

ON THE DEPORTATION AND MASSACRES OF THE ARMENIAN POPULATION OF CONSTANTINOPLE AND SMYRNA DURING THE YEARS OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

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It is known that deportation and massacres, as main components of the Armenian Genocide, included the Armenian population of Constantinople and Smyrna as well. The Young Turks started the actions of annihilation of the Armenians in Constantinople, as everywhere, according to a premeditated plan: the arrests, deportation of the intelligentsia, conscription of able-bodied Armenian men in the 20-45 age categories in the Ottoman army with the aim of disarming and annihilating them on the way to exile, then measures directed at the displacement of the Armenian population from the lower strata to all the others.

On April 24, 1915 started the deportation and massacres of the Armenians in Constantinople which first of all spread over the intelligentsia. On that day and during the following weeks the Armenian community of Constantinople was deprived of its intelligentsia - thousands of people were arrested, sent to exile and killed.

Before the start of and during the mass deportations and massacres in Western Armenia the Armenian Patriarchate of Constantinople was isolated from Western Armenia. In October 1914, after the Ottoman Turkey's entry into the war and at the beginning of 1915 the correspondence of the Patriarchate with eparchies was prohibited and the news on the deportations and massacres that the Patriarchate received were denied by the authorities.

Already in mid-April German Ambassador Hans Baron von Wangenheim who was following the outrageous actions of the Turks in Western Armenia, cynically repeated the explanations of the Young Turks about Armenians: "Without doubt, excesses and acts of terror have taken place against the Armenians in eastern Anatolia (i.e. Western Armenia-A.Kh.) and, in general, the events have probably been related correctly by the Armenian side, even if they were somewhat exaggerated. In many cases they have been sparked off by the distress and suffering that every war, even in industrialised countries, brings with it; however, in other cases, the blame was actually on the Armenians, and one can only accuse the authorities of not taking the necessary precautions in good time and of taking unnecessarily rigorous measures afterwards instead."¹

¹ The Armenian Genocide: Evidence from the German Foreign Office Archives, 1915-1916 edited by Wolfgang Gust, New-York-Oxford, 2014, pp. 169-170.

A week after the start of mass arrests and deportation of the Armenian elite by the Turkish authorities, on April 30, Wangenheim had already admitted the fact of the Turkish repressive actions against Armenians and reported from Constantinople to Berlin that numerous Armenians from all classes of society had been arrested, including doctors, journalists, authors, clergymen, also some deputies: “The offices of the newspaper *Azatomart*, a body of the Dashnakcutyun party, to which many of the arrested belong, were closed down by the authorities. During the following days most of them were deported to the interior of Asia Minor”².

In the course of several weeks 2345 Armenian intellectuals were arrested in Constantinople, no charges were brought against them but most of them were later killed.³ The police department of Constantinople cooperating with German specialists had sent its previously compiled lists to the district police. “The sent package was opened and only a few of the mentioned people in the list regulated in advance could escape. I, Shavarsh Misakyan together with Prof. A.Khachatryan, H. Cheokuryan, G. Mesrop and some others were among those escaped ones”⁴.

At the same time the Ottoman authorities directed their blow against the Armenian cultural institutions of the capital city with the goal of complete extermination of the Armenians living in Constantinople. A few days later Talaat cynically, within the frame of genocidal policy, “explained” to the First Dragoman of the German embassy: “Among the local Armenians there were a number of personalities who were politically not quite safe; these were, of course, to be found in particular among the members of the clubs and editorial offices. The fear that in case of an unfavourable change in war, these elements could take the opportunity for stirring up trouble; was not to be overlooked. The time seemed favourable for removing all these suspects from the capital. Many people would definitely be among the deportees who were by no means guilty....”⁵

The German embassy in Constantinople tried to squeeze out the maximal from Armenians for the benefit of Germany and its ally Ottoman Turkey. Employee of the embassy Mortman addressed Patriarch Zaven to urge the Armenian soldiers of the Caucasian front not to fight against the Turks. The Patriarch refused saying that the Armenians of Russia were out of his spiritual powers and he was simply the vicegerent of the Catholicos of Ejmiatsin in Constantinople. By the way, the same proposal was made to Gr. Zohrap shortly before his arrest⁶.

Since the Ottoman Turkey’s entry into the war and parallel to the intensification of the persecutions against the Armenian population the Patriarchate did its best to mitigate the situation to some extent. The Patriarch and national administration receiving ominous news from the provinces invited to their meetings respected and

² <http://www.sci.am/downloads/musgen/WolfgangGust.pdf>

³ Дадрян В. Н., История армянского геноцида, Ереван, 2007, с. 284.

⁴ Սիրունի Յ., Ինքնակենսագրական նոթեր, Ե., 2006, էջ 200:

⁵ <http://www.sci.am/downloads/musgen/WolfgangGust.pdf>

⁶ Զավեն պատրիարք, Պատրիարքական յուշերս. վաերագիրներ և վկայութիւններ, Թեհրան, 2014, էջ 116:

authoritative persons for consultation - Gr. Zohrap, A. Gasparyan, A. Antonyan, H. Boyajyan, R. Zardaryan, M. Natanyan et al.

All the efforts of the Patriarchate to complain to the criminal authorities, who at the same time pretended to be guiltless, had no result. The answer was the new conscription and from the beginning of 1915 - the disarmament of the Armenian soldiers, their isolation in labour battalions and annihilation. After arresting the intelligentsia actions were taken to annihilate the Armenians of Constantinople. On April 29 the Armenian population was made to hand in their weapons;⁷ thus the authorities also aimed to justify the propaganda noise directed against them.

“The “Law on Deportation” was hastily passed on May 27; on June 1 it was published and enforced immediately under the title “Temporary Law on Measures to Be Taken from Military Point of View against Those Who Act in Opposition to the Government’s Activity in Wartime.... The document is signed by members of the Ottoman government. The segment “Resolution” also contains a statement which reveals the genocidal intent of the Ottoman government”⁸. The command of the Ottoman army was given an unlimited authorization to subject the Armenian population to deportation from their settlements⁹.

On May 31 Wangenheim telegraphed the department of the Foreign Affairs. He particularly informed: “...Enver Pasha by putting the state of war (or emergency) forward as a pretext, intends to close a large number of Armenian schools, to suppress Armenian newspapers, to prohibit Armenian postal correspondence...”¹⁰.

The authorities directed the next blow in the city against the Armenians who were emigrants and those who lived in the suburbs. After the spontaneous deportations this one already had the administratively organized character that the Patriarch dated to August, 1915: “During the last two weeks started deportation of single men who came from provinces (Western Armenia) to Constantinople. Up to the present 4-5 thousand people were suddenly deported abandoning their business. Among them there were also those who had families. The families of those who were exiled to Ayash (in central Asia Minor) and Changheri (Chankırı) were also informed to leave Constantinople, but then we could stop it. It was the beginning of the deportation of the Armenians of Constantinople...”¹¹

The deportation of the provincial Armenians continued during the next months as well. On October 15, 1915 witness Prof. Hakobyan wrote: “No one has been left in Constantinople: we can see no Armenian in the streets. Scantiness and non-existence

⁷ Գերմանիան և Հայաստանը 1914-1918. Դիվանագիտական փաստաթղթերի ժողովածու, հ. 1, հրատ. և ներածութ. դոկտ. Յոհաննես Լեփսիուսի, Երևան, 2006, էջ 28:

⁸ Safrastyan R. A., The decision of the Ottoman government on the deportation of Armenians (May 30, 1915), *Fundamental Armenology*, 1, 2015, pp. 49-50.

⁹ Գերմանիան և Հայաստանը, էջ 29: Дадрян В. Н., *op. cit.*, p. 284.

¹⁰ Գերմանիան և Հայաստանը, էջ 162, էջ 30, <http://www.sci.am/downloads/musgen/WolfgangGust.pdf>

¹¹ Զալէն արքեպ., Պատրիարքական յուշերս. Վաւերագիրներ և վկայութիւններ, Գահիրէ, 1947, էջ 148:

are terrible. Most of the Armenian immigrants (from Western Armenia-Kh.A.) have been deported from Constantinople.”¹²

The Young Turkish authorities undertook the large-scale deportation of the Armenians from Constantinople. On November 29, 1915, the Chairman of the German-Armenian Association Dr. Johannes Lepsius wrote to Reichskanzler Bethmann Hollweg that the Armenian Committee of Sofia had sent him a message according to which: “In spite of the previous promises of the Constantinople high authorities of the Turkish government the deportation of the Armenians from Constantinople has started. Till now 10.000 people have already been deported who were mostly butchered in the Izmit Mountains. The deportation list of the remaining 70.000 people is ready”¹³.

On December 4, the same information was sent to the German embassy in Constantinople from Berlin by Undersecretary of State, A. Zimmermann asking to decisively protest if the information he received was true¹⁴. Arthur Zimmermann, wrote to his Ambassador Wolff-Metternich in Constantinople that according to his information “the Turkish government is attempting to force the remainder of the Armenian people to convert to Islam. It is obvious that we cannot watch quietly while such actions are going on”¹⁵.

On December 7, 1915 the German Ambassador in Constantinople Count Paul Wolff- Metternich reported to the Reichskanzler B. Hollweg: I have learned from a very trustworthy source that according to information provided by the local Chief of Police, which I beg to keep secret, lately about 4000 Armenians also from Constantinople have been deported to Anatolia (Asia Minor-A.Kh.) and that the remaining 80000 Armenians still living in Constantinople are to be gradually cleared away, 30000 having already been deported during the summer and a further 30000 having fled”¹⁶. In Metternich’s message the number of the Armenian population of Constantinople is greatly reduced. It is obvious that the mentioned number (80000) was based on the official statistical data presented by the Young Turks. In its efforts to deny the Declaration (May 24, 1915) of the Allies condemning Turkey in new crimes against humanity and civilization, the Turkish agency of “Havas” was greatly decreasing the number of the Armenians in Constantinople bringing it down from 200 thousand to 77.836 people¹⁷, of whom only

¹² Մալեգեան Վ., Ճամբուս ծայրը, հ. Բ, Փարիզ, 1955, էջ 92:

¹³ Գերմանիան և Հայաստանը, էջ 353:

¹⁴ Ibid, pp. 354-355. See also Լեփսիուս Յո., Գաղտնի տեղեկագիրը. հայ ժողովրդի ջարդերը (Երևան, 2003, էջ 134), where it is mentioned that a total of 10.000 Armenians were deported and there is no information on their new residence. According to the note sent to Reichskanzler B. Hollweg by German ambassador in Constantinople Wolff-Metternich on December 7, published by V. Gust, 30.000 Armenians were deported from Constantinople to the interior of Asia Minor (1915, 12,07, DE-001, see: Wolfgang Gust, The Armenian Genocide 1915/16 from the Files of the German Foreign Office <http://www.sci.am/downloads/musgen/WolfgangGust.pdf>).

¹⁵ Wolfgang Gust, op. cit. [1915-12-12-DE-002]

¹⁶ Ibid. [1915-12-07-DE-001] .

¹⁷ Զալէն աղբ., op. cit., p. 108.

230 people were allegedly arrested as “participants” of a revolutionary movement¹⁸. However, leaving aside the problem of the number of the Constantinople, which needs adjustments, we should notice that Metternich’s remark was true in the sense that the Young Turks were going to continue the deportation of Armenians from the capital. The deportations from Constantinople continued in the first half of 1916 as well. On May 12, 1916 Patriarch Zaven wrote to the German Ambassador: “Every week hundreds of men are being exiled from Constantinople and Smyrna for various reasons” and that their property was being confiscated and sold”¹⁹.

J. Lepsius mentions that after the appeals of ambassadors in Constantinople²⁰ the Turkish governors “abandoned the idea of spreading the measures of general deportation over the Armenian population of Constantinople and Izmir. But they silently continued the deportation of Constantinople Armenians. A total of 10000 people were deported and there is no information about their new residence”²¹.

Without other archival or documentary data we believe it would be difficult to restore at least the approximate number of Armenians deported from Constantinople. As we could see, at the end of November, 1915 J. Lepsius counts 10.000 deportees, the same number, as had been presented by the Armenian committee in Sofia and the above mentioned A. Zimmermann. But Ambassador Metternich in his turn, as we could see, had been informed “from a trustworthy source” that in the summer of 1915 about 30000 Armenians had already been deported from Constantinople whom he considered to be joined by “approximately 4000 Armenians deported from Constantinople to the interior of Asia Minor recently”²². He wrote about it on December 5, 1915. If we add to this Patriarch Zaven’s record addressed to the German Ambassador on May 12, 1916 about the exile of hundreds of men from Constantinople and Smyrna every week, it will be clear that the total number of Armenian deportees from Constantinople reached 40000.

¹⁸ Հալէն պատրիարք, Պատրիարքական յուշերս, Թեհրան, 2014, էջ 141-142: To some extent the Turkish officials referred to this falsified statistics when counting the number of Constantinople Armenians within 75-80 thousand (see Գերմանիան և Հայաստանը 1914-1918, հ. 1, էջ 361, 355-356). Opposing the official number, German diplomat Mordmann reported that the number (75.000) was much smaller than the real one and he counted 120-130 thousand people (ibid., p. 361). A. Barbi mentions 150 thousand people (see Барби А., В стране ужаса. Мученица Армения. Москва, 2008, с. 56), and German religious and scientific figures, including J. Lepsius, mention that this number reached 180.000 (Գերմանիան և Հայաստանը, հ. 1, էջ 332). We can assume that they meant the number of Constantinople Armenians after the deportations carried out in April and October 1915, because their invocation was written on October 15, 1915 (ibid. p. 330).

¹⁹ Армянский вопрос и геноцид армян в Турции (1913-1919). Материалы Политархива МИД Кайзеровской Германии. Сост., автор предисл., введ. и примеч. Микаелян В. А., Ереван, 1995, с. 327.

²⁰ Հալէն պատրիարք, Պատրիարքական յուշերս, Թեհրան, 2014, էջ 208, 211: Cf. Nogales R., Four Years Beneath the Crescent, New York-London, 1926, p. 135).

²¹ Լեփսիուս Յո., Գաղտնի տեղեկագիրը. հայ ժողովրդի ջարդերը, էջ 134:

²² Wolfgang Gust, op. cit. [1915-12-12-DE-001]

The Turks treated the deportees from Constantinople, as from everywhere, in the usual manner: the deported groups were annihilated on the way either completely or almost completely, so few of them reached the place of exile²³. In one of the court sessions of the regional figures of the Young Turks' party pharmacist Grigor testified that from 180 Armenians deported from Constantinople to Changheri only 30 had remained alive²⁴.

Patriarch Zaven believed that the condemnation of the actions of the Young Turkish executioners in the press of European countries and in general the Entente countries forced the Young Turks to make some concessions in Constantinople from the beginning of 1916²⁵.

But in spite of the promises of Enver, Khalil and Jemal given to the chargé d'affaires of German Embassy in Constantinople K. von Neurath, Ambassador Metternich and others (in November and December 1915)²⁶, the arrests and deportation of the Constantinople Armenians continued as we could see, in May 1916 as well.

In this regard it should be mentioned that the problem found a realistic and persuasive explanation in J. Kirakosyan's observations. Taking into account the situation in April-May 1915, he noted: "Certainly the whole Armenian population of Constantinople would have been deported if the Young Turkish authorities had had technical means for that. The capital of the empire was in a critical condition, the armed forces of Entente seriously threatened it"²⁷.

During 1915-1916 the Armenian community of Smyrna faced the horrors of the deportation as well. Referring to the telegram received from Athens the newspaper "Mshak" (Մշակ) (it was always sensitive to the situation in Smyrna) reported already in April that the persecutions against Armenians had resumed, people had been arrested²⁸. The Young Turks started the deportation from the Armenian population around Smyrna, just as in Constantinople – from the suburbs. In a record of the German embassy (August 9, 1915) it was said that "The population of the Armenian villages of Izmir has been evacuated taking into account several circumstances"²⁹. It should be concluded that the exile from around Smyrna took place in July-August 1915, but there

²³ According to Nayim Bey's memoirs among the Armenians deported to the banks of the Euphrates there were inhabitants from around Istanbul (see Փափազյան Ավ., Հայերի ցեղասպանությունը ըստ երիտթուրքերի դատավարության փաստաթղթերի, Լոս Անճելես, 2005, էջ 17).

²⁴ Անունյան Մ., Երիտթուրքերի 1919-1921 թթ. դատավարությունների վավերագրերը ըստ օսմանյան մամուլի, Երևան, 2011, էջ 100:

²⁵ Զաւէն պատրիարք, Պատրիարքական յուշերս, էջ 211, 213: Cf. Барби А., В стране ужаса. Мученица Армения. Москва, 2008, с. 56.

²⁶ Գերմանիան և Հայաստանը, հ. 1, էջ 254, 353, 355-356:

²⁷ J. Kirakosyan considers that after a heated dispute in the center of Ittihad it was decided to deport distinguished Armenian people for the time being and to deport the rest in a more appropriate time (Կիրակոսյան Զ., Առաջին համաշխարհային պատերազմը և արևմտահայությունը, Երևան, 1965, էջ 251).

²⁸ «Մշակ», 1915, 28 ապրիլի:

²⁹ Լեփսիուս Յո., Գերմանիան և Հայաստանը, Երևան, 2006, էջ 184:

is no mention of the settlements and the number of people. In a note of a “Statistical register” it is mentioned that the Armenian population was deported from Izmir and its dioceses in August 1915 and February 1916³⁰.

As mentioned by Radovitz, attorney of the German embassy in Constantinople, in its leading article the Young Turkish newspaper *Tasvir-i Efkar* (“Reflection of opinions”), rendering Talaat’s and Enver’s intention of carrying out deportations, “promoted the necessity of the deportation of Armenians from those cities and provinces”³¹.

The first deportation of Armenians from Smyrna happened in July-August 1915 when its governor Rahmi Bey demanded from Kh. Intcheyan, the spiritual leader of Armenians to make the people present “the list of names and home addresses of people belonging to the Dashnakcutyun committee”. Otherwise Rahmi threatened to banish all Armenians from Smyrna. Arrests and then deportations started³². Probably A. Guyumchyan saw the deportation of these 300 people, calling them “The first caravan of Armenian prisoners”. Other groups also followed this one: “The persecutions did not spare the members of their families either. Even old men and women were arrested and deported”, - writes the author³³.

A witness, the owner of the Smyrna printing house Khosrov Matikyan referred to by L. Yerkanyan, also speaks about the first deportation carried out by Rahmi. According to him their family “formed part of the first caravan comprised of 200 people and left Izmir”³⁴.

Kh. Matikyan refers this deportation to June 1916 and A. Guyumchyan does not mention any date at all. L. Yerkanyan mentions that this deportation took place in 1915³⁵. Further studies will probably spread additional light on that issue³⁶.

We believe that the references of American Consul of Smyrna about the of Young Turkish center’s mania against the major figures of Dashnakcutyun of Smyrna and the behavior of Rahmi Bey in this regard refer to 1915. He says that Rahmi had received a strict reprimand from Talaat for “not having shown control within his province”, i.e. not having shown vigor during the deportations³⁷. After that Rahmi organized the overall “conspiracy case” and threatened to deport all the Armenian community to Ankara if he was not told names of 15 revolutionary leaders. “Somehow”, - the former consul says, - “he “found” fifteen names and announced that he was going to hang those people”³⁸.

³⁰ Մատենադարան, դիվան Ա. Ալպոյաճյանի, N21/2:

³¹ Армянский вопрос и геноцид армян в Турции (1913-1919), с. 408.

³² Գույումճեան Ա., Իզմիրի մօտաւոր անցեալէն խորհրդածութիւններ, «Հայրենիք», Բոստոն, 1956, 12-14 դեկտեմբերի:

³³ Ibid, դեկտեմբերի 14:

³⁴ Երկանեան Լ., Յուշեր ու փուշեր, “Յուսաբեր”, 1957, 3 հունիսի:

³⁵ Ibid, հուլիսի 4:

³⁶ Մատենադարան, Ա. Ալպոյաճյանի դիվան, N21.10

³⁷ Նույն տեղում:

³⁸ Դեսպան Հենրի Մորգենթաուի պատմությունը, Երևան, Հայոց ցեղասպանության թանգարան-ինստիտուտ, 2012, էջ 174:

As a result of it 70 Armenian families at night had been woken up and deported “as if to Ankara”. In his turn Ambassador Morgenthau wrote that George Horton, the U.S. Consul General at Smyrna had informed him that seven Armenians were sentenced to the gallows for some crime committed in 1909. “But neither Rahmi Bey, nor the military commander believed those accusations”³⁹.

Rahmi, who played a double game with the Armenians of Smyrna, on the one hand, and, on the other hand, the Constantinople Center, turned to the latter substantiating the fact of not carrying out the death sentence with the right of the condemned to write a petition, according to the Ottoman law. The response from the Center added nothing new to the Young Turks’ cynicism: “Technically you are right. First hang them and then send the request for amnesty”, - it said⁴⁰. Rahmi was ready to stay aside, but thanks to Morgenthau’s mediation all the condemned were released.

In a document dated July 10, 1916, published by J. Lepsius, it is said that the protestant and catholic Armenians, comprising a minority in comparison with the majority of **Armenians belong to the Armenian Apostolic Church** around Smyrna, were also deported⁴¹.

We should assume that after August 1915 till May 1916 in Smyrna, just as in Constantinople, the arrests and deportations of Armenians continued every week about which as we could see above testified Patriarch Zaven in May 1916.

One of the striking episodes of the deportations of Armenians from Smyrna was the incident of November 1916, in which commander of the 5th army, German L. Von Sanders got involved. The reason for the deportation was as always invented by Rahmi about which German diplomat Radovitz informed in his telegram. He informed that in the Catholic cemetery bombs and ammunition were discovered which “they say, were hidden there by Armenians”. That was enough for the *vali* to demand that Kh. Intcheyan and the community tell the names of people under suspicion and hand in the hidden weapons. On November 2 a lot of arrests were made and the next day 300 Armenians with their families were deported by the railway. “They would be followed by the next groups of deportees”, - the diplomat writes. It means that Rahmi had undertaken the mass deportation of the whole community. “The deportations are run by Smyrna chief of police whom the *vali* gave freedom of action”, - Radovitz added⁴².

J. Lepsius published L. von Sanders’ November 16, 1916 report to the German Embassy on these events. In the morning of November 10 he sent Kyazim Bey, the head of headquarters of the army he commanded, to the *vali* to say on his behalf that such mass arrests were intolerable and threatened the city. And if the police continued such mass arrests, he would inhibit them with military force. The general gave the *vali* time till the midday of the same day. After the midday Kyazim Bey came to Sanders and

³⁹ Ibid.

⁴⁰ Ibid.

⁴¹ Լեփսիուս Յո., Գերմանիան և Հայաստանը 1914-1918, էջ 327:

⁴² Армянский вопрос и геноцид армян, с. 408.

said that the *vali* had promised to stop the arrests and deportations which would not occur any more⁴³.

On November 11 Rahmi and Sanders met. The latter considered Rahmi's reasons for the deportations of Armenians groundless and demanded to ensure safe conditions for them.⁴⁴ For his justification Rahmi explained that the Young Turkish committee of Smyrna had always been dissatisfied with him for sparing the Armenians because of which his positions had become unstable in Constantinople from where the demand for the deportation of Armenians came⁴⁵. Finally, the General received a written confirmation from Rahmi that an end would be put to the deportations and those Armenians who were innocent would be returned back from exile⁴⁶. In his telegram dated November 15, 1916 German Ambassador Kuhlmann informed that the deportations of Armenians from Smyrna were stopped and the case was closed.⁴⁷

The political considerations of the German General towards the Armenians of Smyrna particularly came from the intention to dissociate, himself from Turkish executioners. "If not for Sanders governor Rahmi - Armenophobic and persecuting Armenians, would have sent all the Armenians of Izmir to the desert" - rightly notes L. Yerkanyan⁴⁸. V. Dadryan came to the same conclusion⁴⁹.

In a document ("Answer the questionnaire of the Patriarchate") kept in Matenadaran that was sent to the Patriarchate by the Armenian Primacy of Smyrna on December 3, 1919; it is recorded that the local Armenian population was partly deported on November 15 and in December, 1915, then on October 25, 1916.⁵⁰

The Armenians of the settlements around Smyrna also severely suffered during the years of the deportations. Rahmi himself followed the path of the Young Turk leaders of the capital - first starting the deportations from the suburbs and only then to pass to the Armenian population of the city. According to the data presented by the above-mentioned primacy people from the following settlements were deported: "In February 1915 Gushata - totally, in August 1915 Tikili - totally, in November 1915 Krkaghach - partly, in November 1916 Eotemish - partly, and the outskirts of Perkama - Frnuz"⁵¹.

As we can see, numerous other settlements around Smyrna have been left out of the statistics and unfortunately there are no data about them up to now.

⁴³ Լեփսիոս Յո., Գերմանիան և Հայաստանը 1914-1918 թթ., էջ 345-346:

⁴⁴ Ibid, p. 346.

⁴⁵ Армянский вопрос и геноцид армян, с. 408.

⁴⁶ Լեփսիոս Յո., op. cit., p. 347.

⁴⁷ Ibid.

⁴⁸ Երկանեան Լ., նշվ. աշխ., "Յուսարեր", 1957, 4 յունիսի:

⁴⁹ Дадрян В. Н., op. cit., p. 292.

⁵⁰ Մատենադարան, դիվան Ա. Ալպոյաճյանի, թղթ. 8, վավ. 21|3, էջ 1-2:

⁵¹ Ibid.

We should now get to the question that follows from all this - how many people were subjected to deportations from Smyrna and its neighbourhood during 1915-1916. Certain data concerning it are very scanty and will at least stay such as long as the corresponding Turkish archives are close and if anything is preserved in them. According to the data of the Smyrna primacy the Armenians deported from Smyrna were taken to **Afyonkarahisar**, Konya, Aleppo and Deir ez-Zor.



Armenian and Greek men arrested and sentenced to deportation, Smyrna, September, 1922



The burning Smyrna in smoke, September, 1922

"Till 1922 around 30.000 Armenians lived in Smyrna. In September 1922 the Kemalist troops made a real carnage in Smyrna, destroying and burning the Armenian and Greek quarters of the city. The intentional burning of the city had the purpose of terrorizing the Christian population, making them leave the city forever.

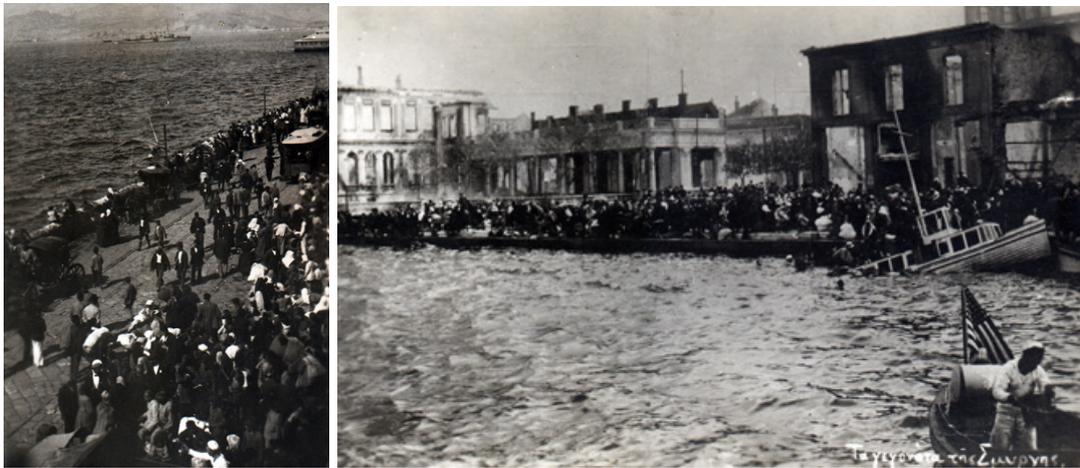
The quarters were full of the corpses of tens of thousands of Armenians and Greeks.





Armenian and Greek victims of the Smyrna massacres, September, 1922

Many people trying to find salvation on the English, Italian and American warships that had dropped anchor in the sea and were merely observing, drowned.



The accumulation of the refugees in the port of Smyrna, September, 1922

Thus, the disaster of Smyrna became one of the last episodes of the Armenian Genocide⁵².

*Translated from Armenian by
S. E. Chraghyan*

⁵² http://www.genocide-museum.am/arm/online_exhibition_16.php