



# THE SOCIETY FOR ARMENIAN STUDIES

NEWSLETTER VOLUME XLV, No. 2, 2021

## **Society for Armenian Studies (SAS)**

**Executive Council Meeting,**

Saturday, October 16, 11:00am

**Annual Membership Meeting,**

Saturday, October 16, 2021, 1:00pm

## **President's Message**

**Bedross Der Matossian**

*SAS President*

The Society for Armenian Studies (SAS) continued its activities in the Spring and Summer of 2021 on multiple fronts. Despite the restraints put by COVID-19, the Society found creative ways to expand its activities virtually. It also began implementing the “Three-Year Strategic Plan” adopted during the 46th Annual Membership Meeting held on January 21, 2021 which concentrated on three areas: 1) strengthening SAS ties with educational institutions in Armenia and Artsakh; 2) mentoring SAS graduate students; and 3) disseminating knowledge about Armenian Studies throughout the world.

As part of its new policy to strengthen ties with academic institutions in Armenia, the Society for Armenian Studies (SAS) signed an Agreement on Cooperation on January 13, 2021, with The Armenian Genocide Museum-Institute Foundation (AGMI).



The Agreement aims at cooperating on different academic projects that would be beneficial to both parties and advance the field of Armenian Genocide studies. We have already implemented two projects with the AGMI 1) funding of three positions within the scope of a project to study massive violence and genocidal acts executed against Armenians in Artsakh, Nakhichevan, and Armenian-populated areas of Azerbaijan in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries 2) And co-sponsoring an international conference titled “At the Crossroads of the Armenian Genocide, Armenian Claims and the Artsakh Issue – Retrospective Assessments and Prospects” which took place between September 16-18, 2021 in Yerevan, Armenia. More than 50 academic papers were presented at the conference. We have also cooperated with the Grigor Narekatsi University in Artsakh in posthumously sponsoring the publication of Dr. Vahram Lalayan’s book *Mystical Perception of the Book of Lamentations by Grigor Narekatsi in the 13th – 18th Centuries*. Dr. Lalayan was a medieval theologian and the head of the Department of History at the University. He was killed by Azeri forces in Meds Tagher village in Hadrut during the 2020 war. As the Azeri aggression against Artsakh and Armenia is persisting, we are continuing our commitment to raise awareness through academic means about the threat imposed on the Armenians of both states and their cultural heritage and territorial integrity.

As part of helping graduate students, in the Spring of 2021 we provided grants to four graduate students as part of our Graduate Research and Conference Grants Program for M.A. and Ph.D. Students. Established in 2019, the goal of the Grants Program is to provide resources for graduate students to conduct research and present papers at conferences. We have also established The Journal of the Society for Armenian Studies (JSAS) Graduate Student Fellowships. The fellows will each help

curate a contribution to the Reviews and Reconsiderations (R&R) section of the JSAS related to the interests of graduate students in their field of study.

We are continuing our efforts in disseminating knowledge on Armenian Studies throughout the world. Due to our extensive activities, our membership increased about 50% since 2018. Through Podcast Series, zoom lectures, symposia, and conferences, E-SAS, and the Journal of the Society for Armenian Studies (JSAS) we have been able to reach a wider audience. The flourishing of JSAS with its fantastic themes and quality work is due to the relentless efforts of the editor-in-chief Dr. Tamar Boyadjian and the Editor of Reviews & Reconsiderations, Dr. Rachel Goshgarian. It has been attracting more and more people outside the field of Armenian Studies.

As part of disseminating knowledge on Armenian Studies, we have also embarked on a groundbreaking project: launching the **International Association of Armenian Librarians and Archivists (IAALA)**. The first of its kind in history, the goal of IAALA is to provide an international forum for information specialists working broadly with Armenian topics and materials. IAALA plans to host online events and to create standing committees to address acquisitions, cataloging, research and reference, preservation, and digitization issues. It also intends to be an advocate for the need of Armenian expertise in the libraries of public institutions throughout the world. The association is led by an energetic team under the leadership of Dr. Levon Avdoyan.

Despite these successes, we also had some sad developments. We lost two prominent scholars and members of the Society for Armenian Studies: Profs. George Bournoutian (1943-2021) and Lucy Der Manuelian (1928-2021) both of whom played important roles in their respective fields. Our hearts go out to their family and beloved ones.

### Society for Armenian Studies Continuing Online Events

In 2020, responding to the limitations on travel due to the novel coronavirus COVID-19, the Society for Armenian Studies started an exciting new online

lecture series. The **SAS Zoom Lecture Series** connected its members and highlighted their research.

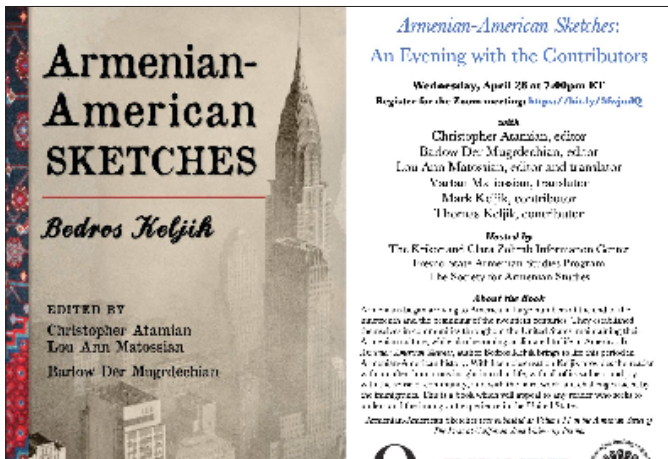
This year, SAS Lectures continued, though largely through co-sponsored events. Beyond the major initiatives forming long-term cooperative efforts detailed in articles below, the following co-sponsored events took place in late 2020 and early 2021:

On December 9, 2020, the Armenian Genocide Museum & Institute, the Society of Armenian Studies (SAS), and ICOM-Armenia co-sponsored the panel entitled *The Destruction of the Cultural Heritage as a Warning Sign of Genocide*. On the occasion of the International Day of Commemoration and Dignity of the Victims of the Crime of Genocide and of the Prevention of this Crime, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia and UNESCO Chair in Education and Prevention of Genocide and other Atrocity Crimes at the Yerevan State University hold an online seminar on the 9th of December to the theme of “The Destruction of the Cultural Heritage as a Warning Sign of Genocide.” Speakers included Arman Khachatryan (Head of Multilateral Policy and Development Cooperation Department), who gave opening remarks; Kristin Parker (Lead Curator of the Arts, Boston Public Library), “First Aid to Cultural Heritage in Times of Crisis;” Christina Maranci (Professor at the Department of the History of Art and Architecture, Tufts University), speaking on the “Armenian cultural heritage in Turkey and Artsakh;” Ani Avagyan (Chair of ICOM National Committee of Armenian Museums), offering “A Brief Review Of Cultural Heritage Violations In Nagorno-Karabagh (Artsakh) in September-November Of 2020; and Heghnar Watenpaugh. The moderator was Suren Manukyan (Head of UNESCO Chair in Education and Prevention of Genocide and other Atrocity Crimes at the Yerevan State University).

On Tuesday, April 20, Melissa Bilal & Lerna Ekmekcioglu presented on the topic “**Paging through Photo and Songs: Hayganush Mark and Koharig Ghazarosian’s Friendship in Post Genocide Istanbul.**” The event was co-sponsored by The Promise Institute for Human Rights at UCLA Law School, Promise Armenian Institute at UCLA, UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music, UCLA Center for the Study of Women, UCLA Armenian Law Students Association, Armenian Museum of America, NAASR, Society for Armenian Studies (SAS).

On Thursday, April 22, SAS co-sponsored two separate events. The first was the inaugural Raymond H. Kévorkian Armenian Genocide commemoration lecture organized by the UCLA Richard G. Hovannisian Chair and co-sponsored by UCLA Department of History, UCLA Center for Near Eastern Studies, Promise Armenian Institute at UCLA, NAASR, Society for Armenian Studies (SAS), given by Harry Harootunian: **“The Unspoken as Heritage: The Armenian Genocide and its Unaccounted Lives.”** The second was a talk organized by the Center for Armenian Studies, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor by Dirk Moses, **“The Problems of Genocide: Permanent Security and the Language of Transgression”** with comments by Geoff Eley. Co-sponsors included the Center for Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies, Donia Human Rights Center, Eisenberg Institute for Historical Studies, and Society for Armenian Studies (SAS).

On Friday, April 23, Joachim Savelsberg gave a talk entitled, **“Knowing about Genocide: Armenian Suffering and Epistemic Struggles.”** It was co-sponsored by the Society for Armenian Studies (SAS) and NAASR



The publication of a new edition of Bedros Keljik’s book *Armenian-American Sketches* was celebrated on Friday, April 28 with an event hosted by the Zohrab Information Center and co-sponsored by the Society for Armenian Studies (SAS) and the Fresno State Armenian Studies Program. **“Armenian-American Sketches: An Evening with the Contributors”** featured Christopher Atamian, Barlow Der Mugrdachian, Lou Ann Matossian, Vartan Matiossian, Mark Keljik, and Thomas Keljik.

## The Society for Armenian Studies (SAS) Launches the International Association of Armenian Librarians and Archivists (IAALA)



**IAALA**

International Association of Armenian Librarians and Archivists

The Society for Armenian Studies (SAS) is pleased to announce the creation of the International Association of Armenian Librarians and Archivists (IAALA), a new organization operating under the umbrella of the SAS, with the goal to provide an international forum for information specialists working broadly with Armenian topics and materials. IAALA plans to host online events and to create standing committees to address acquisitions, cataloging, research and reference, preservation, and digitization issues. It also intends to be an advocate for the need of Armenian expertise in the libraries of public institutions throughout the world.

IAALA was born through discussions that followed the recognition of the Armenian Genocide by the United States Congress, when Nora Avetyan of UCLA and Ani Boyadjian of the Los Angeles Public Library spearheaded a successful effort to change the official subject heading of the Library of Congress from “Armenian Massacres” to “Armenian Genocide.” Two other members of that committee, Levon Avdoyan (Library of Congress, retired) and Seda Aykanian Matevosian (Vahan and Anoush Chamlian Armenian School) joined Avetyan and Boyadjian in the efforts to realize an association of Armenian librarians and archivists. In conversation with the Executive Committee of the Society for Armenian Studies, they established IAALA under the aegis of SAS as an organization that would support librarians and archivists of Armenian material and to bridge the divide between the librarian and scholarly worlds.

The mission statement of the International Association of Armenian Librarians and Archivists affirms:

“The last few decades have witnessed the enrichment of existing libraries and archives that hold Armenian materials of all types as well as the creation of new private and public facilities both in

the United States and around the globe. The primary purpose of the International Association of Armenian Librarians and Archivists is to provide a forum for the information specialists and those associated with these institutions to discuss topics of mutual interest, to seek solutions to problems and questions as they develop, and to establish a much-needed connection between scholars and researchers who either may need their services or who may not know where needed materials exist. As a group associated with the Society for Armenian Studies, the Association follows the rules and regulations of that body.”

The executive committee of IAALA is made up of a truly international group of librarians and archivists, chaired by prominent scholar Levon Avdoyan (Library of Congress, retired). The other members of the executive committee include Boris Adjemian (Nubarian Library, Paris), Nora Avetyan (UCLA), Ani Boyadjian (Los Angeles Public Library), Anna Chulyan (National Library of Armenia and Armenian Library Association, Yerevan), Nerses Hayrapetyan (U.S. Embassy, Yerevan), Seda Aykanian Matevosian (Vahan & Anoush Chamlian Armenian School), Khatchig Mouradian (Library of Congress), and Tigran Zargaryan (National Library of Armenia, retired, and Armenian Digital Library). Christopher Sheklian (Radboud University) serves as the liaison from the SAS and Emilio Bonfiglio (University of Tübingen) serves as the liaison from the Association Internationale des Etudes Arméniennes (AIEA).

The Chair of the IAALA Executive Committee, Levon Avdoyan, commented on establishment of the Association by saying: “As we expand the executive committee to include an international membership of superbly qualified colleagues, Ani, Nora, Seda, and I want to thank Bedross Der Matossian and the SAS for their patience and guidance during the months we laid the foundation of IAALA. Our purpose was both to give a voice to and to provide a much-needed forum for librarians and archivists around the world who deal with all Armenian materials. Librarians and archivists are usually quiet about their work, so it is no surprise that they have not advertised the importance of the discipline. Much of the retention, preservation, processing, and dissemination and interpretation of Armenian material culture is due to their efforts. We hope that IAALA will unite the library and archives commu-

nities around the world to meet the modern challenges facing the profession and lead bright young talent to join with us to guarantee a bright future for our institutions.”

“We are truly excited about this major initiative,” said SAS President Bedross Der Matossian (University of Nebraska, Lincoln). “While we have organizations and societies dedicated to Armenian Studies, this is the first time in history that an international association of Armenian librarians and archivists has been established with a global presence under the leadership of Dr. Levon Avdoyan, a leading expert in the field. From Washington D.C. to Paris and from Yerevan to Tübingen, the Association will play a major role in advancing the field of Armenian Studies on the national and international levels. The commitment of the executive committee of the International Association of Armenian Librarians and Archivists (IAALA) and their mission inspire hope of strengthening the field of Armenian Studies and to raise its academic standards.”

Members of IAALA must also be members of the Society for Armenian Studies. To inquire about membership, please contact SAS President Bedross Der Matossian at [bdermatossian2@unl.edu](mailto:bdermatossian2@unl.edu) and complete the membership form <https://societyforarmenianstudies.com/apply-for-membership/>. Under the “Field of Interest” category, please indicate “IAALA.” General inquiries about the International Association of Armenian Librarians and Archivists may be directed to [iaala.saslibrarian@gmail.com](mailto:iaala.saslibrarian@gmail.com). Current members of SAS may join IAALA by emailing [iaala.saslibrarian@gmail.com](mailto:iaala.saslibrarian@gmail.com). More information about the inaugural event will be forthcoming.

### **The Society for Armenian Studies and the Armenian Genocide Museum-Institute Begin Their Cooperation**

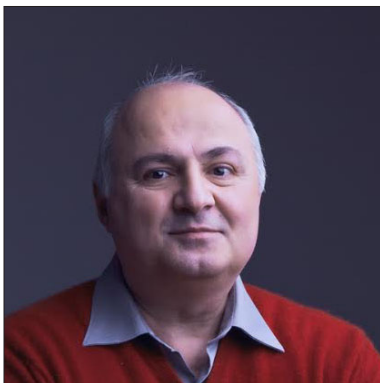
As part of its new policy to strengthen ties with academic institutions in Armenia, the Society for Armenian Studies (SAS) signed an Agreement on Cooperation on January 13, 2021, with The Armenian Genocide Museum-Institute Foundation (AGMI). The Agreement aims at cooperating on different academic projects that would be beneficial to both parties and advance the field of Armenian Genocide studies. The scope of the cooperation includes, but is not limited to, exchange of mutual

information on academic activities carried out by both parties; exchange and loans of books relevant to both parties; exchange of knowledge and expertise with respect to Armenian Genocide; sharing of advice, educational consultation, and research about the Armenian Genocide study and research; cooperation through local and international conferences and symposia to advance the field of genocide studies in general and Armenian Genocide studies in particular; mutual cooperation to educate the general public about the Armenian Genocide; and close cooperation and coordination between the Journal of the Society for Armenian Studies (JSAS) published by the prestigious Brill publishing house and the International Journal of Armenia Genocide Studies (IJAGS), Ts'eghaspanagitakan Handes, both published by the AGMI.

Professor Barlow Der Mugrdchian, Director of Armenian Studies Program at California State University, Fresno, will serve as the liaison on behalf of the SAS while Dr. Edita Gzoyan, Deputy Scientific Director of The Armenian Genocide Museum-Institute Foundation and the editor of IJAGS will serve on behalf of the AGMI.

Commenting on the Agreement, SAS President Bedross Der Matossian said, “We are looking forward to cooperate with The Armenian Genocide Museum-Institute Foundation (AGMI) on academic issues pertaining to genocide studies in general and the Armenian Genocide in particular. This is part of our new policy to strengthen ties with different academic institutions in Armenia. This cooperation will be mutually beneficial to all of us. The Society for Armenian Studies (SAS) has members whose research deals with the Armenian Genocide. Through harnessing the existing potential of scholars from both bodies, the field of the Armenian Genocide

Studies will advance in the right direction.”

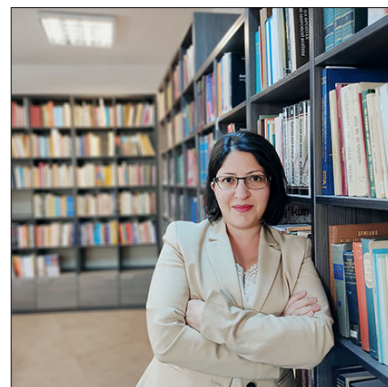


**Prof. Harutyun Marutyun**, Director of The Armenian Genocide Museum-Institute Foundation (AGMI), welcomed

the Cooperation Agreement stating, “The challenges facing researchers in the field of Armenian Studies in the 21st century require new, modern approaches and the consolidation of Armenian potential. The shaping of the Armenian factor in the field of humanities, taking world experience into account, is one of the priorities of our time. The study and popularization of Armenian history, culture and the issues of the Armenian Genocide are among the imperatives for both the AGMI and SAS. We are sure that the goals and intentions mentioned in the Cooperation Agreement, signed between the two institutions, will be realized and will contribute to the expansion of ties between researchers on both sides and the development of Armenian Studies in general.

The Society for Armenian Studies and the Armenian Genocide Museum-Institute began their active cooperation on February 26, 2021 when the Armenian Genocide Museum-Institute (AGMI) announced a call for scholars to apply for three positions within the scope of a project to study massive violence and genocidal acts executed against Armenians in Artsakh, Nakhichevan, and Armenian-populated areas of Azerbaijan in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. These three positions will be partially funded through a grant from the Society for Armenian Studies (SAS) as part of the cooperation agreement signed with AGMI on January 13, 2021.

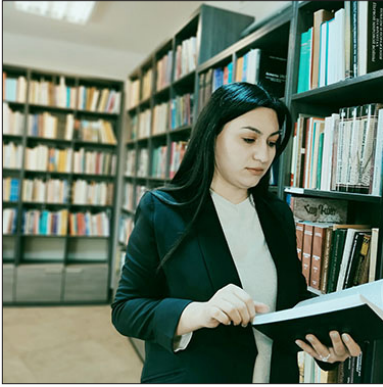
Three scholars, Naira Sahakyan, Gayane Hovhannisyan, and Hayastan Martirosyan, were selected during the competition held on March 24.



**Naira Sahakyan** defended her doctoral dissertation at the University of Amsterdam (Netherlands). She is the author of two monographs, *Muslim Reformism in Daghestan: Islamic Politics and Muslim*

*Education after the Russian Revolution* (Amsterdam, 2021) and *Collapsed Empires, Sovietized Dreams: The Perceptions of the Armenian Intellectuals about the 1917 Revolution and the Vision of Armenia's Future* (in Armenian, Yerevan, 2021, forthcoming)

**Gayane Hovhannisyan** is a graduate of the Faculty of History of Yerevan State University (YSU). She



continues her studies in the graduate school of the chair of Armenian History of the same faculty with the subject “The Demographic Image of the Nagorno Karabagh Autonomous Region, 1923-1989.

A graduate of the Faculty of International Relations of YSU, **Hayastan Martirosyan** has continued her studies in the master’s program of Genocide Studies of the Institute for Armenian Studies of YSU.

The Armenian Genocide Museum-Institute and the Society for Armenian Studies congratulate the three scholars and wish them productive studies.



“The Second Artsakh War has vividly demonstrated the still continuing genocidal intent towards the Armenians.” said AGMI director Dr. Harutyun Marutyan. “In this context the activities of the Group are becoming extremely important for the presentation and promotion of our just cause to the wider scholarly community. The cooperation between our two institutions in this respect is a sign that we are mobilizing our efforts to this end.”

The President of Society for Armenian Studies Dr. Bedross Der Matossian hailed the project saying: “The project initiated by the Armenian Genocide Museum-Institute to examine violence inflicted on the Armenians of the region is extremely important. In the midst of the international silence, the group’s work of documenting and analyzing these violent episodes will provide ample material and evidence to the international community in general and scholars in particular.”

Additionally, the SAS co-sponsored, alongside the AGMI, the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Armenia, and Yerevan State Univer-

sity, the important international conference, “At the Crossroads of the Armenian Genocide, Armenian Claims and the Artsakh Issue: Retrospective Evaluations and Prospects.” The conference took place on September 16-18, 2021 at the Armenian Genocide Museum-Institute Conference Hall. More than 50 academic papers were delivered.

The Society for Armenian Studies is currently in discussion with the AGMI to develop other projects that will be beneficial to the study of genocides in general and the Armenian Genocide in particular.

The SAS, founded in 1974, is the international professional association representing scholars and teachers in the field of Armenian Studies. The aim of the SAS is to promote the study of Armenian culture and society, including history, language, literature, and social, political, and economic questions.

If you are interested in contributing to collaboration of the SAS with the AGMI please contact Prof. Bedross Der Matossian at [bdermatossian2@unl.edu](mailto:bdermatossian2@unl.edu).

**SAS Publishes the Late  
Dr. Vahram Lalayan’s Mystical  
Perception of the *Book of Lamentations*  
by Grigor Narekatsi in the 13 – 18th C.:  
Dr. Lalayan was Killed during the  
Artsakh War of 2020**

The Society for Armenian Studies (SAS) has posthumously sponsored the publication of Dr. Vahram Lalayan’s book *Mystical Perception of the Book of Lamentations by Grigor Narekatsi in the 13th – 18th Centuries*. Dr. Lalayan was a scholar of Armenian medieval theology and the head of the



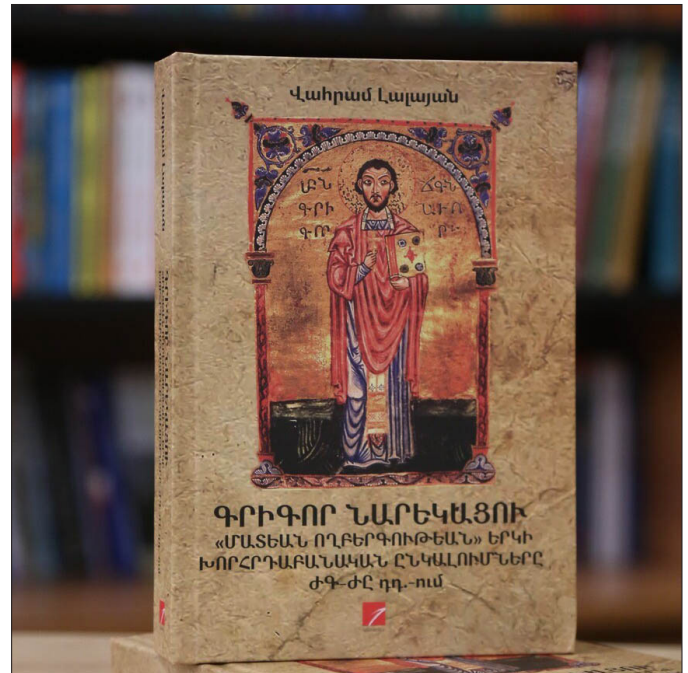
Department of History at Grigor Narekatsi University in Artsakh. He was killed by Azeri forces in Meds Tagher village in Hadrut during the 2020 war. *Mystical Perception of the Book of Lamentations* was

published in Armenian by Antares Press in Yerevan and deals with Narekatsi's Book of Lamentations. *Mystical Perception*, edited by Lalayan's colleague Dr. Amalya Grigoryan of Narekatsi University, consists of an introduction, two chapters, a conclusion, and a list of primary literary sources. The first chapter deals with the "Medieval Commentaries of the Book of Lamentations" and discusses the research of Poghos Khachatryan's work on the first and fourth editions of the Book of Lamentations. The second chapter deals with the commentaries of the Book of Lamentations and analyzes the mystical interpretations.

"The Society for Armenian Studies (SAS) is honored to have been able to sponsor the publication of Dr. Vahram Lalayan's book," stated SAS President Prof. Bedross Der Matossian. "It is the dream of every scholar to see the fruits of their years of hard work published. Unfortunately, Lalayan did not get that chance. As a scholar and a human being, he believed in the cardinal right to defend his land during the Artsakh War of 2020. He believed in the right of the Armenians of Artsakh to self-determination and was killed by the Azeri forces because he chose to remain in his home village. His book on Narekatsi is a testament to his character as a medieval theologian and historian and an Artsakhtsi defending his homeland. His name will remain eternal in the pages of history and for future generations."

Lalayan's colleague Dr. Grigoryan commented on the publication saying, "Dr. Lalayan's contribution to the field of theology and history is of utmost importance. More than ever Grigor Narekatsi's teachings are relevant today to all Armenians. Lalayan in his book has explored the subtext of the religious identity of Armenians through an analysis and interpretation of the Book of Lamentations. It was Lalayan's wish to present the final version of his book to readers. Unfortunately, he couldn't, as he was killed in the 44-day war and his book was published after his martyrdom." According to Grigoryan, Lalayan has made an important contribution to the field Narekatsi studies and his research will be an important source to future generations of scholars." The publication of Lalayan's book is the first result of a memorandum of understanding for cooperation in different aspects of academia signed earlier this year by SAS and the Narekatsi University in

Artsakh. To order a copy of the book please click on Taran Krakhanut – <https://daran.company.site/> If you would like to support SAS's cooperation with Narekatsi University please contact Bedross Der Matossian @ [bdermatossian2@unl.edu](mailto:bdermatossian2@unl.edu).



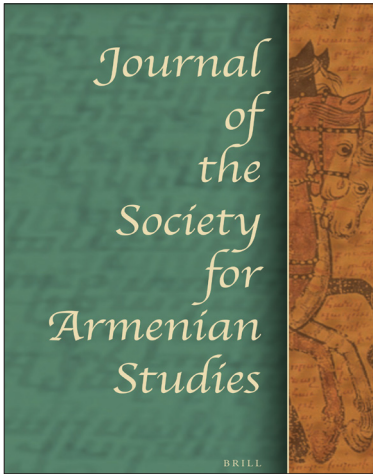
*Mystical Perception of the Book of Lamentations by Grigor Narekatsi in the 13th – 18th Centuries*

### **Journal of the Society for Armenian Studies (JSAS) Continues Innovative Publishing Program**

The *Journal of the Society for Armenian Studies* (JSAS) continues to open new doors to exciting scholarship and intellectual conversations, recently intensified thanks to its still-new publishing partnership with Brill and the creative and rigorous work of Dr. Tamar M. Boyadjian (Associate Professor, Michigan State University), the journal's Editor-in-Chief.

Under Boyadjian's direction, the JSAS has continued to publish top-level, peer-reviewed articles that make important contributions to the field of Armenian Studies, writ large, and ranging from works on the medieval period to the contemporary. At the same time, Boyadjian and the newly-appointed Reviews and Reconsiderations editor, Dr. Rachel Goshgarian (Associate Professor, Lafayette College) have initiated novel formats for the sharing of intellectual ideas that attempt to broaden the scope

of Armenian Studies, encouraging deeper conversations with a range of disciplines and engaging creative approaches to thinking about intellectual discoveries and the modalities of sharing them.



One of Boyadjian's goals has been to encourage more Armenian-language contributions to the journal, in the form of research articles, reviews, and what will be an annual report on publications from the Matenadaran, the most important manuscript repository and

Armenological center in the Republic of Armenia (ROA). Part of this vision is also to encourage more intellectual community between scholars working on Armenian Studies inside the ROA and those who live and work outside of it.

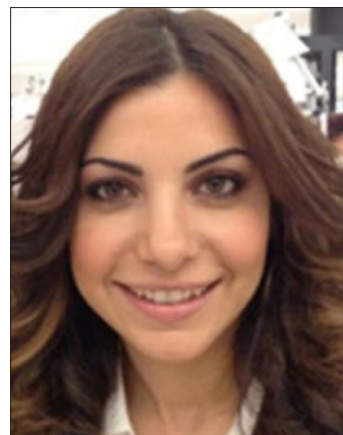
In 2021, two issues of JSAS were completed, vol 27.2 and vol 28.1. The transition from one issue per year to two offers the journal an opportunity to continue its commitment to the double-blind peer review process (ensuring intellectual rigor and scholarly integrity) while also creating more flexibility and inventiveness for the editors as they put together each publication.

In restructuring the journal as featuring academic articles alongside intellectual interviews, scholarly think-pieces, longer-form book, film and exhibition reviews, creative non-fiction essays, and a new section called "Telegrams," the JSAS is striving to invite a more diverse array of contributors to think together about a wide range of issues of import to the field of Armenian Studies and, also, to reimagine the limits and bounds of the field itself. In her Editor's Note in vol 27.2, Boyadjian explained, "Through a focus on both content and genre, the journal seeks to move away from insular methodologies to more global ones, that also consider visual and cultural productions by and about Armenians – both past and present – as integral parts of these conversations. Through this new format, the journal offers patronage to artists, inviting their voice to be

heard in these scholarly conversations, while also providing a space for others to write about their work."

Issue 27.2's Table of Contents reveals many of the new paths the JSAS is forging : original research articles on the "Digitization and Enrichment of Նոր Բառգիրք Հայկազեան Լեզուի," on "The Transmission of Spiritual and National Values in Koshtents, Khujhka, and Surb Khachik Hor Monasteries of Hamshen Province (XV-XVII Centuries)," and "An Overview of Cilician Armenian Castles and Fortresses Based on Arabo-Islamic Sources" (the last two in Armenian); an essay on "The Armenian Church in Soviet Armenia;" a translation of contemporary literature from Armenia; an interview done by an academic in Armenia with a Polish literary scholar who "discovered" an Armenian Turkologist; longer review essays; and a number of the innovative, short "Telegram" reflection pieces on Covid and the Second Karabagh War, shared in English, Armenian and via images reflecting the work of Armenian artists from Istanbul, Florence (Italy) and NYC.

The forthcoming 28.1 volume begins a year-long inquiry into the topic of "Performance." Boyadjian's vision in selecting themes around which to frame the annual "calls for papers" of the JSAS illustrates the goal of the journal to create communal, intellectual conversation and to invite scholars to engage with one another across temporal and disciplinary lines in order to reimagine particular theoretical and academic frameworks. As she explains in her Editor's Note in vol 28.1, "This year's two issues are centered around the theme of performance, broadly defined. In selecting this theme, the goal has been to



**Dr. Tamar Boyadjian**

investigate the interdisciplinary nature of performance as a means of considering the cultural and social engagements of Armenians, the positionalities of these performers, and the means by which they produce meaningful and healing change through the arts and the humanities."



The exciting vol 28.1 includes an array of tantalizing research articles, including Dr. Ayşe Kadioğlu's investigation and contemplation of the life and disappearance of the early 20th-century Istanbul Armenian actress Eliza Binemeciyān and Dr. Kaveh Askari's study of Samuel Khachikian's pivotal role in the creation of the crime thriller film genre in Iran. On top of these major contributions, the volume also features a creative non-fiction piece by Dr. Greg Levonian on William Saroyan's theater; a conversation between Dr. Sylvia Alajaji and LA-based Armenian DJ Lara Sarkissian; a creative think-piece by Dr. Arto Vaun that encourages a new reading of the Parajanov Museum in Yerevan; a critical review of a recently-released Turkish film (*Invisible to the Eye*, directed by Zeynep Dadak) based on Eremia Ćelebi K'ēōmiwrchean's *History of Istanbul*, by Ottoman historian Dr. Dana Sajdi; a poignant and moving review by Dr. Vigen Galstyan of *Firdus: The Memory of a Place* (Tigran Amiryān, ed.) that illuminates the historic context of the collective edition and gives outstanding insights into the politics of urban planning in Yerevan.

Thanks to support from the Society for Armenian Studies, with vol 28.1, the JSAS was also able to initiate a Graduate Fellows Program. This unique fellowship offers one graduate student each year the opportunity to showcase their own research, create a graduate student forum on a specific topic or theoretical framework, or to engage in new, creative ways of thinking through ideas germane to the field and to share their voices in the JSAS as new colleagues in the field of Armenian Studies. In 28.1, the first JSAS graduate fellow, Erin Piñon (Princeton University) discusses the performativity of objects in ritual practice with Elena Gittleman (Bryn Mawr College).

Volume 28.2 (Performance II) of the JSAS will be published in early 2022 and features a scholarly feast of articles, new translations and reflections on Yesayan Studies, alongside exciting, profound pieces related to thinking about Armenians and film. Volume 29 (Issue 1 and 2) will be dedicated to the theme of "indigeneity," with contributions by Simon Maghakyan, Hrag Vartanian, Dr. Arpine Sarbikeian and Dr. Murat Cem Mengüç, and JSAS Graduate Fellow Deanna Cachoian Schanz (Univer-

sity of Pennsylvania). It will also feature a unique Rountable on Minority Cultural Heritage in the Republic of Turkey, moderated by the Vice-President of SAS, Arthur H. Dadian, and Ara Oztemel Chair in Armenian Art and Architectural History, Dr. Christina Maranci, with contributions from: Dr. Güldem Baykal, Dr. Haris Rigas, Dr. Melissa Bilal, Dr. Birgül Açıkyıldız, Dr. Irene Giavashvili, Dr. George Kiraz, and Dr. Angela Anderson. Subsequent volumes will also be curated according to themes, including "Armeno-Futurism" (with guest co-editors Dr. Sylvia Alajaji and Dr. Mashinka Firunts Hakopian) and "An Armenian Premodern," in 2023 and 2024 respectively.

As the foremost scholarly publication dedicated to Armenian Studies in the Western Hemisphere, the *Journal of the Society for Armenian Studies (JSAS)* publishes bi-annually, peer-reviewed scholarship from all disciplinary and comparative perspectives relating to Armenians and the field of Armenian Studies. Thanks to the leadership of SAS President Dr. Bedross Der Mattosian, JSAS Editor-in-Chief Dr. Tamar M. Boyadjian and JSAS Reviews and Reconsiderations Editor Dr. Rachel Goshgarian, it seems clear that the JSAS – the most tangible scholarly product of the SAS – reflects the goals of the SAS in that it is truly committed to fostering new directions in the field, encouraging global, cross-cultural, and interdisciplinary intellectual conversations and to creatively sharing new discoveries.

In addition to the work of Editor-in-Chief Dr. Tamar M. Boyadjian and Reviews and Reconsiderations Editor Dr. Rachel Goshgarian, the Editorial Board of the JSAS is composed of: Sebouh Aslanian, Uni-



**Dr. Rachel Gosgharian**

versity of California, Los Angeles; Stephan Astourian, University of California, Berkeley; Marie-Aude Baronian, Universiteit van Amsterdam; Hourii Berberian, University of California, Irvine; Talar Chahinian, University of California, Irvine; Hratch Tchilin-

giran, University of Oxford; Myrna Douzjian, University of California, Berkeley; Shushan Karapetian, University of Southern California; David Kazanjian, University of Pennsylvania; Lilit Kesishyan, University of Southern California; Tsolin Nalbantian, Universiteit Leiden; Christina Maranci, Tufts University; Elyse Semerdjian, Whitman College; and Heghnar Watenpaugh, University of California, Davis. The Advisory Board is made up of Bedross Der Matossian, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Barlow Der Mugrdchian, California State University, Fresno; Rachel Goshgarian, Lafayette College; Sharon Kinoshita, University of California, Santa Cruz; Sergio La Porta, University of California, Fresno; Jyotsna Singh, Michigan State University; and Alison Vacca, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

### e-SAS (*Entries of the Society for Armenian Studies*)

**e-SAS** (*Entries of the Society for Armenian Studies*) is an open access, peer-reviewed platform for the publication of short, scholarly pieces pertaining to Armenian Studies, launched in 2019. In line with its name, *Entries*, e-SAS aims to provide “entry points”—for both the international academic community, as well as the general public—into Armenian-related topics and issues concerning material and visual culture, politics, history, literature, art, archeology, etc. e-SAS’s Editorial Board is comprised of early-career scholars working in a variety of disciplines. The editor of e-SAS from 2019 through 2021 is Dzovinar Derderian, Ph.D.

In 2021, e-SAS published three new entries. The first two were published in the “Research Guides” section, meant to facilitate finding Armenian-related materials dispersed around the world. Dr. Dzovinar Derderian, the editor of e-SAS, in consultation and with assistance from other members of the Editorial Board, prepared the research guide, “Journals and Dissertations.” One section, “Armenia: Journals and Dissertations,” provides a list of scholarly journals published in Armenia along with their links, as well as links to lists of dissertations produced in Arme-

nia since the 1950s. “Worldwide: Armenian Studies Journals” offers links to Armenian Studies journals currently published outside of Armenia, along with links to the journals’ websites. Dr. Derderian and the Editorial Board also compiled an important second research guide, a bibliography on “Gender, Sexuality, and Women in Armenian Studies.” This impressive resource includes scholarly books, book chapters and articles pertaining to Armenians or Armenia that fall within the field of Gender, Sexuality and Women’s studies in English, Armenian, and other languages including French, Italian, and Turkish. The e-SAS team hopes that this bibliographic list will be of help to both instructors and scholars who work on these topics.



*The front page of the Hunchakian daily Ararat (Beirut) on 24 April 1964, the 59th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide clearly identifying the Armenian irredentist desires: the ‘Wilsonian’ Western Armenia, plus Akhalkalak, Nakhichevan and Mountainous Karabagh (From the entry by Dr. Ara Sanjian)*

The third entry published in 2021 is an excellent and timely look at the Armenian Diasporan Press on Mountainous Karabagh. Dr. Ara Sanjian explores the outlook of the Armenian Diaspora toward Karabagh through relevant publications in “Irredentism at the Crossroads of Nationalism, Communism and Diverging Interpretations of the Soviet Experience:

The Armenian Diasporan Press on Mountainous Karabagh, 1923-1985.” Part of “an ongoing, more extensive research project regarding the Armenian quest for Mountainous Karabagh in the Soviet era,” the article describes “how the fate of Mountainous Karabagh was tackled by the various Armenian Diasporan publications, which represented the different shades of Armenian opinion outside the Soviet Union.” “The period covered in this article extends from the early years of Soviet domination in Transcaucasia, when the region’s political-administrative map was constructed in the early 1920s, to Mikhail Gorbachev’s becoming the new Secretary-General of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee in 1985, which provided Armenians with ample hope that the status of Mountainous Karabagh could be changed as part of the radical economic and political reforms advocated by the new leader in the Kremlin.”

These and other entries can be found at <http://entriessas.com/>. Submission guidelines can also be found on the website.

### SAS Podcast Series is now Available on iTunes, Spotify, and Google play

The Society for Armenian Studies continues its exciting podcast series, interviewing authors of new books and other scholars about their recent work. Look for our podcast on whatever platform you regularly use to listen to podcasts!

#### SAS Podcast #56- Alakananda Nag

Alakananda Nag (Photographer, Filmmaker, Creative Director), *Armenians of Calcutta* (Calcutta: Alakananda Nag, 2021). Interviewed by Nareg Seferian (School of Public and International Affairs, Virginia Tech). [September 26, 2021]

#### SAS Podcast #55- Dr. Ümit Kurt

Dr. Ümit Kurt, *The Armenians of Aintab: The Economics of Genocide in an Ottoman Province* (Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard University Press, 2021). Interviewed by Varak Ketsemanian (Ph.D.

Student, Princeton University). [August 11, 2021]

#### SAS Podcast #54- Dr. Joachim Savelsberg

Prof. Joachim J. Savelsberg, *Knowing about Genocide: Armenian Suffering and Epistemic Struggles* (Oakland, California: University of California Press, 2021). Interviewed by Dr. Asya Darbinyan (Clark University). [July 1, 2021]

#### SAS Podcast #53- Dr. Christopher Sheklian

Dr. Christopher Sheklian (Radboud University), *Themes in Armenian Studies: Armenian Liturgy and the Politics of Belonging in Turkey*. Interviewed by Nora Lessersohn (University College London). [June 5, 2021]

#### SAS Podcast #52- Narek Manukyan

Narek Manukyan (Paradigma Education Foundation), *Guidebook on History Teaching: Why, How?* [In Armenian] (Yerevan: Paradigma Educational Foundation). Interviewed by Varak Ketsemanian (Ph.D. Student, Princeton University). [May 27, 2021]

#### SAS Podcast #51- Dr. David Zakarian

Prof. David Zakarian, *Women, Too, Were Blessed: The Portrayal of Women in Early Christian Armenian Texts*, *Armenian Texts and Studies*, Volume: 4, Brill 2021. Interviewed by Erin Piñon (Ph.D. Student, Princeton University). [May 11, 2021]

#### SAS Podcast #50- Dr. Vahram Shemmassian

Prof. Vahram Shemmassian (California State University, Northridge), *The Armenians of Musa Dagh: From Obscurity to Genocide Resistance and Fame 1840-1915* (Fresno, CA : The Press, California State University, Fresno, 2020). Interviewed by Dr. Bedross Der Matossian (University of Nebraska, Lincoln). [April 21, 2021]

**SAS Podcast #49- Dr. Khatchig Mouradian**

Dr. Khatchig Mouradian (Library of Congress), *The Resistance Network: The Armenian Genocide and Humanitarianism in Ottoman Syria, 1915–1918* (Michigan: Michigan State University Press, 2021).

Interviewed by Dr. Asya Darbinyan (Clark University).

[April 8, 2021]

**SAS Podcast #48- Dr. Haig Utidjian**

Dr. Haig Utidjian (Charles University, Prague), *Tntesean and the Music of the Armenian Hymnal* (Červený Kostelec: Pavel Mervart, 2017).

Interviewed by Dr. Brigitta Davidjants (Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre).

[March 4, 2021]

**SAS Podcast #47- Prof. Khachig Tölölyan**

Prof. Khachig Tölölyan (Wesleyan University), *Reflections on Armenian/Diaspora Studies VI*.

Interviewed by Dr. Vahe Sahakyan (University of Michigan, Dearborn).

[February 9, 2021]

**SAS Podcast #46- Dr. Richard Antaramian**

Dr. Richard Antaramian, *Brokers of Faith, Brokers of Empire: Armenians and the Politics of Reform in the Ottoman Empire* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2020).

Interviewed by Dr. Dzovinar Derderian (American University of Armenia).

[January 20, 2021]

**SOCIETY FOR ARMENIAN STUDIES PODCAST**

On the Society for Armenian Studies (SAS) Podcast Series, we interview authors of recent books in Armenian Studies and related fields in order to disseminate knowledge about the latest research in the field.



**SAS Podcast no. 57 – Vera Sahakyan**  
Nov 2nd, 2021 by armenianstudies

**Vera Sahakyan**, PhD Student and Researcher at Mesrop Mashtots Institute of Ancient Manuscripts-Madenataran, *Մշու Բուսական ցառախի Լապրեանկ գիտելիքը ըստ Մկրտչի Ա. Խրիմյանի կամուրջի մասին ըստ Լապրեանկի* [The Armenian Populated Villages of the District of Bulanik in Mush according to the Letters sent to Catholicos Mgrditch A. Khrimian]. Yerevan: Matenadaran, 2021.

Interviewed by Arpik Sahakyan  
[Released November 2, 2021]

**8,191** Downloads | **57** Episodes

**Society for Armenian Studies Awards Travel/Research Grants to Graduate Students for Spring 2021**

The Society for Armenian Studies (SAS) has selected its awardees for its Graduate Research and Conference Grants Program for M.A. and Ph.D. Students. Established in 2019, the goal of the Grants Program is to provide resources for graduate students to conduct research and present papers at conferences. Grants of up to \$1000 are awarded semi-annually to eligible graduate students. The Spring 2021 group of applicants was chosen by a selection committee composed of members of the SAS Executive Council.

**Victoria Abrahamyan**



Victoria Abrahamyan is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland. Her dissertation entitled “Armenian Refugees: State Formation and Identity Construction in the French Mandatory Syria, 1920-1939” deals with Armenian refugees to analyze state formation processes in Syria. She

argues that Armenian refugees played an important role in the state and nation-building processes that shaped modern-day Syria. Her work is part of a wider research project called BORDER – “Towards a Decentered History of the Middle East: Trans-border Spaces, Circulations, Frontier Effects and State Formation, 1920-1946.” BORDER aims at developing a theoretical reflection on borders and nascent nation-states in the post-Ottoman Middle East from a decentered perspective.

“I am honored to receive the Society for Armenian Studies Fellowship. This award will allow me to attend the upcoming Middle East Studies Association (MESA) Annual Conference in Montreal, to conduct further research and obtain archival materials. Thanks to this valuable support, I shall be able to

finalize my current doctoral research and make my modest contribution to the advancement of the field of Armenian studies.”

### Emre Can Daglioglu

Emre Can Daglioglu is a Ph.D. student in the Department of History at Stanford University. His research examines how capitalism was locally transformed and restructured in the Ottoman Empire after the Public Debt Administration (PDA) became the backbone of state finances in the late 19th century and to examine the role of silk in reshuffling and refiguring local and global financial, socio-political, and environmental networks in the East Mediterranean.



“The generous support of the Society for Armenian Studies will provide me with access to the rich collection housed in the AGBU Nubar Library in Paris. Since the research in this library’s invaluable archives is essential for my dissertation project, this grant makes an invaluable contribution to my academic career. More importantly, I should note that while the pandemic increasingly and severely threatens the already limited availability of funding sources especially in the field of humanities, I cannot exaggerate how valuable the generous SAS support is for graduate students to travel and research.”

### Armen Manuk-Khaloyan



Armen Manuk-Khaloyan is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of History at Georgetown University. His current research is entitled “Druzhiny: Life and

Death on the Russo-Ottoman Front, 1914-1917” which deals with the Armenian volunteer battalions that served in the Russian army during World War I. “I am very grateful to be a recipient of the Society for Armenian Studies Research Grant. With it, I will be able to carry out research at archives and institutions critical to a number of projects I am currently working on. The generosity of the Society continues to ensure the quality and breadth of the scholarship within the field.”

### Bedros Torosian

Bedros Torosian is a Ph.D. student in the Department of History at the University of California, Irvine. His research entitled “A Man at Home is Worth a Thousand Men at Sea: Territoriality, National-



ism, and the Making of Ottoman Armenian Masculinity” deals with masculinization of two imaginary yet intertwined Ottoman and Armenian geobodies on the eve of increased Armenian male emigration from the Ottoman Empire to the United States at the turn of the twentieth century. Relying on previously unexplored Armenian-language newspaper articles and editorials printed on both sides of the Atlantic, the essay examines the symbiotic relationship between territoriality, masculinity, and patriarchal nationalism both before and after the momentous 1908 Young Turk Revolution and until the outbreak of World War I.

“It is a great honor to be a recipient of the SAS Grant that will allow me to attend the MESA Conference in Montreal, Canada in October 2021 and to present my recent paper titled “There is a House, but No Keeper, There is a Land but No Cultivator: Territoriality, Nationalism, and the Making of Ottoman Armenian Masculinity.” I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude for this generous financial assistance that will help support my trip to the conference and therefore expand the reach of my research.”

The next application cycle will have a deadline of September 15, 2021.

The SAS Graduate and Research Grant was made possible through the generous institutional support of the Armenian Studies Program, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor; the Meghrouni Family Presidential Chair in Armenian Studies, University of California, Irvine; the Hovannisian Chair of Modern Armenian History, University of California, Los Angeles; the Arthur H. Dadian and Ara Oztemel Chair of Armenian Art & Architecture, Tufts University; the National Association for Armenian Studies and Research (NAASR); the Armenian Communities Department, Gulbenkian Foundation; the Armenian Studies Program, California State University, Fresno; the Institute of Armenian Studies, University of Southern California; AGBU Nubar Library, Paris; and the Zohrab Information Center.

### **Prof. George Bournoutian Receives Society for Armenian Studies “Lifetime Achievement Award”**

On May 14, 2021, the Society for Armenian Studies (SAS) sponsored a special event in honor of Prof. George Bournoutian, a prominent scholar of Armenian Studies. Only a few months after the event, Prof. Bournoutian passed away on August 22.

Prof. Bournoutian was recognized by the SAS for his outstanding service and contribution to the field of Armenian Studies during his more than forty-year career in the field. Born and raised in Isfahan, Iran, Bournoutian is the author of over thirty books, particularly focusing on Armenian, Iranian, and Caucasian history. His books have been translated into Armenian, Farsi, Turkish, Polish, Japanese, Spanish, and Arabic.

Bournoutian was one of forty editors of the *Encyclopaedia Iranica* as well. He taught Iranian history at UCLA, and Armenian history at Columbia University, Tufts University, New York University, Rutgers University, the University of Connecticut, Ramapo College, and Glendale Community College and Russian and Soviet history at Iona College.



The special event took place via Zoom and featured Prof. Sebouh Aslanian, Richard Hovannisian Endowed Chair in Modern Armenian History and Director of the Armenian Studies Center housed within The Promise Armenian Institute (University of California, Los Angeles), Dr. Asya Darbinyan (Clark University), and Prof. Stephen Badalyan Riegg (Texas A & M University). The scholars spoke about Bournoutian’s contribution to the field of Armenian, Iranian, and Russian studies.

Aslanian discussed Bournoutian’s contribution to the field of early modern Armenian history. He specifically discussed Bournoutian’s most of important translations and commentaries of early Modern Armenian texts and situated these works in the larger context of understanding the early Modern Period. “More than any other scholar in our field, Bournoutian has not only identified the key Armenian-language primary sources of this period but more importantly made them accessible to a larger body of scholars through his reliable and readable English-language translations,” said Aslanian. Darbinyan highlighted Bournoutian’s contribution to the understanding of Transcaucasia from political and socio-economic perspectives. “Prof. Bournoutian’s tremendous body of research allows us to look at the past of the South Caucasus in its intricate details,” stated Darbinyan. “The research opens

a door to understanding Transcaucasia in its past relationships with the local imperial powers, as well as in the larger context of “The Great Game,” and draw some conclusions about the present geopolitical interests of the Western and regional powers.”

Badalyan Riegg spoke about Bournoutian’s contribution to the history of Russian imperialism in the first decades of the 19th century. He discussed the ways in which Bournoutian’s translations of rare primary sources have elucidated various aspects of the Russian administrative, social, political and military machinery in the South Caucasus for scholars. He specifically concentrated on Bournoutian’s latest work *From the Kur to Aras: A Military History of Russia’s Move into the South Caucasus and the First Russo-Iranian War* (2020) which is military history of the Russo-Iranian War between 1801-1813.

“I am extremely honored to receive the SAS “Lifetime Achievement Award,” stated Bournoutian. “Being acknowledged by your peers is the best satisfaction one can hope for. I am also happy to know that our new generation of scholars are better equipped and have already produced significant works. I can sleep well knowing that the torch is in capable hands.”

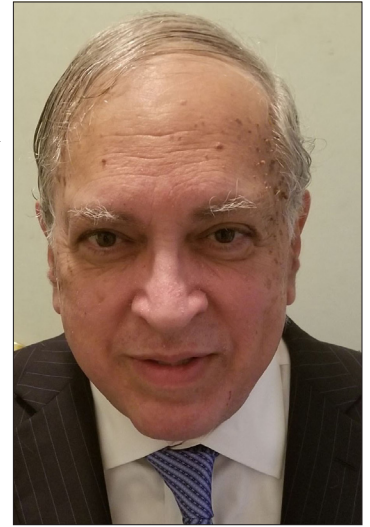
In his concluding remarks, SAS President Prof. Bedross Der Matossian thanked all the attendees who attended, albeit virtually, to honor one of the esteemed scholars of Armenian Studies. He said that the fact that three important scholars spoke about Bournoutian’s contribution to the field is itself a testimony to Bournoutian’s impact on and legacy to the field.

“Bournoutian’s scholarship has always been relevant. However, today it is much more needed as Armenia and Artsakh are facing monumental challenges due to the 2020 War,” stated Der Matossian. “One of these challenges deals with falsification of Artsakh’s history by Azeri scholars. Bournoutian has been on the forefront of combatting this revisionist history which has now entered western academia.”

Prof. George Bournoutian passed away on August 22, 2021. The SAS extends its profound condolences to the family and friends of Prof. Bournoutian.

## Dean Vahan Shahinian Donates \$25,000 to the Society for Armenian Studies (SAS)

The Society for Armenian Studies (SAS) has received a \$25,000 donation from Mr. Dean Vahan Shahinian. The donation will be used to create the position of SAS Executive Secretary. As the activities of the Society have multiplied in the past three years, the Executive Council has decided to establish a part-time position to enhance the efficiency of the Society and its activities, both on the national and international levels.



Dean Shahinian, Esq. worked for the Chairmen of the United States Senate Banking Committee as Senior Counsel and Chief Securities Policy Advisor to staff over one hundred hearings and negotiate and draft numerous bills and laws. He has contributed to the Armenian community by serving on the National Ecclesiastical Assembly (to elect the Catholicos) in 1995 and 1999, on the Diocesan Council and the Diocesan Auditing Committee, on the Boards of St. Nersess Seminary and the Armenian Students Association, by emceeding the annual Alexandria Armenian Festival, by giving talks on Armenian manuscript illuminations, and in many other activities. Shahinian expressed his gratitude to the work done by SAS saying: “We rely on Armenian scholars to learn and to inform others about Armenian culture and history. We appreciate the scholarship of Professors Kevork Bardakjian, Richard Hovannisian, Dickran Kouymjian, Christina Maranci, Bedross Der Matossian, Barlow Der Mugerdechian, Helen Evans, Sylvie Merian, and others and revere the work and enthusiasm of the late Lucy Der Manuelian and George Bournoutian.” He praised the mission of the Society saying “SAS promotes a community for our scholars to enhance the quality and scope of Armenian Studies. I am pleased to contribute towards its mission.”

“We are deeply touched by Mr. Shahinian’s gener-

ous donation,” said SAS President Prof. Bedross Der Matossian. “We are very appreciative of his unconditional support which comes at a time in which SAS is embarking on additional projects and will need a part-time staff person more than ever. I hope other individuals who appreciate the work carried out by the Society will help us financially to implement our various projects. The aim of these projects is to elevate the profile and standards of Armenian Studies throughout the world.

Since 2018, SAS has embarked on major projects which include but are not limited to the SAS Podcast Series which are available on platforms like Apple Podcast, Spotify, and Google Play; SAS Graduate Research and Travel Grants; The Society for Armenian Studies Publication Series published through the Armenian Series of The Press at California State University, Fresno, e-SAS (Entries of the Society for Armenian Studies), and the Journal Society for Armenian Studies (JSAS) published by Brill. Recently the Society began expanding its activities in Armenia and Artsakh by implementing agreements academic institutions in both republics. If you would like to support SAS’s various activities, please contact Bedross Der Matossian @ bdermatossian2@unl.edu.

## Upcoming Opportunities of Interest to Members

An Intermediate Classical Armenian Summer school being offered at the Hill Museum & Manuscript Library in Collegeville, Minnesota in summer 2022, taught by Prof. Abraham Terian and Dr. Jesse Arlen. Apart from travel costs to Minnesota, the course fees as well as room & board, will be fully covered for admitted students, thanks to funding from Dumbarton Oaks.

The course is open to doctoral students and early career scholars from any country and applications are currently being accepted. For more information and to apply, visit: <https://hmml.org/programs/intermediate-armenian/>

## The Armenian Studies Chairs and Programs Corner

### California State University, Fresno:

The Armenian Studies Program held its 33rd Annual Banquet on Sunday, May 2. The Banquet was held virtually and a special video to mark the occasion was prepared. The link is here: <https://bit.ly/armenianstudies33rdbanquet>



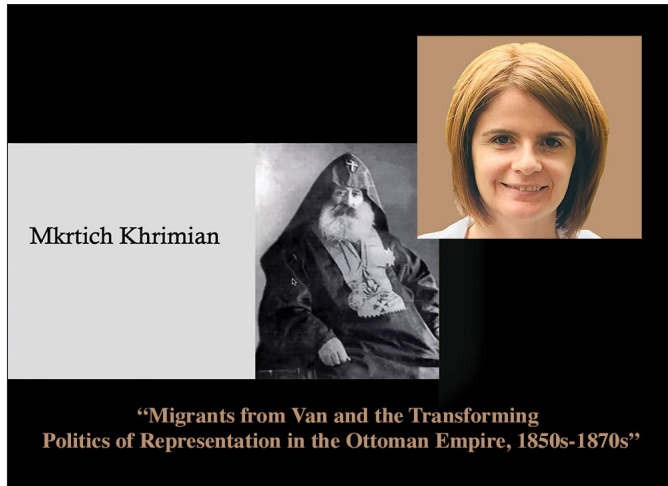
“Fresno State’s Armenian Studies Program has a very special place in my heart. I have always said this—that the Armenian Studies sets the gold standard for the field the world over,” stated Fresno State Interim President Dr. Saúl Jiménez-Sandoval in a video address as part of the Banquet held on Sunday, May 2.

This year’s Banquet featured a virtual program and a drive-through dinner at Ft. Washington Country Club for more than 200 guests. A special video presentation took the place of the usual in-person Banquet program. Prof. Barlow Der Mugardechian hosted the presentation which recognized the lifetime support of the Leon S. Peters Foundation and Dr. Arnold H. and Dianne Gazarian, who have made a significant and long-lasting contribution to the Program and to the University. The Armenian Studies Program expressed its deep appreciation and thanks to the Peters Foundation and to the Gazarians for their years of support.

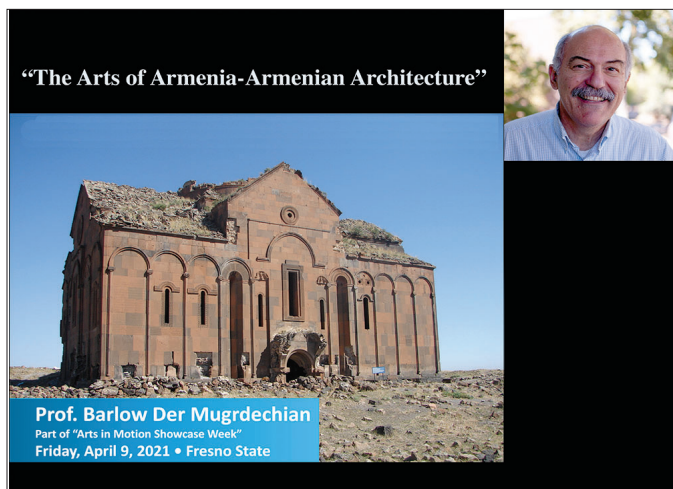
Forty-seven students were awarded more than \$67,000 in scholarship in the 2020-2021 academic year and photos of each of the recipients were shown along with the scholarship fund from which they had been awarded.



**The Armenian Studies Program Spring 2021  
Lecture Series featured the following lectures:**



On Friday, March 19, the Armenian Studies Program and the Society for Armenian Studies (SAS) hosted a Zoom and YouTube lecture, **“Migrants from Van and the Transforming Politics of Representation in the Ottoman Empire, 1850s-1870s”** by Dr. Dzovinar Derderian. Dr. Derderian is currently a professor at the American University of Armenia, a member of the editorial board of *Études arméniennes contemporaines*, and editor of the “Entries of the Society for Armenian Studies” website.

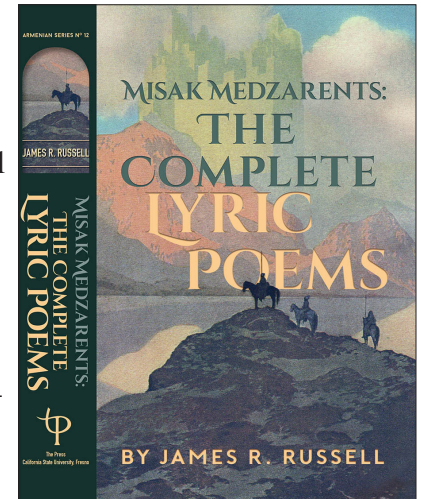


On Friday, April 9, 2021, Prof. Barlow Der Muqrdechian, Berberian Coordinator of the Armenian Studies Program, gave an overview of Armenian church architecture in his presentation, **“The Arts of Armenia-Armenian Architecture.”** This lecture was a part of the Armenian Studies Program Spring 2021 Lecture Series as well as the “Arts in Motion Showcase Week” of the College of Arts and Humanities at Fresno State.

The Armenian Series of the Press at California State University Fresno published the following new books in 2021:

**1) *Misak Medzarents: The Complete Lyric Poems* by James R. Russell**

About the Book: Misak Medzarents, 1886-1908, was the second great lyric poet of the Western Armenian language after Bedros Tourian. During his tragically short life he published several slim volumes of verse. The poems, written in a complex and allusive language that deploys ancient Armenian, local dialect, and the vocabulary of Symbolism combine

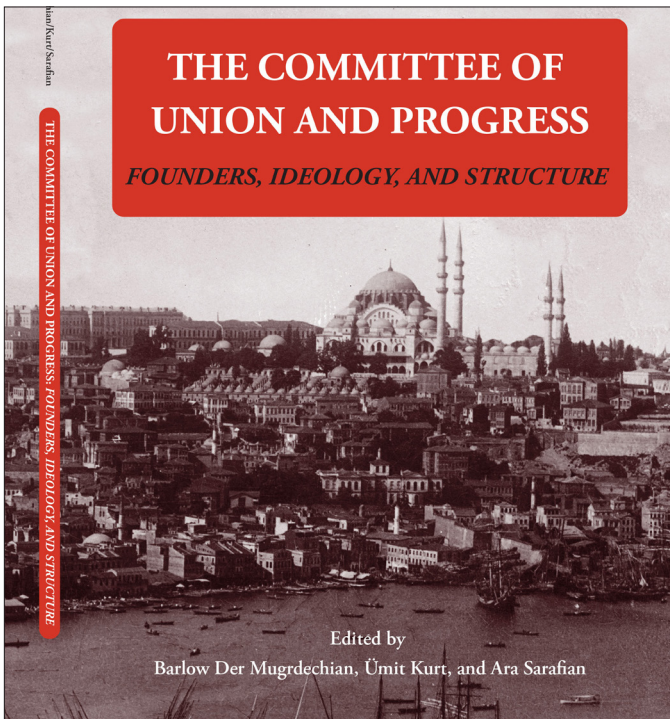


vivid evocations of the traditional rural life of his home village, fabulous nocturnal reveries, cries of loneliness, and celebrations of nature and life. He was a poet native to the realms of joy; though in his final verses, published posthumously, there are hints of a transition to a realistic, urban style and political, revolutionary themes. This is the first complete translation of his works, together with the Armenian text, into any language.

About the author: James R. Russell is Mashtots Professor of Armenian Studies at Harvard University, Emeritus. His books include *Zoroastrianism in Armenia* (1987), *The Heroes of Kasht: An Armenian Epic* (2000), and *Bosphorus Nights: The Complete Lyric Poems of Bedros Tourian* (2005).

*Misak Medzarents: The Complete Lyric Poems*; (9 inches x 6 inches, 594pp. \$40.00 hardcover/\$30.00 paper., ISBN: hard cover, 978-0-912201-71-9; paperback, ISBN: 978-0-912201-72-6). Volume 12 in the Armenian Series of The Press at California State University, Fresno. In English, with translation from the Armenian. Includes a complete critical edition of the Armenian poems.

General Editor of the Armenian Series: Barlow Der Muqrdechian.



## 2) *The Committee of Union and Progress: Founders, Ideology, and Structures*

edited by Barlow Der Mugrdechian, Ümit Kurt, Ara Sarafian

About the book: This collection of articles reflect on Ottoman Armenians and the Turkish nationalist movement of the Committee of Union and Progress before WWI. They provide new, critical insights on the Armenian Genocide of 1915 and the establishment of the Turkish Republic in 1923.

The articles appearing in this volume were first presented at a conference entitled “The Committee of Union and Progress: Founders, Ideology, and Structure” organized by the Armenian Studies Program of California State University, Fresno between October 12–13, 2018. They have since been edited and appear here in a single volume with a new historical introduction and illustrations.

“Introduction,” Ümit Kurt; “The Unionist Regime: Ideology in Command”; Raymond H. Kévorkian, “Ziya Gökalp, Duumvir,” Hans-Lukas Kieser; “When Revolutionaries Must Govern: The Vicissitudes of ARF-CUP Relations,” Dikran Kaligian; “The Post-Revolutionary Period in Aintab and the Curious Case of Necmeddin Bey,” Ümit Kurt; “Homeland and Nation Revisited: A Discourse Analysis of the Memoirs of Young Turks,” Duygu Coşkuntuna.

*The Committee of Union and Progress: Founders, Ideology, and Structure*; (9 inches x 6 inches, 176pp., \$20.00, paper, ISBN: 978-0-912201-73-3). Volume 13 in the Armenian Series of The Press at California State University, Fresno. In English. General Editor of the Armenian Series: Barlow Der Mugrdechian.

## The Armenian Communities Department of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation:

### \$457,000 USD in New Scholarships for Armenian Studies Granted in 2021 by the Armenian Communities Department of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation

The Armenian Communities Department of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation (Portugal) grants over one million dollars per year to Armenian and Armenian Studies university students around the world, including renewals. The largest scholarship category is that of Armenian Studies, with particular emphasis on contemporary issues. 457,000 USD of new scholarships were granted in 2021 to 13 students in Armenian Studies. The largest was 50,000 USD over two years, and the smallest 8,300 USD for one year. Ten of the recipients were women, and three were men. Four were granted for MA degrees, eight for PhDs, and one for a Post-Doc. Countries where the students are studying include UK, USA, France, Ireland, Spain and Netherlands. The broad topics are as follows: five are on contemporary Armenia (include two on gender-related issues), three are on language and education, three are on art, literature and heritage studies, and two are on the contemporary ramifications of the Genocide. Note that Armenian Studies is defined in its broad sense and not confined to area studies.

In addition, 57 smaller scholarships totalling 288.000 USD were given to Armenian undergraduate university students studying various subjects in developing countries or countries in crisis, most notably in Lebanon and neighbouring counties.

Short term Armenian Studies scholarships were also granted, including for the study of Nagorno Karabakh (Artsakh). For more information see <https://gulbenkian.pt/armenian-communities/>

## University of Michigan, Ann Arbor:



### March 2021 **“Recovering an Art: David Ohannessian and the Armenian Ceramics of Jerusalem”**

Sato Moughalian, award-winning flutist and author of *Feast of Ashes: The Life and Art of David Ohannessian* delivered the 2021 Dr. Berj H. Haidostian Annual Distinguished Lecture organized by the Center for Armenian Studies at the University of Michigan. She detailed the lineage of her grandfather David Ohannessian’s ceramic tradition and the critical roles his deportation and his own agency played in its transfer. She talked about the process of coming to terms with her family’s past, the ways in which that served as an impetus to excavate and reconstruct her grandfather’s history through archival research, and the importance of preserving the stories of peoples displaced through migration.

### April 2021 | **“The Problems of Genocide: Permanent Security and the Language of Transgression”**

Dirk Moses, Frank Porter Graham Distinguished Professor of Global Human Rights History, University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill and Geoff Eley, Karl Pohrt Distinguished University Professor of Contemporary History, University of Michigan, discussed “The Problems of Genocide” at the University of Michigan this past April. Genocide is not only a problem of mass death, but also of how, as a relatively new idea and law, it organizes and distorts thinking about civilian destruction. Taking the normative perspective of civilian immunity from military attack, Dr. Moses argued that the implicit

hierarchy of international criminal law, atop which sits genocide as the “crime of crimes,” blinds us to other types of humanly caused civilian death, like bombing cities, and the “collateral damage” of missile and drone strikes. Talk of genocide, then, can function ideologically to detract from systematic violence against civilians perpetrated by governments of all types. This violence is the consequence of “permanent security” imperatives: the striving of states and armed groups seeking to found states, to make themselves invulnerable to threats.



## National Association for Armenian Studies and Research (NAASR):

In the first half of 2021 (January to June), NAASR organized or co-sponsored 25 online programs, partnering with a multitude of organizations including SAS, UCLA Promise Armenian Institute, UCLA Richard Hovannisian Endowed Chair in Modern Armenian History, Columbia University Armenian Center, CSU Fresno Armenian Studies Program, Armenian Institute, London, Gulbenkian Chair in Armenian Studies at Oxford, and numerous Armenian organizations including the Ararat-Eskijian Museum and Armenian Film Foundation. Among these programs were NAASR’s continuing co-sponsorship of the UCLA Graduate Student Colloquium in Armenian Studies and the conference “Armenian through the Ages: Linguistic and Philological Perspectives,” organized by the Faculty of Linguistics, Philology and Phonetics at the University of Oxford, Wolfson College. The NAASR/Gulbenkian Lecture Series on Contemporary Armenian Issues remained active with programs such as “Armenia in 3D: Democracy,

Security, and Sovereignty in an Uncertain World,” with the co-editors of and two contributors to *Armenia’s Velvet Revolution: Authoritarian Decline and Civil Resistance in a Multipolar World* (I.B. Tauris, 2020), Laurence Broers, Anna Ohanyan, Kristin Cavoukian, and Richard Giragosian (co-sponsored by SAS), “‘Getting the Truth Out’: Academia, Activism, and the War on Armenia(ns),” with Bryan Ardouny, Aram Hamparian, Christina Maranci, and Henry Theriault, and “Back to the Ballot Box: The June Elections in Armenia and the Stakes for Statehood,” with Nerses Kopalyan, Harout Manougian, and Anna Ohanyan. A special pleasure was the opportunity to co-sponsor talks by scholars who have received NAASR and/or Knights of Vartan Fund for Armenian Studies grants to support their work, including David Zakarian (“Women, Too, Were Blessed: The Portrayal of Women in Early Christian Armenian Texts”), Ümit Kurt (“The Armenians of Aintab: The Economics of Genocide in an Ottoman Province”), Khatchig Mouradian (“Internment and Destruction: Concentration Camps During the Armenian Genocide”), Sona Tajiryan (“Indian Diamonds for Mediterranean Coral: A Global Armenian Family Firm of Gem Merchants at the Crossroads of Caravan and Maritime Trade (Ca. 1670-1730)”), and Tasha Vorderstrasse, Charissa Johnson, and Polina Kasian (“Antoine Sevruguin: Perspectives on the Armenian-Iranian Photographer”).

## Tufts University:

1. **Connecting Threads/Survivor Objects**, a show of Armenian liturgical textiles at the Tufts Art Gallery, from September to December 2021. This is a show of Armenian textiles from the 18th to early 20thc, and it is based on Dr. Christina Maranci’s Spring Semester course dedicated to the objects.

2. **East of Byzantium**, a program (co-founded by Dr. Christina Maranci with Brandie Ratliff, Jaharis Foundation) for the development of doctoral students working on the Christian East (including Armenia) held graduate student workshops and hosted lectures by Prof. Sergio La Porta and Zsuzsanna Gulacsi.

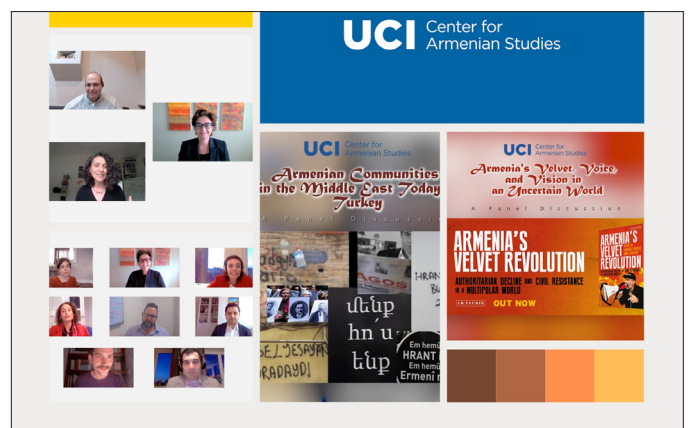
Exhibition Link:

<https://artgalleries.tufts.edu/blog/news/2021/01/30/connecting-threads-survivor-objects/>



## University of California, Irvine:

UCI’s Center for Armenian Studies held two virtual events in Spring 2021. The first was a panel built around **Armenia’s Velvet Revolution: Authoritarian Decline and Civil Resistance in a Multipolar World Order** (I. B. Tauris 2020) featuring Ann Ohanyan (Richard B. Finnegan Distinguished Professor of Political Science and International Relations at Stonehill College), Nerses Kopalyan (Assistant professor-in-residence of Political Science at University of Nevada, Las Vegas), Kevork Oskanian (Lecturer in Political Science and International Studies at University of Birmingham), and Donnacha Ó Beacháin (Professor of Politics in the School of Law and Government at Dublin City University). The panel explored the challenges and opportunities of Armenia’s nascent democracy within a geopolitically reshuffled region – post-war – as well as the politics in Nagorno-Karabakh in a comparative context with other unrecognized states.



The second was the last of a three-part series on **Armenian communities in the Middle East today**. While the first and second sessions focused on Lebanon, Syria, and Iran, the third and last part,

moderated by Tsolin Nalbantian (Assistant Professor of Modern Middle East History at Leiden University) held in April focused on Turkey with presentations by Christopher Sheklian (Post-Doc at the Faculty of Philosophy, Theology and Religious Studies at Radboud University Nijmegen) and Hrag Papazian (Lecturer at the American University of Armenia). While Papazian centered on the diversification of the Armenian community after the 1990s, in particular, migrants from Armenia and Muslim and Alevi Armenian, Sheklian spoke about the traditional Christian Armenian community and the issue of representation. Joining the discussion were panelists James Barry (Research Fellow at the Alfred Deakin Institute, Deakin University), Marisa Della Gatta (Adjunct Professor of Political Science at the University of Bari), Harout Ekmanian (International lawyer and attorney in New York), and Joanne Randa Nucho (Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Pomona College).

### University of California, Los Angeles:

Activities organized or co-sponsored by the *Armenian Studies Center at the Promise Armenian Institute (PAI)*:

Ronald Suny, **“What Does a Small Nation Know? Armenians and the Wages of Nationalism.”** Organized by the UCLA Promise Armenian Institute and co-sponsored by the Richard Hovannisian Chair of Modern Armenian history, (UCLA), and the National Association for Armenian Studies and Research (NAASR), , UCLA Center for Near Eastern Studies.

Melissa Bilal, **“Feminism, Theology, and Liberation in Mari Beylerian’s Writings,”** organized by UCLA Promise Armenian Institute, co-sponsored by UCLA Center for Near Eastern Studies, UCLA Richard Hovannisian Endowed Chair in Modern Armenian History, National Association for Armenian Studies and Research (NAASR), Ararat-Eskijian Museum (AEM).

Khatchig Mouradian, **“Internment and Destruction: Concentration Camps During the Armenian Genocide,”** organized by UCLA Promise Armenian Institute, co-sponsored by the Richard Hovannisian Endowed Chair in Modern Armenian

History, the UCLA Center for Near Eastern Studies, Ararat-Eskijian Museum, NAASR.

Sona Tajiryan, **“Indian Diamonds for Mediterranean Coral: A Global Armenian Family Firm of Gem Merchants at the Crossroads of Caravan and Maritime Trade (Ca. 1670-1730),”** organized by UCLA Promise Armenian Institute and co-sponsored by UCLA Center for Near Eastern Studies, UCLA Richard Hovannisian Endowed Chair in Modern Armenian History, and NAASR.

**“Is the Pen Mightier than the Sword? Historians, Disputed Ownership to History, and Ethnic Conflict in the South Caucasus,”** a zoom conference organized by the Armenia Studies Center at the Promise Armenian Institute (January 29, 2021)

Activities organized or co-sponsored by the *Richard Hovannisian Endowed Chair of Modern Armenian History, UCLA*

Harry Haroutunian, **“The Unspoken as Heritage: The Armenian Genocide and its Unaccounted Lives,”** the inaugural Raymond H. Kévorkian Armenian Genocide commemoration lecture organized by the UCLA Richard G. Hovannisian Chair, co-sponsored by NAASR, UCLA Luskin Center for History and Policy, UCLA Center for Near Eastern Studies, UCLA Promise Armenian Institute.

### Upcoming Events:

Armeno-Indica: Four Centuries of Togetherness and Familiarity, a conference celebrating the bicentenary of the founding of Kolkata’s famed Armenian College, one of three centers of Armenian higher learning in the diaspora in the nineteenth century and the only one that has survived and is thriving today. March 18 and 19 Organized by the Richard Hovannisian Endowed Chair in Modern Armenian History and co-sponsored by the Fowler Museum (UCLA)

## SAS Member News and Publications

**Aftandilian, Gregory** (*American University*) has been promoted to full-time faculty member and senior professorial lecturer at American University in Washington, D.C. where he teaches courses on US foreign policy and Middle East politics. He is also the faculty advisor to university's Armenian Student Club.

**Al-Rustom, Hakem** (*Alex Manoogian Professor of Modern Armenian History, University of Michigan*) published "Internal Orientalism and the Nation-State Order: Turkey, Armenians, and the Writing of History," in *A Review of International English Literature* 51(4): 1–31, and the book chapter "Returning to the Question of Europe: From the Standpoint of the Defeated" in *The Arab and Jewish Questions* (Columbia UP, 2020). Al-Rustom convenes the Global Theories of Critique, a new initiative that co-organized the workshop "The Afterlives of Western Armenia" with the Center for Armenian Studies at Michigan in 2020.

**Andrews, Tara L.** (*University of Vienna, Austria*) was awarded a grant from the European Research Council for the project RELEVEN, which will run until 2026. The aim of the project is to use novel methods for representing historical information digitally, in order to gain a better perspective on eleventh-century eastern Christendom. Recent publications include 'The Letters of Ioannes Tzimiskes in the Chronicle of Matt'eos Urhayec'i', which was published in *Armenia between Byzantium and the Orient*, the memorial volume for Karen Yuzbashyan (Leiden: Brill, 2020); 'Black Boxes and True Color: A Rhetoric of Scholarly Code', together with Joris van Zundert and Smiljana Antonijevic in *Digital Technology and the Practices of Humanities Research* (Cambridge: Open Book Publishers, 2020), edited by Jennifer Edmond; and 'Edessa in Armenian Sources', appearing in *From Edessa to Urfa: The Fortification of the Citadel* (Oxford: Archaeopress, 2021), edited by Cristina Tonghini.

**Arlen, Jesse** (*Zohrab Information Center; Fordham University*) earned his Ph.D. in Near Eastern Languages & Cultures at UCLA, with a dissertation enti-

tled "A Window into the Tenth Century: The Life and Literary Works of Anania of Narek." For academic year 2021–2022, he was appointed the inaugural Postdoctoral Research Fellow in Armenian Christian Studies and Director of the Krikor and Clara Zohrab Information Center, a newly arranged joint appointment between the Eastern Diocese of the Armenian Church of America and Fordham University.

**Bertram, Carel** (*San Francisco State University*) has a forthcoming book, *A House in the Homeland, Armenian Pilgrimages to Places of Ancestral Memory*, in press with Stanford University Press. Publication is synchronized with the April, 2022 Armenian Genocide Commemoration. *A House in the Homeland* follows children and grandchildren of survivors of the Armenian Genocide of 1915 who have felt compelled to travel back to ancestral towns and villages once in Ottoman Armenia, today in the Republic of Turkey. Hoping to satisfy spiritual yearnings, this new generation called themselves pilgrims--and their journeys, pilgrimages. As an exploration of the powerful links between memory and place, house and homeland, rupture and continuity, these Armenian stories reflect the resilience of diaspora in the face of the savage reaches of trauma, separation, and exile in ways that each of us, whatever our history, can recognize.

**Boulgourdjian, Nélide Elena** (*University of Tres de Febrero, in Doctoral Studies and University of Buenos Aires, Chair of Armenian Studies*) wrote the Introduction to the book: *Haigaz. la historia de mi vida*, published by María Soledad Bagdasarian, Buenos Aires, Prosa y Poesía American Editores, 2021. The title of the article is "Haigaz Bagdassarian: Odisea de vida de un sobreviviente del Genocidio armenio." She was selected to direct two Biannual Research Projects at the University of Tres de Febrero: 1.- La inmigración armenia y ucraniana post soviética en la Argentina: trayectorias y memoria histórica and 2.- Empresarios textiles armenios y judíos durante la primera y segunda presidencia de Perón.

**Calzolari, Valentina** (*University of Geneva*) received a Visiting Professorship by the Leverhulme Trust (UK) at the University of Oxford (January-July 2021). She gave a reading seminar and four Leverhulme Lectures on *The Reception of Neoplatonism in Armenia*. She was a member of the Scientific commit-

tee of the 14th General Conference of the Association Internationale des Etudes Arméniennes (AIEA), organized by the University of Halle, on September 2-4, 2021. During the General Meeting of the Association, she has been reelected President of the AIEA. Her article, “Krikor Beledian et l’Écriture de la Catastrophe”, appeared in A. Donabedian, S. Dvovyan, V. Kurshudyan (eds.), *Krikor Beledian et la littérature arménienne contemporaine*, Paris, 2021, 95-118.

**Cox, Claude** (*McMaster Divinity College*) published “2.10 Editions of the Armenian Version,” in *Textual History of the Bible. Vol. 3. A Companion to Textual Criticism*. Eds. Russell E. Fuller and Armin Lange. Volume 3B Modern Editions of the Text of the Bible in Hebrew and the Ancient Versions (Fifteenth Century to the Present). Ed. Richard D. Weis. Preview published, fall 2020 and “The Septuagint and the Secondary Versions,” in *T&T Clark Handbook of Septuagint Research* (eds. William A. Ross and W. Edward Glenny; T&T Handbooks; New York: Bloomsbury, 2021), 175–191. It focuses on the Armenian version.

**Chorbajian, Levon** (*Professor Emeritus, Department of Sociology, University of Massachusetts, Lowell*) published “Getting Away with Murder (Almost): A Genocide Primer” in Levon Chorbajian, ed., *Power and Inequality: Critical Readings for a New Era*. New York: Routledge, 2021, pp. 287-299.

**Dadoyan, Seta B.** (*Independent scholar*) published her magnum opus titled *Islam in Armenian Literary Culture. Texts, Contexts, Dynamics* (Louvain: Peeters, 2021). It is the sixth in a series in Islamic-Armenian interactive history (since 1991). An article by her (in Armenian) about this volume appeared in the *Hairenik Armenian Weekly*, titled “Armenian Studies as Near/Middle Eastern Studies” - *Islam in Armenian Literary Culture. Texts, Contexts*, (Aug. 11, 2021). She read a paper titled “In Quest of Historical Geoglyphs: Islam in Armenian Literary Culture. Texts, Contexts, Dynamics, at the 15th General Conference of the Association Internationale des Études Arméniennes (AIEA), Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg 2-4 September 2021. She was invited to talk at the *Aztag Lsaran Lecture Series* (in Armenian, Sep. 30, 2021). The title was “For a Near/Middle Eastern, Contemporary and Relevant Armenian Studies - Islam in Armenian Literary Culture.”

**Geracoulis, Mischa** serves on the advisory board for the new Censored Press, the publishing arm of Project Censored, and is contributing editor to The Markaz Review, an international platform for creative inquiry, criticism, performance and dialogue that explores the arts, humanities and current affairs of the MENA, and includes Armenia. Mischa published a book review of Maria Armoudian’s *Lawyers Beyond Borders, Advancing International Human Rights Through Local Laws and Courts* (2021) at The Markaz Review, available here:

<https://themarkaz.org/gitmo-and-abu-ghraib-infamous-symbols-of-us-human-rights-violations/> She also conducted an interview with Maria Armoudian, available here:

<https://themarkaz.org/interview-maria-armoudian-on-lawyers-without-borders/>

**Grigoryan Savary, Gohar** (*Université de Fribourg, Switzerland*) currently conducts a postdoctoral research project on royal images of Cilician Armenia, funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation (2017-2022). In the framework of that project, on November 23-24, 2020 she co-organised a two-day international workshop-conference entitled *Staging the Ruler’s Body in Medieval Cultures: A Comparative Perspective*, which brought together established scholars and graduate students who currently work on various aspects of representation strategies of medieval kingships. Grigoryan’s recent publications include: “Armenian Colophons on the Takeover of Sis (1375)”, *Revue des Études Arméniennes* 40 (2021). “Au sujet de l’authenticité des deux feuillets d’un manuscrit «cilicien»”, *Revue des Études Arméniennes* 40 (2021). “Mariun: An Exiled Queen’s Pilgrimage and Death in Jerusalem,” *Al-‘Usur al-Wusta: The Journal of Middle East Medievalists* 29 (2021). “Two Armenian Manuscripts in Switzerland (with an annotated translation of a newly-found abridgment of the Commentary of Canon Tables attributed to Step‘anos Siwnec‘i)”, *Le Muséon* 133/1-2 (2020): 87-139. “Medieval Contexts and Modern Realities of a Genocide-Survivor Artwork: A Review Article of H. Watenpaugh’s *The Missing Pages*”, *Journal of the Society for Armenian Studies* 27/1 (2020): 117-130.

**Mamigonian, Marc A.** (*Director of Academic Affairs, NAASR*) Recent publications: Marc A. Mami-

gonian, “The War on Lemkin: A New Aspect of Armenian Genocide Denial,” *Armenian Review* 57.1-2 (Fall-Winter 2020), 37-57; Michael Bobelian and Marc A. Mamigonian, “Review Essay: Laura Robson, ‘Memorialization and Assimilation: Genocide Memorials in North America,’” *Journal of the Society for Armenian Studies* 27.2 (2020), 281-85.

**Maranci, Christina** (*Tufts University*) taught a Spring Seminar that provided the basis for the exhibition at Tufts Art Gallery, “Connecting Threads/Survivor Objects.” The show of Armenian liturgical textiles runs from September to December 2021. She published the following articles: “Josef Strzygowski (1862-1941).” in *The New Late Antiquity: Intellectual Portraits*, edited by Clifford Ando and Marco Formisano (Heidelberg: Winter Verlag, 2021); “Six Christian Sites Armenia Fears it has Lost to Azerbaijan,” *Christianity Today*, January 5, 2021; “The Mother and Child Khachkar of Handaberd (Nagorno-Karabagh),” *hyperallergic.com*, February 29, 2021. <https://hyperallergic.com/614598/an-unusual-mother-and-child-sculpture-in-handaberd/>; and “New Evidence of Armenian Wall Paintings: The Tomb of Tigran Honents’, the Church of Surb Grigor Abułamrenc’, and the Church of Surb Geworg of the Monastery of Hořomos,” *AIEA Newsletter*, 2021. She gave many invited lectures and paper presentations, including, most recently, “‘The Bagratid Image: Painting, Worship, and Holiness in 10th-11thc Armenia,’” *Rewriting Global Orthodoxy “Oriental Orthodox Visual Cultures in Europe”*, 7-9 October 2021, Radboud University, Nijmegen, the Netherlands; “Josef Strzygowski and Armenian Architecture,” *Wiener Kunstgeschichte in Armenien, Vorträge am Institut für Kunstgeschichte der Universität Wien*, October, 2021;

“Armenian heritage of the Kars/Ani region: What Lessons Have We Learned?,” *International Conference on Religious Freedom, Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin*, September 8-11, 2021, Republic of Armenia; “Wall Painting in Armenia: New Discoveries, Techniques, and Questions,” *Keynote, Association Internationale des études arméniennes, Halle*, September 3, 2021.

**Mirak-Weissbach, Muriel** (*Independent Author and Correspondent, Armenian Mirror-Spectator*) has published a biography of German General Liman von Sanders, Commander of the 5th Ottoman Army

in the Dardanelles and Gallipoli. The title is *Retter oder Täter? Ein General zwischen Staatsräson und Moral: Otto Liman von Sanders und der Völkermord an den Armeniern*, Donat Verlag: Bremen, 2021. Based largely on sources from World War I archives in England, Denmark and Germany, it documents Liman’s interventions to stop or prevent deportations of Armenians and Greeks during the Genocide and details the Kafkaesque story about his unlawful imprisonment on Malta in 1919. The book includes epilogues by Helmut Donat and Tessa Hofmann as well as 16 pages of photographs, many of them never before published.

**Moughalian, Sato** (*Author and MA student, CUNY Graduate Center*) published a book review of Heghnar Zeitlian Watenpaugh’s *The Missing Pages: The Modern Life of a Medieval Manuscript from Genocide to Justice* in the *International Journal of Armenian Genocide Studies*: Volume 5, No. 1 (2021): 102-106. She presented “How Art Survives: David Ohannessian and the Armenian Ceramics of Jerusalem,” for Duke University Center for International & Global Studies, January 22, 2021; the Dr. Berj H. Haidostian Annual Distinguished Lecture, “Recovering an Art: David Ohannessian and the Armenian Ceramics of Jerusalem,” on March 24, 2021, for the University of Michigan Center for Armenian Studies; and “David Ohannessian and the Armenian Ceramics of Jerusalem: The Tiled Niche of the Palestine Archaeological (Rockefeller) Museum (1931-34)” at the conference *Ceramics from Islamic Lands*, Victoria and Albert Museum, July, 2021, and participated in “Responses to Modernity: the 20th and 21st Centuries,” a panel moderated by Venetia Porter, British Museum.

**Ohanyan, Anna** (*Stonehill College*) published the following two journal articles: Anna Ohanyan. 2021. “Fracture and Its Intractability in World Politics: The Case of the Late Ottoman Empire” *Nationalities Papers*, pp. 1-22; Anna Ohanyan, with Nerses Kopalyan. “How to Train Your Dragon: Armenia’s Velvet Revolution in an Authoritarian Orbit” *Communist and Post-Communist Studies Journal*. She has a forthcoming book in 2022 to be published by Stanford University Press, *The Neighborhood Effect: The Imperial Roots of Regional Fracture in Eurasia*.



**Peroomian, Rubina** (*Independent Scholar and Author*) participated in the following conferences: IAGS, “Genocide and its Prevention in the Digital Age: 21st Century Challenges,” July 19-23, 2021, paper presented: “Survivor Memoirs – A Multifaceted Source, A Less-employed Field of Inquiry for Genocide Studies”; Association Internationale des Etudes Armenienne, September 2-4, 2021, paper presented, “Stalin’s Reign of Terror in Armenia, Genocide? Survivors’ Memoirs as Testimony”; Hamazkayin of Armenia and the Yerevan State University, “Hakob Karapents,” September 23, 2021, paper presented, «Մեծ ոստանների թոհուրոհի մեջ բռնուած յաւիտենական արքարականը» [The eternal exile caught in the chaos of the New World]; Layers of Diasporic Belonging: (Re)Evaluating Armenianness in Historical, Contemporary, and Comparative Perspectives Workshop October 1-2 in preparation of the upcoming volume of the same title, paper presented “Armenian-American or American with Armenian Roots? The Post-Genocide Conditions and Circumstances in America and the Dynamics of Identity.” She published «Հայոց Յեղասպանութեան գրականութեան սեւագոյն էջերը Արամ Անտոնեանի մօտ» [The darkest pages of Armenian Genocide literature in Aram Antonian’s writings] in Horizon Weekly Literary Journal, April 21, 2021 and «Աստուած պապա, դուն մեզ պահէ մեր պահուրտած տեղը թուրքերը թող չգտնեն, սեւիպաթէն ազատէ մեզ, ամէն» [Dear God, You protect us, lest the Turks find our hiding place. Save us from Sevkiat, Amen!] in the volume housing the proceedings of an international conference dedicated to Mushegh Ishkhan (Yerevan: a publication of Hamazkayin and Yerevan State University, 2021), pp, 222-235.

**Riegg, Stephen Badalyan** (*Texas A&M University*). Stephen Badalyan Riegg’s book, *Russia’s Entangled Embrace: The Tsarist Empire and the Armenians, 1801-1914* (Cornell University Press, 2020) won the “Best Book Award” from *Ab Imperio Quarterly*. The award is given for “for the best study in new imperial history and the history of diversity in Northern Eurasia, up to the late twentieth century.”

**Selverian, Katrina** (*Fordham University*) recently defended her dissertation on the topic of intergenerational trauma, related to the Armenian Genocide. Selverian completed the study under the supervision

and mentorship of Dr. Joseph G. Ponterotto and with invaluable contributions from her committee members, Dr. Harold Takooshian and Dr. Fran C. Blumberg. Her study, “Legacy of the Armenian Genocide: The Power of Attachment and Ethnic Orientation on Intergenerational Trauma” was presented at the American Psychological Association (APA) 2021 Convention in August 2021. If you are interested in a copy of the poster presentation, please email selverian@fordham.edu.

**Siekierski, Konrad** (*King’s College London*) published the following papers: “Scripts, Saints, and Scientists: The Social Life of Gospel Books in an Armenian Museum,” *Journal of Orthodox Christian Studies*, 4 (1), 2021: 93-114; “Gospel Books as Sacred Objects: The Veneration of Religious Manuscripts in Armenian Christianity,” B. Kovács, V. Tachjian (eds.) *Inspiration of God: The One-and-a-Half Millenia of the Armenian Bible and Religious Practice*, Leipziger Universitätsverlag, 2020, pp. 68-75; “Kissing the Book, Making a Vow: An Illustrated Story of an Armenian Religious Practice,” *Folklife*, 2020, April 13, <https://folklife.si.edu/magazine/illustrated-story-of-armenian-religious-practice>; Book Review: “Sacred Places, Emerging Spaces: Religious Pluralism in the Post-Soviet Caucasus” by T. Darieva, F. Muhlfried, K. Tuite (eds.), *Canadian Slavonic Papers*, 62 (2), 2020: 222-223; Book Review: “The Missing Pages: The Modern Life of a Medieval Manuscript, from Genocide to Justice” by Heghnar Zeitlian Watenpaugh, *Journal of Medieval Worlds*, 1 (4), 2019: 65-67. He was granted the 2021-2022 Dissertation Completion Fellowship in Orthodox Christian Studies offered by the Orthodox Christian Studies Center at the Fordham University, New York.

**Suciyan, Talin** (*University of Munich, LMU*) had a German translation of her book *Armenierinnen und Armenier in der Türkei: Postgenozidale Gesellschaft, Politik und Geschichte*, transl. by Jörg Heinemann and Sibel Türker published by De Gruyter in August 2021. Her article, “Contesting the authority of Armenian administration at the hight of Tanzimat: A Case of Incest, Adultery and Abortion” in *Reflektif*, (Feb. 2021) can be found <https://dergi.bilgi.edu.tr/index.php/reflektif> A book chapter, “A History of Armenians Remaining in Turkey: Survival and Denial” in *Collective and State Violence in Turkey* ed. by Stephan Astourian and Raymond Kevorkian

published in association with Zoryan Institute by Berghahn Books, 2021. She held an online workshop in May 2021, entitled “People and Places: Unreading Armenian names in Ottoman documents” at LMU Annual Workshop. Two forthcoming book chapters are as follows: “An Armenian woman’s appeal to divorce: Kesedji Harutiwn’s testified impotence” in *Gender in Research and Politics: Developments, Intersections and Perspectives*. Ed. By Sybille Lustenberger, Siran Hovannisyanyan, Andrea Boscoboinik, Gohar Shahnazaryan. Series: Freiburg Studies in Social Anthropology. Münster: Lit Verlag, September 2021 and “Can the Survivor Speak”, in *Remembering the Great War in the Middle East* ed. by Hans Lukas Kieser, Pearl Nunn, Thomas Schutz. London: Bloomsbury, October 2021.

**Vidal-Gorène, Chahan** (*École Nationale des Chartes-PSL, Calfa*) presented four papers about Armenian computational paleography, and about Handwritten Text Recognition related subjects (for Armenian, including comparison with state-of-the-art systems for Latin and non-Latin scripts) at the International Conference on Document Analysis and Recognition (ICDAR 2021), published in Conferences proceedings (Springer Lecture Notes in Computer Science book series). He is involved, within the scope of Calfa, in several projects of digitization of Armenian newspapers, digital catalogs and automatic analysis of Armenian and Oriental manuscripts. Results were presented to the AIEA General conference in September 2021 as well as to the NewsEye international conference organized by the Bibliothèque Nationale de France in March 2021 (available on Youtube). He has presented with Bastien Kindt (Institut Orientaliste de Louvain, GREgORI) a new pipeline for digital corpus creation for Armenian, during the conference « Armenian through the Ages: Linguistic and Philological Perspectives » in January 2021 (Oxford, available on Youtube). He published the following pieces: Chahan Vidal-Gorène, Aliénor Decours-Perez, «A Computational Approach of Armenian Paleography». In Barney Smith E.H., Pal U. (eds) *Document Analysis and Recognition – ICDAR 2021 Workshops. ICDAR 2021. Lecture Notes in Computer Science*, vol 12917, Springer, Cham, 2021, p. 295-305; Chahan Vidal-Gorène, Boris Dupin, Aliénor Decours-Perez, and Thomas Riccioli, «A Modular and Automated Annotation Platform for

Handwritings: Evaluation on Under-Resourced Languages». In Lladós J., Lopresti D., Uchida S. (eds) *Document Analysis and Recognition – ICDAR 2021. ICDAR 2021. Lecture Notes in Computer Science*, vol 12823, Springer, Cham, 2021, p. 507-522; Chahan Vidal-Gorène, Aliénor Decours-Perez, Baptiste Queuche, Agnès Ouzounian, and Thomas Riccioli, «Digitalization and Enrichment of the Nor Baġirk’ Haykazeanyan Lezui: Work in Progress for Armenian Lexicography». In *Journal of the Society of Armenian Studies*, 27/2, Brill, 2021, p. 224-244.

## Journal of the Society for Armenian Studies

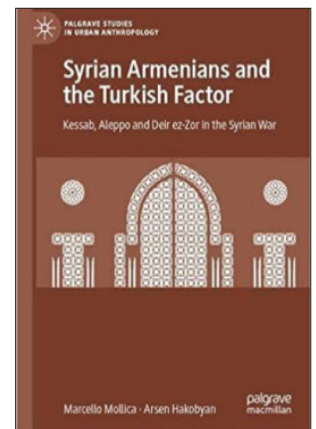
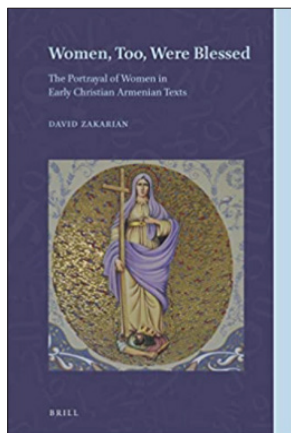
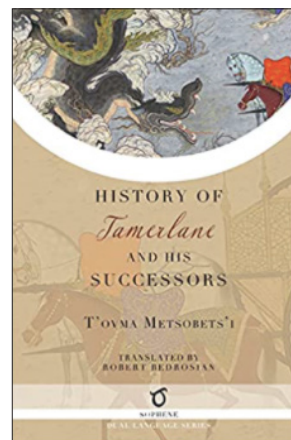
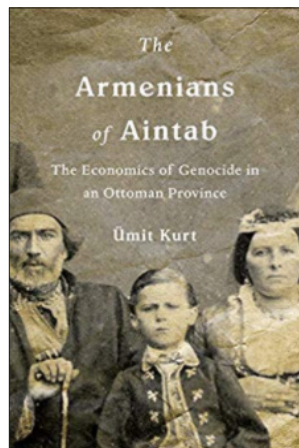
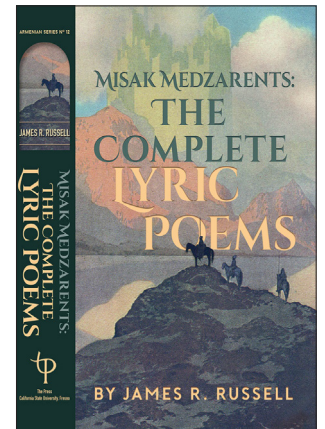
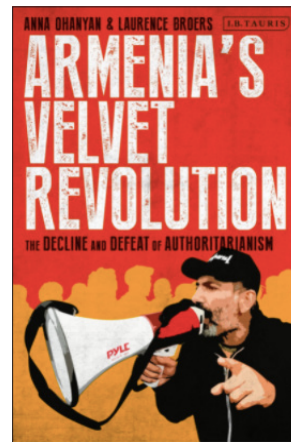
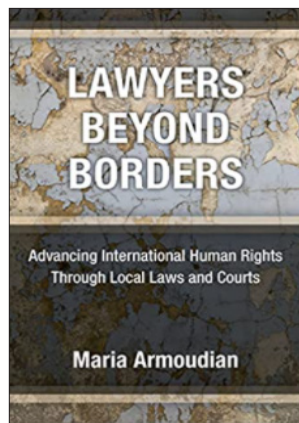
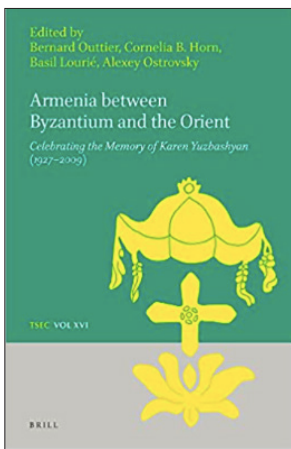
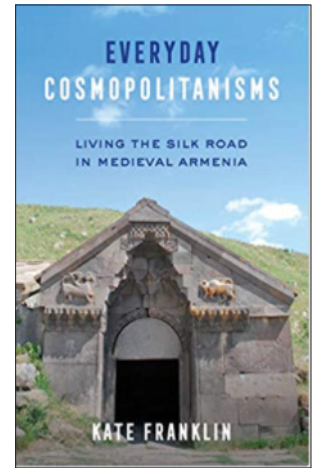
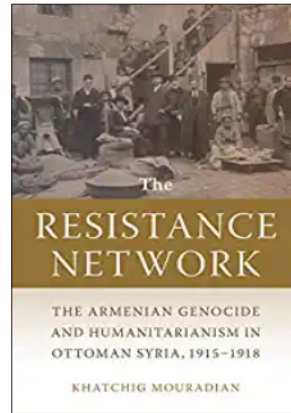
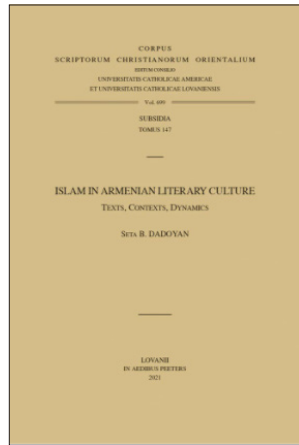
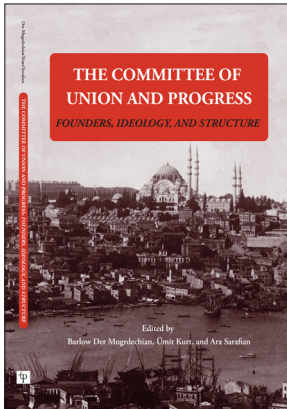
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