Below is the translated text of the announcement.

On the first anniversary of the Four-Day War in Artsakh, the Western United States leadership bodies and members of the three national political parties—the Social Democratic Hunchakian Party, the Armenian Revolutionary Federation and the Armenian Democratic Liberal Party—commemorate the memory of heroic martyrs; and

Bow their heads to those in the brave and dedicated Armenian Armed Forces who during their mission to defend the homeland were martyred, injured;

Announce their unwavering and complete support to the strengthening of the Armenian Armed Forces for all their endeavors;

Anticipate from the leadership of Armenia to strictly enforce the letter of law in cases where even the slightest hindrance is caused the sacred defense of our borders through bribery and usurpation;

Condemn the Azerbaijani government's policies of war mongering and severe violation of human rights;

Call on our all Armenians in the region to come together and support all efforts for the strengthening the security and statehood of Artsakh and Armenia and through hard work pay our respects and express our gratitude the heroes who were martyred and those who attentively protect our positions.

**Social Democratic Hunchakian Party Western US Executive Board
Armenian Revolutionary Federation-Dashnaktsutyun
Western US Central Committee
Armenian Democratic Liberal Party-Ramgavar
Western District Committee of Americans**
Los Angeles, April 1, 2017

Belarus Leader Seeks to Ease Tensions With Armenia

MINSK -- Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko strongly denied siding with Azerbaijan on Tuesday as he sought to end a bitter row with Armenia sparked by the arrest in Belarus of a Russian-Israeli blogger who has repeatedly visited Nagorno-Karabakh.

"We absolutely understand the policies pursued by Armenia's current and former leaderships," Lukashenko told Armenia's outgoing ambassador in Minsk, Armen Khachatrian.

"There are acute issues between Armenians and Belarusians," he said. "Say Nagorno-Karabakh. I'll tell you frankly: it's not our issue, it's not my issue. We have nothing to do there. There are parties to the conflict which must sort it out."

The 40-year-old blogger, Alexander Lapshin, was detained in Minsk in December 2016 on an Azerbaijani arrest warrant related to his 2011 and 2012 trips to Karabakh. He stands accused of illegally entering "occupied territories" of Azerbaijan and making "public appeals against the state." The Belarusian authorities extradited Lapshin to Azerbaijan in early February, prompting criticism from Russia and human rights watchdogs like Amnesty International.

The Armenian Foreign Ministry condemned the extradition as a "gross violation of human rights" and implicitly branded Belarus a "dictatorship."

Senior pro-government lawmakers in Yerevan launched even more scathing attacks on Lukashenko. Armenia's government also cancelled a senior law-enforcement official's visit to Minsk.

Belarus's Foreign Ministry dismissed the furious Armenian reaction. Both Armenia and Belarus are members of two Russian-led alliances of ex-Soviet states.

Lukashenko mentioned the Lapshin case at his farewell meeting with Khachatrian. In contrast to his past statements, he seemed to distance himself from the blogger's arrest.

"I wonder why he was detained here," the longtime president said in remarks publicized by his office. "He should have gone anywhere he wanted. We created a problem for ourselves, to be honest."

At the same time, Lukashenko defended the extradition. "To whom did we have to hand him over? To those who issued an arrest warrant for him," he said.

Lukashenko went on to blame Russia, Israel and Ukraine, saying that none of them wanted to "take" Lapshin. "They started playing that card only afterwards," he said.

Lapshin holds Russian, Israeli and Ukrainian citizenships. Moscow repeatedly called for his release before his extradition.

Reps. Schiff and Trott Introduce Bipartisan Resolution to Recognize Armenian Genocide

WASHINGTON D.C. – U.S. Representatives Adam Schiff (CA-28) and Dave Trott (MI-11) have introduced legislation to officially recognize the Armenian Genocide of 1915. The Resolution recognizes the genocide against the Armenian people from 1915-1923 by the Ottoman Empire, while drawing links to the modern scourge of genocide, including attacks on religious minorities in Iraq and Syria by ISIS.

"Over 100 years ago, the Ottoman Empire undertook a brutal campaign of murder, rape, and displacement against the Armenian people that took the lives of 1.5 million men, women, and children in the first genocide of the 20th century," said Schiff. "Genocide is not a historic relic - even today hundreds of thousands of religious minorities face existential threat from ISIS in Syria and Iraq. It is therefore all the more pressing that the Congress recognize the historical fact of the Armenian Genocide and stand against modern day genocide and crimes against humanity."

"After over a hundred years, it is long overdue that the United States government stand in solidarity with



the Armenian people to officially recognize the genocide waged against their families a century ago," said Trott. "I am honored to be able to represent such a vibrant Armenian population in Southeast Michigan and I will continue to fight for them in Congress."

Representatives Adam Schiff and Dave Trott were also joined by the other leaders of the Congressional Caucus on Armenian Issues, Representatives Valadao, Bilirakis, Pallone, and Speier in underscoring their support for the recognition of the Armenian genocide.

U.S. Mediator Hopes for Renewed Armenian-Azeri Talks

YEREVAN (RFE/RL) -- International mediators hope that Armenia and Azerbaijan will resume soon their high-level negotiations on a peaceful resolution of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, a senior U.S. diplomat said on Monday.

"We hope that in the near future -- not months away but in the near future -- the two foreign ministers will be able to meet together in Moscow or perhaps elsewhere to prepare the ground for the [Armenian and Azerbaijani] presidents to meet," Richard Hoagland, the U.S. co-chair of the OSCE Minsk Group, told reporters in Yerevan.

"It is time to begin negotiating again," he said. "We cannot allow violence to be the solution to this long-standing issue. Violence is not an answer."

Hoagland arrived in Armenia together with fellow mediators from Russia and France heading the Minsk Group. They held meetings with President Serzh Sarksian and Foreign Minister Edward Nalbandian on Monday and were due to travel to Nagorno-Karabakh on Tuesday.

Official Armenian sources said both sides agreed on the need to implement last year's Armenian-Azerbaijani agreements aimed at bolstering the ceasefire regime in the conflict zone. Those call for the deployment of more OSCE observers and international investigations of



armed incidents on the frontlines.

Azerbaijan formally notified the OSCE headquarters in Vienna earlier this month that it will not agree to such a deployment "in the absence of withdrawal of the Armenian troops from the occupied territories." Baku has also been reluctant to allow OSCE investigations of truce violations along the Karabakh "line of contact" and the Armenian-Azerbaijani border.

Armenian leaders have repeatedly said that implementation of these confidence-building measures is necessary for renewed negotiations on a peaceful settlement proposed by the U.S., Russian and French mediators. Their so-called Basic Principles of a Karabakh peace were first put for-

Continued on page 3

Armenian School Principals Accused of Illegal Campaigning



YEREVAN (RFE/RL) -- An Armenian civic organization on Friday claimed to have collected evidence that public school principals across Armenia are illegally pressurizing their staffs and students' parents to vote for the ruling Republican Party (HHK) in the upcoming elections.

The Union of Informed Citizens (UIC) said one of its activists posing as a senior HHK representative has telephoned the directors of 136 schools and kindergartens in and outside Yerevan. It said 114 of them admitted drawing up lists of children's parents as well as schoolteachers and kindergarten staff who pledged to back the HHK in the April 2 polls.

The UIC said the lists were submitted to local government bodies or HHK campaign offices. It also publicized purported audio of those phone conversations.

"We phoned all administrative districts in Yerevan and all provinces," the UIC's Daniel Ioannianian a news conference. "More than 80 percent of school and kindergarten directors admitted that they submitted such lists for the Republican Party and gave details of those lists."

In Ioannianian's words, the longest list containing around 1,700 names was drawn up by the head of Gyumri's secondary school No. 37. "When asked whether those people will vote for the Republicans, the school principal said that they are using all methods, including intimidation, to deal with voters," said the activist.

Ioannianian, whose organization

will be monitoring the parliamentary elections, denounced the alleged illegal campaigning as a "nationwide crime" committed "at the state level." "These are not isolated cases," he said. "We didn't phone all schools. We just phoned 136 randomly chosen directors and 80 percent of them admitted engaging in that practice."

The HHK denounced the allegations as a "dishonest" provocation aimed at discrediting its supporters. In a written statement, the party's campaign headquarters did not deny that many school principals are campaigning for its election victory. But it said that "recruitment, registration, mobilization and identification of the potential electorate" is part and parcel of an election campaign.

"The Electoral Code does not forbid Armenia's citizens from getting involved in campaigning and logical activities beyond their work hours and work duties," said the statement. "A meticulous analysis of a large part of the recordings gives one no reason to claim that there was a violation of the Electoral Code."

The party headed by President Serzh Sarkisian has long been accused by its political opponents, civil society members and media of using its government levers to win elections. It has always denied that.

HHK candidates running for parliament, many of them wealthy individuals, are also facing growing allegations of vote buying. They deny handing out cash or other material aid to voters.

Legendary Soviet Test Pilot Stepan Mikoyan Dies Aged 94

MOSCOW (TASS) — Test pilot, Hero of the Soviet Union Stepan Mikoyan has died at the age of 94, the MiG Aircraft Corporation press office reported on Friday.

"On March 24, 2016, Hero of the Soviet Union, merited test pilot of the USSR Aviation Lieutenant-General Stepan Anastasovich Mikoyan passed away at the age of 94," the press office said in a statement.

Stepan Mikoyan was born on July 12, 1922 in Tbilisi (Georgia) into the family of Soviet state figure and future Socialist Labor Hero Anastas Mikoyan. Stepan's father was a brother of renowned Soviet aircraft designer Artyom Mikoyan. Anastas Mikoyan headed the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium in 1964-1965.

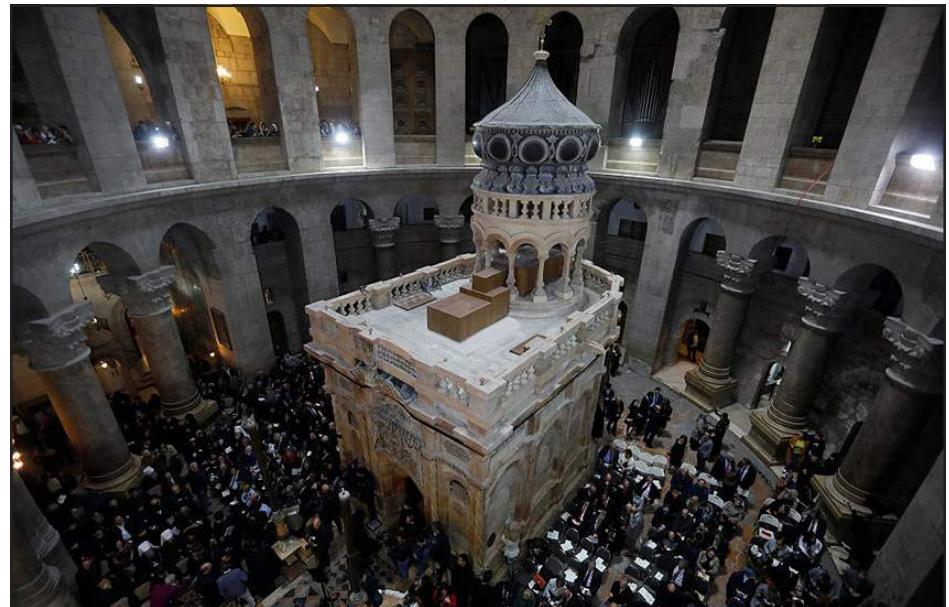
Stepan Mikoyan graduated in 1941 from the Kachinsk military aviation school and in December that year he went to the front. During the Soviet Union's Great Patriotic War against Nazi Germany in 1941-1945 he fought as a fighter plane pilot.

He fought in the 32nd Guards Aviation Regiment near Stalingrad and on the North-Western Front and then in the 12th Guards Air Regiment of the Moscow Air Defense Force. During World War Two, he learnt to operate Yak-1, Yak-7 and Yak-9 fighter planes and was credited with six combat victories as part of an air group.

In 1951, he graduated from the

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Jesus' Tomb Reopens in Jerusalem After a \$4 Million Restoration



JERUSALEM -- The tomb where Jesus is believed to have been buried in Jerusalem's Old City has been unveiled again after months of delicate restoration work.

The monument, which includes a 19th-century ornate edicule or shrine surrounding the tomb, is a key part of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem's Old City.

The tomb was formally reopened on Wednesday in a ceremony attended by religious leaders and donors, following a nine-month-long and \$4m renovation led by the church's three main Christian denominations.

Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras, high-ranking officials of different states, leaders of Christian churches, a number of believers attended the ceremony. Armenia's delegation was led by Foreign Minister Edward Nalbandian

The Greek Orthodox, Armenian and Roman Catholic denominations share cus-

tody of the church. Samuel Aghoyan, the superior of the Armenian Church at the Sepulchre which co-financed the project, said that after the renovation the edicule looked "like a brand new building".

The work is not the end of plans to renovate the church. Aghoyan said they have "tentative" plans to fix the basement of the edicule as well as the "entire floor of the church".

The Armenian Patriarch of Jerusalem Archbishop Nourhan Manougian delivered a speech at the opening ceremony and thanked all governments, organizations and individuals for both moral and financial assistance in the restoration of the tomb.

The Patriarch asked to consider allowing the Armenian Apostolic Church to hold liturgies once a year in the tomb.

The legate of the Mother See of Holy Etchmiatsin read the address of Catholicos of All Armenians His Holiness Karekin II during the ceremony.

World Cup Qualifier Armenia Beat Kazakhstan 2-0



YEREVAN -- Armenia beat the 10-man Kazakhstan 2-0 at home on Sunday in a 2018 FIFA World Cup qualifier.

Following their incredible 3-2 comeback win over Group E leaders Montenegro last November, Armenia manager Artur Petrosyan was forced to make an early substitution following a third minute injury of Gevorg Ghazaryan.

The home team kept pressing the opponents in their own half of the field, but Kazakhstan maintained a clean sheet and even created one or two

decent chances.

Kazakhstan's Sergiy Malyi received his second yellow on the 64th minute. It took only 9 minutes for Armenia to get the upper hand when Henrikh Mkhitaryan scored.

Just two minutes later, Aras Oezbiliz doubled the score for Armenia, which picked up its second win in the group and is now in fourth place with six points behind Poland, Montenegro and Denmark.

Armenia's next game will be against Montenegro in Podgorica on June 10.

Patriarchal Election Déjà Vu in Turkey: Government Meddling in the Election is Inevitable, But Not Decisive

By Hratch Tchilingirian
Oxford

The election process of a new Armenian Patriarch in Turkey faces the customary state-imposed restrictions, administrative hurdles and arbitrary treatment of the Armenian community. In recent weeks, the situation has been exacerbated by personality clashes and ambitions of the high ranking clergymen at the Patriarchate, who have turned a problem into a divisive major crisis.

The 556-year old Patriarchate is one of the four Hierarchical Sees of the Armenian Apostolic Church.

The problem facing the Armenian community started in July 2008 when the 52-year-old serving Patriarch Mesrob Mutafyan was officially diagnosed with an incurable illness. By then he had been in a vegetative state for some time at the Surp Pircic Hospital and remains so ever since.

In 2010 Archbishop Aram Ateshian was appointed Patriarchal Vicar with the consent of the Turkish government. This temporary arrangement until the election of a new patriarch turned into an indefinite status quo. The continued uncertainty without a clear sight of elections caused controversies and division within the community.

Under pressure and protests, in order to clear the path of organizing new elections, in October 2016 Patriarch Mesrob was officially declared "retired" by the Patriarchate's Religious Council.

Archbishop Aram, who was supposed to head the election process, by seeking the government's permission as a first step, continued to drag on the uncertain situation, which had left the community without a functioning patriarch for almost nine years.

In February of this year, the tensions and internal disagreements, both among the clergy and the laity, reached to a boiling point. Bishop Shahak Mashalian, the chairman of the Patriarchate's Religious Council, resigned by publishing a fiery letter. He blamed Archbishop Ateshian and certain lay leaders of the Armenian community for the deepening stagnation of the Patriarchate and the community in general.

The highly explosive situation created by Mashalian's resignation was defused through the mediation of the Catholicos of All Armenians who invited the three bishops of the Patriarchate to Etchmiadzin for consultations and to jointly seek solution to the crisis.

Within days after their return from Etchmiadzin, on 15 March, Archbishop Karekin Bekdjian — the most senior bishop of the Patriarchate and the serving Primate of the Armenian Church in Germany — was elected Locum Tenens (deghabah) by 2/3 votes of the Religious Council. According to the agreement reached in Etchmiadzin and in accordance to the rules and traditions of the Armenian Church, Archbishop Ateshian was to step down as Patriarchal Vicar immediately after Bekdjian's election.

However, within minutes of the



election of the Locum Tenens, Ateshian produced a letter from the Istanbul Governor's Office which declared that the election was "not legally possible" and Ateshian remains to be recognized as the official Patriarchal Vicar by the government.

Many in the community, including two Armenian MPs in the Turkish parliament, consider the Istanbul Governor's Office letter crude meddling and lacking any legal and procedural basis. Archbishop Ateshian and his small circle of supporters insist that without the government's consent no election is valid. This has created a stalemate and tensions are high on all sides.

The Turkish government's meddling in the process of election of the 85th Patriarch of Istanbul and All Turkey is inevitable, as in the past, but not decisive. The community has the ultimate say as it did nearly 20 years ago.

The last four patriarchal elections in 1950, 1961, 1990 and 1998 were carried out by official directives issued by successive Turkish governments. Since 1923, the government has used state discretion rather than church bylaws as the basis of patriarchal election. All four elections were fraught with government interference, procedural burdens imposed on the community and torturous recognition.

In 1998, the Turkish state refused to approve an election date for some five months, depriving the Armenian community the freedom and inherit right to vote for a new church leader.

Government interference in the election is not only about setting procedures.

During the last election almost 20 years ago, the Armenian community was informed through informal channels that between the two eligible candidates the Turkish state preferred the 72-year-old Archbishop Shahan Sivajian over the charismatic and US-educated Archbishop Mesrob Mutafyan, who was 42 years old at the time.

After the death of Patriarch Karekin Kazanjian (1990-1998), 45 representatives from 38 districts in Turkey had met at the Armenian Patriarchate in March 1998 and elected a 21-member Electoral Committee responsible for organizing the elections. One of the main tasks of such a committee is to negotiate with the Istanbul Governor's Office for the state required permission to hold church elections.

The General Assembly of the Armenian Church Community — made of 10 clergymen and 79 lay delegates representing 15,811 church members — elected Archbishop Mesrob Mutafyan as the 84th Patriarch of Istanbul and All of Turkey. The other candidate, Archbishop Sivajian, whose candidacy was supported by Turkish authorities, received 15 votes.

It is not a secret that the government maintains strict restrictions on the Armenian Church's activities, as it does on all Christian churches in Turkey. After the coup in 1960, the government dismantled the Armenian Community Central Council, the highest lay body in Turkey, which worked for the interests of the community alongside the Patriarchate. In December 1997, the government ordered the Patriarchate to disband its council of lay advisors and forbade lay delegates from participating in the election for a new Catholicos in Etchmiadzin in 1995. The list of restrictions is long and far reaching. In 1971 the state ordered the closure of the Holy Cross Armenian Seminary, which deprived the Patriarchate of training future priests and church workers.

For 94 years since the founding of the Turkish Republic, the state has persistently curtailed, tightly controlled and closely monitored all the significant rights of the Armenian community that are essential to the viability of their collective life. More than any other area, elections and administration of churches and charities have been most tortuous and energy-sapping for the declining Armenian community in Turkey.

The election of the 85th Patriarch of Armenians in Turkey will, no doubt, be held true to precedents established by the state. But, in the end, as in previous elections, the Armenian community shall have the final word as to who will lead the historic See of the Patriarchate of Constantinople — or per Turkish state's sanctioned title, the "Patriarchate of Istanbul and All Turkey."

For a deeper study of Armenians in Turkey, see Hratch Tchilingirian's "The Other Citizens."

U.S. Mediator Hopes for Renewed Talks

Continued from page 1

ward in 2007 and have been repeatedly modified since then.

Asked to comment on reports that the existing, most recent version of that framework accord was drawn up by Russia, Hoagland said: "That's a hard question to answer ... The plan on the table right now is in no way radically different from plans in the past."

"Which specific individual or country sat at the table late at night and wrote this plan? Well, I'm not going to comment on that. But I will say that this is a very good, internationally approved plan. The OSCE supports it and the co-chairs and their governments support it," added the diplomat.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said on March 6 that the conflicting parties broadly agree on the proposed settlement envisaging Armenian withdrawal from "districts around Karabakh" and a future decision on Karabakh's status which would "take into account the opinion of the people living there." But Lavrov also admitted that they are still far apart on "two or three" elements of this peace formula. He did not disclose the sticking points.

Hoagland also declined to give key details of the "very comprehensive" peace plan. "In diplomacy, it's like in a card game," he explained. "When you're holding cards you don't put all the cards on the table for everyone to see."

Screening of "Lost Birds" at Fresno State April 7

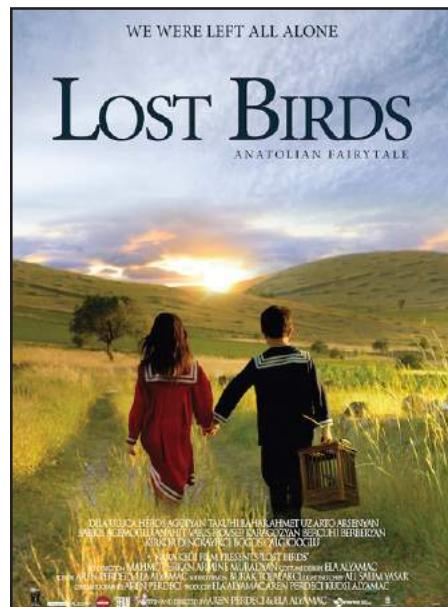
FRESNO -- The CineCulture Series and the Armenian Studies Program at California State University, Fresno, are sponsoring a special screening of the film Lost Birds at 5:30PM on Friday, April 7, in the Leon and Pete Peters Educational Auditorium (west end of the SaveMart Center, near Shaw and Woodrow Aves.), on the Fresno State campus.

Directors Ela Alyamac and Arda Perdeci will be flying to Fresno from Turkey to be the discussants at the screening of their movie.

Set against the backdrop of the First World War in a small Armenian village in Ottoman Anatolia, Lost Birds is a historical fairy tale told through the eyes of a young brother and sister left behind in the 1915 Armenian genocide.

Lost Birds is the first film made in Turkey to depict the Armenian Genocide of 1915. It was brought to the screen by the five years of work, persistence, and courage of filmmakers Aren Perdeci and Ela Alyamac, who share writing and directing credits. Lost Birds handles the task of telling a very dramatic story in a fairy tale narrative and this leads the audience to feel something magical yet so real at the same time.

Bedo and Maryam's happy home life is torn apart when their grandfather is apprehended and taken away by soldiers. Now, forbidden to go outside by their mother, one morn-



ing, the two children sneak away to play in their secret cave. But, when they return, they find their home and the entire village empty. Together, with the wounded bird they have been nursing back to health, the children embark on a perilous journey to find their mother.

Admission is free and the event is open to the public. Free parking is available at any of the adjacent Fresno State parking lots (near the corner of Shaw and Woodrow Avenues).

For more information about the presentation contact the Armenian Studies Program at 278-2669, or visit www.fresnostate.edu/armenianstudies.

Claude Mutafian to Present Film About his Father, Artist Zareh Mutafian



GLENDALE—Abril Bookstore's Armenian Film Society is proud to host the prestigious historian visiting from France, Claude Mutafian as he presents a new documentary about his father, Painting after the Genocide: Zareh Mutafian on Fridat, April 7, 2017 at 7:30pm at Abril Bookstore - 415 E. Broadway, Glendale, CA. Admission is free.

This hour-long documentary, produced in 2015 and directed by Arto Pehlivanian, presents the life and career of artist Zareh Mutafian, who, born on the shores of the Black Sea, survived the Armenian Genocide and settled in France, becoming one of the most famous Armenian intellectuals and artists. The film is in French with English subtitles.

Zareh Mutafian (1907-1980)

found himself at the age of eight in the midst of the corpses of his entire family, massacred during the Armenian Genocide in the Ottoman Empire. He was taken in by an American orphanage which was transferred to Greece, from there he went on to Italy where he studied painting in Milan, and started out on an artistic career which he pursued in Switzerland, and then in France where he settled in 1939. He was rapidly integrated into the rich Parisian Armenian intelligentsia of the time, and engaged in a literary career in parallel with his painting career which became quickly appreciated in the capital's artistic circles thanks to numerous solo exhibitions and participation in salons. Over a 40-year period, he came to be recognized both as an Armenian intellectual and a French

Bilgin Ayata to Discuss Constitutional Referendum and Political Transformation in Turkey at NAASR

BELMONT, MA -- Dr. Bilgin Ayata, Assistant Professor in Political Sociology, University of Basel, will give a lecture entitled "Quo Vadis Turkey? The Constitutional Referendum and Political Transformation in Turkey," on Thursday, April 6, 2017, at 7:30 p.m., at the National Association for Armenian Studies and Research (NAASR) Center, 395 Concord Ave., Belmont, MA 02478. The lecture is presented as part of the NAASR / Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation Series on Contemporary Armenian Issues.

On April 16, 2017, Turkish citizens will vote at home and abroad on the constitutional referendum that entails fundamental changes for Turkey's political system. In this talk, Prof. Bilgin Ayata will analyze what is at stake for state and society on the eve of this referendum and explore future scenarios for the aftermath of the referendum both for domestic and foreign relations, with a focus on Turkish prospects for peace and reconciliation with Armenians and Kurds.

Since summer 2015, the deterioration of democracy has accelerated at full speed in Turkey. Curfews were first declared in the wake of military operations against Kurds, during which thousands of Kurdish civilians were displaced and their homes destroyed. Since last year, a nationwide state of emergency has been declared after a coup attempt in July 2016. The Turkish government has intensified the suppression of media, opposition, and civil society, while it has sacked over 100,000 state employees. Opposition leaders and members of parliament are in prison, along with journalists, elected mayors, and intellectuals. Tensions have increased with the European Union, whose Parliament has called to suspend accession talks until democratic rights are restored.

artist. He thus transcended the traumatism by integrating into European culture while keeping the soul of a Levantine. As such, he is a symbol of the genocide to which he dedicated a memorable exhibition in 1965, the 50th anniversary year. Although he always thought in Armenian, his art was shaped by his contact with the great classical Italian masters and the fascinating colorists he discovered in France. He never stopped writing or exhibiting, in Europe, in the United States and twice in Soviet Armenia (1967 and 1971) where, already well-known, he met with thunderous success.

Claude Mutafian was born in 1942 in the suburbs of Paris. His parents were survivors of the 1915 Genocide. His studies led him towards Mathematics, which he taught for more



Dr. Bilgin Ayata is Assistant Professor of Political Sociology at University of Basel. She obtained her PhD in Political Science at Johns Hopkins University (Baltimore, USA), and her MA degree from York University (Toronto, Canada). Her research interests center on transformation processes spurred by forced migration, conflict, protest movements, contestations of memory, and postcolonial interventions. Her regional expertise includes the Middle East and Europe, in particular Turkey, the Kurdish regions, and postcolonial Germany. She has published on transnational activism of diasporas, the politics of displacement, foreign policy, genocide denial, and memory regimes. She has received research grants and fellowships by the MacArthur Foundation, the German Academic Exchange Service, Friedrich-Ebert Stiftung, FU Berlin, Johns Hopkins University, and York University. She appears frequently in international media on topics relating to Turkey-EU relations, Turkish foreign Policy, Kurdish politics, refugees, and migration policies in Germany.

For more information about Dr. Ayata's talk, contact NAASR at 617-489-1610 or hq@naasr.org.

than 40 years in various universities. However, his passion was always History. He published many books about different topics concerning Armenia, such as a Historical Atlas of Armenia covering thirty centuries. He organized various exhibitions, including The Armenian Kingdom of Cilicia (Paris, Sorbonne, 1993), RomaArmenia (Vatican, Great Sixtine Hall, 1999) and Armenia, the Magic of Writing (Marseilles, 2007). His field of interest is essentially the Medieval period, in particular the relations of Armenians with Crusaders and Mongols. At the age of 60 he received a PhD in History. With his recent work, L'Arménie du Levant (2012), he was awarded the highest University degree.

Presented by the Armenian Film Foundation and Abrik Bookstore.

Legendary Soviet Test Pilot

Continued from page 2

Zhukovsky Air Force Engineering Academy and started work as a test pilot in the Air Force Research Institute. He tested MiG combat planes for 23 years. In 1975, he was awarded the

title of the Hero of the Soviet Union for the state trials of the MiG-25 plane.

Mikoyan performed flights until 1978. Overall, he learned to operate 102 types of aircraft, including MiG-23, MiG-25 and MiG-27 planes. He logged a total of 3,500 flight hours.

ՅՈՒՆԵՐ

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ԳՐԻԳՈՐ ՇԵԽԵԱՆ

նակեց իր խօսքը զիս համոզելու
եղանակով:

- Լաւ գտեք ես, ընտրութիւնդ
լաւէ, հոյակապ է, բայց ցաւ ի սիրտ
սիրելի ժօրժ, յայտնեմ, որ Սա-
թամեանը հարիւր տոկոսով Բարե-
գործականի անդամ է, ձեր խում-
բին չի պատկանիր եւ չի մտներ...
ըսի, մտահոգութիւն յայտնող եղա-
նակով:

- Էհ, այդ մէկը քու գործող
պիտի ըլլայց շարունակեց ան:

- Սիրելի ժօրժ, ես այդ գոր-
ծին մէջ չեմ կրնար մտնել, ըսի
համոզիչ:

- Ինչպէ՞ս թէ չըլլար. Հասաւ
քիչեանի: Երեք նոր անձեր ընտր-
ուեցին փոխարիններով իրենց շրջա-
նը աւարտած երեք վարչականների,
նաեւ ընտրուեցին հաշուեքննիչ
յանձնախումբ եւ անձնափոխանորդ-
ներ ներկայացած անդամների հա-
մաձայնութեամբ: Վատահ եմ որ
ընտրուեն անունները միութեան
պաշտօնաթերթ՝ »Տեղեկատու «ի մի-
ջոցով կը ծանուցուի, կարիք չկայ
կրկնողութեան:

- Դեռ անունը չտուիր, շուտ,

ըսէ, պատասխանեցի արագ մը:

- Գրիգոր Սաթամեանն է...
անոր մէկ նոր թատրոնը տեսայ...
ըսաւ մէկ շունչով:

- Օ, հոյակապ է, ըսի արագ մը
ուրախացած:

- Ինչպէ՞ս կրնաս մեզի կապէլ,
մէկ երկու տարիէն մեր թատերա-
խումբը իրեն կը յանձնեմ, շարու-

ՀՈԼԻՎՈՒՏԻ Ս. ՅՈՎՐԱՆՆՈՒ ԿԱՐԱՊԵՏ
ԵԿԵՂԵՑՈՒ ԱՄԵՆԱՄԵԱՅ «ՄԻԶԻՆՔԸ»

ՅՈՎՐԱՆՆԵՍ ՍՐԿ. ԳՈՒՄՐՈՒԵԱՆ

Քառասնորդական պահճի ճա-
նապարհորդների համար հոգեւոր
ուրախութեան օր է Միջինքը: Այն
չայց Տօնացոյցի համաձայն տեղի
է ունենում Աղուհացի շրջանի 24-
րդ օրը, որով կիսուում է Մեծ
Պահճը: Այդ առթիւ յատուկ եկե-
ղեական արարողութիւններ չկան,
բայց Հոլիվուտի Ս. Յովհաննու
կարապետ եկեղեցում այն աւան-
դաբար նշուում է մէծ շուքով:

Ուշագրաւէ, որ անցնող տար-
ուայ նոյնմբերի նիւթական վճարում-
ներով, այդ աշխատանքների համար
հիմնադրամ ստեղծելով ծախսերը
հոգալու համար, յետոյ կը տեսնէք,
թէ ինչ աշխուժութիւն եւ ու զեռ
կը ստեղծուի եւ բնական ճանա-
պարհներով սերնդափխութիւննե-
րի կ'ունենայ, երիտասարդներ եւ
երիտասարդուհներ իրար հետ կը
ծանօթանան եւ հայկական ամուս-
նական կապեր կը ստեղծուեն: Ինդեմ՝
գործէք ու ապրէք այս մտքերով, այն
ատեն կը տեսնէք ձեր աշխատանքի
քաղցր պատուները գոհ եւ ուրախ
հոգեկան բաւարարութեամբ:



մերգութիւններ: Մթնշաղին կա-
տարուող հակման ընթացքում ներ-
կաններն ունեցան ինքնաքննութեան
եւ խոկալու հրաշալի առիթ: Շուրջ
250 հաւատացեալների շուրջերից
սրտաբուխ աղօթք էր բարձացում
նաեւ եկեղեցու ապահով ու շուտա-

Ժար.ը էջ 16



ՄԵԾԱՐԱՆՔԻ ՀԱՆԴԻՍՈՒԹԻՒՆ

Նուիրուած՝

ՏԻԳՐԱՆ ՍԱՐԱՖԵԱՆԻ

Ազգային-հասարակական, Կազմակերպական և Մարզական
Գործունեութեան 65-ամեակին



Կազմակերպութեամբ՝

ՊԵՅԼԱՆԻ ՀԱՅՐԵՆԱԿԱՆ ՄԻՈՒԹԵԱՆ ԵՒ
ՀԱՅ ՄԱՐՄՆԱՄԱՐԶԱԿԱՆ ՄԻՈՒԹԵԱՆ (Հ.Մ.Մ.)

— Գեղարուեստական Յայտագիր —

Հինգշաբթի, Ապրիլ 6, երեկոյեան ժամը 7:30-ին, Ս. Ղետնադեանց Մայր Տաճարի
Զորացեան Թանգարանին մէջ, 3325 N. Glendale Blvd., Burbank, CA 91504
Հիւրասիրութիւն

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Armenian Genocide



Pan Pacific Park → Turkish Consulate

12 PM APRIL 24, 2017