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COMMUNICATIONS

On Karayan's "Histories of Armenian Communities in Turkey"

To the Armenian Review:

I HAVE JUST finished reading Dr. Karayan's fine bibliography titled "Histories of Armenian Communities in Turkey," which appeared in the March 1, 1980 issue of *TAR* (vol. xxxiii 1-129). The purposes of this communication are to amplify, extend, and offer one correction to this interesting compilation.

Beginning in reverse order with respect to my stated purposes, I feel it is important to note an error in item 53 of the bibliography Dr. Karayan presents. Contrary to what is indicated, *Harazat patmow'iwn Taronoy* was authored by Alan S. Yengoyan under the pen name Aghan Taronets'i (meaning Patroit of Daron). Perhaps confusion surrounding the authorship of the volume springs from the fact that it does contain (on pp. v-ix) the memoirs of my cousins Sarkis (1867-1930) and Misag (1868-1958) Bdeian. A related volume that appropriately belongs in Dr. Karayan's listing is Mr. Yengoyan's 1966 work *Taronapatown* (The History of the World of Daron). For those interested, copies of this book are still available from Mr. Yengoyan's widow, Virginia, who resides at 3247 E. Hedges, Fresno, CA 93703, U.S.A.

In mentioning the availability of Mr. Yengoyan's work, one cannot help but stress the further contribution Dr. Karayan's bibliography would have made if it had provided some indication of locations where copies of the volumes listed might be obtained for reference and research purposes. Sadly, however, one suspects that a majority of the items identified are virtually impossible to locate. Having worked with the Library of Congress in this regard, I know, for example, that both of the previously mentioned Yengoyan books have been deposited in the Library's Armenian Collection, while item 37 on Dr. Karayan's list, Garo Sasouni's *Badmoutiun Daroni Ash'kharhi* (History of the World of Daron) has not. For several years I have been attempting to locate a copy of this and a second work, *The Defense and Massacre of Daron* (dictated by Archbishop Basmandjian to Sisag Nalbandian, 1920), for placement in the Library of Congress. I should note that the Library of Congress collection is at times amazing in its breadth. For instance, it contains the only copy I've seen of Trapizoni Garegin's (the former Armenian Patriarch of Constantinople) 1945 work *Taronashounch'*. What a thoughtful endeavor it would be if someone were to undertake to collect each of the volumes identified in Dr. Karayan's bibliography for deposit in a single, secured library collection.

Having achieved two of the three purposes for which this communication is being written, before closing, I wish to extend Dr. Karayan's work in a direction in which perhaps even he did not anticipate. While his article deals exclusively with the histories of Armenian cities and villages in Turkey, I would like to encourage your readers to explore the possibility of writing histories of their own families. Such documents would not only be important in preserving our Armenian heritage, but in providing future generations with an intimate understanding of their

forefathers. As an example of what can be accomplished, my cousin Torcom Bedayan (of Mill Valley, California) and I have just completed the first draft of our family's history dating back to 1650. This was a task involving many years of painstaking research, but it has served to not only provide a sense of presence about the significance of our family, but to create a common bond among our many relatives now spread (as a result of the Diaspora) throughout the world. I might add that I noted with interest the establishment last year of the Armenian Genealogical Records Search Foundation in Provo, Utah. Although I have yet to have contact with this group, its intent is laudable.

I again wish to commend Dr. Karayan for his fine article and to encourage the development of similar research by other scholars throughout the world.

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ARTHUR G. BEDEIAN is E. L. Lowder Professor of Management, Auburn (Ala.) University. He holds degrees in business administration from Mississippi State University, Memphis State University and the University of Iowa, in Management and Industrial Relations. His academic record prior to his appointment to his present position includes stints at various levels at Memphis State, Mississippi State, Georgia Southern College, Boston University, and at Auburn where, in the latter case, he earliest served as Assistant Professor, Department of Management (1974-1977). In 1975-1976, he concurrently served as Acting Director, Office of Research, School of Business, and 1977-1981, he was Associate Professor, Department of Management. He was named Lowder Professor in 1981. He has held a large number of professional offices and Committee memberships within his discipline, and has published as author or coauthor over 70 papers. Seven papers are scheduled for 1982 appearance, and others are pending.

COMMUNICATIONS

To the editor:

Dr. Karayan's remarks (*Communications*, AR, 3(1982):335-336) concerning my recent comments (*Communications*, AR, 1(1982):100-101) on his bibliography titled "Histories of Armenian Communities in Turkey," which appeared in the March 1980 issue of AR are very much appreciated. While his remarks serve to clarify one situation, two of his conclusions are overstated, if not misleading. I will address each of his remarks in turn.

The first remark concerns authorship of the volume *Harazat patmowt'iwñ Tarōnoy*. Confusion in this matter may be traced to the Office for Descriptive Cataloging Policy, Library of Congress. Investigation of Library of Congress catalog record 74-223890 for this particular volume reveals that Aghan Tarōnets'i's name erroneously appears on the top line in the "author" position. Correspondence (dated May 17, 1983) with Ben R. Tucker, Chief — Office for Descriptive Cataloging Policy, indicates that this situation should have been properly clarified by adding "comp.," (for "compiler") after the name, i.e.,

Tarōnets'i, Aghan, *comp.*

This omission has now been corrected. Dr. Karayan's role in this matter is duly acknowledged.

Dr. Karayan's second remark concerns Tarōnets'i's volume *Tronapatowm*. It is Dr. Karayan's contention that this work is primarily a "polemic" and thus does not belong in his listing of community histories. Without belaboring the point, let it be said that "one person's history is another person's polemic." While Dr. Karayan is unquestionably entitled to his opinion, let it be known that the second subject entry on Library of Congress catalog record 74-297629 classifies this particular volume as follows: "2. Muş, Turkey (Province) — History."

Dr. Karayan's third remark relates to the accessibility of the histories listed in his bibliography. Without question, I share Dr. Karayan's interest in the future establishment of centers for the documentation of the Turkish genocide so that such volumes will be available to those interested in our community histories. At the same time, I continue to lament the present absence of reader guides indicating the current locations from which various community histories might be obtained for reference and research purposes.

Once again I commend Dr. Karayan for his fine article and encourage the development of similar research by other scholars throughout the world.

June 17, 1983

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