

Yerevan to host CSTO Collective Security Council session



On October 14 in Yerevan will host the session of the Collective Security Council of the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO), which

will be chaired by the President of the Republic of Armenia Serzh Sargsyan. Armenia has been presiding in the Organization for the period of time be-

tween the sessions of years 2015-2016, President's Press Office reports.

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The delegation of Turkmenistan put forward initiatives addressing the 71st session of the UN General Assembly

p.5 The delegation of Turkmenistan put forward initiatives addressing the 71st session of the UN General Assembly. The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan speaking from the tribune of the global forum, voiced the country's positions on main directions of state policy aimed at strengthening peace and securi-

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ty, implementation of Sustainable Development Goals, resolution of climate change issues and problems of migrants, refugees and stateless persons. It was announced about official adoption by the Government of Turkmenistan of goals, targets and indicators for SDGs.

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Armenian FM received Vice-President of the German Bundestag

Armenian Foreign Minister Edward Nalbandian received on October 5 the delegation of the German Bundestag headed by Vice-President Johannes Singhammer.

Minister Nalbandian noted that the frequent visits of German lawmakers to Armenia are a testament to the importance of parliamentary diplomacy.

Edward Nalbandian availed himself of the opportunity to express gratitude for the recognition and condemnation of the Armenian Genocide by the German Bundestag, and for the principled stance of German MPs on the issue.

Johannes Singhammer presented the goals of German MPs' visit to Armenia and the results of the meetings.

Minister Nalbandian briefed the guests on Armenia-EU relations, the ongoing negotiations on a new legal framework.

Edward Nalbandian referred to Armenia's approaches towards the situation in the Middle East, the issues of minorities in the region, the struggle against terrorism and other regional processes.



Minister Nalbandian presented the efforts of Armenia and the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs towards elimination of consequences of Azerbaijan's April aggression and settlement of the Karabakh conflict.

Armenian Prime Minister, US Ambassador discuss bilateral cooperation



Prime Minister Karen Karapetyan received on October 4 Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States to the Republic of Armenia Richard Mills. The Premier described as quite

effective the dynamically developing U.S.-Armenia relations and noted that Armenia is keen to build up strong ties of partnership with the United States, including in the fields of trade and investment.

Thankful for the reform-targeted multifaceted assistance provided by the Government of the United States ever since Armenia's independence, the Prime Minister expressed his sincere appreciation of the assistance received under USAID-supported programs. Noting that relations between the two countries cover a variety of areas, Karen Karapetyan assured of his government's readiness to take steps in a bid to tap the existing potential and expand cooperation.

On behalf of the U.S. Government, Richard Mills congratulated Karen Karapetyan on assuming the office of Prime Minister and wished him fruitful work. The Ambassador voiced confidence that the cooperation with Karen Karapetyan's government may contribute to the reinforcement and deepening of bilateral ties. The parties took the opportunity to exchange views on the pace and prospects of bilateral cooperation.

Russian President to visit Armenia for CSTO summit



Russian President Vladimir Putin will visit Armenia on October 14 to participate in the session of the Collective Security Council of the Collective Security Treaty Organization, Kremlin confirms.

The participants are expected to discuss the situation in the CSTO area and the further improvement of the collective security system in the organization.

In line with the decisions adopted at the CSTO summit in Moscow in December 2015, special attention will be paid to the measures of fighting international terrorism.

During the CSTO session Armenia will convey the presidency of the organization to Belarus.

Armenian Opposition Thwarted In Mayoral Race



(Yerevan, – RFE/RL) In a dramatic setback, three opposition parties that struck a power-sharing deal in Vanadzor on Monday failed to appoint the new mayor of Armenia's third-largest city, despite winning a majority of seats in the local council earlier this month.

Most members of the 33-seat council voted instead for the mayoral candidate of the ruling Republican Party (HHK), Mamikon Aslanyan, sparking allegations that the Armenian authorities bullied some opposition councilors into breaking the ranks.

The HHK and its junior coalition partner, the Armenian Revolutionary Federation (Dashnaksutyun), won 13 and 2 council seats respectively in a municipal election held in Vanadzor on October 2. The 18 other seats went to the opposition Bright Armenia, Prosperous Armenia (BHK) and Armenian Revival parties, putting them in a position to pick Vanadzor's next mayor.

The three parties signed a post-election deal on Saturday, pledging to support Bright Armenia's mayoral candidate, Krist Maruk-

yan. His party controls 10 seats in the Vanadzor legislature.

Marukyan's victory seemed a forgone conclusion until the council met on Monday to elect the mayor in secret ballot. In the event, the HHK's Aslanyan defeated him by 19 votes to 14, suggesting that 4 opposition councilors secretly switched their allegiances. It was not immediately clear who they are.

The vote was nearly disrupted by an hour-long bitter altercation between pro-government and opposition figures. The latter vehemently protested against the secret ballot, demanding that all councilors vote openly.

Edmon Marukyan, Bright Armenia's leader and Krist's brother, charged afterwards that the election was the result of a "crime" committed by the authorities. He demanded that law-enforcement bodies identify the opposition councilors who sided with the ruling and determine why they did so.

Marukyan suggested that they were blackmailed or pressurized otherwise into withdrawing support from the Bright Armenia candidate. He said that government "pressure" on opposition councilors increased sharply after the three-party deal agreed over the weekend.

"This is the real face of these authorities," Marukyan told RFE/RL's Armenian service.

The Vanadzor-based opposition leader, who is a member of the Armenian parliament, also claimed that the secret ballot was aimed saving the defectors from public embarrassment. He said Bright Armenia will try to expose them, including through a possible opposition boycott of council sessions.

There was no immediate official reaction to the dramatic development from the BHK and Armenian Revival. Both parties used to be part of President Serzh Sargsyan's governing coalitions.

Gyumri Mayor reelected amid opposition protests



Samvel Balasanyan, the incumbent of Gyumri, controversially secured a second term in office on Monday amid an opposition boycott of the newly elected municipal council that approved his candidacy.

The opposition Prosperous Armenia (BHK), Armenian Revival and GALA parties refused to recognize his reelection, saying it was the result of an unlawful distribution of council seats.

A pro-government bloc led by Balasanyan garnered about 35 percent of the vote in the municipal election held on October 2 under the system of proportional representation. The BHK finished second with 21.6 percent of the vote, while Armenian Revival and

GALA got over 10 percent each.

Several other opposition parties failed to pass the 6 percent vote threshold for being represented in the Gyumri legislature.

The local election commission ruled on Sunday that the ballots cast for Balasanyan's bloc translate into 17 seats in the 33-member council, just enough for it to reelect the incumbent. The commission assigned the remaining 16 seats to the BHK, Armenian Revival and GALA.

The three groups rejected that calculation as fraudulent, saying that in fact Balasanyan and his allies won only 15 seats. Dozens of their angry supporters protested outside the commission building after the announcement of the controversial decision.

The opposition parties said they will challenge that decision in court. Councilors representing them boycotted Monday's inaugural session of the Gyumri council which formalized Balasanyan's reelection.

A businessman who owns one of Armenia's largest breweries located in Gyumri, Balasanyan has run Gyumri for the past four years. The 62-year-old was a member of the Armenian parliament from 1999-2012.

Incidentally, Balasanyan has been affiliated with both Armenian Revival (formerly called Orinats Yerkir) and the BHK in the past.

Aliyev slams “Pro-Armenian” Kerry



Azerbaijan’s President Ilham Aliyev on October 7 condemned U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry for saying that both he and his Armenian counterpart Serzh Sargsyan are not prepared for a compromise solution to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

Aliyev also said that Baku is facing international pressure to come to terms with Karabakh’s de facto independence.

Kerry briefly mentioned the Karabakh issue when he spoke at a forum on international security in Washington last week. “There are some frozen conflicts in the world today: Nagorno-Karabakh, Azerbaijan-Armenia, where you can’t quite see that [decisive progress] right now because the leaders aren’t ready, because the tensions are there,” he said.

Aliyev angrily denounced Kerry’s remarks as pro-Armenian during a cabinet meeting in Baku. “To accuse Azerbaijan of being unwilling to settle the conflict is dishonest, to say the least,” he charged, according to the APA news agency. Blaming both conflicting parties for the stalemate amounts to “showing overt support for Armenia’s policy of occupation,” he said.

“We do not accept these statements,” Aliyev went on. “We believe that these statements must be corrected at the highest level as soon as possible. Or else, the [U.S.] mediating mission could be called into question.”

“This thesis was voiced officially. But behind the closed doors conversations are taking place, and pressure is exerted on Azerbaijan so that it agrees to Nagorno-Karabakh’s independence,” he revealed without elaborating.

Kerry became personally involved in joint U.S., Russian and French efforts to end the Armenian-Azerbaijani dispute following the outbreak in early April of heavy fighting in and around Karabakh. He and Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov mediated the May 16 meeting in Vienna of the Armenian and Azerbaijani presidents.

The Vienna summit was aimed at de-escalating tensions on the Karabakh frontlines. Sargsyan and Aliyev held follow-up talks in Russia on June 20 amid signs that the long-running peace process may be revived.

Kerry held separate meetings with Aliyev and Sargsyan on the sidelines of a NATO summit in Warsaw in early July. No further progress towards a Karabakh settlement has been reported since then.

Foreign Minister Edward Nalbandian and his Azerbaijani counterpart Elmar Mammadyarov traded accusations when they met separately with the U.S., Russian and French co-chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group in New York late last month.

In particular, Nalbandian said that Baku is refusing to honor confidence-building understandings reached at Vienna and Saint Petersburg. They were supposed to prevent further serious ceasefire violations in the conflict zone.

Aliyev claimed, however, Yerevan is now “trying to remove the issue from the global agenda” with the help of “the Armenian lobby.”

New Armenian Tax Chief Named

President Serzh Sargsyan has appointed a figure close to Prime Minister Karen Karapetyan as the new head of the Armenian government’s tax and customs services.

Vartan Harutiunyan’s appointment announced on October 10 followed Karapetyan’s pledges to tackle tax evasion among businesses and, in particular, companies which he has said operate in a “privileged” position.

Meeting with the leadership of the country’s largest business association on September 28, the new premier said combatting the informal sector of the economy is critical for addressing Armenia’s economic problems. But he has yet to present a plan of corresponding actions.

The State Revenue Committee (SRC) has been headed by Hovhannes Hovsepyan for the past seven months. Hovsepyan had previously held a senior position in Sargsyan’s staff. The SRC was separated from the Armenian Finance Ministry when he was named to run it in March this year.

Harutiunyan, the new SRC chief, has until now managed Armenia’s national gas distribution network owned by Russia’s Gazprom energy giant. Karapetyan was the Gazprom-Armenia company’s chief executive from 2001-2010. Harutiunyan held other senior positions in the company during his tenure.

A source of frequent complaints by Armenian businesspeople, the



powerful tax collection agency has long had a strong influence on the country’s business environment. In particular, its customs service is widely blamed for the fact that imports of fuel and basic foodstuffs to the country are controlled by a handful of wealthy entrepreneurs close to the government.

Karapetyan has repeatedly vowed to improve the investment climate since he was appointed prime minister on September 13. His newly formed cabinet will present a policy program to the Armenian parliament for approval later this month.

NKR MFA invites UN Human Rights Commissioner to Artsakh

On October 5, the letter of Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic Karen Mirzoyan was transmitted to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Zeid Raad Al Hussein with regard to his statement made at the opening of the 33rd session of the UN Human Rights Council on September 13, where he noted that his “Office has had no access to the conflict situation in Nagorno-Karabakh, including since the events of April 2016”.

Pointing to the absence of any appeal for access to Nagorno Karabakh from the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to the authorities of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, the NKR Foreign Minister expressed regret that for more than two decades the Office had not been able to



visit the NKR, not even after the Azerbaijani aggression this April.

“In our view, the OHCHR should be able to verify well-documented cases of massive and grave human rights violations and war crimes committed by the Azerbaijani Armed Forces both against Nagorno Karabakh civilian population and its military personnel. We strongly believe that the international communi-

ty has to react to these crimes in order to prevent their recurrence; otherwise, the impunity enjoyed by perpetrators would encourage further use of force by Azerbaijan against the people of Nagorno Karabakh”, the letter reads.

Assuring that the authorities of Nagorno Karabakh Republic are very open to have a genuine cooperation with the OHCHR with a view of strengthening democratic norms and principles as well as protection of human rights in situations of conflict, the NKR Minister of Foreign Affairs invited the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to visit Nagorno Karabakh or to dispatch a team in order to make an impartial and objective assessment of the human rights situation and the crimes perpetrated against the people of Nagorno Karabakh in April this year.

Andrzej Kasprzyk issues statement on monitoring along Karabakh Line of Contact



Ambassador Andrzej Kasprzyk, Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, on October 6 conducted a monitoring exercise on the Line of Contact in accordance with his mandate. This exercise took place six months after the outbreak of hostilities in early April.

Personal Representative Kasprzyk said: “As usual, the sides provided information regarding the situation on the Line of Contact, including ceasefire violations registered since the previous monitoring exercise. This information has been reported to the Minsk Group members, including its

Co-chairs, and the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office. Reports in the media sometimes allege that my Office does not register ceasefire violations or indicate the responsible party. They may be referring to the fact that no ceasefire violations occurred during the observation phase of our monitoring exercise, at the time when staff members are in exposed positions on the front lines. We always register ceasefire violations when they occur in our presence. Otherwise we rely on information provided by local commanders. I would like to reiterate that we do not have the mandate to conduct investigations of incidents.”

He added: “In the six months following the April clashes, the Minsk Group Co-chairs have worked tirelessly to stabilize the situation and move the negotiation process forward, and the information provided through the monitoring exercises is an indispensable part of this process. These efforts continue.”

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At the session discussed will be the process of implementation of the decisions adopted at the previous summits, as well as the priorities set by the Republic of Armenia during the country’s presidency at the CSTO.

In the framework of over two dozen issues on the agenda of the session the parties will discuss the international situation and current issues related to the collective security, drafts of the decisions on the creation before 2025 of the CSTO collective security strategy and CSTO emergency response center, issues related to the improvement of the works of the Collective Security Treaty Organization, as well implementation of the decision related to the fight against international terrorism.

The parties are expected to make a number of political statements.

Considering the fact that for years 2016-2017 the presidency of the CSTO will be assumed by the Republic of Belarus, President Alexander Lukashenko will present to the Collective Security Council the priorities of his country, which are to be implemented during the country’s presidency, in the period between the sessions.

In the framework of the agenda of the Collective Security Council emphasized will be the military element of the Organization and training of the military personnel. The parties will sign documents related to the development of the response structure of the CSTO member states.

The Heads of the CSTO member states are also expected to make a decision on the Secretary General of the CSTO.

Armenia needs faster growth, says new Minister

Yerevan – (RFE/RL) Economic growth registered in Armenia in the last few years is not fast enough to ease hardship and raise living standards, the newly appointed Finance Minister Vartan Aramyan said on October 4.

“In order to be able to improve our socioeconomic indicators, we need to have an economic growth rate of at least 4-4.5 percent,” Aramyan told reporters. “Growth rates higher than that would naturally mean more rapid betterment.”

The Armenian economy has expanded relatively slowly after a global financial crisis plunged it into a deep recession in 2009. According to official statistics, economic growth slowed from 3.6 percent in 2014 to 3 percent in 2015 and is on course to ease further this year due to an ongoing recession in Russia, a key trading partner.

Nevertheless, Prime Minister Hovik Abrahamian put a brave face on the country’s macroeconomic performance in the last 18 months when he announced his resignation on September 8. He argued that rising exports enabled the domestic economy to continue to grow despite falling multimillion-dollar remittances from Russia and a resulting fall in consumption.

Aramyan, who was appointed to the new Prime Minister Karen Karapetyan’s cabinet two weeks ago, seemed less impressed with those growth figures. “We’ve had a [macroeconomic] shock for two years and need to recover from that shock,” he said. “That should happen in 2017.”

“I think that we will be able to move forward with faster growth afterwards,” added the minister. He stopped short of making concrete growth projections for the near future.

The sluggish growth seems the main reason why Armenian tax authorities will likely fail to meet their revenue target for 2016. The anticipated shortfall might in turn explain why



Karapetyan’s government plans to cut public spending next year.

President Serzh Sargsyan cited the need to improve the socioeconomic situation in Armenia through more radical reforms when he explained on September 8 his decision to replace Abrahamian by Karapetyan, a technocrat and longtime business executive. He said the new cabinet should specifically focus on the domestic business environment.

Karapetyan pledged to embark on such “systemic” changes shortly after his appointment.

Opposition politicians are highly skeptical about the promised reforms, however, saying that the new premier will not end tax authorities’ privileged treatment of wealthy businesspeople connected to the government. They say that the Sargsyan administration will continue to heavily rely on the so-called “oligarchs” for political support.

Ministry building put up for sale

Citing the need to boost its budgetary revenues, the Armenian government has decided to auction off a historic building in central Yerevan that houses its Ministry of Transport, Communications and Information Technology.

Prime Minister Karen Karapetyan’s cabinet gave the green light for the sale of the 7,800 square-meter property at its weekly meeting on October 6. It set the asking price at an equivalent of roughly \$28 million.

It was not immediately clear where the newly restructured ministry will be relocated if the sale goes ahead.

An explanatory note posted on the government website says that the privatization is needed for bringing additional revenue to the state budget.

Armenian tax authorities are on course to fail to fully meet the revenue target set in the 2016 budget. Finance Minister Vartan Aramyan said earlier this week that the shortfall will likely total about 80 billion drams (\$168 million).

This seems to be the main reason why the government plans to cut budgetary spending next year.

The imposing building is located in Yerevan’s main Republic Square, just a few dozen meters from the Prime Minister’s Office. It was



built in the late 1940s and was for decades occupied by Soviet Armenia’s state-controlled trade unions.

The government made clear that the prospective buyer would need its permission to alter the building.

Another, even bigger government building located at the sprawling square was sold for \$52 million in 2013. It housed the Armenian ministries of foreign affairs, energy and agriculture. The buyer, a private firm reportedly owned by the Argentine-Armenian businessman Eduardo Eurnekian, plans to turn the structure into a luxury hotel.

Two stamps dedicated to 150th anniversary of Armenian painter Arshak Fetvadjian



On October 7, 2016 “HayPost” CJSC put into circulation two new stamps, dedicated to the 150th birth anniversary of the Armenian artist, painter Arshak Fetvadjian (1866 -1947).

Fetvadjian was the designer of the postage stamps and currency of the first Republic of Armenia.

Arshak Fetvadjian travelled in the Eastern Armenia, painted Armenian architecte-

tural monuments and produced more than 2,000 works varying from pencil drawings to watercolors. He is also author of portraits, works with themes related to Armenian history, mythology and nationalism, as well as reproductions from Armenian miniature paintings.

The stamps were printed in “Cartor” Printing House, France, with print run of 40,000pcs per each. They have face val-

ues of 170 and 230 Armenian drams. The stamps depict Portrait of Arshak Fetvadjian and his painting “Woman playing the Mandolin”. The stamps were designed by David Dovlatyan, designer of “HayPost” CJSC.

The official cancellation ceremony of the stamp took place at the National Gallery of Armenia. The cancellation was carried out by the Director of National Gallery of Armenia, Arman Tsaturyan and the Acting Chief Executive Officer of “HayPost” CJSC, Hayk Avagyan.



CSTO to hold drills in three member states in 2017



The Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) plans to hold large-scale collective forces’ drills dubbed Combat Brotherhood on the territory of Armenia, Kazakhstan and Russia in October 2017, Chief of the CSTO Joint Staff Colonel-General Anatoly Sidorov said on Friday, TASS reports.

“This year, four CSTO exercises have been held on the territory of various states and at different time. Next year, we’re planning to unite the maneuvers and hold them under a single scenario simultaneously with all the components of the CSTO collective forces. So far, the

name Combat Brotherhood has been proposed for the drills,” Sidorov said.

The CSTO’s unified drills will be held in October 2017. “That is, we won’t hold drills separately in April, August, September and October as was the case this year and in October 2017 we’ll practice joint measures within a short period of time on the territory of three states: Russia, Armenia and Kazakhstan. This will be more efficient to optimize the joint system of the CSTO collective forces’ control,” he said.

“The drills will approximately last for three weeks and a counter-terror operation will be devised under a single scenario: first reconnaissance, then the use of the rapid response collective forces with the support of aviation and then the post-conflict settlement with the employment of peace-keeping forces. This will be an experiment,” the colonel-general said.

The CSTO rapid response collective forces comprise over 17,000 servicemen from Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia and Tajikistan. These troops allow adequately responding to all existing challenges and threats – to counter terrorism, extremism and drug trafficking. The CSTO peacekeeping forces comprise about 3,600 servicemen.



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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 repaired,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 repaired, 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,

- 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 floorof 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 repaired, 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, Gyargyar village, 6 hectares, forest 2 hectare has building permits, 3 water source, electricity. Price: 100.000USD.

- 2406.**Avan**, Mher Mkrtchyan block, 1000 sq.m., electricity, gas, water, the district is inhabited. Price:

30USD per sq.m

- 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 separate 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, hjeating system,elevator. Price: 2.300.000 USD.

- 3583.**Nork-Marash**, Land-1100sq.m,2 storied bld-520sq.m,6 bedrooms,5 bathrooms, capitally repaired,heating system, AC, swimming pool, garden. Price:1.350.000 USD.

- 3432.**Aygedzor**, Land - 1021 sq m ,3 storied bld.-501 sq.m., 5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, study, capitally repaired, central heating, AC, boiler room garden, swimming pool, sauna, garage, security system. Price:1.000.000 USD

- 3606.**Avan**, Tsarav Akhbyur/near Botanical garden/, Land-1000sq.m.,3 storied building-750sq.m.,6 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, capitally repaired, heating system swimming pool, garden, sauna, 2 car parking. Price-1.500.000 USD

- 3574.**Blur**, Land-779sq.m.,2 storied building-720sq.m.,4 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, study, capitally repaired, heating system,sauna swimming pool, garden. Price: 2.000.000 USD

- 3590 **Blur, Barbyus str.**, Land-450 sq.m.,4 storied building-470sq.m.,3bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, garden. Price: 680.000 USD

- 3651.**Blur, Barbyus str.**, Land-900sq.m.,5 storied building-800sq.m.,4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, AC, garden. Price:1.700.000 USD.

- 3401.**Antarayan 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 Antarayan str.**, 14 floors, 65-133sq.m, capitally renovated, parking. Price: 900-1300 USD

- 74.**Cascade**, Verin Antarayan. 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 Antarayan. inhabited, 8 floors, gas, windows, street view -1000 USD per sq.m., city looking -1500 USD per sq.m., parking -4 million USD preliminary.

- 87.**Sayat-Nova str.**, 21 floors, 3 bedrooms -188 sq.m., 199 sq.m., Price 1900 USD per sq.m., 2 bedrooms have a beautiful sight - 117 sq.m., 120 sq.m., 124 sq.m.,Price: 1700 USD per sq.m., climate control, gas.

- 93.**Kievyan str.**, Given to the operation in October 2011, 16 floors, walls plastered, windows, exterior doors, h -3, 15 m, gas,parking. Price: 1500-1600USD per sq.m,parking-12 000 USD. Possible with mortgage, for 13 years term.

- 94.**Masiv**. 3floors,8 flats,each flat has 3 bedrooms, 210 sq.m., parking. Price: negotiable.

- 130.**Antarayan str.**, 34 flats, 110-275 sq.m., 4 penthouses-200-275sq.m.,available services-car wash, cleaning service, garbage removal service, parking. Price: Negotiable

- 131.**Busand str.**, commercial, office and residential areas, penthouse, available services-car wash, cleaning service, garbage removal service, parking. Price: Negotiable



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1 ROOM

- 2037. **Baghramyan str.**, 5/2, 60sqm, 1 bedroom, euro repaired, gas, heating system, AC, modern furnished, equipped. Price: negotiable
- 2189. **Vardanants str.**, Newly built, 24/12, 90 sqm, 1 bedroom, 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., 1 bedroom, 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 floor, 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, furnisred, equipped. Price: 1500 USD.
- 1950. **Buzand/Mashtots area.** Newly built, 8th floor, 163 sq.m., 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, climate control, furnisred, 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 repaired, heating system, AC, parking, 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, underground parking. Price: 3000 USD negotiable
- 2347. **Teryan str.** Newly built, 10/8, 320sq.m, 3bedrooms, office, 3 bathrooms, capitally repaired, furnished. Price: Negotiable
- 2277. **Kievyan 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

- USD
- 2303. **Hanrapetutyun 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. **Djrvej**, 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. Price: 7000 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



- 2084. **Tumanyan str.**, 4th floor, 200sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, climate control, parking. Price: 5000 USD
- 2252. **Northern ave.**, 7th floor, 350 sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, study, open balconies, capitally repaired, climate control, parking. Price Negotiable.

PRIVATE HOUSES

- 1335. **Baghramyan str.**, Land-200sq.m, 3storied bld-300sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 3bathrooms, capitally repaired, furnished. Price: 3000 USD
- 1336. **Aygedzor**, Land-1000sq.m, 2 storied bld-240sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, furnished. Price: 2000 USD
- 1337. **Davtashen** Land-406sq.m, 3 storied bld-306sq.m, 4bedrooms, 2bathrooms, capitally repaired, furnished. Price: 3900 USD
- 1323. **Monument, Babayan str.** Land-400sq.m, 3storied bld-300sq.m, 4bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, capitally repaired. Price: Negotiable
- 1248. **Aygedzor**, Land - 1021 sq m , 3 storied bld. - 501 sq.m., 5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, study, capitally repaired, central heating, AC, sauna, boiler room garden, swimming pool, garage, alarming system, security system. Price: 8000 USD.
- 999. **Aygedzor**, Land -1000 sqm, basement + 2 floors- 310 sqm, capitally repaired, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, newly furnished, equipped, sauna, swimming-pool. Starting Price: 5000 USD.
- 1094. **Noy block**, Land-450sqm, 2 storied building - 220sq.m, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, furnished, equipped, swimming pool, garden. Price: 2000USD.
- 1195. **Nork, Armenakyan str.**, Land - 2000 sq.m, 4 storied bld-520 sq.m., 4 bedrooms, 4bathrooms, capitally repaired, heating system, sauna, gym, furnished, swimming-pool, garden. Price: 4.000 USD negotiable.

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. **Mashtots Ave.**, 5/1, 2, 140sq.m., window glasses, capitally repaired, AC. Price: 8000 USD
- 1943. **Tumanyan str.**, Ground floor of the building, 265sq.m., 1st line, capitally repaired, heating system, cellar. Price: 7000 USD
- 1868. **Tumanyan str.**, Ground floor of the building, 220sq.m., 1st line, facade-55m., capitally repaired, h-5m., cellar. Price: 15.000 USD.
- 2087. **Northern ave.**, Ground floor of the building, 100sq.m, 1st line, zero level, capitally repaired, window glasses. Price: Negotiable.
- 2033. **Abovyan str.**, 388sq.m, Ground floor of the building, 3 degrees above zero level, window 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

Armenia third in Europe with the number of Syrian refugees hosted: Deputy FM



The delegation headed by Armenia's Deputy Foreign Minister Ashot Hovakimyan participated in the 67th session of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees held in Geneva October 3-7.

Opening remarks by UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon were followed by UNHCR Filippo Grandi's speech.

Referring to the global challenges related to refugees, Ashot Hovakimyan pledged Armenia's willingness to continue the effective co-operation with the UNHCR Office to address the needs of displaced people and support the refugees and asylum seekers.

The Armenian Deputy Foreign Minister referred to the issue of Armenian refugees, who have been forced to leave their homes in Azerbaijan because of the latter's policy of ethnic cleansing. He presented the Azerbaijani military aggression against Nagorno Karabakh unleashed in April this year, which was accompanied by harsh violations of international humanitarian law.

Ashot Hovakimyan noted that Armenia has provided refuge to more than 20 thousand Syrian refugees, being the third country in Europe with the number of Syrian refugees hosted.

In response to Armenia's delegate's speech, High Commissioner Filippo Grandi noted that the UNHCR Office will maintain support for the solution of problems displaced people face. He attached importance to the soonest resolution of the Karabakh conflict and expressed his support to the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs' efforts.

Humanitarian aid from Armenia arrives in Lattakia



Serzh Sargsyan to help the Syrian people and as an expression of the strong friendship between the two countries.

Gevorgyan noted that back in 1990 when Armenia was having a food and economic crisis, Syria sent around 6,000 tons of wheat, food, medicine, and fuel to help it overcome the crisis, asserting that Armenia will continue to send aid to the Syrian people.

A Syrian Arab Army officer said that the aid will be distributed among displaced families that have been affected by terrorism.

The convoy with humanitarian aid from Armenia has arrived in Aleppo, the Armenian Ministry of Foreign Affairs informs via Twitter.

The authorities in Lattakia received 40 tons of food and relief aid sent by Armenia to help the Syrian people, SANA reported.

Armenian Consul in Aleppo Tigran Gevorgyan told journalists during the unloading of the aid shipment at the Virgin Mary Church in Lattakia that this aid has been provided based on directives from Armenian President



Authoritative Speedtest by Ookla Acknowledges VivaCell-MTS Armenia's Fastest Mobile Network

Speedtest by **Ookla**, the global leader in broadband and mobile internet testing and web-based network diagnostic applications, collects results from its flagship site Speedtest.net and native apps to determine the fastest ISP and mobile networks in different countries of the world. Speedtest has brought its technology to iOS, Android and Windows Phone platforms with the Speedtest mobile application, delivering over a million tests each day over 3G and 4G cellular and broadband connections.

The company has released the findings for the first half 2016, making available information on each nation's winner. Entering <http://www.speedtest.net/awards> and clicking on "Armenia" icon delivers the following information:

in the first place in Armenia is mobile operator VivaCell-MTS. It reads: *"The first to launch LTE in Armenia, VivaCell-MTS has been methodologically increasing the speed of its network in major urban since. The speed in the downlink is 11.46 Mbps, and in uplink is 4.58 Mbps"*



VivaCell-MTS received a congratulatory letter from Speedtest acknowledging VivaCell-MTS as Armenia's Fastest Mobile Network. The result was generated by national claim based on over 90 thousand mobile network test results in Armenia. *"VivaCell-MTS has invested in their network to deliver the fastest mobile speeds in Armenia to their customers. We are pleased to acknowledge their superior market performance with this award"*, noted **Jamie Steven**, EVP Operations at Speedtest by Ookla.

"For VivaCell-MTS this is a great honor to receive an award from Speedtest by Ookla. This is an acknowledgement that the speed of internet provided by VivaCell-MTS, as tested through Speedtest's strict metrics, has been tested and proved to be the highest in the country, including 3G and 4G networks, in the coverage and numbers of base stations of which, the Company is the country's unsurpassed leader. This award is a clear statement of this fact," VivaCell-MTS Founding General Manager **Ralph Yirikian** noted.

Speedtest is the world's most popular internet performance test. Hundreds of millions of consumers around the world use Speedtest. With over 8 million tests each day, Speedtest has the most comprehensive view of worldwide internet performance. The results released are based on unique number device testing

each day over a six month period and are aggregated by averaging each user's and devices' tests in a given location, each day. This improves the accuracy of data and reduces bias from things like repeated testing or those attempting to skew the results.

VivaCell-MTS is the first Armenian telecommunications operator to have launched 4G/LTE on December 22, 2010, for the first time. Now the company's 4G network covers over 46,6% of the population (more than 255 base stations).

Speedtest by Ookla's software and methodologies set the broadband industry standards for accuracy, popularity, ease of use and the subsequent development of statistical data. The company's solutions have been adopted by nearly every Internet Service Provider in the world, for use by thousands of small businesses, governments, universities and major organizations such as AT&T, BBC, Cisco, Comcast, FCC, Reuters, Time Warner, Verizon, Vodafone and Vonage.



Professor Ara S. Babloyan Decorated with the RA Order “For the Services to the Motherland”

On the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of the Armenia's Independence and for his significant contribution to the health care development and for long-term commitment a prominent Armenian doctor, scientist and a public figure, MP Professor Ara S. Babloyan was decorated with the RA Order “For the Services to the Motherland” (2nd Degree).

Below we put CV of Prof. Babloyan:

*Prof.
Ara BABLOYAN,
MD, PhD*



Title:	Professor of Pediatrics and Pediatric Surgery, M.D., Ph.D.,
Professional Address	E-mail: aramc@arminco.com
Professional experience	
2007 to date	National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deputy • Chairman of the Standing Committee on Health Care, Maternity and Childhood of the
2007 to date	Scientific Director of ARABKIR Medical Center & Institute of Child and Adolescent Health
1997 to date	Head of the Chair of Pediatric Surgery, Yerevan State Medical University
2003 to date	Chief Pediatric Surgeon of the Ministry of Health
1997 - 2007	General Director of ARABKIR Medical Center & Institute of Child and Adolescent Health
1991-1997	Minister of Health of the Republic of Armenia
1982-1990	Head of the Urology Department of No.3 Children's University Hospital
1971-1982	Pediatric Surgeon at No. 1 Children's University Hospital
Education	
1965-1971	Yerevan State Medical Institute, Faculty of Pediatrics
1975-1977	Ph.D. thesis at the Institute of Pediatrics in Leningrad (Saint-Petersburg)
1987	Doctoral thesis at the Institute of Pediatrics in Leningrad (Saint-Petersburg)
1989	University Hospital of Antwerp , Training in Kidney Transplantation
1999	“Necker-Enfants-Malade” Hospital in Paris, Training in Liver Transplantation
International Activity	
2013	Correspondent member of the Royale Academy of Medicine of Belgium

2010 -2013	Member of the WHO Executive Board
2006 - 2010	Member of Child and Adolescent Health Technical Steering Committee of WHO
2003 - 2005	Member of Standing Committee of the Regional Committee for Europe, WHO
2000 to date	Member of European Society of Pediatric Urologists
2000 to date	Accredited doctor – consultant in Armenia for the Embassy of Belgium to Russia
1998 to date	Accredited doctor – consultant of the Embassy of France to Armenia
1993 to date	Member of Swiss Nephrology Association
Main directions of scientific and practical activity	Pediatric Surgery, Urology, Nephrology, Renal Transplantation, Public Health , Health Management
Publications	3 scientific inventions 7 monograms 209 scientific publications
Professional Membership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Member of Russian Academy of Medical and Technical Sciences ▪ Honorary President of Association of Pediatricians of Armenia ▪ Member of European Society of Pediatric Urology ▪ Member of European Union of Pediatric Surgical Associations ▪ Member of Swiss Nephrology Association
Awards	
2000	“Golden Medal” and a diploma on the occasion of the 70 th Anniversary of Yerevan State Medical University
2005	“First Rank Order” for the Important Contribution in Science and Education on the occasion of the 75 th Anniversary of Yerevan State Medical University, Ministry of Education and Science of the RA
2005	Diploma for the virtuous work and the provision of high professional health services, Yerevan Municipality
2005	“Diploma of Gratitude”, Speaker of the Parliament of Armenia
2005	“Officier de l’Ordre National Du Mérite”, Président of France
2007	Mkhitar Heratsi Medal, President of the Republic of Armenia
2007	Medal for Consolidation of Cooperation, Chief of the Police of Armenia
2012	Medal of the Ministry of Defense of the RA for 20 th Anniversary of Armenian Army
2012	Medal of Gratitude, President of the Republic of Nagorno Karabach
2014	Medal of Catholicos of All Armenians Karekin II
2015	Prize of the President of the Republic of Armenia for “Renal Transplantation Program and First Transplant Games in Armenia”
2016	Order for “Services to the Motherland” for his significant contribution to the health care development and for long-term commitment on occasion of 25 th Anniversary of Independence of Armenia, President of the Republic of Armenia
Languages	Armenian, Russian, French, English
Date and Place of Birth	May 5, 1947, Yerevan, Armenia

Fourth Aram Khachaturian Intl Fest Starts with "Khachaturian and Jazz" Concert



By Gourgen James Khazhakian

Chief Correspondent

The 4th Aram Khachaturian International Music Festival was opened with october 6th concert titled "Khachaturian and Jazz".

Let's remind that last year the 3rd Khachaturian Fest was finalized with such a concert. The concert included jazz interpretations of Khachaturian's works and a world premiere of *David de Bur Kenfield's* Concerto for Saxophone and Orchestra on the themes of Khachaturian's works. Before the concert a photo exhibition-contest was inaugurated at the Aram Khachaturian Hall entitled "Freedom" and dedicated to the 25th Anniversary of the Armenia's independence.

"The Aram Khachaturian International Music Festival gathers the best Armenian artists and features performances by the musicians who don't perform often," the Artistic Director and Principal Conductor of the State Youth Orchestra of Armenia (SYOA) *Sergey Smbatyan* stated. "I've got familiarized with Khachaturian works in my student years: I know that across its long history Armenia suffered from

numerous difficulties that were overcome by her: And I've tried to express all this via my music", - David de Bur Kenfield said to a crowd of cameras before the concert.

Speaking on the combination of jazz and the works of Aram Khachaturian, a prominent Armenian jazzman *Vahagn Hayrapetyan* noted that Aram Khachaturian could also be considered one of the first Ar-

menian jazzmen. "His works are very close to jazz. With his works, he contributed to the development of jazz in Armenia, but very few people know about this," noted Maestro Hayrapetyan who participated in the last year's similar concert as well. As at the 2015 concert, he played his own interpretation of the Soviet Armenia anthem written by Khachaturian.

Head of the Armenian State Jazz Orchestra *Armen Hyusnunts* this year also amazed the audience with his saxophone solo. To note, that night his Band's musicians were playing together with the SYOA performers.

Let's mention that the program for this year's Aram Khachaturian International Music Fest includes 20 concerts featuring performances of symphony, chamber and ballet music as well as master classes by renowned musicians. The Festival will host also famous artists from Canada, Germany, Russia and other countries.

Also musical projects for children, world premieres and premieres in Armenia as well as events dedicated to the anniversaries of renowned composers and musical ensembles will be presented.

This year's festival is dedicated to the 25th anniversary of Independence of the Republic of Armenia and will end on December 10th.

Photos by *Mariam Ghazahchyan* (Culture.am)



19th Arpa International Film Festival Opens Nov. 3

Asbarez – Arpa Foundation for Film, Music and Art (AFFMA) will present its 19th Arpa International Film Festival (AIFF) from November 3 to 6 at the historic venue in the heart of Hollywood, the Egyptian Theatre, located at 6712 Hollywood Blvd, in Los Angeles.

This year, AIFF will be screening one of the best selection of international films at the festival. 10 feature and feature length documentary film premiers by world class contemporary international artists such as Dominique Pinon, John Savage, Karren Karagulian, Maria Furtwangler, Albert Kodagolian, Onur Turkel, Matilda Anna Ingrid Lutz, Yana Drouz, Ashot Adamyan, Marija Karan and Jesse Williams.

A total of 55 independent films from 23 countries will be screened. Films such as: “Lost in Armenia” from award-winning director Serge Avedikian, recipient of the Cannes “Golden Palm” short film Award, “Booger Red,” a narrative documentary from acclaimed Indy director Berndt Mader, U.S. premiere of Albert Kodagolian’s “Somewhere Beautiful,” world premiere of Levon Minasian’s “Bravo Virtuoso,” and 25 years after the premiere of his masterpiece debut movie “Lost Paradise,” which screened at the prestigious AFI Film Festival, we are honored to have David Safarian back with his amazing U.S. premiere of



“Hot Country Cold Winter.”

Special Screening of award winning and nominated short films from critically acclaimed festivals such as: Tribeca, Berlin, Venice, Moscow, Tallin, Golden Apricot, etc.

Gregor Zupanc, AIFF Artistic Director stated: “Our vision is to create a vibrant Hollywood melting pot for passionate international filmmakers, whose innovative voices and socially engaged stories inspire and nurture the cinematic experience. In addition, we will have exclusive screenings of the forgotten masterpieces of Armenian cinema in collaboration with film schools and engage students from institutions with well-known universities such as California State University Northridge (CSUN).”

Arpa’s programming team has hand-picked socially engaging films with emphasis on issues in the U.S. such as Immigration, LGBT, sex trafficking, transgender and racial biases. “This year our focus has been to promote and support young Californian

filmmakers by presenting the best student films from Los Angeles,” stated Gregor Zupanc.

The Festival’s prestigious Armin T. Wegner Humanitarian award will be presented to Emmy winning director Bared Maronian’s documentary “Women of 1915.” It is AIFF’s distinct honor to present 2016 Lifetime Achievement Award to a world renowned film and television actor Dominique Pinon, the recipient of the Molière Award for Best Actor in 2004. This year’s recipient of the Career Achievement Award is world renowned singer, composer, and activist Serj Tankian of System of the Down, and Albert Kodagolian will receive Arpa’s Breakthrough Artist Award for his creative vision as director and cinematographer.

Heading our industry showcase this year will be Roger Kupelian of “Lord of the Rings,” “Pirates of the Caribbean,” and numerous other Hollywood productions.

For the past 19 years Arpa International Film Festival continues to cultivate cultural understanding and global empathy, creating a dynamic forum for international cinema with a special focus on the works of filmmakers who explore the issues of diaspora, exile and multi-culturalism. A strong emphasis is placed on ideals of independent thought, artistic vision, cultural diversity and social understanding.

Antonio Guterres formally nominated to be the next UN Secretary General

Antonio Guterres, the man formally nominated to be the next UN secretary general, says he plans to “serve the most vulnerable,” the BBC reports.

The former Portuguese prime minister said he felt both “gratitude and humility” by the appointment.

He said he would serve the “victims of conflicts, of terrorism, rights violations, poverty and injustices of this world”.

Mr Guterres was unanimously nominated by the UN Security Council on Thursday.

The UN General Assembly is expected to meet next week to approve his five-year appointment.

The 67-year-old, who led the UN refugee agency for 10 years, will take over from Ban Ki-moon early next year.

He paid tribute to Ban Ki-moon and called on UN members states to “strongly support him in his actions and his initiatives” in his final months in office.

“I have two words to describe what I’m feeling now – gratitude and humility,” Mr Guterres said in Lisbon.



“Humility [is what I feel] about the huge challenges ahead of us, the terrible complexity of the modern world. But it is also humility that is required to serve the most vulnerable, victims of conflicts, of terrorism, rights violations, poverty and injustices of this world”.

GetTreated Medical Travel: Five medical innovations you didn't know were Armenian

By Raffi Elliott
GetTreated Medical Travel

Armenia is making its mark as a global medical tourism hub, yet to the keen observer, this should come as no surprise. Despite its tiny size, this Caucasian nation has contributed disproportionately to the medical profession, through advances in medical research over the course of many centuries. Armenians have been found in every aspect of medical innovation, from the publication of Mkhitar Heratsi's 'Relief of Fevers' in 1184 to the pioneering work of Drs. Simeon Minasian, Garabed Galstian, and Baronig Matevosian during the American Civil War, though their contribution goes much deeper.

Armenian doctors, medical researchers and inventors are responsible for some of the most important life-saving innovations of the last century.



**1- Varaztad Kazanjian:
Father of Modern Plastic
Surgery**

The Invention:

As a young man, Varaztad Kazanjian fled the Ottoman Empire, where he worked in a local post-office due to the anti-Armenian pogroms known as the Hamidian Massacre. Settling in Boston to start a new life, Varaztad started working at a local wiring factory, where his extraordinary dexterity with tools led him to study dentistry at Harvard. During the Great War, Kazanjian was sent on a medical mission to the battlefields of France. Despite being trained as a dentist, his compassion for the sheer number of soldiers with horrific facial wounds he

met lead him to experiment with various treatments. The innovative procedures he worked with were often accomplished in primitive conditions, in field hospitals near the front lines.

Why it's important:

Dr. Kazanjian's pioneering procedures directly lead to establishing the medical field of plastic surgery, earning him the prestigious position of first ever Professor of Plastic Surgery at Harvard. His efforts didn't go unrecognised by others either. He was awarded the Order of Saint Michael and Saint George by HM King George V of Great Britain, as well as the Honorary Award of the American Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons.

His work helped propel battlefield medicine into the 20th century, allowing many wounded soldiers to recover from some of the most horrific wounds brought by modern warfare. These techniques eventually became commonplace in the civilian world as well. Victims of crashes, burns, and other accidents now had access to some of the most cutting-edge facial reconstruction technology in human history.

The importance of Dr. Kazanjian's efforts may go unnoticed for today's casual consumers of cosmetic plastic surgery, but it's worth remembering that the history of perfect noses and perfect breasts starts with an Armenian dentist's struggle to stitch up wounded soldiers of World War One.



2- Michel Ter-Pogossian: PET scan

The Invention:

The Positron Emissions Tomography

scanner, better known to the layperson as the PET scan, is one of the most recognisable pieces of medical technology today, but had it not been for the efforts of the German-Armenian nuclear physicist Michel Ter-Pogossian, this may not have been the case.

A son of Armenian Genocide survivors, Michel Ter-Pogossian was born in Berlin, Germany in 1925. Having witnessed the rise of the Nazis, his family quickly fled to France when he was still a child. Michel was not ready to let his adopted country fall to the same fate as his birth place. He promptly took up the fight against the Nazis as part of the French Resistance Movement during WWII while earning his degree at the University of Paris's Institute of Radium. He continued his studies after immigrating to Missouri in 1946, where he attended classes at the Washington University of St. Louis, eventually securing a faculty seat in its School of Medicine.

Why it's important:

His most notable contribution to Science, the PET scanner is known as one of the most promising methods of detecting early stages of cancer, as well as for monitoring heart disease, allowing millions of people to identify these life-threatening diseases in time to treat them.



**3- Raymond Vahan Damadian:
Inventor of the MRI**

The Invention:

If most of us ever confuse the PET scanner with anything else, it's almost always the MRI Machine, but that's OK, because

the MRI was also an Armenian invention; This time, by the Armenian-American physician, Raymond Vahan Damadian.

Born to an Armenian family in New Mexico, Raymond had an early interest in the physical sciences. With a bachelor's degree in mathematics already under his belt, he decided to pursue his interest in medicine, graduating as an M.D. from the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in 1960.

As a doctor, Raymond researched the effects of sodium and potassium in living cells, eventually leading him to his first experiments using nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR). Raymond conducted the first-ever diagnosis of cancer with a full-body scan in 1977 when he used his newly-invented Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) machine on a patient. Despite controversy revolving around his being denied a Nobel Prize for the invention that many believed entitled him to, Damadian never stopped improving on his important research.

Why it's important:

By inventing the MRI machine, Dr Damadian discovered a new way for medical professionals to diagnose cancer and conduct follow-ups without exposing the patient's body to ionising radiation. This revolutionised the field of cancer research, and allowed for easier and safer cancer diagnosis.

The MRI machine is also a very versatile as an imaging technique. Today, it is also widely used in biomedical research, as well as in the imaging of non-living objects. There are currently over 25 000 MRI machines used in hospitals and research labs across the world, used in diverse fields of research and medicine, including, but not limited to neurology, cardiovascular research, oncology, and much more. The MRI machine is even preferred to CT scanners when either technique could be used for the same effect.

4- Hrayr Shahinian: Pioneer in Microsurgical Techniques

The Invention:

Hrayr Shahinian, M.D., F.A.C.S. is recognised as a pioneer of endoscopic surgical techniques, commonly used in order to treat all sorts of skull-based disorders. After graduating from the American University of Beirut in 1981, he continued on at the University of Chicago's Medical



School. Having completed fellowships at the Department of Head and Neck Surgery in the Swiss city of Zurich, and in craniofacial surgery at New York University, Dr Shahinian was certified by the American Board of Surgery in 1992.

Why it's important:

Dr Shahinian's new techniques provide a less invasive alternative to older neurosurgical technology. His pioneering endoscopic approach has since widely replaced traditional techniques across the United States and is being used around the world from Canada to South Korea. He has published over 80 academic papers on endoscopic techniques.

Dr Shahinian has since received numerous awards for his work and has secured various patents. He was also honoured by NASA for his work in the field of advanced medical technology.



5- Dr John Najarian: Father of modern Organ Transplantation

The Invention:

Though organ transplant procedures have been attempted for decades, a high rate of rejection by the patient's immune system made the operation extremely dangerous and incurred a high probability

of failure. This all changed thanks to the pioneering work of Dr John Najarian.

Why it's important:

The medical field that Dr Najarian entered back in the early 1950s was quite different from what it is today. Modern organ transplant techniques were in their infancy when a young John Najarian was considering cardiology as a career option. The first successful kidney transplant in 1954 led him to reconsider his path, leading him to proclaim: "That's the field, that's something. If you can put in an organ in an individual and save his life, that is remarkable and that's the direction I want to go." From that point on, Dr Najarian concentrated his efforts in immunology in order to facilitate kidney transplants, which until then had been complicated by a high rejection rate by the body.

As the first surgeon in the world to conduct successful pancreas and kidney transplants, his invention garnered him both praise and controversy over the years. Despite overseeing the development and manufacture of AntiLymphocyte Globulin (better known through the acronym "ALG"), which helped patients bodies' recognise and accept foreign organs, for over 25 years at the University of Minnesota, his programme was eventually shut down by the FDA because it had never received its approval. Despite Dr Najarian eventually being cleared of all charges, the damage to his institution had already been done. His research facility had lost a lot of funding, and a lot of skilled researchers.

Despite this major setback, his groundbreaking research and contribution to his field was recognised by many. Dr Najarian even recalls: "To this day I can't walk down the street and people don't come up and shake my hand. It's the most amazing thing in the world". After all, he managed to save the lives of countless millions with his breakthroughs in organ transplants.

Though the field of medicine is the result of the collective effort that has been propelled by the work of thousands upon thousands of doctors, scientists, and inventors across millennia, one should not discount the unique contribution of the inhabitants of a tiny nation, nestled between the high mountains of the Caucasus. Their endeavours have made now-mundane treatments such as Cancer prevention, plastic surgery, organ transplants, and microsurgery unmistakable parts of modern medicine, saving countless lives.

The delegation of Turkmenistan put forward initiatives addressing the 71st session of the UN General Assembly

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Thus, Turkmenistan became one of the first states that at the national level adopted the global indicators which will be used in developing and implementing state programs of social and economic development.

The delegation of Turkmenistan also held meetings with the UN Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Mr Jeffrey Feltman and the UN Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, Mr Wu Hongbo. In the course of the meetings pressing issues of cooperation of Turkmenistan with structures of the UN system on preparation for the Global Conference on Sustainable Transport, joint activities on strengthening regional security and other important issues of partnership have been discussed.

On 23 September the delegation of Turkmenistan continued its participation in the events of the high-level

week of the 71-st session of the UN General Assembly. One of the highlights of the day was the solemn ceremony of signing by Turkmenistan of the historic Paris Agreement at the United Nations Headquarters. The signing is the first step through which the state expresses its readiness to proceed with the implementation of internal procedures necessary for preparation of agreement ratification.

On the final days of its visit, the Turkmen delegation held meetings with the UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, President of the General Assembly Peter Thomson, Under-Secretary-General Gyan Chandra Acharya, Executive Director of the UN Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate and Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations Jean-Paul Laborde. In the course of the meetings, the significance of Turkmenistan's peace-building initiatives,



and the country's commitment to the effective and practical implementation of Sustainable Development Goals in the context of preparations for the first Global Conference on Sustainable Transport have been noted.

On 24 September 2016, the delegation of Turkmenistan departed from New York to Ashgabat.

*September 26, 2016, Yerevan
Embassy of Turkmenistan to the
Republic of Armenia*

The Ceramics Made by Kütahya-Armenians will be Displayed until December in Komitas Museum Institute

By *Eliza Zakharyan*

The ceramics created by the Kütahya-Armenians are going to be displayed in Komitas Museum till December. Recently, on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Independence of the Republic of Armenia, an exhibition called The Art of Armenian Ceramics in Kütahya was opened in Komitas Museum Institute the aim of which was to promote the recognition and popularization of Kütahya's centuries-old ceramics traditions. Many public and cultural figures, heads of the diplomatic missions, were attending the official opening of the event. The Minister of Culture toured the exhibition hall with the Director of the Museum Institute Nikolay Kostandian and got acquainted with the presented samples.

It turns out that the choice of Komitas Museum Institute for the exhibition was not accidental. This was due to the fact that in about 300 km south-east from Constantinople, in Kütahya was born the great composer Komitas who also received his primary education there. His birthplace has been a his-

torical location for the industry of porcelain and pottery where in the 16th -20th centuries, due to the Armenian craftsmen, this unique branch of art flourished.

About 50 ceramic samples presented at the exhibition have been borrowed from Holy Echmiadzin, Sardarapat National Museum of Ethnography, the National Museum of the History of the Liberation Movement, as well as from the private collections of Garagashian and Minasian families.

The items created by Kütahya-Armenian handymen are now preserved in London, St. Petersburg, Paris, Brussels, Venice, Jerusalem, and now also in the largest museums of Yerevan. Along with the exhibition an open lesson was held in the yard of the museum about porcelain and pottery. This will repeat regularly. The programme is implemented together with Phoenix Union of Disabled Persons in Armenia and with the support of the Ministry of Culture in RA.

The exhibition dedicated to the 25th anniversary of the Independence of the Republic will be open until December 20, every day except Wednesdays.



Zodiac Weekly Forecast



Aries (March 20–April 19)

During the late fall last year, you started a project related to your work, health and/or daily life. Now you arrive at a turning point in which you must decide whether to pour more resources into it. Chances are, you will feel it worth the effort. Your energy level is high and you have a need to use your muscles.



Taurus (April 20 – May 20)

The act of caring for a friend may provide a healing balm for both of you. This week is especially good for discussing important subjects with partners. You each are in a cooperative frame of mind and communications flow well. You can give and receive mutual help at this time and improve the overall energy in the relationship.



Gemini (May 20–June 20)

Mercury, your ruling planet, moves into the sector of life related to children, recreation, personal creativity, and romance. You likely will be a chatter box, relative to your norm. One or more communications will allow you to sooth a wound from the past.



Cancer (June 21–July 21)

You are in a physical low cycle. Give attention to your health, lest it break down under pressure. You may fall into negative self-talk, which only causes you to feel worse. Focus attention on what you are thinking and change dark thoughts to neutral, if not positive.



Leo (July 22–August 21)

Your plans and ideas may be challenged by another at this time, perhaps a co-worker or a sibling. In order to hold your own in this situation, you must have clarity about who you have become. Do your best to generate a win-win situation out of the duel, and avoid a frank battle of wills. Each of you has a truth. A larger perspective will handle both.



Virgo (August 22–September 22)

Your ruling planet, Mercury, moves into the sector related to personal income and resources for the next two to three weeks. Your attention will be drawn to organizing your financial picture. Perhaps there is a large expenditure that you wish to make. Give this careful thought and planning. By next week you will be emotionally ready to spring for it.



Libra (Sep. 23–Oct. 22)

This is the week to recognize and cease to repeat a compulsive pattern, with origins in your childhood. Sometimes it requires a major episode to bring the damaging behavior to light. If you are willing to “see” this pattern upfront, maybe you won’t have to act it out again.



Scorpio (October 23–November 21)

During the late fall and winter last year, you began a new friendship. The two of you may have hatched a plan for travel. Something has changed since the inception of that plan and you may find that you have altered your choice. You now have a need to be somewhere that will satisfy your desire for solitude and communing with your soul.



Sagittarius (November 22–December 20)

This is a week of peaks in your social activity. Your planetary avatar is squared by Mars and you could easily be encouraged to spend money you do not have. Everything seems important and strikes you with passionate fervor. It is important for you to remain financially cautious at this time. Don’t carry your credit cards on your travels.



Capricorn (December 21–January 19)

It is of paramount importance that you control your mouth this week. Although you have an opinion about whatever is happening, let it go and say nothing unless asked to share it. Being “right” is not as important as maintaining human relations. Later you can take action to correct what you perceive is wrong, but now you would be challenged to a fight.



Aquarius (January 20–February 17)

You have been pondering serious things in recent weeks and months. It is possible that you have critiqued yourself for not producing more in your life thus far. Your friends and family would readily tell you that who you are for them is by far greater than what you have produced. Listen to them.



Pisces (February 18–March 19)

You are happily preparing for travel at this time. If finances are an issue, you may go overboard on your credit cards. Fortunately debts owed to you will likely be paid this week, which makes it harder to remain conservative on your spending. Everyone gets party favors!

Orran`s 11th Annual Fundraising Banquet

By Eliza Zakharyan

For the 11th consecutive year, at the initiative of Orran charitable non-governmental organization an annual charity dinner was served in Armenian Marriot Hotel: the main aim is to collect money for the socially vulnerable families and the elderly who visit Orran centers located in Yerevan and Vanadzor.

Among the 270 guests there were more than 20 representatives of local and diplomatic companies, businessmen, philanthropists from abroad, old and new supporters, famous cultural figures, celebrities from show-business and media. In accordance with tradition, the festive event started with Nathan Bishop's blessing and Lord's Prayer. Orran's funding director Armine Hovhannisyan noted with satisfaction that year by year the number of large enterprises willing to help the NGO increases, which shows that a new culture is creating in Armenia." As a result, both the individuals and the representatives of the companies are starting to realize that they must help, for there will not be any hungry children, poor elders and hopeless people." The whole evening was accompanied by live music and the performances of Orran children, then the auction followed by traditional charity dinner. It is worth mentioning that Orran public charity organization helped over 30000 people by providing food, clothes, educational and socio-psychological services.



The Noyan Tapan Noah's Ark
HIGHLIGHTS

The publisher: NT Holding LTD
 Circulation: 1500 print copies and
 15.600 copies by e-mail list in PDF format
 Տավալը՝ 2.25 մամուլ, տպաքանակը՝ 1500
 Լրատվական գործունեություն իրականացնող՝
 ՆՏ հոլդինգ ՍՊԸ
 Գրանցման վկայականի համարը՝
 03Ա898368, տրված 11.01.2013 թ.

President of the NT Media Holding:
Tigran Harutyunyan
 Editor-in-Chief of the Media Holding:
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 Proofreader: **Susanna Mkrichian**
 Layout: **Diana Grigoryan**
 Համարի թող. պատ.՝ Մ. Հարությունյան
 Weekly Newspaper, Since May 4, 1993.
ISSN 1829-0604
 Registration certificate and the date:
 273.110.00512, 15.12.1995

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