



Հրատարակություն Ամերիկահայոց Արեւելեան Թեմի Ազգային Առաջնորդարանի
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Large, Enthusiastic Crowds Greet Catholicos Karekin II On First Pontifical Visit to Eastern United States & Canada

Unity, Commitment, Harmony, and Renewal Emerge as Major Themes

As the triumphant Pontifical visit of His Holiness Karekin II comes to a close, reports from our communities are all variations of the same glorious theme: large crowds, total enthusiastic involvement of the youth, and vibrations of renewal and commitment reverberate across the land.

Within the Armenian communities His Holiness placed great emphasis on his encounters with the youth. In each community he repeatedly said that they were the ones entrusted with the task to continue, and admonished them not to stay in the sidelines of life, but to be in the very center of it.

In speaking to the young people about the preservation of the Armenian nation he emphasized that "Preservation is not possible by keeping it as it has been and is. Preservation in a creative sense means bringing new stimulus, new vitality, giving new impetus to something you have inherited. We are a nation to live on, to continue, not merely to conserve."

Advising them to always search for the truth he said, "I always believe what Jesus Christ Himself told us. He didn't say, 'this is the truth,' He said, 'I am the truth, I am the way, I am the light.' In other words, whatever value, whatever principle, whatever truth we look for in life, we have to give it expression in concrete actions. Otherwise, truth, value, principle, become notions in the air and life goes on. Therefore, we have to find a new way of looking at the basic truth in life. . . Whatever you study in your courses in the university or in the college, you may discover many truths in life all about the subjects that you are studying but the real truth in life can only be manifested through the sense of personal engagement, personal experience and commitment."

Focusing on the Armenian-American experience he told the young adults, "I don't know American history as well as you do, but what I know of American history, this America has become a great nation through such figures that today's American consciousness recognizes as founding fathers. I hope some time one of you will be able to do a study—one that I had hoped to do, but did not have the time. Go through the speeches of Jefferson, Lincoln, Washington, Adams, and others and see what ideals they have framed as the way of American life and look into your own history and take the books of Yeghishe, and by Moses Khorenatzi and others, particularly the writers of the Fifth Century, in which our nation took its shape as a Christian nation. You will find that there are so many coincidences and similarities between the Armenian vision and principles of life and the American experience of life. . . I consider the Armenian American youth to be privileged, and thanks to God they are. We don't have anything to be shameful about, that privileged position should be used to spread the positive values of Mankind. Have faith always; faith is the motivation for action and commitment towards the betterment of society."



White House photo by Bill FitzPatrick

WHITE HOUSE GUEST: His Holiness Karekin II paid a courtesy visit to President Ronald Reagan on June 16, 1983. Speaking in the name of all Armenians affiliated with the See of Cilicia, His Holiness commended President Reagan for his high regard and affection for the Armenian people. His Holiness also expressed his deep gratitude for the stand taken by the Reagan Administration in support of the unification of Lebanon. President Reagan assured His Holiness that his administration would do its best for the people of Lebanon. The President also added that Armenians have always held a special place in his heart ever since the days of his governorship of the State of California. He said that he had been happy to have Governor George Deukmejian serve in his administration as Attorney General of California and who is now Governor of California. At the conclusion of the visit His Holiness bestowed the order of the Grand Cross of Cilicia upon President Reagan. Accompanying His Holiness were Archbishop Mesrob Ashjian, Col. Harry Sachaklian, a member of the National Steering Committee; Congressman Chip Pashayan and Mr. Edward Derwinski from the State Department.

Government and Church Leaders Greet and Honor His Holiness

PHOTOS ON PAGE 11

Karekin II's visit has had a positive impact on all of our communities, but the ramifications of this visit go far beyond the Armenian community, for wherever he has visited His Holiness has met with and been hosted by the highest levels of government and church leaders.

In Washington, D.C., His Holiness met with President Reagan, opened the Congressional Session with a prayer, and was hosted with a congressional luncheon attended by more than fifty Congressmen. (See page 5 for details of the Washington visit).

Within hours of his arrival to the United States, His Holiness paid a courtesy call to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Javier Perez de Cuellar. His Holiness and the Secretary-General discussed the Middle East situation and Lebanon. The Catholicos also informed the Secretary-General about the worldwide revival of the Armenian church.

In New York His Holiness met with Mayor Edward Koch. Both being outgoing and gregarious, within moments there was an exchange of ideas, particularly about America's rich ethnic heritage. His Holiness noted that the Armenian community in the U.S. is integrated in the "American way of life, but that does not mean that we cannot keep our consciousness of belonging to a cultural ethnic heritage 3,000 years old." Koch replied that within his own observations, "What is remarkable about the United

(Continued on page 10)

PRELATE ELEVATED TO RANK OF ARCHBISHOP



During the services at St. Bartholomew's a Pontifical Encyclical was presented bestowing upon our Prelate the title and rank of Archbishop. The encyclical praised Bishop Ashjian's leadership qualities and his "productive programs and broad initiatives, the fruits of which are continuously enjoyed by our beloved flock of the Eastern Prelacy of America." (The full text of the encyclical in Armenian is on page 8). In the photo below Archbishop Ashjian is flanked by Dr. and Mrs. Raffi Hovannesian who donated the Encolpion which was presented to Archbishop Ashjian during the banquet at the Waldorf-Astoria. Catholicos Karekin II presented the golden, jeweled insignia to Archbishop Ashjian with the admonition, "I now chain you with greater duties." Also shown in the photo are Mr. Harout Beshlian (right) from the western Prelacy and Mr. Zohrab Tazian (left) of Fort Wayne, Ind.



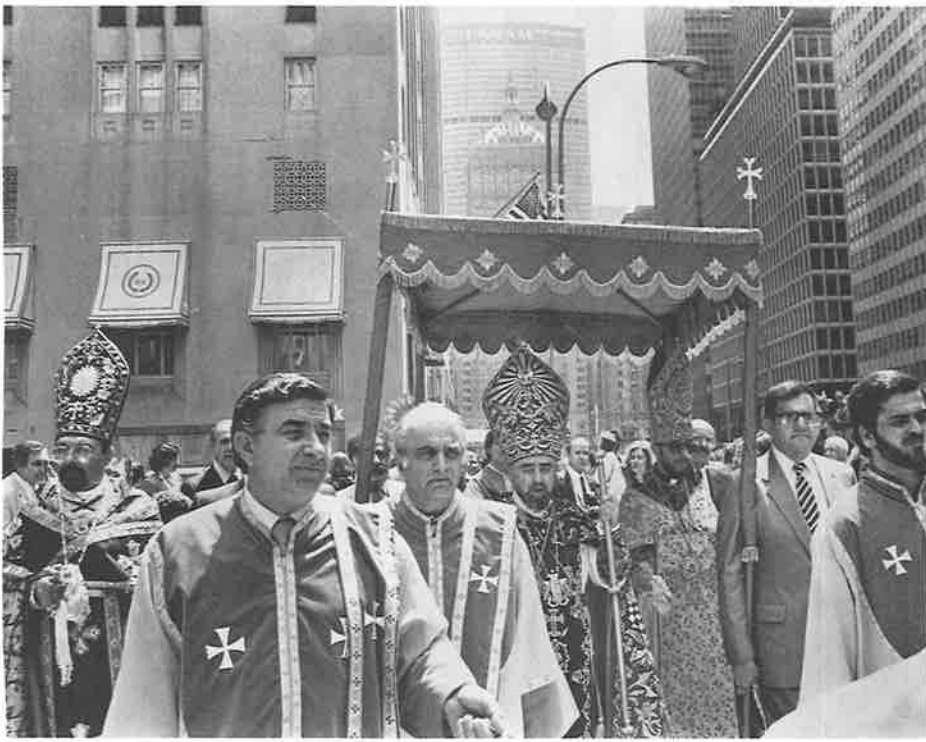
Վեհափառին Խօսքը և Գործը

Վեհափառ Հայրապետի ուղեւորութեան ընթացքին, լատով կարգադրութեամբ մը, իր շքախումբին մաս կը կազմէին Ազգային Վարչութեան և Ընդունելութեան Կեդրոնական Յանձնախումբի ներկայացուցիչները՝ որոնք ճաշկերպութեամբ ընթացքին խօսք ալ տրին յանձնի՝ և ներկայացուցին Առաջնորդարանի և առհասարակ մեր ժողովրդի ձայնը և գնահատանքը: Այս գծով, Թորոնթոյի Ս. Աստուածածին համայնքի կազմակերպած ճաշկերպութեան ընթացքին խօսք տուաւ Ազգային Վարչութեան Ատենայետ Պր. Օննիկ Մարաշեան, որ հետեւեալ կարճ և ուրուագծային նօթերով, յաջողեցաւ տալ մեր ժողովրդին գնահատանքը՝ Վեհափառի կատարած սրանչելի գործին և թողոցած մնայուն արդիւնքին մասին: Ստորեւ՝ այդ խօսքը.-

Ահաւասիկ գրեթէ երկու ամիս է որ Վեհափառ Հայրապետը կը գտնուի Նոր Աշխարհի այս բնագործակ թեմին մէջ: Այս երկու ամսուան մէջ ան ոչ միայն արգարացուց այն բոլոր ակնկալութիւնները զոր ունէին Սրբազան Առաջնորդը ու Ազգային Վարչութիւնը երբ հրաւիրեցին զինքը իր հովուապետական առաջին այցելութիւնը շնորհելու մեր թեմին՝ այլ տասնապատիկ աւելցուց անոնց վրայ:

Կասկած ալ չունենիք արդէն որ Վեհափառ Հայրապետը իր հոգեւունջ խօսքերով, իր վարակիչ եռանդով, իր խրախուսիչ մարտահրաւերով պիտի ոգեւորէր ու խթանէր սփիւռքի այս

First Pontifical Visit with Style and Innovation



Two thousand people filled St. Bartholomew's Church to witness the first Divine Liturgy celebrated by Catholicos Karekin II following his arrival to the United States. The Pontifical Canopy was held by the Messrs. Vartan Gregorian, Moushegh Haratunian, Vahagn Hovnanian, and Sarkis Teshoian.

'Breathtakingly Beautiful' Liturgy Celebrated at St. Bartholomew's; More than 2,000 Participants

"Breathtakingly beautiful," "I'm so glad I came," "Magnificent," were just some of the comments that could be overheard at the conclusion of the Pontifical Divine Liturgy at St. Bartholomew's Church on Park Avenue.

Clergymen from the area's Prelacy churches participated in the Mass. The choir, under the directorship of Mr. Armen Babamian, was a combined group from the area's three Armenian churches and their beautiful rendition of the Liturgy was just another reason to make this a memorable church service.

For most Armenians the visit to the metropolitan area will be best remembered for the powerful and inspiring sermon delivered by Karekin II. So much enthusiasm and emotion was generated by His Holiness' powerful delivery of his message that at one point the audience stood and applauded. To everyone's memory it was the first time that a sermon elicited such a spontaneous reaction. His Holiness stressed the oneness of the Armenian church, and told the two thousand people attending to feel at home in any Armenian church. "Attend any Armenian church, support any Armenian church. We are one. We have always been one. We will always be one."

The following is the text of His Holiness' sermon:

ՅԱՆՈՒՆ ՀՕՐՆԻ ՈՐԴՈՅ ԵՒ ՀՈԳԻՈՅՆ ՍՐԲՈՅ ԱՄԷՆ:

«ԵՎԱՅՔ ԾԻՆԵՍՈՒՒՄ ՍՈՒՐԲ ԶՈՐՈՒՆՆ ԼՈՒՍՈՅ ՔԱՆՁԻ Ի ՍՄԱ ԾԱԳԵԱՅ ՄԵԶ ԼՈՅՍ Ի ՀԱՅԱՍՏԱՆ ԱՇԽԱՐՀԻ:»

Այս բառերին աւելի գեղեցիկ բառեր չկիրարկուեցին այսօր արտայայտելու համար, ձեզի փոխանցելու համար խորհուրդը այսօրուան տօնին՝ եւ իմաստը Մեր Հայրապետական անդրանիկ այցելութեան:

Այսօր ոգեկոչուան է այն բացառիկ, աննախընթաց եւ գեղեցիկագոյն օրուան Հայոց Պատմութեան երբ մեր հաւատոյ հայրը՝ Ս. Գրիգոր Լուսաւորիչ դուրս եկաւ Որ Վիրապէն եւ իր աչքերուն մէջ աստուածային տեսիլքը պարզուեցաւ որուն համաձայն Աստուածորդին՝ Քրիստոս ինքը իջաւ Հայաստան եւ ոսկի ուռնակը ձեռին, բախեց գետինը Հայաստանի եւ ցոյց տուաւ այն տեղը ուր Հայոց հեթանոսական կրօնքին կեդրոնն էր եւ ուր պէտք էր դուրս հիմնադրուէր Հայոց նոր կրօնքին: Այնտեղ պիտի հիմնուէր անաշխի եկեղեցին: Գրիգոր Լուսաւորիչ երկինքէն հոսող ու երկինքով պայծառագորուած այդ տեսիլքին մէջէն «Ե՛՛՛՛ Միածին», իջաւ Միածինը, եւ Հայաստանը երկինքի վերածնեց ինչպէս կ'ըսէ շարականագիրը «Բանդի այսօր երկիրս երկինք եղեւ:» Այսօր երկիրը Աստուածային հաւատքով ներթափանցուած դադրեցաւ հող ըլլալէ. եղաւ հոգեթափանց այն ուժը ուրիշ հայրութիւնը տուաւ Քրիստոսի հաւատքը իր հայրերու շունչով:

Միբերինե՛ր, Այսօր Հայաստանեայց բոլոր եկեղե-



ցինքուն մէջ կը տօնուի այս բացառիկ օրուան յիշատակը, եւ ես փառք կուտամ Աստուծոյ որ Մեր անդրանիկ Հովուապետական այցելութիւնը Ամերիկահայոց Արեւելեան Թեմին՝ այսպէս զուգորդեցաւ այդ գեղեցիկ օրուան եւ իր իմաստը կարծէք այդ օրէն ստացաւ աւելի գեղեցիկութիւն:

Շարականագիր բանաստեղծը հետեւաբար մեզ կը հրաւիրէ այսօր ըսելով. «Եկա՛յք շինեցուք Սուրբ զՈրանն լուսոյ» - եկէք ուրեմն, շինեք լոյսի խորանը, որովհետեւ այնտեղ, այդ խորանին մէջ, ծագեցաւ մեզի համար լոյսը ի Հայաստան աշխարհի:

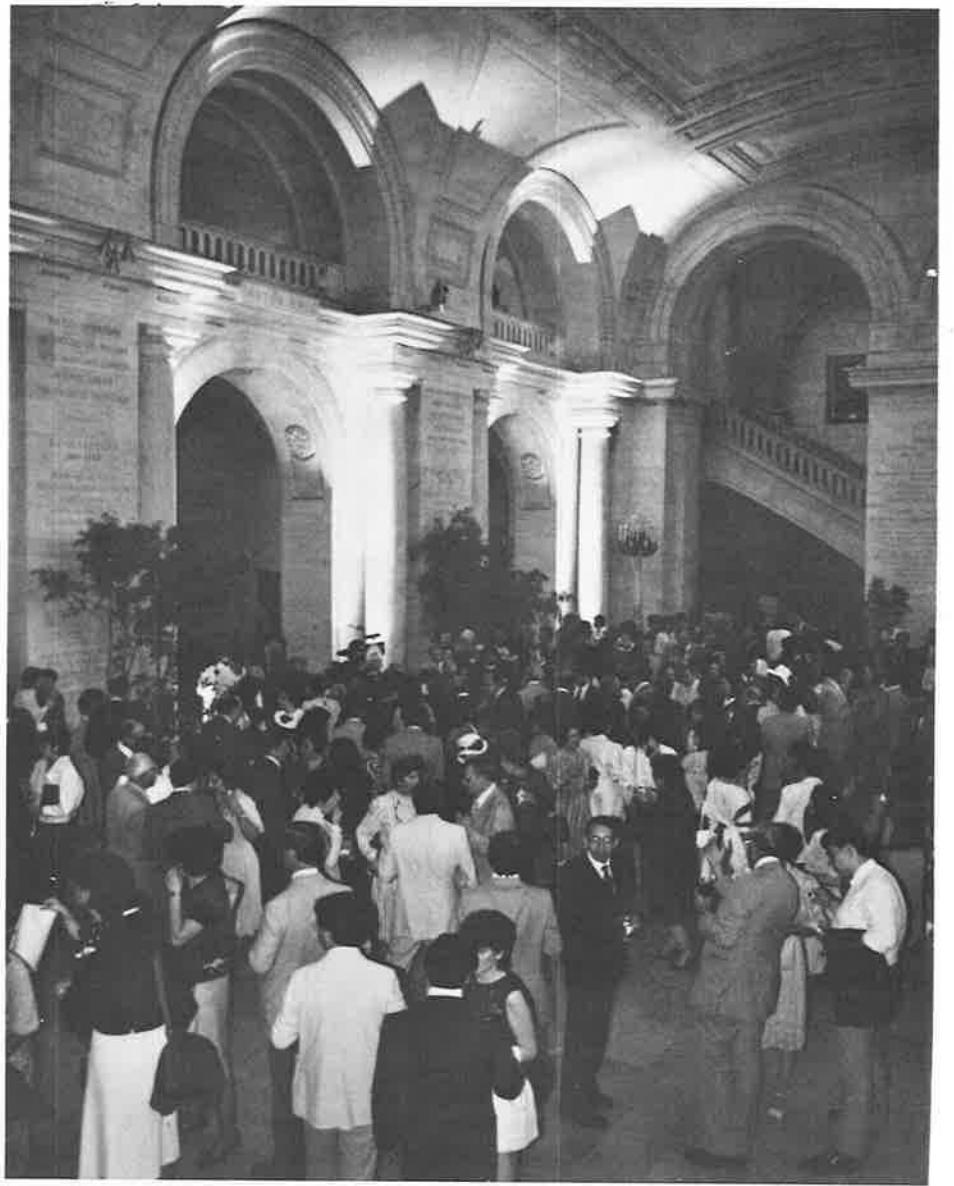
Եկէ՛ք ուրեմն, հաւատացեալներ, եկէք բոլորս միասին, ուր ալ ըլլանք, Հայաստանի հոգիովը հայեր ըլլանք, մեր քրիստոնէացած երկրովը ու քրիստոնէախօս հայրութեամբը, ուր ալ ըլլանք, միշտ շինեք լոյսի խորանը, որովհետեւ այնտեղէն պիտի ծագի մեր լոյսը ուր ալ ըլլանք այսօր սփիւռքի մէջ:

Հովուապետական այս անդրանիկ այցելութեան առիթով մեր օրուան խօսքին անցնելէ առաջ պարտք կը զգամք ողջոյնի եւ ամենախոր սիրոյ մեր բառերը ուղղել ձեռք բոլորին, այս Թեմի բոլոր զաւակներուն, Առաջնորդ Սրբազանին, հոգեւորական դասուն, Ազգային Ժողովականութեան, բոլոր կրթական, մշակութային, բարեսիրական, ազգային, երիտասարդական կազմակերպութիւններուն եւ հաստատութիւններուն եւ մանաւանդ Ձեզ բոլորիդ, Ժողովուրդ Հայոց, որմէ կուզանք մենք եւ որուն կ'երթանք Աստուծոյ երթալու մեր ճամբուն վրայ:

Կողմունքներ մեր ժողովուրդը ամբողջ Թեմի սահմաններուն մէջ, Նիւ Եորքէն մինչեւ Մոնթրէալ, Գանատա եւ ամբողջ տարածքին այս Թեմին, Ուաշինկթընէն, Ֆիլադելֆիայէն մինչեւ Շիքախօ. հոն ուր զաւակներ կան մեր հոգեւոր խնամքին տակ՝ թող այս պահուն Աստուծոյ առջեւ զգան իրենք զիրենք աղօթքի այն ապրումին մէջ որով այսօր մենք երջանկացանք այս խորանին վրայ մեր ժողովուրդին ծոցին մէջ կարենալ աղօթելու համար:

(Continued on page 6)

New York Public Library's Elegant Astor Hall is Site of Cocktail Reception in Honor of Catholicos Karekin II



One of America's greatest cultural treasures and one of the most important research centers in the world—the New York Public Library—was the setting for a cocktail-reception party following the Divine Liturgy at St. Bartholomews Church. Attended by Armenians and non-Armenians from a wide area of the eastern coast, the extravagant Astor Hall—with its imposing stairways leading to 88 miles of book shelves, holding six million books—was the perfect setting to honor a man whose life has been devoted first to God and second to books and scholarship. Vartan Gregorian, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Public Library welcomed everyone to the library on behalf of the library's board of trustees, the Staff, Cardinal Terrence Cooke, vice-chairman of the board. "Vehapar is a scholar," Dr. Gregorian said, "therefore the library is a fitting place to honor him. This library, as one of the major libraries of the world is also a repository of our heritage, whether it is Raphael Lemkin's papers on genocide that we have just acquired, a history of Toynbee, Old German diplomatic documents, or the entire history on proceedings of the Russian Duma, this library has and is part of our extension and that's why I feel so proud to welcome Vehapar here today."

Vartan Gregorian Hosts Luncheon for Vehapar in Trustees Room of New York Public Library

A special private luncheon took place Saturday, June 4, in the Trustees Room of the New York Public Library, hosted by the Library's President, Vartan Gregorian.

In a welcoming speech Dr. Gregorian noted that "of all the clergymen I have known, and I have known many—Armenian and non-Armenian—Vehapar is one of those who continues a long tradition of Cilician Catholicos who have spent as much time for their shepherding their community, as well as contributing to scholarship. I would like to welcome him on behalf of our trustees, the staff, Cardinal Cooke, vice-chairman of our board, Barbara Tuchman, historian and member of our board of trustees, all of whom have asked me to convey our best wishes to him and through me to welcome Vehapar to these shores."

Miss Samira Hanna-El-Daher, Consul General of Lebanon, (who accompanied His Holiness at every function during his New York stay) praised Vehapar and saluted him for his vision calling him "a beacon not only speaking for your people and for Lebanon but going all over the world speaking for it. I have had echoes of your intervention, I could say, with the Secretary General of the United Nations and through him you have addressed the whole world, as the most responsible, the most caring leader of Lebanon and for that I wish to thank you."

His Holiness informally addressed the group noting that "God's ways are mysterious, unknowable, uncertain. Six years ago I would climb these stairs, go to the reading room, stay there two hours, do my reading, take my notes, write my article, and then go back to the Prelacy. Today, six years later, I climbed the same stairs with the Catholicossal staff in my



Vartan Gregorian welcomes Vehapar and guests to luncheon in Trustees Room of N.Y. Public Library.

hand and so many friends around me and with a former student greeting me in the name of this great institution of not only New York but of America and in the world as well."

Vehapar continued: "I thank Vartan Gregorian for his gracious acceptance of this afternoon's gathering. He is the host together with our Prelacy, His Grace Bishop Mesrob Ashjian, and the Executive Council. I thank you very much because you put me in the right spirit of my own personal stature. Life in spiritual and intellectual light. That is, I believe, what is lacking in our society here in America, and elsewhere. We are becoming a technologically minded society, we are becoming an automation motivated society, and we are losing sight of that inner being of the human person. We are expressing ourselves but not being enough inspired by the devout and by the eternal values, the Aristotelian values of human life."

Excitement Dominates ANEC Student Festival; Nine NY-NJ Armenian Schools Perform for 1,000



The festival chorus sings "Ode to His Holiness"—Hayrabadagan Maghterk, under the direction of Mrs. Hourig Papazian-Sahagian. Top right photo: An exciting scene from "Kach Nazar," presented by the Ararat School of New Jersey. Below right photo: Graceful dancers entertain the audience. Nine area Armenian Schools participated in the Festival which took place at the John Harms Englewood Plaza Theater in New Jersey in honor of Catholicos Karekin II.



Photos by Kantzabed

With his charismatic presence and stirring words, His Holiness Karekin II captured the hearts of the 342 students and 1,000 spectators who filled the Englewood John Harms Plaza Theater in New Jersey for the 3rd annual Festival of Armenian Schools.

The command performance of nine metropolitan area Armenian schools was conceived and sponsored by the Armenian National Education Committee, under the direction of Mrs. Hourig Papazian-Sahagian, Executive Coordinator of ANEC. Similar festivals took place for His Holiness along the route of his American and Canadian tour.

The Plaza Theater marquee set the festive tone for the afternoon, with its proclamation of welcome for the Catholicos and the ANEC in huge red letters. The theater lobby was festooned with bunting and with photos from past Festivals and other ANEC student activities. The theater itself was a sea of color. Decorating the stage were 80-foot banners in brilliant colors, each identifying one of the participating schools.

An atmosphere of electric excitement dominated the air of the elegant concert hall, as each of the nine Armenian Saturday and Day Schools were introduced to His Holiness and to the audience. The students of the ANEC Siamanto Academy acted as masters of ceremonies.

The participating schools were: The ANEC Siamanto Academy, New York; St. Illuminator Cathedral School, New York; St. Illuminator Cathedral Saturday School, New York; St. Sarkis Church Saturday School, New York; Sts. Vartanantz Church Nareg Saturday School, New Jersey; St. Mesrob Saturday School of the Rockland County, N.Y. Educational Society; The Armenian School of New Jersey (Day School); The Ararat Saturday School (Sr. Division) of the Educational Association, New Jersey; The Ararat Saturday School (Sr. Division) of the Educational Association, New Jersey.

Addresses were delivered by representatives of the sponsoring organizations of ANEC—the Eastern Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Church of America and the Armenian Relief Society of North America. Mr. Albert Bagian, Chairman of ANEC offered welcoming remarks to His Holiness in Armenian, stating that the Pontifical visit would play an important role in the retention of an Armenian identity for the present generation of Armenian Americans. Mrs. Mary Bedian, chairwoman of the Armenian Relief Society, Regional Executive, spoke on behalf of that organization in English. Mrs. Bedian reiterated the warm welcome and added that Armenian education is well served when all the schools in one region are brought together to celebrate the joys of learning and of a vigorous community life.

There followed a colorful parade to the rousing strains of the Festival Song, "The

March of Youth," which led the 342 students to the stage, where they assembled to sing a program of choral selections. Under the baton of Mrs. Papazian-Sahagian, the students sang anthems and odes dedicated to His Holiness Catholicos Karekin II. A popular folk-song of the Kessab region, the birthplace of His Holiness, was offered by the Festival Chorus, as a musical surprise. The rafters of the theater rang as the audience clapped in cadence with the students', *Hele, Hele, Hele Nino Eh!* Vehapar seemed elated with this unexpected delight.

At the conclusion of the student program, His Grace, Bishop Mesrob Ashjian, Prelate of the Church and President of the Armenian National Education Committee was invited to address the audience. His Grace commended the teachers and principals for their untiring efforts and praised the parents in the audience for encouraging their children to study Armenian. Bishop Ashjian pointed out that since His Holiness' arrival the entire community has been enlivened with a "paradon spirit." His Grace added, "The Student Festival must have touched Karekin Vehapar's heart, for school and academic life are so dear to him; and this performance is all the more precious because the cultural program was performed so well in Armenian by students on these far-flung American shores." The audience responded with thunderous applause and with cheering, which rose to a crescendo and a standing ovation, as His Grace introduced Catholicos Karekin II.

A hushed silence fell over the audience when His Holiness ascended to the stage to deliver his message. Visibly moved by the students' performance, Vehapar had words of praise for the superlative presen-

tation of the program. His Holiness went on to stress that striving for the quality of excellence is an imperative, not only in Armenian education but in all areas of learning as well. Then turning his attention directly to the students, His Holiness bade them rise to receive his Pontifical message, delivered in the form of an oath-taking ceremony. With great solemnity—and twinkle in the eye—the Catholicos asked, "Do you promise to always speak Armenian?" "Ayo—Yes," shouted hundreds of students at the top of their voices. "Do you promise to love the Armenian language always?" "Ayo—Yes," roared 350 boys and girls! "Will you promise to continue your Armenian studies?" Once again and yet again, "Ayo" rang out like a battle cry, as students reaffirmed their love for their language and culture, pride in their church and school and love and admiration for their Vehapar, under whose charming spell they had fallen.

(H.P.S.)

Ուսանողական Փառատուն Քէմք Հայաստանի Մէջ

Շաբաթ, 11 Յունիսը իւրայայտուկ օր մը եղաւ Վեհափառ Հայրապետի հովուապետական այցելութեան ընթացքին: Աննախընթաց եւ արեւօտ օր մըն էր, որբեր կը ճառագայթէր, բայց արեւը մեր սրտերուն մէջ էր, աչքերուն մէջ անոնց՝ արոնք նիւ Ինկլընտի գանազան շրջաններէն փութացած էին Քէմք Հայաստան, ուր՝ հայաշունչ այդ հողին վրայ կայացաւ ուսանողական փառատուն մը: Կը մասնակցէին Պոսթընի, Բրաւտընի, Նիւ Պրիթընի, Սըրիսկֆիլտի, Ուստըրի, Նորթ Էնտոպըրի, Ուայթինգիլի Կիրակնորեայ դպրոցներու եւ շաբաթօրեայ դպրոցներու ուսանողները, Հ.Մ.Ը.Մ.ի սկառտները, գայլիկներն ու արենոյշները, Հայ Երիտասարդաց Դաշնակցութեան անդամները, Իրանահայ Նոր Սերունդ միութեան անդամները՝ հարիւրներով եւ հարիւրներով, որոնք կովկիլ յայտագիր մը մատուցին Ն.Ս.Օ.Տ.Տ. Գարեգին Կաթողիկոսին, որ, իր շքախումբով ժամանած էր Հայաստան Քէմք՝ նախագահելու համար Ուսանողական փառատունին: Յայտագիրը սկսաւ Հ.Մ.Ը.Մ.ի սկառտներու ստորագրով, ստաջնորդութեամբ Ամերիկեան, Հայկական Հանրապետութեան, Կաթողիկոսարանին եւ Հ.Մ.Ը.Մ.ի դրոշմներուն: Յայտագրին մէջ կային երգ, պար, քերթուած, կենդանի պատկեր: Ապա՝ Հ.Յ.Դ.ի կողմէ յիշատակի նուէրի ընծայում եղաւ Վեհափառ Հայրապետին: Հանդիսութիւնը վարեց Տօթթ՝ Վարանդ Յակոբեան, իսկ յայտագրի պատրաստութեան մէջ մեծ աշխատանք տարած էր Տիկին Ազնէս Ուրֆայեանը:

Փառատունի աւարտին Վեհափառ Հայրապետը խօսք առաւ եւ իր խօսքը ուղղեց հայերէն եւ անգլերէն լեզուներով, Ամերիկեան ովկիանոսին մէջ ցրուած հայորդիներուն՝ ներշնչելով անոնց յատկապէս հայրենասիրութիւն եւ հաւատարմութիւն Հայաստանեայց Եկեղեցիին եւ խորագոյն յարգանք՝ հանդէպ աւանդութեան:

Հայ մանուկներն ու պատանիները ջերմութեամբ ընդունեցին Վեհափառին խօսքերը՝ եւ խոստացան իրենք տուններուն մէջ շարունակել իրենց հայրերու գուրթը՝ աւանդութեան հանդէպ խորագոյն յարգանքով:

Karekin Vehapar sent the following message to the Armenian Youth Federation during that organization's annual convention which took place in Worcester, Massachusetts.

It is a very deep personal joy to be able to convey to you all, A.Y.F. delegates, parents, friends, and supporters of the A.Y.F., my very deep love and high appreciation of the devoted services that you are rendering to our beloved community, Armenian-American community, here in the United States of America.

How I wish I could be with you personally, but that is impossible because of the heavy schedule of my pastoral visit. But, with these words I would like you to feel my presence among you, and all my love and my great appreciation, as I said, for your devotedness to our beloved Armenian nation. The one thought I would like to convey to you at this time, is that, as I have known you from the days when I served this community as the Prelate, I know of your rich history of devoted persons who have created the A.Y.F. and have continued to support it in service to the Armenian nation and all the highest goals and ideals for which we continue our life, here in America, and for our life, for the entire nation in the world. I know as American-born Armenians, you have all the privileges of this great nation of America. You have had education of the highest American ideals and I would like you to renew your commitment with those ideals alive in your heart and minds to serve our nation, because we, Armenians, from the very beginning of our history have devoted all our life to such high ideals of freedom, of equality, and justice in the world.

As you know, we today in this 20th century, we are a nation that has been regenerated from the terrible blow of the Genocide of 1915, and the dispersion of the Armenians all around the world. Today this renewed nation is enjoying a time, a period, of renaissance and recovery, and is looking forward, not necessarily backward to the historical existence of our nation. That history is a very rich one, but is not binding for us because we have a future and we have to look to the future, taking the necessary inspiration from that great experience, what I would call the experience of endurance. That is to say, the steady, committed action for survival with the vision of victory. If we lose this spirit of endurance, we lose the very backbone of our national existence.

The second thing I would like to convey to you is that the source of that endurance is the Christian faith that our Church has embodied and has communicated to our people all along their history. Our Christian faith is a faith in resurrection, a faith in hope, and in love; and therefore please feel yourselves close to that centuries old Armenian church that stands firm in loyalty to the Christian faith and to the dignity of the Armenian nation.

My last point is that as we live today, particularly here in America, in a technologically dominated world, where the values have become so shallow because of an extreme secularist concept of life, please, by all means, do not lose sight of the spiritual, intellectual, and cultural values, which are a source of nurture and of continued obedience to the highest ideals in human life. I know how much superficial values dominates human society in the 20th century. But we, Armenians, while keeping pace with the world, we have to keep alive the consciousness of those spiritual, intellectual, and cultural national values which will give us the necessary strength to pursue our goals in this world, until the day, when we all, as a nation, can reach the fulfillment of our basic aspirations under God and with the spirit of one nation.

I pray, almighty God, to keep this young generation always conscious of its heritage and its obligation for today, and also its vision for tomorrow. You are our eyes opened to our future. Make your devotedness a valuable service, committed service, involvement and engagement in the concrete life of our people. May God's blessings be abundantly upon you, the Armenian Youth Federation family and all the people who support the A.Y.F.

Summer Religion

When the mercury goes up, spirituality often comes down.

What Saith the Bible?

Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. *Exodus 20:8*

Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh. *Matthew 25:13*

Boast not thyself of tomorrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth. *Proverbs 27:1*

I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth. *Psalms 34:1*

Rejoice in the Lord always; and again I say Rejoice. *Philippians 4:4*

The Nation's Capital Welcomes Karekin II

U.S. Congress Welcomes Karekin II

His Holiness was given a warm welcome when he delivered a prayer for peace on the floor of the House of Representatives.

The Catholicos, invited to the floor by Congressman Tony Coelho (D-Calif.), bestowed his blessings upon "this land of America with all its people." (See below for full text of prayer).

His Holiness began the day by meeting with the Speaker of the House, Tip O'Neill, (D-Mass.), in the Speaker's private chamber. The two have met several times before and greeted each other warmly. His Holiness praised Speaker O'Neill for continuing to be outspoken on issues of concern to the Armenian community. The Speaker responded by saying that he has "the highest regard for the Armenian people, and the enormous contributions they have made in this country."

Following the prayer, they were joined by Congressman Tony Coelho, who officially introduced His Holiness to the House. Congressman Coelho, in his introduction stated, "His Holiness has made an immeasurable mark not only on the Armenian American community to whom he has been so devoted, but also to all Americans he has touched. I am honored to welcome back an old friend to the United States."

Congressman Chip Pashayan (R-Calif.) was the host of a Congressional luncheon in honor of His Holiness. The luncheon took place at the Capitol and was attended by well over a hundred people including ranking members of the Democratic and Republican leadership.

Some of the Congressmen in attendance were: Senator Charles Percy, Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee; Senator Robert Dole, Senator Charles Mathias, Jr., Senator Paul Sarbanes, Congressman Gus Yatron, Congressman Richard Lehman, Congressman Mel Levine, Congressman Glenn Anderson, Congressman Henry Waxman, and Congresswoman Geraldine Ferraro who recently visited the Catholicos in Antelias, Lebanon. Congresswoman Ferraro, a strong supporter of the Armenian community, is the sponsor of House Resolution 50 calling on Congress to ratify the Genocide Convention of 1948.



His Holiness places a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Va. In the photo below Vehapar is shown paying his respects at the grave of President John F. Kennedy at Arlington. (AP WIREPHOTOS)



At the White House His Holiness introduces Archbishop Mesrob Ashjian to President Reagan. At the conclusion of their visit, the Catholicos bestowed the order of the Grand Cross of Cilicia upon the President, explaining that the decoration symbolizes the ancient land and throne of the See of Cilicia. (WHITE HOUSE PHOTO).

Congressman Richard A. Gephardt (D-Missouri), entered the following into the Congressional Record of June 22, 1983.

KAREKIN II
The Armenian Shepherd.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a holy and distinguished visitor to the United States and to my home area of St. Louis, Mo.

His Holiness, Karekin II, Catholicos of the Great House of Cilicia, Antelias, Lebanon, the spiritual leader of 350,000 Armenians in the United States and Canada, will arrive on June 29, 1983, for a 2-day visit with his Armenian-American congregation in the Metropolitan St. Louis area.

This is a special occasion. The Armenian Church in America was formally organized in 1898, and in 1915, the first Armenian cathedral in America—St. Illuminator's Cathedral—was consecrated in New York City where it stands today at 221 East 27th Street, and is the mother church of the Armenian Apostolic Church of America.

At the conclusion of his Pontifical visit to St. Louis, with the ecumenical spirit, His Holiness will journey to Vancouver, Canada, to attend the Sixth General Assembly of the World Council of Churches, where he will serve as vice moderator of the Council's Central Committee.

On this joyous first visit of the Shepherd with his flock, His Holiness can understandably smile with pride as he witnesses the contribution his people have made to America. Across this great country, the Armenian Americans, while clinging to their heritage, have served both their church and their country with distinguished effort.

Your Holiness, Karekin II, for giving us the Armenian community in America, for honoring us by your visit to St. Louis, we say, "Shnorhagal yenk tzer hayrabedagan ays aytseoutyan hamar."

And until the Shepherd again visits his flock, and honors us with his holy presence, we say, "Asdvatz togh tzer hed ullah."

Այցելութիւն Ռուստրո Ուիլսընի Գերագմանին

Վեհափառ Հայրապետին Ուաշինկթըն այցելութիւնը իր գեղեցիկ երեսը ունեցաւ, որ կարելի չէ չարձանագրել: Արդարեւ իր ժամանումէն իսկ սկսեալ, կանուխ թէ ուշ ժամերուն, զաղուփի հայուփիւնը, տարեց թէ երիտասարդ ընկերացան իրենց սիրելի Վեհափառին ամէն տեղ, ուր որ գնաց: Այս առթիւ յատկանշական էր Վեհափառին այցելութիւնը Ուաշինկթընի Ազգային Քաթէտրալին:

Ուաշինկթըն հասնելէն քանի մը ժամ ետք, Վեհափառ Հայրապետը իր շքախումբով այցելեց Եպիսկոպոսականներու մայր Տաճարը, իր յարգանքը ընծայելու համար Ամերիկայի Հայասէր նախագահներէն Ռուստրո Ուիլսընին, որուն Հայաստանի քարտէսին վրայ մատնանշած ցուցամատը կարելի չէ մտահան ընել մեր մտածումէն:

Վեհափառը շրջապատուած էր Հիւսիսային Ամերիկայի Առաջնորդ Մեսրոպ Արքեպիսկոպոսով, Սմբատ Արքեպիսկոպոսով, Արշաիր Վարդապետով եւ զաղուփի Հովիւ՝ Արժ. Տ. Սահակ Քահանայ Վրթանէսեանով, որոնք հոգեհանգստան յատուկ արարողութիւն մը կատարեցին նախագահին դամբանին առջեւ եւ ուր Վեհափառը յետ արարողութեան ծաղկեպսակ զետեղեց: Այս արարողութեան ներկայ էին Ուաշինկթընաբնակ հարիւրաւոր հայորդիներ:

Իսկ ծաղկեպսակի զետեղումէն ետք Ս. Տաճարի Տեսուչ՝ Հայր Զարգ Պերի ներկայացաւ Վեհափառին եւ այլ պատասխանատուներ մը հետ Վեհափառը եւ իր շքախումբը պտտուցին Տաճարին զանազան խորանները եւ կողմերը, տալով իրենց բացատրութիւնները կապուած Եկեղեցւոյ արուեստին, ճարտարապետութեան եւ կառոյցին:

Ամէնէն հետաքրքրական եւ մեր սիրտերը լեցնող բաժինը եկեղեցւոյ հարաւային որմնախորշն էր, նախագահի դամբանէն քանի մը քայլ հեռու, ուր պատին վրայ քանդակուած էին Ս. Գրիգոր Լուսաւորչի փոքր արձանը եւ հայկական ճարտարապետութեան գողտրիկ նմոյշ՝ Ս. Հովիթիմի մանրաքանդակը:

His Holiness offered the following prayer for the opening of the Congressional Session on June 21, 1983.

Almighty and ever living God, Creator of the world, Father of all men and women, we render thanks to you for all the goodness that you have granted us with your grace and in your fatherly care; make us worthy of your bountiful mercy.

We beseech you, O Lord Almighty, to bless this land of America with all its people, its President, its Government, its Congress, its churches, its institutions, and all the public servants, so that they may continue to ever increasingly serve your glory and be instruments of goodness for the well being of your people in the United States of America and in the whole world.

We implore your grace upon our own Armenian people here in the United States of America and in the world at large so that they may faithfully serve your kingdom in following the example of their forefathers. Grant them your divine wisdom and courage to serve humanity in accordance with the highest ideals and values of their Christian heritage.

May the sun of justice and freedom shine forth upon them so that they may share in your kingdom as a nation in faithful obedience to your divine will.

We earnestly ask for your blessings upon our country of Lebanon so that peace and stability, concord and unity may reign for the happiness of all the people.

May your name be praised forever and ever.

**ՄԲ. ԽԱՉԻ ՏՕՆԻՆ ԱՌԹԻԻ
ԳԵՂԵՑԻԿ ՀԱՅԿԱԿԱՆ ԽԱՉ ՄԸ
ՆՈՒԻՐԵՑԷՔ ԶԵՐ ՍԻՐԵԼԻՆԵՐՈՒՆ**

Ստացած ենք գեղեցիկ հայկական ոսկեայ խաչեր, Հալէպի գործ, ՄԻՆԱՅՈՎ ԶԱՐԴԱՐՈՒՆ, 18 քարաթ, 2-3 կրամ:

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A Spiritual Leader Visits His Flock

Government

(Continued from page 1)



At Sts. Vartanantz Church, Ridgefield, N.J.



Placing a wreath at the Martyrs' Monument in Providence, R.I.

States—and it is something special and unique to us—is that no matter who you are you are allowed to cherish that tradition and still be a New Yorker, an American in the full sense of the word."

On June 10, the Governor of Massachusetts, Michael Dukakis hosted a luncheon in honor of His Holiness in the state capital building. Governor Dukakis praised the role Armenians have played in the advancement of Massachusetts. He expressed his deep happiness of being able to personally greet the Catholics.

During a one-day stay in Providence, Rhode Island, Karekin II met Senator Claiborne Pell, Representative Claudine Scheider, and former Senator John O. Pastore, as well as Vincent A. Ciani, Jr., mayor of Providence and Judges Jacob Hagopian, Haiganoush Bedrosian and John P. Garan.

In a visit to Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, on June 28 His Holiness met with Governor Richard Thornburgh. During his visit the Governor presented Vehapar the Cilician flag which had flown over Pennsylvania's capital building the morning of His Holiness' visit.

Similar visits took place in Chicago, Detroit, and in Canada. (See pages 8 and 9 for details on the Canadian trip).

Catholicos Karekin's itinerary also included encounters with the leaders of many sister Christian denominations. In addition to private meetings and receptions, His Holiness was invited to address the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Atlanta, Ga. and the General Synod of the United Church of Christ in Pittsburgh, Pa.

On June 3, Terrence Cardinal Cooke held a reception in his residence in honor of His Holiness. The Cardinal and the Catholics participated in a joint service in St. Patrick's Cathedral.

On Monday, June 6, His Holiness visited the Armenian Missionary Association headquarters in Paramus, New Jersey, where he was greeted by Dr. S. Bezirganian, chairman of the Board of Trustees, and Rev. G. Chopourian, executive director and other members of the Board and lay leaders. That same day, His Holiness visited St. Mark's Syrian Orthodox Cathedral in Hackensack, N.J. and the Syrian Archdiocese in Lodi, N.J. His Holiness was greeted by Archbishop Athanasius Samuel, primate of North America. A delegation from the Coptic Orthodox Clergy, led by Father Gabriel Sayid, also visited the Catholicos.

On June 7 the National Council of Churches, in honor of Vehapar's visit to New York, held a special Service at the Interchurch Center Chapel in New York. The service included a special prayer written by St. Nerses of Lampron, who is considered to be a forerunner of the ecumenical movement. The special prayer celebrates the oneness of the church and ends with, "When in Spain Christians pray, the prayer is also mine because I am, like they, a Christian. And when I pray in Cilicia, it is also their prayer, because they also believe as I do."

In Atlanta, Georgia, on June 9 His Holiness addressed the Presbyterian Church's General Assembly in World Congress Hall where the two Presbyterian Churches were having their first joint worship. (The Presbyterian Church was split during the American Civil War, and was just reunited at this Assembly). His Holiness was introduced by Rev. John F. Anderson, moderator of the Southern branch. His Holiness spoke about the meaningful turning point of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S. He also expressed his deep appreciation for the educational role that the Presbyterian Church played in the Middle East.

In Boston Vehapar met with Cardinal Medeiros; in Chicago with Cardinal Bernardin; in New York with Archbishop Iakovos, Greek Patriarch of North and South America. Special ecumenical services took place at St. Matthew's Cathedral in Washington, D.C. with Bishop James Hickey. In a joint service Bishop Hickey said, "We seek Christian unity so that in one concerted voice we can proclaim salvation—it is not for diplomatic or corporate strength, but a sign of obedience to one God."

On July 20 His Holiness left Toronto for Vancouver, British Columbia, where he attended the Sixth General Assembly of the World Council of Churches.



Capturing the Children's gleeful attention at (left) St. Illuminator's School, N.Y., and at the (right) Armenian School of New Jersey, New Milford, N.J.



Speaking to the residents of St. Sarkis Towers homes in Detroit.



"Smile for us, Vehapar." One youngster in New York photographs His Holiness as another prepares her camera.



Posing with some youngsters in Springfield, Mass.

Visiting Levon Tufankjian at the Old Age Home in Jamaica Plains, Mass.



PLEASE DO NOT FORGET YOUR ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION TO OUTREACH

and Church Leaders Greet and Honor Karekin II



Archbishop Iakovos, spiritual leader of Greek Orthodox Christians in the Americas, welcomes Karekin II to the Chapel of St. Paul at the headquarters of the Greek Archdiocese of North and South America in New York City. The two Patriarchs prayed together for Christian unity.



A Visit with Cardinal Joseph Bernardin, Roman Catholic Bishop of Chicago.



Pennsylvania's Governor Richard Thornburgh presents the Catholicosate's flag to His Holiness. The flag was flown over the capital that morning.



Archbishop Samuel of the Syrian Orthodox Church presents His Holiness with a Mother-of-Pearl Encolpion.



The Catholicos with Cardinal Dearden of Detroit.



His Holiness thanks Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis.



A Presentation to John Allin, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church in U.S.A.



In Providence, Rhode Island, Vehapar meets with U.S. Senator Claiborne Pell and U.S. Representative Claudine Schneider.

World Council of Churches' Mission in Vancouver: A Strong Voice

The Sixth Assembly of the World Council of Churches began its meeting on Sunday, July 24, at the Pacific Coliseum, with an ecumenical service in the morning and a public celebration in the afternoon, attended by 15,000 people.

Daily worship services took place in a large tent which had been set up on the campus of the University of British Columbia. The plenary sessions were held in a nearby gymnasium, and smaller groups met in other buildings on the campus.

Prelates from around the world were present, dressed in robes that ranged from the sumptuous cassocks of the Orthodox churches to the simple black and purple of other denominations, representing about 450 million Christians. The Assembly was composed of some 900 delegates, plus their staff and guests, delegated observers, fraternal delegates, the press, and daily visitors.

Of the 900 delegates, some 200 represented the Orthodox, Oriental Orthodox and Assyrian Churches. The Armenians were represented with delegations from the Holy Sees of Etchmiadzin and Cilicia.

His Holiness, Catholicos Karekin II, Vice-Moderator of the Executive Committee had a very visible and active role. Other delegates of the Cilician See were Archbishop Mesrob Ashjian, Prelate of the Eastern United States and Canada, Bishop Aram Keshishian, Prelate of Lebanon, Rev. Fr. Anoushavan Tanielian, Youth Delegate, and Ms. Arpi Hamalian, Professor at Concordia University. Other participants were Ms. T. Simonian from the Middle East Council of Churches and Ms. Meline Topakian.

During the first week, the Assembly received the reports of the Moderator and of the General Secretary, and was introduced to the theme of the Assembly, "Jesus Christ—The Life of the World," with the introduction of the sub-themes, "Life: A Gift of God," "Jesus Christ: The Life of the World," "Life: Confronting and Overcoming Death," and "Life in Unity." A moving testimony was given to the native people of Canada, and the recognition of their right to their land. Another high moment was the solemn erection of a Totem Pole, a gift from the native people of Canada to the W.C.C.

On Saturday evening, July 30, during the preparatory service for the two public worship services of the Assembly, His Holiness Karekin II delivered a sermon, "From Gethsemane to Mount Tabor," in French. (See page 13 for full text).

On Sunday, July 31, representatives of virtually every branch of world Christianity joined in a stirring service based on an unprecedented agreement on the basic elements of faith. Calling it a "unique occasion," Most Rev. Robert Runcie, the Arch-



WCC Sixth Assembly—Vancouver, Canada
Around the theme "Jesus Christ—the Life of the World" the World Council of Churches met in Assembly from July 24 to August 10, 1983, at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada. Among some 3,000 participants were over 900 official delegates from the 300 member churches in 100 countries of the world. They reviewed the work of the WCC since the Fifth Assembly which met in Nairobi, Kenya, in 1975, and set general guidelines for the Council's future work. His Holiness Karekin II served as Vice-Moderator of the Central Committee since his election at the Fifth Assembly in 1975 through the conclusion of the Sixth Assembly.

bishop of Canterbury, led the celebration in a tent packed with more than 3000 people from many countries, races, and cultures.

In mingled tongues, the international congregation sang and prayed. Roman Catholic bishops alternated with Protestant, Anglican, Russian Orthodox and Armenian Apostolic clergy and laity, both men and women, from the East and the West, in reading scriptures and leading the litanies. Archbishop Mesrob Ashjian led the congregation in reciting the Nicene Creed and the prayer of intercession.

The service, including the Eucharist, was part of the World Council of Churches Assembly. It was the first public use of the new, common Liturgy, The Feast of Life, prepared in Lima, Peru in January, 1982.

On Monday, August 1, the Assembly broke into eight Issue Groups, discussing everything from Christian Unity to Medical Work. The introduction was made in a dramatization of the issues confronting the Assembly.

A particularly memorable moment occurred during one of the group meetings attended by Dr. Helen Caldicott, a leader in the anti-nuclear weapons movement. Speaking about nuclear disarmament, Dr. Caldicott said it was important to eliminate the threat of world annihilation so our children could live to 92. A woman from India rose and said solemnly: "No one in my village lives to 92."

On Saturday, August 6, the Orthodox Church celebrated the Feast of Transfiguration. The same day elections were held for the seven presidents of the W.C.C. and the 105 members of the Central Committee. Bishop Aram Keshishian from the Cilician See was elected a member of the Central Committee as were Archbishop Shahe Ajemian and Bishop Nerses Bozabalian, representing the Holy See of Etchmiadzin.

On Sunday, August 7, His Holiness Karekin II celebrated a Pontifical Divine Liturgy at St. Helen's Anglican Church, assisted by Archbishop Mesrob Ashjian and Bishop Aram Keshishian. Representatives of sister Oriental Orthodox churches took part in the celebration of the Holy Eucharist and also partook in the Holy Communion. Participating in the liturgy were the Coptic Archbishop Athanasius of Beni-Suef, Bishop Mekarios and Bishop Dr. Garima of the Ethiopian Church, Archbishop Athanasius Yephrem of the Syrian Orthodox Church. These clergy sang parts of the Armenian Liturgy in the Syrian, Coptic and Amharic languages. Other guests represented the Secretariat for the Unity of the Christians from Rome, as well as the Danish Lutheran and Antiochian Orthodox Churches.



At opening ceremonies of the World Council of Churches' Sixth Assembly.



The Armenian and Syrian delegation at the Sixth Assembly of the WCC.

COME TO THE FAIR. A BOOK FAIR!

"It is chiefly through books that we enjoy intercourse with superior minds. . . In the best books, great men talk to us, give us their most precious thoughts, and pour their souls into ours. God be thanked for books. They are the voices of the distant and the dead, and make us heirs of the spiritual life of past ages. Books are true levelers. They give to all, who will faithfully use them, the society, the spiritual presence, of the best and greatest of our race."

William Ellery Channing

William Ellery Channing was a famous Professor of Law at Harvard University. The words quoted above are from a speech, "Self-Culture," which he delivered in Boston in 1838. His words have just as meaning today, one hundred forty-five years later.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE CULTURAL MONTH OF OCTOBER THE PRELACY TOGETHER WITH THE BOOK STORE MANAGEMENT AND THE LADIES' GUILD IS SPONSORING A BOOK FAIR. COME BROWSE AND BUY SOME OF THE MANY BOOKS THE PRELACY OFFERS. . . BOOKS WHICH YOU CANNOT BUY FROM BOOK STORES.

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Armenian Genocide Noted by WCC Assembly

During the Sixth Assembly of the World Council of Churches, while discussing problems related to Human Rights, specific references were made to the genocide committed by the Turkish authorities against the Armenian people.

Representatives of the Armenian Church from the Holy See of Etchmiadzin and the Holy See of Cilicia reminded the Assembly of the injustices perpetrated against the Armenian people and nation. Several clergy delegates spoke about genocide in general, and specifically about the Armenian Genocide.

Representatives of both Holy Sees requested that the Assembly release a special statement regarding the Armenian Genocide. In response to this request and to other discussions that took place during these sessions, the Reference Committee on Public Issues dealing with international questions of immediate importance presented the following draft to the Assembly on August 10, and was unanimously passed by the entire Assembly.

The draft approved by the General Assembly stated:

1. During this Assembly's discussion of violations of human rights our attention has been drawn to the historical reality and present threat to some peoples of genocide. Far too often these occurrences are passed over in silence. In certain current instances this is being used by groups to justify wholly unacceptable acts of violence.
2. In this context we have been reminded once again of the tragic massacre of one-and-a-half million Armenians in Turkey and the deportation of another half-million from this historic homeland at the beginning of this century. The silence of the world community and deliberate efforts to deny even historical facts have been consistent sources of anguish and growing despair to the Armenian people, the Armenian churches, and many others.
3. The Commission on the Churches on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches has raised this concern in the United Nations Commission on Human Rights with reference to the latter's study of the Question of Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide.
4. The assembly requests the General Secretary to provide information to the churches on this matter and to continue to pursue it in appropriate contexts. Public recognition of those events is essential in order that they not continue to engender violent acts of retribution, and that through remembering the history of the Armenian people, other peoples might be spared a similar fate.

Wonderful Memories That Will Linger for Years

From Gethsemane To Mt. Tabor

(Continued from page 13)

powerful and challenging words (Romans 6:10). For sharing in Christ's life is possible through sharing in His death for our salvation, by our own dying to our own sins.

We have to admit that this is not an easy thing to do, because "the flesh is weak" and often opens the door on our fall. As I indicated earlier, "the weakness of the flesh" is intertwined in the whole texture of our society on community, national and international levels.

One of the striking affirmations in our common understanding of the meaning of Eucharist, as formulated after so many years of common effort in the historic document or "Baptism, Eucharist and Ministry" is the following statement which should challenge us tonight on the eve of a Communion service:

"The eucharistic celebration demands reconciliation and sharing among all those regarded as brothers and sisters in the one family of God and is a constant challenge in the search for appropriate relationships in social, economic and political life. All kinds of injustice, racism, separation and lack of freedom are radically challenged when we share in the body and blood of Christ..."

The Eucharist shows us that our behavior is inconsistent in face of the reconciling presence of God in human history: we are placed under continual judgement by the persistence of unjust relationships of all kinds in our society, the manifold divisions on account of human pride, material interest and power politics and, above all, the obstinacy of unjustifiable confessional oppositions within the body of Christ."

Yes! The flesh in its weakness has become powerful in and around us. Today more than ever before we are called to overcome that powerful weakness by the power of our weakness for Christ as the Apostle taught us when he said: "I will all the more gladly boast of my weaknesses that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with my weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities; for when I am weak, then I am strong." (II Cor. 12:9-10).

As an Armenian Christian, I can understand this great truth made manifest in the martyrological history of my own people. We can stand firm and walk in the way to victory only when we can open ourselves in all our weaknesses, our emptiness, to the power of our Lord Jesus Christ, for He said to His Apostle: "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." (II Cor. 12:9).

How can we tonight and, indeed, every day, reduce in ourselves the demanding burdens of the flesh and make ourselves ready for receiving the power of the grace, the light and the fire of the Holy Spirit and thus make our spirit turned into a "willing spirit," powerful enough to render that will operative in our life, witness and service.

Here is the real heart of repentance: that moment, constantly repeatable, when we can feel the Spirit in us so overwhelmingly powerful that the "weakness of the flesh" may be subdued and overcome. And this can happen when our spirit is imbued by His Spirit. For we believe in what the Lord said to His prophet: "I will put my spirit in you and you will see to it that you follow my laws and keep all the commands I have given you" (Ezekiel, 36:27). Only in Him, with Him and through Him we can solve our human dilemma that stems out of the inner conflict between "the willingness of the spirit" and "the weakness of the flesh."

Tonight we are in Gethsemane. Tomorrow and on any time when we approach the Lord's table we have to be on Mount Tabor, transfigured in the light of the Lord and in obedience to the heavenly voice that says: "This is my Son, my Beloved, listen to Him."

A MINI LESSON
Gethsemane is a garden East of Jerusalem near the Mount of Olives. It was a favorite retreat for Christ and His disciples and it became the scene of the Agony, Judas' Betrayal and the Arrest. Mt. Tabor is an imposing mountain rising from the Plain of Jezreel to 588 miles above sea-level. The mountain has figured in events in both the Old and New Testaments. Since the 4th century, and perhaps earlier, tradition has held that Mt. Tabor was the scene of the Transfiguration.



Chatting with Senator Robert Dole in Washington, D.C.



At worship service in Chicago at meeting of the General Board of the Christian Church. At left is Dr. Kenneth L. Teegarden, and right Dr. Howard E. Dentler.



Ms. Julie Tashjian, Secretary of State of Connecticut addressing banquet honoring His Holiness.



Youth Festival at Camp Haiastan, Franklin, Mass.



Reception at Notre Dame of Narek Church, Montreal.



With Armenian Community, Atlanta, Georgia.



M. Drapeau, Mayor of City of Montreal receiving His Holiness.



Meeting with the youth, Montreal, Canada.



Doves of peace in Toronto, Canada.



With Governor James Blanchard of Michigan.



Lebanese Ambassador and Mrs. B. Habib receive H.H.



Posing with the Vice Prime Minister of Quebec.



Honoring Sarkis Teshoian in Worcester.



Honoring Naz Emlikian in Philadelphia.

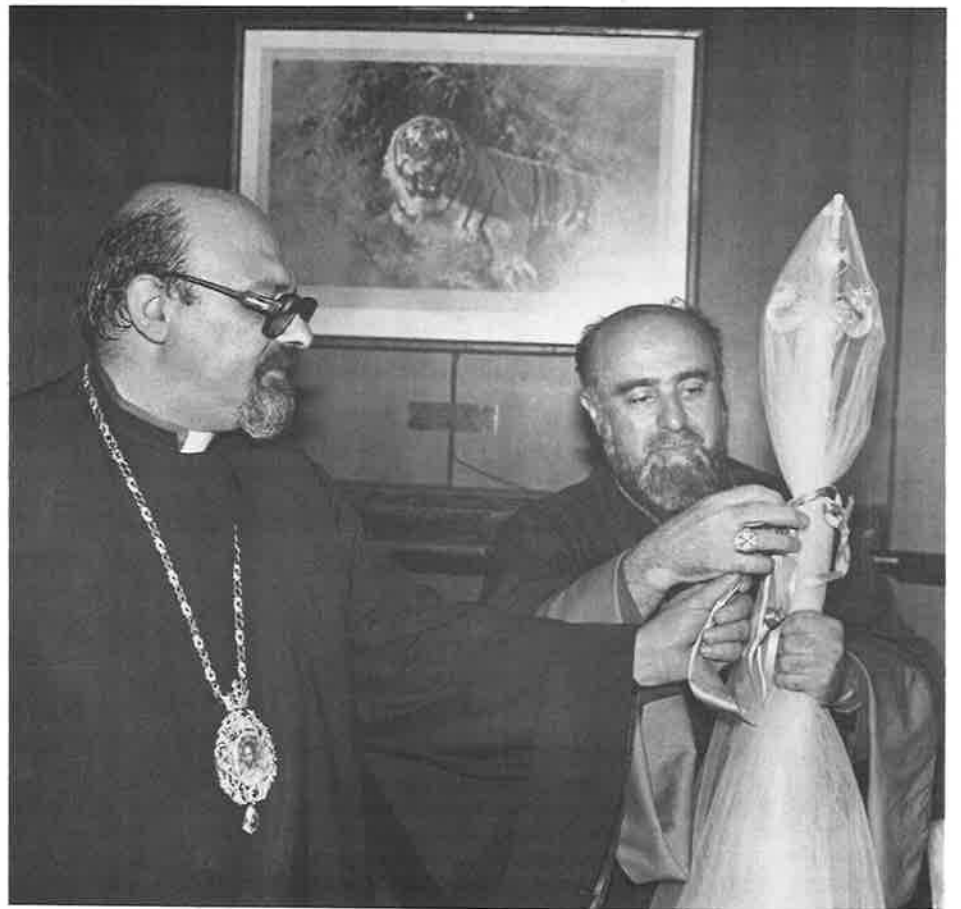


Honoring Albert Babayan in Watertown.

A Fond Farewell to an Extraordinary Leader and Faithful Friend



Catholicos Karekin II greets Archbishop Tiran Nersoyan, former Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church, at a farewell reception which took place at the Princeton Club, New York City, on Wednesday evening August 17. An overflow crowd, with representation from Armenian communities on the east coast, mid-west and Canada, came to say bon voyage to Vehapar. Mr. Sarkis Teshoian, chairman of the National Steering Committee thanked everyone for their presence and noted that the pontifical visit had revitalized the Armenian community throughout the United States and Canada. Mr. Teshoian told the assembled group that he always knew that Vehapar was blessed with special power, and "this was confirmed when I heard yesterday that Beirut International Airport had re-opened on the eve of Vehapar's departure after being closed for several weeks." Archbishop Mesrob Ashjian said special words of farewell on behalf of the entire community, and extended his gratitude to everyone who worked diligently to make the visit a success. Touched by the outpouring of love, His Holiness spoke to the gathering stressing the importance of creating a more dynamic life through participation. He emphasized that personal involvement was imperative for the successful accomplishment of goals. "Don't stay on the sidelines and criticize," he admonished, "come in and work, enhance and strive for change where change is needed." His Holiness briefly touched upon the highlights of his 80-day visit. He urged everyone to think positively and always in terms of the oneness of the Armenian people and the Armenian church. He concluded with special thanks to Archbishop Nersoyan who "has been a special source of education and inspiration to me since my youth, and I can say he continues to be a great source of inspiration for me."



During the farewell reception His Holiness was presented with a gift from the community—a pontifical staff which would be used on ceremonial occasions. The original work was crafted by Varoujan Tabakian of Toronto and is made of gold, silver and precious stones. His Holiness accepted the gift with gratitude and said it would represent a link of love that will bind him to the Armenian community in the United States and Canada.



Originally planning to leave New York on Thursday evening, His Holiness delayed his departure until Saturday evening, August 20. On the evening of his departure the Prelacy hosted a buffet dinner for a small group. Following dinner a reception took place at St. Illuminator's Cathedral and just prior to departure to the airport special services took place in the Cathedral. In addressing the group His Holiness again reiterated the importance of participating in the life of the church. The melancholic mood of the gathering was in marked contrast to the jubilant welcome that greeted the Pontiff in the same Cathedral some eighty days earlier upon his arrival to the United States. As the entourage departed for JFK Airport the crowd dispersed. A small group comprised of family members, representatives of the National Steering Committee, and friends escorted His Holiness to the airport, where he was greeted by Mr. Hrair Moscofian, chief steward of Middle East Airlines (left in photo below) and Mr. S. Nighoghosian, (right), security officer at Kennedy airport. A room had been reserved in the American Airlines terminal for Vehapar until he was escorted to the plane. Family and friends waited until the plane's departure, although Vehapar could be seen inside the plane motioning everyone to "go home, don't wait." But wait they did until the twinkling outline of the jumbo jet faded into the dark night.



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	Տոլար
1. Արփիար Արփիարեան, Ամբողջական Երկեր, Լաթակազ, Երուսաղեմ, 1972, 255 էջ:	6.00
2. Նուպար Ակիչեան, Շահան Շահնուր Կեանքն Ու Գործը, Լոս Անճելես, 1982, 151 էջ:	5.00
3. Գուրգեն Նազարեան, Ապոլիլ Համիտ Բ. Պէյրուս, 1980, 871 էջ:	35.00
4. Միքայէլ Կիրճեան, Քսան Տարի Ետէ, Պէյրուս, 1961, 100 էջ:	3.00
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