

# ARMENIANS TODAY

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### **Diaspora Ministry suggests creation of Armenian Trade Network**

2011-04-29

The event brought together 30 specialists from 9 countries as well as Armenian Prime Minister Tigran Sargsyan, Economy Minister Tigran Davtyan and other officials.

“In the course of the past 20 years, Diaspora representatives made a great contribution to Armenia’s development,” Diaspora Minister Hranush Hakobyan said in her opening remarks. “Now, the time has come to unite approaches and form institutions that will help strengthen Armenia-Diaspora relations. Our goal is a strong, developed and powerful Armenia that can be built through the efforts of entire Armenianhood.”



### **CABC: Armenian Trade Network entrusted with great mission**

2011-04-29

“Living in the world of fast communications, we need to create new approaches to cooperation worldwide,” Pirjanian told the April 29 founding meeting of the Armenian Trade Network (ATN).

According to him, the agreement on ATN establishment was reached a year ago, as part of Armenian Minister of Diaspora Hranush Hakobyan’s visit to Toronto.

Pirjanian noted that ATN is aimed at boosting Armenia-Diaspora economic ties and cooperation.

He expressed hope that businessmen from the Armenian Diaspora will be able to effectively work together to achieve great results through exchange of experience, etc. On April 28-30, Yerevan hosts the constituent assembly of the Armenian Trade Network organized at the initiative of the Armenian Ministry of Diaspora and through the assistance of Canada-Armenia Business Council and Armenia's Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCI). The event brought together 30 specialists from 9 countries, including France, Belgium and Canada, as well as Armenian Prime Minister Tigran Sargsyan, Minister of Diaspora Hranush Hakobyan, Minister of Economy Tigran Davtyan, Chairman of CCI Martin Sargsyan.

RA Ministry of Diaspora



### **Remembering Woodrow Wilson: friend of the Armenian people**

2011-04-27

Within the framework of the program, on April 27, Master's student of the Department of European Studies at Yerevan State Linguistic University after V. Brusov,

Ani Abrahamyan, held an open lesson at middle school N136 in Yerevan.

Abrahamyan presented the career of the 28th U.S. President, greatest friend of the Armenian people and supporter of establishing Armenian statehood, Woodrow Wilson and emphasized his pro-Armenian stance.

After the open lesson, Head of the Division of Scientific and Educational Programs at the RA Ministry of Diaspora, S. Hambaryan handed mementos to the school administration and expressed gratitude for efficient cooperation. School N136 has organized numerous events as part of the programs implemented by the RA Ministry of Diaspora, particularly the Mother Language Day and an event held within the framework of the "Our Greats" program. It is one of the exceptional schools that has a

“Diaspora” center-museum.

The open lesson fell in line with an event dedicated to Easter. During the event, students put on a play presenting Tsakhkazard (Adornment of Flowers) and Easter.

In her speech, school principal Greta Tunyan expressed willingness to continue to collaborate and support the ministry’s programs, particularly the “Ari Tun” program for which the school has presented the applications of nearly 20 host families.

It should be mentioned that the “Sister Schools” program of the RA Ministry of Diaspora for Armenian schools in Armenia and the Diaspora envisages the establishment of a bridge of friendship between school N136 and the St. Stepanos Seminary of Boston.



**Joint declaration signed by “Noravank” Scientific-Educational Foundation and the European Union of Exiled and Expelled People**

2011-04-26

Attending the signing ceremony were RA Minister of Diaspora Hranush Hakobyan, Italian Ambassador to Armenia Bruno Scapini, Executive Director of the European Union of Exiled and Expelled Enrico Neami and others.

The sides signing the declaration are united by the awareness that the mass persecutions perpetrated in Europe in the 20th century, the historical memory of forceful deportations and genocides, as part of the moral and historical heritage of that part of the world, must set an example for forming civil and historical awareness among the new generation of Europeans. By signing the memorandum, the European

Union of Exiled and Expelled People and the “Noravank” Scientific-Educational Foundation under the patronage of the RA Ministry of Diaspora have the purpose of cooperating in projects aimed at forming awareness about the Armenian Genocide as an inseparable part of the heritage of European civil society. The declaration envisages taking coordinated actions with the European Commission and the Council of Europe to plan and implement programs aimed at disseminating historical, conventional, artistic and architectural heritage. It is envisaged to creating a network by establishing contacts with cultural and research organizations in order to establish stable relations between the “Noravank” Scientific-Educational Foundation, the EUEEP and Diaspora Armenian structures with the purpose of disseminating information regarding the Armenian Genocide.

Minister Hranush Hakobyan attached importance to the cooperation between “Noravank” SEF and the EUEEP, mentioning that it is of great significance and that the signing of the declaration is symbolic on these days when the Armenian people are commemorating the Armenian Genocide.

Ambassador Scapini mentioned that the signing of the declaration is a very significant initiative within the framework of Armenia’s cooperation with Italy and the European Union and can set an example for the fight against such crimes. He also mentioned that it is necessary to educate and inform people in order to prevent such crimes.



**RA Minister of Diaspora received Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Brazil to Armenia Marcela Maria Nicodemos**

2011-04-26

Greeting the guests, Hakobyan presented the upcoming programs of the RA Ministry of Diaspora and the sides

touched upon key issues concerning the Brazilian-Armenian community.

The guests discussed the program “Traces of Armenians in Brazil” to be implemented through the combined efforts of the RA Ministry of Diaspora and the Embassy of Brazil in Armenia.

The program envisages the organizing of an exhibition of works by Brazilian-Armenian painters entitled “Traces of Armenians in Brazil” at the National Gallery of Armenia on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of Armenia’s independence and the independence day of the Federal Republic of Brazil.

Ambassador Nicodemos informed that she is scheduled to meet with representatives of the Brazilian-Armenian community and get acquainted with their key issues during her upcoming visit to Brazil.

During the meeting, the sides also touched upon the issue of the Center for Armenian Studies in San Paolo supported by the RA Ministry of Diaspora.

#### Diaspora News



#### **New Milford to host Benefit Night for Armenian Church in Dikranagerd**

2011-04-30

The evening will feature lively Armenian music by Onnik Dinkjian and his band, dinner, and information about the much-needed renovations to the St. Giragos

Armenian Church. In attendance will be Archbishop Khajag Barsamian, primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America (Eastern); Archbishop Vicken Aykazian, Diocesan legate; Archbishop Aram Ateshyan, vicar of the Armenian

Patriarchate of Constantinople; and Garen Nazarian, Armenia's ambassador to the UN.

The Benefit Night will serve as an opportunity for the St. Giragos Church Restoration Committee (Eastern USA) to familiarize guests with the pressing reasons to save this symbolic church. Originally constructed in the 15th century, the church was rebuilt and enlarged in 1880 after a fire, which made it the largest Armenian basilica in Anatolia to this day. The first bell tower of the church was built in 1884 (cast by the world famous Zildjian Company), making it the tallest structure in Dikranagerd. Renowned for having seven altars signifying eternity in the Armenian alphabet, the church can accommodate more than 2,500 faithful during services, The Armenian Weekly reported.



### **Istanbul Armenian community mourns the killed soldier**

2011-04-28

According to Radikal newspaper, both Armenians and Turks attended the funeral. Wreaths were sent from the military, local authorities as well as from Istanbul Mayor.

Coadjutor of the Constantinople Patriarch, archbishop Aram Ateshyan and Hrant Dink's widow Rakel Dink were also present.

Reports on Sevag's death are contradicting. One report says that he was killed "because of careless use of weapon", another report testifies that the Armenian was shot dead. Investigation into the death is under way.

"I want the truth to come out as soon as possible. I don't think it happened when they

were joking around. I knew Sevag really well. He was not someone who would joke around with guns,” his fiancée Melani Kumruyan said.



### **In India 3000 people pray, pay tribute to Armenian Genocide victims**

2011-04-26

The religious and cultural program concluded with the religious message by the Catholic Archbishop of

Kolkata. This year, out of respect to the Armenian

Genocide victims, Father Khoren Hovhannisyian, Pastor of Armenians in India and Manager of Armenian College and Philanthropic Academy was invited to pray and deliver his message on this occasion.

The master of ceremonies, Reverend Father Andrew Simick, before inviting the Pastor of Armenians in India to stage, announced that this year Easter coincided with the 96th anniversary of Armenian Genocide and asked the congregation to pray for one and a half million victims of the Genocide.

Father Khoren Hovhannisyian prayed for Genocide victims in Armenian and addressed the congregation, saying: “Every year, on April 24, Armenians all over the world commemorate the attempt to exterminate their nation by the Ottoman Turks, the murder of 1.5 million innocent and defenseless children, women, elderly people and men.

The wound left behind from the Armenian Genocide is yet to heal ... the wound is still bleeding because of Turkish denial ... The whole nation was nailed on the cross because they were Christians, because they were Armenians.”



**In India, about 3000 people prayed and paid their respect to the victims of the Armenian Genocide**

2011-04-26

Every year, on Easter Day, Christians in Kolkata gather in the premises of the historic St. Paul's Cathedral to celebrate the Glorious Resurrection of Jesus Christ. The religious and cultural programme concluded with the religious message by the Catholic Archbishop of Kolkata. This year, out of respect to Armenian Genocide victims, Father Khoren Hovhannisyan, Pastor of Armenians in India and Manager of Armenian College and Philanthropic Academy was invited to pray and deliver his message on this occasion.

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During the programme, the choir of Armenian College and Philanthropic Academy presented verses from the Divine Liturgy.



**Armenian Dioceses of Iran host events to commemorate Genocide victims**

2011-04-26

According to Armenian Foreign Ministry press service, in Tehran and New Jugha (Isfahan), large-scale events were held including a traditional candle procession,

protest rally and a wreath laying ceremony.



**5000 people gather in Paris for Genocide commemoration rally**

2011-04-25

5000 people gathered for a rally in front of the Turkish Embassy demanding recognition of the Armenian

Genocide. Next, the rally was continued at the monument to Komitas.

During the event, the representatives of the Armenian organizations of France called on the demonstrators to gather May 4 in front of the Senate, where a draft law on criminalization of Genocide negation will be discussed.

**Sport**



**Armenia wins 3 medals at World Children's Games**

2011-04-30

Grigor Sahakyan (60kg) and Shavarsh Sahakyan (+60kg) lost their semifinal fights. Armen Davtyan (55kg) finished 5th, the Armenian Judo Federation told

PanARMENIAN.Net

Earlier, Edgar Garnikyan and Gor Hakobyan won silver and bronze medals

respectively.

The closing ceremony will take place on May 2. The Armenian team will be back in Yerevan on the following day.