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[illegible]

After this incident, one day, as I was conversing with a Turkish official, he said to me, "My friend, there is no hope. No longer can the Turk and the Armenian live together. Whenever you find the opportunity, you will annihilate us; and whenever we find the opportunity, we will annihilate you. Now the opportunity is ours and we will do everything to harm you. The wise course for you will be, when the time comes, to leave this country and never to return."

This Turk had spoken the truth. No longer could the Turk be a friend to the Armenian, or the Armenian a friend to the Turk.

*Neither To Laugh
nor To Weep*

A MEMOIR OF THE
ARMENIAN GENOCIDE
BY ABRAHAM H. HARTUNIAN

I HAVE DETERMINED NEITHER TO
LAUGH NOR TO WEEP OVER THE
ACTIONS OF MEN, BUT MERELY TO
UNDERSTAND THEM.

—*Spinoza*

*Translated from the
original Armenian manuscripts
by Vartan Hartunian*

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BECAUSE my autobiography is tied up with Turkey, the Turks, and Moslems, and a number of European powers, it is natural that I have borne down heavily upon them. But I desire people to know that in my heart there is neither hate nor revenge. I have not written to dishonor anyone. And especially, I have no wish to poison minds against the Turks. I trust that the present Turk is ashamed of what the old Türk did. I trust that the so-called Christian powers of Europe regret the wrongs they heaped upon the Armenians. And I believe that finally, in this world, God's power will prevail, and justice will conquer might.

—ABRAHAM H. HARTUNIAN

RUSSIA

CAUCASUS

BLACK SEA

TURKEY

● Smyrna

● Afion Kara Hissar

● Van

● Hadjin

● Zeytoon

● Diyarbekir

● Sis

● Marash

● Severek

● Adana

● Ourfa

● Nisib

● Tarsus

● Aintab

● Aleppo

● Der-el-Zor

● Homs

● Baghdad

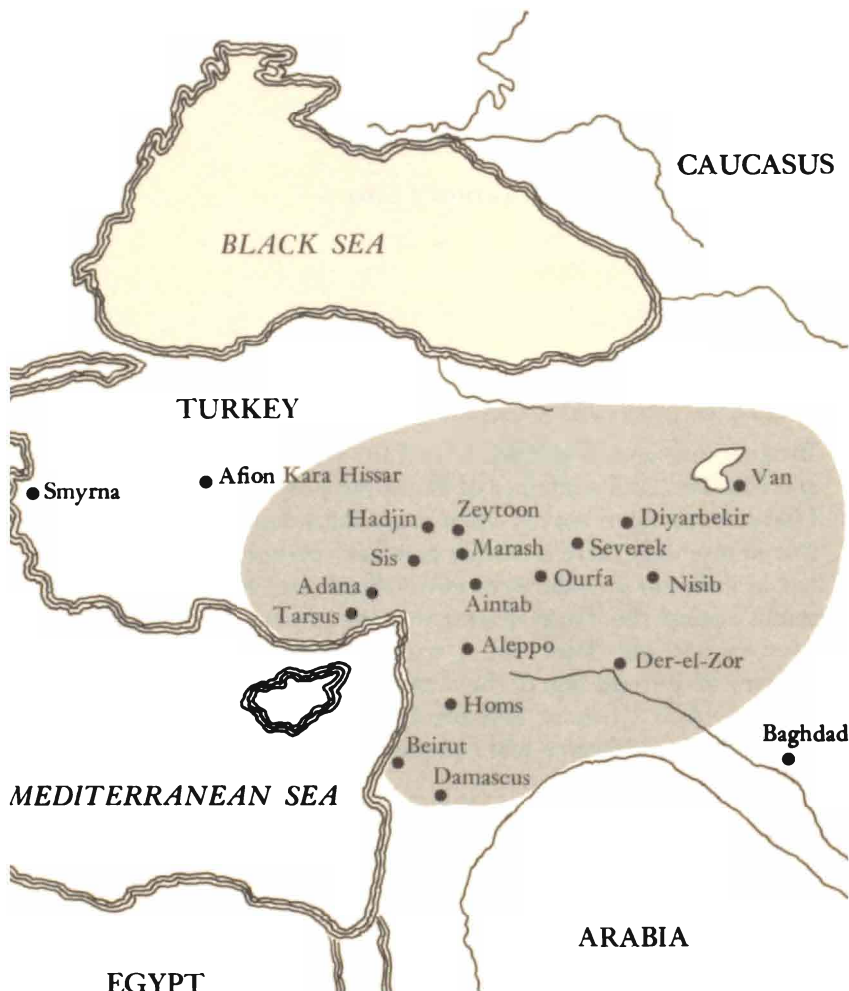
● Beirut

● Damascus

MEDITERRANEAN SEA

ARABIA

EGYPT



CONTENTS

PART ONE

1872-1914

Pages 1 to 47

PART TWO

1914-1918

Pages 49 to 117

PART THREE

1919-1922

Pages 119 to 206

IN 1938, my father, feeling that perhaps the story of his life might be of assistance and encouragement to people in what was too often an unjust world, asked me to translate his memoirs into English. Shortly after the task was completed, my father died and the translation remained as the Armenian original—a family treasure.

National and world events since then have indicated to me that my father's account of his life in Armenia should be publicly told. I was further encouraged in this feeling by my wife Grace and by a fellow clergyman, Rabbi Earl A. Grollman of the Beth El Temple Center in Belmont.

In the publication of the document, I echo the sentiments of my father as expressed in the preceding Author's Note.

Many people have been of help, but in particular I wish to express my appreciation to the Reverend Dr. Dicran Y. Kassouny for his checking of the translation; to Mr. Harold R. Battersby for his transliterations and translations of certain Turkish phrases; and to Mrs. Armine Mardiguian and Miss Susan Haroian for their typing.

—VARTAN HARTUNIAN

June 19, 1968

THIS DOCUMENT is the memoir of an Armenian Protestant pastor and community leader who miraculously survived the massacres and deportations of the Armenians in Turkey from 1895 to 1922.

Escaping with his family to the United States, the author wrote this account of the long troubled period. He reveals a human being grappling with evil and malign powers almost too great to be borne or understood; and throughout there emerges the agony and frustration of an entire nation facing obliteration.

The translation was made by the author's son, who was himself a victim of this great tragedy.

In its dedication to the responsible exploration of the human condition through books, Beacon Press finds this document to have peculiar power and reality as well as particular meaning and relevance for the world today.