

LES MASSACRES ARMÉNIENS DE 1919

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Le génocide arménien (1894-1922) a été marqué par trois périodes essentielles : celle des Hamidiens, des Jeunes Turcs et des Kémalistes. De nombreux travaux scientifiques ont été consacrés à cet événement tragique et publiés dans différentes langues, notamment européennes. La plupart de ces travaux se concentrent sur les massacres de 1915 orchestrés par les dirigeants des Jeunes Turcs. Il en va de même pour l'historiographie arménienne, dont les auteurs ont principalement rédigé leurs travaux en arménien, en russe, et en anglais.

Après l'éviction des Jeunes Turcs à la fin de 1918, leurs successeurs ont poursuivi leur politique anti-arménienne dans l'Empire ottoman. Bien entendu, il restait peu d'Arméniens dans ce pays, car la plupart avaient été exterminés par les Turcs, tandis qu'une petite partie avait été exilée de l'Arménie occidentale.

En vérité, peu d'écrits portent sur la dernière période du génocide arménien (1918-1922). Certains historiens ont parfois publié, même en Arménie, des études scientifiques, comprenant des recueils de documents, non seulement en arménien, mais aussi dans d'autres langues étrangères, sur les massacres d'Arméniens survenus en Turquie sous la direction de Mustafa Kemal Atatürk. Les Turcs ont continué à exterminer les Arméniens même en 1919, et leur politique anti-arménienne de cette période a été peu étudiée. Ainsi, dans ce contexte, je présente pour la première fois quelques documents publiés en anglais et en français dans des journaux européens (anglais, français, suisses, allemands) et américains sur les massacres d'Arméniens qui ont eu lieu en 1919, non seulement dans l'Empire ottoman, mais aussi dans d'autres villes orientales (Le Caire, Alep, etc.).

Final Turkish Efforts Against Armenians

The Press Association says that information obtaining in authoritative circles in London indicates that the Turkish spoliation of Armenian territory and cruel treatment of its inhabitants continues. Great quantities of railway and building material, household goods, foodstuffs, and cotton are being taken by Turkish troops from Alexandropol for dispatch apparently to Kars and thence into Turkey. Immense quantities of cotton and grain are awaiting entrainment between Alexandropol and Erevan.

According to their officers the Turks are making one final effort against the Armenians, and from this part of Armenia seven million poods of wheat, two hundred

thousand poods of cotton household goods, vast numbers of the population, and every kind of transport are being taken. Whenever it is found impossible to transport the wheat the Turks leave it to decay, anyone attempting to remove it being threatened with death.

Among recent outrages numerous children of from three to twelve years of age have been violated. Many Armenians have been found exhausted after violent flogging, and near Kara Kilissa the remains of more than sixty women and children have been discovered. The most fiendish horrors have been perpetrated on the unfortunate population by the Turkish soldiery.

Manchester Guardian (Manchester), 3. I. 1919

Comment les Turcs traitent les Arméniens

On annonce de source autorisée qu'au mépris des conditions d'armistice, les armées turques évacuant les territoires envahis du Caucase continuent à exercer contre la population arménienne les sévices les plus graves, et qu'en fait les Turcs eux-mêmes ont ouvertement déclaré qu'ils avaient l'intention de porter aux Arméniens un coup mortel et de donner son couronnement à la politique turque d'extermination de leur race.

Un témoin oculaire dit que, tout récemment les Turcs ont exercé de cruels sévices contre les Arméniens âgés de moins de douze ans et qu'il n'est pas rare de trouver des Arméniens qui ont été battus jusqu'à ce qu'ils ne puissent plus se tenir debout. Ce témoin trouve sur un point les cadavres du plus de soixante femmes et enfants et vit les troupes turques infliger aux Arméniens les plus abominables tortures.

Les Turcs veulent que les Arméniens qui leur ont échappé périssent de faim et succombent à la fatigue et aux intempéries. Pour réaliser ce dessein, l'armée turque s'efface d'emporter tout le blé, tous les vêtements, meubles, vaisselle, détruisant toutes les habitations, chassant des milliers de gens de leur pays. Les Turcs laissent pourrir sous la pluie les grains qu'ils ne peuvent pas emporter, faute de moyens de transport et interdisent sous peine de mort aux Arméniens affamés d'y toucher.

Journal de Genève (Genève), 6. I. 1919

The Return of the Armenians

(From our special correspondent)

Constantinople, Jan[uary] 10.

News from Turkish Armenia in regard to the repatriation of the deported population is scanty, and not reassuring. We have no definite information of the state of things at Erzerum, Bitlis and Van, but in Cilicia conditions are bad.

The Ottoman Government has issued a decree of repatriation. This amounts to permission to the Armenians to return to their homes. Many of them find their property occupied. Before, and even some time after, the armistice, a Commission was appointed by the Ministry of the Interior providing for the settlement of Mohammedans from Thrace and Macedonia on the land of the expatriated Armenians. These Muslim emigrants will presumably be evicted, but the authority of the Central Government is a dead letter in the provinces. The local officials are

obstructive, and the process will not be easy until we have troops on the spot. Sometime must pass before there is any security for Armenians in the outlying districts.

In the neighborhood of Yalova the other day repatriated Armenians found the Turks in possession. They had hurried to their homes in the hope of being in time to get in their olives, but the Turks refused to quit until they had gathered the harvest. In some cases the Armenians who have found temporary shelter are evicted under the pretense that orders have been issued that they must return to their own districts. Another grievance is that the decree of the Government, by which owners returning to their properties can obtain restitution, does not provide for the inheritance of the relatives in cases where the owner is dead.

Sivas, which is so tragically associated with the exodus of 1915, is now a center of concentration. Some 10.000 refugees have arrived here, and some 5.000 at Karpuz and Kaisarieh, nearly all women, girls, and children, the male population being practically exterminated. A certain number of survivors have come from the notorious camp at Deir-el-Zor. They owe their escape to the profession of Islam, or to the asylum given to them by neighboring Arab tribes. Refugees from Mosul, returning to the northern districts, complain that they are not allowed to go by road by Aleppo and Adana, which are in British occupation, but are forced to follow the mountain tracks over snow. According to all accounts the condition of the returning "deportees" is deplorable. Few have any transport, and they are making the long journeys on foot from the Mesopotamian deserts to the snow-bound districts in the north, barefooted, half clad, hungry, sick, and exhausted with malnutrition.

Times (London), 16. I. 1919

Christian Children in Captivity. The Armenian Problem

(From our special correspondent)

Constantinople, Jan[uary] 20.

The Turkish chief of police in Constantinople has issued in all the papers a notice calling on Turks to hand over to the police within one week all Armenian and Greek children who are detained in Turkish houses, whether that are supposed to have been converted to Islam or not. It may be recalled that the article IV of the armistice all Christians deported by Turks had to be repatriated. Reouf Bey, the Minister of Marine, and Fethi Bey, the Minister of the Interior, declared that it was quite unnecessary to insert such a clause as all Christians had already been given up. As a matter of fact, the Turks attempted in no way to do anything either to restore the children shut up in harems or to enable the deported to return home: that is to say, those who are still alive.

In regard to the children, it is very difficult to recognize them, especially Armenian children, as their features are not developed and their accent is still immature. It was necessary for the British commission appointed by the high commissioner to threaten military force to secure admission to the Kiathane orphanage, where 1070 orphans from three to fifteen years of age are maintained. The Kiathane orphanage

was a Palace of the sultan, which, with four others, was handed over to the Ministry for Orphanages. It was necessary, in order to overcome opposition, to have all the children paraded in the garden and there inspected, after which the whole building was searched. At the Acramhdja orphanage for 500 children between the ages of twelve to seventeen, the director declared that there were no Armenians, and in the same way an entry was effected.

A Difficult Task

The difficulties of the work are enormous for the children are stolen from their homes at such a tender age that as a rule they have but the faintest recollection of those homes or of their parents. They are accustomed to be called by Turkish names and to speak the Turkish language. A Red Cross sister with the commission recognized two of her own sisters sitting at the table. At first these children were afraid, and refused to acknowledge that they were Armenians till their sister came over and kissed them. In the register false Turkish names were given to the parents. In the Haidar Pasha orphanage hospital six Armenians were found. These, when questioned, gave Turkish names to themselves and also Turkish names as those of their fathers and mothers. They were too young to remember their father's names. Here the authorities refused to give up the children's clothing, thus showing that they are quite unashamed and determined not to make the slightest reparation.

At a private house which was visited we found one case which illustrates the enormous difficulties encountered. A Turk had killed the parents of an Armenian girl who were well off, and then handed the girl over to his son, who after having forcibly converted her to Islam, married her, and thus obtained the wealth that was rightly hers. The girl, when asked if she would leave, could not make up her mind. She is expecting to become a mother. If she leaves she knows she has a child to support, and that her own people will not take her in, so that she will be a waif for life. Some scheme on a large scale should be immediately put in operation for the benefit of girls similarly situated, for the Turk, as we well know, will only keep these girls as long as the bloom of youth is on them. There must be hundreds, if not thousands, of cases such as the one cited above. In and around Constantinople there are hundreds of orphans being hidden right here under the eyes of the allies.

Help Needed

Every day a few Greeks or Armenians are found. It is true that they are not actually ill-treated, for an inspection of the orphanages shows that they are maintained in an excellent manner. These orphanages in fact are rather like an ostrich or live-stock farm, where birds or beasts are carefully looked after in order to produce good feathers or solid flesh. Much could be done to educate these girls, for all Armenians are extremely clever with their hands. They make cloth, silk, fine carpets, and tapestry. Money is required not only to maintain and educate them, but to carry out a vast scheme for the repatriation of starving Armenians and Greeks. The British government should grant a loan to the new Armenian nation of a least five million pounds for this immediate purpose. Work could be carried out by the Armenians

under British supervision. At all events if something is not done the Armenian nation here will cease to exist.

Morning Post (London), 24. I. 1919

Arméniens massacrés à Adana et à Alep

On mande de Salonique :

Des troubles assez graves viennent de se produire en Cilicie. Ils ont pris la forme d'une campagne d'excitation anti-arménienne, appuyée par les éléments arabes, qui a abouti à des attentats individuels et à des pillages.

À Adana, la situation était devenue assez critique. Les Arméniens ont dû fermer leurs magasins. Plusieurs ont été tués. Un crieur public, dans la cour du *konak*, avait été jusqu'à inciter au massacre des Arméniens. Des mesures d'ordre ont été prises par le commandant anglais. On a arrêté le lieutenant Ahachim bey, chef de la gendarmerie turque ; il avait préparé la mobilisation de deux classes et l'armement des prisonniers de droit commun. Le mouvement paraît arrêté à Adana, mais on craint de nouveaux incidents. La Légion arménienne, qui est encadrée par des Français, ne participe plus aux patrouilles.

D'autre part, à Alep, à la fin du mois dernier, où la presse arabe, encouragée peut-être par les autorités locales de Damas, s'était montrée particulièrement violente, l'orphelinat arménien a été attaqué et pillé ainsi qu'un nombre d'immeubles. Le nombre des victimes de ces troubles serait de plus de 130, dont une cinquantaine de morts. Le gouvernement arabe aurait fait arrêter plusieurs Arméniens. Depuis lors, l'ordre a été rétabli par les troupes anglaises, mais l'inquiétude demeure très vive dans la colonie arménienne.

Temps (Paris), 12. III. 1919

Les vœux des chrétiens de Turquie

Paris, 12 mars.

Le patriarcat œcuménique et le patriarcat arménien de Constantinople ont adressé à M. Venizélos, en date du 11-24 février, un mémoire, qui a été transmis à la conférence de la paix. En voici les passages essentiels :

Nous demandons à ne plus vivre sous le gouvernement turc, et déclarons que jamais nous ne nous y soumettrons, sous quelque contrôle qu'il puisse se placer. Nous demandons qu'on nous réintègre dans nos domaines historiques. Si toutes les populations grecques et arméniennes ne peuvent pas être comprises dans les limites de nos États respectifs, nous proclamons que notre désir le plus ardent est que ces populations vivent sous le gouvernement grec ou le gouvernement arménien suivant les nécessités.

Nous réclamons une grande Arménie, ayant une voie libre et large sur la mer Noire et la Méditerranée, et nous, Grecs, déclarons que nous serons heureux de voir la Cilicie être intégralement incorporée aux six autres *vilayets* et pouvoir se développer librement.

Nous réclamons le retour à la Grèce de tout ce qui lui fut ravi par la force et qui lui revient de droit ; et nous, Arméniens, déclarons que notre désir est que la Thrace, Constantinople et les *vilayets* d'Aidin et de Brousse, ainsi que les *sandjaks* d'Ismid (Nicomédie) et de Bigha soient intégralement incorporés à la Grèce. Ainsi nos deux pays ayant réalisé leur unité deviendront les deux inacteurs les plus puissants de paix, de progrès et de civilisation en Orient. C'est un des plus beaux actes de justice et de réparation dont nous demandons l'accomplissement avec la conviction de servir ainsi non seulement les intérêts de nos nations respectives, mais en même temps les intérêts de l'humanité.

Journal de Genève, 13. III. 1919

[La lettre de Boghos Nubar]

Nous recevons la lettre suivante :

Monsieur le directeur,

Le Temps du 12 du courant a publié en Dernières nouvelles une information au sujet des nouveaux massacres qui se sont produits d'une part en Cilicie et d'autre part à Alep. Nous avons malheureusement reçu des renseignements directs qui confirment et aggravent les nouvelles que vous avez été le premier à faire connaître.

Non seulement Alep a été le théâtre de massacres dont les Arméniens ont été des victimes, malgré l'intervention rapide des autorités, mais de nombreuses femmes arméniennes continuent à être séquestrées dans les harems, contre leur gré ; et il y a là une situation de nature à provoquer d'inévitables conflits.

Quant aux événements de Cilicie, ils s'expliquent par l'attitude même des autorités turques qui, continuant à administrer le pays, ont eu soin de laisser entre les mains des soldats démobilisés des fusils, des munitions et même des mitrailleuses.

Le mouvement provoqué par eux a pour but d'entretenir une effervescence et d'entraver la libération de ces contrées du joug ottoman.

La seule façon d'empêcher le renouvellement des massacres, qu'il emporte d'éviter à tout prix, et de procéder au plus tôt à l'occupation de l'Arménie par les troupes des puissances alliées et associées. D'ailleurs, ce sera l'application pure et simple des clauses de l'armistice. Veuillez, etc.

Le président. – Boghos Nubar

Temps, 14. III. 1919

Menaces turques contre les Arméniens

On mande de Salonique à l'agence des Balkans :

Selon des informations de Konia les autorités civiles et religieuses turques se livrent dans ce *vilayet* à une propagande intense parmi les populations musulmanes dans le but d'empêcher l'achat des biens et immeubles mis en vente par les Arméniens qui désirent abandonner la province.

Les prédicateurs conseillent à leurs fidèles, du haut de la chaire des mosquées, de ne pas acheter aux Arméniens les maisons, les vignes ou les meubles, car, disent-ils, « ils vont abandonner gratis tout cela ».

En outre, selon les mêmes informations, les habitants arméniens sont l'objet de la part des Turcs des pires menaces de représailles.

Temps, 16. III. 1919

Turkish Massacres in Cilicia

Authoritative information recently received in London, says Reuter's Agency, describes terrible anti-Armenian atrocities in Cilicia. Der Vardan, an Armenian priest, of Dervank (a village in Caesarea), who has just returned from exile after three year's imprisonment, tells a harrowing narrative of the sufferings of the Armenian population in that district. "The whole population of our village", he reports, "were murdered in the valleys, being knocked on the head with axes. Most of the women drowned in the river, while some of the young girls were dragged to the harems. Out of the 570 inhabitants of the village there are now left alive only 25, who escaped to the mountains and sustained themselves by eating grass".

Morning Post, 27. III. 1919

Nouveaux massacres d'Arméniens

L'agence d'Athènes communique :

On mande de Constantinople que les rapports provenant des patriarchats œcuméniques et arméniens continuent à présenter la situation intérieure du pays sous des couleurs très sombres. Des bandes turques, formées le plus souvent par les autorités turques, circulent librement dans le pays, terrorisant les chrétiens.

Selon des informations d'Alep, de nouveaux massacres d'Arméniens ont eu lieu, provoqués par des gendarmes musulmans qui ont fait irruption sur le marché arménien. On compte 48 Arméniens tués, 111 grièvement blessés, 150 légèrement et 50 disparus. Les autorités turques tâchent par toutes les pressions d'arracher aux habitants grecs des certificats attestant que les chrétiens n'ont point de sujet de plaintes contre les Turcs. Dans toute la région de Brousse (Asie Mineure), les autorités turques contraignent par la menace les Grecs irrédimés de signer des documents portant qu'ils préfèrent l'administration turque à l'administration grecque.

Journal de Genève, 31. III. 1919

Des Arméniens massacrées, des soldats anglais assassinés

Londres, 13 avril. – On mande du Caire :

Des émeutes d'un caractère sérieux ont éclaté au Caire au cours des trois derniers jours. La populace a attaqué principalement les Arméniens dont 38 ont été tués et une centaine blessées.

Les Arméniens maintenant, sont sous la protection de la troupe.

À la suite de collisions entre la troupe et la populace, il y eu de nombreux tués et blessés parmi les émeutiers. Cinq soldats britanniques ont été assassinés.

La populace a attaqué la troupe à Alexandrie. Les soldats ont fait feu tuant 17 émeutiers et en blessant un grand nombre.

L'ordre a été finalement rétabli.

Victoire (Paris), 14. IV. 1919

Attacks on non-Muslims

(From our own correspondent)

Constantinople, April 12.

... Meanwhile there are some grounds for supposing that the Government might spare a little attention from party warfare to the provinces, where there is considerable effervescence. Several Armenians are reported to have been killed near Bilejik, while a village in the Ismid peninsula, about 30 miles from Constantinople, was attacked and partly burnt by a band of Turkish and Albanian brigands three days ago.

Times, 15. IV. 1919

Egyptians Organized Outbreak

(From our own correspondent)

Cairo, April 13.

In reference to the incidents where Armenians and subsequently Greeks have been killed and wounded, there is now every reason to believe that this attacks were organized and premeditated. The information available shows that the extremists were prepared with detailed street lists of members of the Armenian colony, and where attacks were made on domiciles it was by virtue of this lists.

Times, 16. IV. 1919

Turkey Overrun by Brigand Bands

London, April 17.

It is learned here that the situation in Turkey is causing grave anxiety. Internal disorder is rife, according to reports from Rear Admiral Webb, R.N., at Constantinople. It is feared there will shortly be outbreaks and massacres of the Armenian population on a large scale.

The situation at Smyrna, where the Turks and Greeks are ready to spring at each other's throats is typical of the situation throughout Turkey. Bands of brigands are dominating the country, even within a few miles of Constantinople, and committing atrocious murders.

The Committee of Union and Progress, the Young Turk organization, which was driven from power in Constantinople as a result of the allied victory, is reported to be secretly conducting an energetic reorganizing movement.

World (New York), 18. IV. 1919

Danger of Wholesale Massacres

The situation in Turkey is giving rise to considerable anxiety. Admiral Webb reports from Constantinople that insecurity and disorder in the interior of Turkey are rife. Bands of brigands, even within a few miles of Constantinople, are dominating the country, committing the most atrocious murders, robbing peaceable travelers, cutting off their ears and committing similar outrages. Feeling is also running high between the Turks and Armenians, and serious trouble is feared in the near future.

Times, 19. IV. 1919

Slaughter of Armenians

John H. Finlay, Palestine Commissioner for the Red Cross, who has just returned from a trip to the Near East, describing the conditions, says: –

From the one town 30.000 Armenians were driven into the desert to die, and now, so far as we can learn, there are only 4000 or 5000 left alive. If this proportion holds true throughout, then nearly 650.000 men, women, and children perished in the desert. Throughout Asia Minor, beyond points to which British and French troops advanced, the Armenians are still being persecuted by the Turks. I know one case where 100 Armenians were slaughtered, and at another place 40 were shot down, all since the armistice was signed. – United States Wireless.

Manchester Guardian, 23. IV. 1919

Armenian Slain Since Armistice

Sporadic massacres of Armenians have taken place since the armistice was signed, and British and French troops have been stationed in hitherto Turkish territory to protect Armenian refugees against their oppressors.

This is what John H. Finly, head of the Red Cross Palestine Commission, who recently returned to this country after a second visit to Palestine, told reporters in an interview at the Century Club yesterday.

The instigators of the massacres were Turks, Dr. Finly said, and these, with the aid of Arabs, swooped down suddenly on an Armenian colony and killed all those they could lay hands upon.

“In one case I know of personally, seventy-five were killed and more than 100 wounded”, he said.

“Of course, stern measures were taken by the British to suppress these disorders, and I understand that the guilty have been punished. But the suffering of the Armenians is something that cannot be described in words.

In the city of Aintab there were 0,000¹ Armenian before the war. Thirty thousand were deported, and I know that there are only 5.000 of the total alive. Not only were the Armenians subject to all sort of personal suffering, but their homes were destroyed. The cities I passed through were masses of ruins”.

Lawrence World, 25. IV. 1919

La situation en Anatolie

La situation dans les provinces continue à être déplorable. À Nevhir et Malakop les autorités ont cessé de fournir la ration de pain et de céréales aux chrétiens, menacés ainsi de mourir de faim. À Souverme, du *vilayet* de Koniah, des bandes turques pillent en plein jour les maisons et les magasins des chrétiens. Les plaintes de ces derniers ne sont jamais écoutées et les Turcs deviennent de jour en jour plus

¹ C'est dans le texte.

menaçants. À Abadazar, sur 20.000 Arméniens déportés pendant la guerre, seulement 4.000 sont rentrés dans leurs foyers.

Les Turcs eux-mêmes sont contraints aux aveux les plus pénibles : le commandant de la gendarmerie qui revient d'une tournée d'inspection de Smyrne, a déclaré au rédacteur du *Tasvire Efki* que le district d'Odemich est un grand nid de brigandage. Le commandant ajoute que la population n'a aucune confiance dans les mesures prises par les autorités qui font preuve d'une grande tolérance vis-à-vis des brigands.

Temps, 14. V. 1919

Peopling Armenia with Turks

Reuter's agency learns that a telegram from Erivan, from the Armenian Minister for Foreign Affairs, states that 200.000 Turkish emigrants from the provinces of Roumelia have been sent into Armenia and another half-million are about to be dispatched there. It is added that by this means the Turkish government, taking advantage of the period of transition, is endeavoring to populate the Armenian provinces with Turks in order to prevent the foundation of the Armenian State. – Reuter.

Westminster Gazette (London), 28. VI. 1919

Nouveaux massacres d'Arméniens

Salonique, 8 novembre.

Les bandes turques qui opèrent en Cilicie continuent leur œuvre de dévastation sur une plus grande échelle.

On mande d'Adana que des bandes viennent de faire leur apparition dans les environs de Tarsus. De nombreux Arméniens ont été massacrés dans différents villages, le nombre des blessés est inconnu mais paraît être très élevé. Soixante-cinq cadavres ont été déjà transportés à Adana et les meurtres continuent dans toute la Cilicie.

Ces événements ont très péniblement impressionné les Arméniens étant donné surtout que la Cilicie est une des rares régions arméniennes se trouvant sous l'occupation des forces alliées et que 200.000 Arméniens s'y trouvent réfugiés sous le sauvegarde et la protection des puissances de l'Entente.

Les autorités militaires françaises de Cilicie prennent des mesures énergiques pour combattre les bandes turques.

Le colonel Normand est allé à Sheik-Mourad pour enquêter sur les lieux.

Victoire, 10. XI. 1919

Turk Brigands are Active Armenians Appeal to French to Curb Latest Outrages

Washington, Nov[ember] 23.

Fresh outbreaks by Turkish brigands against the Armenian population in Cilicia and elsewhere in Asia Minor were reported in advices today to Miran Sevasly, representative of the Armenian National Delegation. Until recently cases of murder

and vandalism were isolated, the report said, and the latest outrages were declared to be more vicious than those heretofore.

The brigands, heavily armed and aided by the Young Turk organization, according to Sevasly's information, plundered six villages in one day, drove away all oxen and killed many Armenians. They went to other places, killing and robbing. The bodies of some of the victims were taken to Adana and exposed in the public places, to the amazement of the French authorities, it was said.

The Armenian authorities appealed to col[onel] Bremond, the French administrator of Cilicia, to take steps to apprehend the bandits and protect the lives and property of Armenians.

World, 24. XI. 1919

Armenia's Orphans

The Central Armenian Committee at Berne has received an American mission report from Armenia, stating that the total number of Armenian orphans of both sexes amounts to 160.000, of whom 60.000 have been saved by the Americans and English. There are still 40.000 children at Ourfa and in the vicinity, however, the girls being in Turkish harems, in a state of slavery. There are often six to nine children in one house. In several cases the Turks are glad to be rid of the children, as they are unable to feed them. Georgia is helping by transporting american food from ships at Batum to the interior.

European Press (Berlin), 28. XI. 1919

Menace of Famine

(From our own correspondent)

Constantinople, Nov[ember] 13.

Many deported Armenians, not perhaps always wisely, returned to their homes after the conclusion of the Armistice between Turkey and the Allies, and began to make what preparations they could for the spring sowings.

But by April turkish bands styled brigands, but sometimes, it seems, working under the direction of the provincial notables of the Unionist persuasion, began to show themselves in Inner Anatolia. They included a certain number of persons who had been implicated in the Armenian massacres, and their activity, if not specially directed against the Christians, very naturally alarmed the latter. Then came the Greek occupation of Smyrna and its sequel-band warfare, with all its hideous accompaniments in the Smyrna hinterland.

The nationalist movement, which already existed in embryo, promptly developed and aroused justifiable alarm among the Christian communities, Armenians of Anatolia and Kurdistan, Christian Lazes and Greeks of Pontus and "Karamanli" (Turkish-speaking Greeks), of Inner Asia Minor. As the movement spread many Armenians and Greeks left their property and came down to the coast, where they feel more secure; others are expected. The journey has been fatal to some. In August a brigand chief, who is since reported to have joined Mustafa Kemal's forces, murdered an

Armenian dentist who had been active in releasing women and children from Turkish harems at Amasia, and seven or eight women and children who were travelling with him. Other parties, including women and children, were killed near Yozgad. The perpetrators of these crimes remain untouched.

Times, 2. XII. 1919

Allies and Armenia

Paris, Wednesday (received to-day).

The Armenian Information Bureau in Paris states that colonel Rhea, representing colonel Haskell, allied commissioner in Armenia has addressed the following letter to the officer in command of the Nakitchevan division and the Mohammedan national council.

“As representative of the High Commissioner of the allied powers, I have the honor to inform you that, for the preservation of peace in this regions of Nakitchevan and Charour, the governments of Azerbaijan and Armenia have agreed to leave those regions provisionally under the administration of the allies, conducted by an American governor. Colonel Edmond L. Delon, engineer of the United States army, has been appointed governor, and has taken up his post”.

The Bureau also states that bands continue to pillage the villages around Samsun and Trebizond, while laze pirates are successfully carrying on their operations along the Black sea coast. As a result of this state of affairs the small number of Armenians still surviving in these regions have begun to migrate from them. In spite of assurances they do not care to expose themselves to the sufferings endured by their compatriots in 1915, preferring privation and misery to massacre. Most of the refugees are proceeding to the Caucasus, where they have relatives, but so great are their numbers that it will be extremely difficult for them all to secure support through the winter.

In Asia Minor generally the position of the Armenians is rendered more difficult, as they are now not only not allowed to go to Constantinople or into Cilicia, but even to move from any one province to another. The reason for this prohibition is not known, but it certainly recalls the hamidian regime and the unionist regime under which the Armenians were similarly condemned to immobility. Many, who had sold up everything with a view to migrating, now find themselves in a most critical position.

– Reuter.

Westminster Gazette, 18. XII. 1919

1919Ի ՀԱՅԿԱԿԱՆ ԿՈՏՈՐԱԾՆԵՐԸ
(ԱՄՓՈՓՈՒՄ)

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Հրապարակումը նուիրում է 1919ին Օսմանեան կայսրութեան տարածքում տեղի ունեցած հայկական կոտորածներին: Թէեւ Հայոց Յեղասպանութեան պատմութեան (1894-1922) երեք՝ համիդեան, երիտթուրքական եւ քեմալական փուլերին, նուիրում են մեծաթիւ բազմալեզու ուսումնասիրութիւններ, այդուհանդերձ, դրանց մեծ մասն առնչում է 1915ի Մեծ Եղեռնին: 1918ին Օսմանեան կայսրութիւնում երիտթուրքերին յաջորդած քաղաքական ուժերը շարունակել են իրականացնել իրենց նախորդների հակահայ քաղաքականութիւնը: Պատմաբանները Հայոց Յեղասպանութեան այս փուլին նուիրում շատ անլի փոքրաթիւ ուսումնասիրութիւններ եւ փաստաթղթերի ժողովածուներ են տպագրել տարբեր լեզուներով: Տողերիս հեղինակը հրատարակում է եւրոպական (անգլիական, ֆրանսիական, գոլիցերիական, գերմանական) եւ ամերիկեան մամուլում տպագրուած՝ 1919ին Օսմանեան կայսրութիւնում եւ արեւելեան որոշ քաղաքներում (Գահիրէ, Հալէպ եւն.) տեղի ունեցած հայկական կոտորածներին առնչուող, մամուլից քաղուած նիւթեր: