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Society for Armenian Studies (SAS) 45th Anniversary Conference

# "Diaspora and 'Stateless Power': Social Discipline and Identity Formation Across the Armenian Diaspora during the Long Twentieth Century"

*A Conference in Honor of Khachig Tölölyan*

October 12-13, 2019

Rolfe Hall 1200

University of California, Los Angeles

Saturday, October 12, 9:00am-5:15pm

WELCOMING REMARKS

**Sebouh Aslanian** (University of California, Los Angeles)

OPENING REMARKS

**Bedross Der Matossian** (President of the Society for Armenian Studies (SAS) and University of Nebraska, Lincoln)

SESSION I: THE LIMINAL SPACE: ARMENIAN IMMIGRANTS IN THE TRANSNATIONAL CONTEXT

9:30-11:00am

Chair: **Salpi Ghazarian** (University of Southern California)

**Nareh Galstyan** (University of Milan)  
“Diaspora-Homeland Relations Re-Examined: Case Study of the Dutch-Armenian and Dutch- Assyrian Communities”

**Carlos Antaramian** (El Colegio de la Frontera Norte, Mexico)  
“Waiting for the Quotas and the Formation of an Armenian Community in Tijuana, 1923-1932”

**Boris Adjemian** (AGBU Nubar Library, Paris)  
“In Search of the Sedentary: Armenian Diaspora Homelands between Addis Ababa, Jerusalem, Valence and Paris”

**Gegham Mughnetsyan** (University of Southern California) “Armenian Displaced Persons: From *Funkerkaserne* to Montebello”

Q & A/Discussion

11:00-11:15pm Coffee Break

SESSION II: IMAGINING THE DIASPORIC SPACE: SOCIAL MEMORY AND CULTURAL PRODUCTION IN THE ARMENIAN DIASPORA

11:15-12:45pm

Chair: **Houri Berberian** (University of California, Irvine)

**Lilit Keshishyan** (University of Southern California)  
“Defiant Adherence: Cultural Critiques in Late Twentieth Century Armenian Diaspora Literature”

**Helen Makhdoumian** (University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign)  
“Transnational Memory Work and Kinship-Making in Michael Arlen’s *Passage to Ararat*”

**Talar Chahinian** (University of California, Irvine)  
“The Literary Canon and Nation-Building in the Diaspora”

**Sylvia Alajaji** (Franklin & Marshall College)  
“Komitas and the Diasporic Musical Imaginary”

Q & A/Discussion

Lunch: 12:45-2:00pm

SESSION III: INSTITUTIONS, GOVERNMENTALITY AND POWER RELATIONS IN THE SHAPING OF ARMENIAN DIASPORIC DIVERSITIES

2:00-4:00pm

Chair: **Vahram Shemmassian** (California State University, Northridge)

**Hasmik Khalapyan** (American University of Armenia)  
 “Serialized Struggle for Power in the Armenian Periodical Press of Europe, Late 19th and Early 20th Centuries”

**Simon Payaslian** (Boston University)  
 “Contending Diasporan Conceptualizations of Homeland Independence According to the American Armenian Press (1900-1921)”

**Nareg Seferian** (School of Public and International Affairs, Virginia Tech)  
 “Hints of “Pre-Diasporan Governmentality”: Norms and Expectations in the Ottoman-Armenian Constitution”

**Christopher Sheklian** (Zohrab Information Center)  
 “Recent Immigration to Established Armenian Communities: The Role of the Church in Shaping Immigrant Identity”

**Daniel Fittante** (University of California, Los Angeles)  
 “The Rise of Glendale’s Ethnopolitical Entrepreneurs”

Q & A/Discussion

**4:00-4:30pm** Coffee Break

**4:30-5:15pm**

#### KEYNOTE SPEECH

**Khachig Tölölyan** (Wesleyan University)  
 “From the Study of Diasporas to Diaspora Studies”

**SAS 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banquet: 7:00pm**  
 Organization of Istanbul Armenians Banquet Hall  
*Sponsored by the Organization of Istanbul Armenians*

**Sunday, October 13, 9:30am-4:30pm**

**SESSION IV: AT HOME IN THE DIASPORA: ARMENIAN COMMUNITIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST**

**9:30-11:15am**

**Chair: Barlow Der Mugrdchian** (California State University, Fresno)

**Sossie Kasbarian** (University of Stirling, UK)  
 “Diasporizing the Modern Middle East – Armenian Remnants, Resilience and Reconfigurations”

**Ara Sanjian** (University of Michigan, Dearborn)  
 “When in Lebanon, Do as the Lebanese Do! Armenian Parties as ‘Buyut Siyasiyah’”

**Tsolin Nalbantian** (Leiden University, Netherlands)  
 “Beyond Diaspora: How Armenians Made Lebanon Their Own”

**Talin Suciyan** (Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich)  
 “Our good Armenians”: Survival and Denial in Post-Genocide Turkey”

Q & A/Discussion

**Coffee Break 11:15-11:30am**

**SESSION V: GIVING VOICE TO THE DIASPORA: THE ARMENIAN DIASPORA SURVEY PROJECT**

**11:30am-1:00pm**

Chair: **Sossie Kasbarian** (University of Stirling, UK)

**Khachig Tölölyan** (Wesleyan University)  
**Hratch Tchilingirian** (Oxford University)  
**Razmik Panossian** (Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation)

Q & A/Discussion

**Lunch: 1:00-2:30pm**

**SESSION VI: DIASPORA POLICY AND DIASPORA POLITICS:  
DISCOURSES, IDEOLOGIES AND GOVERNMENTALITY IN  
(SOVIET) ARMENIA-DIASPORA RELATIONS**

**2:30-4:00pm**

**Chair: Marc Mamigonian** (NAASR)

**Hradzin Vartanyan** (Ministry of Diaspora,  
Republic of Armenia)

“Typologies of Diasporas and the Armenian Diaspora”

**Arman S. Yeghiazaryan** (Yerevan State University)

“The Influence of Relations of Soviet Armenia and Diaspora  
on the Modern Armenian Diaspora Formation”

**Vahe Sahakyan** (University of Michigan, Dearborn)

“State(less) power and Beyond: The (Im)possibility of  
Governmentality in the Armenian Diaspora”

**Hagop Gulludjian** (University of California, Los Angeles)

“Shifting Visions”

Q & A/Discussion

**Concluding Remarks**

**Peter Cowe** (University of California, Los Angeles)