

President Sargsyan attends EPP summit in Ireland



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Remarks by President Serzh Sargsyan at the Summit of the European People's Party

President Serzh Sargsyan took part in the plenary session of the European People's Party (EPP) in Dublin where he made a statement.

Distinguished President Daul,

Dear colleagues,

Ladies and gentlemen,

At the outset I would like to join others and express our gratitude to the Irish Prime Minister Enda Kenny and Fine Gael party for the excellent organization of the Congress and warm hospitality extended to us.

Dear colleagues,

Today it is for the first time that an EPP Congress is being held without Wilfried Martens, our President of blessed memory. He made an exceptional contribution to the establishment and development of the EPP, Europe's largest political family, and led it through the path of numerous victories it registered. I am confident that under the capable leadership of President Daul the EPP will continue pursuing the mission that stems from the Party's founding principles.

The European Parliament election to be conducted in May will be an important stage in the Europe's political life. I believe that the European People's Party will anew gain high trust of the Europeans and remain the driving force of the European progress, the champion and carrier of the reforms. The EPP's victory will allow renewed effort in building a peaceful and prosperous Europe to come true.

Mr. President,

The European Union and Eastern Partnership face challenges. The Ukrainian events are a matter of serious concern to all of us. We regret profoundly that numerous human lives' losses were registered in Kiev. Under the existing circumstances it is necessary to take all possible measures in order to ease the tension and find reasonable solutions by the means of a dialogue.

As in the past we believe that expanding and deepening relations with a partner should not result in the emergence of new dividing lines. Armenia will continue its policy of complementing and harmonizing intrests.

We are grateful to the European Union for the decision it made in



December 2013 to provide Armenia with an opportunity to benefit from the enhanced Generalised Scheme of Preferences.

Nevertheless, for the successful implementation of the Scheme there is an important issue awaiting solution, which is unmaking of the illegal blockade that the European Union's Customs Union member Turkey imposed on Armenia. Nowadays, when humankind gets ready to mark the centennial of the World War I and the horror it unleashed, Turkey continues its policy of denial, attempts to bury the memory of more than one million victims of the Armenian Genocide and disregard demands of a nation that was deprived of its homeland, refuses to repent for what had been done and thus pursues a xhenophobic policy that at its roots is aimed at harming Armenia and Armenians.

Dear colleagues,

A key principle of the European system of values is not to remain silent, when there is an injustice, when there is a bigotry exposed, and especially when we witness manifestations of xhenophobia. "Never again!" has been our motto born out of calamity that two World Wars brought in. But there is only one way to

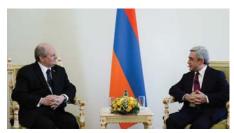
make that motto come true: it is to remember, to condemn and to demand. It is incomprehensible and unacceptable to us, when any manifestations of fascism are being tolerated, when evident hate speech of the President of Azerbaijan, a Council of Europe member State, is pretended to go unnoticed. For the Eastern Partnership to work effectively we should employ straight and honest talk on the issues of reciprocal concern.

Mr. President.

We appreciate the assistance that the European Union and its member States have been backing Armenia in its socialeconomic and institutional development, strengthening of our Government agencies, reform of the public sector, fight against corruption and reduction of poverty. About two weeks ago the National Security Council of Armenia approved an action plan for cooperation between Armenia and the EU in 2014 and 2015. We are committed to continue our efforts at seeking effective cooperation mechanisms with the EU, which will both reflect the essence of the preceding discussions we had with the EU and are compatible with the other cooperation

I thank you for your attention.

Armenia, Serbia vow to develop bilateral cooperation



President Serzh Sargsyan received the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia Ivan Mrkic, President's Press Office reported.

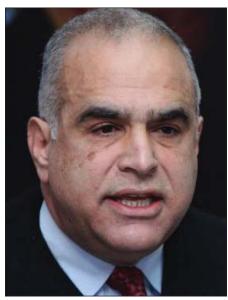
The President welcomed the highranking guest and stressed the importance of his visit in terms of continuing the Armenian-Serbian high-level political dialogue and promoting the cooperation agenda. Serzh Sargsyan underscored that the age-old relations between Armenia and Serbia have had numerous illustrations. According to the President, the Armenian people gratefully remember the seven Serbian pilots who fell victim to the air crash on the approaches of Yerevan while they were delivering aid of Armenia during the days after the 1988 devastating earthquake. Moreover, every year, at the anniversary of the earthquake, in the same place, a tribute is paid at the memorial dedicated to their memory.

Serzh Sargsyan and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Serbia Ivan Mrkic stressed the importance of the high-level reciprocal visits, as a result of which, in recent years, the bilateral relations and the collaboration in a number of fields have intensified.

The interlocutors expressed their willingness to continue to make efforts at maintaining and developing the existing positive dynamics agreeing that there is a great unrealized potential in the advancement of political, economic, cultural, as well as of the other spheres of reciprocal interest in the framework of international organizations.

At the meeting, the importance of mutually beneficial and close cooperation between Armenia and Serbia during the period of Serbia's chairmanship of the OSCE was also stressed.

Raffi Hovannisian speak at European People's Party Summit



The leader of Armenia's opposition Heritage Party and founding director of the Armenian Center for National and International Studies, Raffi Hovannisian, also spoke at the European People's Party (EPP) summit.

The former presidential candidate opened his remarks by first expressing solidarity with the Ukrainian people's democratic choice, calling for a peaceful, principled resolution of the current crisis.

Hovannisian also urged the EPP to restore confidence in Europe by correcting past mistakes, by respecting its own standards of liberty, democracy, and the rule of law, and by never again validating fraudulent elections and accepting those who do not bear the de jure trust of the people. In this regard, Hovannisian asserted, not only Russia but also the EPP itself and most particularly Armenia's authorities are responsible for the country's unacceptable domestic situation and foreign policy choices.

Raffi Hovannisian called on the EPP and its member parties to recognize the sovereignty of the Nagorno Karabakh

Republic (Artsakh), which, parallel with the fall of the Berlin Wall, triggered the dissolution of the Soviet Union and shares virtually nothing in common with other conflicts often considered as protracted or frozen.

He concluded his speech with a challenge to the European People's Party to treasure its own heritage and values by preparing formally to recognize and condemn the Armenian Genocide and Great National Dispossession on its centennial anniversary due next year. The Genocide entailed not only the loss of more than a million lives, but constituted the decimation of an ancestral homeland and an ancient civilization.

Hovannisian also spoke on these and other relevant matters at a separate policy seminar, organized by the Center for European Studies, on the crisis in Ukraine and its implications upon the relaunching of the Eastern Partnership.

Outside of the meeting, Raffi Hovannisian met with scores of officials and delegates from across Europe, including EPP President Joseph Daul, Ireland's Prime Minister Enda Kenny, Chairman Charlie Flanagan of the Irish Fine Gael Party, Ukrainian leaders Vitalii Klitschko and Yuliya Tymoshenko, former President Hans-Gert Pottering of the European Parliament, Chairman Mark Green of the International Republican Institute, and President Mikulas Dzurinda of the Brussels-based Center for European Studies.

He also exchanged views with the European Council President Herman Van Rompuy, German Chancellor Angela Merkel, and Greek Prime Minister Adonis Samaras, who had been Hovannisian's counterpart as Minister of Foreign Affairs.

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Ukraine crisis threatens Armenian economy



The crisis in Ukraine and its resulting negative economic impact on Russia could have spillover effects on Armenia, Economy Minister Vahram Avanesyan admitted on March 6.

Russian stocks plummeted immediately after Moscow resorted to military intervention in Crimea at the weekend, with investors ditching assets in Russia to guard against economic sanctions threatened by the West. The Russian rouble has since lost around 2 percent of its nominal value against the U.S. dollar. The Russian Central Bank has spent billions of dollars and raised its benchmark interest rate to prevent the national currency from weakening even faster.

With no solution in sight to the Kremlin's worst standoff with the West since the end of the Cold War, there might be more trouble in store for the Russian economy. The analysts in Yerevan warn that the Armenian economy also risks taking a battering due to its dependence on Russia.

"Yes, the events in Ukraine and the depreciation of the Russian rouble may have negative consequences for Armenia's economy," agreed Avanesyan. He singled out the weaker ruble's impact on dollar-denominated remittances sent home by hundreds of Armenian migrant workers in Russia.

Data from the Armenian Central Bank shows that those remittances accounted last year for roughly 90 percent of overall non-commercial cash inflows into Armenia totaling \$1.55 billion, a figure equivalent to 14 percent of the country's Gross Domestic Product.

Avanesyan argued that the rouble depreciation could also make Armenian goods more expensive in the Russian market. "Our exporters could have prob-

lems because we should keep in mind that the rouble's depreciation would not facilitate our exports," he told a news conference.

According to the National Statistical Service (NSS), Russia absorbed around 23 percent of Armenian exports worth almost \$1.5 billion in 2013.

Avanesyan said that despite the alarming signs the Armenian government does not yet plan to revise its economic growth projections for this year. "We need to understand just how long-term those changes will be," the minister explained. "If the impact [of the Ukraine crisis] is short-term, there will be no major change in our economic policy. If it becomes a long-term problem, the economic policy will definitely have to be reviewed."

Economic growth in Russia was slowing down even before the outbreak of the crisis. This was one of the reasons why the Armenian economic growth expanded by 3.5 percent in 2013, much slower than was predicted by President Serzh Sargsyan. The NSS figures released this week show that growth was mainly dragged down by a continuing decline in the Armenian construction sector and sluggish retail sales.

In its budget bill approved by the Armenian parliament in December, the government forecast a growth rate of over 5 percent for 2014. The International Monetary Fund offered a more cautious macroeconomic outlook for Armenia last month.

"Downside risks include adverse geopolitical events and external shocks, including a weakening of [remittance] inflows in the context of a protracted slowdown in Russia," a senior IMF official warned in a February 4 statement.

Armenia set to Enter Customs Union by year's end

Armenia is set to join the Customs Union of Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan in 2014, the chairman of the Eurasian Economic Commission, Viktor Khristenko, said on March 6.

"I think Armenia's membership in the Customs Union will be legally formalized this year," he told Russian RIA Novosti.

Khristenko said the presidents of Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan were told about Armenia's accession progress at a summit of the Eurasian Economic Commission on March 5 in Moscow.

"We can say that over the two months that have passed since the previous summit in December, Armenia has taken big steps in the implementation of its accession requirements," the chairman said.

The 250-page "roadmap" for Armenia's accession was agreed to by the presidents of the union's three member states as well as Armenia at a summit in Moscow last December.

It lists 262 administrative and legislative actions, concerning 20 areas of government policy, that Armenia must take in order to join. Khrsitenko said he was optimistic about Armenia's ability to implement the changes.



Pro-Ukraine protesters detained in Yerevan



Riot police made three arrests on March 5 as they clashed with several dozen activists who gathered outside the Russian Embassy in Yerevan to condemn Russia's military intervention in Ukraine.

The protesters, most of them young civic activists, held Ukrainian flags, anti-Kremlin banners and derogatory pictures of Russian President Vladimir Putin during the demonstration.

The police officers at the scene told them to move over to the opposite sidewalk, saying that the protest is interfering with the work of the Russian mission. The small crowd defied what it saw as an illegal order before being pushed away from the embassy building in the city center.

Three of the activists were detained



and taken to a nearby police station as a result. The angry activists marched to the station to demand their immediate release.

The Noyan Tapan Highlights

Stepan Safaryan, a leading member of the opposition Zharangutyun (Heritage) also present at the protest, condemned the police actions, saying that the Armenian authorities have allowed and even organized demonstrations outside other foreign diplomatic missions before. "Why is it allowed to protest outside one embassy but not another one?" he said.

Safaryan and other Zharangutyun leaders have condemned the Russian military action in Ukraine's Crimean peninsula, unlike Armenia's government and representatives of other major political groups. The government has refused to comment on the Ukrainian crisis in any

Prime Minister Tigran Sargsyan and Defense Minister Seyran Ohanyan refused to answer questions about the situation in Ukraine as they were confronted by the journalists during a visit to Armenia's main military cemetery on Wednesday.

Ohanyan only gave a vague answer to a question about Armenia's potential involvement in the crisis as a Russian military ally. "I think the situation today is such that it is under control by the governments in both Ukraine and Russia," he said.

Armenia to apply to ECHR on Mamikon Khojoyan case



Armenian villager Mamikon Khojoyan became a "saboteur" and "spy" at the age of 77. This is how the Azerbaijani propaganda presented the captured Armenian to the world.

Mamikon Khojoyan is now in Armenia, he was repatriated on March 4 under the auspices of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

The Against Legal Arbitrariness NGO is preparing to apply to the International Court of Human Rights regarding the issue, Chairwoman of the NGO, first Human Rights Defender Larisa Alaverdyan told reporters today. This time there are all facts to prove the Azeri crimes, she said.

The application against Azerbaijan to be filed to ECHR will be ready in a week. "We have all facts and grounds to succeed," Larisa Alaverdyan said. She referred to all provisions of the UN Charter and the Geneva Convention Azerbaijan has violated by capturing 77year-old Mamikon Khojoyan.

Larisa Alaverdyan attached importance to the fact that the version of the Azerbaijani propaganda machine was condemned even inside the country. She has her opinion on why Azerbaijan decided to return the Armenian captive. "They feared the old man could die there, and this would be a greater crime."

Larisa Alaverdyan is not optimistic about the perspectives of repatriation of another Armenian captive - serviceman Hakob Injighulyan. She is assured Injighulyan will not return; therefore, measures should be taken to send him to a third country.

MPs move to ban 'Offensive' comments

Pro-government and opposition lawmakers have proposed a controversial bill that would allow Armenian officials to sue online media outlets for offensive comments made by anonymous readers.

The draft amendments to Armenia's Civil Code co-sponsored by members of virtually all parliament factions stipulate that publications could face libel suits if they refuse delete such comments within 12 hours or help offended persons identify their authors.

Online news services and websites of newspapers and broadcasters could also be sued for disseminating slanderous claims made on Facebook and other social networks by individuals not disclosing their identity.

Some Armenian editors have expressed concern at the bill, saying that it would restrict press freedom in the country. "I just can't understand what is the point of those amendments," said Armine Ohanian of the "Hraparak" daily. "If they want to control the

Facebook space that will not work."

Edmon Marukyan, an independent deputy and one of the co-sponsors of the bill, dismissed such fears, saying that the authorities would not be able to abuse it. "We are talking about protection of people's rights; we can't let people make money by insulting people."

Another co-sponsor, Naira Zohrabyan of the Prosperous Armenia Party (PAP), also defended the proposed legislation, saying that it primarily targets anonymous insults and slander spread through Facebook. She complained that many media outlets repost such material without checking its accuracy.

Zohrabyan, herself a former journalist, said at the same time that she is open to concrete proposals that would address media concerns. She said that she and her colleagues have circulated only a "preliminary" version of the bill and that it could undergo changes before reaching the parliament floor.

Russia deploys modernized warplanes in Armenia

Russia announced on March 4 the deployment of newly modernized warplanes at its military base in Armenia that has already been reinforced with more sophisticated weaponry in recent years.

The Russian Armed Forces' Southern Military District said in a statement that "a batch of fourth-generation multipurpose MiG-29 fighter jets" has arrived at a military airport in Yerevan after undergoing "capital repairs."

The Russian base, which uses the Erebuni airport together with the Armenian Air Force, was known to have 16 MiG-29s until now. The statement did not specify whether the Russian military has increased their number or simply upgraded some of the existing jets. A spokesman for Armenia's Defense Ministry declined to clarify that, referring all inquiries to the Russians.

That Moscow plans to have more modern military aircraft stationed in Armenia was first announced last October by Colonel Aleksander Petrov, the commander of the aviation unit of the Russian base. Petrov said that the unit's jets will have their electronic targeting and navigation systems upgraded.

The Southern Military District, which comprises the base headquartered in Gyumri, has reported in the last few years significant increases in flights carried out by Russian pilots serving in Armenia. A February 20 statement by the district said the number and length of such flights have increased by 15 percent so far this year.

The Russian military also plans to beef up the base with around two dozen combat helicopters later this year. It said in January that they will have "a wide range of tasks in aviation support for troops and transportation of personnel."

The helicopters are to be deployed at the Erebuni airfield in line with an agreement reached by Russian and Armenian defense officials in April 2013. The Armenian government gave the formal green light to the deployment in November.

Serbia supports the position of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs

Armenian Foreign Minister Edward Nalbandian received today the visiting Foreign Minister of Serbia, Ivan Mrkic. The two discussed issues related to the expansion of the legal framework, deepening of cooperation within the framework of international organizations, intensification of trade-economic ties, decentralized cooperation, etc. The Foreign Ministers also discussed the details of the forthcoming visit of the Serbian President to Armenia later this year.

Following the meeting the Foreign Ministers of Armenia and Serbia signed an agreement on avoiding double taxation.

"I feel like being on a visit to a cousin," the Serbian Foreign Ministers told reporters in Yerevan. He thanked Edward Nalbandian for the warm welcome and stressed the need to sign more agreements to form a legal basis for future cooperation.

Serbia will assume the OSCE Chairmanship from January 2015. In this context Ivan Mrkic referred to the Karabakh issue. "Serbia strongly supports the views and the positions of the OSCE Minsk Group co-chairing countries and backs the Madrid Principles," he said. He has added that Serbia is grateful to Armenia for its position on Kosovo. He has informed they are negotiating with Pristina on stabilizing the relationship and creating conditions for the normal life of the citizens of Kosovo, but added they are not going to recognize Kosovo.

The topic of Ukraine was not avoided, either. The Foreign Minister said Armenia had expressed its stance on the highest level. The Armenian President spoke about it at the European People's Party summit in Ireland.

"We hope all possible measures will be taken to find peaceful solutions, which will contribute to the mitigation of tension and settlement of all issues," Minister Nalbandian said.

Vazgen Manukyan: Joining Customs Union does not mean Armenia abandons EU path



Last year's decision by Armenia to join the Eurasian Customs Union led by Russia was motivated by security considerations, but Yerevan has not abandoned the European path, former Armenian Prime Minister and Defense Minister Vazgen Manukyan said in an interview with Agerpres while paying a short visit to Bucharest.

"In parallel with our decision to join the Customs Union, Armenia's President Serge Sarkisian said that Armenia does not abandon the Association Agreement with the EU. A joint declaration between Armenia and the EU was signed in Vilnius and we hope to establish the parameters of the association by year-end, taking into consideration the new realities. During the time we spent considering the idea of joining the Customs Union, Armenia was guided by pragmatic interests and security considerations, which I believe are important not only for Armenia, but for the entire region and European space. Both the European capitals and the EU authorities have greeted Armenia's decision with some measure of understanding," he said.

"I would like to remind the fact that after Armenia gained independency, when we started to build a new state, we chose the European model and we shall not deviate from it. Fortunately, we realize that all the others around us are heading in the same direction, and this give us hope for the future. As for the Eurasian Union, the setting up of such unions copying the EU model, across the vast Eurasian space benefiting from a huge economic potential, is not ruled out. This is the future in the current globalization process and no direction

should be regarded with envy. Given its national interests and specific geo-strategic position, Armenia will try to fully integrate to these global systems," Vazgen Manukyan stated.

Speaking about the Karabakh conflict, Manukyan said "the dispute includes three basis components: the issue of the return of refugees to their native places; the second component regards the territories, namely the delimitation of the borders between Azerbaijan and Nagorno-Karabakh, and the most important component is the third one, that is the status of Nagorno-Karabakh."

"As a former Defense Minister, I can assure you that even the worst peace is better than a war. This danger is always hanging over your heads, and the consequences can be disastrous not only for Armenia and Azerbaijan, but for the entire humankind. For this reason, we expect from the international community and the partner states, including Romania, to become aware of this threat, make an objective evaluation of this situation and act properly," Vazgen Manukyan said.

Villagers protest power plant construction

Hundreds of farmers blocked a major highway in Armenia on March 6 as they protested against the construction of a hydroelectric plant which they believe would destroy their livelihoods.

The angry protesters are residents of seven villages in the central Aragatsotn province that mainly live off apple groves highly dependent on irrigation water coming from a reservoir. A private company owned by unknown individuals has been allowed by the Armenian government to use that water for power generation.

The villagers fear that the hydroelectric plant would severely restrict water supplies to their orchards. They blocked a section of the main highway running from Yerevan to the Armenian-Georgian border to demand an immediate halt to the construction.

The road remained closed for three hours, until the Aragatsotn governor, Sargis Sahakyan, arrived at the scene and talked to the farmers joined by a group of environment protection activists from Yerevan. Sahakyan convinced them to unblock it after promising to have excavators and other construction equipment removed from the site of the would-be plant.

Sahakyan stopped short of promising, however, that the plant will not be built. He insisted that the facility would not affect the local irrigation system in any way. "People have been misled," he told.

The governor claimed at the same time that construction workers and equipment were deployed near the reservoir only to repair irrigation canals. The villagers were unconvinced. "It's a lie," said Levon Khachatryan, a parliament deputy living in the area who also joined the protest.

The highway section was again blocked moments later after the environmentalists scuffled with a group of men, who did not look like protesters. The Yerevan-based activists said they believe they were attacked by plainclothes police officers. "You will be held accountable," shouted one of them.

The protesters again reopened the road to traffic after hearing fresh assurances from the governor. They warned that they will repeat their actions if the controversial construction goes ahead.

Dozens of small hydroelectric plants have been built or are under construction on fast-flowing mountainous rivers across Armenia over the past decade. The process is increasingly meeting with strong resistance from farmers living nearby as well as environmentalists. The latter claims that many of the plants cause serious damage to the country's ecosystem.





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1 ROOM

- ◆1696.Tumanyan str., 5/4, stone bld, 1 bedroom, h-3m, capitally repaired, heating system. Price: 160 000 USD
- ◆1726.Khorenatsi str., 4/4, 35sq.m.,1bedroom, capitally repaired, heating system. Price: 55.000 USD.
- ◆1440.Northern Ave., Newly built, 3rd floor, 110 sq.m., 1 bedroom, h-3m,euro repaired, heating system, ,furnished,parking,. Price: 350.000 USD.
- ◆1715- Sayat Nova Ave., 5/4, 70sq.m, stone bld, h-4m, 1 bedroom, capitally repaired, heating system. Price: 110.000 USD
- 5/4, 68sq.m, 1 bedroom, ◆1680- Mashtots Ave... old repair, possibility of gas. Price: 86.000 USD.
- ◆1674. Abovyan str., 2nd floor,70sq.m., 1 bedroom, capitally repaired, heating system. Price: 135.000
- ◆1698-Aram str., Newly built, 14/5, 62sq.m, 1 bedroom, capitally repaired, AC, security system, parking. Price: 120.000 USD.

2 ROOMS

- •1560.Northern Ave., Newly built, 10/3, 130 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, climate control, parking. 400.000 USD.
- •2818.Northern Ave., Newly built, 3rd floor, 120sq.m, 2 bedrooms,2 bathrooms,capitally repaired, heating system, Ac, furnished. Price: 400.000USD
- •1156.Komitas Ave., Hambardzumyan str. 5/3, 110sq.m, 2 bedrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, kitchen is furnished. Price: 150.000 USD negotiable..
- +2949.Aram str., Newly built, 1st floor, 143 sq.m, 2 bedrooms, zero state, Price: 2000 USD per sq.m.
- •2300.**Northern ave**., Newly built, 6/2, 130 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, parking. Price: 400.000 USD.

3 ROOMS

- +2682.Aram Str., Newly built, 13/6 187sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 open balconies, capitally reapaired, heating systen, 2AC, 2 garages, view to garden. Price: 550.000 USD
- +2958.Pushkin str., 5/2, 140 sq.m., stone building,4 bedrooms,capitally repaired,heating system. Price: Negotiable.
- •2895.Northern Ave., Newly built, 3rd floor, 300sq.m,3bedrooms, 2 bathrooms,capitally repaied, climate control, AC. Price: negotiable +2802.Amiryan str., Newly built,8/4, 166sq.m,3bedrooms, 2 bathrooms,capitally repaired, central heating,AC,security system. Price:320.000 USD.
- +1104.Komitas Ave., Aram Khachatryan str., 5/2, 125sq.m.,stone bld, h-2.75m.,3 bedrooms, office, 2 bathrooms, old repair, gas, garage. Price: 130.000 USD
- •2950.Aram str., Newly built, 5th floor, 176 sq.m, 3 bedrooms, office, zero state, Price: 310.000 USD
- +2836.Pushkin str., 4/4,5, 400sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC. Price: 460.000 USD.

PREMISES

+1789.Charents str. Land-1270sq.m,5 storied building, each floor-400sq.m.,basement, capitally repaired, parkings. Price:4.000.000 USD negotiable

- +1598.Komitas, Nairy Zaryan str., 1000 sq.m., working restaurant,1st line, capitally repaired. Price: negotiable.
- •1603.Northern Ave., Ground floor of the building, 160 sq.m.,zero level, window glasses. Price: 2.600.000 USD.
- •2035.Tumanyan str., Ground floor of the building, 220sq.m.,1st line, facade-55m.,capitally repaired, h-5m., cellar. Price: Negotiabel •2013.**Tumanyan str.**, Ground floor of the building, 265sq.m.,1st line, capitally repaired, heating system, cellar. Price: 1.300.000\$
- •2012. Mashtots Ave., 5/1,2, 140sq.m., window glasses, capitally repaired, AC. Price: 1.100.000\$ negotiable
- +2155.Mashtots ave., 3storied building, 540sq.m., each floor-180sq.m, window glasses,parking. Price:3.600.000 USD
- •2020.**Hr. Kochar str.,** Land-300sq.m,1st line, 4storied building, 1080sq.m.,each floor-270sq.m, h-3.6m, without divisions, parkings, 3 access. Price: 1.400.000 USD negotiable
- •1986. Cascade, Land 1000sq.m. 3storied building1200sq.m., unfinished, parking. Price:1.000.000 USD.

LANDS

- •2122.**Davitashen,** 1800 sq.m., water, gas, electricity, possible to sell separately 600 sq.m., and 1200 sq.m. Price: 150 USD per sq.m.
- •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 460.000USD
- •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: 100.000USD.
- •2406.Avan, Mher Mkrtchyan block, 1000 sq.m., electricity, gas, water, the district is inhabited. Price: 30USD per sq.m
- •2310.Monument, Babayan str, m, facade-25m, privatized, Price:350 USD neaotiable
- •2107.Monument, 2400sq.m, building permits, building project. Price: 400 USD per sq.m.
- •2413.Ashtarak roadway, 1000sa.m. building permits, building project. Price: Neaotiable
- •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, hjeating 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-750sg.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. **Kievyan str.,** Given to the operation in October 2011, 16 floors, walls plastered, windows, exterior doors, h -3, 15 m, gas,parking. Price: 1500-1600USD 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: nego-
- •130.Antarayin str., 34 flats, 110-275 sq.m., 4 penthouses-200-275sq.m,available sevices-car wash, cleaning service, garbage removal service, parking. Price: Negotiable +131.Busand str., commercial, office and residential areas, penthouse, available sevices-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, capitally repaired, furnished, equipped. Price: 1000 USD.
- •2099.**Sayat-Nova Ave.**, 12/6, 1 bedroom, capitally repaired,gas, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped. Price:600 USD.
- •1972.Northern ave., 8/4, 80sq.m.,1bedrrom, 2 bathrooms, open kitchen, capitally repaired, climate control. Price: 1200 USD •2171.Tumanyan str., Newly built, 5th floor, 94 sq.m., 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, capitally repaired, central heating, furnished,
- •2367.Northern ave., Newly built, 9th flloor, 98 sq.m., capitally repaired, heating system, furnished equipped. Price: Negotiable.

equipped. Price: 1000 USD

2 ROOMS

- •942.**Teryan str.** 4/3, 130 sq.m.,2 bedrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, furnishred, equipped. Price: 1500 USD.
- •1950.Buzand/Mashtots area. Newly built,8th floor, 163 sq.m.,2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired,climate control, furnished, open balcony. Price: 2500 USD.
- •1681.Northern Ave., Newly built,6/2,130 sq.m.,2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC,parking. Price: 2000 USD.
- •1535.**Busand str.,** Newly built, 7/4, 82sq.m,2bedrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, parking, furnished, equipped. Price: Negotiable.
- •2089. Northern ave., Newly built,8/6, 120sq.m.,2 bedrooms,2 bathrooms, capitally reapired, climate control, furnished, equipped. Price:2500 USD
- •1738.Amiryan str., 8/8, 159sq.m.,2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, parking. Price: Negotiable
- •1951.**Busand str.,** Newly built, 13th floor, 122sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, climate control. Price: 2500 USD
- •1406.**Sayat Nova ave.,** 7/3, 110sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally reapired, heating system, furnished, equipped. Price: Negotiable
- •2187.Northern ave., Newly built, 9/5, 120 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capitally reapired, firnished, equipped. Price: 2.200 USD •2109.Northern ave., Newly built, 10/4, 137sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally 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,capitally repaired, heating system, furnished. Preliminary price: 3500 USD.
- •2005.**Northern Ave.**, Newly built,8/8, 130 sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, furnished, parking. Price: 2200 USD.
- •1723.Northern Ave., Newly built,8/4., 170 sq.m 3 bedrooms,3 bathrooms, open kitchen, capitally repaired, furnished, equipped. Price:

2000 USD.

- •1981. Vardanants Str., Newly built, 14/14, 140 sq m,3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, 3 open baconies, furnished, equipped, parking. Price: 2000 USD.
- •1793.**Teryan str.,** Newly built, 8th floor, 260 sq.m.,3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, study, capitally 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, capitally 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, 3bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, one of which in bedroom,open balcony, capitally repaired, climat control, furnished, equipped., parking. Price: 3500 USDnegotiable.
- •2195.Northern ave., Newly built, 3rd floor, 300sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, capitally repaired,climate control, AC, parking. Price:5000 USD
- •2084.**Tumanyan str.**, 4th floor, 200sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, climate control, parking. Price:5000 USD •2252.**Northern ave,** 7th floor, 350 sq.m., 3
- •2252.Northern ave, 7th floor, 350 sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, study, open balconies, capitally repaired, climate control, parking. Price Negotiable.

PRIVATE HOUSES

- •1191. Aygestan, Land-400 sqm, 2 storied bld.- 270 sqm, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathroom, study, capitally 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, capitally 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, capitally 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, capitally 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, capitally repaired, heating system, sauna, gym, furnished, swimming-pool, garden. Price: 4.000 USD negotiable.

- •1142.**Dirvej**, Bagrevand community. Land-1000 sq.m., 3 storied bld.-700 sq.m., 5 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, pantry, playing room, capitally 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, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, swimming pool, garden.Price7.000 USD
- •327. **Nork-Marash**, Land-500sq.m.,4 storied building-600 sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capitally 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, capitally 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, capitally 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, capitally repaired, heating system, sauna swimming pool, garden. Price:8000 LISD
- •1312. **Blur, Barbyus str.,** Land-450sq.m., 4 storied building-470sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, garden. Price: Negotiable
- •1317. **Blur, Barbyus str.,** Land-900sq.m.,5 storied building-800sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capitally 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, capitally repaired, gas, heating system,parking. Price: Negotiable.
- •1462.**Teryan str.**, 3 storied building, 800 sq.m., capitally repaired, AC, parking, Price: 10.000 USD.
- •1945. Mashtots Ave., 5/1,2, 140sq.m., window glasses, capitally repaired, AC. Price: 8000 USD
- •1943.**Tumanyan str.,** Ground floor of the building, 265sq.m.,1st line, capitally repaired, heating system, cellar. Price: 7000 USD
- •1868.**Tumanyan str.,** Ground floor of the building, 220sq.m.,1st line, facade-55m.,capitally repaired, h-5m., cellar. Price: 15 000 USD
- •2087.Northern ave., Ground floor of the building, 100sq.m,1st line, zero level, capitally repaired, window glasses. Price: Negotiable.

Illinois Republican Senator Mark Kirk "strongly condemned" Azerbaijan's ongoing threats and violence against Armenia and the Republic of Nagorno Karabakh, in a powerfully worded statement issued earlier today marking the 26th anniversary of Azerbaijan's anti-Armenian massacres in Sumgait, reported the Armenian National Committee of America (ANCA).

"We join with Armenian Americans, here in Illinois and across America, in thanking Senator Kirk for his principled and powerful stand for peace," said ANCA Chairman Ken Hachikian, of Lake Forest, Illinois.

Senator Kirk began his remarks spotlighting Azerbaijani hate-crimes against Armenians in Sumgait from February 26 to 28, 1988, stating, "I join my Armenian-American constituents in Illinois in commemorating the memory of those who perished in anti-Armenian violence in Sumgait, Soviet Azerbaijan twenty-six years ago. Dozens of people were killed and hundreds injured during



three days of horrific violence. The entire Armenian population of Sumgait fled as a result. The perpetrators of these heinous acts have never been brought to justice."

The Senator then turned to Azerbaijan's ongoing aggression against Armenia and Artsakh, noting, "As we remember the Sumgait victims, I call on the current Government of Azerbaijan to immediately halt its campaign of incitement and hatred against Armenia that threatens to de-stabilize the region. It is

deplorable that the President of Azerbaijan would pardon and glorify the convicted murderer Ramil Safarov, who killed a sleeping Armenian soldier while both were on a NATO Partnership for Peace program. I strongly condemn repeated statements from Azerbaijani officials that threaten violence against Armenia and the Republic of Nagorno-Karabakh."

Over the past week, Sen. Kirk was joined by House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Ed Royce (R-CA), fellow Committee colleagues Brad Sherman (D-CA) and David Cicilline (D-RI), Congressional Armenian Caucus Co-Chair Frank Pallone (D-NJ) and Representatives Adam Schiff (D-CA), Tony Cardenas (D-CA), Anna Eshoo (D-CA), Katherine Clark (D-MA), Judy Chu (D-CA), Gary Peters (D-MI) and Linda Sanchez (D-CA) in issuing similar statements condemning the Sumgait, Baku and Kirovabad pogroms and calling on Azerbaijan to end its aggression against Armenia and the Republic of Nagorno Karabakh.

Congressman Sherman urges to remove all barriers to U.S.-Nagorno-Karabakh cooperation

Congressman Brad Sherman outlined concrete steps that the U.S. can take "to demonstrate to Azerbaijan that the United States is committed to peace and to the protection of Artsakh from coercion," reports the Armenian National Committee of America.

Read Rep. Sherman's commemorative remarks in in remembrance of the Sumgait, Baku, Kirovabad massacres:

"26 years ago today was the first day in a three-day pogrom perpetrated against the Armenian residents of Sumgait in then-Soviet Azerbaijan. Although official figures reported 30 deaths, it is believed that hundreds were murdered and injured as a result of the pogrom.

Just a week before the violence erupted, the Armenians of Nagorno Karabakh voted to unify region with Armenia-the beginning of the Karabakh movement. In the days immediately after this vote Azeri civilians and local officials in the city of Sumgait held rallies calling for "death to Armenians".

On the night of February 27, 1988, Armenian residents in Sumgait were targeted and indiscriminately raped, mutilated and murdered. Calls for help from Armenians were ignored by local police and city officials. Journalists were shut out from the area. The violence raged on for three days before Soviet troops were able to put an end to the pogrom.

Witnesses of the horrific massacres later testified that the attacks were planned, as civilians had gathered weapons and the exits of the cities were blocked in advance to prevent Armenians from escaping. The homes of Armenians were marked so that the Azeri mobs could easily target them.

Unfortunately, the perpetrators of the pogrom succeeded in their ultimate goal-driving out Armenians. Fearing more violence, Armenians fled Sumgait. Later that year, another anti-Armenian pogrom occurred in Kirovabad, Azerbaijan from November 21st to 27th, which also forced hundreds of Armenians to flee the region. In January of 1990 violent mobs targeted the Armenian community of Azerbaijan's capital, Baku.



I would like to honor the memory of Armenians killed in the pogroms of Sumgait, Kirovabad, and Baku. If we hope to stop future massacres, we must acknowledge these horrific events and ensure they do not happen again.

This month also marked the 10th anniversary of the heinous murder of Armenian Army Lieutenant Gurgen Margaryan at a NATO training camp in Budapest, by Ramil Safarov, a Lieutenant of the Azerbaijani Army. Safarov used an axe to hack Margaryan to death while he

was sleeping. After being convicted of murder by Hungarian courts, he was transferred to Azerbaijan where he was immediately pardoned and given a hero's welcome. Several Azerbaijan government officials have hailed Safarov's actions as patriotism. This is unacceptable, and the international community should hold Azerbaijan accountable for this.

Recognizing the ethnic-cleansing of the Armenians from Azerbaijan is an important step. However, we need to do more-we need to demonstrate to Azerbaijan that the United States is committed to peace and to the protection of Artsakh from coercion.

We must call for an end to all threats and acts of coercion by Azerbaijan's government against the Republic of Nagorno Karabakh.

Congress should strengthen Section 907 of the FREEDOM Support Act by removing the President's ability to waive U.S. law prohibiting aid to Azerbaijan because of its continuing blockade against Armenia and Nagorno Karabakh. In 1992, Congress prohibited aid to Azerbaijan because of its continuing blockade against Armenia and Nagorno Karabakh. However, in 2001, Congress approved a waiver to this provision and administrations have used the waiver since then to provide aid to Baku. Azerbaijan should not be provided aid from the United States as long as they continue a policy of threats and blockades against Artsakh.

I urge the Administration to remove all barriers to broad-based U.S.-Nagorno-Karabakh governmental and civil society communication, travel and cooperation."

LA VALISE DE MON ONCLE

UN LEGS DE MEMOIRES

(My uncle's suitcase)
(A Legacy of Memories)

Robert SAMOIAN

Author of this book is born in VIENNE (Isère), FRANCE. He is Dental Surgeon Doctor in Odontologic Sciences. Member of the Pierre Fauchard Academy

Having met four times an american uncle from arminian origin like him, twice in America and twice in France, and exchanged with him, during theese memorable meetings, conversations on subjects diverse but very rich in informations or original by their analysis, he judjed them interesting and worth to be gathered in the present publication.

Numerous were the themes entered into:

- Origin of prefixes and suffixes in arminian family names
- Constitution of the Apostolic Church of Arminia
- Report on this uncle's journey to KHARPET (HARPUT) in east Turkey with the purpose of

rediscovering his family's roots

- Analysis of arminian populations' massacres from 1894 to 1896 called "Hamidian" and of

the Genocide initiated by the Young Turks from 1915 to 1920

- Treatment of Arminians in the Ottoman Empire
- Recalling of the tragic fate of the author's grandparents on the father side
- Schematic evocation of some pages on Armenians's History crossed with Frenchs' one at certain

moments

- Arminians's immigration in France, their successful assimilation and their gratitude to their receiving

country by the blood shed

- Odyssey of the author's parents and grandparents on the mother side
 - The BIBLE opposed to the CORAN
- Critic of an eventual entry of Turkey in Europe, of a possible conflict between Jewish-Christian

and Mahommetan civilizations, and examination of some solutions to avoid it

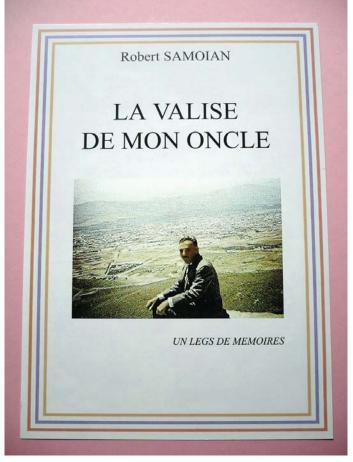
- Visit of VIENNE-LA-ROMAINE * in this uncle's company and commented to him during the last

meeting (* VIENNE is often presented to the tourists with this denomination to put emphasis on the richness

of the town in old Roman vestiges)

When arrived at this stage of his work, the author felt the obligation of adding to it the memories

which his uncle transmitted to him unexpectedly with a wooden suitcase at the end of their fourth meeting, saying to



him: "Here! My dear nephew, you will find inside this modest suitcase all the memories which I have written myself on my dear parents- who are your grandparents on the father side- and the report of some adventures lived while I was crossing the provinces of east Turkey, which

were formerly ancestral arminian lands, to the trying of liberation of which I participated as a volunteer in the Russian Army of Caucasus and after in the Arminian Legion of the French Middle-

East Division; theese writings, relative to a period going from 1915 to 1920, are left to you as an inheritance and I charge you to transmit them to our descendants".

Consequently, this work has gone beyond its first purpose of reporting only souvenirs, anecdotes, analysis or some historical episodes to become more solemnly a real legacy of memories.

> Price (in France) : 22 Euros Author's address : Les Minas, 2078 Route Napoléon E-mail : robert.samoian@orange.fr 38320 Brie-et-Angonnes FRANCE

Davit Ghazaryan: "Looking to Sergey Smbatyan's Hands, I Imagined I Saw the Ballet on the Stage..."

For the First Time Khachatourian Trio Plays with the State Youth Orchestra of Armenia

By Gourgen James Khazhakian Chief Correspondent

We beleieve it would not be too big exaggeration to say that on March 3 the Aram Khachatourian Concert Hall was overflowed with an atmosphere of

joy: two beloved collectives, the State Youth Orchestra of Armenia headed by the Founding Artistic Director and Principal Conductor *Sergey Smbatyan* and the Aram Khachaturian Trio were performing jointly on the same stage.

The audience greeted musicians with a storm of applauses, demanded new performances and refused to leave the Hall for a long

long.

The concert was dedicated to the 15th anniversary of the Khachaturian Trio.

It is noteworthy that for the first time in its history the Trio performed jointly with an orchestra. Indeed, *Armine Grigoryan* (piano), *Karen Shahgaldyan* (violin) and *Karen Kocharyan* (cello) have played with orchestras before as the soloists each one, but this concert gave them an opportunity to play with orchestra as a Trio.

Asked about the Concert program, Karen Shahgaldyan of the Trio said they were the most popular, frequently performed and sizeable works for Trio and Orchestra.

"I responded with pleasure to Sergey Smbatyan's proposal to have a joint concert, the very first one, with the State Youth Orchestra of Armenia as I am a permanent listener at the SYOA concerts and so see the progress of their performance level. Another reason is that I've worked already with Sergey as a soloist in 2006-2007 when Maestro Smbatyan conducted Ufa and then Omsk Philarmonic Orchestras (Russia), and already then I noticed that the-then young conductor had special attention to me as the soloist, which is very important to play in ensemble", K. Shahgaldyan said.

During the first part of the concert the audience was presented the Triple Concerto by Ludwig van Beethoven.

As Sergey Smbatyan, the SYOA Founding Artistic Director and Principal Conductor said in a brief interview to The Highlights correspondent, this piece is very popular and beloved by the listeners and a complicated one at the same time, as the three soloists, each of whom is a

bright individual, must think and play as the one, and plus to this hear the Orchestra.

As to the world-known immortal masterpiece by Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky, the Swan Lake Suite performed by the State Youth Orchestra of Armenia in the second part of the concert, Maestro



Smbatyan said the Orchestra prepared a special arrangement of the Suite especially for an Intl Music Festival to be held soon in Beirut, so that version was presented to the listeners in March 3 concert.

It is interesting that this piece was performed on the eve of March 4th, the day of premiere of the ballet in 1877 on the stage of the Bolshoi Theater.

In the words of a prominent musicologist Professor **Davit Ghazarya**n, Beethoven's Triple Concerto's performance by both the Trio and the Orchestra was "wonderful", and as to the Swan Lake, Mr Ghazaryan said it seemed to him he saw the same name ballet, as "Sergey Smbatyan's hands were so expressive". "So we should thank the

musicians for a real Holiday", summarized Davit Ghazaryan.

(He also heaped praise to the SYOA management).

To remind The Highlights readers, on 26 February the ensembles of the State Youth Orchestra of Armenia performed works by British composers at the

Special Events Auditorium of the Cafesjian Center for the Arts. The evening gave tribute to several less performed but still strikingly beautiful melodies by Edward Elgar - "Romance for Bassoon and Strings," with the soloist Nikolay Poghosyan (bassoon), "Piano Quintet" and the "Simple Symphony" by Benjamin Britten. The Project was held under the High Patronage of the Embassy of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the Republic of Armenia.

Republic of Armenia.

The "Tour to UK" concert was yet another musical evening organized in the frameworks of the "Tour to ..." concert series. Recently the SYOA ensembles have also performed the "Tour to Czech Republic" concert at the Cafesjian Center, and many more are to be expected in the nearest future.

As they informed your author at the SYOA management, the next concert by the SYOA is to be held on March 13 at 19.00 at the A. Spendiaryan Natl Opera and Ballet Theatre, with a joint program with *Dmitry Sitkovetsky* (violin, Great Britain), an artist "whose creativity defies categorizing".

This world-renowned musician has built up successful career as a violinist, conductor, arranger, chamber musician and festival director.

During the concert the audience will enjoy Violin Concerto by Johannes Brahms and Symphony No.6, "Pastorale" by Ludwig van Beethoven.

Sitkovetsky has performed as a soloist with many of the world's leading orchestras including the Berlin, New York, LA Philharmonic, Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, to name a few. He has performed at a number of high-profile festivals. In 2003, Sitkovetsky was appointed Music Director of the Greensboro Symphony Orchestra.

To remind, it is for a long time already that 10% of each bought ticket for SYOA concerts has been donated to "Gift the Life" Charity helping children suffering from blood/other diseases.

VivaCell-MTS in February-March: Surprises for Saint Sargis and Women's Days, Others, and 4G/LTE Network in the Big Part of Armenia - for the First Time

365 smartphones in 2014

VivaCell-MTS has organized a new draw for active subscribers of the "Special" package within the "City Talks" and the "Personal" tariff plans

On February 25th Armenia's leading telecommunications operator hosted the winners of the first stage of the "365" draw organized on February 20th at its Headquarters, and awarded them with 28 MTS Ego smartphones. The number of the awards corresponds to the quantity of the days in February.

The winners and the media representatives witnessed the whole process of the draw, which was videotaped with no interruption, as it was. Specially designed software "Microsoft.NET Random class selection on the system time", allows selecting winners from the database randomly. Bilaterally disconnected phone numbers were not included in the draw.

Winners of the "Best Love Confession" contest on VivaCell-MTS Facebook page received their prizes

For the Armenian youth, the Day of the Patron of Love and Youth - Saint Sargis, is about blessing youth, confessing love, cherishing the feeling, celebrating the great relationship, and making gifts to the beloved ones.

February On 26th VivaCell-MTS General Manager Ralph Yirikian handed the gifts - MTS Ego smartphones, to the three winners of the "Best Love Confession" contest held on the VivaCell-MTS Facebook page - Armine

Mamyan, Christine Vardanyan Artavazd Saghatelyan. Another 3 MTS Ego smartphones went to their beloved ones.

VivaCell-MTS 4G/LTE network, for the first time, made available in Gyumri, Vanadzor, Dilijan, Tsakhadzor and in most parts of Yerevan

On March 5th they announced that VivaCell-MTS commercially launched its 4G/LTE network in most parts of Yerevan, as well as Gyumri, Vanadzor, Dilijan and Tsakhadzor, with theoretical capacity of downlink peak data rates of up to 150 Mbps, and uplink data rates of up to 50 Mbps. VivaCell-MTS 4G/LTE can provide speeds of up to 60 Mbps in the downlink, and 20 Mbps in the uplink, as showcased via the speed tests using the end-user equipment sold at VivaCell-MTS service centers. These speeds are significantly faster than most advanced 3G network speeds currently available in Armenia. The

4G was launched by VivaCell-MTS General Manager *Ralph Yirikian*, in the presence of Vice President and Head of Business Unit MTS Foreign Subsidiaries Andrey Smelkov.

As part of extensive, ongoing investment in 4G/LTE network infrastructure, VivaCell-MTS has recently installed stateof-the-art 4G/LTE equipment, including 200 LTE eNodeB base stations, covering the 70% of Yerevan area, 100% territory in Gyumri, Vanadzor, and Tsakhadzor, as well as 80% of the Dilijan. VivaCell-MTS 4G/LTE nationwide rollout once again

> positions VivaCell-MTS as an innovations leader both in Armenia and the VivaCellregion. MTS is the first Armenian mobile operator granted the permission to use frequencies radio within 40 MHz range for LTE-based 4G network in Yerevan and the regions.

Introduced for the first time in Armenia in December 2010, the 4G/LTE network till recently was only covering the business center of Yerevan. Today, VivaCell-MTS 4G/LTE network, the only one in the country, already covers about 33% of the populated areas of the country, overall.

4G/LTE, the new generation mobile communication technology, enables the provisioning of new mobile applications with higher bandwidth demand. 4G is the most efficient and cost-effective method of high-speed data transfer with the best utilization of the frequency spectrum. With an increased data rate and reduced latency, increasing productivity and the opportunity to get work done where their business takes them, VivaCell-MTS 4G/LTE subscribers are able to use advanced online services, including Internet surfing, online gaming, video streaming and HD video on a brand new level.

4G LTE technology has a potential to contribute to e-learning, telemedicine, emergency situations, IT sector, sports, the sphere of entertainment, mass media, B2B, surveillance systems for business and individuals, remote control of in-house systems and appliances, the creation of Internet infrastructure in remote locations with utilization of minimal resources, etc. at the same time, VivaCell-MTS 4G/LTE users will be seamlessly switching over to the 3G network, whenever they leave the 4G network. The devices offered by VivaCell-MTS, including dongles and phones, are also compatible with GSM protocol.

"The first large-scale 4G/LTE network in Armenia gives our customers a serious competitive advantage. With the 4G/LTE network made available in five major cities of Armenia - Yerevan, Gyumri, Vanadzor, Tsakhadzor and Dilijan, the Internet is now completely different, as 4G/LTE network is able to increase the speed capacities of the network tens of times, providing Armenians with a new level of convenience and unsurpassed experience of mobile broadband access", VivaCell-MTS General Manager Ralph Yirikian commented. "The nationwide roll-out of 4G/LTE positions Armenia as one of the selected global leaders in 4G deployment, as well as presents Armenia to the

world as a country with more attractive communication infrastructure," Yirikian added.

VivaCell-MTS is committed to continuing the expansion of the LTE coverage in Yerevan as well as deployment of its LTE network further on in the regions, making available the benefits of 4G-based services to all subscribers.

Special offer to the first 100 subscribers of VivaCell-MTS

"Internet Express 50" tariff plan
From March 5, 2014 those who subscribe to VivaCell-MTS' "Internet Express 50" tariff plan for at least a year have got an opportunity to enjoy the most up-to-date 4G Internet network available in Yerevan, Gyumri, Dilijan, Tsakhkadzor and Vanadzor for two months without monthly fee.

The offer was available to the first 100 subscribers to the package who joined it starting from March 5, 2014.

In case of subscribing to the package for at least one year, the "Internet Express" USB modem is provided for free.

Unlimited calls for AMD 150 per

VivaCell-MTS has prepared a spring surprise for its subscribers. The subscribers of the "Alo We", "YES" and "Dialect" tariff plans from March 8 till April 7, 2014 have an opportunity to send the *024# command and make unlimited on-net calls for just AMD 150 per day.

To stop automatic prolongation of the service, one needs to send *024*0# command.

Armenian Businessman Ruben Vardanian discusses education projects

On January 23, Mediamax journalist Aram Abrahamyan interviewed businessman and philanthropist, and founder of IDeA Charitable Foundation, Ruben Vardanian on Armenia's Shant TV. Below is Vardanian's discussion about his current and future projects in education, philanthropy and business.

Armenia 20-20 project

Over 10 years have passed since we started discussing the possible scenarios for Armenia's future. It was a highly important exercise and to this end, we did our best to attract as many people of various views and professional skills as possible. It's hard to accept the present-day reality if you don't know what kind of future you may have. The understanding of the future is not an easy thing; it requires great efforts. Of course, what we used to do was a bit naïve but on the whole, I am pleased [with the results of this work], as despite all difficulties and disappointments many ideas and projects, which were born in the course of these discussions, were realized and they eventually came to exist on their own.

It's quite different, that the discussion, unfortunately, was not continued and perhaps the current apathy and discontent observed in society are partially caused by people's inability to understand how the future will be. I believe such a professional and serious discussion should be held on a regular and public basis.

Projects, ambitions and scales

I don't like the word "ambitious" much; I prefer to use "large-scale" as an attribute, since our goal is not to surprise, but to change. Changes require huge efforts, and these are long-term projects.

Tatev Revival Project was launched in 2005 and will be completed in 2017. The idea of establishing an international school in Dilijan which will open this year was also the result of discussions held within the "Armenia-2020" project. We started more specific discussions over 2007-2008 and we hope that already in 2023, the school will be hosting 650 students every year. We are speaking of a vision of 15-20 years. There are several other projects being discussed at the moment, and they are also long-term and large-scale. There are many significant and important projects that should be implemented to make serious changes in Armenia.

We need "anchor" projects that will attract [other initiatives]. We choose projects which evoke changes in the region or in a separate field. Besides my family and me, a big number of people are involved in these projects - all the projects are jointly carried



out. But the most important thing in our projects is that they are multi-effective, that is the revival of the monastery or the construction of the school lead to the implementation of other important projects.

The principles [of all our projects]: Spillover effect, Long-term vision and perspective, global scope and collaboration [and engaging local population, gradual sustainability, best international standards]. It's rather important to set local people in motion. People should feel that it's their project and not just one that "came out of the blue". It's not less important to reach a level at which the projects will become self-sustainable. Capital investments are made on a charity basis but we aspire to make the projects self-reliant and independent from the sponsors. Another important thing is to make these projects meet best international standards.

Survival and traps

It's one of the major problems in society. Over the last 20 years, we have been thinking of how to survive. It's hard to look 15-20 years ahead when you live in survival mode. But if we do not readjust and develop longterm thinking, it will be too hard to overcome this pattern which is a serious trap. It will eventually cause the country to be in the continuous mode of survival or stagnation. Prosperity is a risk. You should take the risk and believe that your children will live better than you do today. The Soviet period thinking held that if you do something today you will ensure your children's well-being tomorrow. We seem to have lost this perception, despite our independence and our victory in the war. The survival mode is not only conditioned by the economic situation but also our mental approach.

Education and Dilijan School

It's a symbolic project for us, which is large-scale and required great efforts from us. Many things still lie ahead, but we can already see we are on the right path. The

school will open its doors in September and the first 90 students aged 16-17 will start their studies here. The selection process in underway now and Armenian citizens can submit their applications to not only our school, but also 13 other UWC [United World Colleges] schools across the globe. UWC provides high-quality education; one of the bests by the number of graduates entering top universities. The [new] Director of [our] school has already commenced his work, the academic staff is being formed, and I am happy that the process is internationalized. We will have students from various countries, in this respect, the school is really unique for Armenia.

We are a nation with a passion for learning and it means we have a competitive edge because [gifted and educated] people are the main asset in the 21st century. I strongly believe in this, and that is the reason why we spend so much time and effort on education. We have two main areas of charity - IDeA [foundation] (Initiatives for Development of Armenia) and education, which have intersected in the territory of Armenia. I am pleased that our flagship project in school education (UWC Dilijan College) is being implemented in Armenia.

We have another project as well which was carried out in Russia with our partners and friends from various countries - it is SKOLKOVO Business School. These two schools are our key projects in the sphere of education, which are highly important for me.

'Open skies'

Every country and economy has its bottle-necks. Transport is one of our weak points. Solving this issue will help improve life in Armenia, open more workplaces and create more opportunities for self-actualization.

I think it's critical for Armenia to have a national carrier operating in the "open skies". It means it will compete with other air companies based on market terms. It's not easy as this industry is highly-competitive. We want two million people to fly to Armenia instead of 700 thousand on a yearly basis. It will be a great impetus to the economy, which will allow creating 20 thousand jobs, opening new hotels and restaurants; thus it will boost changes in Armenia. To this end, we need "open skies" in which various air companies with more resources and experience will operate. It will be quite hard for new air companies to enter the market and we consider it important to support this process but on mar-

continued on page 15

Armenian Businessman Ruben Vardanian discusses education projects

From page 14

ket, and not monopoly terms.

I really hope that the stabilization of situation in Georgia will allow opening the railway connecting Armenia to Russia and will serve a serious impetus for the change of the economic situation. As a person, looking 15-20 years ahead I do realize that our economic state will not be changed [for the better] unless we address those issues and Armenia appears on the world travel map.

Yes, on the whole, it has nothing to do with our [projects] directly. I have never intended to and I am not going to get involved in aviation but I consider it fundamentally important for the development of Armenia, and a person who realizes the importance of the issue should have his contribution to its solution.

Self-reproach

Armenia has many positive examples but against a background of general apathy they appear to be less significant.

One of my primary goals is to work out projects which will become a "magnet" for other investors to implement new projects. I am pleased with the opening of Hyatt Place Hotel in Armenia. The Tatev Revival Project gave an impetus for the opening of 10 new hotels in Goris. I believe that despite all difficulties and challenges we have unique competitive advantages which can be used in the implementation of specific projects in the spheres of education, medicine and tourism.

Ameriabank

I am proud of this project as it's one of the

projects giving importance to my stay in Armenia. 15 years ago when I got acquainted with Andrew Mkrtchyan and his partners, they were only starting to launch a consulting business from scratch; they were working and competing with the best world companies. In this context, Ameriabank is a very good example of success and I do not try to advertise the bank this way.

There are 21 banks in Armenia, including respectful international brands: HSBC, Credit Agricole, VTB, Gazprombank. Our bank was purchased without a single customer; we virtually purchased the license, and in over five years the guys managed to turn Ameriabank into a leader in the banking system of Armenia by almost all key indicators.

I always used to act as a passive investor helping the guys but they used to do the work on their own. The first five years were years of development for the bank, and it was necessary for me to act as a "guarantor." It's already high time that Andrew Mkrtchyan took up the post of the bank's Board of Directors; I am still a member of the board. Ameriabank's Board of Directors is one of the best ones, particularly with the involvement of Robert von Rekowsky [Vice-President of the Emerging Markets division at Fidelity Investments], Noubar Afeyan [Managing Partner and CEO of Flagship Ventures, Professor at Massachusetts Institute of Technology], Gor Nakhapetyan [Vice-President of SKOLKOVO Russian Business School]. I find it right to change the Chairman of the Board of Directors every five years. It's also part of the new culture and standards. Ameriabank pursues very correct corporate governance principles and I think rotation and changes are only beneficial for the bank.

Future

I am in a transition period. I am completing a very important phase of my life: I used to be an investment banker for 22 years, headed Troika Dialog Company which became part of Sberbank [in 2012]. I still continue as advisor to the President [Chairman of the Board] of Sberbank German Gref but I am planning to be more actively involved in several areas, including charity projects related to Armenia and education. I have a large portfolio of projects which should be carried out and completed. It is highly important to be consistent and fulfill the promises.

I am still member of Ameriabank's Board of Directors; I joined the Board of International Finance Corporation, which is part of the World Bank. I am a member of Boards of Directors of a number of companies in various countries, business-schools in Brazil, Japan and China.

My further activity is related to both business and public activities. I have many plans related to education, possibilities to work with interesting people who work out interesting projects in order to change our environment and make it more positive and successful so that our children can live in a country none the worse from those [countries] to where we love to travel.

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 station down. A little far you can find a supermarket, underground station.

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Հավելված N 2 Հայաստանի Հանրապետության կենտրոնական ընտրական հանձնաժողովի 2012թ. հոկտեմբերի 5-ի N 309-Ն որոշման

ՀԱՇՎԵՏՎՈՒԹՅՈՒՆ

<u>ՀԿԿ</u> կուսակցության 20<u>13</u> թվականի հունվարի 1-ից դեկտեմբերի 31-ն ընկած ժամանակահատվածում ստացած ն ծախսած միջոցների մասին

ԿՈՒՄԱԿՑՈՒԹՅԱՆ ՀԱՇՎՈՒՄ ՄՈՒՏՔ ԱՐՎԱԾ ԴՐԱՄԱԿԱՆ ՄԻՋՈՑՆԵՐ

Աղբյուրները	Չափը (հազ.դրամով)	Հատկացման ձևը (բանկային հաշիվ/դրամարկղ կանխիկ/փոխանցում,)	Արժույթի տեսակը
1	2	3	4
1. Մնացորդը հաշվետու տարվա հունվարի 1-ի դրությամբ	36	Բանկային հաշիվ	ՀՀ դրամ
2. Մուտքի վճարներ	10228	Բանկային հաշիվ	ՀՀ դրամ
a c marks daminate	1888 – ստացված է	Դրամարկղ կանխիկ	
	16050 անդամից		
3. Անդամակցության վձարներ			ՀՀ դրամ
4. Ֆիզիկական անձանց նվիրատվություններ	3000	Զանգեզուրի ՊՄԿ ՓԲԸ	ՀՀ դրամ
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	2000	Ջանգեզուրի ՊՄԿ ՓԲԸ	ՀՀ դրամ
5. Իրավաբանական անձանց նվիրատվություններ	/		
6. Օրենքով նախատեսված կարգով ստացված բյուջետային ֆինանսավորում			
7. Օրենքով չարգելված այլ աղբյուրներ			
Ընդամենը (ըստ արժույթների)	12152		ՀՀ դրամ

S. Uարզսյան

Կուսակցության ղեկավարի /կուսակցության իրավաստապանտոնատարան հարանան հայրանուն, ազգանուն, ստորազգարին 00024773

ԾԱԽՍՎԱԾ ԴՐԱՄԱԿԱՆ ՄԻՋՈՑՆԵՐԸ ԵՎ ՄՆԱՑՈՐԴԸ ՏԱՐՎԱ ՎԵՐՋՈՒՄ

Ծախսի անվանումը	Չափը (հազ.դրամով)	Ծախսի կատարումը հավաստող փաստաթղթերի անվանումը և տվյալները	Արժույթի տեսակը	
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2. Սոցիալական վձարներ				
3. Գույքի վարձակալության վճար	906	Հաշիվ ապրանքագրեր	ՀՀ դրամ	
4. Կոմունալ վձարումներ	1180	Հարկային հաշիվ	ՀՀ դրամ	
.5. Հարկեր, տուրքեր	10000	Բյուջե վարձավճար (արենդավճար)	ՀՀ դրամ	
6. Գույքի ձեռք բերման համար կատարված ծախսեր				
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8. Գործուղման ծախսեր			, ,	
9. Այլ ծախսեր				
Ընդամենը (ըստ արժույթների)	12086		ՀՀ դրամ	
Դրամական միջոցների մնացորդը տարվա վերջում (ըստ արժույթների)	66		ՀՀ դրամ	

S. Մարգսյան Կուսակցության ղեկավարի /կա

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Աղբյուրները	Անշարժ գույքի տեսակը, գտնվելու վայրը, մակերեսը	Արժեքը (հազ.դրամով)	Օտարման կամ դուրս գրման գինը (հազ.դրամով)	Օտարման ձևը և օտարման (դուրս գրման) փաստը հաստատող փաստաթղթի անվանումը և տվյալները	Առկա է տարվա վերջում
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2.Ֆիզիկական անձանց նվիրատվություններ	-				
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4.Օրենքով չարգելված այլ աղբյուրներ	-	,			
Ընտանենո՝				1	

S. Սարգսյան
Կուսակցության ղեկավարի /կուսակցության ըրարարան
անուն, հայրանուն, ազգանուն, ստորագրություն

ԿՈՒՍԱԿՑՈՒԹՅԱՆ ՇԱՐԺԱԿԱՆ ԳՈՒՑՔԸ

			Օտարվել կամ դուրս է գրվելէ		
Աղբյուրները	Շարժական գույքի տեսակը, մակնիշը ն սերիան, թողարկման տարեթիվը	Արժեքը (հազ.դրամով)	Օտարման կամ դուրս գրման գինը (հազ.դրամով)	Օտարման ձևը և օտարման (դուրս գրման) փաստը հաստատող փաստաթղթի անվանումը և տվյալները	Աոկա է տարվա վերջում
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1.Աոկա շարժական գույքը հաշվետու տարվա հունվարի 1-ի դրությամբ					
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ARMENIAN POETRY

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

Mars, the god of war, is in your partnership territory. Therefore it is particularly important not to attack another, verbally or physically. If you have enemies, let them make the first move and you will be assured of ultimate victory over the issue. Old issues in your primary relationships may be surfacing. If so, consider it an opportunity to handle it with greater maturity this time.

Taurus (Apr. 20--May 19):

The warrior energy is now in your 6th house of work and health. Since early December you have been moving as quickly as you can to cover all the bases and still maintain your health routines. While Mars is retrograde it is common to plateau on physical goals, such as weight loss, but it is temporary. Don't let this plateau discourage you from what works. Gemini (May 20 -- June 20):

Mars is retrograding in the house concerning romance, children, gambling, and playful activities. While it is retrograde you may be strongly inclined to "go back" to a former condition in one or more of these areas. Newer romantic relationships may be put on hold for a few weeks. Somehow it just doesn't feel like the right time to pursue a new love.

When Mars is retrograde, the war is always internal. Blaming others just is not allowable. Check your sun and rising signs on the weekly page to see how it impacts you.

Cancer (June 21--Jul y 21):

Mars is retrograding in your territory of home and property. Because Mars rules machinery and tools of all kinds, there may be breakdowns of household gadgetry or vehicles that require repair. It is best to avoid buying new mechanical items while Mars is retrograding. Therefore it is generally better to repair or rent items until Mars is direct.

Leo (July 22 -- Aug. 21):

Mars is retrograding in the horoscope sector that relates to vehicles, sibs, neighbors and tools. Mars in this territory may represent the need to make repairs. Don't ignore strange car noises. It is possible that you are irritated with siblings, roommates, or neighbors, but now is not the time to initiate. Let them re-create the problem and then you may respond.

Virgo (Aug 22--Sep. 22) :

Mars is in the sector related to income and outgo. You may feel absolutely compelled to purchase something expensive and impractical. It is more favorable to wait out the transit and see how you feel about it in late June. Meanwhile there may be more outgo than income, so use careful judgment about expenditures.

When Mars is retrograde, the war is always internal. Blaming others just is not allowable. Check your sun and rising signs on the weekly page to see how it impacts you.

Libra (Sep. 23--Oct. 22)

Your physical and libidinal energy may go into a dip for a while. You may be surprised to find that you have changed your mind about circumstances and people in your life. Do not worry. You haven't lost your mind. Your desire to back away is a signal that you are tired and burning out. Be honest about your need for a rest rather than leaving others hanging.

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

While Mars is retrograding, you probably will not have the energy and drive to which you are accustomed. It will do little good to beat yourself up over this issue. Consider that Mars is asking you to slow down, just for a couple of months. Your body needs a rest. And your mind needs time for reflection about your next direction.

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

You may be recognizing the need to back off or back out of some of your friendships and community associations during this period. At minimum you will be reassessing why you are involved and whether you wish to continue in the future. If your motive for pursuing these activities is merely habit, maybe you need a break. Friends and associates from the past may resurface.

When Mars is retrograde, the war is always internal. Blaming others just is not allowable. Check your sun and rising signs on the weekly page to see how it impacts you.

Capricorn (Dec 21 -- Jan 19):

Issues of career and future direction are highlighted during this Mars retrograde. You may have thought you were headed in one direction, and now suddenly you are shifting into neutral or reverse. If so, this period offers a message to think this one over for a while. You probably need a better foundation or a truer motive to move forward.

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

You likely will experience delays in activities concerning the law, education, publishing and travel. If traveling, you may be going back to someplace where you have previously been. Or your plans may be delayed. You may have to redo paperwork in order to accomplish the same thing in a different style or format.

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

Activities concerning taxes, insurance payoffs, government funding, and loans will likely be delayed, and maybe even denied. This is a good time to talk with your partner about issues concerning joint resources. It is not a good time to attack, but to discuss and look for jointly favorable solutions. Seeking a loan is not a good idea now.

HOVHANNES HOVHANNESSIAN

NEW SPRING

WHERE art thou coming, Springtime sweet?

Thou com'st in vain, O Spring! I No one is left to wait for thee, No one thy praise to sing.

Deep darkness has enwrapped the world;

To mount and valley cling Red stains of blood; this year brought woe.

Where art thou coming, Spring?

The nightingale may sing to thee; Who else, where all are slain, Is left to smile? What heart can stir? O Spring, thou com'st in vain!

The nightingale has come, but found No rose with silken leaf.

Here is the flower-bed, but no flower. Who else is free from grief?

Although thou hast brought back the birds,

How shall they find their nests? No spot in all our fatherland Unspoiled, unruined rests.

The minstrel's mouth is closed to-day; No flutes or viols ring; His heart is burning without fire. Where art thou coming, Spring?

No one is left to praise thee now On mountain or on plain; No one is left to wait for thee; O Spring, thou com'st in vain!

WHAT? WHEN? WHERE?

Enjoy your leisure

12 March

19:00.**We and Our Sevak**.Presented by "Zartonk". Aram Khachaturian Concert Hall.

19:00. **Rony Barrack**. Musical Director and Principal Conductor: Honoured Artist of Armenia, Karen Durgaryan. National Academic Theater of Opera and Ballet after A. Spendiarian..

a

13 March

19:00. **Flowers Manuscript**. Author and Director: ZhirayrDadasyan. Yerevan State Pantomime Theater.

19:00. Yerevan State Chamber Theater. **Private Danielyan.** Author and Staging Director: Sergey Danielyan

16:00.State Musical Chamber Theater. **David of Sasun.** Author: Hovh. Tumanyan. 19:00. **Sidzaru.** Educational Theater of State Institute Of Theater And Cinematography.

14 March

14:00. **Alice in Wonderland.** State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan. 19:00.**Under Ground.** .Author: Ara

Theater of State Institute Of Theater And Cinematography

19:00. **For the Sake of Honor**. Author: Alexander Shirvanzade National Academic

National Academic Theater of Opera and Ballet after A. Spendiarian..

14:00.**Beauty and the Beast**. Director: ArmenMargaryan. State Musical Chamber



Theater after G. Sundukyan.. 19:00. **The Great Silence.** Yerevan Drama Theater after H. Ghaplanyan..

15 March

19:00.**Under Ground**. Author: AraYernjakyan. Yerevan State Chamber Theater

18:00 **A Tale from the Clouds.**.State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan.

Theater.

12:00, 14:00, 16:00. **The Invincible Rooster.** Author: Hovhannes Tumanyan State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan. . 12:30, 14:00 15:30. **Alice in Wonderland.** State Marionette Theater.

16 March

19:00.**The Salvation Island.** Hamazgayin State Theater.

12:00. **Madagascar Zoo.** National Academic Theater after G. Sundukyan.. 12:30, 14:00, 15:30.**The Tailless Fox.** Stage Director: Lily Elbakyan.State Marionette Theater.

18:00. A Tale from the Clouds. State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan. 12:00, 14:00, 16:00. Involuntary Musicians. State Puppet Theater after H. Tumanyan..

19:00. **Romeo and Juliet.** Yerevan Drama Theater after H. Ghaplanyan. 19:00.**To Arms!**. Author and director of the

19:00.**To Arms!**. Author and director of the play - Ara Yernjakyan. Yerevan State Chamber Theater.

20 March

19:00. **Julius Caesar.** Yerevan Drama Theater after H. Ghaplanyan..

19:00.**Royal Concert**. Author and director of the Ara Yernjakyan.Yerevan State Chamber Theater.

19:00. **Ardalion..** Author of Play` Zhirayr Dadasyan and Naira Yedigaryan.. Yerevan State Pantomime Theater.



Yernjakyan. Yerevan State Chamber Theater.

16:00. **Anush.** Author: H. Tumanyan. State Musical Chamber Theater.

19:00.**Pavel Kogan.** Aram Khachaturian Concert Hall.

19:00.H. **Yearning**. Directed by: GrigorBabayan. Malyan Theater of Film Actors.

19:00.. I'm Not Complaining. Educational

19:00. **Suzanne, Suzette and Jacqueline** + **3 men.** PlayYerevan Drama Theater after H. Ghaplanyan...

19:00. Women Again. Director: Margarita Mnatsakanyan. Educational Theater of State Institute Of Theater And Cinematography. 19:00. Goya. Author: Antonio Buero Vallejo. National Academic Theater after G. Sundukyan..

19:00. Chopiniana & Bach's Passion.

Six Armenians on Forbes World Billionaires List

There are six Armenians in the World's Billionaires list published by Forbes on March 3. Kirk Kirkorvan (328th) is still the world's richest Armenia with an estimated net worth of \$4.5 billion. The other Armenian billionaires are Samvel Karapetyan (345th), Danil Khachaturov (663rd), Eduardo Eurnekian (931st) and Sergei Sarkisov and Nikolai Sarkisov (both ranked1465th).

The ranks of the world's billionaires continue to scale new heights-and stretch to new corners of the world. The global wealth team found 1,645 billionaires with an aggregate net worth of \$6.4 trillion, up from \$5.4 trillion a year ago. In total, there are 172 women on the list, more than ever before and up from 138 last year.

Bill Gates is back on top after a four-year hiatus, reclaiming the title of world's richest person from telecom mogul Carlos Slim Helu of Mexico, who ranked No. 1 for the past four years. Gates, whose fortune rose by \$9 billion in the past year, has held the top spot for 15 of the past 20 years. Spanish clothing retailer Amancio Ortega (best known for the Zara fashion chain) retains the No. 3 spot for the second year in a row, extending his lead over Warren Buffett, who is again No. 4. American gambling tycoon Sheldon Adelson, who added \$11.5 billion to his pile, makes it back into the top ten for the first time since 2007. Another first: A record net worth of \$31 billion was needed to make the top 20, up from \$23 billion last year.

Kirk Kirkorvan, a hotel magnate is still making money - even at the age of 96. Despite selling \$750 million worth of shares of MGM International Resorts in recent years, the Chairman emeritus (till owns nearly one-fifth its shares, which have nearly doubled in the past year - helping boost his net worth by \$1.2 billion.

Samvel Karapetyan heads the Tashir Group, a real estate firm that owns 27 shopping centers, seven office complexes, and seven hotels.

In late 2013 Danil Khachaturov listed

shares in his insurance giant Rosgosstrakh, one of Russia's highest-volume insurers, on the Moscow Exchange. Khachaturov studied construction and finance at Moscow schools and went to work at privately-held BIN Bank and then at Slavneft, an oil company led at the time by billionaire Mikhail Gutseriev.

Through the years, Eduardo Eurnekian, now 71, has proven he is a flexible businessman and entrepreneur. The son of Armenian immigrants, he first delved into the textiles industry, and then the cable TV business in the 1980s.

Sergei Sarkisov got his start at the Soviet state insurance firm Ingosstrakh. In 1991 he founded his own insurer, RESO-Garantiya where he serves as chairman of the board.

Nikolai Sarkisov, the younger brother of billionaire Sergei Sarkisov, oversees the largest clients at Sergei's insurance company, RESO-Garantiya. The brothers own 63% of the company, while French insurer AXA owns the remaining 37%.





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