

research making use of historical comparative¹ and glottochronological methods².

Investigation of the ancient and medieval history of Armenia brought D. M. Lang to the following conclusion in his book *Armenia: Cradle of Civilization*: “The ancient land of Armenia is situated in the high mountains... Although Mesopotamia with its ancient civilizations of Sumeria and Babylon, is usually considered together with Egypt as the main source of civilized life in the modern sense, Armenia too has a claim to rank as one of the cradles of human culture. To begin with, Noah’s Ark is stated in the Book of Genesis to have landed on the summit of Mount Ararat, in the very centre of Armenia... Armenia has a claim on our attention as one of the principal homes of ancient metallurgy, beginning at least five thousand years ago. Later on, Armenia became the first extensive kingdom to adopt Christianity as a state religion pioneering a style of Church architecture which anticipates our own Western Gothic”³.

Contrary to the historical reality, the Turkish hostile propaganda wages information warfare against the history and place names of Armenia and historical memory. Turkish alterations and eradication of the Armenian place names were implemented in several stages. After the Turkish-Persian wars and partitions of Armenia in the 16th and 17th cc. the Ottoman Empire undertook distortion of the toponyms of Western Armenia⁴ and Cilician Armenia (Kilikia), as a result of expansionist policy, which was based on the bestial pan-Turkism ideology and over the course of time turned into the program of annihilation of the indigenous Armenian nation⁵ resulting also in distortion of the western Armenian place names, which intensified since the emergence of the Armenian Question followed by the prohibition of using the name *Armenia* and the massacres of

, 2005, . 209).

¹ Th. Gamkrelidze and V. Ivanov proposed that “the Proto-Indo-European homeland of the 5th to 4th millennia B.C.” could be “within eastern Anatolia, the southern Caucasus, and northern Mesopotamia...” and after the Indo-European linguistic community’s disintegration into dialect groups “the Greek-Armenian-Aryan dialect grouping began to crystallize”, and “subsequently divided into Greek, Armenian, and Indo-Iranian...” (Th. V. Gamkrelidze, V. V. Ivanov, *Indo-European and the Indo-Europeans: A Reconstruction and Historical Analysis of a Proto-language and a Proto-culture*, Berlin, Part Two 1995, pp. 761, 791, 794). But “eastern Anatolia” corresponds to *eastern Asia Minor*, “southern Caucasus” – to *the southern mountain ranges of the Caucasus* (to the north and east of the Kura River), so the authors ought to denote the Armenian Highland.

² According to another opinion, based on the glottochronological analysis, Hittite lineage diverged from Proto-Indo-European around 8,700 years BP, “perhaps reflecting the initial migration out of Anatolia. Tocharian and the Greco-Armenian lineages are shown as distinct by 7,000 years BP” (R. D. Gray, Q. D. Atkinson, *Language-tree Divergence Times Support the Anatolian Theory of Indo-European Origin*. – *Nature*, vol. 426, 2003, pp. 435-438, cf. R. Bouckaert, Ph. Lemey, M. Dunn et al., *Mapping the Origins and Expansion of the Indo-European Language Family*. – *SCIENCE*, vol. 337, 2012, pp. 957-960). As is seen from the texts and sketch maps’ inscriptions of these publications, the term “Anatolia” was applied not only to Asia Minor, but also incorrectly used instead of the term *Armenian Highland*.

³ David M. Lang, *Armenia: Cradle of Civilization*, London, 1970, p. 9.

⁴ Western part of Great Armenia, Armenia Minor and Armenian (Northern) Mesopotamia.

⁵ In 1725 the invading Turkish troops were totally defeated by the Armenian forces in Artsakh. Two Turkish pashas were killed and the third one was taken prisoner. During interrogation the captive Turkish pasha said that the Ottoman rulers, considering Armenia and the Armenian people as an obstacle to the Turkish expansion towards the Caspian Sea and beyond, planned to exterminate the Armenians (Է.Ա. ՅՅՈՅ, , 1898, . 422). The Turkish defeat in Artsakh was the Armenians’ resolute answer to pan-Turanic aggressive ambitions.

the Armenians in Western Armenia (1894-1896)¹ and Kilikia (1909)². Turkish genocidal policy intensifying since the late 19th and early 20th centuries in the Ottoman Empire resulted in the Armenian Genocide of 1915-1923³ committed by the Young Turk and Kemalist regimes⁴ in Western Armenia, Kilikia and the Armenian-populated areas of Asia Minor⁵. The May 24, 1915 Joint Declaration (“... crimes of Turkey against humanity and civilization...”⁶) officially issued by the governments of France, Great Britain and Russia is the first international recognition and condemnation of the Armenian Genocide committed by Turkey.

The Kemalist and successive governments of the Republic of Turkey have continued obliteration of the Armenian place names in Western Armenia and Kilikia, forging the political-administrative map of the occupied territories⁷ by eliminating the native names, translating the indigenous place names into Turkish or inventing Turkish ones, alien to the indigenous Armenian environment.

In both the Soviet and post-Soviet periods falsifications of the history of Armenia and its place names have also been perpetrated by the artificially introduced unit of “Azerbaijan”⁸. After the Artsakh Liberation War (1991-1994) the defeated aggressive

¹ **W. J. Wintle**, Armenia and Its Sorrows. Third edition, 1896, pp. 83-98. R. Safrastyan notes: “The first anti-Armenian program of genocidal nature appeared in the mid-90s of the 19th century. Its implementation ended in mass killings of the Armenian population of the Ottoman Empire, with the number of victims totaling 300 thousand... The Young Turks, the Kemalists, right after coming into power, undertook drafting programs of genocidal nature” (**R. Safrastyan**, Ottoman Empire: the Genesis of the Program of Genocide (1876-1920), Yerevan, 2011, pp. 114, 148).

² 35.000 Armenians were massacred in Adana and the areas of Kilikia (**Hrachik Simonyan**, The Destruction of Armenians in Cilicia, April 1909, London, 2012, pp. 5-6).

³ More than 1,5 million Armenians were killed and eight hundred thousand deported. (

Ю.Г. Бяцеров, . 1, ., 2002, . 2, .1, 2003, . 2, 2005. **Alfred de Zayas**, The Genocide against the Armenians 1915-1923 and the Relevance of the 1948 Genocide Convention, Beirut, 2010, pp. 24-25, et al).

⁴ **V. Dadrian**, The History of Armenian Genocide, Oxford, 1995, **A. Kirakosyan**, The Armenian Question and the Armenian Genocide, Yerevan, 2006, **R. Safrastyan** op. cit, pp. 133-142 et al.

⁵ **G. Horton**, The Blight of Asia. An Account of the Systematic Extermination of Christian Populations by Mohammedans and of the Culpability of Certain Great Powers; with the True Story of the Burning of Smyrna, Printed in the USA, 1926 <http://greek4u.tripod.com/blight%20of%20Asia.pdf>) et al..

⁶ **W.A. Shabas**, Genocide in International Law, Cambridge, 2000, p. 16, **M. Cherif Bassiouni**, Crimes Against Humanity in International Criminal Law, Second revised edition, the Hague/London/Boston, 1999, p. 62 et al.

⁷ “Cartographic war” (**E. Danielyan**, “Cartographic War” and the problem of protecting Armenian place-names. - <http://blog.ararat-center.org/?p=160>, Է.Լ. Դանիելյան, Հայաստանը և հայկական տեղանունները, - «ՎԷՆ» համահայկական հանդես, 2009, թիվ 1 (26), էջ 9-25, **A. Ayvazyan**, Western Armenia vs. Eastern Anatolia. Europe and Orient. - Journal of the Institute Tchobanian, Paris, 2007, N 4, pp. 57-58) is waged also against history and historical geography of the lands far away from Armenia. Commenting on the militaristic pan-Turanic policy during WWII A.A. Chichkin notes: “Indeed, along with military preparations of Turkey at the borders of the USSR, since the autumn of 1941 in Turkish media were published geographic maps of the future state” and Turkish aggressors stated: “The border of Turkey is far away beyond the Caucasus and the Caspian Sea... Volga - the River in which our ancestors watered their horses” (**Алексей Чичкин**,

, 22.05.2012 http://www.stoletie.ru/territoriya_istorii/sindrom_osmanskoj_imperii_253.htm).

⁸ This name has been stolen from Iranian Adarbaigan/Azerbaijan (derived from the ancient geographic name Atropatene). At the end of May 1918 appeared “Eastern-Caucasian Muslim Republic” (see: **Հրանտ Ավետիսյան**, Հայկական հարցը 1918 թ., Երևան, 1997, էջ 285) or “the Tartar Republic of Azerbaijan” (“Christian Science Monitor”, 05.08.1919, **Haykaram Nahapetyan**, Publications in American Periodicals Concerning Nagorno-Karabakh in 1918-20, http://www.noravank.am/eng/articles/detail.php?ELEMENT_ID=3534) and so on, as a result of pan-Turkic projects. The publications in American periodicals mention

Republic of Azerbaijan has been using these falsifications in the militaristic propaganda against the Republic of Armenia and the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic (the NKR) (Artsakh).

Falsifications of history and historical geography of Armenia, especially, toponymy of Western Armenia and Kilikia¹ are put into service of the genocide denial by the Turkish government, which spends millions for it². Currently Turkey and Azerbaijan³ are going through a new spate of falsifications and distortions⁴. There are solid academic publications criticizing the baseless denial of the Armenian Genocide⁵. Gregory H. Stanton, particularly, notes: “Denial, the final stage of genocide is best overcome by public trials and truth commissions, followed by years of education about the facts of the genocide, particularly for the children of the group or nation that committed the crime.

“Armenian district of Karabakh”, “Karabakh district of Armenia” - i.e. the whole territory of Artsakh, the region of Armenia. The Musavatist bandit “state” with support of Turkish troops carried out hostile actions against the First Republic of Armenia and her native and integral part Artsakh. In the Soviet period (from 28 April 1920) artificially used name “Azerbaijan” again was sharply politicized with the aim of annexing Iranian Azerbaijan (В. В. Бартольд, . II (1), . M., . 2, . I, 1963, . 703, 775-776). Azerbaijani fakers distort the history of Armenia, proper Aluank (on the left bank of the Kura) and Atropatene. Permanent distortion of history by the Baku falsifiers poses a threat in the region. In the course of decades, the Iranian official circles, politicians and literary figures claiming “that this small region in the Caucasus... has another name and has never been called Azerbaijan”, protested against stealing the name of Iranian Azerbaijan (K.Bayat, Storm over the Caucasus, Tehran, 2002 (in Persian), p. 66-67, R.Galichian, The Invention of History, London/Yerevan, 2010, p. 7). As it is noted, “...Tehran has shown... extreme concern with prospects of the rise of sentiments calling for union between the “two Azerbaijan” ” (Michael P. Croissant, The Armenia-Azerbaijan Conflict, Greenwood, 1998, p. 61).

¹ Turkey committing the Armenian Genocide, continues occupation of Western Armenia and Kilikia. It occupied also western areas of Eastern Armenia [Ardahan, Kars region, Sarikamish, Ukhtik (Olty), Kagzvan, the ruins of Ani, Mount Ararat, Surmalu, Igdir and Koghb, et al.] by the illegal and anti-Armenian treaties signed in Moscow (March 16) and Kars (October 13) between the Bolsheviks and Kemalists in 1921.

² D. Holthouse, State of Denial. Turkey Spends Millions to Cover Up Armenian Genocide. – Intelligence Report, Summer 2008, Issue Number: 130, <http://www.splcenter.org/get-informed/intelligence-report/browse-all-issues/2008/summer/state-of-denial>

³ It still occupies some eastern Armenian territories [Nakhijevan region with Goghtan, as a result of the above mentioned anti-Armenian treaties of 1921, the most part of Utik (with Gardman, Gandzak et al) and Artsakh’s some northern (mountainous) and eastern (plain) areas - the remaining parts of the annexation as a consequence of the unlawful Kavburo (Bolshevik Caucasian Bureau) forcible decision of 1921 (July 5), and occupation (Shahumyan Region’s Getashen Subregion, Gulistan et al) in consequence of the aggression against the NKR in 1991-1992]. During the Artsakh Liberation War Armenian freedom-fighters and the NKR Armenian Defence Army have liberated the greater part of Artsakh, defeating aggressive Azerbaijan.

⁴ The Republic of Turkey relies both on the genocidal experience of the Ottoman and the Young Turk regimes, and pseudo-scientific surrogate – “the Turkish History Thesis” of pan-Turkic trend [its fundamental criticism see: Մանվել Զուլպյան, Հայոց պատմության խեղաթուրումը արդի թուրք պատմագրության մեջ (հին և միջին դարեր), Երևան, 1995; Clive Foss, “When Turks Civilized the World”. - History Today, Vol. 55, 2005, p. 10-16; Wendy M.K. Shaw, Whose Hittites, and Why? Language, Archaeology and the Quest for the Original Turks. – Archaeology Under Dictatorship, Springer, 2006, Chapter 7, . 131-153], which was fabricated under the supervision of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk in the 1930s. Artificially formed Azerbaijan’s criminal record is based on genocidal actions in Baku (September 1918 and January 1991), Shushi (March, 1920), Sumgait, Kirovabad (Gandzak) (1988), Getashen (1991), Maragha (1992), and other places against the native Armenian population, the destruction of the Armenian architectural monuments and falsifications of the “Bunyatovshchina” type (from the 1960-80s. up to date, grown by leaps and bounds of the Turkish Armenophobic policy) (see: А. Ш. Мнацаканян, П. Севак, . «

VII -IX .» – ՊԲՀ, 1967, . 1, . 177-190; Г. Х. Саркисян, П. М. Мурадян, « . » , «Լրաբեր» հաս. գիտ., 1988, . 5, . 41-49; В. А. Шнирельман, . , . , 2003 . 158-162, 202-211, 221-222).

⁵ Select Bibliography On Denial of the Armenian Genocide, November 22, 2011 <http://www.zoryaninstitute.org/bibliographies/Selected%20Bibliography.pdf>

The black hole of forgetting is the negative force that results in future genocides...”¹.

Touching on the subject of the state-regulated discrimination in archaeology, it is worth paying attention to the general methodological remarks expressed in the article “Archaeology in the service of the state: theoretical considerations” by Philip L. Kohl and Clare Fawcett (in a collection of articles “Nationalism, Politics and the Practice of Archaeology”): “...We particularly regret lack of coverage on the nationalist practices of archaeology in Israel, Turkey and other Middle Eastern countries... The articles collected here, however, are principally concerned with the *abuses* of the relationship between nationalist politics and archaeology... The case studies presented in this volume clearly show that archaeologists in the service of the state frequently have manipulated archaeological evidence to validate the ownership of land claimed to have been held “from time immemorial” or to support politics of domination and control over neighboring peoples...”². If the authors took into account the state of affairs in the republics of Turkey and Azerbaijan, they would be convinced that Turkey - the perpetrator and the denier of the Armenian Genocide, as well as its ally Azerbaijan, share the top falsifiers and distorters in the fields of archaeology, history and toponyms³. The criminal acts of appropriation of the indigenous archaeological monuments with the purpose to “create” non-existent “Turkey’s ancient history and civilization” have been perpetrated by genocide of culture: destruction of Armenian architectural monuments and obliteration of the native place names of archaeological and other historical sites in western part of the Armenian Homeland occupied by genocidal Turkey. Year after year Turkish pseudo-archaeologists increase the number of falsified, antiscientific publications with the support of their foreign accomplices, polluting the scientific and informational spheres with anti-archaeological politicized rubbish⁴.

Since the invention of “the Turkish History Thesis” till the present times the Turkish state’s ideological machine has been spreading disinformation in the world information arena using political, financial and propaganda means⁵. At present it is continued through the criminal practices of the Turkish authorities which eradicate the names of

¹ The 8 Stages of Genocide by Gregory H. Stanton, This article was originally written in 1996 and was presented as the first Working Paper (GS 01) of the Yale Program in Genocide Studies in 1998. <http://www.genocidewatch.org/images/8StagesBriefngpaper.pdf>.

² Nationalism, Politics and the Practice of Archaeology, Cambridge, 1995 (reprinted 2000), pp. 3, 5, 8, 18.

³ Turkish and Azerbaijani falsifications in archaeology may be exemplified by the following spurious publication: “Azerbaijan - Land between East and West. Transfer of knowledge and technology during the „First Globalization“ of the VIIth- IVth millennium BC International Symposium Baku, April 1-3 2009, Deutsches Archäologisches Institut, EURASIEN-ABTEILUNG, Baku, 2009”. Archaeological sites of Armenia are falsely presented as if located in “Eastern Anatolia” and “Azerbaijan” by the Turkish and Azerbaijani forgers, appropriating abominably the cultural heritage of Western and Eastern Armenia. But, in reality, on the one hand, the term “Eastern Anatolia” has nothing to do with the territory of the Armenian Highland, which is to the east of Asia Minor, and, on the other hand, the name of “Azerbaijan” historically corresponds only to Iranian province of Adarbaigan-Azerbaijan - ancient Atropatene, to the south-east of the Kingdom of Great Armenia (Strabo, XI, 13, 1).

⁴ “Neolithic in Turkey: The Cradle of Civilization: New Discoveries (Ancient Anatolian Civilizations Series)” by **Nezih Basgelen** (1999, <http://www.amazon.com/Neolithic-Turkey-civilization-discoveries-civilizations/dp/9756899417>), “Neolithic in Turkey: Euphrates Basin”, editors: Mehmet Ozdogan, Nezih Basgelen, Peter Kuniholm (2011, <http://www.amazon.com/Neolithic-Turkey-Euphrates-Mehmet-Ozdogan/dp/6053961515> et al..

⁵ For example see, Turgut Özal’s pseudo-politological book with very ambitiously falsified title “Turkey in Europe and Europe in Turkey” and totally distorted “historical” context (revised English edition, 1991), which has been completely criticized by **Jr. Speros Vryonis** (The Turkish State and History: Clio Meets the Grey Wolf, 2nd ed., Thessalonike and New Rochelle, New York, 1993).

the *Armenian Highland*, *Western Armenia* and many other Armenian place names, hydronyms and mountain names.

The complete system of the Armenian ethno-geographic names characterizes the natural-historic environment and cultural and social-political history of **Armenia-Haiastan** - the cradle and the Homeland of the Armenian Nation. Armenia and the Armenian statehood have been attested in ancient (the 3rd millennium BC-3rd c. AD) and medieval historical sources under the names of *Aratta*¹, *Armanum*², *Haiaša*³, *Nairi*, *Ararat* (Urartu)-*Van* (*Biaina*), *Armina*⁴, *Great Armenia* and *Armenia Minor* (*Ἀρμενία Μεγάλη* and *Ἀρμενία Μικρά*⁵), *Cilician Armenia* (*Kilikia*)⁶ et al.. In this respect it is worth mentioning the Babylonian map of the world (7th-6th cc. BC) and the maps of the world by Hecataeus of Miletus (550 BC – 476 BC), Herodotus (484-425 BC), Eratosthenes (276 BC – 195 BC)⁷ and the maps of *Great Armenia* and *Armenia Minor* by Claudius Ptolemy (83-161 AD), “*Geography*” of Strabo (64 BC – 24 AD) and other antique and medieval authors’ works, particularly, “*Ashkharhatsoyts*”⁸ by Movses Khorenatsi (5th c.) and Anania Shirakatsi (7th c.), as valuable ancient and early medieval geographic and cartographic sources about the history and geography of Armenia.

According to Strabo, “the Euphrates... rises in the northern part of Taurus, and flows

¹ S. N. Kramer, *Enmerkar and the Lord of Aratta: a Sumerian Epic Tale...*, Philadelphia, 1952. L. N. Petrosyan compared the name of Aratta with the name of Ararat (Urartu) [see: *Armenian Ethnography and Folklore. Collection*, 6, Yerevan, 1974, p. 123, cf. M. Kavoukjian, *Armenia, Subartu and Sumer. The Indo-European Homeland and Ancient Mesopotamia*, Montreal, 1987, pp. 59-81, Ա.Սովսիսյան, Հնագույն պետությունը Հայաստանում, Արատտա, Երևան 1992.

² А. Кишинев, ... 13 (76), 1965, ... 64, Вяч. Вс. Иванов, ... 1983, N 4, ... 32-33) et al..

³ Ն. Սարգիսյան, Հայերենի յարաբերությունը հեթոդերենի հետ. – Հանդես ամսօրեայ, 1924, N 9-10, էջ 453, P. Kretschmer, “Der nationale Name der Armenier Haik”. - *Anzeiger der Acad. Der Wiss.* In Wien, phil.-hist. Klasse, 1932, Г. Капанцян, Хайаса – колыбель армян. Этногенез армян и их начальная история, Ереван, 1956, Ռ. Ղազարյան, Հայաստանի քաղաքական և մշակութային պատմությունը, Երևան, 2009 et al..

⁴ Cf. *Arminiya*, see: *Les inscriptions de la Perse achéménide. Traduit du vieux perse, de l’élamite, du babylonien et de l’araméen, présenté et annoté par Pierre Lecoq*, Gallimard, 1997, p. 55.

⁵ ΚΑΛΥΔΙΟΥ ΠΤΟΛΕΜΑΙΟΥ ΓΕΩΓΡΑΦΙΚΗ ΥΦΗΓΗΣΙΣ. Parisiis, M DCCCCI, V. 12. 1; 6. 18. **The Armenian statehood as manifested** by the ancient and medieval kingdoms [generated and reigned by the Haikian (Haikazun) dynasty (from the 3rd millennium BC) and its branches (until I c. AD), the Armenian Arshakuni (until 428), the Haikazun-Sisakyan-Aranshahik (Vachagan the Pious of Artsakh, 484 - the mid-6th c.), the Bagratuni (885-1045) and its coeval and the subsequent ones (Vasporakan, 908-1021, Kars-Vanand, 963-1065, Tashir-Dzoraget, 966-1113, Parisos, the mid-10th c.-1044, Siunik, 970-1170, Kilikia (Principality – 1080-1197, Kingdom - 1198-1375)], and also manifested by the early and late medieval principalities (e.g. the Mamikonyans of Taron, Sasun and Taik, the Zakarians, the Arstakh Melikdoms et al.) had been based on the Armenian system of principalities.

⁶ The Kingdom of Cilician Armenia by Sirarpie Der Nersessian. - in: *A History of the Crusades*, vol. II, Philadelphia, 1962, pp. 630-659.

⁷ Eratosthenes: “The Tigris and Euphrates flow from Armenia to the south and enclose Mesopotamia” (*Eratosthenes’ Geography*. Fragments collected and translated, with commentary..., by Duane W. Roller, Princeton and Oxford, 2010, p. 186).

⁸ “*Ashkharhatsoyts*” [“*Geography*” or “*World Atlas*” - the geographic and cartographic description of Great Armenia, Armenia Minor, Armenian (Northern) Mesopotamia, neighbouring and remote countries (Մ.Տ.Երեմյան, Հայաստանը ըստ “Աշխարհացոյց”-ի, Երևան, 1963) on the basis of the ancient and early medieval mapping of the “inhabited (or known) world” – *oikumene*] was edited and continued in the 7th century by famous Armenian geographer, mathematician, the founder of Armenian natural philosophic thought Anania Shirakatsi.

toward the west through Armenia the Great, as it is called, to Armenia Minor¹... it leaves this and Commagene on the right hand; on the left Acilisene and Sophene, belonging to Great Armenia...². According to Claudius Ptolemy, Great Armenia “is terminated in the north by a part of Colchis, by Iberia, and Albania on the line which we have indicated as running along the Cyrus (Kura) river; on the west by Cappadocia along the accessible part of the Euphrates and the part of Pontus Cappadocia... on the east by a part of the Hyrcanium (Caspian) sea from the mouth of the Cyrus river... and by Media on the line leading to the Caspius mountains... on the south it is terminated by Mesopotamia... then by Assyria... The part of Armenia Minor farthest north is called Orbalisene, below this Aetulane, then Haeretica and below this Orsene and further south after Orsene is Orbisene...”³.

Great Armenia, Armenia Minor and Kilikia included correspondingly the whole territory of the Armenian Highland, adjacent Armenian (Northern) Mesopotamia, as well as the costal zones of the Black, Caspian and Mediterranean Seas.

A research on the Ottoman documents and publications revealed that “the government of Sultan Abdul Hamid II fallaciously substituted for the name Armenia such terms as Kurdistan⁴ or Anatolia”⁵ and Turkish forgers started to use wrongly “Eastern Anatolia”⁶ (instead of *Western Armenia*) in Turkish official documents and pseudo-scientific literature. They falsify even former Ottoman publications and maps in which Armenia had been mentioned⁷. Contrary to such a fraud the truth is that the word stem of the term “Anatolia” is the Greek word ἀνατολή (“east”)⁸ and “Anatolia” relates only to Asia

¹ Strabo XI. 12. 3. Cf. “...τῇ μεγάλῃ καλουμένην Ἀρμενίᾳ...”, “...ἐν Ἀρμενίᾳ τῇ μεγάλῃ” [Proc., De aedificiis, III. i. 17; v. 1].

² Strabo, op.cit.; cf. “... ἐν Ἀρμενίᾳ τῇ Σοφηνῆ καλουμένη...” (Proc., De aedificiis, III. ii. 2; iii. 1).

³ Ptol., V.12.1; cf. Strabo, XII, 3.29.

⁴ The present-day Kurds sometimes are mistakenly confused with the inhabitants of ancient Korduk (Corduene) (see: William Smith, A Smaller Classical Dictionary of Biography, Mythology and Geography, New York, 1883, p. 177). But Korduk was an Armenian region in Korchayk, the 6th Province of Great Armenia (Մ.Շրվախ, նշվ. աշխ., էջ 108). As noted by N. Adonts, “immigration of Kurd tribes into Armenia” started only since XVI c., as a result of Selim I’s expansionist policy (N Adonts, Towards the Solution of the Armenian Question, (London, 1920), Yerevan, 2007, pp. 51-52).

⁵ L. Sahakyan, Turkification of the Toponyms in the Ottoman Empire and the Republic of Turkey, Montreal, 2011, p. 12.

⁶ Continuing genocidal occupation and re-divisions of Western Armenia and Kilikia, the present-day administrative division of the Republic of Turkey had been established by the state-sponsored First Geography Congress, which was held in Ankara in 1941. Thus, the Turkish government continued the implementation of the plan to cover up the Armenian Genocide, at the same time, moving its military divisions to the borders of the Armenian SSR for purposes of aggression. Western Armenia was divided into the so-called “Eastern Anatolia” (with “Upper Euphrates”, “Erzurum-Kars”, “Upper Murat-Van”, “Hakkari” Subregions), “Southeastern Anatolia” (with “Middle Euphrates”, “Tigris” Subregions) Regions, “Eastern Black Sea Subregion”, and Kilikia was divided into “Adana” and “Antalya” Subregions of the “Mediterranean Region” (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Regions_of_Turkey). An example of genocidal “territorial appropriation” propagandized in the Republic of Turkey is the program of “Turkish Geographical Society. Activity Report, 2010”, where a “three years plan” (2010-2013) includes activities “in homeland (Internal and East Anatolian Fieldwork...)”, i.e. occupied Western Armenia is presented falsely as an “homeland” of Turkic nomadic invaders and their descendants - the genocide perpetrators.

⁷ L. Sahakyan, op. cit., p. 21-22.

⁸ H.G. Liddell, R.Scott. Greek-English Lexicon, Oxford, 1966, p. 123. Byzantine imperial *theme* system in Asia Minor had been formed since the middle of the 7th century to protect the Empire from the attacks of the expanding Arab khalifate (The Cambridge Medieval History, vol. IV, The Byzantine Empire, part I, Byzantium and its Neighbours, Cambridge, 1966, pp. 193, 194). The *Anatolikon theme* (μα Ἀκῶ) was in central Asia Minor, being settled by the army of the East (Ἀνατολή).

Minor.

G. Ripley and Ch. A. Dana noted: “Asia Minor, a peninsula at the western extremity of Asia... between lat. 36° and 42° N. and lon. 26° and 41° E., and bounded N. W. by the Dardanelles (the Hellespont of the ancients), N. by the sea of Marmora (Propontis), the Bosphorus, and the Black sea (Pontus Euxinus), E. by the Armenian mountains... S. by the Mediterranean, and W. by the Archipelago (the Aegean Sea)...”. With the same correct methodology Great Armenia and Armenia Minor are depicted to the east of Asia Minor on the map entitled “Ancient Asia Minor”¹.

Henry Lynch (1862–1913) also correctly wrote: “I have invited attention to the characteristics which Armenia shares in common with her neighbours in the series of the Asiatic tablelands, Persia on the east and Asia Minor on the west”². An adequate geographic perception is present also in “The Encyclopedia of World History”: “Asia Minor, or Anatolia, is a peninsula stretching westward from the Armenian mountains to the Aegean Sea, with the Black Sea to the north and the Mediterranean to the south ... Armenia is a mountainous region lying between the Black and Caspian Seas” and at the time of King Menua (810–786 BC) the Urartian (Araratian-E.D.) Kingdom included “the entire Armenian Highland area”³.

Thus, according to the historic sources and historiographical and geographical literature, *Anatolia* with all its parts (northern, southern, eastern and western) corresponds to Asia Minor situated to the west of the Armenian Highland⁴.

The Turkish official circles’ anti-Armenian policy of distortion and falsification of the Armenian geographic names is targeted at deleting from the historical memory the indigenous place names of the western part of the Armenian Homeland – Western Armenia and Kilikia which suffered the genocidal devastation. D. M. Lang noted with distress: “It is difficult to convey the horror of events of 1915, as the Ottoman government set into action its design for genocide. In April 1915, the Armenian intellectual and community leaders in Istanbul (Constantinople-E.D.) were rounded up and transported in ships to their doom; among the victims were a number of priests, poets, doctors, and the great composer Komitas”⁵.

Toponymic destruction was also planned by the criminal organizers and perpetrators of the Armenian Genocide. On January 5, 1916, during the genocide Enver Pasha (Deputy Commander-in-Chief) sent a “Decree” to the Turkish military-political authorities with the following misanthropic demand:

“1. It is important to change into Turkish all the names of provinces, regions, villages, mountains and rivers belonging to Armenian, Greek, Bulgarian and other non-Muslim

¹ George Ripley and Charles A. Dana, The American Cyclopaedia. Vol. 1, D. Appleton and Company, 1873. Ancient country names and aboriginal peoples of Asia Minor (Hatti, Hittites, Kasca, Kizzuwatna-Cilicia, Troada, Mysia, Bithynia, Aeolis, Ionia, Doris, Lydia, Caria, Lycia, Pisidia, Pamphylia, Phrygia, Lycaonia, Paphlagonia, Galatia, Pontus, Cappadocia) are quite well known from ancient and medieval sources and maps.

² H. F. B. Lynch, Armenia: Travels and Studies, vol. I, London, 1901, p. 439.

³ “The Encyclopedia of World History: Ancient, Medieval and Modern”, Sixth edition, Boston, 2001, <http://worldhistory.50webs.com/111.html>; <http://worldhistory.50webs.com/116.html>; <http://worldhistory.50webs.com/118.html>

⁴ Л. Н. Зорбян, , 1979, . 14-15. Է.Լ. Պանինյան, Հին Հայաստանի պատմության հայեցակարգային հիմնահարցերը պատմագրության մեջ. – ՊԲՀ, N 3, 2003, էջ 30-37:

⁵ D. M. Lang, op. cit., 288.

peoples. Making use swiftly of this favourable moment, we beseech your help in carrying out this order.

2. Cooperating with military commanders and administrative personnel within the boundaries of your jurisdiction, respective lists of name changes should be formed of provinces, regions, villages, etc. and be forwarded to military headquarters as soon as possible...

3. It is imperative that the new names reflect the history of our hard-working, exemplary and praiseworthy military... It should be borne in mind that any sudden change of a conventional name into an inconvenient or improper one may bring about the continuation of using the old name by the population. Therefore, new names should be chosen taking all this into consideration..."¹.

Clive Foss notes that the Turkish government "has been systematically changing the names of villages to make them more Turkish. Any name which does not have a meaning in Turkish, or does not sound Turkish, whatever its origin, is replaced by a banal name assigned by a bureau in Ankara, with no respect to local conditions or traditions"².

From the very beginning of their rule the Kemalist leaders and their accomplices in the Republic of Turkey used the former Turkish regimes' genocidal experience and the methods of falsification of the history of Armenia and toponymical distortions for the criminal denial of the Armenian Genocide. With regard to falsification of the history of Armenia by Esat Uras, Christopher Walker in his book-review unveiling the fallaciousness of Esat's book, noted: "Uras shows no understanding of the history or even the reality of Armenia"³. Uras denies the Armenian Genocide by falsifying the Armenian history and historical geography⁴.

In some studies (with methodological manipulations) the obliteration and distortion of toponyms in Turkey were erroneously attributed to the so-called "nation-building projects", instead of unveiling their real criminal background. For example, Asli Gür writes: "If we examine the relationship between the archaeological practices and the nation-building projects in Turkey since the early twentieth century, we see that dominant ideologies of nationalism influenced the way the names and images of archaeological sites and artifacts were appropriated and circulated publicly through icons, images, slogans, and stories...". Asli Gür describes Atatürk's sponsored forgery as an act influenced by "dominant ideologies of nationalism"⁵, instead of defining it as a part of genocidal policy, because all the actions of "the Turkish state-building" have been motivated and led by discriminative, violent and illegal actions based on the criminal denial of the Armenian Genocide. The pseudo-scientific rhetoric of the author

¹ See: L. Sahakyan, op. cit., p. 7, 14.

² Clive Foss, "The Turkish View of Armenian History: A Vanishing Nation". – The Armenian Genocide. History, Politics, Ethics, New York, 1992, p. 268. Examples of many thousands of changed and distorted names are "Sipkor" instead of Armenian Surb Grigor (St. Grigor), "Göz" instead of Arm. Kes (half), "Muradie" instead of Arm. Berkri, "Murad-su" instead of Arm. Aratsani, "Bitlis" instead of Arm. Baghesh, "Bingyol" instead of Arm. Byurakn, "Sos Hüyük" instead of Arm. Sosi, "Aghri-dagh" instead of Arm. Ararat-Masis and many others.

³ "The Armenians in History and the Armenian question". By Esat Uras. An English translation of the revised and expanded second edition, pp. xiv, 1048. Ankara, Documentary Publications, 1988. - Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland, 1990, N 1, p. 166.

⁴ Esat Uras, op. cit., pp. 123, 155.

⁵ Asli Gür, Political Excavations of the Anatolian Past: Nationalism and Archaeology in Turkey. – Controlling the Past, Owning the Future: The Political Uses of Archaeology in the Middle East, Tuscon, 2010, p. 73.

disguises the fact of the Turkish predatory policy, primarily with regard to the occupied Armenian territories and cultural heritage. Asli Gür had to remember that the heritages of other ethnic groups [Assyrians, Greeks (against whom the crime of genocide was also committed)¹, as well as of those who passed away long ago (in the 2nd-1st millennia BC: Hittites, Lydians, Phrygians and others)] have also been systematically plundered by the orders of Turkish authorities.

World history is fundamentally falsified in “the Turkish History Thesis”. Concerning its absurdity Clive Foss critically writes: “... **This might seem to be manifest nonsense**, especially as it was obvious that Chinese and Indians were not Turks. There was an easy explanation: the Turks arrived, brought civilization, then were absorbed by the local population”. Clive Foss reveals the “essence” and goal of Kemal’s fraud: “Far more important for the future were developments in the Near East, which the migrating Turks entered by a route south of the Caspian. They brought irrigation and drainage to a land of swamps and established the first organized Turkish states and cities in Sumer and Elam. The Sumerians developed the world’s first writing system... using it to express their Turkish language. Archaeology reveals the grandeur of their civilization. From there, around 5000 BC, Turks entered their holy land of Anatolia and a millennium later had established the Turkish Hittite (Eti) civilization; all this confirmed by excavations in Asia Minor. The language of the Hittites was Turkish, not Semitic or Indo-European...”. Unmasking the pan-Turkist background of Kemal’s fraud, Clive Foss, writes: “Atatürk’s accomplishments... owe much to the previous discredited regime, the CUP, the “Young Turks” who ran the country from 1908 until the end of the First World War... They had ideas that found resonance in the Thesis. Their great nationalist ideologue, Ziya Gökalp (1876–1924), wrote an immensely popular poem describing how the five sons of the ancestral Türk Han rode out from Central Asia to establish the Sumerian, Hittite, Chinese, Indian and Scythian civilizations. Schoolbooks in use in these years presented the Turks... as one of the most ancient nations, originators of agriculture, textiles, and metal tools and weapons. Radiating from Central Asia, they founded states and supported the arts and sciences...”. Clive Foss concludes: “The Thesis exercised an influence that has not completely disappeared”².

Even some archaeologists of other countries have followed Turkish pseudo-scientific “interpretations” of history and falsifications of geographical names, feeding grist to the mill of Turkish forgers of history. Such politicized “research” activities resulted, for example, in publication of pseudo-archaeological books entitled “Ancient Turkey: a Traveller’s History” (1989, 1999) by Seton Lloyd³ and “Ancient Turkey” by Antonio

¹ Alfred de Zayas, op. cit., p.25.

² Clive Foss, “When Turks Civilized the World”, p. 13, 16.

³ Seton Lloyd, “Ancient Turkey: a Traveller’s History”. Published by arrangement with British Museum Press, London, 1999. In the British Museum the exhibit of “Room 54” was entitled falsely “Ancient Turkey” (see: E. L. Danielyan, Progressive British Figures’ Appreciation of Armenia’s Civilizational Significance Versus the Falsified “Ancient Turkey” Exhibit in the British Museum, Yerevan, 2013). It has been recently changed into “Anatolia and Urartu 7000-300 BC” (http://www.britishmuseum.org/explore/galleries/middle_east/room_54_anatolia_and_urartu.aspx). But, on the one hand, Anatolia historically corresponds only to Asia Minor, on the other hand, the Armenian Araratian (Ararat-Urartu) Kingdom was in the Armenian Highland, including the whole territory of Armenia (Eastern and Western Armenia), thus it is necessary to exhibit the archaeological materials presented in “Room 54” in two separate galleries under the titles: “Ancient Armenia” and “Ancient Asia Minor” with correct chronological, historical and geographical data and interpretations.

Sagona and Paul E. Zimansky¹. Archaeological materials are politicized by falsified terminology, and the ancient cultural heritage of Western Armenia is lootingly ascribed to non-existent “ancient Turkey”².

In contrast to the falsified concept of “ancient Turkey”, the progressive British³, French and Russian figures in the 17th – 20th cc. associated cultural-spiritual perception of Armenia with the Biblical Paradise and the cradle of mankind and civilization⁴ expressing their inspiration for Armenia⁵ and its spiritual roots in history.

A spiritual concept concerning *Ararat* and *Armenia* was observed in British and French literature (e.g.: “L’Arménie revendique pour elle l’honneur d’avoir été le pays choisi par Dieu pour y créer l’Eden; aux sources de ces quatre fleuves... Noé sortit de l’arche et descendit jusqu’au pied du mont Ararat... L’Arménie doit être considérée comme le berceau du monde”)⁶. Lord Byron wrote about the Armenians and Armenia: “Whatever may have been their destiny - and it has been bitter - whatever it may be in future, their country must ever be one of the most interesting on the globe; and perhaps their language only requires to be more studied... It is a rich language... If the Scriptures are rightly understood, it was in Armenia that Paradise was placed... It was in Armenia

¹ **A. Sagona, P. Zimansky**, “Ancient Turkey”, London, 2009 <http://trove.nla.gov.au/work/26680286?q&versionId=45135352>. As follows from the contents of the book [1. Introduction, 2. Earliest arrivals: The Paleolithic and Epipaleolithic (1,000,000-9600 BC), 3. A new social order: Pre-Pottery Neolithic (9600-7000 BC), 4. Anatolia transformed: From Pottery Neolithic through Middle Chalcolithic (7000-4000 BC), 5. Metalsmiths and migrants: Late Chalcolithic and the Early Bronze Age (ca. 4000-2000 BC), 6. Foreign merchants and native states: Middle Bronze Age (2000-1650 BC), 7. Anatolia’s empire: Hittite domination and the Late Bronze Age (1650-1200 BC), 8. Legacy of the Hittites: Southern Anatolia in the Iron Age (1200-600 BC), 9. A kingdom of fortresses: Urartu and eastern Anatolia in the Iron Age (1200-600 BC), 10. New cultures in the west: The Aegean coast, Phrygia, and Lydia (1200-550 BC)] the authors crammed the ancient history of Armenia and Asia Minor into a book under a false title with the name of non-existent “ancient Turkey” by distortion of geographic and historic facts and toponyms.

² **A. Sagona**, The Asvan Sites 3: Keban Rescue Excavations, Eastern Anatolia. The Early Bronze Age. - British Institute of Archaeology at Ankara, Monograph no. 18, London and Ankara, 1994; **A. Sagona** and **C. Sagona**, Archaeology at the North-East Anatolian Frontier. Vol. 1. An Historical Geography and a Survey of the Bayburt Province, Louvain, 2004; **A. Sagona**, The Heritage of Eastern Turkey: From the Earliest Settlements to Islam. New York & Melbourne, 2006, etc. In these publications the terms “Eastern Turkey” and “Eastern Anatolia” are applied incorrectly with regard to the western part of the *Armenian Highland*, and the ancient and medieval Armenian historic heritage of Western Armenia is falsely presented as “the heritage of Eastern Turkey”; instead of the indigenous Armenian place names, modern Turkish ones are wrongfully used.

³ The British spiritual and cognitive interest towards Armenia was earlier reflected in the Hereford Mappa Mundi (“unique in Britain’s heritage, an outstanding treasure of the medieval world, it records how thirteenth-century scholars interpreted the world in spiritual as well as geographical terms...” (<http://www.herefordcathedral.org/visit-us/mappa-mundi-1>)). The Hereford Mappa Mundi - World map reflects the Biblical perceptions of Armenia: Noah’s Ark in the mountains of Armenia, Armenia Superior (Great), Armenia Minor.

⁴ **Père Dom Augustin Calmet**, George Gordon Byron, M. J. Saint-Martin, Marie-Félicité Brosset, Sergei Glinka, Valery Bryusov, Sergey Gorodetsky, A. H. Sayce, H. Lynch, Arnold J. Toynbee, David M. Lang et al..

⁵ **Movses Khorenatsi’s** “History of Armenia” (from ancient times till 440 AD) and Ashkharhatsoys” were translated into Latin by Gulielmus & Georgius, Gul. Whistoni brothers (**Mosis Chorenensis** Historiae Armeniacae. Libri III. Praefatio... Accedit ejusdem Scriptoris Epitome Geographiae. Armeniace ediderunt, Latine verterunt, notisque illustrarunt Gulielmus & Georgius, Gul. Whistoni filii, Londini, 1736).

⁶ Dictionnaire historique, archéologique, philologique, géographique et littéral de la Bible par le Rev. Père Dom Augustin Calmet (1672-1757), quatrième édition..., publiée par M. l’abbé Migne, tome premier, Paris, 1846, p. 590, **H. C. Rawlinson**, A commentary on the cuneiform inscriptions of Babylonia and Assyria, London, 1850, pp. 40, 70, **J. Oppert**, Expédition scientifique que en Mésopotamie, Paris, 1863, t. I, pp. 18, 354; H. Layard, Discoveries in the ruins of Nineveh and Babylon, London, 1853, p. 403, see: **Ա. Խումիկյան**, Հին Հայաստանի մասին հիերոգլիֆ և սեպագիր արձանագրությունների վկայությունները XIX դ. ֆրանսիացի արևելագետների լուսաբանմամբ. - Հայոց պատմության հարցեր, 10, Ե., 2009, էջ 3-13.

that the food first abated, and the dove alighted”¹.

British Assyriologist and linguist A.H. Sayce used the names of Armenia, Ararat, Van, Vannic Kingdom and Kings with great accuracy. He wrote: “It is now more than half a century ago that the existence of inscriptions written in the Cuneiform character, and found in different parts of Armenia, first became known. The French Professor, Saint-Martin, in 1823, gave an account in the *Journal Asiatique* of the antiquities of Van, and drew attention to the fact that the Armenian historian, Moses [Movses] of Khorene, had described them in such detail as to make it probable he had seen them with his own eyes”².

Unlike A.Sayce who defined the period of the Kingdom of Van as “the forgotten early history of Armenia”, S.Lloyd entitled his book’s Chapter 10: “Urartu: a Long-Forgotten Nation” S.Lloyd wrote: “In addition to all the Anatolian provinces north or east of the upper Tigris and Euphrates³, it occupied large parts of what are now Soviet Armenia⁴ and Iranian Azerbaijan”⁵. He baselessly considered the name “Urartu”, as if “wrongly spelt as Ararat”⁶. S.Lloyd used many Armenian geographic names of Western Armenia - Mt.Sipan, Mt.Nemrut, Eriza, Eraskh/Arax, Aratsani, Archesh, Manazkert in distorted Turkish forms: Süpan, Nemrut Dag, Erzincan, the Aras, the Murat Su, Ercis, Malazgirt, etc. S. Lloyd also applied wrongly the term “Anatolia” to western part of the territory of Armenia⁷, writing: “... this highland of eastern Turkey” or “eastern Anatolia”⁸. Another example of the refutation of the Turkish expansionist falsified “geographical nomenclature” is A.Khurt’s book, where the western part of the Armenian Highland is

¹ Lord Byron’s Armenian Exercises and Poetry. Venice: in the Island of St. Lazzaro, 1870, p. 8, 10-12.

² Archibald Henry Sayce, The Cuneiform Inscriptions of Van, deciphered and translated - The Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland (JRAS), New Series, Vol. 14, No.4, Oct. London, 1882, p. 377. Despite Western Armenia being occupied by the Ottoman Empire in the 19th century, Sayce mentioned Armenia with steadiness in relation to the discovery of cuneiform inscriptions in Western and Eastern Armenia. He noted in particular: “Sir A.H.Layard had already visited Armenia in 1850, at the time when he was excavating in Assyria, and had there made copies of the inscriptions in Van and its immediate neighbourhood... Inscriptions in the Vannic character now began to be noticed to the north and east of Armenia” (Ibid., p. 385). Later Sayce again mentioned Armenia and Ararat in connection with Van and the cuneiforms discovered there: “Inscription of Menuas, King of Ararat, in the Vannic language...”. In another his work published in 1888 (Records of the Past, Being English Translations of the Ancient Monuments of Egypt and Western Asia) he mentioned “... Kings who ruled on the shores of Lake Van in Armenia, from the ninth to the seventh centuries before our era”. Sayce used correct toponyms, adequate to Armenia’s historic heritage. While mentioning the sites in Armenia, where inscriptions had been found, he noted: “It is to the period of Shalmaneser II... that we must refer the date of the introduction of the cuneiform syllabary into Armenia” (A.Sayce, The Cuneiform Inscriptions of Van, p. 388, 389, 394, 402, 405).

³ This territories correspond to Western Armenia.

⁴ This mention is from the previous publication (1989) of the book by S.Lloyd; this part was not edited in the publication of 1999.

⁵ Seton Lloyd, op. cit., p. 96.

⁶ It is an incorrect opinion, because “Urartu” is an Assyrian form of the original Armenian name *Ararat*.

⁷ Seton Lloyd mentioned only *Soviet Armenia*, which included a part of Eastern Armenia.

⁸ Ibid., pp. 94, 98, 109. An example of geographically incorrect presentation of archaeological data is the following interpretation. The territory characterized by the term “Golden Triangle” (the 11th-7th millennia BC) is denoted in Northern Syria, “southeast of Anatolia” and western Zagros (E. Asouti, Beyond the Pre-Pottery Neolithic B interaction sphere. - Journal of World Prehistory, 2006, p. 97). But the expression “southeast of Anatolia” is incorrectly used instead of *the South-West* of the Armenian Highland and the adjacent territory of Armenian (Northern) Mesopotamia, where archaeological monuments of the earliest civilizational significance were discovered (K. Schmidt, Sie bauten die ersten Tempel, München, 2006). In the Neolithic period obsidian was exported from Armenia to Mesopotamia and countries of the Near East (J. Dixon, J. Cann, C. Renfrew, Obsidian and the Origins of Trade. - Scientific America, 1968, N 218, p. 46).

wrongly called “eastern Anatolia”¹. Falsifications are obvious, because “Anatolia” never covered territory out of Asia Minor.

The most overwhelming contradictions in abortive attempts of the Turkish falsifiers and their accomplices to “revise history” in accordance with their maniacal “visions” are determined by the fact that their ancestors Seljuk and Oguz Turkic nomadic tribes² (from the trans-Altai and trans-Aral regions) had violently invaded Armenia, the Byzantine Empire and the adjacent lands from the second half of the 60s of the 11th c., and the Ottomans – from the late 13th c.³, thus they had no association with the ancient and medieval history or original toponymy of Armenia, Asia Minor, the territories on the left bank of the Kura⁴ and so on. Since the beginning of their invasions till the present time, devastations, plunder and annihilation of Armenian historical relics have been carried out on the lands occupied by those nomads and their savage descendants⁵.

After the Artsakh Liberation War the defeated Azerbaijani aggressors and their henchmen cling to falsifications using them for the resumption of war propaganda⁶. Anti-

¹ A.Khurt. The Ancient Near East. London and New York, 1998, vol II, p. 547–562.

² Alan Palmer noted: “Originally the Turks were nomadic horsemen from Central Asia...” (A. Palmer, The Decline and Fall of the Ottoman Empire, New York, 1994, p. 2).

³ Their “eponym, ‘Osmān, was the son of a certain Ertoghrl who had led into Anatolia (Asia Minor - E.D.) a nameless band of Turkish refugees: an insignificant fragment of the human wreckage...” (Arnold J. Toynbee, A Study of History, vol. II, London, New York, Toronto, 1955, p. 151). Some expressions from this extract were wrongly changed by D.C. Somervell, so the meaning of this passage unjustifiably underwent a change in the abridged version of the book (“...of one Ertoghrl the leader of a nameless band of refugees ...”) (D. C. Somervell, A Study of History by Arnold J. Toynbee, Abridgement of Volumes I-VI, New York, Oxford, 1987, p. 113).

⁴ The boundary between Great Armenia and proper Aluank (in Armenian sources) (“Albania” in antique sources) was along the Kura (Strabo, XII, 3.29). Paytakaran (the eleventh of the 15 provinces of Great Armenia, see: Մ.Երեմյան, Աշխ., էջ 109) was to the south of the Eraskh (Arax) river and from its confluence with the Kura, bordered on the south-east by the Caspian Sea and on the south by Atropatene.

⁵ The American journalist R. D. Kaplan witnessed the destruction of the Armenian civilization in Western Armenia, where he traveled, reaching Trapezunt. He wrote that except for an occasional ruin “every trace of Armenian civilization has been erased...” (R.Kaplan, Eastward to Tartary, New York, 2000, p.318). At the dawn of the 21st century, after innumerable assaults of the previous decades, the surviving clusters of many thousand Armenian cross-stones (khachkars) in the Armenian Cemetery of Old Jugha (modern Julfa) (in the ancient Armenian gavar Goghtan to the south-east of the Nakhijevan gavar) were destroyed, by the sanctions of the criminal Azerbaijani authorities (see: Julfa. The Annihilation of the Armenian Cemetery by Nakhijevan’s Azerbaijani Authorities, Beirut, 2006). New evidences of the programmed annihilation of the Armenian cultural heritage (by the sanctions of the criminal Turkish authorities) in Western Armenia are the turning of Surb Arakelots (Holy Apostles) Armenian Church into a mosque (<http://news.am/eng/news/136463.html#>), the destruction of the old Armenian houses in Mush (in Taron gavar) in 2013 (<http://armenpress.am/eng/news/724842/>) et al.

⁶ Anti-Armenian harangues by I. Aliev, the president of the Republic of Azerbaijan, are a manifestation of the state-sanctioned official policies intended to counterfeit history. At the annual general meeting of the NAS of Azerbaijan (26/04/2011) he ordered his “academician-historians” to increase the number of “solid scientific works that Nagorno Karabakh is an ancient and indigenous Azerbaijani land” (<http://news.mail.ru/inworld/azerbaijan/politics/5792292/>). Criticizing falsification mania that Azerbaijan’s president is possessed with, V. Zakharov wrote: “In the heat of the moment, Ilham Aliev resorts to anti-historical statements... for him, a graduate of Moscow State Institute of International Relations, it is a shame not to know history... The Azerbaijani leader on November 20, 2009 cynically declared: “... Irevan khanate, Zangezur makhal are Azerbaijani lands... The Armenian state was created on Azerbaijani soil. Now they want to create the second one. It defies all logic, the Azerbaijani people, the Azerbaijani state will never agree with it”. Condemning anti-historic fever of I. Aliev, V.Zakharov noted: “It is a shame to read this historical nonsense... The underlying meaning is evident in this speech: Aliev tries to substantiate the Azerbaijani side’s claims not only to Karabakh, but also to the territory of the Republic of Armenia” (“

Armenian hostility and aggressive practice are characteristic to Azerbaijani “history” inventors fabricating a forged “history” in complete disregard of historical sources¹, at the same time falsifying history of Armenia, Russia, Iran and other countries².

Completely falsified Azerbaijani school “history” textbooks are full of hostile aggressiveness and hatred against Armenia, as evidenced in one of such obscurantist “productions”: “Modern Armenia emerged on the territory of ancient Western Azerbaijan”³. But the fact is that only since the middle of 1918 the name “Azerbaijan”⁴ has been illegally and falsely applied to a territory (eastward from the Kura to the Caspian Sea shore) out of Iranian Azerbaijan. Thus, all the delirious stuff that the present-day Azerbaijani pseudo-historians fabricate about the so-called “Western” or “Northern Azerbaijan” is a complete gibberish⁵.

Thus, Turkish falsification of the Armenian history, demolition and appropriation

... 2011, . 4, 53-58).

¹ Azerbaijani aggressive leadership and pseudo-historians, following their Turkish “brethren”, also distort the history and geography of Armenia, fabricating the term “Western Azerbaijan”, as is seen, for example, from the antiscientific book “Monuments of Western Azerbaijan” published in Baku (A. Alakbarli. Les Monuments d’Azerbaïdjan d’Ouest, Baku, 2007) with a fabricated “*The map of western Azerbaijan (actually the “Republic of Armenia”) the homeland of the ancient Oghuz Turks*”. This bellicose ignorance is a complete falsification of the Armenian history. As noted R. Galichyan, “the editors of this megalomaniac fantasy are Azerbaijani academicians... who, contrary to their academic calling have carried deceit and fabrication to the extreme” (R. Galichian, op. cit., p. 12).

² Azerbaijani fakers try to ascribe to artificial “Azerbaijan” the history of neighbouring countries, particularly, stealing the history of Armenia. In this sphere very active is the head of the president I. Aliev’s administration R. Mekhtiev. Paying attention to the absurdity of his notorious article “Goris-2010 the season of the theatre of the absurd” (it was republished from the newspaper « ... » in: « ... »),

2010) V. Zakharov noted: “Such literature is not read in any respectable western academic centre. The Baku publication samples handed to participants of any forum, remain in hotel rooms or turn to be in dustbins” (“ ... ”, . 20 ... , . 130-150.). The criticism of Mekhtiev’s absurd concoction see: ... , . 21- ... , N 3, 2011, . 90-110 et al.

³ Алиев В., Ю. Юсифов, И. Бабаев ... 6- ... : ... , 2002, . 4. Azerbaijani text-books’ fabrications are criticized sharply by Russian historians (Д.Я. Бондаренко, А.И. Вдовин, А.Д. Жуков ... , “О ... ”, ... , 2009, . 5-6, 17, 24-26, 59, 69-70, 242, 244 et al.).

⁴ Artificial “Azerbaijan” had a heterogeneous population a part of which consisted of alien Turkic speaking Muslims. They were mentioned as “Caucasian” or “Transcaucasian Tatars” in the statistical materials (the late 19th c. – early 20th c.) of the former Russian Empire (see: G. Stepanyan, Armenians of Baku province in the second half of the 19th century (historical-demographic study, Yerevan, 2013, p. 14). In the 1920s the Turkic-speaking part of the Azerbaijan SSR’s population was called “Turks” in official materials of the population census of the USSR (see: ... , I. ... , 1926, . 641). Only since the end of the 1930s appeared the term “Azerbaijanis” in the Azerbaijan SSR, according to the population census of the USSR (... , I, ... 2, ... , 1949, . 440), and a fabrication of “history” was intensified.

⁵ Azerbaijani pseudo-historians falsify the history and geography of Armenia with unbridled ignorance, distorting the Armenian name of Erebuni-Erevan and many other geographic names, and fabricate “history” for non-existent in ancient, medieval and modern times and artificially shaped “Azerbaijan”. For example, in her pseudo-scientific book F. Mamedova distorts history and geography, artificially narrowing the territory of Armenia and the Armenian Highland, thus applying falsely the term “Albania” to the territory of Eastern Armenia, etc. Such manipulations with geographic names demonstrate her complete ignorance in history and historical geography. She falsifies the geographic position of Armenia, writing: “Armenia is on the territory of Asia Minor”, “...Armenian principalities on the territory of Eastern Anatolia” (... , “ ... ”, ... , 2005, . 15, 118, 195-196, 646). F. Mamedova’s book is a total mess, where history and geography are completely falsified.

of the historical relics have gone in parallel with erasing Armenian place names, as an indication of the genocidal policy. The uprooting millennia-old original toponyms of Western Armenia and Kilikia has been carried out with the purpose to redraw western Armenian lands' political-demographic mapping and to cover up the Armenian Genocide. The Turkish occupants are horrified of the Armenian place names of Western Armenia and Kilikia, which are the reminders of genocide and living evidence for reparations¹. The governments of Turkey and Azerbaijan spend enormous financial resources for falsifications of the history and historic geography of Armenia. It shows the supreme power of authentic reality of the Armenian history, toponymy and the historic memory as overwhelming resources of national security.

The historical and geographical terminology of the Armenian Highland, constituting the essential system of the Armenian place names, belongs to the pivotal layer of the Armenian ethnolinguistic mentality. Toponyms represent the Armenian natural historic environment and cultural heritage's significance, possessing fundamental importance. The guarantors of the Armenian toponyms' protection are the Republic of Armenia and the Artsakh Republic (the NKR).

Է. Դանիելյան

ՀԱՅԿԱԿԱՆ ՏԵՂԱՆՈՒՆՆԵՐԻ ԹՈՒՐԳ-ԱԴՐԲԵՋԱՆԱԿԱՆ ԿԵՂԾԱՐԱՐՈՒԹՅՈՒՆԸ ՈՐՊԵՍ ՑԵՂԱՍՊԱՆ ՔԱՂԱՔԱԿԱՆՈՒԹՅԱՆ ԴՐՍԵՎՈՐՈՒՄ

1. Հայաստանի ավելի քան տասնազարամյա պատմամշակութային ռեսուրսները, որպես ճանաչողական գործոններ, կարևոր նշանակություն ունեն ազգային անվտանգության համակարգում: Հայկական տեղանունները խորհրդանշում են Հայկական լեռնաշխարհում հայ ազգի տեղաբնիկությունը և մշակութակերտ գործունեությունը՝ էթնո-հոգևոր և քաղաքակրթական արմատներով Հայոց պետականության հիմնասյունը, վկայված հնագիտական և ճարտարապետական հուշարձաններով, ժայռապատկերներով, ինչպես նաև պատմահամեմատական ու լեզվաժամանակագրական մեթոդներով կատարվող լեզվաբանական հետազոտություններով վերհանվող արդյունքներով:
2. Հայկական էթնո-աշխարհագրական անվանումների ամբողջական

¹ The Armenian demand for the restoration of historical justice and the return of native lands - Western Armenia and Kilikia (occupied by Turkey) is in the basis of the Armenian Genocide reparations and restitutions (Harut Sassounian, What's next on Armenian Genocide? Beyond recognition, towards restitution. - The Armenian Reporter, May 28, 2013 <http://www.reporter.am/go/article/2013-05-28-what-s-next-on-armenian-genocide-beyond-recognition-towards-restitution>. See also Henry Theriault: The Reparations Movement and Meaningful Resolution of the Armenian Genocide. - The Armenian Weekly, April 2010 Magazine, pp. 27-30 (http://www.armenianweekly.com/wp-content/files/Armenian_Weekly_April_2010.pdf), A. de Zayas noted: "The Turkish State remains liable for the crimes committed by the Ottoman Empire... the obligation of the genocidal State to make reparation, does not lapse with time" (A.de Zayas, op. cit., pp. 12, 41), cf. Վ. Մարգարյան, Հայերի դեմ իրագործված ցեղասպանության համար Թուրքիայի Հանրապետության միջազգային իրավական պատասխանատվության հիմքերը, եղանակները, ձևերը և տեսակները. - «Նորավանք» ԳԿՀ Տեղեկագիր N 1, Երևան, 2006, էջ 76-86: Ա. Մարտիրոսյան, Հայոց ցեղասպանության հետևանքների հաղթահարման հիմնախնդիրը: Իրավաքաղաքական հիմնավորումների ուրվագիծ. - «ՎԷԼ» համահայկական հանդես, Երևան, 2012, N 2, էջ 10-34].

ՀԱՅԿԱԿԱՆ ՏԵՂԱՆՈՒՆՆԵՐԻ ԹՈՒՐԳ-ԱԴՐԲԵՋԱՆԱԿԱՆ
ԿԵՂԾԱՐԱՐՈՒԹՅՈՒՆԸ ՈՐՊԵՍ ՑԵՂԱՍՊԱՆ
ՔԱՂԱՔԱԿԱՆՈՒԹՅԱՆ ԴՐՍԵՎՈՐՈՒՄ

համակարգը բնութագրում է Հայաստանի (Արևմտյան և Արևելյան Հայաստան)՝ հայ ժողովրդի Հայրենիքի բնապատմական միջավայրը և սոցիալ-քաղաքական պատմությունը: Հին և միջին դարերում Հայաստան-Արմենիան և Հայոց պետականությունը լի դեմս թագավորությունների և իշխանությունների (սախարարական) համակարգի՝ վկայվել են պատմական սկզբնաղբյուրներում Արատտա, Արմանում, Հայասա, Նաիրի, Արարատ (Ուրարտու)–Բիայնա (Վան), Արմինա, Մեծ Հայք և Փոքր Հայք, Կիլիկյան Հայաստան և այլ անուններով:

3. XVI-XVII դդ. թուրք-պարսկական պատերազմներից ու Հայաստանի բաժանումներից հետո Օսմանյան կայսրությունը կատարում էր Արևմտյան Հայաստանի [Մեծ Հայքի արևմտյան մաս, Փոքր Հայք և Հայոց (Հյուսիսային) Միջագետք] և Կիլիկիայի տեղանունների աղձատումներ և փոփոխություններ, որպես պանթուրքիզմի վայրենի գաղափարախոսության վրա հիմնված զավթողական քաղաքականության դրսևորում: Ժամանակի ընթացքում այն վերածվեց ցեղասպանության ծրագրի ընդդեմ բնիկ հայ բնակչության, դրսևորվելով նաև հայկական տեղանունների այլակերպման և ոչնչացման, XIX դ. վերջին տասնամյակներից Հայաստան անվան օգտագործման արգելման ու Արևմտյան Հայաստանում հայերի ջարդերի միջոցով: Օսմանյան կայսրության, երիտթուրքերի և քեմալականների հակահայկական զավթողական քաղաքականության արդյունքն էր Հայոց ցեղասպանությունը (1915– 1923 թթ.): Հայաստանի պատմության ու տեղանունների կեղծարարությունները ԱԽՍՀ-ում և Ետխորհրդային Ադրբեջանի Հանրապետությունում ահռելի չափերի հասան: Արցախյան ազատագրական պատերազմում կրած պարտությունից հետո ագրեսիվ Ադրբեջանը դրանք օգտագործում է Հայաստանի Հանրապետության և Լեռնային Ղարաբաղի Հանրապետության (ԼՂՀ–Արցախ) դեմ ռազմամոլ քարոզչության նպատակով:
4. Թուրքական ներկայիս իշխանությունները, շարունակելով զավթողական քաղաքականությունը, հայկական աշխարհագրական անունների ոչնչացման ծրագիրը ծառայեցնում են ցեղասպանության ժխտմանը: Նրանց են հետևում նաև ադրբեջանական կեղծարարները:
5. Աղբյուրների հաղորդումները վկայում են Հայոց պատմության և տեղանունների քաղաքակրթական նշանակության մասին, դրանով իսկ բացահայտվում է դրանք կեղծողների ու ոչնչացնողների հանցավորությունը: Զորջթաունի համալսարանի պրոֆեսոր Քլայվ Ֆոսը նշում է, որ թուրքական կառավարությունը «պարբերաբար փոփոխում է գյուղերի անվանումները... Ցանկացած անուն, որ չունի թուրքերեն իմաստ, կամ չի հնչում թուրքերենով, անկախ դրա ծագումից, փոխարինվում է՝ Անկարայում գտնվող բյուրոյի կողմից նախատեսված սովորական անունով, առանց հարգանքի տեղական պայմանների կամ ավանդույթների նկատմամբ»:

6. Թուրք կեղծարարները Արևմտյան Հայաստան հասկացության փոխարեն սխալ կերպով օգտագործում են «Արևելյան Անատոլիա» տերմինը, իսկ ադրբեջանական կեղծարարները Արևելյան Հայաստան հասկացության փոխարեն հորինում են «Արևմտյան Ադրբեջան» և սխալ կիրառմամբ՝ «Ալբանիա» տերմինները: Սակայն, ըստ պատմական աղբյուրների և պատմագիտական ու աշխարհագրական գրականության, Անատոլիան իր բոլոր մասերով (հյուսիսային, հարավային, արևելյան և արևմտյան) համապատասխանում է Փոքր Ասիային, որը գտնվում է Հայկական լեռնաշխարհից արևմուտք: Իսկ «Ադրբեջան» հասկացությունը նդհանրապես գոյություն չի ունեցել ժամանակակից Իրանական Ադրբեջանից (Ադարբազան՝ հին Ատրոպատենե աշխարհագրական անունից, հայկական միջնադարյան աղբյուրներում՝ Ատրպատական) դուրս: «Ադրբեջան» անվանումը 1918թ. կեսերից կողոպտվել է Իրանական Ադրբեջանից և տրվել պանթուրքական նպատակներով արհեստականորեն ստեղծված վարչա-քաղաքական միավորին:
7. Անտիկ հունա-հռոմեական աղբյուրներում հիշատակված «Ալբանիա» անվանումը համապատասխանում էր Մեծ Հայքից արևելք գտնվող և հայկական սկզբնաղբյուրներում հիշատակված բուն Աղուանքին՝ Կուրի ձախ ափին: Սահմանը Մեծ Հայքի և բուն Աղուանքի միջև անցնում էր Կուր գետով: Երասխի (Արաքս) և Կուրի ստորին հոսանքներից հարավ գտնվում էր Փայտակարանը՝ Մեծ Հայքի հարավ-արևելյան նահանգը, որից արևելք Կասպից ծովն էր, իսկ հարավում՝ սահմանակից էր Ատրպատականին:
8. Արևմտյան Հայաստանում, Կիլիկիայում և Արևելյան Հայաստանի Նախիջևան, Գողթան, Ուտիք շրջաններում հայկական պատմական հուշարձանների ավերածությունների, թալանի և ոչնչացման հետ մեկտեղ շարունակվում է հայկական տեղանունների աղձատումները և ոչնչացումը: XXI դ. սկզբին ոչնչացվեց հայկական խաչքարերի վերջին (նախորդ տասնամյակներում ոչնչացված տասը հազարից մնացած) խումբը Հին Ջուղայի հայկական գերեզմանատանը (հին հայկական Գողթան գավառում, Նախիջևան գավառից հարավ-արևելք) հանցավոր ադրբեջանական իշխանությունների հրահանգով: Արևմտյան Հայաստանում հայկական մշակութային ժառանգության ծրագրավորված ոչնչացման նոր փաստերից են Կարսի Ս. Առաքելոց եկեղեցու բռնի վերափոխումը մզկիթի, հին հայկական տների ավերումը Մուշում (Տարոն գավառ) 2013 թ. հանցավոր թուրքական իշխանությունների հրահանգով և այլն:
9. Հակահայկական թշնամանքը և ագրեսիվությունը բնորոշ են նաև ադրբեջանական կրթական համակարգին և «պատմագրությանը», որոնք անտեսելով պատմական աղբյուրները, զբաղված են պատմության կեղծարարությամբ: Պատմության կեղծարարության «պետպատվերի» դրսևորումներից են Ադրբեջանի Հանրապետության նախագահ Իլհամ Ալիևի ճառերը: Ադրբեջանի ԳԱԱ

(26/04/2011 թ.) տարեկան ընդհանուր ժողովի ժամանակ «պատմաբան-ակադեմիկոսներին» նա հրահանգեց ավելացնել «պատկառելի գիտական աշխատությունների թիվը այն մասին, որ Լեռնային Ղարաբաղը հին ու նախաբնակ ադրբեջանական հող է»:¹ Նմանապես ամբողջապես կեղծվում են «պատմության» դասագրքերը Ադրբեջանում: Ագրեսիվ Ադրբեջանը Արցախյան պատերազմում կրած պարտությունից հետո կառչում է կեղծարարություններից, դրանք օգտագործելով պատերազմի վերսկսման պրոպագանդայի մեջ: Սակայն նրանց բոլոր կեղծարարությունները չախճախվում են՝ բախվելով պատմական սկզբնաղբյուրների ամրակուռ փաստագրական նյութերին, որոնք վկայում են, որ հնուց հայերը Հայաստանի (ամբողջ Հայկական լեռնաշխարհը) բնիկ ազգն են:

10. Հայկական տեղանունները կարևոր վկայություն են, ինչպես Հայոց ցեղասպանության հանցագործությունը դատապարտելու, այնպես էլ տարածքային փոխհատուցման՝ հատկապես, Արևմտյան Հայաստանի և Կիլիկիայի վերադարձի՝ Հայոց հայրենի հողերի պահանջատիրության առումով, միջազգային իրավական նորմերին համապատասխան:

Հայկական լեռնաշխարհի պատմաաշխարհագրական տերմինաբանությունը, ներառելով Հայաստանի տեղանունների ամբողջականությունը, պատկանում է հայ ազգային լեզվամտածողության հիմնաշերտին: Հայկական տեղանունների պաշտպանությունը, որպես հայոց ազգային անվտանգության կենսական ոլորտ, ունի էթնո-պաշտպանական նշանակություն, որի ազգապետական երաշխավորներն են Հայաստանի Հանրապետությունը և Արցախի Հանրապետությունը (ԼՂՀ):

¹ Պրոֆ. Վ.Ա.Զախարովը Ադրբեջանում տիրող կեղծարարության հոգեվարքի վերաբերյալ վկայություն է դիտարկում 2009 թ. նոյեմբերի 20-ին Ի.Ալիևի հայտարարությունը, թե. «Բոլորին լավ հայտնի է, որ այժմյան Հայաստանը ստեղծվել է բուն ադրբեջանական հողերի վրա: Իրևանի խանությունը, Զանգեզուրի մախալը՝ ադրբեջանական հողեր են...»: Դատապարտելով Ալիևի հակահայկական ոտնձգությունները, Վ.Զախարովը եզրակացնում է. «Ամոթ է կարդալ այս պատմական անհեթեթությունը... Ալիևը փորձում է հիմնավորել ադրբեջանական կողմի հավակնությունները ոչ միայն Ղարաբաղի, այլ նաև բուն Հայաստանի Հանրապետության տարածքի նկատմամբ»: Միևնույն ժամանակ, նշելով Ադրբեջանի նախագահի աշխատակազմի ղեկավար Ռ. Մեխտիևի տխրահռչակ հողվածի անհեթեթությունները, Զախարովը նշել է. «... Ոչ մի հեղինակավոր արևմտյան գիտական կենտրոնում չեն կարդում նման գրականություն: Ցանկացած ֆորումի մասնակիցներին հանձնված Բաքվի հրատարակությունների նմուշները մնում են հյուրանոցային համարներում, կամ էլ հայտնվում են աղբարկղներում» («...», 2011, . 4, 53-58, 130-150):

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- топонимов с целью отрицания Геноцида армян.
5. Сообщения источников свидетельствуют о цивилизационном значении истории Армении и ее топонимов, и это еще наглядно выявляет преступность тех, кто искажает и уничтожает их наряду с историческими памятниками. Профессор Джорджтаунского университета Клайв Фосс отмечает, что турецкое правительство “систематически изменяет названия сел... Любое название, которое не имеет турецкого значения или не звучит по-турецки, независимо от его происхождения, заменяется банальным названием, предписанным со стороны бюро в Анкаре, без уважения к местным условиям или традициям”.
 6. Турецкие фальсификаторы вместо понятия Западная Армения, фальсифицируя, используют термин “Восточная Анатолия”, а азербайджанские фальсификаторы вместо понятия Восточная Армения фабрикуют “Западный Азербайджан” или неверно применяют термин “Албания”. Однако, согласно данным исторических источников и историографической и географической литературы, Анатолия со всеми своими частями (северная, южная, восточная и западная) соответствует Малой Азии, лежащей к западу от Армянского нагорья. Понятия же “Азербайджан” вообще не существовало вне пределов территории современного Иранского Азербайджана (Адарбаган, от древнего географического названия Атропатена – Атрпатакан средневековых армянских источников). Название “Азербайджан” с середины 1918г. было уворовано у Иранского Азербайджана и дано, с пантюркистскими целями искусственно созданной, административно-политической единице.
 7. Упоминаемое в античных греко-римских источниках название “Албания” соответствовало упоминаемому в армянских источниках собственно Алуанку, на левобережье Куры, находящемуся к востоку от Великой Армении. Граница между Великой Арменией и собственно Алуанком проходила по р. Куре. К югу от нижних течений р. Ерасх (Аракс) и р. Куры находился Пайтакаран – юго-восточная провинция Великой Армении, окаймленная на востоке Каспийским морем, а на юге граничащая с Атропатеной.
 8. Продолжается уничтожение, грабеж и разрушение армянских исторических памятников, а также топонимов в Западной Армении и некоторых восточных областях Армении (Нахиджеван, Гохтан, Утик). В начале XXI в. была разрушена последняя группа (из десятка тысяч уничтоженных в течение предыдущих десятилетий) армянских хачкаров на армянском кладбище Старой Джуги (в древнем армянском гаваре Гохтан, к юго-востоку от гавара Нахиджеван) с преступной санкции азербайджанских властей. Новыми фактами запрограммированного уничтожения армянского культурного наследия в Западной Армении преступными турецкими властями являются превращение церкви Св. Апостолов (Карс) в

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