

NOUVEL HAY MAGAZINE

SANS FRONTIÈRES

ARPA présente : l'Arménie en 2600 ans d'héritage cartographique mondial

samedi 24 octobre
2020 à midi (PST)



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ARPA Institute Online Presentation

«Armenia in 2600 Years of World Cartographic Heritage»

By Rouben Galchian

Saturday, October 24, 2020 @ 12:00 Noon, PST on ZOOM



Abstract: Illustrated presentation of maps of the past 2600 years, which indicate that the country called Armenia existed even in those ancient times. Even when for 6-7 centuries Armenia did not have a state, the name ARMENIA appears on almost all maps of the region covering from the banks of the Euphrates River, Mush, west of Lake Van to the confluence of the Kura and Arax rivers in the east, which is Artsakh. Being a Christian country surrounded by mostly Turkish speaking tribes, for the Pan-Turkists, Armenia was a thorn in their midst, not allowing the Turkic tribes of the Ottoman Empire to connect with their ancestors in Central Asia. The maps shown are from the cartographic collections of various countries in the West, as well as the Middle East and constitute part of the world cartographic heritage. Also discussed will be the creation of the country of "Azerbaijan", the claims made by their leadership, as well as the history of the past wars with their dire consequences to both Armenia and "Azerbaijan".

Rouben Galchian (Galchian) was born in Tabriz, Iran, to a family of immigrant Armenians who had fled Van in 1915. Escaping the Genocide they arrived in Iran via Armenia, Georgia and France. Rouben attended the Armenian school in Tehran and continued his education in the UK receiving a BS in Electronics Engineering from the University of Aston in Birmingham in 1963. Since 1960s he has been active in Iran and then in Britain in various Armenian cultural organizations, while also studying cartography in British and European libraries. He moved to London with his family in 1980. He has had leading roles in Armenian organizations, such as The Institute of Armenian Music (1975-79), Aid Armenia (1988-2019), Friends of Armenia (since 2000) and as the Head of the Executive of the Armenian Community of Britain and Hamazgayin. He was instrumental in the establishment of the first Armenian Embassy in London, where he served as the Honorary Consul for eight years. In 2007, in memory of their son Levon, he and his wife established an arts and crafts school in the village of Myasnikyan, near Armevir. Rouben's first book entitled Historic Maps of Armenia: The Cartographic Heritage was published in 2004, followed by its Russian and Armenian translations in 2005. Since then he has published over twenty books on cartographic and ethno-cultural subjects in Armenian, English, Russian and Persian, one of which was published in Turkish in Istanbul and the Persian translation is under print in Tehran. Rouben was awarded an Honorary Doctorate by the National Academy of Sciences of Armenia in 2008, and the Movses Khorenatsi Presidential Medal for outstanding achievements in the sphere of culture in 2013 for his services to Armenian historical cartography.

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