



**„ETCHMIADZIN“**  
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The April 1980 issue of the „Etchmiadzin“ journal opens up with the sermon of His Holiness the Catholicos of All Armenians Vasken I, delivered in the Cathedral of Holy Etchmiadzin, on the occasion of Holy Easter (April 6).	3
EDITORIAL: The Armenian people and its Mother Church.	
This editorial deals with the role and mission of the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin and the Armenian Church in the life of the Armenian people. This editorial is also a response against the publications of a few Armenian Catholic clergymen who attack the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin and the Armenian Church in general, on false historical grounds. . . . .	6
The Encyclicals of His Holiness the Catholicos about granting the medals of „St. Gregory the Illuminator“ First Order, „St. Sahag and St. Mesrob“ and „St. Nerses Shnorhali“ to prominent Armenians who have made important donations or have served the Armenian Church or the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin for long years. . . . .	10
Gongratulations exchanged between His Holiness the Catholicos and the Spiritual Heads of sister Churches on occasion of Holy Easter. . . . .	19
The congratulations of His Holiness the Catholicos, on occasion of Holy Easter, sent to the three hierarchic Sees of the Armenian Church, to the Diocesan Primate and the Armenian Church communities. . . . .	22
The telegrams exchanged between His Holiness the Catholicos and the General Secretary of the World Council of Churches, Dr. Philip Potter on occasion of the 65th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. . . . .	24
The Encyclical of the deceased Catholicos His Holiness Kevork V, about forming a Commission of Brotherly Assistance at the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin, on December 28, 1914, for assisting the distressed and homeless refugees who have arrived to Holy Etchmiadzin from Western Armenia.	
On 1914, in the eastern parts of Western Armenia, the acts of terror had already begun, and on 1915 deportation had become massive, and the hasty escape of the misfortune-bearers to Eastern Armenia commenced.	
In the winter of 1914 these acts of terror were only the beginning of the coming 1915 Great Genocide. . . . .	25
The official visit of His Holiness the Catholicos of All Armenians, Vasken I, to Illia II, the Patriarch-Catholicos of All Georgians.	
On April 11–15 of the current year, His Holiness the Catholicos of All Armenians visited Georgia with the invitation of the Patriarch-Catholicos of All Georgians and also with the invitation of the Primate of the Armenian Diocese of Georgia, His Grace Bishop Kevork Seraytarian.	



The article covers the visits of His Holiness, the Divine Liturgies celebrated in the Georgian and Armenian churches, meetings with official state personalities, receptions and the return to the Mother See of Holy Etchmiadzin. . . . .	28
Under the heading „In the Mother See“ are covered the Divine Liturgy celebrated by His Holiness and the delivered sermon, on the occasion of Our Lord's Holy Resurrection.	
Under the same heading are described also the celebration of the Divine Liturgy on occasion of the sixty fifth anniversary of the Genocide and the requiem service for the rest of the souls of the martyrs.	
On April 22—23 the 1978 and 1979 graduates of the Theological Academy presented and made a defence of their theses, in the presence of His Holiness, and received their certificates.	
This issue covers also the religious ceremonies and Divine Liturgies celebrated on April. . . . .	42
The next topic deals with the election of the Primate of the Armenian community of Iraq, Right Reverend Father Avak Assadourian, and with the festivities occurring in Baghdad on that occasion. . . . .	47
Archbishop Housig Santoúrian between March 29 and April 10 visited the Armenian community of Baghdad and the occurring ceremonies, celebrated Divine Liturgies and spoken sermons are here described. . . . .	48
Prof. Ashot K. Abrahamian has presented the yet unpublished reports of Bishop Ghevond Tourian, the former primate of the Armenian community in Bulgaria, addressed to His Holiness the Catholicos of All Armenians Kevork V, on occasion of the Armenian Genocide.	
The reports speak about the policy of the Turkish government to exterminate the Western Armenians, presenting very tragic details about the Armenian massacres, forced deportations, rapes, abductions, and other horrible deeds. . . . .	51