

Arsen Ghazaryan: “Alexander Mantashyants Should be a Role Model for Today’s Armenian Businessmen”



3 March, the birthday of Alexander Mantashyants, officially announced as “The Businessman Day”
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President Sargsyan's address on Diplomat's Day



President Sargsyan has issued an address on the occasion of Diplomat's Day

Dear Diplomats,

I congratulate you on the occasion of Diplomat's Day.

This year marks a jubilee, because 25 years ago, on this very day Armenia joined the United Nations Organization, thus fulfilling the cherished aspiration of our people to become a full-fledged member of the international community.

A quarter of a century ago, when Armenia appeared again on the world political map, the link between our country and the outside world was established first of all through our diplomats. It is no coincidence that this symbolic day has been declared and is traditionally celebrated as the professional holiday of Armenian Diplomats.

Indeed, the responsibility to protect the interests of independent Armenia, which has a millennia-old history, rich traditions and culture, and those of its citizens is a great responsibility. One of the peculiarities of diplomatic service is that most of its activities

remain invisible to public eye. Be assured that your work is visible to us and is praiseworthy.

Today again our country faces multiple challenges. In the efforts to withstand those challenges we have great expectations and requirements from you, our diplomats. Just like the Armenian soldier on the frontline, so do you, abroad and in the central apparatus of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, should remain vigilant and always ready to counter any threat directed against our state and national interests.

The surrounding geopolitical realities have left their unique mark on our diplomatic service as well. Along with high professional requirements, which may be even higher than in case of diplomats of other countries, your work requires a selfless dedication to and love for Homeland. That is the case when you represent a country, which has to live under the conditions of war and blockade.

Armenia is a peace-loving country. We, the Armenians, have struggled for centuries for the right to live on the land of our ancestors, so we fully realize the value of peaceful life. Diplomats carry on their shoulders the most important share of the responsibility to ensure necessary conditions for a peaceful and sustainable development of our country. I am confident that you understand that responsibility and are ready to bear it with honor.

I am sure that you will continue to properly represent our country, our stance and approaches and through your active engagement will make them more audible and understandable within international platforms; that you will continue to bring your considerable contribution to the strengthening of our country's external security.

Dear Diplomats,

Once again I congratulate you on the occasion of Diplomat's Day and wish you an unlimited vigor to fulfill to the best possible extent the mission entrusted to you. I also wish you new achievements for the benefit and development of our Homeland.

Azeri leadership has forced itself into deadlock, Armenia's Foreign Minister says



Armenian Foreign Minister Edward Nalbandian does not exclude the perspective of having one country recognize Artsakh Republic by the end of year. "Recognition by one country is not enough, but

everything has its beginning," Minister Nalbandian told reporters in Stepanakert, as he commented on the possibility of recognition of Artsakh's independence by Armenia.

"The negotiation process is aimed at exceptionally peaceful settlement of the conflict. We should reach not just recognition, but also realization of Artsakh people for self-determination. This will allow to hope for Artsakh's recognition," Edward Nalbandian said.

The Foreign Ministry said "Azerbaijan is losing in the negotiations, the Azerbaijani leadership has forced itself into deadlock, because what the Azerbaijani leadership is doing is completely different from what the Co-Chairs holding international mandate are doing."

"Having forced itself into deadlock, the Azeri side is trying to use force, which, they think will bring them bigger success. But soldiers in Artsakh have proven their illusions are void," Minister Nalbandian stated.

President Sargsyan briefs EU's Mogherini on Azeri provocations



President Serzh Sargsyan met with the High Representative of the EU for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the European Commission Federica Mogherini.

The President of Armenia stated that the meeting with Mrs. Mogherini was taking place at an important juncture for Armenia and the EU: a day before President Sargsyan and President Tusk announced the conclusion of the negotiations on the new framework agreement.

The parties discussed a wide range of issues pertinent to the further development and strengthening of the Armenia-EU relations. The President underscored that it is proper indeed to speak of joint accomplish-

ments of the last two years.

The parties spoke about the reforms carried out in Armenia in different areas, large-scale works implemented after the constitutional changes aimed at the developing and strengthening of democratic institutions in Armenia, as well as about the upcoming parliamentary elections.

The interlocutors discussed the Karabakh peace process, existing problems and concerns.

The President of Armenia spoke in detail about the destructive position of Azerbaijan, about the provocations regularly incited by the Azeris at the contact line with Artsakh and Armenia's state border, their refusal to implement agreements reached in Vienna and Saint Petersburg, which, according to President Sargsyan, challenges the years-long efforts of the international community aimed at a peaceful resolution of the conflict and the entire peace process.



Vigen Sargsyan Visits "Zar" Training Center

By Gourgen Khazhakian

The Armenian military officially launched on Friday a U.S.-funded renovation of the main training center of its brigade that contributes troops to multinational peacekeeping missions abroad.

Defense Minister **Vigen Sargsyan**, U.S. Ambassador to Armenia **Richard Mills** and high-ranking officers of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers inaugurated the start of reconstruction work with a special ceremony held at the "Zar" Military Training Center.

"Thanks to the assistance of our American partners, the training center of the Armenian peacekeeping forces will be completely renovated and will get a new look in the coming months," Minister Sargsyan said at the ceremony. According to him, *"This is yet another manifestation of active and productive U.S.-Armenian cooperation in the area of defense."*

DM Sargsyan thanked the U.S. government and military for the assistance.

US Ambassador to Armenia Richard Mills noted that this program is a recent indication of the long-term Armenian-American friendship. This year we celebrate 25th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Armenia, and the defense cooperation is one of the key cornerstones of our friendship, said Ambassador Mills.

"Zar" Training Center is the major training division of the RA Defense Ministry's peacekeeping brigade.

To note, the Armenian side will also finance the renovation.

According to a source, the Armenian Peacekeeping Brigade has re-



ceived considerable financial and technical assistance from the U.S. and other NATO member states ever since it was set up in the early 2000s.

Importantly, NATO assigned a higher degree of combat readiness and interoperability to the brigade after monitoring a four-day exercise held by it at the Zar facility in 2015.

More than 130 soldiers of the brigade are currently deployed in Kosovo, Afghanistan and Lebanon. Armenia plans to join more peacekeeping missions abroad with specialized medical and demining units. They will undergo NATO training before their deployment.

To remind, in October 2016, Sargsyan and Mills inaugurated a new paramedic school of the Armenian Armed Forces.

New Opposition Bloc Ready for Broad-Based Coalition

The recently formed Yelk opposition alliance said on March 3 that it is ready to reach power-sharing deals with all other contenders in Armenia's upcoming parliamentary elections challenging the ruling Republican Party (HHK).

"We rule out [post-election] cooperation, under any circumstances, only with the Republican Party," one of its leaders, Nikol Pashinyan, told a news conference.

"Not because we see many like-minded partners in the political arena but because we think that if we see a real opportunity in the parliament to effect regime in Armenia ... we will have to be flexible and take steps for the sake of such change."

Pashinyan and Yelk's two other top leaders, Edmon Marukyan and Aram Sargsyan, at the same time questioned the opposition credentials of some of the other parties and blocs. Yelk will not cut deals with them if they bribe voters or help the authorities rig the April 2 elections, said the three men.

"There are many parties that claim to be in opposition but have their own TV channels giving a detailed and neutral coverage of the government, and possess serious resources," Sargsyan said in a clear reference to the Armenian Revolutionary Federation (Dashnaktsutyun) and two other groups led by Gagik Tsarukyan and Artur Baghdasaryan.

"If they participate in the elections honestly, don't hand out bribes,



and fight, together with our proxies, against falsifications carried out by the authorities in polling stations, we'll see with whom we can cooperate and how," added the veteran politician.

The Yelk leaders hit out at the electoral alliances led by Tsarukyan and former Defense Minister Ohanyan as recently as on February 14. "I haven't heard any opposition statements by them," said Marukyan. Pashinyan, for his part, claimed that Ohanian and Tsarukyan would rather enter into a coalition with the HHK than opposition forces.

Yelk was set up in December by Marukyan's Bright Armenia, Pashinyan's Civil Contract and Sargsyan's Republic parties. In a joint declaration, they said they will strive for a "European model of the democratic, rule-of-law and social state" in Armenia.

Yerevan gunmen's backer again freed

A man accused of aiding anti-government gunmen who seized a police compound in Yerevan last year was again released from custody on March 6 following a 25-day hunger strike.

Armenia's Office of the Prosecutor-General ordered Artur Sargsyan's release after six opposition parliamentarians posted bail for him. Each of them pledged to contribute 500,000 drams (just over \$1,000) at a meeting with Prosecutor-General Artur Davtian

held earlier in the day.

Sargsyan drove his car through a police cordon to deliver food to armed members of the Founding Parliament radical opposition group during their two-week standoff with security forces. He surrendered to them on July 31 along with the remaining gunmen holed up in the compound. The armed group laid down its weapons despite the authorities' refusal to meet its demands that included the release of Founding

Parliament's jailed leader, Zhirayr Seifilian.

Armenia's Special Investigative Service (SIS) agreed to free Sargsyan on December 31 pending trial due to his deteriorating health condition. The SIS again detained him on February 9, saying that he ignored a summons from SIS officials investigating the standoff which left three police officers dead. Sargsyan began a hunger strike in protest against his detention.

The suspect was transported from a prison hospital to the Armenia Medical Center in Yerevan immediately after his release. A senior doctor there, Suren Makaryan, said he will undergo a series of medical tests.

The six lawmakers were allowed to visit Sargsyan just hours before he was set free. One of them, Levon Zurabyan, described the suspect's condition as "serious."

A total of 26 members of Armenia's parliament appealed for Sargsyan's release last week, saying they can guarantee that he will not obstruct justice or go into hiding.



Rex Tillerson hails Armenia's peacekeeping efforts, pledges support for Karabakh peace process



Armenian Foreign Minister Edward Nalbandian had a phone conversation with US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson. The parties discussed a wide range of issues on the agenda of bi-

lateral cooperation, expansion of trade relations, a number of pressing regional and global issues.

Secretary Tillerson expressed gratitude for Armenia's considerable contribution to international peacekeeping missions and praised the country for sheltering tens of thousands Syrian refugees.

Edward Nalbandian and Rex Tillerson exchanged views on the steps towards furthering the Karabakh peace process. The Armenian Foreign Minister presented the recent developments in the conflict zone.

In this context the interlocutors stressed the need to implement the agreements reached in Vienna and St. Petersburg.

Secretary Tillerson assured of US willingness to maintain active support for the peaceful resolution of the conflict.

No return to past, Artsakh President says



To achieve progress in the settlement of the Karabakh conflict, it's first necessary to restore the full format of talks, Artsakh Republic President Bako Sahakyan said in an interview with Regnum Agency.

"The resolution of the conflict is simply impossible without our participation as a full party. The fact is accepted by international mediators, e.g. the Minsk Group Co-Chairs. We are ready to hold direct negotiations with Azerbaijan and discuss any issues, and we have declared this on many occasions," Bako Sahakyan said.

"Status and security are two key political aspects of settlement. All other questions are derivatives. There no way back. Artsakh will never be part of Azerbaijan. This is excluded. Ensuring security to Nagorno Karabakh in all dimensions cannot be questioned, either. As to other questions, we are ready to discuss them with Azerbaijan. I believe this is a constructive stance based on existing realities," the President said.

"Like any citizen in my country, I'm confident of the bright future of Artsakh. We'll do our best to have strong, democratic, social and dynamically developing country, which will find its rightful place in the civilized world," Bako Sahakyan said.

Lavrov believes Karabakh issue can be solved

Russia will help Baku and Yerevan reach mutually acceptable solutions to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said on March 6 after talks with his visiting Azerbaijani counterpart, Elmar Mamedyarov.

"Naturally, we spoke about the Nagorno-Karabakh settlement. Russia will continue to help the sides reach mutually acceptable solutions both in its bilateral relations with Baku and Yerevan and in the format of trilateral meetings between Russia, Azerbaijan and Armenia, and, of course, in its capacity as Minsk Group Co-Chair," he said.

"We believe the Karabakh conflict can be solved," Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said at a joint press conference with his Azerbaijani counterpart Elmar Mamedyarov.

He said the opinion is reinforced by the "results of long-term contacts, as a result of which common ground has been reached on a number of key issues of conflict settle-

ment – security, humanitarian issue, return of territories surrounding Nagorno Karabakh, determination of the status of Nagorno Karabakh (with the opinion living there taken into consideration), defining the parameters of international peacekeeping forces, etc."

Lavrov said there is understanding on a number of aspects of final settlement and added that "two or three key issues are still being discussed. "We are far from the point where we can see the parties develop a common approach towards the remaining issues," he said.

The Russian Foreign Minister underlined that "before we can resume substantial talks it's important to deescalate the situation on the line of contact and the public environment."

He stressed the importance of confidence-building measures, including the agreements reached in Vienna and St. Petersburg and the proposals worked out within the framework of the OSCE.



France welcomes finalization of new Armenia-EU deal

France has welcomed the successful conclusion of negotiations on a new agreement designed to deepen Armenia's political and economic ties with the European Union.

The Comprehensive and Enhanced Partnership Agreement was finalized in time for President Serzh Sargsyan's visit to Brussels earlier this week. European Council President Donald Tusk said after talks with Sargsyan on Monday that it will "broaden the scope of our relations."

"This agreement will step up the political dialogue between the EU and Armenia on our shared commitment to democracy, human rights and the rule of law," the French Foreign Ministry said in a statement released late on Wednesday.

"It will facilitate expanded cooperation on energy, transportation and the environment," said the statement. "It will create new opportunities for trade and investment while protecting French and European geographical indications."

The accord, which is expected to be signed in May, will serve as a less ambitious substitute for an Association Agree-



ment negotiated by Armenian and EU officials in the summer of 2013. Sargsyan scuttled its signing with his unexpected decision in September 2013 to make Armenia part of the Russian-led Eurasian Economic Union (EEU). The U-turn was widely attributed to strong Russian pressure.

Visiting Yerevan in May 2014, French President Francois Hollande advocated a "special model" of political "association" between the EU and Armenia that would not run counter to the latter's commitments to the ex-Soviet trade bloc.

"Europe must accept an agreement on

association with Armenia, and Armenia can go ahead with a trade and commercial union with Russia," Hollande told RFE/RL's Armenian service (Azatutyun.am) at the time.

France has long been a key EU backer of Armenia, owing, in large measure, to the existence of a large and influential French-Armenian community.

Serzh Sargsyan reaffirmed his government's desire to forge closer links with the EU during his visit to Brussels which also involved talks with other senior EU officials. "Our people regard themselves as Europeans," he said in a speech.

Philip Morris International to build research and development centers in Armenia

Prime Minister Karen Karapetyan received a delegation led by Philip Morris International Management SA Eastern Europe, Middle East and Africa and Philip Morris International Duty Free President Drago Azinovich.

Welcoming the world-famous American company's commitment to developing activities in our country, Karen Karapetyan said his government ready to discuss the proposed program and cooperation initiatives.

Drago Azinovich thanked the Government for providing assistance to their research programs. The American company will build research and development (R&D) centers in Armenia. Mr. Azinovich stressed that they are interested in long-term cooperation with Armenia's Government and the public sector.

Attended by Prime Minister Karen Karapetyan, a framework memorandum of understanding was signed between the Ministry of Economic Development and Investment of the Republic of Armenia and Philip Morris International Management SA.

The MOU was signed by Minister of Economic Development and Investment of the Republic of Armenia Suren Karayan and Philip Morris International Management SA Eastern Europe, Middle East and Africa and Phillip Morris International Duty Free President Drago Azinovich.



Hayastan All-Armenian Fund turns 25



On March 3 marks the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Hayastan All-Armenian Fund. On March 3, 1992, as decreed by the first president of the Republic of Armenia, there came into being an organization which was entrusted with a pan-national mission of foremost importance and named HAYASTAN ALL-ARMENIAN FUND.

On May 16, 1992, the fund's 24-member Board of Trustees issued a statement, which said, "A devastating earthquake, thousands of homeless refugees, a dire situation faced by the Armenian population of Artsakh, an economy in shambles, and unrelenting blockades of the homeland: these and many other difficulties can be overcome

only through the synergistic mobilization of the resources and efforts of the entire Armenian nation, and through united and harmonious work. Actively supporting the development and strengthening of Armenian statehood, which is the main prerequisite for the survival and prosperity of the Armenian people, and contributing to the economic, scientific, educational, spiritual, and cultural development of the homeland must be an honor and a matter of duty for each and every Armenian."

Today, in the 25th year of its existence, the Hayastan All-Armenian Fund encompasses affiliates across the globe, legions of volunteers devoted to its patriotic mission, benefactors and grassroots donors who view the development of the homeland as a sacred duty, and a wide range of vitally important projects that have been implemented through collaborative work. In the past quarter century, thanks to the powerful unity of Armenians throughout the world, the Hayastan All-Armenian Fund has carried out a long string of projects, including roads, hospitals, schools and kindergartens, water and gas pipelines, and initiatives fostering excellence in the arts, sciences, and culture. Our each accomplishment is a message to the international community that despite facing a myriad of challenges, independent Armenian statehood perseveres, and that we must and will do everything it takes to defend and bolster it.

The achievements of the newest chapter of our history are the legacy we must leave to the new generation, to which we must also pass on a strong belief in collective strength and unwavering dedication to the homeland.

Zangi: Armenian challenge to Skype, Viber and WhatsApp

Zangi represents Armenia at 2017 Mobile World Congress (MWC) in Barcelona. Attended by a number of telecommunications companies of the world, MWC is the world's biggest and best mobile industry event.

It provides IT companies worldwide with an opportunity to showcase their innovations, establish business ties, promote their production and follow global trends.

Established in 2013, Zangi began its life by developing cutting-edge communications technology. The Company officially released its Zangi application in early 2015.

The Messenger available on iOS and Android, offers users anywhere an extremely useful communication tool.

"The Armenian application Zangi challenges Skype, Viber and WhatsApp," Prime Minister Karen Karapetyan said in a Facebook post.

Zangi CEO & Founder Vahram Martirosyan says they will return to Armenia with new agreements and a large cooperation packages that will open new perspec-

tive for the country and will make it better known in the IT world. New contracts will help create new jobs, as well.

Speaking to Public Radio of Armenia, Vahram Martirosyan assured that communicating through Zangi is 'completely safe.' The application does not store any data

about users anywhere. "Therefore, even if the system is hacked, none of the users will be affected," he said.

"The Armenian pavilion has been popular among visitors. Many have downloaded and tested the app over four days," Vahram Martirosyan said, speaking through Zangi.



Armenian Parliamentary Election Campaign Starts

(Yerevan - RFL/RE) Campaigning for Armenia's upcoming parliamentary elections officially began at the weekend, with President Serzh Sargsyan expressing confidence that his Republican Party (HHK) will win them and remain in power.

A total of five political parties and four alliances are vying for at least 101 seats in the new Armenian parliament that will be elected on April 2 under a complex system of proportional representation. The parties and the blocs will have to win at least 5 percent and 7 percent of the vote respectively in order to be represented in the next National Assembly.

The elections will be held one year before Sargsyan serves out his second and final presidential term and Armenia completes its transition to the parliamentary system of government. They will therefore decide who will govern the country for the next four years.

Virtually all of the nine election contenders launched their campaigns on Saturday with indoor presentations of their manifestos that involved speeches by their leaders. The HHK, widely seen as the election favorite thanks to its government levers and financial resources, rallied several hundred members at a sports arena in Yerevan.

Strangely enough, journalists were not allowed to cover the event. They had to content themselves with the transcripts of speeches delivered by Sargsyan and other party figures.

"With all due respect for our political opponents, we, the Republicans, believe that we will win," declared Sargsyan. "We will win because we believe in the country's future and the great potential of our people."

"Rest assured that we will become the most efficient and rapidly developing country in the region," the president said. He also said he expects his recently reshuffled cabinet headed by Prime Min-



ister Karen Karapetian to ensure such "progress."

Karapetyan reaffirmed his pledges to implement wide-ranging reforms. "We are confident that those changes will be visible and their results tangible," he told

the party faithful.

Sargsyan made clear late last year that Karapetyan will continue to serve as prime minister at least until April 2018 if the HHK wins the general elections. But he has still not clarified whether he plans

to become prime minister after the end of his presidency.

Sargsyan's junior coalition partner, the Armenian Revolutionary Federation (Dashnaktsutyun), also stressed the need for major "changes" in the country as it launched its separate election campaign. "While others are speaking of changes, we are actually effecting changes," claimed one of its leaders, Aghvan Vardanyan.

Dashnaktsutyun is represented in the Armenian government by three ministers in accordance with a power-sharing deal reached with Sargsyan a year ago. It had already been part of the government from 2008-2009 along with two other parties: Gagik Tsarukyan's Prosperous Armenia (BHK) and Artur Baghdasaryan's Armenian Renaissance. Both parties now claim to be in opposition to the government, something which is disputed by some observers as well as more established opposition figures.

One of the HHK's most vocal election challengers is an alliance that was set up recently by former Defense Minister Seyran Ohanian and former Foreign Ministers Vartan Oskanian and Raffi Hovannisian. The bloc called Ohanian-Raffi-Oskanian held its first campaign rally at a Yerevan cinema.

"We need to tell the people to stop coming to terms with this reality and to stop tolerating injustice and impunity in our country," said Ohanian, who was sacked



in October after holding a key position in the Sargsyan administration for more than eight years.

In its campaign platform, Ohanian's bloc promises, among other things, to increase defense spending by 50 billion drams (\$103 million). The figure is equivalent to more than one-fifth of Armenia's military budget.

Also challenging the HHK's hold on power is the pro-European Yelk (Way Out) alliance comprising Nikol Pashinyan's Civil Contract and two other parties. The bloc opposes Armenia's membership in the Russian-led Eurasian Economic Union (EEU) and has vowed to seek an Association Agreement with the European Union in case of coming to power.

"The latest political news in Armenia is that there is a way out of this situation," Pashinyan said at the official launch of Yelk's campaign on Saturday.

Pashinyan and another Yelk leader, Aram Sargsyan, walked through downtown Yerevan together with a dozen young activists earlier in the day, handing out campaign booklets to passersby.

Another major opposition contender is the alliance of former President Levon Ter-Petrosian's Armenian National Congress (HAK) and Stepan Demirchian's People's Party of Armenia (HZhK). The central theme of its campaign is peace with Azerbaijan and Turkey. In an extensive December speech, Ter-Petrosian reaffirmed his belief that a compromise solution to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict is vital for Armenia's security and prosperity.

"We need to normalize relations with Azerbaijan and resolve the Karabakh conflict," Levon Zurabyan, Ter-Petrosian's right-hand man, said at the official presentation of the Congress-HZhK alliance's election manifesto. Zurabyan said the alliance specifically supports the so-called Madrid Principles of a Karabakh settlement that were first put forward by U.S., Russian and French mediators in 2007.

The proposed framework accord calls for a phased settlement that would start with Armenian withdrawal from virtually all districts around Karabakh and end with a referendum in which Karabakh's predominantly Armenian population would determine the disputed territory's internationally recognized status.



City Spa, one of the founders of Aesthetic medicine in Armenia, that was established 14 years ago, is still following the main principles that were implemented since the launch: to use only clinically and scientifically approved, highly effective and safe with FDA approval products and equipments imported mainly from UK and Europe.

Depilation: Last year City Spa launched a very safe, painless and fast acting new machine for permanent hair removal. It is the "Primelase" produced by Cocoon Medical. The machine has an innovative method (dynamic mode) which allows to treat very large areas of the body within few minutes.

Localized fat removal: In Armenia the first cryolipolysis method was implement-



scientifically approved anti aging treatments and products for care. The doctors are regularly improving their qualifications in London and Paris, bringing the new inventions to Armenia. The products used in City Spa are only international leading brands such as ZO Skin health (Beverly Hills US), GLO therapeutics (ColoradoUS). Skin Ceuticals (US) etc.

And that's not the all: pedicure, manicure and massage will make your day.

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ed by City Spa in 2016. Cooltech is an innovative machine that acts as a none surgical liposuction, with a new method of cryolipolysis for permanent localized fat removal and body reconturing. It is safe, painless and very effective. City Spa is equipped also with the Wellashape machine for anti-cellulite treatment.

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ing strategy is very flexible and discounts for good long term clients are available during whole year as well as different Gift Cards.

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E-mail: spa.city@yahoo.com
Website: www.cityspa.am**

Elections 2017: Political forces announce slogans, reveal platforms

Yelk bloc will run for parliament under the slogan “Election, change, victory.” They pledge to be innovative, to offer new solutions in the campaign, to be open and transparent.

The alliance has decided to campaign in different regions of Armenia simultaneously. Edmon Marukyan, who leads the party list, will campaign in the northern provinces of Aragatsotn, Lori, Tavush and Shirak, Aram Sargsyan will work in the southern provinces of Armavir, Ararat, Vayots Dzor and Syunik. Nikol Pashinyan will mostly be in Yerevan, while Sasun Mikayelyan will travel to Gegharkunik and Kotayk.

Free Democrats have chosen the slogan “We can.” At a convention that marked the start of the campaign the party presented its election platform.

Ex-Prime Minister Hrant Bagratyan, who sits second in the proportional list, referred to the hard social-economic conditions in the country, which ‘have led to large-scale migration.’

“Don’t rely on someone to come, invest in the country and develop its economy. You have to develop Armenia. China’s example is instructive,” Bagratyan said.

The Armenian Renaissance Party urges to “Vote for change, vote for renaissance.” the party chose to start the campaign with a press conference.

The party will present the provisions of its platform to voters separately. The Armenian Renaissance has prepared videos that will introduce to the 30 points of the party’s program.

Tsarkukyan alliance says it’s “Time to change and build.” The bloc started the campaign from the borderline Tavush province. Divided into ten groups, members of the alliance traveled to different settlements of Tavush to deliver their messages to people.



Before the start of the campaign member of the bloc Varuzhan Babajanyan had reported pressures against their activists. Speaking to Public Radio of Armenia, Babajanyan said “all issues have been settled.”

The Congress-People’s Party bloc started the campaign without Levon Ter-Petrosyan. Presenting the platform, Congress’ Vice-President Levon Zurabyan said “it’s a program of telling people the truth.”

Addressing the public, member of the Armenian National Congress, economist Zoya Tadevosyan attached importance to eliminating monopoly in Armenia, attracting foreign investors.

The Republican Party of Armenia says it has the answers to the issues people are concerned with. “Elections meeting the letter and spirit of law will be the victory of all of us,” Prime Minister Karen Karapetyan said at the start of the campaign.

The party, which has chosen “Security and Progress” as its slogan, considers they will be able to present their programs and outlook to people during the campaign.

The Communist Party of Armenia,

which has chosen the “Motherland, labor, socialism” as its slogan, started the campaign from Tavush province.

The party aims to restore socialism in Armenia and intends to deepen the political, economic and cultural ties with Russia.

The Ohanyan-Raffi-Oskanian alliance will campaign under the slogan “Heritage, unity, victory.” Ex-Defense Minister Seyran Ohanyan says they are coming to form a new-quality leadership and restore the faith of the public. He also promises to fight all problems.

The alliance has already published the election platform titled “365 days: everyday change.”

The Armenian Revolutionary Federation started the campaign under the slogan “New beginning, fair Armenia.”

Head of the ARF faction Armen Rustamyan, who heads the party list, says the upcoming elections will be unprecedented in Armenian history.

“While others are speaking about changes, we’re bringing about these changes,” ARF faction secretary Aghvan Vardanyan said at the start of the campaign.

Arsen Ghazaryan: "Alexander Mantashyants Should be a Role Model for Today's Armenian Businessmen"

3 March officially recognized as "The Businessman Day"



By
**Gourgen
Khazhakian**

**Chief
Correspondent**

According to 9 February decision of Armenia's Government based on a proposal from the Union of Manufacturers and Businessmen of Armenia (UMBA, President **Arsen Ghazaryan**), 3 March that is the birthday of Armenian prominent entrepreneur and philanthropist of 19-20th century **Alexander Mantashyants** (Mantashev) is officially celebrated as "The Businessman Day" from the current year.

"The Mantashyants' Time: the Armenian Business Life in 19-20th Century" was inaugurated at the same place.

*"When during the Government's session it was proposed to declare 3 March as 'The Businessman Day', it was immediately decided to issue Alexander Mantashyants' stamp. The newly independent Armenia's history accounts 25 years only, but we see that the entrepreneurship develops in our country", Minister of Transport, Communication and Information Technologies **Vahan Martirosyan** said.*

Speaking to numerous cameras and reporters, President of the Union of Manufacturers and Businessmen of Armenia

Arsen Ghazaryan said it is very welcoming that such event was organized on this day. He stated that the Union will again take part in the charity program on providing houses to people living in small temporary houses (domiks) in Gyumri and at least three of them will be replaced by solid houses. Mr Ghazaryan informed that the event will be held during next week.

The day of 3 March has a very special meaning. Not 'cause the state recognized today in the list of the state holidays as The Businessman Day, but 'cause the birthday of Alexander Mantashyants has been chosen for this, Mr Ghazaryan said.



On this occasion, presentation and cancellation ceremony of a postal stamp was held at the National Center of Aesthetics in Yerevan on 3 March.

The stamp is shaped in the form of an old banknote and depicts Alexander Mantashyants.

The stamp background contains buildings erected at donation of Mantashyants - Armenian St. John the Baptist Church in Paris and the façade of the building of the Union of Artists in Tbilisi Champs Elysees in Paris that now houses the Rustaveli Academic Theatre in Tbilisi. The author of this stamp that costs 380 AMD is **Vahagn Mkrtchyan**, designer at "HayPost".

Additionally, an exhibition entitled



Mantashyants should be a role model for our businessmen: open-minded and patriotic, concerned first of all for being a benefactor and philanthropist, and only then for gaining money, he continued.

In Mr Ghazaryan's words, *"it is for the 8th year in row the Union of Manufacturers and Businessmen of Armenia celebrates this day, and we wish this (Mantashyants') kind of the Armenian entrepreneur will be reproduced in each of us. So today's Armenian businessman should be the one who is striving to create good jobs, to take the burden of social issues of people around him/her, at the same time being modest, well-educated, loving people and the God indeed. 'Cause Mantashyants was very devoted to the*

Holy Armenian Church, and a bright example of such a devotion is an Armenian Church erected in the center of Paris at Mantashyan's legacy. So our duty to spread such a qualities of the great Armenian businessman among 25 year old business elite of independent Republic of Armenia". Asked by a reporter what today's businessmen should do for having their names written in the history school books as Mantashyan's name is, Arsen Ghazaryan said: *"Again, first of all they should be modest, supporters of the fair; of equal opportunities competition, and indeed they must back the nation and the statehood".*

After the stamp cancellation ceremony, the participants laid a wreath at the statue of Alexander Mantashyants erected by the

UMBA at the Abovyan street few years ago. Then a traditional commemoration liturgy was held in St. Anna Church that is located nearby the statue.

Prominent Armenian businessman and philanthropist Alexander Mantashyants was born on 3 March, 1842, in Tbilisi (then-Tiflis). He was engaged in oil exports and was granted "Oil King" nickname. His commercial activities Mantashyants combined with the social and charitable activities. He was sponsor of the largest orphanage in the Caucasus, thanks to his generosity buildings and churches were erected in Tiflis, Baku, Yerevan, Moscow, Saint Petersburg and Paris. He was a great devotee and patron of culture, science, art and literature.

Recent News from Armenia's Leading Telecom Operator

VivaCell-MTS awarded "Accessible Mobile Operator" prize

In the framework of "Accessible places" award 2017, VivaCell-MTS has been nominated as "Accessible Mobile Operator" and received an award for having the accessible service centers.

The "Accessible places" award ceremony took place within the framework of "Promoting Participation and the Expansion of Inclusion Opportunities for Disabled Persons" project. The aim of the ceremony is to raise awareness among the public on information about accessible places and encourage the companies that provide accessible infrastructure and services in Armenia.

During the event, the jury as most accessible recognized services and buildings of 10 public and private institutions in various spheres of public importance, including VivaCell-MTS.

Throughout the 11 years of operation, VivaCell-MTS has given a significant importance to physical accessibility issue in Armenia, thus, designing a unique approach for meeting the needs and comfort of people

with disabilities through equipping its service centers all around Armenia and rural communities with accessible facilities.

«Accessible places» Award Ceremony is held by "Armenian Camp" NGO and by the support of US Department of State Public Affairs Section. During the ceremony, a short video clip was introduced to the public featuring the accessible components of VivaCell-MTS.

Smartphones handed to the winners of the contest within "VivaStart" educational program

Starting 2015, Armenia's leading telecommunications operator has launched "VivaStart" educational program, which gives early stage opportunities to students of various universities to master their aptitudes in sales and customer care revealing the secrets of service delivery and communication skills.

Upon receiving the needed information during the preparatory courses about VivaCell-MTS services and tariff plans, its Rules of Ethics, MobiDram services, as well as applicable procedures and processes, the

students arriving from various regions of the country get a two-month opportunity to apply their university skills in practice and gain rich experience in efficient, fine-tuned and professional communication at service centers.

To assess the efficiency of the program from beneficiaries' perspective, the management of VivaCell-MTS challenged the graduates of the 2016 program to participate in a contest and to e-mail 4-5 page essays with observations reflecting on the results of the program. The students were also welcomed to submit recommendations.

Of the works submitted by 40 interested contestants the professional juries selected three winners. They are Armine Soghomonyan, Hovhannes Tadevosyan and Arpine Panosyan, which were awarded Huawei Honor 6X smartphones at the closing ceremony organized in the headquarters of VivaCell-MTS.

"The clearest understanding of any question comes with conclusions and analyses that we make in specific situations. As a link in a business chain we highly value the response, the appreciation and the recommendations of the participating students. The greatest value you obtain is the customer oriented approach. I am sure you will be also flexible enough to adjust the knowledge you got to the needs of the market," said VivaCell-MTS Founding General Manager **Ralph Yirikian**.

Through variety of projects VivaCell-MTS continuously keeps the students in the focus of its attention. Highly qualified professionals are the most important precondition for the sustainable development of the job market and as such are a target group for VivaCell-MTS Career Development program.



What can Armenia offer the EU besides Mkhitaryan? President talks to Euronews

The EU and Armenia have concluded negotiations on a Partnership Agreement. The deal is likely to be signed in May.

President Serzh Sargsyan spoke to Euronews' Brussels correspondent Andrei Beketov, in an exclusive interview.

Is the Armenia-EU deal a step forward or backward from the Association Agreement, which Armenia called off in 2013?

"Because of the will of both sides, this agreement isn't so different from the previous one. There no much different in the political part, as for the economic part, we have to make sure there are no contradictions with our commitments vis-à-vis the Eurasian Economic Union, which we are a member of.

But Russia objected the association agreements with Armenia, Ukraine. Did you have to water down the agreement to soothe Russia, your ally?

On the very beginning of the negotiations, our understanding was that we can have both –the Association Agreement with the EU and close integration with the Eurasian Economic Union. Russians never told us we could never sign such an agreement, they told us "you can, but you'll have to pay for energy at world market price."

Do you see the future of the Eurasian Economic Union as a match to the Eurasian Union?

I think it's too early to speak about achieving equivalents. It would be better to talk about cooperation between the two, and we show with our example that it's possible.

What can you offer the European Union aside from football player Henrikh Mkhitaryan?

We have many famous people like Henrikh Mkhitaryan, Levon Aronian, we have Olympic champions. But we can also be useful for the EU by exporting our agricultural products; IT is also developing very fast in Armenia. Most importantly, we can be a friendly neighbor for the European Union, a trustworthy and



predictable neighbor.

Armenia also relies on Russia on security. Are you looking for alternatives, e.g. NATO?

I've just met with NATO Secretary General. I invited him to Armenia for us to celebrate our work of the past 25 years. We don't see any contradiction between this partnership and our alliance with Russia within the framework of the CSTO.

You are taking the current presidential Republic of Armenia into... what will it become?

It's going to be a very desirable country for every single Armenian. I strongly believe that the parliamentary form of government is more efficient to offer better opportunities for better governance. It provides better opportunities for citizens, representatives of civil society that participate in the running of our country.

Your name is not on the list of the Republican Party of Armenia for the April parliamentary elections. Does it mean you are quitting politics?

That means we are taking into consideration the concerns voiced by the opposition. That also means we are creating opportunities for young people to express themselves in politics.

"Hayastan – My love Story" Norwegian book presented in Oslo

A Norwegian friend of Armenia presented his Norwegian language book, a love confession to Armenia and Armenians, to an excited audience in Oslo today, the Armenian Cultural Association of Norway reports.

Sven-Erik is an Armenia expert who has written articles and op-eds about Armenia and the Armenian genocide in national and local newspapers. He has led many public lectures about Armenia for different audiences. He has also led a tour for an enthusiastic group of Norwegian tourists. Sven-Erik Rise proudly calls himself an "Armenian-by-choice" and dreams of having an Armenian passport.

The book is a breathtaking story of his love to a country and its people, presented in a most intimate, humoristic and personal manner. In the book, the author takes the reader to a tour in Armenia, where he and his Turkish friend explore the country; meet many exciting people who have many good stories to share. The author discusses the Armenian Genocide, compares with the Jewish Holocaust, anal-

yses the denialist industry and discusses the Artsakh conflict (Nagorno Karabakh conflict). This book is a good mix of a novel and a well-researched and argued work, which makes it easy to read and gives the reader a fascinating and exciting reading experience.

The introduction of the book is written by author and veteran journalist of the state broadcaster NRK, Jahn Otto Johansen.

The book has got many good reviews, among others from author and TV personality Stein Morten Lier.

The master of ceremonies was Magnus Jensen. Among speakers were author and TV personality Stein Morten Lier, the leader of the Armenian Cultural Association of Norway Liana Arutyunyan, representative of the Armenian Apostolic Church Society Narine Harutyunyan and representative of the Norwegian Helsinki Committee Lene Wetteland.

Half of the print copies were sold by the end of the book presentation.

Artsakh shares common culture and history with Europe: Karen Mirzoyan

“Artsakh is the place where Europe begins. We have a common culture and history. People in Stepanakert might have a darker skin colour and hair colour than other Europeans, but they dream of the same future,” Artsakh’s Foreign Minister said in an interview with EU Observer. Excerpts from Andrew Rettman’s article titled “Karen Mirzoyan: The unrecognized minister.”

By Andrew Rettman
EU Observer

It is not easy to represent the unrecognized Republic of Artsakh, but the stakes could not be higher: extinction.

When Karen Mirzoyan, its “foreign minister”, wants to hold an international meeting he has to drive six hours from Stepanakert, Artsakh’s capital, to Yerevan, along the mountain road that forms its only link to the outside world.

Sometimes the 3,000-metre high passes are blocked by snow.

In other places, the minister drives behind earth dykes to shield his car from potential Azerbaijani fire.

Artsakh, which is home to some 150,000 Armenian people, has an airport, but its warring neighbor has threatened to shoot down any plane that used it.

Meanwhile, foreign envoys do not call on Mirzoyan at home because European, Russian, and US diplomats are forbidden from going to Stepanakert to maintain neutrality.

When he gets to Yerevan, or flies onward to the EU, the minister holds meetings in private conference rooms instead of official buildings.

He also keeps quiet about them in order not to embarrass his interlocutors.

He told EUobserver in an interview that he had met with “EU officials” and other “high-level [EU] people, but not at the level of foreign ministers of big powers”.

The jovial 52-year old was born in Artsakh, which used to call itself the Republic of Nagorno-Karabakh. He left for Armenia and joined the Armenian foreign ministry, before stepping down to take the Artsakh post.

“It mightn’t be very good for your [professional] ambitions, but being the foreign minister of a non-recognized country is more enjoyable,” Mirzoyan said.

“I’m not bound by norms of diplomatic protocol. I’m more free,” he said.

He said Artsakh’s story inspired him.

“The fact I represent a small nation on the

outskirts of Europe that was able to survive against all the odds, was able to win the war and build a democratic state, gives me strength and creativity,” he said.

He said proximity to people also inspired him.

“In Artsakh, the distance between a minister and a citizen is so small. You’re foreign minister for a few hours a day, but when your work ends and you walk in the street, you’re an ordinary citizen,” he said.



“The Artsakh side should not apologise for crimes committed by the Azerbaijani authorities against its own people,” Karzen Mirzoyan said, when asked about the Khojaly massacre. “Azerbaijan bears ‘direct responsibility for the deaths,’” he said.

The minister said that Azerbaijan was still committing war crimes.

He said that its actions in the Artsakh village of Talish last April reminded him of its anti-Armenian pogroms in 1988.

“They sent special forces to Talish where they killed and mutilated elderly people, people over 80 years old,” he said.

Mirzoyan said the conflict ought, one day, to be ended by a referendum.

He noted that countries in Europe, such as the UK with Scotland, and Spain with Catalonia, had found peaceful ways to resolve status issues.

“I hope. I hope, but I’m very pessimistic given what Azerbaijan is doing,” he said.

He accused Azerbaijan’s authoritarian president Ilham Aliyev, who is spending billions of euros a year on arms, of enflaming tension.

“Aliyev speaks not of peace but of war, that one day he’ll destroy not just Nagorno-Karabakh, but all of Armenia,” Mirzoyan said.

He also accused Aliyev of “fascist” propaganda.

“There’s no big hatred towards Azeris, especially among older Armenians, who remember how we used to live together. But every day Azerbaijani TV says that a good Armenian is a dead Armenian and blames Armenians for everything,” Mirzoyan said.

He said he was open to discussing alleged crimes in the 1990s war, but he said that Azerbaijan silenced people, such as the writer Akram Aylisli, who tried to hold a debate.

Mirzoyan said the EU should impose a cost on Aliyev’s aggressive behavior.

“At least, don’t give the red carpet treatment to political leaders who come to the EU and say: ‘We’re here to sell oil and gas and in place for this to get indulgence for our crimes,’” he said.

The EU has little leverage in the South Caucasus, which lies in Russia’s sphere of influence.

But Mirzoyan said Europe’s “soft power” could reduce the risk of escalation.

He invited EU diplomats to come and see Artsakh with their own eyes.

“There must be no black holes on the map of Europe ... Europe must be present here in visible form,” he said.

The isolated republic last week held a referendum on a new constitution.

The EU said it did “not recognize the constitutional and legal framework of such procedures,” but Mirzoyan detected “some signs of understanding” in the EU statement that Artsakh people lived in a democracy.

Some Armenians see the war as a Christian-Muslim conflict that dates back centuries.

Mirzoyan, who is a scholar of Turkic languages and culture, said it was a conflict of values, however.

“This is not just ... some aborigines killing each other,” he said.

“It’s the border of Europe, the place where Europe begins. We have a common culture and history. People in Stepanakert might have a darker skin colour and hair colour than other Europeans, but they dream of the same future,” he said.

ANCA explores policy priorities with Administration officials and Members of Congress



Armenian National Committee of America (ANCA) national and regional leaders concluded two days of policy-level consultations with key State Department officials and Members of Congress, as part of a nationwide advocacy campaign aimed at leveraging America's political transition to advance a broad array of Armenian American policy priorities.

ANCA National Chairman Raffi Hamparian led the delegation, which included ANCA Eastern Region Chair Steve Mesrobian, ANCA Western Region Chair Nora Hovsepian, Esq. and national board member Ken Hachikian. They were joined by ANCA staff, including Government Affairs Director Raffi Karakashian. Among the policies advanced during their meetings were expanded U.S.-Armenia relations, security and freedom for the Republic of Artsakh (Nagorno Karabakh), justice for the Armenian Genocide, and support and safety for Middle Eastern Christian communities.

During each of these meetings, the ANCA also raised awareness about the upcoming April 21st release of the Armenian Genocide-era epic film, "The Promise."

"During this time of national transition, it's particularly important for our community to remain actively engaged, holding policy discussions with Administration officials, exploring legislative strategies with senior Senators and Representatives, and expanding our cooperation with our coalition partners," noted ANCA National Board Member and ANCA-ER Chair Steve Mesrobian.

"Working, on a bipartisan basis, our local chapters, regional leaders, and Washington office are leaning in to the new realities of our nation's capital, creatively and concretely advancing the full array of Armenian American policy priorities – a strong Armenia, a free Artsakh, and a just resolution of the Armenian Genocide," noted ANCA WR Chair Nora Hovsepian.

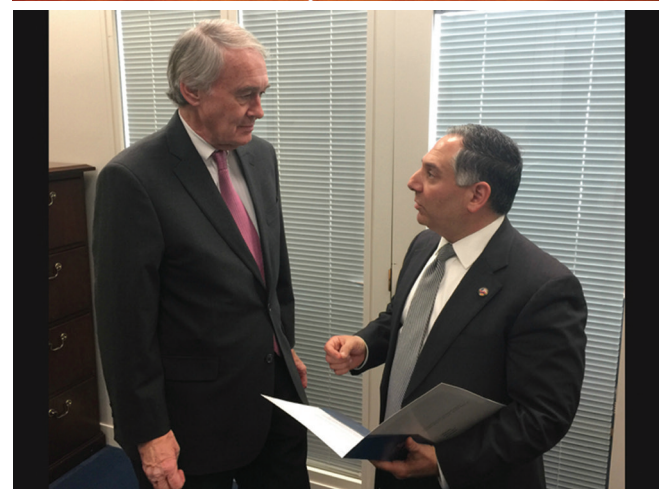
At the State Department, the ANCA held policy meetings with officials responsible for a range of regional areas and issues, including Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Bridget Brink, who is responsible for the Caucasus, among other regions, and Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Mark Libby, who plays a lead role in handling U.S.-Turkey relations.

On Capitol Hill, the ANCA leadership met with Senator Ed Markey (D-MA), who serves on the Foreign Relations Committee, the Chairman and Ranking Democrat on the House Foreign Affairs Committee, Rep. Ed Royce (D-CA) and Eliot Engel (D-NY), respectively,

House Select Committee on Intelligence Ranking Democrat Adam Schiff (D-CA), Ranking Democrat on the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific Brad Sherman (D-CA), and the Ranking Democrat on the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Africa and Human Rights Karen Bass (D-CA).

They also consulted with the bipartisan Co-Chairs of the Armenian Caucus including Representatives Frank Pallone (D-NJ), Jackie Speier (D-CA), David Trott (R-MI) and David Valadao (R-CA). Meetings were also held with Representatives Jeff Fortenberry (R-NE) and Anna Eshoo (D-CA), who led the unanimous passage of H.Con.Res 75 in the previous Congress, a measure, backed by the ANCA, that condemned the genocide against Christians, Yazidis and other minorities in the Middle East.

ANCA leaders held a working dinner with the senior leadership and staff of In Defense of Christians, led by President Toufic Baaklini, to discuss expanding efforts to address the ongoing violence against Christian and other minority communities in the Middle East. The ANCA joined with IDC in co-hosting their 2016 convention, which brought together hundreds of citizen advocates from across the U.S. in support of a broad range of issues, including the protection of Christian communities in the Middle East and U.S. reaffirmation of the Armenian Genocide.



Gladys Berejiklian poses for a fashion spread in The Australian Women's Weekly



New South Wales Premier Gladys Berejiklian has posed for a fashion spread in *The Australian Women's Weekly*, the Sydney Morning Herald reports.

According to the source, Berejiklian chose to wear a black dress by her close friend Carla Zampatti in the shot obtained by Fairfax Media. She also turned down a Giorgio Armani ensemble that had been borrowed for the shoot, instead preferring to be photo-

graphed in her own pink jacket bought from fast-fashion chain Zara.

"This is my lucky dress. I bought it on sale," she told the magazine.

The Premier was interviewed for the corresponding feature twice and opens up about her father, her relatives in war-torn Aleppo and the decision to remain childless, an issue that is framed as her "life choice".

"I've never made a conscious decision to choose work over other considerations. It's just the way it's happened in my life and I'm very happy with where I am," she said.

"Although we are a national magazine, we chose to profile Gladys because she is only the 10th female state government leader ever and the second in NSW. We are fierce supporters of all women, whatever their politics," *The Australian Women's Weekly's* editor-in-chief Kim Doherty told Fairfax Media.

"Gladys has a classic Australian story to tell. In these days of division over immigration, she is an inspiring success story. As she told us, she only spoke Armenian until the age of five."

Armenian Genocide novel by Turkish writer adapted into theater

Asbarez – The extraordinary theatrical performance titled "You Rejoice My Heart," dedicated to the Armenian Genocide, premiered in New York. The play was adapted and directed by the veteran of Armenian Theater, renowned actress of Armenian Stage Film and Television and executive producer of *Voice of Armenians* TVNY Karine Kocharyan.

The adaptation of the play was based on a novel "You Rejoice My Heart" by Turkish writer Kemal Yalçın. The novel tells the seldom discussed story of so-called secret or hidden Armenians, whose descendants still live in the provinces of Turkey and elsewhere today.

"You Rejoice My Heart" performance opens with Yalçın's personal and emotional apology, saying "My dear Armenian friend, the greatest pain of humanity this century, the mark of black soot on the forehead of history, is the Armenian Genocide. I bow down to the memory of all the Armenians killed. I accept your pain as my pain. As a Turkish writer, I speak for myself and all of the world when I ask for your forgiveness. The shame of this great disaster is stamped on the forehead of humanity, and the planners, projectors and

perpetrators will be cursed. When justice is finally implemented, when our great pain has subsided and when we finally ensure this injustice will never happen again, I give my heart to you and my soul will rejoice with you."

The story then follows Yalçın (played by Arthur Karapetyan) who through the guidance of his teacher Meline, who is of Armenian origin, embarks on a project to

seek out Armenians living in Turkey as converted Muslims.

While the play opened with a Yalçın's apology, its ending carried a deep symbolic and emotional meaning with Kemal's Turkish mother, on her knees offering sacrificial bread to the people of her village as a gesture for asking forgiveness and mercy for the souls of all Armenians killed during the genocide.



Zodiac Weekly Forecast



Aries (March 20–April 19)

This is a good time to bring a creative work to fruition. It may not be totally complete, but you can see that a project is going to “work”. Your energy is flowing well this week.

You can make inroads with the Powers that Be. Partnership requires a delicate and tactful attitude if you want to maintain it.



Taurus (April 20 – May 20)

Venus is your ruling planet and she is turning retrograde in the house of the past. You may find yourself surprised by experiencing feelings you thought were long since finished. This cosmic signature occurs now but it may very well have been making

you wistful for much of Feb. It passes in May. Don't allow yourself to make huge relationship changes until after that time.



Gemini (May 20–June 20)

Information is coming at you thick and fast. The conflicting ideas may cause you to become confused. Make an effort to slow your responses and don't speak too quickly until you have really examined the issues.

You can take what comes in as slowly as you need to avoid making mistakes.



Cancer (June 21–July 21)

You may be the recipient of gossip or false information during this period. At the same time your heart wants to take action on behalf of others. This requires discernment about the reason you are disturbed. Is what

you are hearing actually the truth? Or does it hook into an old need to be the hero? You be the judge and act accordingly.



Leo (July 22–August 21)

You or someone else may want you to feel guilty because you are unable to make things better. Recognize that you are not the magician you would like to be and let go of the guilt. Whatever happens now, you are highly prone to think dark

thoughts about yourself. This is passing. Let it go.



Virgo

(August 22–September 22)

Mercury is your avatar planet. At this time it is in your Seventh House of partnerships and clientele. There may be more going on in that area than you can absorb right now. Remember that you have a right to

slow down the information track while you digest it. You fear making mistakes and this could be a time that you become confused by conflicting data.



Libra (Sep. 23–Oct. 22)

You and partner may need some time apart to follow your personal interests. This does not require a split if the two of you can simply co-operate and agree to give each other

space. Maintain your sense of humor and don't take this change so seriously. It does not have to be about the overall quality of the relationship, but if you look at it darkly, it could have those consequences.



Scorpio

(October 23–November 21)

Something develops this week that gives you the opportunity to use your skills on behalf of others. It should serve to give you a greater sense of self-esteem while you are supporting

those who need it. Issues concerning health are improving.



Sagittarius

(November 22–December 20)

You are restless and want to do anything except the usual routine. Some of you will be looking for a new house, car, or an exciting high

tech device. Your eyes may be bigger than your pocketbook, especially if someone offers you a “deal”. It probably won't break the bank if you have used caution in the past.



Capricorn

(December 21–January 19)

Your timing and stability are giving you a leadership position in a developing project which may not be unveiled for another year. For now, hold steady. Your plans are develop-

ing well and others will be supportive of your ideas.



Aquarius

(January 20–February 17)

Give attention to caring for “old” things or people in your life. Clean out the basement or attic in your home. Give away or sell whatever

you know you will not use in the future. It is a good time to tend to repairs of aging property. It is also favorable for taking actions to secure your future.



Pisces (February 18–March 19)

Experiences may seem surreal on some level during this week. You may be doing something you never thought you would do. Hold onto the awareness that you may be misinterpreting what happens. It is also

possible that you are unconsciously applying a mask to suit the circumstances. If you feel disconnected, you must go back to your heart center.

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Yerevan Home Care is the first and the only one company launched in 2011 in Yerevan. The company is providing a 24/7 qualified care service to older adults, disabled people, people suffering from chronic diseases or those who need postoperative care, as well as to people with dementia.

Creating the company we concenter to support many families that live abroad and have their elderly family members staying in Armenia. We succeed in supporting these families to have not only a solution of the raised problem but to have a deep feeling of satisfaction that their relatives are in good hands.

The organization's greatest wealth is educated, professional, skilled, experienced staff and people with high values and psychological knowledge.

We treat each patient with a strong sense of responsibility and show an individual approach to the families, at the same time maintaining the accepted norms and using contemporary approaches.

Taking your relative's care on our shoulders, we bring harmony between the different generations.

Apart from the professional knowledge the company pays a great attention to the humanitarian qualities of the serving staff, to their kindness, patience, attention and cour-



home health aides. Home health aides might also provide limited assistance with things such as taking blood pressure or offering medication reminders.

Nursing care is more related for patients after surgery, traumas, different chronic diseases

Rehabilitation service is for people who need professional rehabilitation in their recovery periods after some types of diseases and surgery. Dementia /Alzheimer /special care is for people with dementia in all stages when you worried about their safety or a health problem.

Yerevan Home Care provides all type of medical equipment that will increase the quality of life of your loved ones. (rent of the equipment is acceptable)

Transportation is a key issue for older adults and for people with temporary or permanent disabilities especially in Armenia where the streets and buildings are not adjusted for disabled people. Yerevan Home Care is providing a transportation service for people that are in wheelchairs.

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teous manner.

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We provide service to all type of patients who needs care assistance.

Personal care is for elderly people who are alone and need support in daily living, such as dressing, bathing, feeding, or meal preparation. This type of care includes personal care aides, home care aides, and



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