

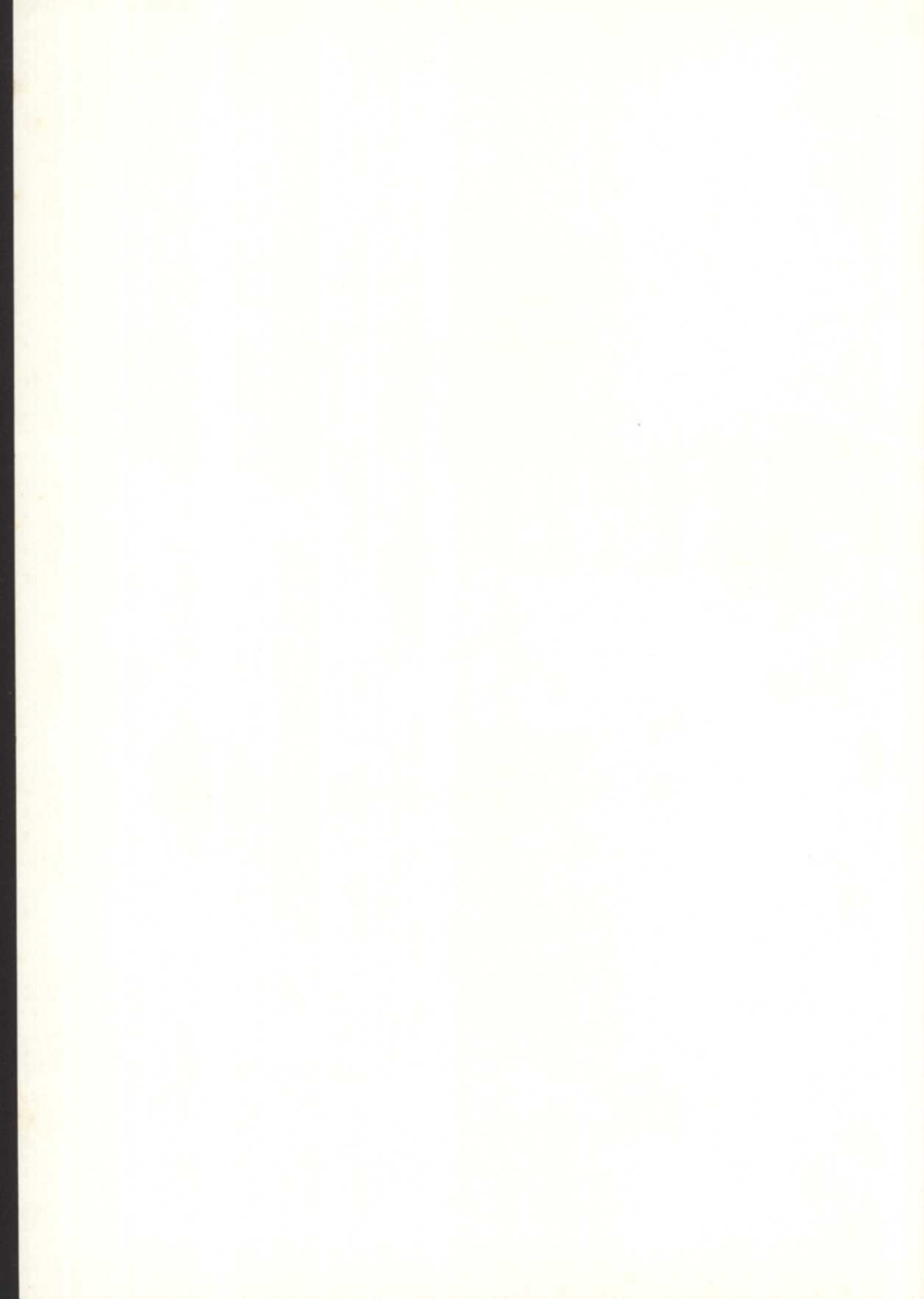
**CRIME**  
**TRIAL**  
**VERDICT**

FIFTIETH  
COMMEMORATION  
OF A

**GENOCIDE**

**1915**

**1965**



# CRIME TRIAL VERDICT

**FIFTIETH  
COMMEMORATION  
OF A  
GENOCIDE**

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The Armenians all over the world, wherever they are, assemble on the 24th day of April of each year, in their churches and assembly halls, in deep meditation and contemplation, to mourn the loss of their fathers and grandfathers, brothers and sisters, more than a million in number, who fell victims to the diabolical acts of the Turks.

The unspeakable tragedy of 1915, which took place at the gates of a Europe torn up by a cruel war, constitute one of the darkest pages of human history.

The tale of horrors told by the few survivors, a tale of mass murders, deportations, arson and rape, surpass the human imagination.

The scheme was nothing less than an organised genocide to exterminate a whole nation.



In the early part of 1915, when European powers were involved in the struggle of life and death and could not do much for their allies in Turkey, the Turkish Government announced that unless the Armenians in question acted for and embarked upon the execution of its policy of mass extermination of the Armenians.

During 1915, the Armenians, intellectuals and national leaders were deported and the provinces were organized into military zones. The interior of Anatolia, where they perished, was divided into military zones upon arrival at their destinations. There were after the military population was dispersed and the villages emptied into the army, the villages were not left, and the land was left to the army and military and military of the land.

## The Evidence

The military deportations of the whole Armenian villages were organized and the other another, nearly two million Armenians, men, women and children were forcibly deported from their homes and their belongings, were driven to the army zones. The greater number of the males were brutally murdered on the way, women were dishonored or raped and many of the children were Islamized. The Muslims were suspected to commit slavery and suffering and the deportees were raped, half perished on the way by neglect, drought, lack of food and disease, or because of the weather. The remaining, upon reaching their desert destinations, were subjected again to wholesale massacre (Der-Zor, Harput, etc.).

In some places the Armenians were not even deported. They were simply massacred or burnt alive on the spot.

The entire property of the Armenians was either seized by the government or was looted by the mob or by highway bands.





In the spring of 1915, when European powers were involved in a struggle of life and death and could not or would not exert any influence upon Turkey, the Turkish Government resolved to solve the Armenian Question once for all and embarked upon the execution of the policy of mass extermination of the Armenians.

On April 24, 1915, the Armenian intellectuals and national leaders of Constantinople and the provinces were arrested wholesale and were exiled to the interior of Anatolia, where they perished, either on the way or upon arrival at their destinations. Thereupon, after the civilian population was disarmed and the males drafted into the army, the villages were cut off, and the helpless victims were subjected to a systematic deportation and massacre at the hands of the regular army, the police and armed irregulars.

In this manner, deportation of the whole Armenian villages and towns followed one after another. Nearly two million Armenian men, women and children were forcibly ejected from their homes and, amid indescribable sufferings, were driven to the deserts of Syria. The greater number of the males were brutally murdered on the way, women were dishonoured or seized for a life in the harem, and many of the children were islamized. The survivors were subjected to untold misery and suffering. Of the deported population, half perished on the way by outright slaughter, famine and disease, or because of the insufferable desert life. The remnants, upon reaching their desert destinations, were subjected again to wholesale massacres (Der-Zor, Ras-ul-Ain).

In some places the Armenians were not even deported. They were simply massacred or burnt alive on the spot.

The entire property of the Armenians was either seized by the government or was looted by the mob or by highway bandits.

Incalculable stores of cultural and material wealth were doomed to destruction, and an entire people with an ancient civilisation was crucified and martyred most brutally.

Under those conditions, Armenians resorted to self-defence in a limited number of places (Van, Mussa Dagh, Shabin Karahissar, Urfa), with primitive weapons and died a heroic death.

The Armenian massacres have been presented extensively, together with numerous documents and testimonies of eye-witnesses, in *Viscount Bryce's* THE TREATMENT OF ARMENIANS IN THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE 1915-1916 (a Blue Book submitted to the British Houses of Parliament) and in Dr. *Johannes Lepsius's* DEUTSCHLAND UND ARMENIEN 1914-1918. *Professor Arnold Toynbee's* « ARMENIAN ATROCITIES, THE MURDER OF A NATION », *Ambassador Morgenthau's* « THE SECRETS OF THE BOSPHORUS », and « THE TRAGEDY OF ARMENIA », and *Fridtjof Nansen's* ARMENIA AND THE EAST » are some of the sincere testimonies of eminent men.

Selections from these testimonies are given hereunder :

## LORD BRYCE

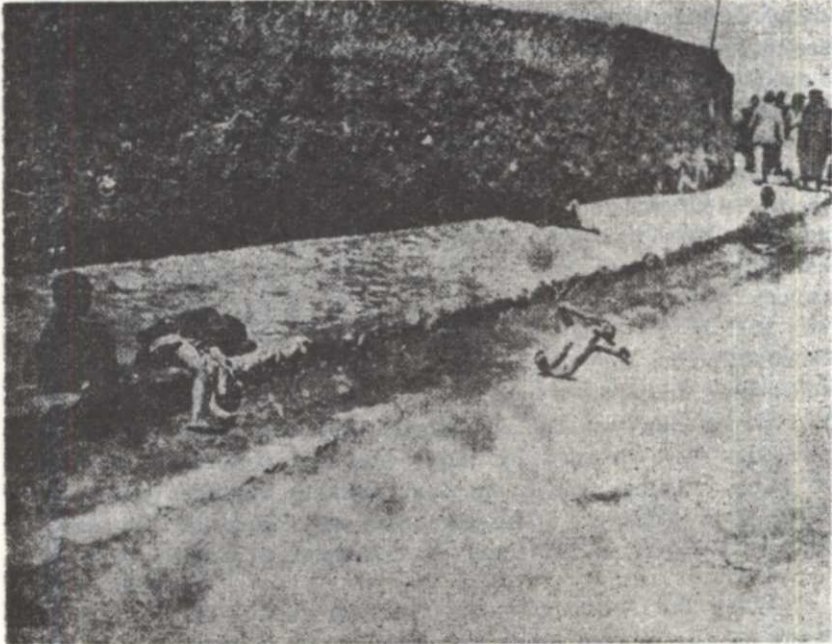
« The whole Armenian population of each town or village was cleared out, by a house-to-house search. Every inmate was driven into the street. Some of the men were thrown into prison, where they were put to death, sometimes with torture ; the rest of the men, with the women and children, were marched out of the town. When they had got some little distance they were separated, the men being taken to some place among the hills where the soldiers, or the Kurdish tribes who were called in to help in the work of slaughter, despatched them by shooting or bayonetting. The women and children and old men were sent off under convey of the lowest kind of soldiers — many of them just drawn from gaols — to their distant destination,

which was sometimes one of the unhealthy districts in the centre of Asia Minor, but more frequently the large desert in the province of Der el Zor, which lies east of Aleppo, in the direction of the Euphrates. They were driven along by the soldiers day after day, all on foot, beaten or left behind to perish if they could not keep up with the caravan ; many fell by the way, and many died of hunger. No provisions were given them by the Turkish Government, and they already been robbed of everything they possessed. Not a few of the women were stripped naked and made to travel in that condition beneath a burning sun. Some of the mothers went mad and threw away their children, being unable to carry them further. The caravan route was markedly a line of corpses, and comparatively few seem to have arrived at the destinations which had been prescribed for them — chosen, no doubt, because return was impossible and because there was little prospect that any would survive their hardships. I have had circumstantial accounts of these deportations which bear internal evidence of being veracious, and I was told by an American friend who has lately returned from Constantinople, that he had heard accounts at Constantinople, confirming fully those which had come to me, and that what had struck him was the comparative calmness with which these atrocities were detailed by those who had first-hand knowledge of them. Things which we find scarcely credible excite little surprise in Turkey. Massacre was the order of the day in Eastern Rumelia in 1876, and, in 1895-1896, in Asiatic Turkey.

When the Armenian population was driven from its homes, many of the women were not killed, but reserved for a more humiliating fate. They were mostly seized by Turkish officers or civilian officials, and consigned to their harems. Others were sold in the market, but only to a Moslem purchaser, for they were to be made Moslems by force. Never again would they see parents or husbands — these Christian women condemned at one stroke to slavery, shame and apostasy. The boys and the girls were also very largely sold into slavery, at prices sometimes of only ten to twelve shillings, while other boys of tender age were delivered to dervishes, to be carried off to a sort of dervish monastery, and there forced to become Musulmans ».

« ...But the most pitiable case is not that of those whose misery was ended by swift death, but of those unfortunatè

Indescribable stores of cultural and material wealth were taken from women who, after their husbands had been killed and their daughters violated, were driven out with their young children to perish in the desert — where they have no sustenance, and where they are the victims of the wild tribes around them. It would seem that three-fourths or four-fifths of the whole nation has been wiped out, and there is no case in history, certainly not



since the time of Tamerlane, in which any crime so hideous and upon so large a scale has been recorded.

Wherever the Armenians, a'most wholly unarmed as they were, have fought, they have fought in self-defence to defend their families and themselves from the cruelty of the ruffians who constitute what is called the Government of the country. There is no excuse whatever, upon any such ground as some German authorities and newspapers allege, for the conducts of the Turkish Government. Their policy of slaughter and deportation has been wanton and unprovoked. It appears to be simply an application of the maxim once enunciated by Sultan

Abdul Hamid : « The way to get rid of the Armenian Question is to get rid of the Armenians » ; and the policy of extermination has been carried out with far more thoroughness and with far more bloodthirsty completeness by the present heads of the Turkish Administration — they describe themselves as the Committee of Union and Progress — than it was in the time of Abdul Hamid ».

*(Extracts from a speech delivered in the House of Lords of Great Britain, on October 6th, 1915)*

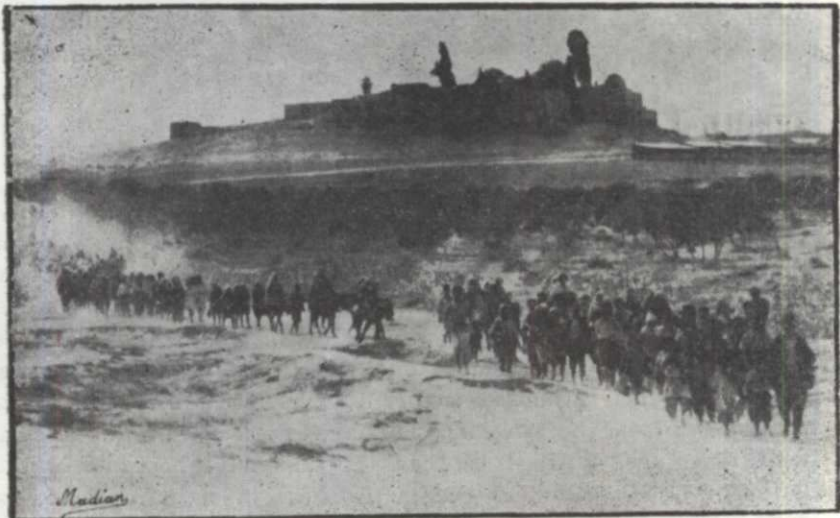
## ARNOLD J. TOYNBEE

« The scheme was nothing less than the extermination of the whole Christian population within the Ottoman frontiers. For the war had temporarily released the Ottoman Government from the control, slight as it was, which the Concert of Europe had been able to exert. The belligerents on one side were Turkey's allies and very good friends ; and Enver, looking of the future, relied upon their promised victory to shield himself and his accomplices from the vengeance of the Western powers and Russia, which had always stood between the malignant hostility of the Ottoman Government and the helplessness of its Christian subjects. The denunciation of the « Capitulations » broke down the legal barrier of foreign protection, behind which many Ottoman Christians had found more or less effective shelter. Nothing remained but to use the opportunity and strike a stroke that would never need repetition. « After this, » said Talaat Bey, when he gave the final signal, « there will be no Armenian question for fifty years. »

On a given day the streets of whatever town it might be were occupied by the local gendarmerie with fixed bayonets, and the Governor summoned all able-bodied men of Armenian race that had been exempted from military draft to present themselves now on pain of death. « Able-bodied » received a liberal interpretation, for it included any male between fifteen and seventy years of age, and these were all marched out of the town

by the gendarmes. They had not far to go, for the gendarmerie had been reinforced for the purpose from the gaoles, and the brigands and Kurds at large were waiting in the hills. They were waiting to murder the prisoners. The first secluded valley witnessed their wholesale massacre, and, acquitted of their task, the gendarmes marched back leisurely into town.

This was the first act. It precluded the pitiful possibility of resistance to the second, which was of a more ingenious and far reaching kind. The women, old men and children who made



up the remainder of the Armenian population, were now given immediate notice of deportation within a fixed term — a week perhaps, or ten days, but commonly a week, and in no case more than a fortnight. They were to be uprooted, whole households, from their homes, and driven off to an unknown destination... Communities like this, after being mutilated by the wholesale conscription or assassination of the husbands and fathers, were now torn up by the roots and driven, under the forlorn leadership of the mothers and the old men, into an exile that was to terminate in a death of unspeakable horror.

(Extracts from « ARMENIAN ATROCITIES,  
THE MURDER OF A NATION »  
pp. 27-31 London 1916)

## HENRY MORGENTHAU

### AMERICAN AMBASSADOR AT CONSTANTINOPLE

« The conditions of the War gave to the Turkish Government its longed-for opportunity to lay hold of the Armenians. At the very beginning they sent for some of the Armenian leaders and notified them that, if any Armenians should render the slightest assistance to the Russians when they invaded Turkey, they would not stop to investigate but would punish the entire race for it. During the spring of 1914 they evolved their plan to destroy the Armenian race. They criticised their ancestors for neglecting to destroy or convert the Christian races to Mohammedanism at the time when they first subjugated them. Now, as four of the Great Powers were at war with them and the two others were their allies, they thought the time opportune to make good the oversight of their ancestors in the fifteenth century. They concluded that, once they had carried out their plan, the Great Powers would find themselves before an accomplished fact and that their crime would be condoned, as was done in the case of the massacres of 1895-1896, when the Great Powers did not even reprimand the Sultan.

« They had drafted the able-bodied Armenians into the army without, however, giving them arms ; they used them simply to build roads or do similar menial work. Then, under pretext of searching the houses for arms, they pillaged the belongings of the villagers. They requisitioned for the use of their army all that they could get from the Armenians, without paying for it. They asked them to make exorbitant contributions for the benefit of the National Defence Committee.

« The final and worst measure used against the Armenians was the wholesale deportation of the entire population from their homes and their exile to the desert, with all the accompanying horrors on the way. No means were provided for their transpor-

tation or nourishment. The victims, who included educated men and women of standing, had to walk on foot, exposed to the attacks of bands of criminals especially organised for that purpose. Homes were literally uprooted ; families were separated ; men killed, women and girls violated daily on the way or taken to harems. Children were thrown into the rivers or sold to



strangers by their mothers to save them from starvation. *The facts contained in the reports received at the Embassy from absolutely trustworthy eye-witnesses surpass the most beastly and diabolical cruelties ever before perpetrated or imagined in the history of the world* (underlined by the author). The Turkish authorities had stopped all communication between the provinces and the capital in the naïve belief that they could consummate this crime of ages before the outside world could hear of it. But the information filtered through the Consuls, missionaries, foreign travellers and even Turks. We soon learned that orders had been issued to the governors of the provinces to send into exile the entire Armenian population in their jurisdiction, irrespective of age and sex. The local officers, with a few



exceptions, carried out literally those instructions. All the able-bodied men had either been drafted into the army or disarmed. The remaining people, old men, women and children, were subjected to the most cruel and outrageous treatment. »

(Extracts from « THE TRAGEDY OF ARMENIA »  
pp. 6-8, London 1918)

## FRIDTJOF NANSEN

... « Tala't Bey, the Minister for the Interior, suddenly had all the chief Armenians in Constantinople arrested on the night before April 25th. Deputies, teachers, writers, doctors, lawyers, editors, and priests were seized ; and altogether nearly six hundred people were deported to Asia Minor without inquiry or trial. Tala't declared it was merely a temporary measure of precaution — some of them might be dangerous — and promised that most of them should speedily be released. Only eight of them returned after suffering great hardships ; the remainder disappeared. Thus all who were capable of pleading the Armenians' cause were conveniently put out of the way.

« Then the Turks had what they considered the splendid idea of carrying out the whole plan of extermination as a « necessary military measure. » They would have deportations of all unreliable elements from the neighbourhood of the front, on the lines of the German deportations in Belgium and France.

Then, in June 1915, the horrors began to which we know no parallel in history. From all the villages and towns of Cilicia, Anatolia, and Mesopotamia the Armenian Christians were driven forth on their death march ; the work was done systematically, clearing out one district after another, whether the population happened to be near the scene of war or hundreds of kilometres away from it. There was to be a clean sweep of all Armenians. As the majority of men had already been taken for war work,

it was chiefly a matter of turning women, children, and the aged and crippled out of house and home. They were only given a few days' or hours notice. They had to leave behind all their property : houses, fields, crops, cattle, furniture, tools, and implements. Every thing was confiscated by the Turkish authorities. The things they managed to carry with them, such as money, jewellery, or other valuables, and even clothes, were subsequently



taken away from them by the gendarmes ; and if any of them had been allowed to take their wagons and draught animals, the gendarmes appropriated them on the way. The poor creatures were rounded up from the different villages and driven in long column across the mountains to the Arabian desert plains, where no provisions had been made for the reception and maintenance of these herds of straying wretches, just as nothing had been done to keep them alive on the march. The idea was that those who did not succumb or get killed on the way should at any rate die of starvation.

« As soon as the columns had fairly started, the callous indifference of the guards turned into vicious brutality. The

few men and elder lads were assembled, taken aside and killed. The women, children and old people were driven on, suffering agonies of hunger and thirst ; the food, if there were any, was scanty and bad ; those who could not keep up were flogged on till they collapsed, or were killed. Gradually the columns became smaller and smaller, as hunger, thirst, disease and murder did their work. Young women and girls were raped or sold by auction.

On August 31, 1915, Tala'at Bey declared to the German ambassadors that « La question arménienne n'existe plus ». His



statement was fairly correct, inasmuch as nearly all the deportations had by then been carried out. Little remained but to see that any survivors of the death marches were wiped out, too. As we have seen, no attempt was made to receive or feed them ; they were merely collected in concentration camps on the edge of the Arabian desert, practically without food and without any chance of earning a living. »

« Not content with driving out and destroying endless hosts of despairing people, the Turkish authorities took all the property of the Armenians in Anatolia, valued at hundreds of millions of pounds. Their amazing inhumanity was due to no religious fanati-

cism either in the leaders or in the Turkish people. The whole plan of extermination was nothing more or less than a cold-blooded, calculated political measure, having for its object the



annihilation of a superior element in the population which might prove troublesome. And to this must be added the motive of greed.

« Those were atrocities which far exceed any we know in history, both in their extent and their appalling cruelty ».

*(Extract from « ARMENIA AND THE NEAR EAST »  
pp. 303-318, London, 1928)*

## SOME TELEGRAMS PROVING THE COMPLICITY OF THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT IN THE PLANNING AND EXECUTION OF THE GENOCIDE

« To the Government of Aleppo,

« Although the extermination of the Armenian element, which has for centuries been desirous of destroying the sure foundation of our Empire, and has now taken the form of a real danger, had been decided upon earlier than this, circumstances did not permit us to carry out this sacred intention. Now that all obstacles are removed, and the time has come for redeeming our fatherland from this dangerous element, it is urgently recommended that you should not be moved to feelings of pity on seeing their miserable plight ; but, by putting an end to them all, try with all your might to obliterate the very name 'Armenia' from Turkey. See of it that those to whom you entrust the carrying, out of this purpose are patriotic and reliable men. »

« *Minister of the Interior*  
*TALAAAT* »

« To the Government of Aleppo,

« September 9, 1915 — All rights of the Armenians to live and work on Turkish soil have been completely cancelled, and with regard to this the Government takes all responsibility on itself, and has commanded that even babes in the cradle are not to be spared. The results of carrying out this order have been seen in some provinces. In spite of this, for reasons unknown to us, exceptional measures are taken with 'certain people', and those people instead of being sent straight to the place of exile are left in Aleppo, whereby the Government is involved in an additional difficulty. Without listening to any of their reasoning, remove them — women or children, whatever they may be, even if they are incapable of moving ; and do not let the people protect them, because, through their ignorance, they place material gains higher than patriotic feelings, and cannot appreciate the great policy of the Government in insisting upon this. Because instead of the indirect measures of extermination used in other

places — such as severity, haste (in carrying out the deportations), difficulties of travelling and misery — direct measures can safely be used there, so work heartily.

« General Orders have been communicated from the War Office to all the Commanders of the Army that they are not to interfere in the work of deportation.

« Tell the officials that are to be appointed for that purpose that they must work to put into execution our real intent, without being afraid of responsibility. Please send cipher reports of the results of your activities every week.

« Minister of the Interior  
TALAAT »

دخیرتقا محمد سید / سرحد ۱۹۱۱ تاریخ ۲۰ مارچ ۱۹۱۱  
سرحد مذاقک محوریہ -

سواس ، سورہ الغزیر ، دبا کبر ، ار فرم و لوتیدیزج سورہ اولوزب  
بنای زھدہ ، اربندیند و خاق حبید کیمہ کرف لادہ استخا محصلومہ " طفلانک  
رطقم صق ماکول طرفہ اولولتہ ، ضد نظام لک قول اید لہ ہی استخا دلو بویہ  
ولا استایز داخندہ بوی محصلوم طرف لوتیدیزج سورہ خاطر اسط خیر لیر  
اغلامری راہای برصو - ضایہ ایو بر بادہ و صنادی لازم دہ بلو لولہ  
دخیرتقا  
طہمت  
دولت اولوزب / سرحد  
الان  
مصدق

تلفرافنامه

صبر سینه

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رافعه  
 طاعت

مکته مکرر ۴۰

شماره ۱۰۰

Reproduction of a telegram by Talaat Pasha

« To the General Committee for settling the deportees.

« January 10, 1916 — Enquiries having been made, it is understood that hardly ten per cent of the Armenians subjected to the general deportations have reached the places destined for them ; the rest have died from natural causes, such as hunger and sickness. We inform you that we are working to bring about the same result with regard to those who are still alive, by using severe measures.

« *ABDULLAHAD NOURI* »

« To the Government of Aleppo,

« January 15, 1916. — We hear that certain orphanages which have been opened receive also the children of the Armenians. Whether this is done through ignorance of our real purpose, or through contempt of it, the Government will regard the feeding of such children or any attempt to prolong their lives as an act entirely opposed to its purpose, since it considers the survival of these children as detrimental. I recommend that such children shall not be received into the orphanages, and no attempts are to be made to establish special orphanages for them.

« *Minister of the Interior*  
*TALAAT* »



# CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS

WE THE PEOPLES OF THE UNITED NATIONS  
DETERMINE:

to practice tolerance, to live in peace, to be just, to live together in friendship with the peoples of the world, large and small, and to observe the rights which are common to all of us; and

HAVE RESOLVED TO COMBINE OUR EFFORTS  
TO ACCOMPLISH THESE AIMS

Article 1

The Purposes **The Law** are:

To maintain international cooperation for solving international problems of a peaceful character, and to promote and encourage respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion.

Article 21

The General Assembly shall initiate studies and make recommendations for the purpose of... assisting in the realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion.

Article 24

With a view to the creation of conditions of stability and well-being which are necessary for peaceful and friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights



# CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS

## WE THE PEOPLES OF THE UNITED NATIONS DETERMINED

.....

to reaffirm faith in fundamental human right, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small.

.....

## HAVE RESOLVED TO COMBINE OUR EFFORTS TO ACCOMPLISH THESE AIMS

### *Article 1*

The Purposes of the United Nations are :

.....

To achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of... humanitarian character, and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion.

### *Article 13*

The General Assembly shall initiate studies and make recommendations for the purpose of... assisting in the realisation of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion.

### *Article 55*

With a view to the creation of conditions of stability and well-being which are necessary for peaceful and friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights

and self-determination of peoples, the United Nations shall promote... universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion.

*Article 56*

All Members pledge themselves to take joint and separate action in cooperation with the Organization for the achievement of the purposes set forth in Article 55.

**CHARTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL MILITARY  
TRIBUNAL OF NUREMBERG  
6 OCTOBER 1945**

The following acts, or any of them, are crimes coming within the jurisdiction of the Tribunal for which there shall be individual responsibility :

(a) **CRIMES AGAINST PEACE** : namely, planning, preparation, initiation or waging of a war of aggression, or a war in violation of international treaties, agreements or assurances, or participation in a common plan or conspiracy for the accomplishment of any of the foregoing ;

(b) **WAR CRIMES** : namely, violations of the laws or customs of war. Such violations shall include, but not limited to, murder, ill-treatment or deportation to slave labor or for any other purpose, of civilian population from occupied territory, murder or ill-treatment of prisoners of war or persons on the seas, killing of hostages, plunder of public or private property, wanton destruction of cities, towns or villages, or devastation not justified by military necessity ;

(c) **CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY** : namely, murder, extermination, enslavement, deportation, and other inhumane acts committed against any civilian population, before or during the war ; or persecutions on political, racial or religious grounds in execution of or in connection with any crime within the jurisdiction of the Tribunal, whether or not in violation of the domestic

law of the country where perpetrated.

Leaders, organizers, instigators and accomplices participating in the formulation or execution of a common plan or conspiracy to commit any of the foregoing crimes are responsible for all acts performed by any persons in execution of such plan.

## GENOCIDE CONVENTION

9 DECEMBER 1948

« The Contracting Parties, having considered the declaration made by the General Assembly of the United Nations in its Resolution 96 (1) dated December 11, 1946, that genocide is a crime under international law, contrary to the spirit and aims of the United Nations and condemned by the civilised world ;

« Recognising that in all periods of history genocide has inflicted great losses on humanity ; and

Being convinced that, in order to liberate mankind from such an odious scourge, international cooperation is required ;

Members agree as hereinafter provided :

### Article 1

The Contracting Parties confirm that genocide, whether committed in time of peace or in time of war, is a crime under international law which they undertake to prevent and to punish.

### Article 2

In the present Convention genocide means any of the following acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, as such :

- A) Killing members of the group ;
- B) Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group ;
- C) Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part ;
- D) Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group ;
- E) Forcibly transferring children of the group to another group ;



**Article 3**

The following acts shall be punishable :

- a) Genocide
- b) Conspiracy to commit genocide
- c) Direct and public incitement to commit genocide
- d) Attempt to commit genocide
- e) Complicity in genocide

*Article 4*

Persons committing genocide or any of the other acts enumerated in Article 3 shall be punished, whether they are constitutionally responsible rulers, public officials or private individuals. >

**UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS**  
**10 DECEMBER, 1948**

*Article 3* : Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person.

*Article 5* : No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

*Article 9* : No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile.

*Article 17 (2)* : No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his property.

The Verdict







TREATY OF SEVERE  
10 AUGUST 1920

The Treaty recognizes Armenia as a fully recognized and independent state, and the Allied Powers, as a free independent state, as well as the other High Contracting Parties agree to submit to the arbitration of the United States the determination of the boundary between Turkey and Armenia in the provinces of Erzerum, Trabzon, Van and Bitlis, and also the demands, as well as other conditions that may be presented by the relative to former provinces of the Ottoman Empire adjacent to said

DECISION OF PRESIDENT WILSON RESPECTING  
THE FRONTIER BETWEEN TURKEY AND ARMENIA  
ACCESS FOR ARMENIA TO THE SEAS  
**The Verdict**  
DEMILITARIZATION OF TURKISH TERRITORY  
ADJACENT TO THE ARMENIAN FRONTIER

Woodrow Wilson, President of the United States, Whereas

Whereas

On April 26, 1920, the Executive Council of the United States, at San Remo, addressed to the President of the United States of America an invitation to act as arbitrator in the question of the boundary between Turkey and Armenia, to be fixed within the four Vilayets of Erzerum, Trabzon, Van, and Bitlis.

and whereas on May 17, 1920, my acceptance of this task is being assigned to the American Ambassador in Paris, to be conveyed to the Powers represented on the Supreme Council.

and whereas on August 10, 1921, a Treaty of Peace was signed at Sevrès by Plenipotentiary Representatives of the British Empire, France, Italy and Japan, and of Armenia, Belgium, Greece,



## **TREATY OF SEVRES 10 AUGUST, 1920**

*Article 88* : Turkey recognises Armenia as already recognised by the Allied Powers, as a free, independent state.

*Article 89* : Turkey and Armenia, as well as the other High Contracting Parties, agree to submit to the arbitration of the President of the United States the determination of the boundary between Turkey and Armenia, in the provinces of Erzerum, Trebizond, Van and Bitlis, and to accept his decision, as well as other conditions that may be prescribed by him relative to access of Armenia to the sea and relative to the demilitarization of the Ottoman territory adjacent to said boundary.

### **DECISION OF PRESIDENT WILSON RESPECTING THE FRONTIER BETWEEN TURKEY AND ARMENIA, ACCESS FOR ARMENIA TO THE SEA, AND THE DEMILITARIZATION OF TURKISH TERRITORY ADJACENT TO THE ARMENIAN FRONTIER**

Woodrow Wilson, President of the United States, to whom it shall Concern,

Greeting :

Whereas, on April 26, 1920, the Supreme Council of the Allied Powers, in conference at San Remo, addressed to the President of the United States of America an invitation to act as arbitrator in the question of the boundary between Turkey and Armenia, to be fixed within the four Vilayets of Erzerum, Trebizond, Van, and Bitlis ;

And whereas, on May 17, 1920, my acceptance of this invitation was telegraphed to the American Ambassador in Paris, to be conveyed to the Powers represented on the Supreme Council :

And whereas, on August 10, 1920, a Treaty of Peace was signed at Sèvres by Plenipotentiary Representatives of the British Empire, France, Italy and Japan, and of Armenia, Belgium, Greece,

Poland, Portugal, Roumania, and Czecho-Slovakia, of the one part, and of Turkey, of the part, which Treaty contained, among other provisions, the following :

#### ARTICLE 89

« Turkey and Armenia as well as the other High Contracting Parties agree to submit to the arbitration of the President of the United States of America the question of the frontier to be fixed between Turkey and Armenia in the Vilayets of Erzerum, Trebizond, Van and Bitlis, and to accept his decision thereupon, as well as any stipulations he may prescribe as to access for Armenia to the sea, and as to the demilitarization of any portion of Turkish territory adjacent to the said frontier » ;

And whereas, on October 18, 1920, the Secretariat General of the Peace Conference, acting under the instructions of the Allied Powers, transmitted to me, through the Embassy of the United States of America in Paris, an authenticated copy of the above mentioned Treaty, drawing attention to the said Article 89 ;

Now, therefore, I, Woodrow Wilson, President of the United States of America, upon whom has thus been conferred the authority of arbitrator, having examined the question in the light of the most trustworthy information available, and with a mind to the highest interests of justice, do hereby declare the following decision :

#### I

The frontier between Turkey and Armenia in the Vilayets of Erzerum, Trebizond, Van, and Bitlis, shall be fixed as follows (see annexed map) (Here follows a detailed description of the borderline).

The various walls execution. The fact that in the part of  
Turkey would be for the leaders and informants to what the  
It is indeed a pity that Turkey has failed to work a new



BOUNDARY BETWEEN TURKEY AND ARMENIA  
WORKING PLAN, PRESENTED BY THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Signature: K. ADMIRAL

❦

The verdict awaits execution. *The first step* on the part of Turkey would be for its leaders and intellectuals to admit the guilt.

It is indeed a pity that Turkey has failed to breed a man of the moral stature of Konrad Adenauer, a man of courage who can ask his countrymen « to repair and expiate ». In reading the following statement (published in «Paris-Match», March 13, 1965) made by former Chancellor Konrad Adenauer of West Germany to Geo Kelber of «Paris-Match» in connection with the trials actually going on in Germany, one cannot help exclaiming — *Ecce Homo* !

*« More than twenty years have elapsed since the time the Auschwitz crimes were committed, and a good many of those who should have stood trial or appeared as witnesses are no longer living.*

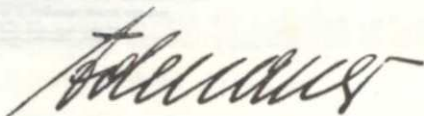
*« On the other hand, the memory of men is not so infallible as to enable them to recall in detail all that was perpetrated at Auschwitz camp, and to report this accurately. But what has been established is so horrible, so dreadful, so atrocious that one is seized with horror before so much abomination.*

*« We do not admit the collective responsibility of the German people for crimes committed by the national socialists — for, many Germans did not know at all what went on then. Yet, the crimes were committed by the regime which was then in power and which exercised its domination on the German people — a regime whose establishment was favoured or tolerated by the unforgivable blindness of one section of this people.*

*«That is why the German people as a whole is responsible. They ought to be made conscious of this responsibility. It is not only the duty of each one to repair and to expiate, but also the duty of the entire German people to make sure that the State will never again commit such crimes.*

*« It is indispensable that trials such as the one of Auschwitz be conducted with total frankness so that, even in the remotest future, the years of national — socialism may not appear in our history other than years of horror and fear.*

*« Those horrible years impose yet another obligation on the German people — to continue to uphold throughout the world the postulate of man's individual freedom and the dignity of his person as a fundamental and essential condition for all genuine peace and for all real human progress. »*



Signed : K. ADENAUER



ARMENIAN INFORMATION CENTER

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