



## President Sargsyan attends the meeting of CIS Heads of State



Kyrgyzstan - Presidents Serzh Sargsyan (L) of Armenia and Ilham Aliyev of Azerbaijan attend a CIS summit in Bishkek, 16Sep2016.

*see page 3*

### In This Issue

**Madrid Principles must be reviewed- Deputy FM**

p.2

**New Armenian prosecutor appointed**

p.4

**Armenia's Ambassador to the UN to be honored with Peace Award**

p.7

**Ashgabat hosted an international media forum**

p.10

**"The Independence Generation" Orchestra and Choir Megaproject: The Last Rehearsals**

p.12

### The complex of the new International Airport, designed to become the main "air gates" of Turkmenistan is inaugurated in Ashgabat

On September 17, 2016 in Ashgabat, Turkmen President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov participated in the solemn ceremony of the inauguration of the complex of the new International Airport, designed to become the main "air gates" of Turkmenistan.

The opening ceremony was attended by the representatives of a number of international and regional organizations such as the International Air Transport Association, the Interstate Aviation Committee, the International Road Transport Union, and the Inter-

national Organization for Migration, the Olympic Council of Asia, Oceania National Olympic Committees and others. Also the leaders and representatives of the airlines and aeronautical services from about 25 countries participated at the opening ceremony.

The new airport will be able to take aircraft of any type and capacity, while ensuring that international standards of service. The capacity of the ultra-modern air harbor will be 2000 passengers per hour.

*see page 10*

## **Madrid Principles must be reviewed- Deputy FM**



The four-day war in April has created an imperative for the review of the so-called Madrid Principles. the series of provisions put forth by international mediators for the resolution of the Karabakh conflict.

This perspective was expressed on Thursday by Armenia's Deputy Foreign Minister Shavarsh Kocharyan in briefing the government of the developments of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, saying that the "mutual concessions" provision of the Madrid Principles especially required a review since the brutal attacks by Azerbaijan on Artsakh in early April.

"There was a provision of holding delayed referendum in Nagorno Karabakh. According to that during that period Baku should prepare its public for the idea that Nagorno Karabakh will not be a part of

Azerbaijan. But it used that time in April for another purpose. In this case there cannot be a negotiation process and progress. Everything depends on the implementation of agreements. The discussion subjects are that the ceasefire regime must be strengthened, the Azerbaijani sabotage must be eliminated, and the powers of the OSCE mission must be increased," said Kocharyan during the government session.

Without the implementation of agreements reached in during Vienna and St. Petersburg summits held with the participation of Armenian and Azerbaijani representatives, there cannot be a progress over the Nagorno Karabakh conflict settlement, asserted the deputy foreign minister.

When the presidents of Armenia and Azerbaijan met in Vienna in May during a summit mediated by Secretary of State John Kerry and in the presence of this Russian and French counterparts, the sides agreed to increased monitoring on the Azerbaijani-Karabakh border, known as the Line of Contact, and guarantees to respect the terms of the 1994 cease fire. Both leaders agreed to these proposals and reiterated their willingness to proceed during another summit in June, in St. Petersburg, Russia spearheaded by Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Kocharyan told the government session that those agreements have not yet been implemented, thus no new talks have been planned.

"The agreements on strengthening the ceasefire regime and expanding the capabilities of the OSCE monitoring group have not been implemented. Progress is impossible to achieve without them," emphasized Kocharyan.

## **Political consultations between the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of Armenia and Norway**

On September 13, political consultations between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Norway took place at the MFA of Armenia in Yerevan.

The consultations were chaired by Mr. Gagik Ghalachyan, Head of the European Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia, and Mrs. Hilde Svartdal Lunde, Deputy Director General of Department of Security Policy and High

North, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Norway.

During the consultations the Armenian and Norwegian delegations discussed issues of bilateral agenda. The sides stressed the importance of furthering the political dialogue, strengthening the inter-parliamentary relations, as well as discussed the steps aimed at the development of economic and trade ties between the two countries. They also referred to the cooperation within international organi-

zations.

On the same day the Norwegian delegation had a meeting with Mr. Garen Nazarian, Deputy Foreign Minister of Armenia. During the meeting the sides touched upon the urgent issues of regional and international agenda, exchanged views on the prospects of Armenia-EU cooperation. In the course of consultations, the sides touched upon the process of peaceful settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh issue.

## **Armenia's acting FM attends CIS Foreign Ministers' meeting in Bishkek**

On September 16, in Bishkek, Edward Nalbandian, Acting Foreign Minister of Armenia, participated and delivered remarks at the session of the Council of the CIS Foreign Minister which was held within the framework of the Organization's 25th anniversary.

The agenda of the session included issues related to the increase of efficiency of the

Organization's activity and adaptation of the institution to the new realities.

The Foreign Minister of the CIS member-countries touched upon the issues of enhancement of cooperation in the fields of culture, education, law enforcement, emergency situations, cybersecurity.

The participants of the session discussed and

approved the drafts of more than a dozen of documents, including the texts of statements to be issued by the Heads of the CIS member-countries on the 25th anniversary of the Organization and on a number of other issues.

A decision was made to hold the next session of the CIS Ministerial Council in April of 2017 in Tashkent.

## New Armenian PM vows “Systemic Changes”

Armenia's newly appointed Prime Minister Karen Karapetyan said on September 14 that he will embark on “systemic changes” to try to improve what he called a “very grave” economic situation in the country.

In his first public comments made since his appointment by President Serzh Sargsyan, Karapetyan did not elaborate on concrete measures that will be taken by his cabinet.

“We have to understand that there is no magic wand, and I can say at this point that if we want to achieve changes in our economy we have to make systemic changes,” he said during the government’s question-and-answer session in the parliament. “To be honest, the real state of our economy is very grave, extremely grave.”

Karapetyan told lawmakers that his government’s key economic priority will be to put in place “maximally favorable con-



ditions for those who create added value.” “This may sound like a general formula, but I will not say more for now,” he said.

“As for what steps will be taken, we will present them to you,” added the premier.

Answering a question from another parliamentarian, Karapetyan did say, though, that he is “very determined” to combat tax evasion because he believes that is vital for economic development.

Karapetyan was more cautious about de facto business monopolies widely seen as an obstacle to faster growth. “Monopolies

are not always bad,” he said, arguing that in a small country like Armenia some companies can gain dominant positions in the market if they outperform their competitors.

But he stressed that he is against monopolies formed as a result of “administrative resources.”

The new government will submit its policy program to the National Assembly after it is formed by Karapetyan in the next few days or weeks. Karapetyan shed no light on its likely composition, saying only that he will pick competent individuals.

The main official rationale for Sargsyan’s decision to name Karapetyan prime minister is to speed up economic reforms. Serzh Sargsyan said late last week that Karapetyan has agreed to “lead a great wave of changes” that will address popular disaffection with the socioeconomic situation in the country.

## John Kerry issues statement on Armenia’s Independence Day

US Secretary of State John Kerry has issued a statement on the occasion of Armenia’s Independence Day. The message reads:

On behalf of President Obama and the American people, I want to extend my congratulations to the people of Armenia as you celebrate the 25th anniversary of your nation’s independence on September 21.

The United States deeply values its warm friendship with Armenia and with all of you. In the past quarter century, Armenia has made great progress, and my government looks forward to continuing to

work closely with you in support of shared prosperity, strong democratic institutions, the rule of law, and regional peace. We appreciate Armenia’s consistent support for effective international peacekeeping operations and its leading role in responding to the Syrian refugee crisis. We are also grateful for the presence in the United States of a vibrant and highly-accomplished Armenian-American community.

On this special day, I offer best wishes to all Armenians for a peaceful and prosperous year to come.

## President Sargsyan attends the meeting of CIS Heads of State

Armenia stands for a peaceful resolution of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict based on “reasonable” mutual concessions by both warring sides, President Serzh Sargsyan said on September 16.

Sargsyan mentioned the unresolved dispute in his speech at a Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) summit held in Kyrgyzstan’s capital Bishkek.

“We have always made clear our position which is in tune with the position of the co-chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group: namely, the conflict’s resolution through peace negotiations on the basis of international law and norms as well as a reasonable mutual compromise. I stress: mutual compromise,” he said.

Sitting next to his Azerbaijani counterpart Ilham Aliyev, Sargsyan stressed at the same time further progress in Armenian-Azerbaijani peace talks is contingent on the implemen-

tation of confidence-building measures designed to prevent deadly truce violations. Those include international investigations of such violations and deployment of more OSCE field observers in the conflict zone.

Sargsyan and Aliyev agreed on such measures, sought by the U.S., Russian and French co-chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group, when they met in Vienna in May more than a month after the heaviest fighting in and around Karabakh since 1994.

The two leaders signaled further progress after holding follow-up talks hosted by Russian President Vladimir Putin in Saint Petersburg in June. That summit fueled media speculation that Moscow is pressing the conflicting parties to agree to a peace deal based on the co-chairs’ so-called Madrid Principles. No further Aliyev-Sargsyan meetings have been scheduled since then.

## New Armenian prosecutor appointed



Photo: AP

The National Assembly voted overwhelmingly on September 15 to appoint Armenia's new prosecutor-general nominated by President Serzh Sargsyan's Republican Party (HAK).

Artur Davtyan, 37, will take up the post more than a month after the resignation of his predecessor, Gevorg Kostanyan.

The resignation, which the 38-year-old Kostanyan attributed to "health problems," came just days after the end of a deadly standoff between Armenian security forces

and opposition gunmen that seized a police station in Yerevan on July 17.

The Armenian parliament approved the ruling party's choice of the new chief prosecutor by 97 votes to 3 after a heated debate. Deputies representing the opposition Armenian National Congress (HAK) and Prosperous Armenia Party (BHK) boycotted the vote.

Opposition lawmakers rejected Davtyan's candidacy during the debate. They accused Armenian prosecutors of opening politically

motivated criminal cases, ensuring the impunity of violent government loyalists and executing other government orders.

"Why do you think they hang Serzh Sargsyan's pictures in their offices? one of them, Nikol Pashinyan, said.

Aram Manukyan, an HAK deputy, claimed that the Office of the Prosecutor-General has for years ignored evidence of government corruption and other abuses sent to it by his opposition party. "If your agency doesn't even bother to respond, should I think that it's fighting against corruption and other economic crimes? No," he told Davtyan.

Eduard Sharmazanov, a deputy parliament speaker and a senior HHK figure, rejected the opposition allegations. "We are electing a prosecutor, not a savior," he said. "There is almost no systemic corruption within the prosecutor's office."

For his part, Davtyan, who has worked as Yerevan's chief prosecutor until now, told reporters before the vote: "I will stick to only one rule of the game: the laws of the Republic of Armenia."

## Ohanyan praises defense ties with U.S.

Defense Minister Seyran Ohanyan praised Armenia's growing military cooperation with the United States when he met with senior U.S. officials in Yerevan on September 15.

The Armenian Defense Ministry said Ohanyan received the U.S. ambassador to Armenia, Richard Mills, and Washington's newly appointed military attaché in Yerevan, Colonel Bruce Murphy.

A ministry statement said Ohanyan "highly assessed the level of U.S.-Armenian relations in the area of defense." He expressed confidence that Murphy will contribute to a "further development" of bilateral military ties, it said.

The statement added that the two sides discussed "a number of issues of mutual interest" relating to defense and security. It gave no details.

Despite its close military ties with Russia, Armenia has stepped up defense cooperation with NATO and the United States in particular over the past decade. It has contributed troops to NATO-led missions in Kosovo and Afghanistan and increasingly participated in multinational



Official publication

exercises organized by the U.S. military in Europe.

As recently as last month, 25 Armenian army sergeants flew to the U.S. state of Kansas to undergo further training as part of U.S. efforts to help Armenia increase the number of its non-commissioned officers serving on a contractual basis.

The Armenian military has been recruiting more contract sergeants as part of defense reforms supported by NATO. The

U.S. has been particularly active in helping it train non-commissioned officers in line with Western military standards.

In July, other U.S. military instructors began the first training course in Armenia for Armenian army sappers who are due to participate in multinational peacekeeping operations in the near future. They were specifically trained to detect and defuse improvised explosive devices (IEDs).

## This political autumn can be remain in history as "autumn of reforms" – senior lawmaker



This political autumn is promising also for the reason that an agreement over the Electoral Code was reached between the authorities, the opposition and the civil society, Vice President of the Armenian parliament Eduard Sharmazanov said during the announcement hour at the National Assembly.

"it is possible historians in the future will call the political autumn of 2016 "Autumn of reforms". The February 12 speech of the President of the Republic heralded the launch of radical reforms where he

mentioned that we must not be satisfied with the situation existing in Armenia and we all must create another Armenia the citizens of which will not think of leaving it.

On the way of the structural changes we must refrain from shocks and move forward with solidarity and political and civil consolidation. These are in the interest of Armenia. The history has proved that those societies and states are successful where the authorities themselves realize the necessity of reforms by initiating structural changes.

We can document that in our country the authorities are the one that initiate the agenda of the structural changes", "NT" reports Sharmazanov saying.

According to him, a brilliant evidence of that are the practical steps by the authorities aimed at organizing the forthcoming parliamentary elections by an amended electoral code, which will practically neutralize electoral frauds and will increase public trust towards electoral processes and their results. Concluding his speech, Sharmazanov reminded that soon the Armenian people will mark the 25th anniversary of the Armenian 3rd Republic. "And today more than ever our society needs solidarity and consolidation. Irrespective of political orientation and social status we must act for the sake of our Motherland".

## EU Hails Armenian Election Deal



The European Union welcomed on September 14 a landmark agreement between Armenia's government and opposition on the proper conduct of next year's Armenian parliamentary elections.

"Armenia: we welcome the signature of a new political agreement

on electoral reform between the government and the opposition," Johannes Hahn, the EU commissioner for European neighborhood policy, said on his Twitter page.

"The EU stands ready to assist, also financially, in the implementation of this important agreement," Hahn wrote.

The agreement was signed on Tuesday by representatives of the government and three major Armenian opposition parties. It is meant to prevent multiple voting and other types of fraud in the general elections due in April 2017. The Armenian parliament is now due to approve corresponding amendments to the Electoral Code.

Levon Zurabyan, a leader of the opposition Armenian National Congress (HAK), said Western donors have already agreed to provide about 9 million euros (\$10 million) for the deal's implementation. The sum will be spent, among other things, on the purchase of equipment required for live online broadcasts of voting and ballot counting in all 2,000 or so polling stations across the country.

## Pope stands for diplomatic settlement of the Karabakh conflict

Pope Francis stands for the diplomatic settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, Vladimir Fekete, Ordinary of the Roman Catholic Church in Azerbaijan said at a press conference in Baku on September 14.

According to reports in Azeri media, Fekete added that "the Catholic Church

opposes war and urges to solve such conflicts peacefully." He said the Catholic Church is not directly dealing with the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

Fekete didn't mention whether the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict would be discussed during Pope's visit to Baku.

Pope Francis will visit Baku on October

2. The Pontiff is expected to meet with Sheikhlislam Allahshukur Pashazade, the chairman of the Caucasus Muslims Office, as well as representatives of other religious communities, a spokesperson for the Roman Catholic Church in Baku Jamila Mammadova, said at a press conference in Baku on September 14.

## Armenian tax service told to target “privileged” firms



Photo: Lur

Prime Minister Karen Karapetyan on September 15 ordered Armenian tax authorities to tackle possible tax evasion among large and lucrative companies which he said are widely seen as being in a “privileged” position.

Holding his first cabinet meeting in Yerevan, Karapetyan issued instructions to various ministers and other senior government officials, including Hovannes Hovsepyan, the head of the State Revenue Committee (SRC).

He said the SRC must ensure an “unconditional compliance with tax discipline by large importers and manufactures considered to be unscrupulous and privileged.” He did not name any of them.

The newly appointed prime minister also said SRC inspectors should audit small and medium-sized enterprises only “in extreme cases.”

“Mr. Hovsepyan, you should take these actions without creating obstacles to businesses,” Karapetyan told the SRC chief. “No inspection must hamper their daily operations.”

The Armenian government’s tax revenue has increased considerably in the past several years. But it is still equivalent to only one-fifth of Gross Domestic Product, a low figure even by ex-Soviet standards. The modest ratio results, in large measure, from widespread tax evasion, corruption and privileged treatment of entrepreneurs

linked to the government.

The IMF and the World Bank have long pressed the authorities in Yerevan to improve tax collection. Karapetyan’s predecessor, Hovik Abrahamyan, pledged to make it more efficient and less arbitrary as part of sweeping reforms which he announced in May.

Abrahamyan tendered his resignation last week along with all members of his government. The ministers will continue to perform their duties until Karapetyan forms a new cabinet and submits its action plan to the parliament for approval. The new premier has not yet shed light on the composition of his cabinet.

Addressing the outgoing ministers, Karapetyan said the Armenian ministries of energy and labor as well as state utility regulators should explore the possibility reducing electricity and natural gas tariffs for low-income Armenians and some businesses.

Armenia buys the bulk of its gas from Gazprom, and it remains to be seen whether the Russian energy giant will agree to a price cut. Karapetyan ran the country’s Gazprom-controlled gas distribution network from 2001-2010. He managed Gazprom subsidiaries in Russia after unexpectedly resigning as Yerevan mayor in 2011.

## Made in Armenia Expo 2016 to showcase production of 300 local companies

Made in Armenia Expo 2016 organized by the Armenian Ministry of Economy and the Development Foundation of Armenia will be held at “Meridian” expo center from September 19 to 22.

The exhibition will bring together more than 300 Armenian companies that offer a wide range of products and services.

Made in Armenia is the foremost international event in Armenia where local industry professionals can

meet, network, and conduct business deals.

Given its unique atmosphere of national and international entities, both private and governmental, it is the ideal event to start an effective business dialogue with Armenian manufacturers and professionals.

The goal of Made in Armenia is to provide participants with not only quality products but also a high quality network for each industrial sector.

## Political consultations between the Foreign Ministries of Armenia and Iran

On September 18, political consultations between the Foreign Ministries of the Republic of Armenia and the Islamic Republic of Iran were held in Tehran. The Armenian and Iranian delegations were headed by Shavarsh Kocharyan, Deputy Foreign Minister of Armenia, and Ebrahim Rahimpour,

Deputy Foreign Minister for Asia-Pacific Affairs Ebrahim Rahimpour of Iran, respectively.

A wide range of issues aimed at the further development of the Armenian-Iranian relations was discussed.

The sides emphasized the importance to maintain security

and stability in the region.

A special attention was attached to the implementation of bilateral and multilateral economic projects. Issues related to the cooperation in the legal field, in cultural and humanitarian areas, as well as within international organizations were discussed.

Shavarsh Kocharyan, Deputy Foreign Minister of Armenia, also had a meeting with Morteza Sarmadi, First Deputy Foreign Minister of Iran. During the meeting the sides summarized the negotiations on the issues of mutual interest and outlined the future steps.

## Armenia's Ambassador to the UN to be honored with Peace Award



Each year the International Day of Peace is observed around the world as a day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace within and among all nations and peoples. On Sept. 22, the Association for Trauma Outreach & Prevention (ATOP) and Meaningfulworld will celebrate The International Day of Peace at the majestic Down Town Association located in trendy Tribeca.

This year's theme is "Art for Peace" and the work of several accomplished artists will be available for sale through a silent auction. ATOP/Meaningfulworld will recognize and honor several organizations and individuals whose work deserves special recognition for their efforts made to achieve peace locally and globally.

This year Meaningfulworld is also celebrating its 26th Anniversary of healing, peace-making, transforming pain and generational trauma, and establishing Peace and Forgiveness Gardens globally in over 46 countries and 20 states in the United States.

Along with the auction fine art, distinguished guests will be honored with peace awards in recognition of their dedication and contributions to serving humanity and building peace. Distinguished peace award recipients include H.E. Zohrab Mnatsakanyan, Ambassador to the United Nations (UN) of the Republic of Armenia; Ms. Ashley Tobias, the developer of an anti-bullying educational program; and the International Institute of Peace.

Born in Yerevan, Armenia, Mnatsakanyan is a graduate of the Moscow State Institute of International Relations and holds a Master's Degree from Victoria University, U.K., in Western European Politics.

Mnatsakanyan is decorated with the Medal of Mkhitar Gosh of Armenia (2011) for distinguished service in diplomacy. He is an advocate of human rights and an educator on genocide. He has played a critical role in the ongoing implementation of parliamentary resolutions, laws and declarations, which have led to the acknowledgement and assertion of the Armenian Genocide.

On Sept. 11, 2015, after years of persistent diplomatic efforts, the Republic of Armenia succeeded in having the UN General Assembly adopt by consensus a generic resolution on all genocides. The resolution establishes Dec. 9 as the "International Day of Commemoration and Dignity of the Victims of the Crime of Genocide and the Prevention of this Crime."

Ambassador Mnatsakanyan spoke about his "sense of duty" while presenting the proposed resolution to the General Assembly on September 11. Paying tribute to Raphael Lemkin who had coined the term genocide, the Ambassador stated "For the victims of our past inaction, the International Day will render dignity. The denial to millions of the sanctity of life is ultimate injustice. Justice denied haunts generations of survivors. We speak from experience."

## Armenia's Dasaran named among five best innovative enterprises in the world

Dasaran was recognized as one of the best 5 innovative enterprises in the final round of Accelerate 2030 – joint international initiative by the UNDP and Impact Hub.

For the first edition of Accelerate2030, applications were submitted by 177 ventures from across 4 continents, out of which the international expert jury selected five ventures clearly contributing towards the Sustainable development goals, and Dasaran is among the top 5.

Being among the best innovative enterprises, Dasaran was invited to represent Armenia at the inaugural Social Good Summit to take place in Geneva, Switzerland on the 6th of October, 2016.

"With our activities we aim to increase Armenia's image abroad and promote it as a modern education-exporting country," commented Suren Aloyan, Founding President

of Dasaran Educational Program.

*Dasaran's mission is to increase the quality of education through the introduction of*

*information technologies in Armenia. The program seeks to facilitate student-teacher-parent communication.*





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#### 1 ROOM

- ♦1792. **Amiryan str.** Newly built, /10th floor, 78sq.m, 1 bedroom, one bathroom and a guest toilet, open kitchen, capitally renovated.
- ♦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
- ♦1680- **Mashtots Ave.**, 5/4, 68sq.m, 1 bedroom, old repair, possibility of gas. Price: 86.000 USD.

#### 2 ROOMS

- ♦3003. **Sayat-Nova str,** 5/3, 105sq.m, 2bedrooms, stone building, capitally repaired. Price: Negotiable
- ♦1560. **Northern Ave.**, Newly built,10/3, 130 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired,climate control, parking. Price: 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

- ♦3090 **Dzorap** Newly built, 190sq.m, 2 bedrooms, study, 2 bathrooms, capitally renovated,parking, Price: 460.000 USD
- ♦3090. **Busand str, /Near Republic Square/**, Newly built, /6th floor,116sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms one in master bedroom, capitally renovated, open balcony. Price: 350.000 USD negotiable
- ♦3012. **Aram str**, Newly built, /7th floor, 136sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, parking, facing to bulvar, Price:300.000 USD negotiable.
- ♦2998. **North Ave**, Newly built, 9/6, 181sq.m, 3bedrooms, capitally repaired, climate control, parking, Price: 700.000 USD
- ♦2682. **Aram Str**, Newly built,13/6 187sq.m, 3 bedrooms,2 bathrooms, 2 open balconies, capitally reparaied,heating system, 2AC, 2 garages, view to garden. Price: 550.000 USD negotiable.
- ♦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 repaireed, 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
- ♦2836. **Pushkin str.**, 4/4,5, 400sq.m., 3 bedrooms,



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- 3 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC. Price: 460.000 USD.
- ♦2990. **North Ave.**, Newly built, 11th floor, 295sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capitally repaired, climate control, parking. Price: Negotiable.

#### 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: Negotiable
- ♦2013. **Tumanyan str.**, Ground floor of the building, 265sq.m.,1st line, capitally repaired, heating system, cellar. Price: 1.300.000\$ negotiable
- ♦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
  - ♦2167. **Sayat Nova str.**, newly built, 38sq. m, capitally repaired. Price: 200.000 USD
  - ♦2175. **Tumanyan str.**, Ground and 1st flooor of the building, 600sq.m, ground floor300sq.m, 1st floor-220sq.m, basement-80sq.m. - 1st line, zero level, 2 entrances, facade-15m, 4 window glasses, capitally reaepired, heating system, AC, Price: 3500 USD per sq.m,
  - ♦2172. **Isahakyan str.**, 92sq.m, 1st line, 7 degrees above zero level, facade-9m, 2 window glasses, h-3.20m, 2 halls, cabinet, bathroom, capitally repaired, heating system. Price: 450.000 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, Gyargyav 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
- ♦2107. **Monument**, 2400sq.m, building permits, building project. Price: 400 USD per sq.m.
  - ♦2413. **Ashtarak roadway**, 1000sq.m, building permits, building project. Price: Negotiable
  - ♦2414. **Demirchyan str.** land-750sq.m., building permits. Price:750.000 USD.

#### PRIVATE HOUSES

- ♦3802. **Vahagni distr.** Newly built, land- 1550 sq.m, 3storied bld-880sq.m, 9bedrooms, capitally renovated. Price: 880.000 USD.
- ♦3739. **Nork Marash** Land- 2000sq.m, two separete houses, total bld-600sq.m, capitally repaired, swimming pool, sauna, guard house. 2 car parking, garden. Price: 950.000 USD
- ♦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, hteating 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
- ♦3606. **Avan**, Tsarav Akhyur/near Botanical garden/, Land-1000sq.m.,3 storied building-750sq.m.,6 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, capitally repaired, heating system swimming pool, garden, sauna, 2 car parking. Price-1.500.000 USD
- ♦3574. **Blur**, Land-779sq.m.,2 storied building-720sq.m.,4 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, study, capitally repaired, heating system,sauna swimming pool, garden. Price: 2.000.000 USD
- ♦3590 **Blur, Barbyus str.**, Land-450 sq.m.,4 storied building-470sq.m.,3bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, garden. Price: 680.000 USD
- ♦3651. **Blur, Barbyus str.**, Land-900sq.m.,5 storied building-800sq.m.,4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, garden. Price:1.700.000 USD.
- ♦3401. **Antarayin str.**, Newly built, land-700sq.m, 3 storied bld-690sq.m, 5 bedrooms, capitally repaired. Price: 1.300.000 USD

#### NEWLY BUILT RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS

- ♦142. **Verin Antarayin str.**, 14 floors, 65-133sq.m, capitally renovated, parking. Price: 900-1300 USD
- ♦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. **Kevyan 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: negotiable.
- ♦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



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, equipped. Price: 1000 USD
- 2367. **Northern ave.**, Newly built, 9th flloor, 98 sq.m., capitally repaired, heating system, furnished equipped. Price: Negotiable.

2 ROOMS

- 2362. **Amiryan str.**, Newly built, /5th floor, 160sq.m, 2bedrooms, a study, 2 bathrooms, capitally renovated, furnished, parking. Price:2000 USD
- 942. **Teryan str.** 4/3, 130 sq.m.,2 bedrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped. Price: 1500 USD.
- 1950. **Buzand/Mashots 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.
- 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 reapped, heating system, furnished, equipped. Price: Negotiable
- 2243. **Buzand str.**, Newly built, 17/4, 125sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped. Price: 2000 USD
- **Amiryan str.**, Newly built, 14/5, 120sqm, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, partly furnished. Price 2000 USD



3 ROOMS AND MORE

- 2373. **Tumanyan str.**, 6/3, stone bld, 100sq.m, 3bedrooms, capitally renovated, furnished. Price:1300 USD
- 2363. **Arami str.**, Newly built, /4th floor, 120sq.m, 2 bathrooms and a guest toilet, a dressing room, capitally renovated, furnished. Price:2000 USD
- 2358. **V. Sargsyan str.**, Newly Built, 7/4, 145sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, one guest toilet, capitally renovated, furnished, undergound parking. Price:3000 USD negotiable
- 2347 **Teryan str.**, Newly built, 10/8, 320sq.m, 3bedrooms, office, 3 bathrooms, capitally repaired, furnished. Price: Negotiable
- 2277. **Kieyvan str.** duplex, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capitally repaired, with or without furniture. Price: Negotiable.
- 2310. **Busand str.**, Newly built, 190sq.m, 3bedrooms, 3bathrooms, capitally repaired, furnished, parking. Price: 2500 USD
- 2316 **Northern Ave.**, Newly built,6th floor, 227sq.m.,4bedrooms, 2bathrooms, guest toilet, capitally repaired, furnished,parking. Price:2500

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- 2303 **Hanrapetutyan str** Newly built, 9/5, 165sq.m, 3bedrooms,1bathroom, 1 guest toilet. capitally repaired, furnished, parking. Price: 2000 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 balconies, 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
- 2195. **Northern ave.**, Newly built, 3rd floor, 300sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, capitally repaired,climate control, AC, parking. Price:5000 USD
- 1142. **Djirvej**, 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 USD
- 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.
- 1323. **Monument, Babayan str.**, Land - 400 sq.m, 3 storied bld-300sq.m, each floor-100sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, furnished, equipped. Price: Negotiable

## PREMISES

- 2049. **Teryan str**, ground floor+basemnet, 1st line, 200sq.m, repaired. Price: 6.000 USD
- 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. **Mashots 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.
- 2033. **Abovyan str.**, 388sq,m, Ground floor of the building, 3 degrees above zero level, windog glasses, h-3m.,basement-235sq.m., capitally repaired, heating system, AC. Price: 15.000 USD
- 2031. **Vardanants str.**, 500sq.m, ground floor of the building, 2 entrances, facade-20m, window glasses, without divisions, ,basement-250sq.m, Price:8000 USD
- 2027. **Sayat Nova str.**, 95sq.m, ground floor of the building, 2 entrances, 7 degrees above zero level, 4 window glasses, capitally repaired. Price: 4.000 USD

## Ashgabat hosted an international media forum

On September 16, 2016 Ashgabat hosted an international media forum organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, dedicated to the first Global Conference on the Sustainable Transport.

The forum was attended by foreign and domestic journalists, experts, representatives of relevant ministries and departments. In particular, representatives of a number of international news agencies and editions, such as TRT, IRNA, Euronews, The Tokyo Shimbun and others arrived in Ashgabat to participate in the forum.

The representatives of distinguished international organizations and agencies, including the Economic Commission for Europe, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the International Road Transport Union (IRU), International Maritime Organization (IMO), the Organization for Cooperation between Railways (OSJD) and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) made their presentations at the forum.

During the plenary sessions, the participants addressed the issues of the legal framework for international transport, infrastructure development, the role of transport and transit corridors in sustainable development.



Particular attention was paid to the role of the media as a practical tool in promoting mutual understanding between states, international organizations, financial and economic centers in the realization of common objectives of the global transport strategy in the 21st century.

The outcome of the media forum participants noted the important role of Turkmenistan in enhancing effective cooperation in the

transport sector, the initiatives of President of Turkmenistan to establish broad international dialogue on this issue. Representatives of the international media expressed their appreciation for the hospitality of the Turkmen side, ensuring a high level of the forum and create optimal conditions for its success.

*September 16, 2016, Yerevan  
Embassy of Turkmenistan  
to the Republic of Armenia*

## The complex of the new International Airport, designed to become the main "air gates" of Turkmenistan is inaugurated in Ashgabat

*from page 1*

The complex of the new International Airport consists of three terminals - passenger, VIP, as well as cargo, a new runway (WFP), the length of 3800 meters, taxiways, apron and parking spaces for aircraft, air traffic control tower, service traffic, and other objects. The total land area, which is located on the airport complex, is 1,200 hectares.

Formation of modern transport and communication system is one of the basic principles of the economic strategy of Turkmenistan consistently implemented by the Turkmen leader. In accordance with the strategic priorities of the policy of President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov, the opening of the new International Airport will contribute to the further development of the Turkmen aviation activation of mutually benefi-



cial trade-economic and humanitarian ties, tourism, and full integration of Turkmenistan into the world economic system.

*September 17, 2016, Yerevan  
Embassy of Turkmenistan  
to the Republic of Armenia*

## Pan-Turanism, not Islam, Motivated the Armenian Genocide



**Harut  
Sassounian**

A recently published book “Remembering for the Future: Armenia, Auschwitz, and Beyond,” edited by Michael Berenbaum, Richard Libowitz, and Marcia Sachs Littell, is a collection of scholarly papers delivered at a conference held at the American Jewish University in Los Angeles, March 8-11, 2014.

In his paper, “The Armenian Genocide as Jihad,” Prof. Richard Rubenstein attributes the Armenian mass killings to Islamic fanaticism against Christians. This is an often misunderstood topic even by Armenians who proudly proclaim that they were the first nation to adopt Christianity as state religion in 301 A.D. There is a whole folklore based on the misconception that Armenians were martyred because of their faith and refusal to convert to Islam. Given the current anti-Islamic fervor in the United States and elsewhere, some people are misled by these false claims.

Prof. Rubenstein starts his paper on the wrong footing when he describes a gruesome scene from “Ravished Armenia,” a 1919 Hollywood silent film which showed several naked Armenian women nailed to wooden crosses. Believing that “the Turks” intended to send a particular anti-Armenian and anti-Christian message with such horrifying images, Prof. Rubenstein mistakenly claims that the movie “could not have been filmed without the involvement and consent of Turkish authorities.”

Prof. Rubenstein bases his assumptions of the religious motive behind the Armenian Genocide on the fact that “the Ottoman Empire was governed as a theocratic state at the apex of which stood the Sultan, both the supreme head

of state and, for Sunni Muslims, the Caliph and, as such, the successor to the Prophet and supreme protector of Islam.”

The Professor insists on stipulating a religious causal factor for the Armenian Genocide, even after quoting from the eminent scholar Dr. Vahagn Dadrian, who contradicts him. According to Dadrian, the members of the Committee of Union and Progress or Ittihad who gained power in 1908 and masterminded the Armenian Genocide, were not “followers of the tenets of Islam.... While the Ittihad continued to run the State largely as a theocracy, its leaders were personally atheists and agnostics.” It is difficult to believe that a devout Muslim would murder a single human being, let alone millions!

Dr. Rubenstein emphasizes the central role of Islam in the Turkish mass killings of Armenians, even though he acknowledges that “[Ronald] Suny and other scholars have argued that the predominant motive for the murderous homogenization project was nationalism and there is no doubt that radical nationalism played a part.” Rubenstein dismisses the issue of Pan-Turkish nationalism, arguing that “the most important motivation for the monumental ‘ethnic cleansing’ projects was religious and specifically a consequence of the unchanging nature of certain aspects of Islam.”

To demonstrate that religion was a major determinant in the Turkish leaders’ designs, Prof. Rubenstein states: “on November 2, 1914, the Ottoman Empire declared war on the Entente powers, Britain, France, Russia, and their allies. On November 13, the Ottoman Sultan, in his capacity as Caliph, issued an appeal for jihad. The next day, Mustafa Hayri Bey, the Sheikh-ul-Islam, and as such the chief Sunni religious authority in the Ottoman world, issued a formal (and inflammatory) declaration

of jihad ‘against infidels and enemies of Islam.’ Jihad pamphlets in Arabic were also distributed in mosques throughout the Muslim world that offered a detailed plan of operations for the assassination and extermination of all ‘unbelievers’ except those of German nationality, the Empire’s wartime ally. Killing squads and their leaders were ‘motivated by both the ideology of jihad and Pan-Turkism influenced by European nationalism.’ While the practical influence of the jihad on the masses was limited, ‘it later facilitated the government’s program of genocide against the Armenians.’”

Prof. Rubenstein misses the point that religious fervor, rather than being the cause of the Armenian Genocide, was exploited to inflame the passions of the fanatical Turkish mobs in order to provoke them against the Armenians.

Instead of religion, the primary motivation for the destruction of Armenians was their removal as an impediment to Turkification and an obstacle to the Turkish leaders’ grand scheme of establishing a Pan-Turanist empire reaching Central Asia. Even though they were Muslims, a large number of Kurds were also killed, simply because they were not Turks!

Christian Armenians had no conflict with devout Muslims and their faith. In fact, large numbers of survivors of the Armenian Genocide were sheltered by Muslims in, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine and Syria. Armenians remember well The Sharif of Mecca, Al-Husayn ibn Ali, who issued an edict in 1917 ordering Muslims to defend Armenian survivors of the Genocide, as they would defend their own families.

The Young Turks’ plan to eliminate Armenians from Ottoman Turkey was motivated by Pan-Turkish fanatical nationalism rather than Pan-Islamic fervor!

## "The Independence Generation" Orchestra and Choir Megaproject: The Last Rehearsals

Just a couple of days remain until a glorious concert with participation of several hundreds young performers aged from 9 to 30 to be held at the celebration of Armenia's 25th Independence Day.

To remind, 80 percent of the musicians are youngsters from Armenia's

Marzes (provinces). Artistic Director of this Megaproject is the Founding Artistic Director and the Principal Conductor of the State Youth Orchestra of Armenia **Sergey Smbatyan** who is the holder of the honorary title "The Honored Artist of the Republic of Armenia" and the French Order of the Letters and

Arts.

Below The Highlights readers could see the most interesting moments of the last rehearsals held at the Yerevan Sports and Concerts Complex after Karen Demirchyan.

*Pics courtesy the Project  
(by L.Sargsyan).*



## First Armenian student graduate from the 7<sup>th</sup> Army NCO Academy

U.S. European Command – Soldiers from the Swedish and the Armenian armies graduated from the Basic Leader's Course (BLC) at the 7th Army Training Command's (7ATC) Noncommissioned Officer Academy (NCOA) here Sept. 8.

The six Swedish service members and the one Armenian NCO were the first from their countries to attend the BLC here.

Hosts from other countries learn about the BLC when they visit 7ATC which helps to spread the word of the capabilities of the course, said First Sgt. Eric D. Lowery, the outgoing deputy commandant at the NCO Academy.

"The strategic location of the academy makes us unique and different from every other academy in the U.S. Army," said Lowery. "Having international students here is a great learning opportunity for U.S. Soldiers and Allied partners."

U.S. Soldiers that attend the BLC here are at an advantage because they get to expand their knowledge by sharing the

leader development experience with international students, in which they would not be able to do stateside.

"Soldiers that come through this course are very fortunate because they get the opportunity to partner with people they're probably going to be fighting with in an institutional environment," said Lowery.

While U.S. Soldiers are able to build relationships with allies, the international soldiers are able to compare and contrast the U.S. Army's NCO corps to their own army's leadership development.

The 7th Army NCO Academy's mission is to train and develop future leaders who are adaptive, disciplined and ready to lead effectively at the squad and team levels. Elements of the course include the Army Physical Fitness Test, daily physical training, classroom instruction, drill and ceremony, land navigation and the culminating training exercise at the end of the 30-day course.

According to Sgt. Wincent Truong, a squad leader assigned to the P4

Skaraborg Regiment in the Swedish Army, the U.S. Army and the Sweden army share some similarities in the following areas: physical training goals; marching commands; calling cadences; and having an Army-wide program to prevent and respond to sexual harassment and assault.

Sgt. Vahram Zohrabyan, a squad leader assigned to the Armenian Peace Keeping Brigade, also shares some similarities such as conducting land navigation back at his home unit.

Although Zohrabyan conducts physical training at his home unit, he found that conducting physical training immediately upon wake up from a night's rest was challenging.

The students were able to not only learn the course material but some leader characteristics as well.

Zohrabyan said that one of the most valuable characteristics he learned from the instructors was confidence, an area that he wishes to improve.

"When I see the instructors, I see confidence," Zohrabyan said as he was describing one of the instructor's abilities to teach a class without hesitation.

Both service members are now able to take the skills they've learned to their country and teach to their fellow service members. But not just the skills, they're also able to share their experience with training alongside American Soldiers.

"I'm happy to communicate with the American Soldiers, build a relationship with them and to take in more experience from the instructors," Zohrabyan said as he advises other international students to attend the BLC here.

"It's a good experience to be in another country, cooperate with other Soldiers, see how they see things and build some balance between America and Sweden," said Truong.

Truong said that he hopes to remain in contact with his newly found American friends thanks to course.



## AGBU Armenia to host international conference on Gender and Post- Genocide

The Armenian General Benevolent Union (AGBU) will host a three-day international conference “After Genocide: From Trauma to Rebirth, a Gendered Perspective” on Saturday, September 17 to Monday, September 19 at AGBU Armenia Hall in Yerevan.

The conference is organized by conflict and gender think-tank Women in War (France) in partnership with the Institute of Archaeology and Ethnography of Armenia, DVV International, and AGBU Armenia. The three-day event brings together over fifty speakers from around the world to discuss the gendered nature of personal, political and social consequences of genocide. Feminist thinkers and activists, historians, sociologists, anthropologists, psychologists, and lawyers will share differing perspectives on how genocide victims and descendants have been affected by their trauma.

Conference panelists will examine genocides and mass killings, including the Armenian Genocide, the Holocaust, Nanking, Bosnian genocide, Rwandan genocide, mass killings during the Democratic Republic of the Congo Civil War, Cambodian genocide, and mass killings in Central America and the Middle East. The fate of persecuted people today, including Yazidis, Christians in the Middle East and Kurds, will also be examined as will questions on reparations and possibilities of reconciliation in preventing the recurrence of genocide.

This project was made possible by the generous sponsorship of the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie, Fondation pour la Mémoire de la Shoah (France), DVV International, Swedish non-governmental organization Kvinna till Kvinna (Women for Women), and the Academic Swiss Caucasus Net (ASCN). The conference will be livestreamed at [www.agbu.am](http://www.agbu.am).

### The Exhibit: “Mapping Identity: Figures, Borders, and Nations”

#### *Artist books, paintings and works on paper by Dana Walrath for AGBU Exhibitions*

“Mapping Identity: Figures, Borders, and Nations” is a solo exhibition of select works by renowned artist, author and anthropologist Dana Walrath comprised of artists’ books, paintings and works of art on paper.

The series consists of handmade books on nine of the genocides of the past 500 years: American Indians, African Americans, Australian Aborigines, Armenians, the Holocaust, Cambodians, Rwandans, Bosnians and the Rohingya people of Myanmar. One of Walrath’s installations in the exhibition, “View from the High Ground,” renders dehumanization—the fourth stage of genocide—as an interactive process. The handmade books are interactive, forcing the viewer to experience dehumanization literally through the sense of touch as participants page through the images. Two of the nine original books—comprised of hand drawings and an old zoology text embedded within slate—will be on view at AGBU along with larger works on paper from Walrath’s “Armenian Maps” series which explores borders, identity and the fetishizing of nationalism.

#### After Genocide: From Trauma to Rebirth: a Gendered Perspective

International Conference in Yerevan,  
September 17-18-19, 2016

Women in War, Institute of Archaeology and Ethnography, AGBU

avec le soutien de  
ORGANISATION INTERNATIONALE DE LA FRANCOPHONIE  
la francophonie



## Conference on Armenian Diaspora and Armenian-Russian relations kicks off in Moscow State University



In the sidelines of the events dedicated to the 25th anniversary of the independence of Armenia an international 3-day conference headlined "Armenian Diaspora and Armenian-Russian relations: Past and present" kicked off at the Lomonosov Moscow State University on September 14.

Over 100 experts in Armenian studies from 16 countries, including Armenia, France and the USA, are invited to the

event; "NT" was informed from the press service of the Armenian Embassy in Russia. Ambassador of Armenia to Russia Oleg Yesayan read for the audience the letter of the President of Armenia Serzh Sargsyan addressed to the participants of the conference, where President Sargsyan expressed conviction that the international conference, as a key scientific event, will foster humanitarian and educational relations between Armenia and Russia and further strengthen the relations between the two states.

The Dean of the Department of History of the Moscow State University Sergey Karpov read for the audience the letter of the chairman of Russia's State Duma, Sergei Naryshkin, in which the senior Russian official referred to the role of the Armenian community in Russia in the development of Russia during different historical phases. Before the opening of the conference a conversation had taken place between the Armenian Ambassador to Russia Oleg Yesayan and the rector of the Lomonosov Moscow State University Victor Sadovnichy, during which the interlocutors discussed various issues of cooperation in education and science.

Ambassador Yesayan expressed gratitude to the rector for organizing the conference on the Armenian Diaspora and Armenian-Russian relations, underlining the importance of the issues. Rector Sadovnichy underscored the importance of the Yerevan branch of the Lomonosov Moscow State University. The Armenian Ambassador to Russia had another meeting with the Dean of the Department of History of the Moscow State University Sergey Karpov and the professors of the department.

## The Constitutional Law on Approval of the new edition of the Constitution of Turkmenistan is adopted at the session of the Council of Elders

In Ashgabat, capital of Turkmenistan a session of the Council of Elders started its work. At the opening of the session the President of Turkmenistan Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov delivered a speech.

In his speech the Head of Turkmen State presented a broad picture of the country's achievements over 25 years of its independent development in political, social-economic, and humanitarian spheres, and assessed the current state of the country and society.

Speaking about achievements in social and economic area, President of Turkmenistan, in particular, noted that over the past 25 years in the country, investments worth 144 billion US dollars have been developed, 544 large facilities of industrial and non-industrial purpose have been constructed and commissioned.

The volume of foreign trade turnover in comparison to 1995 increased 8 times. Turkmenistan carried out two large-scale energy projects – Turkmenistan-China gas pipeline and Turkmenistan-Iran gas pipeline. In December 2015 construction of Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) gas



pipeline has begun.

It was noted in the speech that since 2007 fundamental reforms in the national economy, financial and banking systems has been started. Thus, today the state strategy of accelerated transformation of Turkmenistan from primarily agrarian state into a developed industrial power with high level of technological and production cycle is becoming a reality.

Private sector is developing at high rates in industry, agriculture, construction, services sector and other spheres. To date, the share of non-state sector in the structure of GDP amounted to 68% (excluding energy sector). The total number of non-state enterprises reached 25,000.

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The Constitutional Law on Approval of the new edition of the Constitution of Turkmenistan is adopted at the session of the Council of Elders.

Adoption of the Constitutional Law has become a logical continuation of the Constitutional reform, initiated in the country, and aimed at further improvement of political system, stage-by-stage democratization of the state and society, in particular, envisaging political diversity and multiparty system. One of the important results of this process is introduction in Turkmenistan – for the first time in the country's history – of a position of Ombudsman for human rights.

Adoption of the Constitutional Law was preceded by its wide discussion within political parties, public organizations, and work collectives. During preparation of the new Law, proposals and wishes received from citizens of the country were taken into account.

*September 14, 2016, Yerevan  
Embassy of Turkmenistan  
to the Republic of Armenia*

## Armenian Genocide: Century on, descendants honor Australian couple who helped the helpless

SBS World News Radio – The unsung efforts of the Australians who helped Armenians after the First World War have been celebrated in a special ceremony in Sydney almost a century later.

Brothers John and David Knudsen never met their grandfather John Henry Knudson.

But family mementos tell a story of bravery, sacrifice and compassion.

Sprawled on a dining-room table at David Knudsen's house in northern Sydney are a series of black-and-white photographs and medals.

And, there is a small, silver identification tag his grandfather wore when he fought in the First World War.

But it is what John Henry Knudsen did after the fighting was over that he is most remembered for.

The New Zealand-born soldier and his Australian wife Lydia, a nurse, travelled to the Middle East.

They wanted to help the Armenian refugees who fled or were marched out of Turkey following the killings. Armenia calls a genocide, a term the Turkish government disputes.

The couple joined Near East Relief, an organization overseeing aid to the multitudes of Armenian refugees.

When the Australasian Orphanage opened in late 1922 in Antelias, Lebanon, they were appointed its directors.

Their grandson John Knudsen says they became parents to about 1,700 Armenian orphans.

"It's good to see that they made a difference out of a terrible, terrible situation. Those kids, they would have been dead. They would have been in the desert, forgotten ... gone ... a whole generation of human beings, as far as I'm concerned."

The orphanage closed in 1929, and



John and Lydia Knudsen settled in Australia.

Now, their humanitarian efforts have been recognized in a special ceremony in Sydney, bringing together the descendants of those who lived and worked at the orphanage.

Nora Grigorian says her grandfather, Mihran Terzian, was eight years old when he sought refuge with the Knudsens.

"I have so many emotions. It's incredibly full-circle for me personally, very personally, the way my grandparents were rescued and saved, their lives were secured by Australians. And they had no idea, they could not have dreamed, that some of their grandchildren and seven of their great-grandchildren would be contributing Australians one day. They're pictured under the Australian flag in an orphanage far away from their birth home, as well as from Australia. And Australians reached out. And for me personally, it makes me very proud to be Australian, as well as Armenian."

Author and historian Vicken Babkenian has documented the Australian response to the Armenians after

the war in his book Armenia, Australia and the Great War.

He says that response has been largely ignored.

"Unfortunately, generally, particularly in Australia, much of the focus of popular and official narrative is on the heroic military side of our country's participation during the First World War. But an area that's been quite neglected and excluded from the narrative is the humanitarian aspect."

John Knudsen says his grandparents would be humbled by the recognition of their work.

And he says Australia should be doing more to welcome refugees today.

"Look at all those little children. Look at all those refugees that are clinging and all their houses have been destroyed. What's going to happen to them? The rest of the world's trying to take them, but we've got to do something more. There's got to be something more that we can do like they tried to do. They tried to make a difference. They did make a difference. And that's what we need to do."

## Van Gogh 'suffered psychosis' in final 18 months, experts say



Experts in Amsterdam have concluded that troubled Dutch artist Vincent van Gogh suffered a form of repeated psychosis in his final 18 months, the BBC reports.

However, they could not reach a definitive diagnosis on his underlying mental state.

They said the well-documented breakdown that resulted in him cutting off his own ear in 1888 could have been the result of alcohol or stress.

Van Gogh died from a gunshot wound in July 1890, in an apparent suicide.

The gathering of medical professionals and art historians weighed up evidence, including many of the Dutch post-impressionist's letters.

Popular theories about his mental health have included bipolar disorder, schizophrenia or syphilis.

"One single thing cannot explain the entire picture of what happened to Van Gogh," medical ethics professor Arko Oderwald told the Telegraph newspaper.

Louis van Tilborgh, a professor of art history at the University of Amsterdam, told the New York Times some of the debate over Van Gogh was "fierce".

In July, new research suggested that Van Gogh had cut off his entire ear rather than just part of it.

Later that month, The Art Newspaper named the young woman he had given the ear to with the words "keep this object carefully" as farmer's daughter Gabrielle Berlatier.

## Archaeologists Trace Artsakh's Origins to 7<sup>th</sup> Century BC

Archeological excavations started at Teishebani (modern Karmir Blur) site in 2015, and 281 mausoleums have already been discovered in a short period of time. What do the new findings reveal? Will they provide an opportunity to review history?

Armenians have had four viceroy seats, one of them in Artsakh. Archeologists have discovered four viceroy bronze wands during excavations at Teishebani, archeologist Hakob Simonyan, Deputy Head of

the Research Center of Historical-Cultural Legacy under the Ministry of Culture, told reporters today. He said the findings unearthed from the site shed light on disputable pages of history.

The excavations that resumed in 2015 have revealed that back in the Urartian period Armenia was divided into provinces, each ruled by a viceroy. After the death of the latter the highest symbol of power – the scepter – has also been laid at the mausole-

um.

"What's most important is that it's now proven that Artsakh was part of the united Kingdom of Van in the 8th to 7th centuries BC. The excavations come to refute all assertions that Artsakh has never been part of Armenia," the archeologist said.

According to him, another importance of the findings is that they come to disperse the uncertainty regarding the origin of Urartians. "The Urartians were natives of the Ararat Valley," he noted.

"I'm deeply confident that Urartu is an Armenian kingdom with its multi-layer population, where the Armenian element has been dominant," Hakob Simonyan said.

A number of different interesting items have been unearthed during the expedition. These include jewelry (necklaces, bracelets, cufflinks, buttons), also as a whole arsenal of weapons.

The findings comprise a huge material for anthropological research. With DNA tests it's possible to reveal the illnesses the locals suffered from calculate their life expectancy, study their beliefs and rituals.



## Aline Ohanesian's "Orhan's Inheritance" a finalist for Dayton Literary Prize

Asbarez – Aline Ohanesian's book, "Orhan's Inheritance," is among 12 finalists announced for the 2016 Dayton Literary Peace Prize — half for fiction, half for non-fiction. A winner and runner-up in each category will be announced Oct. 11. Winners receive a \$10,000 honorarium and runners-up receive \$2,500.

Set against the backdrop of the Armenian Genocide, the book tells the story of Ohan, whose brilliant and eccentric grandfather, who built a dynasty out of making kilim rugs, is found dead in a vat of dye, Orhan inherits the decades-old business. But his grandfather's will raises more questions than it answers. Kemal has left the family estate to a stranger thousands of miles away, an aging woman in a retirement home (Ararat Home of LA) in Los Angeles. Her existence and secrecy about her past only deepen the mystery of why Orhan's grandfather would have left their home to this woman rather than to his own family.

Joining Ohanesian as finalists are "A Little Life" by Hanya Yanagihara; "Delicious Foods" by James Hannaham; "Green on Blue" by Elliot Ackerman; "The Sympathizer" by Viet Thanh Nguyen, and "Youngblood" by Matt Gallagher.

"Many of this year's finalists explore the contradictory strength and fragility of the family bond, and the threat that external forces such as poverty, war, and prejudice can place on that bond," said Sharon Rab, co-chair of the Dayton Literary Peace Prize Foundation. "Through these narratives we explore the sources of conflict within the family but also what our immediate relationships can teach us about healing and reconciliation in the larger world."

The awards will be presented at a gala ceremony hosted by award-winning journalist Nick Clooney in Dayton on Nov. 20.

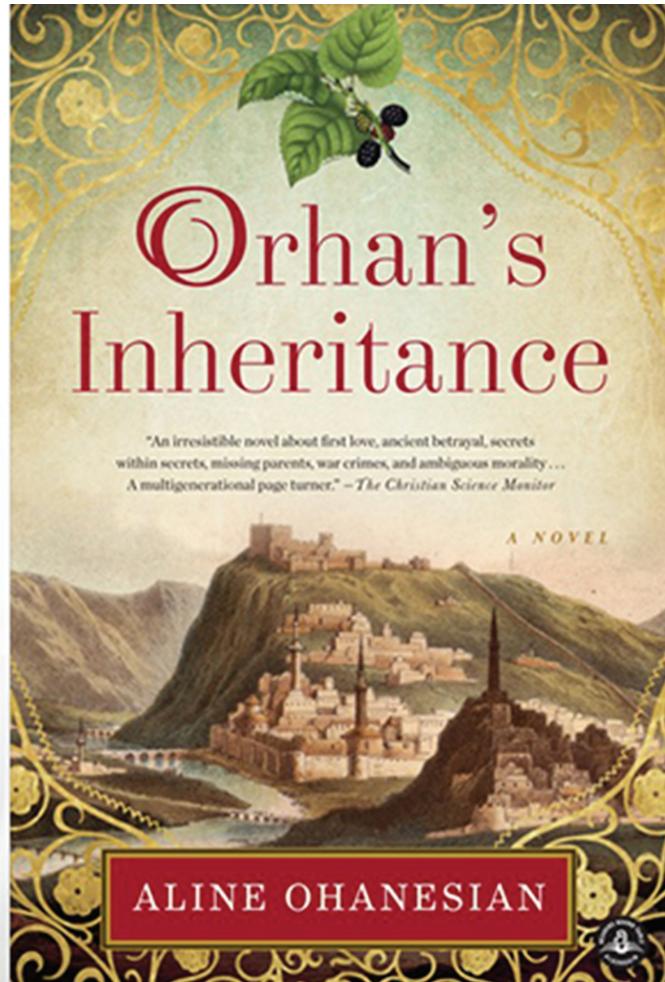
Last month, organizers of the event announced that novelist and essayist Marilynne Robinson will receive the 2016 Richard C. Holbrooke Distinguished

Achievement Award. Holbrooke was the U.S. diplomat who helped negotiate the 1995 Dayton Peace Accords at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base that put an end to the three-and-a-half-year-long Bosnian War.

The finalists for nonfiction: "Between the World and Me" by Ta-Nehisi Coates; "Find Me Unafraid" by Kennedy Odede and Jessica Posner; "Nagasaki" by Susan Southard; "Showdown: Thurgood Marshall and the Supreme Court Nomination That Changed America" by Wil Haygood; "The Reason You Walk" by Wab Kinew, and "The Train to Crystal City" by Jan Jarboe Russell.

Inspired by the 1995 Dayton Peace Accords, the Dayton Literary Peace Prize was launched in 2006. It is the only literary peace prize awarded in the United States.

Finalists will be reviewed by a panel of prominent writers including Alexander Chee, Christine Schutt, Ruben Martinez and Evelyn McDonnell.



## Zodiac Weekly Forecast



### Aries (March 20–April 19)

A relationship or friendship that began with gusto in late March arrives at a point of evaluation. The question of permanence may always be an issue in this situation. The relationship may be fine, but perhaps one of you is looking for some fresh

excitement. A long weekend or R&R could make the difference.



### Taurus (April 20 – May 20)

Your moods may go up, down, and sideways this week with the eclipse. Don't take anything seriously yet. Mercury is retrograding in your 5th house of children and lovers. You may not have all the information or your imagination could be running

away with you. Do not make important decisions or promises until the end of Sept.



### Gemini (May 20–June 20)

Past work on a significant project related to your home pays off now. It has demanded major attention to the details, but they are now integrating well. Contracts may be signed that favor you monetarily. The financial Powers That Be are in your

favor. Take a deep breath. You've done a great job.



### Cancer (June 21–July 21)

People of the past may resurface. You could have a tendency during this period to slide into old and outmoded patterns of emotional behavior. Somehow they are associated with old wounds in your life and you would just as soon let those memories go back to the ethers. Don't let

the old habits capture you for long.



### Leo (July 22–August 21)

This week is about finding healing on either the physical or emotional levels. You may be the healer or the healee. It is possible that alternative medicine may play a role. If a friendship or a more significant relationship needs mending, now is the time to do so. The willingness to

open your heart and mind to give and to receive is yours at this time.



### Virgo

#### (August 22–September 22)

You may be thinking about the people of your past. If you feel so inclined, pick up the phone. It is probable that others are thinking about you, too. Green lights light up the areas of love life, play, and children.



### Libra (Sep. 23–Oct. 22)

Your attitude about yourself is not altogether accurate right now. You may think way too much of your ideas, or alternately, you may see yourself as lower than scum. Neither is accurate and you should probably not make decisions of any importance this week. Spiritual pursuits are given a "go" signal.



### Scorpio

#### (October 23–November 21)

One or more acquaintances from the past may cross your radar this week. This person or group may have information or a reminder that can help you on your path. The eclipse may bring you enlightenment concerning children or a lover. Finances have been a problem

but you have an opportunity this week to earn some pocket change.



### Sagittarius

#### (November 22–December 20)

After what seems an eon, you have a happy development that is the result of your personal effort and creativity. There may also be a green light in relation to a lover or a child.

While Mercury retrogrades, whatever you can fully accomplish before the end of Sept. will be well. But don't count on anything that requires more than a month to finish.



### Capricorn

#### (December 21–January 19)

Travel is highlighted, especially if you are returning to a place that you have been in the past. You may need to re-write or edit a paper, announcement, or Public Relations piece. People who live at a distance may

come back to pay you a call. If you are researching an item, make sure you get info from two sources before you use it.



### Aquarius

#### (January 20–February 17)

The Full Moon Eclipse described above may bring financial information to light. If there are errors, they will show up. This may or may not be in your favor. It depends upon what you have done with finances in the past.



### Pisces (February 18–March 19)

The last thing in the world you want to do right now is follow routine. Give yourself some slack and take a breather. If you don't, you will resent it and that uses more energy than it is worth. Let your imagination flow and consider adding something beautiful, maybe inspirational, to your everyday surroundings. It will perk up your attitude.

## Made in Armenia-2016 Expo opens in Yerevan

"Made in Armenia- 2016" Expo of Armenian goods and services was officially opened in Yerevan. President of Armenia Serzh Sargsyan, Ministers, and business representatives attended the opening ceremony.

The main goal of the exhibition is to present Armenia's existing industrial potential, opportunities for development, and assist in entering new markets.

The traditional exhibition of the Armenian goods and services this year brought together over 300 companies from Armenia and Artsakh engaged in food, jewelry, alcoholic beverages production, products of light industry, pharmaceuticals, mining, construction materials, precise machinery and information technologies. The exhibition is attended also

by the business delegations from the countries which can be perspective for the Armenian economy.

The President of Armenia toured the Exhibition and inquired about the products and services of the companies represented at the Exhibition and conversed with the representatives of the companies about their problems and development programs.



## Apartment For Rent

A comfortable apartment in the center of Yerevan on the second floor of the house.

The apartment (110 sq. m.) has a dining room, two bedrooms, a kitchen, a bathroom and two balconies. The house has a central heating system, permanent cold and hot water, TV satellite, air conditioners and all other facilities.

There is a nice view to Mount Ararat. The house has a nice garden and a garage. The place is quiet and secure. 3 minutes by walk from Marshal Baghramian ave. and Metro station.

**The price is 1000 USD monthly,  
for a long term,  
40-50 USD daily for a short term.**

**Address:**  
**3 Aygedzor Str, Yerevan.**

**Tel:**  
**095-27- 87-09 mob.,  
093- 22-95-70 mob.,  
27-87-09 home.**



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