

Bibliography
Histories Of Armenian Communities
in Turkey

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During the last fifty years, as voluminous literature in Armenian has appeared, authored mainly by the Armenians of the Diaspora, about their native cities and villages in Turkey, as they existed in the past and up to 1914. When the Turks started the massacre and deportation of the Armenians in 1914, some 2.5 million Western (or Turkish) Armenians^{1 2 3} were living in Turkey. The Armenians lived in about 100 cities and 3,400 towns and villages,⁴ the latter being mainly in eastern provinces of Turkey, which has been the Armenian homeland for more than 3,000 years.

The histories have been usually published by the compatriotic union of each city. Most of the works are compilations, by various persons and edited by one or two persons well acquainted with the particular city or district.

The shelf of these histories comprises about ninety volumes, and about 80,000 pages. 20% of these appeared from 1899-1950, and the remaining 80%, since 1950. These works contain a source of enormous information, not only about Armenian life in Turkey during the seventeenth to nineteenth centuries and the first two decades of the 20th century, but also about life in Turkey in general, especially in the eastern provinces. They deal with the history, geography, ethnography, population statistics, physical and social anthropology, folk-lore, beliefs, superstitions, educational and religious life of a particular city and the Armenian inhabited villages around it. Almost all of them contain first-hand and eye-witness descriptions of the massacres by the Turks during the 1890's, 1909 and 1915-1918.

Some of the volumes deal with quite large geographic areas as V. Haig's *History of Kharpert and her Golden Plain*, which gives the history of

Kharpert and the sixty-five Armenian villages around it. Other volumes deal only with one city or even one village. Rarely, more than one history of a certain city has been published, as in the case of Kharpert, Stanos, Tomarza. A few of the histories, as that of Caesarea (modern. Kayseri) Malatya, Tokat, Kutahia, have been written or compiled by the late historian Arshag Alboyadjian. The publication of the latter's *History of Armenian Caesarea*, in 1937, set a pattern for such books though, unconsciously, by Alboyadjian himself; and this pattern has been followed, with good results, by the authors of the histories of various cities that have appeared during last forty years.

The Importance of these histories can not be over-stressed, as pointed out, in 1958, by A. Sanjian.⁵ A comprehensive history of Western (Turkish) Armenians has not been written yet, either in Armenian or in any foreign language. When in the future, a historian tackles this enormous task, he will have to use these histories as primary sources of information, along with other references.

These histories are also important in the documentation and pursuit of the Armenian Case against Turkey. Although some sixty five years have passed since the Armenian Holocaust, it is *very unfortunate that the Armenians both in Soviet Armenia and the Diaspora have not yet created a Center for Documentation of the Turkish genocide of the Armenians*. The histories of the Armenian communities so far published can form the nucleus from which such a Center may be built in the future.

Following is a bibliography, in chronological order of publication, of such histories so far published. It is said that no bibliography is perfect, and certainly our bibliography would not be an exception. It is probable that there are some additional histories of Armenian communities published that we have not come across.

Some of the books listed below, such as numbers 5, 6, 30, 38, 40, 51, 73 are not, strictly speaking, histories of Armenian communities, but

they contain important information in this respect. Thus their inclusion in this list.

The translation of the titles of the books from Armenian into English is mine, except for a few, as V. Haig's *Kharpert*, V. Kotchlossian Hovannisian's *Dzitogh Tashdi Garno*.

1. Hagop Kossian, (Rev.). *Hayk ee Zmurnia yev ir Shertchagays* [Armenians in Smyrna and its Surroundings]. Vol. I. Smyrna and Armenians. Vol. II. Principal Cities of the District of Smyrna and Armenians. Vienna. 1899.
2. Rev. Fr. Garabed Benneyan. *Malatio Deghakragan yev Azkakragan Ashkhasiroutiounuh* [The Topographic and Ethnologic Study of Malatia]. Written in 1899. Printed in Aleppo in 1942?
3. Zeitountsi (Mnatsagan Semerdjian). *Zeitouni Antsyalun yev Nergan* [The past and present of Zeitoun]. Vienna, 1900.
4. Aritreas Alexantrian (Archbishop). *Badmoutiun Aganavor Kaghakln Sepasdio yev Sahmanats Nora gam Arkebisgobosoutioun Norin* [History of the Famous City of Sivas and its Boundaries or its Archbishopric]. Venice, 1911.
5. A-To (Hovhannes Der-Mardirossian). *Vani, Bitlisi yev Erzeroumi Vilayetnere* [The Vilayets of Van, Bitlis and Erzeroum]. Yerevan, 1912.
6. Minas Kassabian. *Hayeruh Nikomidio Kavann Metch* [Armenians in the Sandjak of Nicomidia] (Ismidt, S.K.) Bardizag, 1913.
7. Hagop Kossian, (Rev.). *Partsr Hayk* [Armenia Major]. Vol. I. *Garin Kaghake* [The City of Erzeroum]; Vol. II. *Garno Kughere* [The Villages of Erzeroum]. Vienna, 1925.
8. G. Khrayan. *Dzovk Geoldjuk*. Paris, 1927.
9. A. Magarian. *Houshakirk Tragio yev Magetonio Hay Kaghoutneroun* [History of Armenian Colonies of Thrace and Macedonia]. Salonica, 1929.
10. Rev. G. Kalfayan. *Tchomakhlou*. New York, 1930.

11. Rev. H. Sarkissian. *Palou yev ir Sovoroutiounnerhu, Grtagan yev Imatsagan Vidjaguh, yev Parparuh* [Palou and its Customs, Educational and Intellectual Condition and its Dialect]. Cairo, 1932.
12. K. Kaloustian. *Marash gam Kermantg yev Heros Zeitoun* [Marash or Kermanig and Heroic Zeitoun]. New York, 1934.
13. Hagop Aghassian. *Atrianabolso Hay Kaghoute* [The Armenian Community of Edirne]. Plovdiv, 1935.
14. Arshag Alboyadjian. *Badmoutiun Hay Gesario* [History of Armenian.Caesarea]. 2 Volumes. Cairo, 1937.
15. Vartan Yeghisheyan. *Adapazar*. Paris, 1937.
16. Krikor Mkhalian. *Bardizag'n ou Bardizag'tsin* [Bardizag and Her People]. Cairo, 1938.
17. Manoug B. Dzeron. *Partchantch Kiugh, Hamaynabadoum* (1600-1937). [General History of Partchantch Village]. Boston, 1938.
18. Rev. V. Kalaydjian. *Shiro-Keferdez*. Beirut, 1940.
19. H. B, Boghossian. *Hadjini Unthanour Badmoutiune yev Shuhrtchaga Kozan Daghti Kugheruh* [General History of Hadjin and the Villages of Kozan Dagh]. Los Angeles, 1942.
20. Parounag Topalian. *Hayreni Kughs Okhou* [My Native Village Okhou]. Boston, 1943.
21. K. Surmenian. *Yerznga* [Erzincan]. Cairo, 1947.
22. Thomas Sevhonkian. *Girason*. Cairo, 1947.
23. S. Demirdjian. *Badmoutiun Adiyamani* [History of Adiyaman]. Aleppo, 1948.
24. Melkon Jinbashian. *Fundudjakh-Fundudjokh*. Montevideo, 1949.
25. Missak Keleshian. *Sis-Madian* [The Book of Sis]. Beirut, 1949.
26. Arshag Alboyadjian. *Badmoutiun Yevtogio Hayots* [History of Armenians of Tokat]. Cairo, 1952.
27. Peniamin Jamgotchian. *Hayni*. Beirut, 1952.
28. Mgerditch Barsamian. *Agn yev Agntsig* [Akn and the People of Akn]. Paris, 1952.

29. Kevork Sarafian. *Badmoutiun Antebi Hayots* [Armenian History of Aintab or *History of Armenians of Aintab*]. 2 Volumes. Los Angeles, 1953.
30. S. Deovletian. *Housher Shabin Karahisaren* [Reminiscences from Shabin Karahisar]. Paris, 1954.
31. Aram Sahagian. *Tutsaznagan Ourfan yev ir Hayortinere* [Heroic Ourfa and its Armenian Sons]. Beirut, 1955.
32. Nouritsa Pilibossian and Avedis Kesdekian. *Houshartsan Yozghadtsinerou* [Monument in Memory of the People of Yozgad]. Fresno, 1955.
33. Rev. Papken Arslanian. *Papert yev ir Shurtchanneruh* [Baybourt and its Environs]. Paris, 1955.
34. Manoug Djilmedjian. *Kharpert yev ir Zavagneruh* [Kharpert and its Sons]. Fresno, 1955.
35. Hovhannes M. Kehayan. *Arapgiri Dzak-Kughi Ge'ancken* [From the Life of Dzak Village of Arapkir]. Beirut, 1956.
36. Kevork Yerevanian. *Badmoutiun Tcharsandjaki Hayots* [History of Armenians of Tcharsandjak]. Beirut, 1956.
37. Garo Sasouni. *Badmoutiun Daroni Ash'kharhi* [History of the World of Taron]. Beirut, 1956.
38. Avedis Tekeyan. *Behesnihayoutian Koghkotan* [The Calvary of Armenians of Behesni]. Beirut, 1956.
39. Ghazar-Tcharek. *Garinabadoum: Houshamadian Partsr Hayki* [History of Erzeroum: Memorial Book of Armenia Major]. Beirut, 1957.
40. Aram Haigaz. *Shabin Karahisar ou ir Herosamarduh* [Shabin Karahisar and its Heroic Fight]. Beirut, 1957.
41. K. Mkhitarian. *Mer Kiughuh Tadem* [Our Village Tadem]. Boston, 1958.
42. Vahe Haig (Haig Dindjian). *Kharpert yev anor Vosgeghen Tashduh* [Kharpert and Her Golden Plain]. New York, 1959.
43. Hovhannes Tomardzatsi (H. Torossian). *Badmoutiun Hay Tomardzayi* [History of Armenian Tomarza]. Vol. I. 1959; Vols. II & III, 1969, Beirut.

44. Toros Madaghdjian. *Houshamadian Tomarzayi* (Memorial Book of Tomarza]. Beirut, 1959.
45. Drtad Drtadian. *Haghtuh yev Haghtetsinereuh* [Haght and the People Haght]. Boston, 1959.
46. Rev. Avedis Darakdjian. *Badmakirk Marzvani Hay Avedaraganoutian* [History of Armenian Evangelical Community of Marzovan]. Beirut, 1960.
47. Levon Srabian. *Kghi: Deghakragan yev Azkakragan* [Kghi: Topography and Ethnography]. Antilias, 1960. (Reprint from *Arevelk* journal in 1901.
48. Aris Aharonian and Nishan Badanian. *Zeitouni Badmakirk* [History of Zeitun]. Buenos Aires, 1960.
49. Dikran Papalian. *Badmoutiun Palou Havav Kiughi* [History of the Village of Havav (near) Palou]. Beirut, 1960.
50. Arshag Alboyadjian. *Houshamadian Goudinahayerou* [Memorial Book of the Armenians of Kutahia]. Beirut, 1961.
51. Oton Hekimian. *Samsoni Hayoutian Dukhour Pajinuh 1915-1918-i Medz* [The Tragic Fate of the Armenians of Samson during the Great Massacre of 1915-1918]. Paris, 1961.
52. Arshag Alboyadjian. *Badmoutiun Malatio Hayots* [History of Armenians of Malatia]. Beirut, 1961.
53. Sarkis Pteyan and Misak Pteyan. *Harazad Badmoutiun Darono* [The True History of Daron]. Cairo, 1962.
54. Alex Krikorian and Setrag Karageuzian. *Hishadagaran Evereg-Fenesey* [Memorial Book of Evereg Fenesi]. Paris, 1963.
55. Dikran Papazian. *Badmoutiun Palahovidi* [History of Palahovid]. Beirut, 1963.
56. *Habousi Kughin Badmoutiunuh* [History of the Village of Habousi]. Published by the Patriotic Union of Habousi. Boston, 1963.
57. *Nor Keghi Azkakragan Hantes* [Ethnographic Journal of Nor Keghi]. Vol. I. Beirut 1964; Vol. II 1965, Beirut. Published by the Patriotic Union of Kghi in U.S.A.

58. Rev. Haroutioun Houlounian and Rev. Mateos Hadjian. *Deghakroutiun Sovoroutiun'ner, Badmoutiun yev Darakroutiun Khodortchouri* [Topography, Customs, History and the Deportations of Khodortchour]. Vienna, 1964.
59. Yeghishe Melikian. *Hark-Khnous*, Antilias, 1964.
60. Vartan Bedoyan. *Sasna Azkakroutiounuh* [The Ethnography of Sasoun]. Yerevan, 1965.
61. Krikor Der Hovhannessian. *Badmakirk Siuri-Hisari Hayots* [History of Armenians of Sivri-Hisar]. Beirut, 1965.
62. Mesrob Grayan. *Palou*. Antilias, 1965.
63. G. H. Aharonian. *Huseynig*, Boston, 1965.
64. Hovhannes Kabakian. *Adapazar*, Paris, 1966.
65. Kapriel Simonian. *Houshamadian Bondagan Amassio* [Memorial Book of Pontic Amassia]. Venice, 1966.
66. Haigazoun Yapoudjian. *Houshartsan Roumdigini* [Monument in Memory of Roumdigin]. Beirut, 1967.
67. Hovagim Hovagimian, *Badmoutiun Haygagan Bondosi* [History of the Armenian Pontus]. Beirut, 1967.
68. Alice Odian-Kasparian. *Badmakirk Angurio yev Stanosi Hayots* [History of Armenians of Ankara and Stanos]. Beirut, 1968.
69. *Houshamadiari Kghi-Khoups Kiughi* [Memorial Book of the Village of Khoups, of Kghi]. Published by the Patriotic Union of Kghi-Khoups. Fresno, 1968.
70. Garabed Terzian, *Badmakirk Stanosi Hayots* [History of Armenians of Stanos]. Beirut, 1969.
71. Hampartsoum Kasparian, *Tchemeshgadzag yev ir Kiugheruh* [Tchimish-Kezek and its Villages]. Boston, 1969.
72. Dr. N. Deyirmendjian. *Kendjelar Kiughi Badmoutiun* (History of the Village of Kendjelar]. Beirut, 1969.
73. Levon Gdjigian, *Morenig yev ir Sev Darin* [Morenig and its Black Year]. Antilias, 1969.

74. Antranig Poladian. *Badmoutiun Hayots Arapgiri* [History of Armenians of Arapkir]. New York, 1969.
75. H. M. Boghossian. *Zeitouni Badmoutiunuh* (1409-1921) [The History of Zeitoun]. Yerevan, 1969.
76. Hampartsoum Berberian and Khoren Nersessian. *Houshamadian Kilisi Hayots* [Memorial Book of Armenians of Kilis]. Beirut, 1969.
77. Mardiros Koushakjian and Boghos Madourian. *Houshamadian Moussa Leran* [Memorial Book of Musa Dagh]. Beirut, 1970.
78. Puzant Yeghiayan, *Adanayi Hayots Badmoutiun* [History of Armenians of Adana]. Antilias, 1970.
79. Karnig Kevorkian. *Chunkoushabadom* [History of Chunkush]. Vol. I, Jerusalem, 1970.
80. Sarkis Patchadjian. *Houshamadian Rodostoyi Hayots* [Memorial Book of Armenians of Rodosto]. Beirut, 1971.
81. K. Fenerdjian. *Badmoutiun Arslanbegi* [History of Arslanbeg]. Paris, 1971.
82. Thomas Arabian. *Houshamadian Severagi* [Memorial Book of Severeck]. Beirut, 1971.
83. Y. Zartarian. *Badmakirk Divrig Kaghaki* [History of the City of Divrig]. Beirut, 1972.
84. Vartiter Kotcholosian-Hovannisian. *Dzitogh Tashdi Garno* [An historical-ethnographic study of the Village of Dzitogh, in the Plain of Karin-Erzeroum]. Beirut, 1972.
85. V. Hampartsoumian. *Kiughash'kharh*. Paris, 1972.
86. Garo Soultanian. *Palahovid*. Antilias, 1973.
87. Kevork Halladjian. *Dersimi Hayeri Azkakroutiounuh* [The Ethnography of Armenians of Dersim]. Vol, 5 of the Ethnographic Journal, *Hay Azkakroutioun yev Panahusoutioun*, Yerevan, 1973.
88. Bedros Minassian. *Badmakirk Gurini* [History of Gurun]. Beirut, 1974.
89. Melik Azizian. *Herosagan Shadakh Armshad Kiughe* [Armshad Village of and Heroic Shadakh]. Beirut, 1974.

90. Arakel Badrig. *Badmakirk-Houshamadian Sepasdio yev Kavari Hayoutian* [History of Armenians of Sebastia and its Province]. Vol. I, 1974. Beirut.
91. *Erzurum (Garin). Its Armenian History and Tradition*. Written in Armenian by H. Tarbassian. Translated into English by N. Schahgaldian. U.S.A. 1975. (Note: the translator, Mr. Schahgaldian, does not say whether the Armenian text has been printed or not).
92. Haroutioun Shabouhian. *Badmoutioun Korpe gam Keorpe Kiughin* [History of the Village of Korpe or Keorpe]. (This is not printed, but handwritten and poly-copied. No date or place given. Probably written in the 1920's in U.S.A.-S.K.)

Impressive as the above list of books is, however, there are still very important histories of Armenian communities not yet written. These are, in order of importance: Constantinople (modern Istanbul), Van, Smyrna (Izmir), Broussa, Diyarbakir (Dikranagerd), Shabin Karahisar, Ismid (Nicomeidia) and its surrounding Armenian towns and villages, Marzovan, Ankara, Afion Karahisar, Konia, Bourdour, Balikesir, Bilejik, Castemouni Ak-Shehir, Aidin, Merdin, Ordu, Tchork Marzban (Deort Yol), Tcharshamba and its surroundings, Silvan (Miafarghin, or the old Dikranagerd or Tigranocerta).

At the top of the above list, of course, would be a history of the Armenian community of Istanbul. Istanbul (Constantinople) was not only the capital of the Ottoman Empire, but was also the very heart of the Western Armenians, with its Patriarchate of five hundred years, its fifty churches and as many Armenian schools; with its press, theater, writers, bankers, traders. It was the home of most Armenian members of the Ottoman Parliament, as well as the seat of the Armenian National Council. Numerically, Istanbul Armenians made up about 8% of Western Armenians; however, in the Armenian National Assembly, they held 90% of the seats. Thus, for all practical purposes, Istanbul Armenians represented all Western Armenians, however undemocratic that may

have been. Thus, it is evident that a history of the Armenian community of Istanbul will overlap, and in many instances, be identical with the history of Western Armenians, when such a history is written in the future.

At present, the Armenian community of Istanbul – which is, for all practical purposes, the only community left from the 3,500 Armenian communities of 1915 – is going through a very delicate and critical stage of its existence, due to the overt and covert harassment of the present day Turkish government. The yearly reports of the Armenian Patriarch of Istanbul leave no doubt about the pernicious intentions of the Turkish government, with its flagrant disregard for the elemental rights of Armenians in Turkey. It is highly desirable that the history of the Armenian community of Istanbul be written without delay, using all available published sources, as well as archives of the Armenian churches.

Second in importance to Istanbul is the city of Van and its province. The city of Van had the greatest number of Armenians in all eastern Turkey. There are many articles, and several books written about Van, especially about the self-defense of 1915. However, all published materials do not give the real, comprehensive, definitive history of Armenian Van, which has a history of more than two thousand years.

Smyrna has had a very important Armenian community, both from economic and cultural point of view. Father Kossian's two volumes on Armenians of Smyrna (see above list) gives only a partial history of Armenian Smyrna, and of course, it does not include the first two decades of the twentieth century.

There is very little written about the Armenian community of Broussa (Brusa) which had a prosperous Armenian community of more than ten thousand persons, and a rich history going back to the 14th century. Even the Armenian Soviet Encyclopedia gives over only a few lines to this historic community. Writing the history of Armenian

Broussa should be considered "urgent historiography", before the last survivors from this city pass away.

There is quite a deal of information about the Armenian community of Ankara, in J. Nazlian's *Memoirs* and A. Odian-Kasparian's *History of Arment'ans of Angora and Stanos*. However, these do not give the whole history of Armenian community of Ankara.

A. Haigaz's *Shabin Karahisar and Its Heroic Fight* is mainly an eye-witness account of the fight in 1915, although it contains some information about the Armenian community in that city. Thus Armenian Shabin Karahisar waits its historian.

Rev. A. Darakjian wrote, in 1960, the history of the Armenian Evangelical Community of Marzovan, and expressed the hope that the history of the Armenian Apostolic community also be written; unfortunately, so far this has not been done.

We hope that, during the coming five to ten years, the histories of the above mentioned Armenian communities will be written, before the last survivors disappear.

FOOTNOTES TO KARAYAN

1 S. Karayan, "An Inquiry into the Statistics of the Turkish Genocide of the Armenians, 1915-1918." *The Armenian Review*, Vol. XXV, No.4-100, Winter, 1972, pp. 3-44.

2 Hamparian, "Arevmdahayeri Tvakanaki Hartzi Shourch" [On the number of Western Armenians]. In *Pamper Yerevani Hamalsarani* [Review of Yerevan University], 1969, No.2, pp. 98-113.

3 Krikor Zohrab, the Armenian writer, and a member of the Ottoman Parliament in 1915, calculated that the number of Armenians living in Turkey in 1913 was not less than three and a half million! See Marcel

Leart, *La Question Armenienne a la Lumiere des Documents*, Paris 1913.
[Marcel Leart was the penname of K. Zohrab.]

4 S. Karayan. *The Extermination of Armenians in Turkey: A Calculation of the Number of Armenians killed in 1914-1918 in Turkey, with an Index-Gazetteer of 500 Armenian Inhabited places in Turkey in 1914*. (Book to be published).

5 A. Sanjian, "Armenian Works on Historic and Modern Armenian Communities." In *Report on Current Research, Middle East Institute*, Washington. D.C., 1958.