

Kesab Attacked by Both Turkish-Supported Rebels and Syrian Regime



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Sargsyan, Putin discuss Crimea, Karabakh

President Serzh Sargsyan had a phone conversation with his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin.

The parties discussed issues related to the bilateral Armenian-Russian relations, as well as the questions on the regional and international agenda. They referred to the work done towards Armenia's accession to the Customs Union.

The Presidents exchanged views on the Ukrainian crisis and the avenues of overcoming it. In this context the interlocutors have referred to the situation established after the referendum in Crimea and have

stressed that it is yet another example of realization of the peoples' right to self-determination through the free expression of will. At the same time they stressed the importance of commitment to the norms and principles of international law, primarily the UN Charter.

The Presidents discussed the process of settlement of the Karabakh conflict and the steps taken in that direction. President Sargsyan hailed Russia's activity as a Minsk group co-chairing country and emphasized the importance of the Co-Chairs' joint efforts targeted at the peaceful settlement of



the conflict.

Serzh Sargsyan reiterated Armenia's willingness to continue to work jointly with the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs to reach a solution.

U.S. disappointed with Armenia's Crimea stance



John Heffern, the U.S. Ambassador to Armenia, on March 20 voiced Washington's disappointment with the Armenian government's decision to effectively recognize Russia's annexation of Crimea strongly condemned by the West.

Heffern described as "very unfortunate"

President Serzh Sargsyan's statement to that effect made during a phone conversation with Russian President Vladimir Putin.

The envoy reiterated the official U.S. line that the weekend referendum in which residents of Crimea voted for becoming part of Russia was illegal. "There are many things [the Russians] could have done short of what they did," he said at an international conference on regional security held in Yerevan.

Serzh Sargsyan was quoted by his press office as telling Putin that the vote engineered by Moscow was "yet another example of the realization of peoples' right to self-determination." Official Yerevan had until then avoided taking sides in the broader crisis in Ukraine that has brought about Russia's most serious standoff with the West

since the end of the Cold War.

Heffern did not say whether Sargsyan's move will seriously harm U.S.-Armenian relations. The U.S. administration has imposed asset freezes and visa bans on some Russian officials involved in the seizure of Crimea and is considering slapping more serious sanctions on Russia.

Serzh Sargsyan has enjoyed the U.S. support throughout his six-year presidency not least because of his foreign policy initiatives, notably an attempted rapprochement with Turkey. He faced no public criticism from the U.S. officials even after unexpectedly deciding last year to make Armenia part of a Russian-led union of ex-Soviet states at the expense of an Association Agreement with the European Union.

President Sargsyan meets Minsk Group Co-Chairs, Dutch PM

On a visit to the Netherlands, Armenian President Serzh Sargsyan had a meeting with the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs Igor Popov (Russia), James Warlick (USA) and Jacques Faure (France) and the Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairman-in-Office Andrzej Kasprzyk. The parties discussed the current state of the process of peaceful settlement of the Karabakh issue and the future steps.

The same day Serzh Sargsyan met with Mark Rutte, the Dutch Prime Minister. The President has thanked Mr. Rutte for the invitation to participate in The Hague Summit, noting that it's a proper occasion to discuss the agenda of Armenian-Dutch relations and reinforcement of bilateral ties.

President Sargsyan has underlined that Armenia attaches importance to the continuous development of friendly relations with the Netherlands and expansion of cooperation in the political, economic, cultural, scientific and other spheres.

The interlocutors have agreed there are good perspectives for the development of cooperation in the fields of information technologies, agriculture, pharmaceuticals, road construction and others.

Speaking about the Armenia-EU relations, Serzh Sargsyan stressed the importance of maintaining and developing the current level of the Armenia-EU cooperation, in compliance with the joint statement adopted within the framework of the Vilnius Summit and the letter exchanged between the Armenian Foreign Minister and the EU High Representative. The President has said Armenia anticipates the support of the Netherlands on that path.

The parties exchanged views on regional issues and challenges, as well. President Sargsyan briefed the Dutch Prime Minister on the current stage of settlement of the Karabakh conflict.

As part of the working visit, Serzh Sargsyan had a meeting with representatives



of the Armenian community of the Netherlands. The President referred to the Armenia-Diaspora relations, Armenia's foreign and domestic policy, social-economic issues, the current state of Armenian-Dutch ties, the perspectives of the development of the political dialogue.

On March 25 and 26 the Armenian President's participated in the Nuclear Security Summit in The Hague..

Serzh Sargsyan: Deportation of Kessab Armenians a challenge to mechanisms of protection of national minorities

Armenian President Serzh Sargsyan made a statement for the press on Kessab events. Speaking in The Hague on the sidelines of the World Nuclear Summit, President Sargsyan expressed deep concern over the events around Kessab. "All of us remember the history of Kessab very well. Unfortunately, in the course of the past centuries it has been rich in hellish realities of deportation of Armenians," Serzh Sargsyan said.

The President reminded that Kessab faced the first serious assault back in 1909, when the Turkish armed detachments entered the city. Armenians found refuge in the Karadouran Mountains and the seashore. After robbing and putting the city on fire, the Turks moved to Karadouran to rob and set ablaze the houses of the upper district. In a French vessel the Armenians moved to Latakia. After spending a year in Latakia, the refugees returned to Kessab and reconstructed their houses.

Touching upon the historic events, Serzh Sargsyan recalled another date in history - the year 1915, when the population of Kessab did not stay apart from the Armenian Genocide. The Armenians of Kessab were deported in two directions - to Deir ez-Zor and Jordan. Thousands of them died, most of them in the deserts of Deir ez-Zor.

"Today's deportation of Kessab Armenians - the third in history - is a most serious challenge to the mechanisms of the 21st century targeted at the protection of national minorities. I think everyone



should realize that these parallels should be sobering for all parties," President Serzh Sargsyan said.

The President thanked the Syrian authorities for the steps taken to protect the Kessab Armenians in these times of hardship.

"I have already instructed Armenian representations at the UN Offices in New York and Geneva to pursue the issues of guaranteeing the security of Kessab Armenians and their return to their homes at structures specialized on issues of human rights and national minorities," President Sargsyan said.

The President has discussed the issue with his Holiness Aram I, the Catholicos of the Great House of Cilicia.

According to President Sargsyan, the Armenian Embassy in Syria is working on assistance programs for Kessab Armenians.

Serzh Sargsyan Appeals to 'Brotherly' Ukraine

Serzh Sargsyan appealed to Ukrainians and described them as "brothers" of Armenia on March 21 as he sought to minimize the fallout from his controversial decision to welcome Crimea's secession from Ukraine.

However, Serzh Sargsyan stopped short of publicly explaining the implications and rationale of his move criticized by the United States.

"For centuries, we fought shoulder to shoulder against aggressors. We have thousands of glorious pages of common history. This has been the case and this will be the case," he said in a speech during an awards ceremony held at the presidential residence in Yerevan.

"It happens so that in the heat of time and events, different phenomena are perceived in different ways," continued Sargsyan. "But the great thing about time is that over time things clear up, misunderstandings and disagreements disappear and everything returns to normal. I want to repeat that the Ukrainians are our brothers."

Serzh Sargsyan spoke after handing out annual Armenian presidential awards to dozens of artists, writers and scientists. Among them was supposed to be Olena Fetisova, the Ukrainian scriptwriter, producer and co-director of a new feature film about the late Sergey Parajanov, a renowned Soviet filmmaker of Armenian descent.



Fetisova decided at the last minute not to accept the award carrying a monetary prize of 5 million drams (\$12,000) in protest against Serzh Sargsyan's decision to accept the outcome of an internationally condemned referendum in Crimea that was followed by the region's annexation by Russia. "I would like to kindly ask you to convey my part of the remuneration of the State Prize of Armenia to the Armenian orphans," she said in an open letter to Serzh Sargsyan. "I am sure that Sergey Parajanov would do

the same."

Fetisova defended the snub in a phone interview with RFE/RL's Armenian service (Azatutyun.am), saying that Sargsyan's stance amounts to an endorsement of Russian "aggression" against her country. "He backed the legitimacy of an illegal and thoroughly rigged referendum," she said.

"I simply could not have come to Yerevan and thereby welcomed a situation in which my homeland is in danger and Armenia's leadership unfortunately does not stand by my country," added the Ukrainian filmmaker.

"I will pass the state award on to her through her colleagues and, in accordance with her wish, we will use its financial component for benevolent purposes," Serzh Sargsyan said at the ceremony. "I understand Ms. Fetisova's motives but want to appeal to the distinguished lady and the Ukrainian people by saying that we are brotherly peoples."

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Diplomatic means not exhausted, Ukraine's Ambassador says



"Ukraine does not recognize the Crimean referendum and its results, as it contradicts the Constitution of Ukraine," Ukraine's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Armenia Ivan Kukhta told reporters on March 20.

The Ambassador has said Ukraine is a peaceful country and does not plan military operations against Crimea, and is ready to sit at the negotiating table not only with Crimea, but also the Russian

Federation and international organizations to discuss expansion of powers of the Autonomous Republic, as well as the rights of Russians in Ukraine. "I think the diplomatic means have not been exhausted," he said.

As for Ukraine's decision to quit the CIS, the Ambassador said "The Foreign Ministers of the CIS countries are so busy they haven't found time to gather and discuss the situation in Ukraine. No one needs an organization which only gathers people around tea or coffee."

He has said Ukraine considers the possibility of visa regime with Russian Federation, whereas the current visa free regime between Armenia and Ukraine will more likely be maintained.

The Ambassador refrained from commenting on Armenia's response to the Ukrainian developments. He said, however, that "Armenia-Ukraine relations are on a high level and will continue to progress: there are more than 70 documents regulating the relations between the two countries."

As for Ukraine's position on the Nagorno-Karabakh issue, Ambassador Kukhta said "Ukraine supports the approaches of OSCE Minsk Group."

Artsakh's past, present and future after Crimea events

"Close to the 100th anniversary of the World War I the world powers are trying to restore the Russian-Turkish and Crimean Wars through different processes, First Human Rights Defender Larisa Alaverdyan told reporterson March 19. According to her, fatal events for small nations always take place against the background of complex geopolitical developments, as it was the case with Crimea.

Having paid several visits to Crimea, Larisa Alaverdyan has not seen anything Ukrainian there except for a few posters. "Crimea has always wanted to reunite with Russia," she said, adding, however, that comparing Artsakh to Crimea would be incorrect.

"Since 1988 Artsakh has managed to move along the path it had chosen in the beginning. Artsakh is a rather vivid example of the actions that are legal from the very beginning up until today," Larisa Alaverdyan said.

Why didn't Artsakh react to the independence of Kosovo, while expressed a clear position n case of Crimea? "Artsakh could not be glad for what happened in Kosovo. As for Crimea, it is conceived as part of Russia. Therefore, Artsakh treats this as restoration of historic justice," she added.

Ex-Foreign Minister, MP Alexander Arzumanyan says "the condition of the Armenian authorities is not enviable, as they will face open pressures on the part of Russia, as it was with the case of Abkhazia and South Ossetia."

Alexander Arzumanyan welcomes the reaction of the NKR authorities to the referendum in Crimea, supporting the right to self-determination and hoping for a peaceful settlement. The ex-Foreign Minister does not rule out there might be people in Armenia or Karabakh requesting unification with Russia like Transnistria, and this is the most dangerous.

"For 70 people in Nagorno Karaabakh was fighting to get rid of Azerbaijani yoke, but before that it had struggled against Russian oppression in the course of 150 years," he said.

According to Arzumanyan, it is the duty of every force and every citizen concerned with the fate of Armenia to do its best for the sovereignty of Nagorno Karabakh to be sustained.

"If the Customs Union is a good thing, and if Russia is concerned about Armenia, let it recognize Karabakh's independence for the latter to join the Customs Union as an independent state together with Belarus and Kazakhstan.

Arzumanyan is hopeful that the Armenian authorities will be strong enough to explain to our strategic partners that it stems from Armenia's interests to maintain relations with both Russia and Ukraine.



Call for Action: Hovannisian wants "format of four" for oppositional force



Heritage party leader Raffi Hovannisian is inviting political and civil forces to a rally scheduled for March 28 at Liberty Square, which he has termed as 'public pre-rally', believing it would set in motion a new process.

Hovannisian, who finished second to President Serzh Sargsyan in last year's presidential ballot, told the press on Friday that the struggle has to be continuous and added that "we are all ready for a sacrifice, but are not ready to become 'donkey martyrs' in vain, with no definite results".

"If there is no move in April, we will have great difficulty in turning people's current willingness [to go for a change] into a political act," says Hovannisian, adding that the rally of the four non-establishment political forces has not happened so far, and should it take place, it would allow them to overcome the disagreements and finally speak about the 'format of the four'.

Speaking about the closed meeting between the alternative Prosperous Armenia Party leader Gagik Tsarukyan and himself, Hovannisian says the meeting revealed many differences, but also many common grounds, and the parties agreed to continue the communication in that format.

"The Heritage party and I believe that by changing a prime minister or any other official we would not shift the situation in

the country. However, we do not object to that initiative, nonetheless believing that it is a semi-measure and the main emphasis has to be impeachment," he says.

Hovannisian, who was present also at a March 1 opposition rally, said in reference to first president Levon Ter-Petrosyan's speech that although he shares Ter-Petrosyan's opinions on many issues, he disagrees with his claim that the Customs Union membership is a done fact that cannot be reversed.

"The top is flawed: the entire leadership has to be changed, starting with Mr. Serzh Sargsyan. I want a meeting of the four (opposition parties) during which I will submit a plan for radical power turnover with a definite timeline. Nothing is irreversible, because the direction Armenia has taken up till now will lead not only to an economic decline, but also loss of sovereignty and independence," he says.

As for the telephone conversation between presidents Sargsyan and Russia's Vladimir Putin during which the parties discussed a number of issues related to the Armenian-Russian bilateral relations as well as issues currently on the international and regional agenda, then reflected on the work carried out since the decision to join the Customs Union to make it happen, Hovannisian says it is premature and is not in Armenia's interest.

Armenian Catholic Church in Aleppo Bombed

ALEPPO—Beginning at 4:30 p.m. local time on March 25, rockets rained on the Nor Kyugh region of Aleppo damaging the Holy Trinity, also known as Zvartnots, Armenian Catholic Church, destroying its dome.

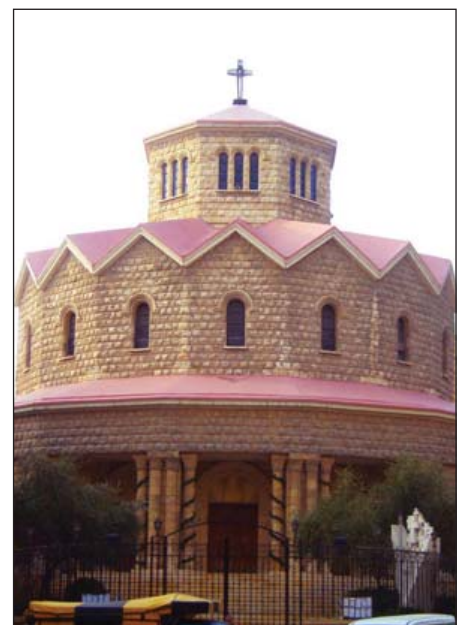
The attacks also caused damage to residential buildings and homes around the church.

A young man and woman, a mother and a child were injured. No fatalities have been confirmed.

One of the rockets fell on a house owned by an Armenia family, causing a massive fire. Armenian volunteer units rushed to scene and tried containing the fire, before fire fighters arrived.

This latest round of attacks has caused considerable damage, not to mention the toll it has taken on the residents' psychological condition.

This attack came days after armed gunmen with links to Al-Qaeda stormed the Armenian-populated town of Kessab from the Turkish border, forcing the evacuation of more than 600 families to nearby Latakia.



'Magnificent Four': Quartet of non-governing forces agrees on no-confidence motion against government

By Suranuysh Gevorgyan

The four minority factions in the National Assembly of Armenia, which are currently making attempts of consolidation, after long discussions have finally come to the consensus that they will introduce the motion of no-confidence in the government into the parliament agenda on April 28.

Representatives of the four parties, namely Prosperous Armenia (PAP), Dashnaksutyun, Heritage and the Armenian National Congress (ANC), believe that by changing the Cabinet it will become possible to set the start of a peaceful change of power. Although the PAP and Dashnaksutyun, unlike the ANC and Heritage, do not raise the issue of President Serzh Sargsyan's resignation, all the four forces think the change of the prime minister will be a good stepping stone for expecting positive developments in the country. Opposition parties even hope that some lawmakers affiliated with the ruling party can also join their initiative.

This decision by the four parties was preceded by political consultations initiated by PAP leader Gagik Tsarukyan. ANC leader Levon Ter-Petrosyan also spoke about the need for consolidation among the opposition and non-governing forces that he called "Magnificent Four". He said that it was these four forces that should draft a roadmap for a peaceful change of power, in fact admitting that the ANC could not do that alone.

ANC faction leader Levon Zurabyan stated that on April 28 they will offer an alternative to the 'Republican Quagmire' - a comprehensive socio-economic program.

The RPA and its junior coalition partner Orinats Yerkir enjoy an absolute majority in the National Assembly, therefore, if the no-confidence motion reaches the floor, it is clear that the vote will go in

favor of the government. Moreover, even if the change of the prime minister or the government occurs, only the ruling party will again be in the position to endorse the next prime minister.

But Zurabyan said that before introducing the motion in parliament they would work on it through various public events, in particular, through "popular mobilization". At the same time, the ANC's representative said that they would by no means get involved in the RPA government.

"The government will retreat only if the people take to the streets. They know it too well that what happened, for example, to [Ukraine's ousted president Viktor] Yanukovich, could also happen to them," said Zurabyan.

Different RPA representatives have positively assessed the cooperation among opposition and non-governing parties, stressing all along, however, that they are satisfied with the work done by the prime minister and are not going to change him or the government.

After Thursday's weekly meeting of the RPA executive body, party spokesman and Deputy Speaker of Parliament Eduard Sharmazanov said that they were not worried about the intended minority move against the government.

Repeating his favorite saying that "the politics is the art of the possible", Sharmazanov stressed that the minority simply cannot appoint or change the government.

Head of the RPA faction Galust Sahakyan also spoke about the initiative of the four non-governing parties with irony. "They don't even want separate posts. They tell us to go and want to come instead. They say they should be at least president or prime minister and manage everything. And it happens only in kindergarten games," he said.

M. Sargsyan: Self-determination growing into a powerful factor in the world



The values and principles that do not meet the expectations simply change. Deputy Director of the Armenian Center for National and International Studies Manvel Sargsyan told reporters on March 24 at Noyan Tapan.

The collapse of the Soviet Union marked the start of such changes, which continue up until now. Russia took Crimea without a single shot, and this means completely new methods are working, he said.

According to Sargsyan, the talks about a new cold war following the Crimea events are senseless, since it's impossible to understand the current developments in the world following the logic of the cold war.

"This is a period of changes accompanied by war. If there are no large-scale military actions, it does not mean there is no war. Change is war," he said.

Manvel Sargsyan noted that self-determination is growing into a powerful factor in the world, which the Russian President has "made a flag, although the thesis is dangerous for Russia itself."

The analyst said his impression is that it's the West destroying Ukraine by the hands of Russia. He said it's hard to understand today who is doing what.

Sargsyan said every case of self-determination is unique. He added that the referendums and self-determination of Karabakh, Kosovo and Crimea are different.



U.S. Government transfers disaster package to the Ministry of Emergency Situations of Armenia

On March 21 the U.S. Government transferred a Disaster Package designed to respond to natural and man-made disasters to the Ministry of Emergency Situations. The allocation is administered by Counterpart International, and the ceremony took place at the Ministry of Emergency Situations (MES) of Armenia. John A Heffern, U.S. Ambassador to Armenia, Jerry Oberndorfer, Director of Humanitarian Programs, Office of the Coordination of U.S. Assistance to Europe and Eurasia, and Armen Yeritsyan, Minister of Emergency Situations of Armenia, participated in the

ceremony.

The Disaster Packages consist of sleeping bags, bedding, footwear, medical supplies, equipment and outfitting, field supplies valued at approximately \$520 thousand.

Counterpart's Community and Humanitarian Assistance Program (CHAP) has been funded by the U.S. Department of State since 2001. CHAP is a rapid response humanitarian distribution program that addresses critical needs of vulnerable population. Through the program, Counterpart International provides target groups with in-

kind assistance such as clothing, bedding, footwear, hospital equipment, furniture, supplies, school furniture, hygiene and school kits, etc.. From conducting needs assessments to monitoring end-use, Counterpart acquires, stages, transports, receives, distributes and accounts for the use of donated items.

Since 2001, the Counterpart CHAP/ Armenia office has imported and distributed over \$30 million worth of humanitarian assistance to more than 2 million vulnerable Armenians through its network of about 500 partner organizations.

Pension Protest: Thousands in Yerevan stage demo against unpopular reform



Several thousand people rallied in Yerevan's Liberty Square and then marched through the Armenian capital's central streets on March 22 in a show of protest against the mandatory nature of some of the provisions of a new pension law that are being disputed at the Constitutional Court.

These provisions, in particular, stipulate that all workers in Armenia born after 1973 must pay five to ten percent of their salaries to privately owned pension funds in addition to other social security payments made by their employers.

Members of the civil initiative called Dem.Am (I'm Against) insist that the mandatory component of the reform violates the country's basic law and is, therefore, unacceptable. The pressure group expects the Constitutional Court, which is due to start considering the case on March 28, to rule against the law.

Representatives of all four non-governing parties which had filed a joint lawsuit against the pension law addressed the rally. Among them were Vahan Babayan of the Prosperous Armenia Party, Raffi Hovannisian, of Heritage, Artsvik Minasyan, of the Armenian Revolutionary Federation (Dashnaktsutyun), as well as members of the Armenian National Congress's parliamentary faction Nikol Pashinyan and Hrant Bagratyan. All of them, while trying to emphasize that they were in the square as citizens to speak against the pension reform, also leveled harsh criticism at the government over failed policies in different spheres.

In his speech, Pashinyan, in particular, focused on President Serzh Sargsyan's admission that 80 percent of Armenia's population was against the pension reform, stressing that it showed that a "privileged" minority dictates its will to the majority in Armenia. And Bagratyan described it as a Guinness world record that in Armenia under the new pension law citizens would be "lending" money for more than 40 years.

Heritage party leader Raffi Hovannisian, meanwhile, urged Demam activists to regroup into a broader movement for the future of Armenia regardless of the outcome of the Court proceedings in the case in question.

Earlier this week, Prime Minister Tigran Sargsyan voiced readiness of the government to start negotiations with the activists who oppose the law. Demam members said while they were ready for dialogue in principle, they would not compromise on their demand for the mandatory component of the law to be removed.

One of Demam leaders David Manukyan warned that if the Constitutional Court endorsed the law as constitutional it would itself become responsible for the consequences. Another leading member of the group Gevorg Gorgisyan said that those opposed to the law could resort to civil disobedience, including such non-standard methods of showing their civil protest as refusing to pay utility bills or cashing out all bank accounts at once.

The rally ended in a rap song against the unpopular reform and a march towards Republic Square and back.





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PREMISES

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- ♦2155. **Mashtots ave.**, 3storied building, 540sq.m., each floor-180sq.m., window glasses, parking. Price: 3.600.000 USD
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- ♦2167. **Sayat Nova str.**, newly built, 38sq.m., capitally repaired. Price: 200.000 USD

LANDS

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- ♦2121. **Demirchyan str.**, 1338 sq.m., building permits. Price: 2million USD.
- ♦2013. **Cascade**. 1000 sq.m. building permits, first line, gas, water and electricity possibilities. Price 460.000 USD
- ♦1402. **Hr. Kochar Str.**, 1100 sq. m., facade - 25 m. Price negotiable.
- ♦2090. **Lori region**, close to Stepanavan, Gyargyar village, 6 hectares, forest 2 hectare has building permits, 3 water source, electricity. Price: 100.000 USD.
- ♦2406. **Avan**, Mher Mkrtchyan block, 1000 sq.m., electricity, gas, water, the district is inhabited. Price: 30 USD per sq.m
- ♦2310. **Monument, Babayan str.**, 1000 sq. m, facade-25m, privatized, Price: 350 USD negotiable
- ♦2107. **Monument**, 2400sq.m, building permits, building project. Price: 400 USD per sq.m.
- ♦2413. **Ashtarak roadway**, 1000sq.m, building permits, building project. Price: Negotiable
- ♦2414. **Demirchyan str.** land-750sq.m., building permits. Price: 750.000 USD.

PRIVATE HOUSES

- ♦3348. **Blur, Barbyus str.** Land - 800 sq.m, 3 storied bld.-700 sq.m, 4bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capitally repaired, climate control. Price: 1.2 million USD
- ♦3146. **Aygestan**, Land-500 sq.m., 5 storied bld-765 sq.m., each floor-180 sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, study, capitally repaired, heating system, elevator. Price: 2.300.000 USD.
- ♦3583. **Nork-Marash**, Land-1100sq.m, 2 storied bld-520sq.m, 6 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, swimming pool, garden. Price: 1.350.000 USD.
- ♦3432. **Aygedzor**, Land - 1021 sq m, 3 storied bld.- 501 sq.m., 5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms,

- study, capitally repaired, central heating, AC, boiler room garden, swimming pool, sauna, garage, security system. Price: 1.000.000 USD
- ♦3576. **Avan**, Tsarav Akhbyur /near Botanical garden/, Land-560sq.m., 4 storied building-560sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 4bathrooms, a kitchen, office, capitally repaired, heating system, swimming pool, garden, 2 car parking. Price: 850.000 USD
- ♦3606. **Avan**, Tsarav Akhbyur/near Botanical garden/, Land-1000sq.m., 3 storied building-750sq.m., 6 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, capitally repaired, heating system



- swimming pool, garden, sauna, 2 car parking. Price-1.500.000 USD
- ♦3574. **Blur**, Land-779sq.m., 2 storied building-720sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, study, capitally repaired, heating system, sauna swimming pool, garden. Price: 2.000.000 USD
- ♦3590. **Blur, Barbyus str.**, Land-450 sq.m., 4 storied building-470sq.m., 3bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, garden. Price: 680.000 USD
- ♦3651. **Blur, Barbyus str.**, Land-900sq.m., 5 storied building-800sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, garden. Price: 1.700.000 USD.

NEWLY BUILT RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS

- ♦74. **Cascade**, Verin Antarayin. 136-315 sq m., walls plastered, electricity, water, gas, euro windows, no exploitation fees. Price: 1200 USD per sq.m, parking -15.000 USD.
- ♦107. **Monument**, Verin Antarayin. inhabited, 8 floors, gas, windows, street view -1000 USD per sq.m., city looking -1500 USD per sq.m., parking - 4 million USD preliminary.
- ♦87. **Sayat-Nova str.**, 21 floors, 3 bedrooms - 188 sq.m., 199 sq.m., Price 1900 USD per sq.m., 2 bedrooms have a beautiful sight - 117 sq.m., 120 sq.m., 124 sq.m., Price: 1700 USD per sq.m., climate control, gas.
- ♦93. **Kievan str.**, Given to the operation in October 2011, 16 floors, walls plastered, windows, exterior doors, h -3, 15 m, gas, parking. Price: 1500-1600 USD per sq.m., parking-12 000 USD. Possible with mortgage, for 13 years term.
- ♦94. **Masiv**. 3floors, 8 flats, each flat has 3 bedrooms, 210 sq.m., parking. Price: negotiable.
- ♦130. **Antarayin str.**, 34 flats, 110-275 sq.m., 4 penthouses-200-275sq.m, available services-car wash, cleaning service, garbage removal service, parking. Price: Negotiable
- ♦131. **Busand str.**, commercial, office and residential areas, penthouse, available services-car wash, cleaning service, garbage removal service, parking. Price: Negotiable



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1 ROOM

- ♦2037. **Baghramyan str.**, 5/2, 60sqm, 1 bedroom, euro repaired, gas, heating system, AC, modern furnished, equipped. Price: negotiable
- ♦2189. **Vardanants str.**, Newly built, 24/12, 90 sqm, 1 bedroom, capially repaired, furnished, equipped. Price: 1000 USD.
- ♦2099. **Sayat-Nova Ave.**, 12/6, 1 bedroom, capially repaired, gas, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped. Price: 600 USD.
- ♦1972. **Northern ave.**, 8/4, 80sq.m., 1 bedroom, 2 bathrooms, open kitchen, capially repaired, climate control. Price: 1200 USD
- ♦2171. **Tumanyan str.**, Newly built, 5th floor, 94 sq.m., 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, capially repaired, central heating, furnished, equipped. Price: 1000 USD
- ♦2367. **Northern ave.**, Newly built, 9th floor, 98 sq.m., capially repaired, heating system, furnished equipped. Price: Negotiable.

2 ROOMS

- ♦942. **Teryan str.** 4/3, 130 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, capially repaired, heating system, furnisred, equipped. Price: 1500 USD.
- ♦1950. **Buzand/Mashtots area.** Newly built, 8th floor, 163 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, climate control, furnished, open balcony. Price: 2500 USD.
- ♦1681. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 6/2, 130 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, parking. Price: 2000 USD.
- ♦1535. **Busand str.**, Newly built, 7/4, 82sq.m., 2 bedrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, parking, furnished, equipped. Price: Negotiable.
- ♦2089. **Northern ave.**, Newly built, 8/6, 120sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, climate control, furnished, equipped. Price: 2500 USD

- ♦1738. **Amiryan str.**, 8/8, 159sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, parking. Price: Negotiable
- ♦1951. **Busand str.**, Newly built, 13th floor, 122sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, climate control. Price: 2500 USD
- ♦1406. **Sayat Nova ave.**, 7/3, 110sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped. Price: Negotiable
- ♦2187. **Northern ave.**, Newly built, 9/5, 120 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capially repaired, firmished, equipped. Price: 2.200 USD
- ♦2109. **Northern ave.**, Newly built, 10/4, 137sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, central heating, furnished, equipped, parking. Price: 2000 USD.

3 ROOMS AND MORE

- ♦2021. **Teryan Str.**, Newly built, 9/8,9, 245 sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, furnished. Preliminary price: 3500 USD.
- ♦2005. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 8/8, 130 sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, furnished, parking. Price: 2200 USD.
- ♦1723. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 8/4., 170 sq.m 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, open kitchen, capially repaired, furnished, equipped. Price:

2000 USD.

- ♦1981. **Vardanants Str.**, Newly built, 14/14, 140 sq m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, 3 open balconies, furnished, equipped, parking. Price: 2000 USD.
- ♦1793. **Teryan str.**, Newly built, 8th floor, 260 sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, study, capially repaired, climat control, parking, unfurnished (possible to furnish), Price: 3500 USD.
- ♦1720. **Amiryan str.**, Newly built, 16/10, 179 sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, central heating, AC, cellar- 25sq.m, with or without furniture, parking, Price 3000 USD negotiable
- ♦2249. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built, 9/7, 186sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, one of which in bedroom, open balcony, capially repaired, climat control, furnished, equipped., parking. Price: 3500 USD negotiable.
- ♦2195. **Northern ave.**, Newly built, 3rd floor, 300sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, capially repaired, climate control, AC, parking. Price: 5000 USD
- ♦2084. **Tumanyan str.**, 4th floor, 200sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, climate control, parking. Price: 5000 USD
- ♦2252. **Northern ave.**, 7th floor, 350 sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, study, open balconies, capially repaired, climate control, parking. Price Negotiable.

PRIVATE HOUSES

- ♦1191. **Aygestan**, Land-400 sqm, 2 storied bld.- 270 sqm, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathroom, study, capially repaired, partly furnished, garden, swimming pool, garage. Starting Price: 3500 USD.
- ♦1248. **Aygedzor**, Land - 1021 sq m , 3 storied bld. - 501 sq.m., 5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, study, capially repaired, central heating, AC, sauna, boiler room garden, swimming pool, garage, alarming system, security system.



Price: 8000 USD.

- ♦999. **Aygedzor**, Land -1000 sqm, basement + 2 floors- 310 sqm, capially repaired, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, newly furnished, equipped, sauna, swimming-pool. Starting Price: 5000 USD.
- ♦1094. **Noy block**, Land-450sqm, 2 storied building - 220sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped, swimming pool, garden. Price: 2000USD.
- ♦1195. **Nork, Armenakyan str.**, Land - 2000 sq.m, 4 storied bld.-520 sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 4bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, sauna, gym, furnished, swimming-pool, garden. Price: 4.000 USD negotiable.

- ♦1142. **Djrvej**, Bagrevand community. Land-1000 sq.m., 3 storied bld.-700 sq.m., 5 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, pantry, playing room, capially repaired, no furniture/ can be furnished, if necessary /garage for 2 cars. Price: 4 000 USD.

- ♦1293. **Nork-Marash**, Land-1100sq.m, 2 storied bld-520 sq.m, 6 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, swimming pool, garden. Price: 7.000 USD

- ♦327. **Nork-Marash**, Land-500sq.m., 4 storied building-600 sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped, swimming pool, garden, sauna, 2 car parking. Price-4000 USD

- ♦1306. **Tsarav Akhbyur** /near Botanical garden/, Land-1000sq.m., 3 storied building-750sq.m., 6 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, capially repaired, heating system swimming pool, garden, sauna, 2 car parking, with or without furniture. Price: 6000-8000 USD negotiable

- ♦1288. **Tsarav Akhbyur** /near Botanical garden/, Land-560sq.m., 4 storied building-560 sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 4bathrooms, a kitchen, office, capially repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped, swimming pool, garden, 2 car parking. Price: 5000 USD

- ♦1197. **Blur**, Land-779sq.m., 2 storied building-720sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, study, capially repaired, heating system, sauna swimming pool, garden. Price: 8000 USD

- ♦1312. **Blur, Barbyus str.**, Land-450sq.m., 4 storied building-470sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, garden. Price: Negotiable

- ♦1317. **Blur, Barbyus str.**, Land-900sq.m., 5 storied building-800sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capially repaired, heating system, AC, garden. Price: Negotiable.

PREMISES

- ♦1693. **Malatia-Sebastia** 4 storied building, 1200sq.m, each floor-300sq.m, 2 separate entrances, climate control, 2 elevators, basement, parking. Price: 15USD per sq.m.

- ♦1526. **Byuzand str.**, 5/semi-basement, 170 sqm., 4-5 degrees below zero level, window glasses, cellar - 50 sq.m., 6 rooms, the largest is 30 sq.m., 2 entrances, 2 lavatories. Price 2000 USD per month, negotiable.

- ♦1408. **Zarobyan str.**, /parallel to Baghramyan str./, 2 storied building, 600 sqm. ground floor- hall and kitchen, 1st floor 5 rooms, bathroom, open balcony, capially repaired, gas, heating system, parking. Price: Negotiable.

- ♦1462. **Teryan str.**, 3 storied building, 800 sq.m., capially repaired, AC, parking, Price: 10.000 USD.

- ♦1945. **Mashtots Ave.**, 5/1,2, 140sq.m., window glasses, capially repaired, AC. Price: 8000 USD

- ♦1943. **Tumanyan str.**, Ground floor of the building, 265sq.m., 1st line, capially repaired, heating system, cellar. Price: 7000 USD

- ♦1868. **Tumanyan str.**, Ground floor of the building, 220sq.m., 1st line, facade-55m., capially repaired, h-5m., cellar. Price: 15.000 USD.

- ♦2087. **Northern ave.**, Ground floor of the building, 100sq.m, 1st line, zero level, capially repaired, window glasses. Price: Negotiable.

Reports Cite 80 dead in Kessab; Churches desecrated



KESSAB, Syria-The Armenian populated villages of Kessab, Syria were the target of three days of brutal cross-border attacks from Turkey by al-Qaeda affiliated armed bands, which have cost 80 lives and forced the civilian population of the area to flee to neighboring hills, with many seeking safe-haven in the nearby cities of Latakia and Basit.

In a written statement, the Armenian National Committee-International, condemned the attacks and Turkey's active role in aiding and abetting extremist groups in their targeted attacks against the Christian and minority populations in Syria. "For months, we have warned the international community of the imminent threat posed by extremist foreign fighters against the Christian minority population in Syria," noted the ANC-I statement. "These vicious and unprompted attacks against the Armenian-populated town and villages of Kessab are the latest examples of this violence, actively encouraged by neighboring Turkey. We call upon all states with any influence in the Syrian conflict to use all available means to stop these attacks against the peaceful civilian population of Kessab, to allow them to return to their homes in safety and security. In the last one hundred years, this is the third time that the Armenians are being forced to leave Kessab and in all three cases, Turkey is the aggressor or on the side of the aggressors."

According to news reports, the armed incursion began on Friday, March 21, 2014, at 5:45a.m., with rebels associated with Al-Qaeda's al-Nusra Front, Sham al-Islam and Ansar al-Sham crossing the Turkish border and attacking the Armenian civilian population of Kessab. The attackers immediately seized two guard posts overlooking Kessab, including a strategic hill known as Observatory 45 and later took over the border crossing point with Turkey. Snipers targeted the civilian population and launched mortar attacks on the town and the surrounding

villages.

According to eyewitness accounts, the attackers crossed the Turkish border with Syria openly passing through Turkish military barracks. According to Turkish media reports, the attackers carried their injured back to Turkey for treatment in the town of Yayladagi.

Some 670 Armenian families, the majority of the population of Kessab, were evacuated by the local Armenian community leadership to safer areas in neighboring Basit and Latakia. Ten to fifteen families with relations too elderly to move were either unable to leave or chose to stay in their homes.

On Saturday, March 22, Syrian troops launched a counteroffensive in an attempt to regain the border crossing point, eyewitnesses and state media reported. However, on Sunday, March 23, the extremist groups once again entered the town of Kessab, took the remaining Armenian families hostage, desecrated the town's three Armenian churches, pillaging local residences and occupying the town and surrounding villages.

Located in the northwestern corner of

Syria, near the border with Turkey, Kessab had, until very recently evaded major battles in the Syrian conflict. The local Armenian population had increased in recently years with the city serving as safe-haven for those fleeing from the war-torn cities of Yacubiye, Rakka and Aleppo.

Assad Regime Protests Turkey's Involvement to UN

The latest onslaught on Kessab has prompted Syrian President Bashar al-Assad's government to protest to the United Nations that Turkey was providing cover to rebels crossing the border from its territory. In a message to UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, Damascus demanded that the Security Council denounce what it called a terrorist attack on Syrian territory.

Syrian state television made reference to the fighting in a breaking news alert, saying the army was "tackling attempts by terrorist gangs to infiltrate from Turkish territory and attack border crossings in northern Latakia province."

Turkey Downs Syrian Fighter Jet

On March 23, Turkey said its fighter jets shot down a Syrian jet after it crossed into Turkish airspace.

Syria denied that its jet had violated Turkish airspace and, according to Agence France-Presse, accused Turkey of "a flagrant act of aggression that is evidence of Erdo?an's support for terrorist groups." The MIG-23 jets were reportedly flying a support mission to assist ground forces repelling extremist fighters which had infiltrated from Turkey into Kessab.

"The international community should restrain Turkey to stop this and similar anti-Armenian operations and in general it antagonistic policy against Armenia and the Armenian people," concludes the ANC International's statement.



Letter by the ARMENIAN BAR ASSOCIATION to U.S. President, Barack Obama, are the plight of Armenians in Kessab, Aleppo and beyond, in Syria

Dear President Obama:

The Armenian Bar Association has written to you in the not too distant past regarding issues of monumental importance to your Armenian-American constituents about the plight of freedom-deserving people here and around the world.

What is at stake now is the very foundation on which our country rose to positions of domestic stability and worldwide leadership: life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

More so than ever before, this letter comes to you in the most exigent of circumstances and with the utmost urgency calling for your immediate attention.

With this communication, we bring to you the collective concerns and expectations of our hundreds of members and thousands of supporters, from our lawyers, judges, law professors and law students, to, indeed, the common concerns of the one million Armenian Americans, buffeted by the good wishes of more than ten million Armenians of the world.

We ask that the United States of America, our Congress, and specifically your Administration, take concrete steps to ensure the now-shattered safety of the Armenian inhabitants of Syria, and in particular those of Aleppo and Kessab.

The restraint which you have shown, thus far, has unfortunately led to more, not less, bloodshed and dislocation in Syria. It has caused the peaceful Armenian community of Aleppo to be victimized and the entire region of Kessab to be evacuated. Most of those fleeing have done so with only the clothes on their backs and the fear in their hearts. The few who have remained behind have been taken as hostages by the Syrian rebels.

These calamities are reminiscent of the tragic circumstances leading up to the Armenian Genocide, which you so eloquently spoke about and readily and accurately referred to as a historical fact, while campaigning to be elected president of our country. You promised to recognize the Armenian Genocide once you



were elected president, but that's a different story deserving of an audience with you before the Genocide's Centennial on April 24, 2015.

For now, it must be said that your Administration's continued and tacit approval of the upheaval in Syria has wrought further despair upon the Armenians in that country. This, Mr. President, frankly speaking, does not become our great nation.

How many towns, villages and cities must be destroyed and how many thousands of Armenians must be homeless, yet again, for human rights and innocent lives to once again become our top priority?

Will the additional slaughters of civilians, or murders of children, or rapes of women cause you to reconsider your position? Would further pillaging and uprooting of Armenians from their ancestral homes finally remind you of the Armenian Genocide and history repeating itself while our government sits idly by?

Thus far, the silence and the inaction from the White House and our State Department have been, with all due respect, unacceptable.

We can no longer be satisfied with statements such as "We are doing all we can behind the scenes and are working quietly with our Allies." We have heard that before and it defies the reality of the present catastrophe for innocent civilians. Good faith negotiations and traditional diplomacy are not going to save the last remaining Christians in their native

lands.

Our country's principal ally, not so ironically, Genocide-denying Turkey, is complicit in this most recent dispossession of Armenians from their homes and homeland.

Our very government, led by you, has the high moral courage and tools at its disposal to halt the current horrors. The fate of Armenians and other Christians in Syria should never be deemed or accepted as collateral damage of the rebels, who have and continue to receive the support of our government.

The incursion from Turkey into the town and villages of Kessab in Syria, and the ensuing carnage, the reported killings, and the taking of Armenians as hostages, should be met with your condemnation and strategic plan of recovery, restitution and return.

We ask that you voice your support to our concerns in meaningful ways; we call for your intervention with the U.S. allies in the region on our behalf and in support of the safety and security of the displaced Armenians of Syria in Kessab, Aleppo and beyond; and finally, we ask that you act with great urgency, conviction, and in a manner befitting the leader of the free world.

Thank you, Mr. President.

Respectfully,

Garo B. Ghazarian
President & Chairman

Edvin Minassian, Chair Ex-Officio
Armen Hovannisian, Vice-Chair
Harry Dikranian, Vice Chair
Sara Bedirian, Treasurer
Hovanes Margarian, Secretary
Vicken Simonian, Chair Emeritus

Executive Committee,
Board of Governors,
Armenian Bar Association

What Should Armenians Learn From Prime Minister Erdogan?



By Harut
Sassounian

Publisher, The
California Courier

The purpose of this column is to draw lessons from the recent attacks on the Armenian town of Kessab in Syria.

Last week, Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan took two bold actions: 1) he blocked Twitter, a social media site with 12 million users in Turkey, to cover up revelations of corruption about himself and his inner circle; and 2) he aided and abetted the Jihadist fighters' invasion of Kessab, located in the Northwest corner of Syria, bordering Turkey!

What do these two seemingly unrelated events have in common?

Erdogan himself indirectly answered this question, during a campaign rally on March 20: "we will wipe out Twitter. I don't care at all what the international community says. Everyone will see the power of the Turkish Republic."

Clearly, the Prime Minister does not care that he would be criticized for violating the democratic principle of freedom of expression and acting as an autocratic thug. He says and does whatever he thinks is in Turkey's or his own best interest!

US officials reacted by paying mere lip service to Erdogan's internet crackdown. Samantha Power, US Ambassador to the United Nations, tweeted the following message: "Deeply troubling that Turkey blocked Twitter. Shutting down free access to info inconsistent with democracy; support citizens' call to unblock." Douglas Frantz, Assistant Secretary of State for Public Affairs and former managing editor of the Los Angeles Times, who was forced to resign after blocking publication of an article on the Armenian Genocide, described Erdogan's anti-Twitter action as: "21st century book burning." Similar benign criticisms were voiced by State Department spokeswoman Jen Psaki, White House Press Secretary Jay Carney, and European Union Digital Agenda Commissioner Neelie Kroes.

Did Erdogan care about these verbal lashings? Absolutely not! He didn't give a damn! He had already blocked YouTube for two years, because the website carried videos deemed insulting to Kemal Ataturk. The Turkish Prime Minister now threatens to ban both facebook and YouTube after the March 30 elections.

Why don't Armenian leaders -- in Armenia and Diaspora -- act more boldly, similar to Erdogan, especially when the sur-

vival of Armenians is at stake? It is most appropriate to raise such a question after the invasion of Kessab by Jihadists, taking Armenian hostages, pillaging their homes, and desecrating their churches.

Regrettably, repeated pleas by Armenian-American organizations to US officials, to help protect Armenians and other Syrian Christians, have fallen on deaf ears. On March 24, the ANCA sent another strongly-worded letter to Pres. Obama, demanding immediate White House and congressional intervention to stop the attacks on Kessab. The US government does not seem interested in the tragic fate of Syrian-Armenians and other minorities, since Washington is hell-bent on toppling Bashar al-Assad's regime, ignoring the loss of innocent lives.

Armenians should not be content by merely shaking their heads and complaining to each other about the tragic news emanating from Syria. They must wake up from their collective coma and take bold action. Daily demonstrations must be held in major U.S. cities and in front of American, British, French, Saudi, and Turkish embassies and consulates around the world to protest their arming of so-called rebels who are kidnapping and murdering Syrian Armenians, among many others.

Urgent meetings should be held with top US, British and French officials, demanding that they immediately halt deliveries of all weapons and financial assistance to 'rebels' in Syria, until they cease attacks on civilians!

I wrote a column back in 2002 with the following headline: "The Armenian 'Mouse' Needs to Roar More Often." Basically, it was a call for bolder action. I had referred to the short story written by William Saroyan, titled: "The Armenian Mouse," in which a brave mouse, by its aggressive behavior, manages to defend itself from more ferocious beasts.

Remaining silent and inactive are no longer viable options, while our compatriots are getting slaughtered in Syria. Sheepish behavior only serves to embolden the enemies of the Armenian nation.

Armenians need to be proactive rather than reactive. On the eve of the Genocide Centennial, they cannot be silent bystanders while the Turkish government and its allies are directly or indirectly embarking on a new campaign of exterminating Armenians in Syria.

Armenians must speak up, protest, and take effective action to defend their countrymen in all corners of the world. They need to become the 'mouse' that ROARS!

À l'attention de Monsieur François HOLLANDE, Président de la république française

Monsieur le Président,

La région de Kessab aujourd'hui en Syrie est une région qui jusqu'au 20 octobre 1921 (Accord illicite d'Angora) était une région frontalière à la Cilicie, province historiquement arménienne qui abrite une population autochtone arménienne de plusieurs milliers d'individus.

Cette population autochtone a été rejointe depuis mars 2011 par une autre population arménienne déportée celle d'Alep, ces deux populations représentant une partie des survivants, rescapés du génocide perpétré par la Turquie en Arménie Occidentale.

Depuis, le vendredi 21 mars 2014, à cinq heures, heure locale, la région de Kessab fait l'objet d'infiltration de groupes armés en provenance de la Turquie et attaquent les villages et les populations civiles en majorité arménienne.

Nous constatons par les faits, témoignages et documents vidéo que la Turquie en appuyant ces groupes armés contrevenait à la résolution 1267 (1999) qui est également connu sous le nom de " Comité des sanctions contre Al-Qaida ", à la résolution 1373 (2001) contre les actes terroristes, à la résolution 1624 (2005) pour prévenir des actes de terrorisme et à la résolution 61/295 " sur la Déclaration sur les droits des Peuples Autochtones ".

Nous demandons instamment à la République française de condamner le non respect par la Turquie du droit international.

Dans l'attente d'une réponse ferme de la République française, nous vous prions Monsieur le Président, d'agréer l'assurance de notre considération distinguée.

**Le Président du Conseil National
d'Arménie Occidentale**

Arménag APRAHAMIAN

The Urgency of Adaptation: Combating Climate Change in Armenia

By Serouj Abrahamyan

The UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) will meet in Yokohama, Japan, on March 25-29 to discuss its latest and most comprehensive report on climate change. Made up of leading scientists and experts in the world, the assessment body is the premiere authority on the impact of human-induced changes to the earth's atmosphere.

A draft of the upcoming report has already been leaked and the conclusions are down right frightening.

Increased temperatures are expected to cause major damage to all aspects of the world's food system within the next 20 years and displace hundreds of millions of people by the end of the century. Unless urgent action is taken, the report states, millions of people will be left without food and enormous strain will be placed on global security.

Such consequences pose a particularly grave threat to a country like Armenia, with its mountainous terrain, scarcity of land, arid climate, and economic dependence on agriculture. In fact, the World Bank identified Armenia as one of the most high-risk countries in Europe and Central Asia to changing climate extremes.

Over the last 80 years, there has been a marked increase in the country's temperature and a greater frequency of extreme weather phenomena, such as hailstorms, mudslides, and spring frosts. These changing conditions are already affecting the lives of hundreds of farmers throughout the country.

"Fifteen to twenty years ago, you could easily grow ripe raspberries here," says Lusine Cherkezyan, a farmer and mother of four in the northeastern Armenian village of Hovk. "I would collect 250 kilos of raspberries from my plot in one day alone. But due to changes in the climate we started seeing locusts and irreparable damage occurring. It's impossible for people to grow raspberries here anymore."

Lusine was forced to switch to alternative, less lucrative crops such as cabbage, carrots, or beans. She has struggled to adapt to the changes but it has been tough. Like many others in her village, her husband is forced to work in Russia for several months at a time just to put food on the table.

A few miles north, in the community of Haghtanak, farmers likewise insist that major changes in the weather pattern are already affecting their livelihood.

"The most dangerous issue for us here is

out of season frost," says Slavik Zurnachyan the head of an Oxfam-established agricultural cooperative in the town. "We now have to brace ourselves for the threat of frost in the spring which wipes out our harvests. The weather patterns are unpredictable. You can't even imagine it."

Hailstorms have been another major issue for growers in the country. Last May, farmers in the region of Armavir made headlines when they blocked a main highway leading to Yerevan and demanded compensation from the government after their crops were destroyed by hail. A half an hour storm alone is enough to wipe out an entire community's harvest for the year.

These changing conditions pose dangerous risks for the agricultural sector, which makes up one-third of the country's GDP and affects roughly 40% of the economically active population.



As the IPCC report points out, lack of action by governments and the food industry have left many countries unprepared to cope with the impacts of climate change. In the midst of the gloomy picture painted by the report, however, it is also emphasized that early adaptation can make a significant difference in reducing the damage wrought by changing temperatures.

One of the main organizations spearhead community-based climate change

adaptation is Oxfam in Armenia. Through their Economic Justice program, they have helped establish 18 agricultural and consumer cooperatives in most climate change prone, borderline and poor communities in Vayots Dzor and Tavush regions of the country providing the most vulnerable populations with the resources to adapt to changing weather conditions.

Both Lusine and Slavik are members of agriculture cooperatives which operate greenhouses established by Oxfam this past year. They have been able to pool their resources together with others in the community to invest in more appropriate agricultural practices and improve environmental conditions. Access to climatic and weather information facilitated by Oxfam (provided through SMS alerts) and the introduction of greenhouse cultivation has also allowed them to better manage production and avoid the damage caused by hydro-meteorological hazards.

For example, although members of the cooperative in Haghtanak were hit hard by hail to their personal plots last year, the collective's greenhouse crops went unharmed.

"The hailstorms didn't effect the greenhouse at all," says Slavik "The cellophane covering protected our harvest."

In addition to helping build capacity to cope with climate vulnerability, the cooperatives also serve as a source of training, credit, decision-making, and empowerment for community participants, targeting especially women farmers.

"People are starting to understand that the cooperative is a way to solve not only economic problems, but more general societal issues affecting us," says Slavik. "For any one person, it is always harder to solve these challenges by yourself than if you come together with other like-minded people and work together."

As the dangers of a warming climate become even more apparent, it is incumbent for communities to come together and close these gaps in climate preparedness. Giving greater impetus to initiatives such as the Oxfam's Economic Justice program is an important step in this direction. The problem is not only one of environmental and food security but, as can be seen, one that has implications for the nation's demographic and geopolitical security, as well.

There is a lot that can be done to mitigate the threats posed by climate change. But action must be swift if we want to ensure the fate of current and future generations.

Time is not on our side.

Armenian, Turkish filmmakers to meet at festival

Turkey Cinema Platform (ATCP) is getting ready for its tenth meeting. The platform, promoting joint film production between Turkish and Armenian filmmakers, will convene on April 14-16 as part of activities on the fringes of the 33rd Istanbul International Film Festival. The ATCP this year is backed by the European Union, a unique accomplishment for which the filmmakers deserve congratulation, Al-Monitor reports.

The ATCP, which has ushered bilateral cultural ties into a new era, was formed in 2009 by the Yerevan Golden Apricot Film Festival and the Anatolian Culture organization. Meeting twice every year, it evaluates project applications from Turkey and Armenia and brings together filmmakers from the two countries. Over the past five years, it has brought together more than 200 filmmakers and supported 13 films. "Diyar," which in 2012 became the eighth film to receive ATCP support, was selected for the Istanbul Film Festival. A documentary chronicling the life of director Devrim Akkaya's grandfather, making its debut at the Istanbul Film Festival, will be quite meaningful.

Applications remain open ahead of the ATCP's April meeting. Filmmakers from Turkey, Armenia and their diaspora can submit projects by March 28. The initia-

tive had started with short films and documentaries, produced with amateur means and based on human stories that moved the audiences and built cultural bridges. The quality of productions, however, increased throughout the years. So did the prestige of the platform, which has offered financial support to filmmakers since 2010.

This year, the platform's international jury will assess 10 projects and award one a \$10,000 grant. ATCP officials say they received a submission even from Africa this year and regret they had to reject it on eligibility grounds.

There are remarkable examples of how the film quality has improved and the initiative moved forward. "I Left My Shoes in Istanbul" - a documentary by Lebanese director Nigol Bezjian, a friend of [Turkish filmmaker] Kutlug Ataman from the renowned UCLA film school - has received international acclaim. The film follows poet Sako Arian as he travels - both fearful and curious - to Istanbul, the city of his ancestors, which he knows almost street by street from the books of Armenian writers and his family history, and visits prominent people from both communities in the city. "I Left My Shoes in Istanbul" was selected for showing in the "Home" section of the Istanbul Film

Festival, a nice gesture to both the film's director and main hero and the ATCP.

Lusin Dink's "Saroyan Country," which received financial support in 2011, is another source of pride for the ATCP. It was embraced in Turkey and Armenia alike. The film competed both in the "Armenian Panorama" section of the Yerevan Golden Apricot Film Festival and the national section of the Istanbul Film Festival. Two days ago, it received the "Best Balkan Film" prize of the Film Critics Jury at the Sofia International Film Festival. In 2013, it won the 2013 Best Documentary prize of [Turkey's] Cinema Writers Association (SIYAD).

In "Ziazan" - another ATCP-supported production, which is currently counting down to meet the audience - a surprise name is behind the camera. Derya Durmaz, the popular actress of many movies and TV series, is making her debut in the director's chair, telling the adventures of a five-year-old girl in the name of chocolate cream her uncle brings from Turkey. The film, scheduled to make its world premiere at a European film festival soon, reflects the child's innocent view of the world as it tells a naive story about the "losses" caused by the closure of the Turkish-Armenian border, displaying an able directing of child actors.

Stepan Gishyan passed away

Stepan Gishyan was born on May 5, 1964. In 1985 he graduated from the Faculty of Finances and Credits of Yerevan State Institute of Economy.

Having rich working experience in the financial sphere in 1996 Stepan Gishyan assumed the post of the Executive Director of ArmAgricultural Cooperative Bank, running the bank since the foundation of the bank.

In 2006 making significant financial contribution to the ACBA Bank capital, the French Credit Agricole Bank Group became the biggest shareholder of the bank. The ACBA Bank has been reformed into closed joint stock company and has been renamed into ACBA CREDIT AGRICOLE BANK. And Stepan Gishyan continued holding the post of the head of the executive body.

Since 2003 Stepan Gishyan has also been the Chairman of ACBA Leasing CJSC, since 2006 he has been the

Chairman of the ALLIANCE FRANCAISE D'ARMENIE.

Since 2009 Stepan Gishyan has been member of the Public Council of the Republic of Armenia.

In 2006-2007 he chaired the Union of Armenian Banks.

In 2006 Stepan Gishyan was granted a title of the Honourable Citizen of the town of Noyemberyan for his contribution in the solution of the regional problems.

In 2001 Stepan Gishyan was awarded Anania Shirakasti medal by the President of the Republic of Armenia, and in 2009 he was awarded National Order of Merit by the President of the Republic of France.

Stepan Gishyan had big contribution in the development of agriculture and the establishment of the banking system in Armenia. Due to his efforts the Armenian-French cooperation gained a



new quality.

Stepan Gishyan's work and name will always remain bright in the memories of his family members and colleagues.

All Noyan Tapan Media Holding staff deeply grief Stepan Gishyan's loss.

Announcement

Yerevan HPP-1 reconstruction program On two-stage open competition

1. "International Power Corporation" CJSC (10B, Adonts str., Yerevan 0021, Republic of Armenia, phone: +374 10 24 50 99, fax: +374 10 24 51 99, e-mails: office@mek.am; anahit.kheranyan@mek.am), invites legal persons (hereinafter the "Contractors") to participate in the two-stage open competition with the right of contract conclusion on Yerevan HPP-1 reconstruction, including the hydro turbine equipment, the electrical equipment, automated control system of technological processes, reconstruction of station buildings and constructions.

2. In order to receive the tender documents it is necessary to submit a written application to the above mentioned address, department of competitive procurements, room 201 and to pay 600 000 AMD in cashier's office or to transfer the sum to the current account of "International Power Corporation" CJSC: ACC - 157 0010165650201 ("Ameriabank" CJSC)

3. The requirements to the Participants and the main conditions of the Contract to be concluded are mentioned in tender documents.

4. At the first stage of the two-stage open competition, the participants shall present the initial competitive bid, including the technical offer with estimated price. The initial competitive bids shall be presented in sealed envelopes until April 23, 2014 16:00 p.m. in the above mentioned address.

5. Yerevan HPP-1 reconstruction program will be financed by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the Asian Development Bank.

6. Only those participants are allowed to participate in the second stage, who were chosen by the first stage results and got addressed invitations. The Employer shall send the addressed invitations to the participants after April 30, 2014.

7. At the second stage, the invited participants shall present the final competitive technical-commercial bids until June 11, 2014, 16:00 p.m. The bids shall be in Armenian /Russian. The final bids shall be opened at June 12, 2014 10:00 a.m.

8. For any further information that you may require, please, contact the procurement coordinator Mr. A. Barseghyan by the following phone number: +374 10 24 50 99.

Apartment is for rent

A two room apartment is for rent on the M. Baghramyan Avenue. It is situated on the 2nd floor of a 4 storey stone residential building. During the whole period of staying you can use the furniture and technical equipment. It is being heated with central heating system. The kitchen is furnished with classic wooden and functional furniture. There is the Lovers' park one bus stop down. A little far you can find a supermarket, underground station.

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Y. Zorian and S. Shoukourian of Synopsys receive 2013 Governmental State Award of the Republic of Armenia

By the decree of President Serzh Sargsyan, Synopsys Fellow and Chief Architect at Synopsys, Dr. Yervant Zorian and the member of the RA Academy of Sciences, Senior Manager at Synopsys Armenia, Dr. Samvel Shoukourian have received 2013 Governmental State Award of the Republic of Armenia in the area of precise and natural sciences for their research on "Test Solutions for Nanoscale Systems-on-Chip: Algorithms, Methods and Test Infrastructure".

The State Awards of the Republic of Armenia have been established to recognize preeminent works and inventions (discoveries) in the several areas: Armenian literature and arts, architecture and urban development, precise and natural, as well as humanitarian and social sciences and encourage their authors. The award in the area of precise and natural sciences is given for exceptional and outstanding inventions (discoveries), which have made a considerable contribution to the Armenian and international science and have had a remarkable impact on scientific and technical progress.

"It is the greatest happiness for every human being to have an opportunity to do their favorite job and use their talents to create lasting values. At the same time it is a great pleasure to be recognized and appreciated, especially in their homeland. This award will inspire me for more accomplishments and further achievements," said Dr. Yervant Zorian.

"I am deeply touched to receive such an award in my country. Science and scientific products are universal; they reach beyond a country's borders and nationality. The value of the research is assessed by the professional community. It is especially touching when your work is appreciated in your own country," said Dr. Samvel Shoukourian.

Dr. Zorian holds 32 U.S. patents, edited 4 books, authored over 300 refereed papers and received numerous best paper awards. He was selected by EE Times among the top 13 influencers on the semiconductor industry in 2003, was the 2005 recipient of the prestigious IEEE Industrial Pioneer Award for his contribution to BIST, and the 2006 recipient of the IEEE Hans Karlsson Award for diplomacy. A Fellow of the IEEE since 1999, he was recently elected a Foreign Member of the Academy of Sciences of Armenia.

Dr. Samvel Shoukourian authored more than 80 papers, and holds Russian and U.S. patents. The main topics of his current research interests include testing of electronic devices and systems, formal models of distributed systems, information technologies and architectures for multimedia virtual environments.

About Yervant Zorian

Yervant Zorian is a Synopsys Fellow and Chief Architect in Mountain View, California. Previously he was the Vice President and Chief Scientist of Virage Logic Corp, a Distinguished Member of Technical Staff at AT&T Bell Laboratories and Chief Technology Advisor of LogicVision Inc.

Dr. Zorian received an MSc from the University of Southern California and a PhD from McGill University and an MBA from Wharton School of Business, University of Pennsylvania.

He is currently the President of IEEE Test Technology Technical Council (TTTC), the Past General Chair of Design Automation Conference (DAC), the Editor-in-Chief Emeritus of Design & Test of Computers, the founder & chair of IEEE 1500 Standardization Working Group, and an Adjunct Professor at the University of



British Columbia. He served on the Board of Governors of Computer Society and CEDA, and as the Vice President of IEEE Computer Society. He has been founder and chair of a number of workshops and symposia, including the IEEE Workshops on 3D-IC Testing, Design-for-Manufacturability & Yield, and East-West Design & Test Symposium.

About Samvel Shoukourian

Samvel Shoukourian received the Doctor of Science degree in Physics and Mathematics in 1990 and the Academic Rank of Professor in Computer Science and Software Engineering in 1993 from the Supreme Certification Board (Moscow). In 1996, he was elected a Full Member of the National Academy of Sciences of Armenia.

Currently he is the Scientific Leader of IT Educational and Research Center, Yerevan State University (YSU), Yerevan, Armenia. Since 1994, simultaneously with the work at YSU, he has been Chief Scientific Advisor and Development Director in different international companies. Since 2000, he is directing the Department of Embedded Test and Repair at Virage Logic Corporation (USA) and since 2010, the same department at Synopsys, Inc.

Dr. Shoukourian has authored more than 80 papers, and holds Russian and U.S. patents. The main topics of his current research interests include testing of electronic devices and systems, formal models of distributed systems, information technologies and architectures for multimedia virtual environments.



Samvel Shoukourian (L) and Yervant Zorian (R)

iGyumri Conference of Ideas Takes Place on March 22



iTechnology.am online magazine sponsored by the Digital Pomegranate company organized the **first technological conference in Gyumri**, which took place in the conference hall of Gyumri Technological Centre on March 22 of the same year.

The main goal of the iGyumri conference is to help make Gyumri a global tech city.

This one-day event brought together local and international entrepreneurs, investors, educators, students and industry leaders together in Gyumri, Armenia, to discuss issues including; innovation,



Todd Fabacher, Editor & Publisher iTechnology.am, Digital Pomegranate co-founder

investment and new technology startups, focusing on the main idea of turning Gyumri into a Technological Creative Centre.

This event comprised of workshops and 5 panel discussions: International Gyumri, Innovation Gyumri, Invest Gyumri, internet Gyumri, Inform Gyumri.

As guests and speakers were invited in the event Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassadors to the RA, ministers, businessmen, representatives of the IT sector, specialists of the educational institutions, students and startup teams.

iGyumri was the first conference in Armenia, which was also shown online in Google+. Our compatriots throughout the world and persons interested in the development of the IT sector in Gyumri could follow online the works of the conference

with the following reference:

After the conference in the same hall the documentary "Gyumri an Epicentre of Changes" was shown.

About the Host:



iTechnology.am [<http://www.itechnology.am/>] is the the premier online destination for



people involved or interested in the development of the Information Technology Industry in Armenia. *iTECHNOLOGY* is a source for people and companies searching for investment opportunities and providing general information and news tied to what's trending in the global IT sector.

About the Sponsor:



Digital Pomegranate [<http://www.digitalpomegranate.com/>] is based in Gyumri, Armenia and was founded on the premise that when people are given the opportunity, they will become empowered to unleash their full potential. We provide

complete digital solutions for small businesses from launching a website, to design services such as animation & graphics design and App development for all desktop and mobile platforms. Digital Pomegranate was designed to become the bridge that connects the best of Gyumri, its creative and talented people, to the world. So that small businesses can

both quickly and effortlessly build and maintain a professional online presence at an affordable cost, while contributing to the development of Gyumri. A true win-win relationship.



Enterprise Incubator Foundation (EIF) director Bagrat Yengibaryan



(from left) Vasili Korchmar, Consul General of RF in Gyumri, John Heffernan, U.S. Ambassador to Armenia, Edson Monteiro Ambassador to Armenia of Brazil, Armen Shahnazaryan, Director of D-Link Armenia

Zodiac Weekly Forecast

ARMENIAN POETRY

Gevorg Emin

(1919 -1998)

Speak Up, Armenia!

Speak up, Armenia!
 Speak, you who suffered all these ages,
 whose joy is only decades old,
 Speak up now, unabashed, courageous,
 There is so much the world and men
 must yet be told.
 Behold,
 The dove of peace alights on a new roof
 Peace which you dreamed of
 Since to life you came.
 Let words of ancient, sacred truth
 Be spoken by your poet in your name.
 Men, have you heard?
 Not long ago in Karmir-Blur* was
 found
 A pitcherful of grain -
 The sole remains
 Of harvests grown by our Armenian
 forebears
 Upon the rocks of Urartu
 The stony soil they irrigated with their
 sweat
 Long ages through.
 On that same day
 Besides the grain was found
 A spear our ancestors took up
 When foes advanced,
 Defending every inch of sacred ground.
 No one can say today,
 with all these centuries flown away,
 What harvests it could yield,
 That ancient, that primeval field,
 For only this - a pitcherful of grain
 Today remains. No one can say
 After so many centuries have flown
 away,
 How many tillers lived upon the land
 Where now so few survive,
 Slaughtered, dispersed and banned.
 Yet every grain that excavations have
 revealed
 Will it not multiply and cover a whole
 field?
 And each Armenian is like a tight-coiled
 spring,
 And you may rest assured:
 In spite of all the suffering it has cost,
 This grain,
 This handful of brave men - will bring
 Back into life all that we ever lost!

* *Red Hill - ancient fortress near Yerevan.*

Aries (Mar. 20--Apr. 19) :

The sun returns "home" to your sign this week. You likely will find it to be energizing. Now is the time to focus on new plans for this next year of your life. Take a fresh look at where you want to direct your energy. While you are doing this, be sensitive to the needs of those around you as well.

Taurus (Apr. 20--May 19):

There are no new aspects designed for you by the planets this week. You may still be cogitating on the Venus/Mars square that occurred early this month. That time called for a re-commitment of devotion to a person or a project. If it didn't happen, you may have decided to let it go.

Gemini (May 20 -- June 20) :

Make a special effort to keep up with keys, tickets, and other small items. Your feelings are easily injured right now. On the other hand, you may be the offender, hurting someone else. Try to stay on the planet and think carefully before you speak. If you feel "hurt", don't leap to a conclusion before you ask what the meaning is of a behavior or a comment.

Cancer (June 21--Jul y 21) :

This is a week in which you probably would like to withdraw into the comfort of your shell. You may be a tad on the solemn side. This is a temporary wave of the normal emotional life for you. You do not have to believe everything you think, especially if it takes you to a darker state of mind.

Leo (July 22 --Aug. 21):

At this time of year, the Sun shines upon your 9th house of travel and expansion. You are probably already making plans for your next vacation. Aspects favor opening yourself to greater territory in your life. You may be thinking of beginning a new study, a spiritual pursuit, or creating a website.

Virgo (Aug 22--Sep. 22) :

You may be feeling irritable and a little nervous. You can't be sure whether someone significant in your life is really telling you the truth or treating you honestly. The probability is that there is some sort of deception present but it may not be deliberate. Take good care of yourself. Remain honest to yourself in your relationship.

Libra (Sep. 23--Oct. 22)

You are somewhat edgy and irritable this week. Parts of your mind are scattered into so many corners that it is hard to pull everything together. But you know clearly where boundaries need to be drawn. Don't be hesitant to do so. The best of verbal warriors is concise and says what is needed, but no more. Unfortunately, Mars retrograding in your sign creates a tendency to spew.

Scorpio (Oct. 23--Nov. 21) :

Irritability and a tendency to short temper may be your companions this week. Beware the temptation to obsess over minor issues. Take especially good care of your body at this time. You are in a physically low cycle and subject to accident or minor injuries with tools or vehicles.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 --Dec. 20):

You have the desire to become the best you can be. You want wisdom, respect, and the good for all in your life. However, something drags you backward and hangs upon you like a leaden sack. It is something you would rather not admit that keeps you in an uncomfortable place. For some it could be financial, for others fear of controversy.

Capricorn (Dec 21 -- Jan 19) :

Circumstances in your family or home are shifting. The motion is moving toward an unexpected shakeup in your home or property at the end of the month. Perhaps you can see this coming. Take steps now to prevent it rather than waiting and hoping it won't happen.

Aquarius (Jan. 20--Feb. 17) :

You are in a situation in which your circumstances are not meeting your needs for comfort, stability, or security. Perhaps you are disengaging from a bad habit or someone who is not really good for you. The long term benefits of containing yourself now are really good. The short term discomfort is not fun at all.

Pisces (Feb. 18--Mar. 19) :

There is an old saying: "Don't believe everything you think." Take this one to heart this week. Your feelings and thoughts may be only projections of what you want to think. You might identify a piece of information as a truth, when indeed, it is merely your opinion.

WHAT? WHEN? WHERE?**Enjoy your leisure****29 March**

19:00. Jubilee Evening dedicated to Ruben Altunyan's 75th anniversary. Conductor: Vahan Mardirossyan . Chamber Music House after Komitas.
 19:00. The Mother . Staging Director: Lala Mnatsakanyan. Educational Theater of State Institute Of Theater And Cinematography.
 19:00. Don Quijote. Conductor: Atanes Arakelyan. National Academic Theater of Opera and Ballet after A. Spendiarian.
 12:30, 14:00, 15:30. The Frog Prince. Stage Director: Lily Elbakyan. State Marionette Theater.
 14:00. Beauty and the Beast. Director: Armen Margaryan. State Musical Chamber Theater.
 19:00. C'est la vie. State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan.
 12:00, 14:00, 16:00. The Tailless Fox. Author: Hovhannes Tumanyan. State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan.
 18:00. Little Red Riding Hood. State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan

30 March

19:00. 44 degree. Author: Astghik Simonyan. Hamazgayin State Theater.
 19:00. Richard III. Author: W. Shakespeare. National Academic Theater after G. Sundukyan.
 12:30, 14:00, 15:30. The Adventures of Buratino. Director: Armen Elbakyan. State Marionette Theater.
 14:00. Cinderella. Author: Charles Perrault. State Musical Chamber Theater.
 12:00, 14:00, 16:00. Sweet Bite Operation. State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan.
 18:00. Golden Chicken. State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan

31 March

19:00. H. Manukyan and A. Ter-Tachatyan: J. S. Bach. Program: J. S. Bach . Chamber Music House after Komitas.
 19:30. Taxi Driver in Love. Author: Ray Cooney. National Academic Theater after G. Sundukyan.
 19:00. Tales. Author: H. Tumanyan. H. Malyan Theater of Film Actors.



19:00. Aleco. Director: Irkin Gabbitov.. National Academic Theater of Opera and Ballet after A. Spendiarian.

1 April

19:00. Marriage . Author: N. Gogol. H. Malyan Theater of Film Actors.
 19:00. Ash+Lil. State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan

2 April

19:00. Ash+Lil. State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan.
 12:00. The Invincible Rooster. Author: Hovhannes Tumanyan. State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan.
 19:00. It Doesn't Matter With Whom. Yerevan State Chamber Theater

3 April

19:00. Chief. Educational Theater of State Institute Of Theater And Cinematography.
 19:00. Ash+Lil. State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan.
 12:00. The Invincible Rooster. Author: Hovhannes Tumanyan. State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan.
 19:00. Il Trovatore. Conductor: Harutyun Arzumanyan. National Academic Theater of Opera and Ballet after A. Spendiarian.
 19:00. Uninvited Guest. Director: Arman Navasardyan. State Musical Chamber Theater.

4 April

19:00. Flowers of Evil. Author of Play and Director: Zhirayr Dadasyan. Yerevan State Pantomime Theater

19:00. Chief. Educational Theater of State Institute Of Theater And Cinematography.
 19:00. All Rise, the Court is in Session. Author: Perch Zeytuntsyan. National Academic Theater after G. Sundukyan.
 16:00. The Winged One. Author: G. Garcia-Marquez. State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan.
 2014-04-05
 19:00. Train Stories. Author: V. Saroyan. H. Malyan Theater of Film Actors.
 19:00. Ah, Women, Women. Staging: Vigen Stepanyan. Hamazgayin State Theater.
 19:00. For the Sake of Honor. Author: Alexander Shirvanzade. National Academic Theater after G. Sundukyan
 19:00. Spartacus. Conductor: Atanes Arakelyan. National Academic Theater of Opera and Ballet after A. Spendiarian.
 12:30, 14:00, 15:30. Alice in Wonderland. State Marionette Theater.
 14:00. Beauty and the Beast. Director: Armen Margaryan. State Musical Chamber Theater.
 12:00, 14:00, 16:00. Adventures of the Wolf and the Little Goats. Author: Petros Martirosyan. State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan.
 18:00. An Armenian's Fate. State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan.

Armenian architect wins Europa Nostra Award

Representative of the ICOMOS/Armenia organization Armen Ghazaryan has been awarded a Europa Nostra Award for his work on "Church Architecture of the 7th Century in South Caucasus."

This entry is a four-volume survey of the church architecture of the 7th century in countries of the South Caucasus (in particular what is now Georgia and Armenia). The author's research was carried out through the State Institute of Art Studies in Moscow. It comprised, first, the collection of materials to compile a catalogue of all the monuments, and second, analytical study of the aspects observable within the architectural traditions. The final results have determined the genesis and categorisation of architectural types and creative elements within the tradition, and the resulting impact on reconstruction and conservation policies in the region will be significant.

The South Caucasus region is of



course a complex one, comprising several present-day states whose relations are not always harmonious. Uniform conservation practices are therefore particularly difficult to achieve, but the research indicates that there was a distinct level of uniformity across the region in church architecture of the period. The research differs from earlier work in structuring its material on the basis of chronology, as opposed to typological or alphabetic principles, and the respective catalogues of monuments reflect this approach.

"The Jury was impressed by the topical relevance of this scientific research and analysis. The study covers the complex development of Christian architecture of the South Caucasus during the 7th century and defines the chronology and the shaping of the principles of medieval iconography in the architecture of the region and elsewhere in Europe. The rigour of the methodology and the depth of the conclusions of this research were exemplary."

The winners of the 2014 European Union Prize for Cultural Heritage / Europa Nostra Awards were unveiled on March 20 by the European Commission and Europa Nostra. The 27 laureates, selected from 160 nominated projects across 30 countries, were honoured for achievements in four areas: conservation; research; dedicated service; education, training and awareness-raising.

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