

# THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

POLITICAL & HISTORICAL  
CONTROVERSIES  
“Controversy and Academic  
Responsibility”

DREW UNIVERSITY  
April 28, 1997  
9:00AM -5:00PM  
Baldwin Gym

Sponsored by the Drew University  
Graduate School

## DREW

Drew University  
Madison, New Jersey 07940

## THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE



Over the past fifteen years several related controversies have focused on the Armenian Genocide.

One cause of debate is the attempt by some scholars in the United States and elsewhere to argue that the Genocide never occurred, or if it did occur, it was the result of civil war and the chaos surrounding the breakup of the Ottoman Empire and not part of an active government campaign.

The other source of controversy is the active effort by the Turkish government to make this version the dominant scholarly interpretation of the Genocide, as well as their efforts to block such things as commemorative resolutions of the Genocide by state legislatures and Congress.

These two issues have come together through the Turkish government's funding of scholarly chairs at several leading American universities and the placing in at least one of these chairs, a former Turkish government employee and Armenian Genocide Revisionist.

Drew University is interested in exploring these complex issues--the actual evidence of the Genocide, the historiography since, and the involvement of the Turkish government in American higher education.



# THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

## POLITICAL AND HISTORICAL CONTROVERSIES

### Welcome/ Opening Remarks

President Thomas H. Kean

### Keynote I

#### AN INTRODUCTION TO ARMENIA

Richard Hovannisian  
UCLA

A leading historian of 20th century Armenian history, Dr. Hovannisian reviews the history of Armenia for those in the audience who are less familiar with this people. He highlights the cultural and religious differences in the region and ends up with an account of the Armenian genocide. He also presents some of the historiography of the genocide over the past 80 years.

### Keynote II

#### THE HISTORIOGRAPHY OF THE ARMENIAN EXPERIENCE IN THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE— THE GENOCIDE CONTROVERSY

Robert J. Lifton  
CUNY

Israel Charny  
Institute on the Holocaust and  
Genocide

(Dr. Charny cannot be with us, but is  
sending an unpublished paper to be read.)

These scholars will concentrate on the events of the last 15 years, the campaign to change history and the Princeton situation. The idea is to show how the "story" of the genocide has changed in the scholarly and popular communities. This recounting of the changing "story" is fascinating and shows clearly how history is constantly being rewritten--not always for the better.

### Panel 1

#### THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE: THE EVIDENCE OF THE MISSIONARIES

Suzanne Moranian  
Dale Patterson  
Barbara Merguerian  
Susan Billington Harper (invited)

This panel discusses the role of the missionaries in documenting the genocide. Pictures from the Methodist Archives at Drew are presented.

### Lunch

Baldwin Gym

### Concurrent Sessions

(Various campus locations)

### Panel 2

#### THE ROLE OF MEMORY IN THE MEANING OF THE GENOCIDE

Vigen Guroian G'78  
Loyola University, MD

Peter Balakian  
Colgate University

Paul Boghossian (invited)  
New York University

### Panel 3

#### COMPARISONS OF GENOCIDES IN THE 20TH CENTURY

Helen Fein (invited)

Ervin Staub  
University of Massachusetts

Robert Melson  
Purdue University

Sybil Milton (invited)  
Senior Historian,  
US Holocaust Museum

### Panel 4

#### CONTEMPORARY REACTION (1915-1923) TO THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

David Eisenberg (invited)  
UCLA

A session on the testimony of  
Ambassador Morgenthau and other  
witnesses invited

### Panel 5

#### IMPACT OF LEWIS CIVIL TRIAL IN FRANCE ON THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE CONTROVERSY

Rouben Adalian,  
Armenian National Institute

### Concluding Remarks

President Thomas H. Kean

### Reception

Mead Hall  
Serving traditional Armenian foods

4:30pm

### Registration Form

Name

Address

City

State

Zip Code

Telephone Number

Please respond by April 21, 1997.

Mail this form to:  
Drew University Graduate School,  
Armenian Genocide Conference  
Drew University  
Madison N.J. 07940

The cost of the conference for non-Drew community members is \$40, which includes lunch and reception.

Please make checks payable to:  
Drew University (Armenian Conference).

For additional information please contact the Drew University Graduate School at 201/408-3285.

Please specify special dietary needs

Any individuals needing special assistance should contact the Office of Housing, Conferences, and Hospitality (201/408-3103) at least five working days prior to the event to ensure appropriate arrangements.