

RIMA KHACHATRYAN
The Daughter of an Émigré

LONDON
2021

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The Daughter of an Émigré

This is an anthology of memoirs and studies in the biography of the Honored Pedagogue of Armenia Rima Khachatryan, a daughter of an émigré – Siranush Martirosyan, who escaped from the Armenian Genocide and found shelter in the orphanage of the Near East Relief, was educated there, and got the best possible start in life through learning and developmental support. In the years that followed, finding strength through adversity, Siranush got married, gave birth to three children, and settled in Armenia. Her daughter Rima had access to opportunities throughout her life, and became a renowned educator and a prominent trade union leader, travelled all over the world, disseminated the ideas of humanity, compassion, and liberty.

Image on the cover: Rima Khachatryan: Portrait.

Author: Ricardo Sanz

ISBN 978-1-7399652-0-4

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The Executive Coaching and Training Institute presents an anthology of memoirs and studies in the biography of its founder – Rima Khachatryan – a daughter of an émigré who found the strength to move through hardship to become a renowned educator, honored pedagogue, and a prominent trade union leader.

The true story is based on information collected from her students, children, friends, classmates, and relatives who share their memoirs about the great educator, devoted mother, and staunch friend. It's a saga with cross-references that conjure her life by giving the true account of what people saw, felt, learned, loved, and strived for.

The book captures the reader's attention with the wonderful moments, observations, and emotions that comprise her life. It presents seemingly humdrum moments of life and shows how delightfully precious they actually are.

All in all, this is a true-life story of how the education received by a 6-year-old refugee in the early 1920s in an orphanage of the *Near East Relief* not only saved her from inevitable death, but also ensured the comfortable life and development of her three generations over a century.

“I am extremely grateful to my parents for not only teaching me how to live with integrity, but also for giving me a chance to dream and have this dream lead my life.”

*Rima Khachatryan
Honored Pedagogue of Armenia*

“The overriding principle of Rima Khachatryan’s pedagogical approach is her profound belief in democracy. She thoroughly and continuously promotes democratic ideas and principles in her educational practice... Being a renowned labor union leader, she always considered two fundamental elements – schools and civil society – to be major topics needing attention to encourage intelligence and education.”

Tert.am
May 28, 2017

“Her mother passed on to her all the virtues obtained in the orphanage of the Near East Relief – love for freedom and liberty, mercy, tolerance and compassion – providing her access to opportunities throughout her life.”

Tert.am
April 3, 2018

“Not all textbooks can be used for online learning. In this regard, the textbooks authored by Rima Khachatryan are simply incomparable. ...their main advantage is the consistency of the instructional design and the learner-centred approach to presenting the content. Being able to apply the theoretical knowledge through the application and practice activities, the student is given a broader opportunity for self-learning, and does not need a lot of instructional intervention. This is perhaps the best praise to any textbook.”

News.am
May 11, 2020

“Mrs. Khachatryan always emphasized the importance of education not only as a means to provide the students with a limited knowledge and information to do a particular job, but also as a means to teach them how to live. She believed that the purpose of education

should not be reduced to the acquisition of a certain set of skills, but rather the realization of one's potential and the ability to use those skills in real life."

Aysor.am
April 21, 2021

"She was a charming girl, who knew how to laugh and how to enjoy the life; and who had dignity, good manners, and a great sense of humor."

Larisa Shahnazaryan

"She is a born teacher, it's her life's vocation. This is a solemn duty and a great privilege that comes with great rewards and great responsibilities. She is like a giant with shoulders wide enough to bear the weight of burdens too heavy for the students to carry, a backbone strong enough to stand up for what's best for her students, and a heart big enough to love thousands of students over a lifetime."

Mkrtych Matevosyan

"Opinions on Rima Khachatryan are always positive. What is really hard to argue with, is that she was an influential and charismatic personality. And here are three qualities anybody can learn from Mrs. Khachatryan: passion, determination and confidence."

Edward Tumasyan

"She always knew when to stop. She knew the measure of everything. At her best, she had a sense of proportion and a sense of humor. I think she absorbed it with her mother's milk. Notably, she knew the price of silence."

Naira Nersisyan

“She was able to listen, to empathize, to build rapport. She was patient, self-composed, and an extremely reserved personality... The adaptable teacher is one who is open to unexpected turns of events, rolls with unplanned opportunities. It’s amazing, but at the age of 75, she participated in a training for teachers’ course and led the efforts to create a new curriculum for Pharmaceuticals.”

Manik Grigoryan

“By virtue of her character, she was a leader and a very charismatic person. What her psyche could not afford was wasting time. She was brave and determined, and always demonstrated zero tolerance for incompetence.”

Lena Aghababyan

“Anyone who knew her would tell you that she was special. Her fine character and conscience, her sense of the moral goodness and blameworthiness of her own conduct, earned her universal respect and confidence. Her mercifulness was unlimited. She was always ready to help. ...She was a reserved person, always calm and collected. That’s not to say that nothing fazed her: she was just able to deal with things differently.”

Greselda Papazyan

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FOREWORD

“Lest They Perish”

The Armenian Genocide¹ left thousands of children orphaned and homeless. Many were sent on convoys, commonly described as caravans, into the Syrian desert². The chance of survival for these children was slim, but some of them survived.

Tortured and starving, many of them found refuge in orphanages founded by the Near East Relief, which housed them in Alexandrapol³, Constantinople, Beirut, Damascus, and Jerusalem.

“The Armenian Genocide sent waves of refugees into the harsh terrain of the Caucasus Mountains. By the summer of 1919, the orphan and refugee situation in the Caucasus region had reached a new level of desperation... The threat of famine loomed over the refugee community.”⁴

Tens of thousands of orphans found refuge in the protection of foreign missionary organizations, the most significant of which was the Near East Relief, an American international social and economic development organization, originally dedicated to helping Armenian and Assyrian victims of the Ottoman Empire.

In the orphanages of the Near East Relief, they were not only saved from certain death, secured from cold, diseases, and raging pandemics, received asylum with satiating and cozy life conditions, but also got a unique chance to obtain vocational training and proper education that made them free citizens and

predetermined not only their own lives, but the destinies of subsequent generations.

The Near East Relief gave children who had escaped the Genocide the best possible start in life through education, learning, and developmental support, providing them with excellent opportunities and competitive advantages throughout their lives.

The relief effort that launched the organization in 1915 was the first broad national appeal of its kind to solicit funds from the American public, and it was unique in its use of media outlets and support from celebrity spokespeople and citizen volunteers alike. This effort grew and gave birth to what is now known as “citizen philanthropy” – appealing directly to the public to support humanitarian work overseas. This model of philanthropy is used today by the majority of non-profit organizations around the world.

A RAY OF HOPE AMIDST CHAOS

Chapter 1

The Near East Relief Kept an Entire Nation Alive

The American Committee for Relief in the Near East was established in 1915 in response to Ambassador Henry Morgenthau Sr.'s reports of governmental atrocities against Ottoman Armenians. Morgenthau referenced the deportation of intellectuals and requested urgent and immediate assistance.

The US government took a number of steps to prevent the complete destruction of the Armenian population, to aid hundreds of thousands of anguishing survivors, and to provide humanitarian relief to Armenians forcibly deported from Anatolia⁵ and other parts of the Ottoman Empire during World War I.

Convinced that foreign missions could make a great contribution to human well-being, in cooperation with the United States Department of State, former missionary and educator James Barton and philanthropist Cleveland Dodge led a group of prominent New Yorkers in forming the American Committee for Armenian and Syrian Relief.

The group was spearheaded by members of America's wealthy Presbyterian⁶ industrial elite, supported by the Rockefeller Foundation⁷. Dodge's close personal relationship with U.S.

President Woodrow Wilson gave them influence in policy in the Ottoman⁸ lands and a prominent voice for their cause “whereas the people of the United States are deeply impressed by the deplorable conditions of insecurity, starvation, and misery now prevalent in Armenia.”⁹

With full support by President Wilson, the Committee raised millions in its campaigns to save “the starving Armenians.”

By the end of World War I^o the scope of the committee’s activities also included Russian Armenia. In particular, in Alexandropol city (now Gyumri) it set up refugee camps, clinics, hospitals, orphanages, and centers for vocational training.

According to the agreement with the mayor of Alexandropol in 1919, the committee assumed responsibility for the custody of the city’s Armenian orphans. The committee was engaged in educating the children – boys would study drawing, carpentry, tailoring, and shoemaking, while girls got an opportunity to learn knitting and sewing, and also to attend nursing courses and then work in hospitals.

In August 1919, the committee received a congressional charter and was renamed Near East Relief. It is the United States’ oldest nonsectarian international development organization and the second humanitarian organization chartered by an act of Congress (after the American Red Cross).

From 1915 to 1930, the Near East Relief saved the lives of over a million refugees, including 132,000 Armenian orphans. The Near East Relief was a bright example of philanthropy, which in the words of Howard Sachar, “quite literally kept an entire nation alive.”

Chapter 2

City of Orphans: From Army Base to Orphanage¹¹

Most Near East Relief stations in the Caucasus were located inland, and nearly all supplies for the region traveled by freighter from the U.S. to the port city of Batumi, Georgia on the Black Sea. The supplies were then shipped to Alexandropol, an important railroad hub.

Alexandropol had been a key military location for the Russian army in the late 1800s. By 1919, Kazachi Post (“Cossack Post”)¹², Seversky¹³, and Polygon¹⁴ army bases had been empty for many years. Near East Relief saw potential in the dilapidated buildings: by consolidating its orphanage operations into one large complex, the organization could care for many more children in need. The Armenian government agreed to let Near East Relief use the former army bases. Thus, Alexandropol became a complex of three orphanages that housed more than 22,000 children at its peak.

Dubbed the “Orphan City,” the Alexandropol complex boasted an incredible 170 buildings, including 40 two-story barracks that were hastily converted into dormitories. Each dormitory held anywhere from 250 to 1,000 children.

When the Turkish army captured the city of Kars in October 1920, the 39 Near East Relief workers in Armenia were urged to leave. All workers chose to stay. In the words of Caucasus Director Ernest Yarrow, “25,000 orphans in our care would have small chance of survival if we left.”

The orphanage complex was well over capacity when 7,000 more children arrived after the evacuation of the Kars orphanage. Rather than turn children away, Near East Relief set up

additional temporary housing in the town four miles away. In July 1922, the town of Alexandropol and the orphanage complex housed a combined 31,000 children. There were 10 orphans for every able-bodied adult male in Alexandropol. It was truly a city of orphans.

Orphans spent most of the day at school and the rest in the workshop. On Saturdays and Sundays, there were no classes at school or in workshops, but the children were engaged in cleaning the premises.

In the “City of Orphans” great importance was given to the spiritual education of children. Every Sunday, they would visit the local church, and they would attend religious classes throughout the week. The shelters also had theatrical circles and children’s choirs.

Rima Khachatryan’s father grew up in Poligon orphanage, where his classmate was Khachik Dashtenc, an Armenian writer and translator of William Shakespeare, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow and William Saroyan.

Rima Khachatryan’s mother was kept in Kazachi Post orphanage. Her parents met in the cafeteria of Kazachi Post. The boys and girls lived separately, and the only place where they could meet was the cafeteria.

Great Armenian poet Hovhaness Shiraz, prose writer Nairi Zaryan, People’s Artist Shoghik Mkrtyan, and many others also were brought up in those orphanages.

Convinced that the primary need of indigenous Christian communities was well-trained leadership, dedicated teachers and guardians – Mr. Yarrow¹⁵, Mr. Brown¹⁶, Mr. Mitchell¹⁷, Mr. Khoren, Mr. Shaljjan, Mrs. Ashkhen, Miss Sandukht and Miss Satenik – inculcated young minds with a love of sympathy, mercy, tolerance and compassion, and raised their wards according to the principles of liberty and humanity.

Chapter 3

They Lived, They Learned, They Flourished¹⁸

A typical day at the orphanage began with a simple breakfast of cocoa and bread made at the onsite bakery. After breakfast, it was time for school. The children took classes in subjects like science, math, history, and literature. Books and supplies like chalk, pencils, and paper were luxuries. The children also received religious education.

The afternoon was devoted to vocational training. All girls took general courses in knitting and sewing. Girls were expected to marry and start their own families upon graduation, and their classes reflected this expectation. A Near East Relief girl should not only be capable of making clothing for her own family; she should also be prepared to contribute to the household income by taking in sewing, or even to earn her own living in the garment trade if necessary. The classes also served an immediate practical purpose: the orphans wore the clothing that the girls made.

Seversky Post was eventually converted into a girls' industrial school where older girls learned to keep their own small houses (built by the boys from Polygon) in preparation for a future as farmers' wives. This training was designed to prepare young women to contribute to the household economy after they were married.

The Polygon Agricultural School adapted American techniques and equipment to the mountainous terrain of the Caucasus region. Boys learned to cultivate wheat and corn (a new crop in the Caucasus) from seeds donated by American farmers. In their leisure time, boys participated in the Boy Scouts¹⁹.

Boys could also study trades like auto mechanics, blacksmithing, bookbinding, carpentry, tailoring, shoemaking, and pottery.

Like the girls, the boys' workshops played a vital role in outfitting the orphans.

In October 1926, a massive earthquake struck the Caucasus region. Relief workers led the 9,000 children living in the Alexandropol complex to safety.

The orphanage buildings sustained comparatively little damage, but the earthquake displaced 100,000 people. Many of them were former refugees who had spent years building a new life. The widespread suffering was comparable to that which followed the burning of Smyrna²⁰ in 1922. Disease and hunger were rampant. Near East Relief turned over the Alexandropol bakery to the government to provide food for refugees.

Thus, the orphanage complex at Alexandropol (now Gyumri, Armenia) was a home and a refuge to tens of thousands of children over the course of a decade. In the halls of the former army buildings, a generation of children did so much more than survive.

Chapter 4

Education as a Unique Opportunity for Life

Rima Khachatryan was born on April 3, 1938, in Yerevan, into a family of survivors of the Armenian Genocide. Her mother was from Anggh²¹, a village in present-day eastern Turkey's Van Vilayet, and her father was from Alashkert, a town and district in Ağrı Province in present-day Turkey.

"I was taken to the Kazachi Post orphanage in Alekpol²². Times were hard – hunger, epidemics... Our girls' shelter was separated from the boys' one. Boys were kept in Poligon and Severski,

and girls – in Kazachi post. I spent four years in the orphanage,” Rima’s mother told her.

Rima’s parents were educated in the orphanages of the Near East Relief. In the orphanage they were also trained for future citizenship and became capable of earning money to finance their daily activities independently.

Rima’s mother, Siranush, learned the craft of cutting and sewing, and studied mathematics, which were extremely useful in her later life. It was thanks to these skills that she began to make a living and to support her newly established family. She went to work in the sewing company “Krasny Shvejnik,²³” first as a seamstress, and then she became an accountant.

They married in 1930 and gave birth to three children. Their first son, Henrik, was born in 1931. During his years of school, he was always awarded with certificates of excellence. He died in 1950 because of the incompetence of the doctors. Their second son, Hrachik, was born in 1933. He died of cancer in 1977, at the age of 44, leaving two children – Gohar (born in 1956) and Gegham (born in 1963). Rima was devoted to her niece and nephew, and kept cordial relationships with them for the rest of her life.

Rima’s father, Mkhitar Khachatryan, died in 1970, and her beloved mother, Siranush Martirosyan, lived to an advanced age and died on April 17, 1990, not surviving until the Declaration of Independence adoption day. She missed it by only 4 months and 6 days.

She passed on to her daughter all the virtues she obtained in the American orphanage – love for freedom and liberty, mercy, tolerance, and compassion – providing her access to opportunities throughout her life, amid challenges such as maintaining social mobility.

“We always knew that, being trained for future citizenship, we had a real part in the development of the new Armenia.

Education gave us a special position in society to help our people and our Nation to survive,” Rima’s mother always told her about her years spent in the orphanage – and it was a philosophy and a call to action that became part of Rima Khachatryan’s life.

Rima became a renowned teacher and a prominent trade union leader, and brought up her own children the same way her mother did. The unique heritage of virtues, knowledge, and values obtained in the American orphanage were passed on from generation to generation throughout the fierce and severe times during the whole century²⁴.

From her mother, Rima also inherited the idea of vocational education²⁵. Her mother attended a vocational school while in the orphanage. In the years that followed, Rima successfully implemented the idea in the Armenian educational system.

Rima’s efforts to enhance nurse education, driven by the ideas of Florence Nightingale, led to the establishment of nursing schools in rural areas of Armenia (Gavar, Ararat, Hrazdan, Armavir, and Martuni)²⁶ during 1975-2015, as well as the first scientifically-based nursing schools – the Schools of Nursing at St. Gregory the Illuminator Hospital (2008) and N11 Polyclinic (1996) in Yerevan, Armenia.

In 2011 Rima’s strenuous efforts to introduce lifelong learning in Armenia led to the establishment of the Executive Coaching and Training Institute, an international training center that provides study programs with a mission to educate the sustainability leaders of the future with innovative and novel methodologies.

Chapter 5

He Went Ashore in New York...

Rima's mother told her a lot about her own father. Rima's maternal granddad, Father Gevorg, was the priest of the Anghh village and the principal of the local gymnasium – a bright and well-educated person. He escaped from the Genocide in 1915 and immigrated to the United States, where he died in a car crash in 1924.

In 1915, amid massacres, Father Gevorg entrusted his wife Antaram (she died of typhus in the months that followed), two infant daughters, Siranush and Satenik, and his whole life savings to his brother Armenak, who would take them with him to cross the Araks river²⁷ and find shelter in Ejmiatsin²⁸.

Father Gevorg traveled to America where he intended to find work and shelter, and then to call his family. Suffering and starving, Father Gevorg walked through the Syrian desert until he reached Lebanon. There, he boarded a ship that took him to the United States, and he finally arrived at Ellis Island in New York²⁹.

Having survived the Armenian Mets Yeghern³⁰, in 1918 Father Gevorg settled in the United States. Unfortunately, his dream was not destined to come true. His fortune was harsh. In a cruel twist of fate, he was killed in a car crash in 1924 at Times Square in New York city.

Many decades later, during her first visit to the United States in 2016, Mrs. Rima went to Times Square³¹, then to Battery Park³² in Manhattan³³. She contemplated Luis Sanguino's sculpture dedicated to all immigrants who came ashore in New York, that emphasizes the struggle and toil inherent in the experience of immigrants or dislocated persons. She also took some soil from

its ground, and brought the soil to Armenia where she spread it on her mother's tomb in Yerevan³⁴.

LIFE AND INSPIRATION

Chapter 6

Grandpa's Gold and Rockefeller's First Million

“This is the statue of Immigrants,” said Ellis, the guide, pointing out the heroic-sized bronze figural group. “The sculpture of Master Luis Sanguino celebrates the diversity of New York City and the struggle of immigrants. It depicts figures of various ethnic groups and eras, including an Eastern European Jew, a freed African slave, a priest, and a worker...”

Ellis fell silent for a moment, came to her senses, and continued:

“The sculpture was installed near the Castle Clinton³⁵ and dedicated to the people of all nations that immigrated to the United States, settled here, and provided the shot in the arm this country badly needed.”

The sculpture was also dedicated to Mrs. Rima's maternal grandpa – Father Gevorg. Rima's mother told her about her father – Mrs. Rima's grandpa – who had been the priest of his home village Anggh of Hayots Dzor³⁶ region in the vilayet of Van. He also served as the supervisor of the local seminary – a well-educated person with strong entrepreneurial capabilities.

America became the adopted homeland of many immigrants from that part of the world, and Father Gevorg also hoped to

make a home there and find some peace and a quiet life for his family...

“The figures’ expressive poses emphasize the struggle and toil inherent in the experience of the immigrant or dislocated person.” Ellis resumed her story.

On her paternal side, Ellis was African American. Her ancestors had immigrated from Africa at the beginning of the nineteenth century. She acknowledged that her great grandfather was not, in fact, an immigrant. He was captured by slave traders and brought to America from Central Africa.

This young, cheerful, and attractive girl studied political science at Columbia University in New York, and was working as a guide outside school hours.

Ellis knew the history of her country perfectly. She regarded herself as an American of African origin, and was equally proud of both her origin and her nationality.

“America is a land of opportunity, a country that saved the lives of millions of immigrants: Irish Catholics expelled from their own country, Jews who were pursued relentlessly in the Middle East, Armenians escaping from Genocide, refugees and forcibly displaced African slaves...”

Here, in this new land, they received asylum and found peace. After untold suffering, they finally settled in this new country, and with blood and muscle built their new homes, gave birth to offspring, and created a new life.

“They created a homeland for their children so that they did not have to be homeless and remain a refugee.” Ellis’s words reminded Mrs. Rima the poem of Ghazaros Aghayan:

*The swallow was building a nest,
It was building and singing,
While putting every twig,
It remembered his old nest...*

The best things in the world were created at the price of human suffering. That's how the world works. America too, is a result of steady, painstaking work. And this impressive achievement far exceeded all expectations.

Of course, development came at a cost. Nothing came from nothing and nothing was scattered and diminished. The Americans knew what money was worth and cherished every cent like the apples of their eyes.

As everywhere, capital accumulation was accompanied by violence in the US. Murders, robbery, and thefts spread during that time, and people remember that.

“The United States is a country of immigrants. All famous Americans are either immigrants, or their descendants.” Ellis continued her presentation, looking at the Immigrants' statue. “Let's take, for example, Sir John Rockefeller, the first billionaire in the world. His grandfather immigrated to the US from Germany in about 1723, and his mother was of Ulster Scots³⁷ descent.”

“Rockefeller? The oil tycoon who was able to report in full for his every million except for the very first one?” asked Mrs. Rima merely to double check her own knowledge.

“Precisely,” confirmed Ellis. “In 1870, he founded Standard Oil, the first oil company in the world, and became the richest man in the country, controlling about 90% of all oil in the United States. By 1882, Standard Oil had a near monopoly on the oil business in the US.”

Again, Ellis interrupted herself, took off her sunglasses and continued:

“Rockefeller revolutionized the petroleum industry. Through corporate and technological innovations, he managed to keep oil prices low, made its products affordable to the average

household, and increased the company's market penetration, sometimes selling oil below the cost."

"So, he was a real oligarch³⁸?" Mrs. Rima asked with a wistful smile. "And he was expropriated and dispossessed, and his property was confiscated!"

"No... Of course, not." Ellis seemed to be struck in horror. "The aggressive competitive practices of Standard Oil led to the passage by the Sherman Antitrust Act³⁹ by Congress in 1890. The Supreme Court ruled in 1911 that Standard Oil originated in illegal monopoly practices and ordered it to be broken up into much smaller companies."

"And what did Rockefeller do?" asked Mrs. Rima with a sad smile.

"Rockefeller broke up his company into 34 separate entities, which included companies that became ExxonMobil, Chevron Corporation, and others – some of which still have the highest level of revenue in the world."

...At the age of seven, John Rockefeller began to do his share of regular household chores and earned extra money raising turkeys, selling potatoes and candy, and eventually lending small sums of money to neighbors.

In 1859, at nineteen, Rockefeller went into business with a partner, Maurice Clark. Clark initiated the idea of the partnership and offered \$2,000. Rockefeller had only \$800 saved up at the time and so borrowed \$1,000 from his father, "Big Bill" Rockefeller, at 10 percent interest.

Their profits soared with the outbreak of the American Civil War⁴⁰, when the Union Army called for massive amounts of food and supplies.

While his brother Frank fought in the Civil War, Rockefeller tended his business and hired substitute soldiers, as did many rich Northerners who avoided combat.

Rockefeller was an abolitionist who voted for President Abraham Lincoln and supported the Republican Party. He followed Methodist preacher John Wesley's dictum, "Gain all you can, save all you can, and give all you can." He later stated, "From the beginning, I was trained to work, to save, and to give"⁴¹.

At that time, the government was subsidizing oil prices, driving the price up from \$.35 a barrel to as high as \$13.75. This created an oil-drilling boom, with thousands of speculators attempting to make their fortunes. Most failed, but those who struck oil did not need to be efficient.

This environment forced Rockefeller to look towards refining of crude oil, building an oil refinery in 1863 (when he was only 24) in Cleveland's burgeoning industrial area.

"The rise of the Standard Oil man to great wealth was not meteor-like, but accomplished over a quarter of a century by a courageous venture in a field so risky that most large capitalists avoided it, by arduous labors, and by more sagacious and far-sighted planning than had been applied to any other American industry." Ellis resumed her story.

The oil fortunes of 1894 were not larger than steel fortunes, banking fortunes, and railroad fortunes made in similar periods. And it definitely was not "dirtier" or "bloodier" than the industries of the other Robber Barons⁴², namely steel, liquor, cotton, banking, textile, tobacco, and railroad tycoons.

It is widely accepted that this "bloody" first million is the basis of any big fortune, and so is "grandpa's gold" for vanovites⁴³. People used to say "a vanovit would rather starve to death than spend his grandpa's gold." They clearly understood that grandpa's gold was the basis of family strength and a unique guarantee for descendants.

In fact, vanovits are cordial and hospitable people, extremely generous, but never wasteful. Unlike those who never worry

about tomorrow, believing that tomorrow will bring worries of its own, vanovits always think about tomorrow, but without forgetting to live today. Vanovits used to say “When you understand how everything is given to you, you will be able to give everything to others.”

By her roots, Mrs. Rima was a vanovite, and the feeling about money – saving and spending, holding back and letting go – started early in her life. She learned her mother’s lessons about thrift. Her mother used to say: “You must try not to be stingy, but remember that a penny saved is a penny earned. Even if you find gold on the ground, first count it, and then take it.”

This simple principle also demonstrates the immense focus on public savings in order to grow the economy. Lucky is the generation that realizes this simple truth in time. And twice unhappy is the one that wastes the bloody “first million” or “grandpa’s gold,” as the next generations would be forced to assemble the “fist million” again and again, getting through torment and suffering. Unfortunately, there is no other way known to humanity...

Mrs. Rima, who was approaching the ninth decade of her life, was carried away by these thoughts while standing on the Manhattan seaside and looking at the infinite azure of the Atlantic Ocean.

The breeze, blowing from the ocean, flattered the hem of her dress, and the blue waters of the New York harbor rippled gently at her feet.

Just before her, on the boundless horizon, the Statue of Liberty⁴⁴ – a gift from the people of France to the people of the United States – rushed into the sky.

It was a warm, lovely evening. The autumn sky was clear and serene. People were walking in the green alleys of Battery Park,

The Daughter of an Émigré

heading towards the beach. On the crimson horizon, the slowly rising moon was full, and the sky was full of stars...

It was mid-October of 2016.

*Rima Khachatryan,
Munich: The Terminus. A True-Life
Story, Yerevan 2021, pp. 125-133*

Chapter 7

The Iron Lady: The Splendor and Misery of the Legend

It was in April of 2004, during Mrs. Rima's first visit to the United Kingdom.

In London everything seemed so strange to Mrs. Rima: the right-hand traffic, double-decker red buses, and the labyrinths of the world's oldest underground were only the tip of the iceberg.

She visited the British Museum, which later could compare with the Louvre and the Prado. From the top of the St. Paul's Cathedral she admired the panoramic view of one of the largest world financial centers. She got acquainted with the Royal court's lifestyle in Windsor⁴⁵ and enjoyed Giuseppe Verdi's *La Traviata* and *Scarlett's Frankenstein* in the Royal Opera House in Covent Garden.

But she could never forget the scene she had witnessed in Westminster that touched her deeply and predetermined her own destiny.

...The tour through the Parliament building ended in the House of Lords, where a plenary session was in process. The guide led

them to the balcony designated for guests and journalists. The balcony was glazed with bulletproof glass and from there one could see everything: the whole chamber, the speaker, members of the House, all were open to view.

Some of the house members, sitting scattered throughout the chamber, looked sleepy, some of them were reading newspapers, others were just meditating, staring at the ceiling, and only a few of them were listening to the speaker who was talking about the current situation in some Asian country.

There was a lady alone on a red leather bench on the right side of the chamber. She wore a nice black and green dress and low-heeled shoes. She was sitting with her head resting on her hand and her eyes closed, and seemed sleepy. She looked a little pale and very old, but the hair-style and unique bearing betrayed her.

Mrs. Rima stared at the lone lady, gazed long and hard, then whispered: “No, it is not worth it to live so long! She is falling to pieces! Is this just the way the Iron Lady is supposed to end? I don’t want to live so long! It’s better to live shorter, but to die with dignity!”

Sitting before her was her beloved idol – the former Iron Lady of World Politics, Baroness Margaret Thatcher.

About one and a half decades later, in the summer of 2017, when Mrs. Thatcher had already gone, Mrs. Rima took her grandchildren to London. Together they visited Westminster. With her two grandchildren, she stood before Margaret Thatcher’s statue, again gazed long and hard, then claimed: “Well, that’s the spirit! Now, that’s more like it. This is how she will exist in the memory of the next generations: always well-dressed, with a proud stance, attractive, noble, and so feminine!”

*Rima Khachatryan, Untold Story,
Yerevan 2020, pp. 63-64*

Chapter 8

The Merciless Face of the Earthquake

It was December of 1988. Mrs. Rima's son had been drafted into compulsory military service in Severski regiment in Gyumri.

Three hours after receiving the news of the earthquake⁴⁶, Mrs. Rima was in Gyumri (the city was also hit by the earthquake). She and her husband reached the city cemetery by car and got stuck in traffic. Further ahead, the road was closed.

Despite the drizzling rain, the city was covered in a thick layer of fog. Nothing could be seen five feet away. Fog in the rain seemed strange to Mrs. Rima. They started to walk towards Severski⁴⁷, not far from the cemetery.

Suddenly they heard a great roar and proceeded towards the cry. There was the *Shushan* factory in front of them, or rather what remained of the building – a huge pile of construction waste. A middle-aged woman with disheveled hair, like a ghost, was weeping on the ruins of the once mighty industrial complex. She was weeping but without tears, weeping and praying!

Some men were picking through the rubble of the factory's building after it was destroyed, trying to move huge pieces of concrete from under which human groans could be heard. There was disgruntlement and wailing where once there had been revelry and song.

Mrs. Rima continued her way silently. The worst was still hidden from human eyes by the heavy cloud of smoke and dust that had seemed like a fog.

A bright flash suddenly appeared on the horizon. The air filled with a pungent smell. There was a fire, the only fire in Gyumri after the earthquake. It was in the city's central department store that was always full of visitors. The huge building had been

destroyed and a fire was inflamed in the ruins. The people left under the ruins were burning alive. The smell of burning bodies quickly spread through the air.

Several people were gathered at the next huge ruin. A hand was sticking out from under the rubble. It was a young female's hand – snowy, with long fingers, and with a ring on the middle finger. "Zaruhi, daughter," a woman wrapped in rags cried severely, then lost consciousness. People were picking through the rubble of their home. The crowd grew. People waited with bated breath. Everyone hoped that the girl was alive.

Several minutes passed. Suddenly, the man who was trying to extract the body from the rubble growled and fell to the ground, kissing the snowy hand and covering it with tears. The snowy arm was chopped off above the elbow. It was all that was left of the man's beloved daughter Zaruhi.

There were ruins everywhere and human ghosts gathered in groups, then dispersed and spread themselves among the ruins without knowing exactly what to do or where to go. There were also mutilated bodies scattered everywhere in this kingdom of ruins, and eyes shining with impotent anger, despair, and madness.

...Fortunately, Mrs. Rima found her only son safe and sound. Underground shocks were unable to destroy the one-story army barracks constructed over one and a half century ago, where the orphanages of the Near East Relief Foundation were located in 1915-1931. The buildings sustained very little damage, to say the least.

Mrs. Rima and her husband spent the night in the tents set in an open field in front of the army barracks, and early in the morning they joined the rescue squads.

*Rima Khachatryan,
Munich: The Terminus. A True-Life
Story, Yerevan 2021, pp. 61-62*

She was deeply touched by Margaret Thatcher's quick reaction to what happened. The British Prime Minister called BBC Radio 4⁴⁸ on December 8, 1988, and reported that an earthquake in Armenia had prompted the Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to cancel his visit to Britain.

“I shall never forget hearing the news of the Armenian earthquake on the radio very early in the morning, and how appalled I was to hear about the devastation and loss of life.

“It was just before Mr. Gorbachev was due to visit Britain, and the radio was speculating whether I knew about the earthquake and what my reaction would be. So, I rang them up and told them there and then: how shocked we were, how much we wanted to help, and how Mr. Gorbachev 's place would be with his people and we would quite understand if he had to postpone his visit.

“... The response from people in this country was magnificent. Not only did the government contribute £5 million, but the British public raised even more than that by individual donations. They also offered their services to take part in the relief work.

“...As so often happens, a great crisis, a great tragedy, brings out the best in people, brings out their desire to help—and we saw that in the tremendous rallying round of people from all over

the world to help the victims and help rebuild. I am very proud that the people of Britain played such a big part in this.

“Most of all we should pay tribute to the people of Armenia itself. It was they who suffered unbelievable hardship and loss. It is they who have shown such resilience in rebuilding the shattered towns and villages. I am looking forward to seeing their work for myself next summer, when I hope to visit Armenia and open the school which Britain is building there. I understand it is to be named after Lord Byron, who was a great friend to Armenia,” said the UK Prime-Minister.

Margaret Thatcher, the speech⁴⁹ delivered at the ceremony to commemorate the Armenian Earthquake on Monday, December 18, 1989.

The earthquake (known as the Armenian earthquake or Spitak earthquake) struck on December 7, 1988 at 11:41 local time with a surface wave magnitude of 6.8. The quake occurred in the northern region of Armenia (then part of the Soviet Union⁵⁰).

An exact death toll proved elusive. The Soviet government’s official count was more than 25,000, but several other estimates were about 50,000. Up to 130,000 were injured, and hundreds of thousands of survivors were displaced.

Most severely affected was Spitak city. More than 300 settlements (including Gyumri) were destroyed, and 59 of them were completely demolished.

Despite the tensions of the Cold War⁵¹, Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev formally asked the United States for humanitarian assistance within a few days of the earthquake, the first such request since the late 1940s.

Later, in a TV interview several weeks after his expedited return from New York City, Gorbachev said that the concrete blocks had been built “with more than enough sand, but too little concrete,” and suggested that the concrete had been stolen.

Earthquake engineering experts scrutinized building construction styles and found fault in the poorly constructed buildings. Leonid Bibin, then deputy chairman of the Soviet State Building Committee, stated that many newer homes collapsed as well and that he was beginning an investigation into the matter and that criminal charges would be brought.

The official communist party newspaper, Pravda, said that poor construction, like other issues of neglect in the Soviet system, could be blamed on the “era of stagnation.”⁵²

*Brand David, Blackman Ann, Hofheinz Paul,
Mader B. William, “Soviet Union Vision
of Horror.” Time. December 26, 1988.*

Chapter 9

“And This Is It. It’s Called Armenian-Turkish Friendship.”

On October 19, 2016, Mrs. Rima travelled with her son to Washington from New York. They were supposed to stay in the Willard InterContinental hotel not far from the White House. In the afternoon, they arrived at the hotel and entered the large lobby. An elderly man and a woman were talking and standing just in front of the entrance door in the large splendid hall.

Their faces seemed familiar to Mrs. Rima, and she stared at them. Perhaps they felt her gaze even without looking, as they turned and politely greeted her.

The man was Sir George Robertson and the woman was Lady Catherine Ashton, and their faces were familiar from the TV. They had been appearing on TV news rather frequently.

Mrs. Rima smiled in response, nodded her head, and moved towards the reception desk, escorted by her son.

At the reception desk, the young concierge welcomed them with a smile and asked for their passports. Having examined the passports, he understood that the guests were from Armenia, and turned to them with even a larger smile: “You are from Armenia! I am so glad to welcome you in our hotel.”

From the concierge’s comments, Mrs. Rima understood only the word “Armenia.” She smiled in response, and thanked him by nodding her head.

The young concierge registered the guests, returned the passports and, still smiling, continued in English: “I am from your neighbor country – Turkey. My favorite dish is dolma⁵³. My mother is a great cooker. She prepares very good dolma. I guess you also like dolma! Don’t you?”

This time Mrs. Rima understood only the word “dolma.” She herself was a fine dolma maker (she learned it from her mother) and really loved dolma. So, she laughed cheerfully, nodded her head in agreement, and, taking back her passport, pronounced the only words she knew in English: “Thank you!”

At that moment she heard a male voice behind her. The man was speaking English, and she could not understand what he said, but out of courtesy she turned around. It was Lord Robertson, who along with Lady Ashton, was patiently waiting for his turn at the concierge desk.

The Daughter of an Émigré

Having witnessed the dialogue exchange between Mrs. Rima and the Turk concierge and seeing Mrs. Rima's head nodding and cheerful laugh, he had exclaimed gaily: "Look at them! How quickly they hit it off!"

"And this is it. It's called Armenian-Turkish friendship⁵⁴," Lady Ashton joyfully added.

Later, when her son translated the conversation and explained who they were, Mrs. Rima first became embarrassed, but then laughed and told everybody that she had unwittingly contributed to the confidence-building between Armenians and Turks.

*Rima Khachatryan, Untold Story,
Yerevan 2020, pp. 75-76*

“SHE KNEW THE MEASURE OF EVERYTHING”

Chapter 10

“The Challenge Is in the Moment”

Mother’s chief dislikes were crowds and loud noises. She also disliked the taste of alcohol and could not stand smoking. She liked sun, flowers, travelling, and simple food.

She described her time at the Armenian Pedagogical University as among the most formative experiences of her life.

“I noticed at once she had a keen sense of argumentation,” her university classmate, Gohar Safaryan, remembered. “Khrushchev was at the helm of the State at the time and it was the after-Stalin era, and there was a lot of talk about the Great Purge⁵⁵ and its consequences.”

Another university classmate, Larisa Shahnazaryan, described her as a “charming girl, who knew how to laugh and how to enjoy the life, and who had dignity, good manners, and a great sense of humor.”

She was lucky that she met the right mentors and teachers at the right moment. Surely, by her own admission, Samand Ali Siabandov, a well-known Kurdish writer and politician, and Mkrtych Matevosyan, a renowned educator and physician, were the two persons, who made consistent support in her career.

In spite of being a Communist Party member, Mother was a deeply religious woman and a devout Christian. Regardless of the strictest prohibition of the Soviet ideology, in 1975 she secretly organized the baptism of her children (my and my brother's) in Saint Sarkis Cathedral⁵⁶ in Yerevan.

She was a lifelong faithful follower of the Armenian Apostolic Church⁵⁷ and made pilgrimages to over 40 holy places during her lifetime both in Armenia and abroad.

“Opinions on Rima Khachatryan are always positive. What is really hard to argue with, is that she was an influential and charismatic personality. And here are three qualities anybody can learn from Mrs. Khachatryan: passion, determination, and confidence,” Edward Tumasyan, the Head of the Confederation of the Trade Unions of Armenia, said when I visited him to present him with my mother's first book – “Untold Story” – published just three months after her death.

Mother was a shy person, and disliked public appearances, but she was friendly and sharp-witted to meet. She also was naturally collected, taking her time with things and not rushing into feelings or actions. She would never air her “dirty laundry” in public, and always tended to deal with her own problems, rather than seeking help from others. At the same time, she was incredibly compassionate and appreciative. In fact, she might realize you were upset before you did.

“She always knew when to stop. She knew the measure in everything. At her best, she had a sense of proportion and a sense of humor. I think she absorbed it with her mother's milk. Notably, she knew the price of silence,” Naira Nersisyan, the Director of the Medical College, told me when we met in August 2020.

“She is a born teacher, it's her life's vocation,” said Mkrtych Matevosyan, then the Director of the Medical College, on my mother's 50th birthday celebration on April 3, 1988 in one of the

iconic Yerevan restaurants called *Chinari*. “This is a solemn duty and a great privilege that comes with great rewards and great responsibilities. She is like a giant with shoulders wide enough to bear the weight of burdens too heavy for the students to carry, a backbone strong enough to stand up for what’s best for her students, and a heart big enough to love thousands of students over a lifetime.”

“She was able to listen, to empathize, to build rapport. She was patient, self-composed, and an extremely reserved personality... The adaptable teacher is one who is open to unexpected turns of events and rolls with unplanned opportunities. It’s amazing, but at the age of 75, she participated in a training for teachers’ course and led the efforts to create a new curriculum for Pharmaceutics,” Manik Grigoryan, who worked with my mother at the Medical College from 1975-2015 and was a close friend of hers, said about my mother. “She was an extremely reserved person. She knew how to keep a secret.”

Mother taught me: “Team building is the main proficiency of any teacher, and team work is the most important part of the education process. Team building activities contribute to collaborative problem-solving and boost self-esteem. They also create an atmosphere of community and improve communication skills.”

She was among the young leaders who met with Indira Gandhi during her visit to Armenia in June of 1976. She was inspired by Gandhi’s commitment to the Non-Aligned Movement⁵⁸, and the main belief, taken from Mahatma Gandhi’s doctrine: “The true path of life is the path of truth, nonviolence, and love.” She herself adopted Gandhi’s life-principle: “Forgiveness is a virtue of the brave” and did not abandon it throughout her own life.

I can never forget the time she spent in *Neuwittelsbach* hospital in Munich. She was already sick, but never lost her fortitude and clarity of mind. I still keep (and always will keep) the Wood Wall

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Cross Crucifix Jesus Christ that was gifted her with blessing by the Sisters of Mercy of St. Vincent de Paul at the Hospital⁵⁹ when we were leaving it on March 26, 2020.

People often ask me if she had enemies. I have never heard of one, unless, by the words of the chartist poet Charles Mackay: “You have no enemies, you say? Alas, my friend, the boast is poor. He who has mingled in the fray of duty that the brave endure, must have made foes. If you have none, small is the work that you have done. You’ve hit no traitor on the hip. You’ve dashed no cup from perjured lip. You’ve never turned the wrong to right. You’ve been a coward in the fight.”

And I always well remember her words addressed to the freshmen of the Medical College on the 2017 Knowledge Day⁶⁰: “The challenge is in the moment; the time is always now.”

*From the memoirs of Rima Khachatryan’s
daughter, Marine Ghazaryan,
an educator and a teacher of Chemistry*

Chapter 11

“She Was Just Able to Deal
with Things Differently.”

Charity was neither widely practiced nor encouraged during the Soviet period. Nevertheless, Rima was a real philanthropist by then.

Anyone who knew her would tell you that she was special. Her fine character and conscience, her sense of the moral goodness and blameworthiness of her own conduct, earned her universal

respect and confidence. Her mercifulness was unlimited. She was always ready to help.

She did her job exceptionally well, and performed her duties with dedication. Everyone changed jobs during their lifetime. Everyone but Rima. 55 years in one job – this is worthy of praise.

Although she was a chemist, she was proficient in Armenian and was a brilliant public speaker.

But she was first and foremost a dedicated mother, and she brought up two lovely children. By the end of her life, her daughter Marine had accompanied her everywhere.

She was a reserved person, always calm and collected. That’s not to say that nothing fazed her; she was just able to deal with things differently.

...On the day of the earthquake⁶¹ we were in Ashtarak⁶², attending the funeral of Rima’s relative, when we heard about the earthquake in Gyumri. I noticed that she had turned pale. We all were upset by the news, but she was touched deeply. It was obvious. “My son,” she whispered in response to my surprise.

Her son, Ashot, was on military service in the same Gyumri. Can you imagine a mother’s feelings when she is told that the city where her only son currently dwells has been completely destroyed?

But she was so collected, and able to keep herself calm. Even now I cannot keep my feelings when I remember that day. She, however, did not lose self control. I can never forget that.

She stayed in control of how she felt in any situation, and didn’t air her real feelings in public. This is a valuable trait to have, especially for a woman. It’s not for everybody.

*From the memoirs of Greselda Papazyan,
Untold Story, Yerevan 2020, pp.59-60*

Chapter 12

“Everything Was First Rate in Her.”

By virtue of her character, she was a leader, and a very charismatic person. What her psyche could not afford was wasting time. She was brave and determined, and always demonstrated zero tolerance for incompetence.

When I was elected the head of the Myasnikyan⁶³ Committee of the Trade Union of Health Workers, the Presidium was comprised of 11 members. We were serving thirty health care institutions. A deputy head was needed for the Presidium.

I was a newcomer to the Myasnikyan Borough and didn't know anyone, therefore I wasn't able to suggest anyone. “You should consider Rima Khachatryan for that position,” advised Laura Musheghovna, then the Head of the Republican Committee.

I remember our first meeting very clearly. I was wearing a short dress while meeting her, and she was handsome, elegantly dressed, with a proud strut, attractive, and noble. “How can we hit it off?” was my first thought. We seemed so different. But in a very short time we became “very similar,” “complementary,” and very close friends.

...Armenia was receiving a lot of humanitarian assistance at that time. It was decided that Rima should be responsible for distributing it among the trade union members. “Lena,” said Mr. Matevosyan, then the director of the Medical College. “I know you are a great organizer, but only Rima can do this efficiently.”

We had a limited quantity of travel vouchers⁶⁴ to be distributed among the health care workers selectively, and were pretty sure that Rima would make the most unbiased selection.

She overcame adversity and became incredibly successful, and the way she met challenges, even when life seemed too tough to

handle, could inspire anyone. She was extremely devoted to her children.

Her basic principle was that those who worked hard would be rewarded. She loved her job, and was extremely conscientious.

We were always in touch. As there were no mobile phones at that time, we simply met at work or at home to discuss something. She was a cordial and hospitable person.

She was also a good disciplinarian, and a modest and moderate woman of genuine piety and irreproachable morals. Everything was first-rate in her...

*From the memoirs of
Lena Aghababyan, published in
Rima Khachatryan, Untold Story,
Yerevan 2020, pp. 55-57*

Chapter 13

The Traveller

When she was young, Mother dreamed about travelling, and in her later years she travelled extensively, especially during the last two decades of her life.

Fate took her on journeys through endless natural spaces of Asia, North America, and Europe, boundless coastlines of the Pacific (Los Angeles) and Atlantic (New York) oceans, seamless serenity of the Black (Constanța, Varna, Sochi) and Dead (Israel) seashores, the Persian Gulf (Dubai) and the Sea of Japan (Honshu island), vast rivers of Denmark, Japan, France, and the Czech Republic.

She travelled to 38 countries including the United States, Japan, India, Israel, the United Kingdom, Nordic, EU, and CIS countries, visited 54 towns and cities, ploughed the waters of the Mediterranean (Istanbul – Heraklion – Dubrovnik – Venice), North (Copenhagen – Oslo) and Baltic (Stockholm – Helsinki) Seas.

In the United Kingdom, she visited Westminster and the British Museum, which later could compare with the Louvre and Prado, and from the top of St. Paul's Cathedral she admired the panoramic view of one of the largest financial centres of the world, got acquainted with the royal court's lifestyle in Royal Palace of Windsor, and enjoyed Scarlett's Frankenstein at the Royal Opera House in Covent Garden.

In Japan she was impressed by the unique architecture of Tokyo and admired the beauty of the Temple of the Golden Pavilion Kinkaku-Ji⁶⁵ in Kyoto⁶⁶. In New Delhi she paid tribute to the courage of her idol – Indira Gandhi in the Raj Ghat⁶⁷, and appreciated the unprecedented splendor of the Taj Mahal⁶⁸ in Agra.

In Jerusalem she got acquainted with Wajoooh U. Nasoileh⁶⁹, the custodian and door-keeper of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, visited the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem, came over the Temple Mount and the Wailing Wall⁷⁰, plunged her legs into the Dead Sea⁷¹, as well as in the Jordan River near the place where Jesus of Nazareth was baptized by John the Baptist.

At St. Peter's Square in the Vatican City, she received the blessing of the supreme pontiff Pope Benedict XVI, prayed in the Sistine Chapel, venerated before St. Peter's grave and the Statue of Gregory the Illuminator at the wall of the Papal Basilica of St. Peter.

She visited Zurich, Prague, Karlovy Vary, Varna, Constanța, Dubrovnik, Heraklion, Copenhagen, and Madrid, bowed down before the monument of Komitas⁷² on the bank of the Seine in Paris, with a pain in her heart contemplated the remains of the

Berlin wall⁷³, went to the Venice boardwalk, enjoyed the alpine air of Lichtenstein’s mountains, walked along the embankments of Lake Geneva, and dined in a Greek restaurant on Malibu Beach.

She also wandered Pennsylvania Avenue and President’s Park in Washington, D.C., took a boat tour through the canals of Amsterdam, visited the Nobel Peace Center in Oslo, Palace of Culture and Science (originally known as the Joseph Stalin’s Palace of Culture and Science) in Warsaw and the Acropolis – an ancient Greek settlement in Athens, and attended Puccini’s *La Bohème* at La Scala in Milano.

I will never forget how, with her broken Russian, Mother managed to persuade a Spanish-speaking woman to include our names on the list of ticket-seekers. It was on August 22, 2015 in Milan. We arrived early in the morning and had only two days to spend in Milan. Even the “omnipotent” concierge of the Palazzo Parigi hotel found it impossible to get a ticket to La Scala on such short notice. But my mother managed to do it with her innate gift for convincing people!

...In New York City, she crossed the roads of Times Square where her maternal granddad, Father Gevorg, was killed in a crash in 1924, contemplated the Immigrants sculpture in Battery Park in Manhattan, took some soil from its ground, brought the soil to Armenia, and spread it on her mother’s tomb in Yerevan.

On the way from Stockholm to Helsinki, the ship was caught in a violent storm in the Nordic Sea and nearly sank. In the United Arab Emirates, a camel nearly hit our car on the Dubai-Abu Dhabi highway in the desert...

She really enjoyed the world’s most famous boiled beef at the Plachutta⁷⁴ restaurant in Vienna, Viennise schnitzel and roasted potatoes at the Augustiner-Keller⁷⁵ in Munich, and warm hospitality of the leading hotels of the world: Grand Hotel in Stockholm, Palazzo Parigi in Milan, The Charles in Munich,

One&Only The Palm in Dubai, as well as the Ritz Carlton in Tokyo and New York, and InterContinental Hotels and Resorts in Washington, Moscow, London, Los-Angeles, New York, Berlin, and Prague, to name a few.

As a chemist, she was amazed while browsing around the Atomium⁷⁶ and said that “it could be pretty instructive to bring the students there on a field trip.” Palace of Versailles (Château de Versailles), Schönbrunn Palace (Schloss Schönbrunn), and Les Invalides can also be named among her favorite sites to attend.

In Moscow, she used to stay in the now demolished *Rossiya* hotel, overlooking the Kremlin⁷⁷, and the iconic hotel *National*, where Lenin and other Russian revolutionaries lived after the October Revolution⁷⁸, when the Bolsheviki⁷⁹ moved the capital to Moscow. She also enjoyed walking in Kitay-gorod⁸⁰ and *Chistoprudny Boulevard*, and attending the Armenian church on the Olimpiyski prospect.

But, of course, her favorite city was London. She enjoyed everything there, even the dizzy labyrinth of the Tube⁸¹.

Mother visited London for the last time in her life just a month before her illness, in January 2020. She stayed in the InterContinental Park Lane, and dined at the Mari Vanna in Knightsbridge, sauntering there through Hyde Park, then attended Giuseppe Verdi’s *La Traviata* at the Royal Opera House in Covent Garden...

*From the memoirs of Ashot Manukyan,
Rima Khachatryan’s son*

Chapter 14

The Stonehenge Cuisine

Mrs. Rima preferred simple food. She could not stand seafood and hated sweet and sour mustard sauce.

Her favorite dishes were roasted potatoes and bread and cheese. Being accustomed to the simple dishes of Mediterranean cuisine⁸² she could not accept the “synthetic tests” of different fusions and mixes offered by modern cuisines and Michelin restaurants.

And once her “specific attitude” to the signature dishes was “properly rewarded.”

It was on May 9, 2008 in Prague. The menu of the high-end restaurant on the bank of the Vltava river seemed attractive with its appetizing images and seductive descriptions of the main courses offered by the renowned chef.

She ordered a well-done steak with roasted potatoes. The food looked fantastic and smelled appealing. The beef was delicious and melted in the mouth. Unfortunately, this masterpiece of culinary art had a “small imperfection” – it was covered by some kind of a sweet and sour mustard sauce.

But, maybe fortunately, Mrs. Rima was familiar with such a situation. As always, she called the waiter and asked for an additional plate. Using her knife and spoon, she removed the layer of sauce from the beef slowly and cautiously and put the steak on the new plate. Then she put the “clean” part of potatoes on the same plate, removed the old one, and began to enjoy her meal.

This scene did not escape the waiter’s attention. He seemed surprised, but remained silent. He cast a glance at the two plates on the table in front of Mrs. Rima and took his departure without saying a word.

A strapping man in a white double-breasted jacket with black buttons, pants in a black-and-white houndstooth pattern, and an apron appeared with a toque blanche on his head. It was the chef.

The chef smiled, introduced himself in English, took a piece of paper out of his pocket, put it on the table, and asked the lady to single out the ingredient that she disliked. It was the recipe of the sauce.

The manager, who came up after the chef, revealed a secret: the sauce that Mrs. Rima had removed so cautiously from the beef was the chef's best creation and had just received the Grand Prix in a prestigious cooking contest in Paris.

And now the author was kindly asking the lady to help him to improve his own masterpiece by pointing out the ingredient that she disliked so much.

But the lady smiled with her usual modesty and assured the manager in Russian that everything was ok, that the food was delicious, and that she really appreciated it. She also thanked her for serving such a wonderful dish.

The manager smiled in turn, translated the lady's words into English for the chef (the chef was French and did not speak Russian), and considered the incident settled. However, the chef was unshakeable. By all means he wanted to find out which ingredient, in the lady's opinion, spoiled the taste of his favorite dish.

He took the manager aside and whispered some words in her ear. Again, they approached the table, and the manager addressed the lady: If the lady would be so kind as to indicate the ingredient that she did not like, they would not charge her for the food already consumed, and would also offer a complimentary dessert of the lady's choice.

“SHE KNEW THE MEASURE OF EVERYTHING”

Realizing that it was not possible to get rid of them, the lady pointed out the combination of sweet and mustard. The chef took some notes on the paper, thanked the lady, apologized, and took his leave.

From this incident, the idea of originally simple food was born. In the following years, Mrs. Rima developed and wrote down one by one all the recipes of the dishes her mother used to cook, adding her own descriptions of the simple home-cooked meals so widely applied during the Soviet period.

Thus, the concept of Stonehenge Cuisine, where “the ingredients used are simply drawn from nature” was conceived. And who knows, maybe one day Stonehenge will become a new signature in the culinary arts, glorifying the name of its prominent author.

*Rima Khachatryan, Untold Story,
Yerevan 2020, pp. 65-67*

THE EDUCATOR AND THE TRADE UNION LEADER

Chapter 15

How to Become a Highly Responsible Student

Dear students,

Today, on September 1, 2011, the Yerevan State Medical College for the 90th time in its history opens its doors to future nurses, obstetricians, pharmacists, and dental technicians.

You will be trained and educated in one of the oldest educational institutions of our country, where renowned physicians and great pedagogues have taught over the years, like professor Grigor Areshyan, academician Armenak Mnjoyan, and honorable surgeon Sedrak Sharimanyan, to name a few.

The long and rich history and high prestige of our college lays a big responsibility on its teaching staff and students. It's a great honor and a big responsibility to be a student of the Yerevan State Basic Medical College.

This is the right place for those who think promoting health and treating disease are one of the great delights of life. You have to be ready to learn from others and to work hard in the coming years to be worthy of the honor of being a student of our college.

Here you will learn to respect people, healthy or ill, regardless of who they are. You will get into the habit of supporting patients and their loved ones when and where they are needed. Finally,

by the time of your graduation, you will honor your responsibilities under medical practices.

First, you need to set goals. With clearly determined goals you will find it easier to say “no” to irresponsible behavior, because you can say “yes” to your vision of the future.

Also, you should study every day. Learning is like building a brick wall – you should do it steadily, setting aside time for homework, but you should always remember what Anton Chekhov said about knowledge: “Knowledge is of no value unless you put it into practice.”

The teachers will almost always spell out what they think is important. So take notes in class and spend time reviewing your notes before a test.

It’s also important to plan your time. Remember Benjamin Franklin, who said: “If you fail to plan, you plan to fail.” Write down all commitments and use the calendar to plan time for homework each day.

And honor your commitments – do your share of the group project. Responsible students know that being late, or being early, is not something that simply happens to them. It is a choice you can make!

Experts believe that if we repeat an action every day for just 21 days, it is likely to become habit. So, for the next 21 days, act on the habits of responsible students, and you will soon do them without even thinking. And you will be more responsible - and more successful!

Welcome to our college! I wish you success in your studies!

*From Rima Khachatryan’s speech
delivered on September 1, 2011
on the Knowledge Day celebration
Yerevan, Armenia*

Chapter 16

Underperforming Students or Incapable Teachers?

Mrs. Rima acknowledged that she was lucky with her teachers. She met a lot of distinguished professors in the university who formed the image of a pedagogue in her mind.

Professor Sahak Karapetyan, for instance, used to say that “there is no bad job, there are only bad workers.” He claimed that every person should be creative about his or her job, regarding it as an art, putting one’s soul into it, and, more importantly, never despairing.

Later, Mrs. Rima became carried away with the ideas of Anton Makarenko. She highly appreciated the role of a team working for the learning process. She made the principle of her life the well-known testament of the great educator: “The maximum possible demands with the maximum possible respect.” During her life, she never deviated from this principle.

Her “Underperforming Student Success Strategy” was simple: to create relationships with struggling students and build cognitive capacity relentlessly, trying to become a real coach for the students to be successful in life. She always succeeded with this strategy.

The overriding principle of Rims Khachatryan’s pedagogical approach was based on four basic values: dignity, truthfulness, fairness, and responsibility and freedom. She thoroughly and continuously promoted democratic ideas and principles in her educational practice.

She used to say “self-education is an important virtue of a teacher,” and educated herself relentlessly throughout her life.

In 2013, at the age of 75, Mrs. Rima participated in the Training for Teachers (TOT) courses organized by the National Centre for Vocational Education and Training Development. The topic was “organization and implementation of instructional programs aimed at learning outcomes.”

She led the efforts to modernize the curriculum for the “Pharmaceutics” discipline, and was largely responsible for introducing the new curriculum in the medical vocational colleges in Armenia.

During the 55 years of her educational practice, not a single student failed an exam in the subject she was teaching. She was pretty sure that “not the student but the teacher fails the exam.” From her own life experience, she derived the simple credo: “There are no underperforming students, there are only incapable teachers.”

...It was in the summer of 1988. She chaired the examination board of the Yerevan Vocational Medical College No.1 in chemistry. Meanwhile, her daughter, Marine, applied to the Chemistry Department of the Yerevan State University.

In Armenia in the 1980s it was acceptable to go for application testing accompanied by an “army of fans” – parents, friends, even uncles, nieces and nephews who escorted the applicant to the university building for an application test and waited there until she finished the exam.

It was the day when Marine was proposed to take a test in mathematics. The day was rainy. In the university courtyard, Mrs. Rima stumbled, fell, and injured her leg.

The next morning, limping with a bandaged leg, she went to the college where she was the main examiner in chemistry for the applicants of the Pharmaceutics Department. The test began at

9 am. Half an hour later, a whisper spread among all the applicants and their fans gathered in the college courtyard: “Try to get to the limping lady. She never gives an “F.”

*Rima Khachatryan, Untold Story,
Yerevan 2020, pp. 29-31*

Chapter 17

The Devoted Teacher

There are many skillful and experienced, dedicated teachers at the Yerevan State Basic Medical College.

Rima Khachatryan is one of them – veterans of our college – who devoted her entire work life to a single institution. 48 years of her life were dedicated to the students and scholars of the Medical College – future nurses, pharmacists, obstetrician, and dental technicians...

I asked her for an interview. She modestly refused, arguing that there were a lot of more experienced teachers and more skilled scholars in the college. She never talked about her achievements.

Her long-life work was rewarded according to her merits: she was awarded with a great number of medals, honorary titles and certificates.

“Awards are pleasing, of course, but they are also obliging. I feel myself greatly indebted to work even harder, with greater devotion and conscientiousness,” Rima told me once.

...Everything began in 1965, when for the first time in her life, she entered the auditorium as a chemistry teacher.

“I remember very well,” says Mrs. Khachatryan. “The first lesson was about the features of the inorganic chemical substances, and the first feeling was encouragement. Don’t be surprised. When I entered the auditorium for the first time in my life, I was seized with panic. Tens of students stared at me. It was a real challenge, and I was afraid, I was worried about it. But from the very first moment, when I heard the students’ response to my welcome, I recognized that I could cope with this challenge, maybe the biggest one in my life.”

In the following years she served as a head of the chemistry laboratory and head of the Pharmaceuticals Department. For 47 years she headed the Trade Union of the college. She always worked hard, and overcame everyday difficulties with a sense of high responsibility.

Mrs. Khachatryan confesses: “The teacher’s work is highly labor-intensive. The teacher is someone who sacrifices evenings and weekends to plan, prepare, and grade. Someone who comes in early and stays late if it means helping a student find success. Someone who would truly appreciate and support each member of the school family.

“Students spend more than 1,000 hours with their teacher in a typical college year. That’s enough time to build a relationship that could ignite a student’s lifetime love of learning. The more self-motivated the students are, the better prepared they’ll be to reach their potential. One of the best ways to encourage this is by building meaningful teacher-student relationships.”

Perhaps because of this very simple principle, Mrs. Khachatryan enjoyed the love and respect of both her colleagues and students.

She strongly believed that a better society could be built through profound changes in people’s attitudes and outlooks, and argued that teachers must accord more importance to dialogue with students, to themselves, their feelings, relationships, as well as issues of career planning and human growth and development.

She always stressed the importance of education, not only as a means to provide the students with limited knowledge and information to do a particular job, but also as a means to explain to them how to live. For her, the purpose of education should not be reduced to the acquisition of a certain set of skills, but rather building human capabilities – the range of things that people can do or be in life.

Following the ideas of John Dewey, she always considered education to be “a unique responsibility to provide social service that will lead to both present and future social progress.” Mrs. Khachatryan believed that successful teachers possess a passion for knowledge in the materials and methods they teach.

“During the last five decades, the college became a hearth for me. I have a lot of wonderful memories of this institution. I can never imagine my life without our college, and maybe this is why I am still working despite my age...,” - said the Honorable Pedagogue, as she continued to work and share her skills and experience with the young teachers...

“A well-deserved mark,” Nursery, N8(60), October 2005, p. 2

“The Preface instead of a Review,” Nursery, N9(81), September 2007, p.5

“Adherent Follower,” In the Name of Health, N1(11), October 2013, p.4

“A Memorial of Rima Khachatryan, an Honored Pedagogue of the Republic of Armenia, was opened in Yerevan,” by Aramais Gasparyan, Aysor.am, April 20, 2021

Chapter 18

The Main Tasks of the Trade Union

Dear Trade Union Members,

The Trade Union of the Yerevan State Basic Medical College No.1 was an organization of the college's students, teaching, and administrative staff who came together to achieve common goals, restricted within the framework of the state ideology of the Soviet Union.

Unfortunately, during the Soviet period, the behavior of most of our union members was respectably logical. There were a lot of people in our country who were willing to accept the flaws of the system as long as they were fairly secure in their position within its pecking order. For 70 years *second-class citizen* status was the only real alternative (real albeit not nominal) for them.

Others were ready to reform the stagnation and bottomless subordination, and they were willing to assert some impetus for reform. Thanks to them, the Soviet trade unions became more vocal in protecting workers' interests by the end of the 1980s.

And now all this is over! However, we have gone to the other extreme – presumption that market-based approaches alone can supply the solution to all our problems. Slowly but surely, we have to place sustainable development on our agenda.

Now the membership in our organization is strictly voluntary. Our main purpose is securing improvements in pay, benefits, working conditions, and social status for our members. Also, the most important part of our activities is securing social conditions for our members and their families.

Currently, our newly independent country is at war. We are in a state of crisis, and simply can't carry on with business as usual. Solutions to the current situation will require everyone's partici-

pation – their inspired, wholehearted participation – if we are to reverse the trends that are bringing us face-to-face with disaster.

I am proud to introduce the principle of “the trade union treasury as a cash register for mutual support” to honor those who served before us, and to raise money for the college’s veteran students and their families. It will ensure success for veteran students and create pathways for their professional growth and opportunities for career advancement.

We are a nation reawakened to service, determination, and outreach. The incredible strength of our new heroes, those who battled their own fears to defend our freedom, has made us even stronger.

The lessons learned from the war have reaffirmed the role we must play in cultivating strong citizens who are equipped with the potential to design systemic solutions, propose pioneering development strategies, and contribute to advancing our nation.

Our trade union has a tradition of and the capacity to speak directly to the problem, but we can do much more. It exists to protect the rights and interests of its members – future nurses and obstetricians, other mid-level health workers.

The number one priority for our union should be elaboration of the Law on Medical Assistance and Service to the Population, where issues regarding legal regulation of nursing, assessment of the workload of mid-level health workers, and fair pay should be touched upon. This must include strong regulation.

These, I believe, are the main tasks of our organization for the present and next couple of years.

I am sure you know that today our society expresses a lot of scepticism, pessimism, and distrust about trade unions. But still, independence created widespread hope and exuberance

– the feeling that, working together, we can indeed build the better country we all want.

Thank you.

*From the Opening Statement
delivered by Rima Khachatryan
at the Annual Meeting
of the Trade Union of the
Yerevan State Basic Medical
College on September 18, 1992.*

Chapter 19

The Grandeur of the Years Lived

I didn't need to talk to her to write this article. Self-glorification has never been her thingamajig! She has always led a modest lifestyle and was never led astray. "I am extremely grateful to my parents for not only teaching me how to live with integrity, but also for giving me a chance to dream and have this dream to guide my life," she told me once.

Rima Khachatryan's dream has never been about higher ranks and positions, though she had many chances in her life. Still, this has never been her aspiration. She learned early on that everything in life could be delusive. Today, towering on the years of her life, she seems to have earned the right to repeat with Charles Aznavour: "Had I had a chance to live again, I would have lived the same life."

She would often relive the unique feeling she had on August 31st, 1965, when she first stepped into the Medical College as a lab assistant and teacher! The first subject she taught was "Inorganic

Chemistry.” For the first time ever in her life! What emotions! What excitement! Forty years later, she still remembered the feeling: “It should be kindled in the innermost depths of your soul. The lips can never express the feeling...”

Since then, thousands of invisible threads have connected her with this alma mater of future nurses, obstetricians, and pharmacists. For four decades she has shared the warmth and light of her soul with her students. She teaches them to love not only their profession, but also the world around them, the life, the people... How many generations has she educated here, and how many has she bid farewell to?! She lost the count ages ago, but she knows that the children of many of her students of yore study in her class today. She knows each and every one of them. They comprise the dignity of her life, the pre-eminence and pride of her years lived. Isn't that all one needs to be happy?

She is a chemist, and the head of the Department of Pharmaceutics. Without any reservation, she adheres to the belief of the 19th century prominent chemist and educator Dmitry Mendeleev: “A teachers' pride is in their students, in the growth of the seeds they have sown.”

I asked Rima: “Has your choice of profession anything to do with your love towards Mendeleev's periodic table?”

“It has much to do also with my profound respect for my first chemistry teacher – Satenik Arakelyan – and the indelible and radiant trace she has left on my life,” was the answer.

She is a graduate of Stepan Shaumyan Secondary School in Yerevan and of Khachatur Abovyan Pedagogic University. In 1960, she graduated from the University's Department of Biochemistry and got her first job in the Ministry of Agriculture. She worked in the Ministry for five years. During these five years she also managed enroll in the distance learning program of the Institute of Agriculture.

Rima Khachatryan started her career at the Medical College with significant work experience. Her work has never been limited to lectures and management of the department. For four decades she has been leading the trade union of the college. The staff has never hesitated in trusting her with leadership, and Rima repays this trust with her youthful ardor and efforts, much like in the days of her youth when she first took the responsibility to lead the trade union. She has managed to navigate the trade union forward without any “accidents” even in the new realities and transformed culture of human relations...

“In our alma mater, where human relations have always been very warm, open, and straightforward, the trade union has managed to operate with a strict mission and efficiency. There has been a big change in the managers’ approach to the trade union, which has created a different set of relationships. Our engagement now emphasizes the value of aligning the organization’s goals with those of the students and the tutors. Some 30 years ago this would have been an anathema! It makes discussions between the management and the trade union productive, and enables them to identify mutually beneficial ways of moving forward,” Mrs. Khachatryan tells us with undisguised pride in her voice.

*Armenak Muradyan, 85 Years on the Top,
Yerevan, Lacky Print 2005, pp. 62-65*

RECOGNITION

Chapter 20

A Proper Reward

Mrs. Rima embarked on her teaching career as a chemistry tutor in the Yerevan State Medical Vocational School No.1 forty years ago – in 1965.

During the following years, along with professional experience, she acquired management skills that together with her innate leadership abilities allowed her to become the head of the Pharmaceutics' Department, then the chair of the trade union, and to serve in this position for about four decades.

The work of the skilled teacher has been repeatedly noted by the governing body of the college with certificates of honor and letters of appreciation.

And she has been awarded with a gold medal by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Armenia for her contributions to the development of medical vocational education, as well as for an extensive and successful career marked with notable achievements. The award was delivered by Minister Sergo Yeritsyan.

“What kind of feeling did you have when the medal was delivered to you by the minister?” I asked Mrs. Rima Khachatryan the next day.

“For me, it was a great surprise. For a long time, the representatives of the vocational educational institutions were not winning such remarkable awards. And during the Teacher’s Day celebration in the Iconic Philharmonic Hall, when the Minister announced my name among the seven prize winners, I was deeply touched.

“Then I remembered the years spent in our Medical College. Troublesome days, triumphs, and misfortunes quickly passed before my eyes. You know, my work was rewarded, and I was really happy! I am grateful for this award that will encourage me and my team to work even harder,” was her answer.

On behalf of the teaching staff of the college and the editorial team of the “Nursing” Magazine, we congratulate Mrs. Rima Khachatryan on winning the Gold Medal of the Ministry of Education and Science. We are happy that someone from our college won, and we are even happier that it was her. The award appropriately reflects her endless hours spent teaching the future nurses and obstetricians, pharmacists, and dental technicians. We wish her unlimited success in the future.

*By Nona Stamboltsyan, “Nursing” Magazine.
No. 20, October 2005, Yerevan, Armenia.*

Chapter 21

“It’s too Difficult to Fancy our
College Without You”

Dear Mrs. Rima Khachatryan,

On behalf of the administration management, teaching staff, and the whole collective of the Yerevan State Basic Medical

The Daughter of an Émigré

College No.1, we congratulate you on your 50th birthday and 30th anniversary of your labor activity. We wish you good health, happiness, and success in your future activities.

You are a woman of principle, an exacting teacher, and also an optimist. That is why the students and your colleagues admire you.

The last 23 years of your labor activities have been closely linked with our favorite college. It has been a time of self-identity and self-knowledge that helped you to become a stronger personality and taught you to appreciate all that you had accomplished.

Also, for about 20 years, you have been leading the college's trade union. During this period, it got stronger and became one of the leading trade unions of Armenia.

And today it's too difficult to fancy our college without you, and you without our collective.

Again and again, we wish you multiplied energy and inspiration, and continuing success in your life and career.

Sincerely yours,

Mkrtich Matevosyan, Director

Sergey Hovhannisyan, Head of the Communist Party Committee

Khachatur Torosyan, Deputy Head of the Trade Union Committee,

Gayane Avalyan, Head of the Young Communists' League Committee.

Yerevan, April 3, 1988

*Congratulatory Address by the Yerevan
Medical College No.1 on the Occasion of
Rima Khachatryan's 50th Birthday*

Chapter 22

A Mother Not Only in the Family, but Also in the Collective

She is neither a close relative to me, nor a friend of mine. I have never shared bread and salt with her. So this article is devoid of the eloquence and cordiality usually inherent in those who know her well. It's based only on facts and not influenced by personal feelings or beliefs.

...Rima Khachatryan was born and raised in Yerevan. She completed her secondary education in the Stepan Shaumyan School and obtained her bachelor's degree from the Khachatur Abovyan State Pedagogical University (then Pedagogical Institute).

After graduating from the Biochemical Department, she started her career as a technician at the Ministry of Agriculture of the Armenian SSR. At the same time, she was studying at the Armenian National Agrarian University (then the State Agricultural Institute) through distance learning.

Soon she was promoted. She was entrusted with the position of agronomist, then elected the secretary of the Komsomol committee, and sent to Kiev "to exchange experience."

But the real mission of her life was pedagogy. In 1965 she joined the Yerevan Basic Medical College and the rest of her life was connected with it.

She worked as a laboratory assistant for a few months and soon was promoted to a chemistry tutor and was elected the head of the college's trade union. Despite the workload in the trade union, she never allowed even the slightest omission in her pedagogical activities and vice versa.

The Daughter of an Émigré

In the following years, she held the position of the head of the Pharmaceutics' Department, was a member of the Examination Board, and led the Board.

Mrs. Khachatryan has “two families,” and can't fancy her life without them: the collective of the college is her “second family.” She is really happy, as she knows how to combine the duties of a mother with the obligations of a teacher.

Along with her husband, she raised two children. Her children were born with a natural curiosity and love of learning (these traits they inherited from their beloved mother), and she instilled a love of work in them.

Her daughter, Marine, is also a chemistry teacher in the college. Her career has been in full view of everyone here, and can be appraised appropriately.

What is the source of human resilience? Mrs. Khachatryan's answer is straightforward: true love and entire commitment. She lives her life to the fullest as she has a courage to follow her heart and intuition.

It seems the time has recoiled in front of her. She teaches, organizes, and helps others with the same youthful energy as she did 40 years ago.

She draws her inexhaustible energy and inspiration from the happy hours she spends with her students, seeing their desire for knowledge, their zeal and energy.

These give her power and strengthen her faith and love. After all, love is the treasury of happiness: the more you give the more you get.

She describes the teacher's formula for success as follows:

“The teacher needs to find an appropriate means of communication with her students. The most important question a teacher

ought to ask herself is ‘how do I make my students passionate and motivated about what they learn?’

“Young people are keen at spotting fakes, so while communicating with them, it’s important to be yourself, but always keep things respectful and appropriate. Using humor is also a great way to build trust and rapport.

“Young people are receptive at the age of 16-19. They are inquisitive about who they are becoming and what others think about them. This is a time in their life when issues such as self-esteem, confidence, and acceptance begin to flow through their minds. I have always tried to reveal their best qualities, and I think I have succeeded.

“Mercy against hostility: never display your insults – this has always been the motto of my life. I like to encourage my students continually, and I have noticed the positive effect of that. The atmosphere of understanding can be established only through patience.”

It’s always a pleasure to write about a person who has endured a good deal of sorrow in her life, but rose above it and performed many an act of kindness, even to her rivals. In all the difficult life circumstances, she has remained responsive and compassionate, decent and merciful...

*By Hamlet Melikyan,
Bujquyrakan Gorts (Nursery) Journal,
N 4 (86), 2008,
Yerevan, Armenia.*

Chapter 23

“The Mother of the Collective”

Dear Mrs. Rima Khachatryan,

On behalf of the administrative management, teaching staff, and the whole collective of the Yerevan State Basic Medical College, I congratulate you on the 75th anniversary of your birthday!

For your 50 years of flawless and devoted work in our college you were respected by our collective – teachers, scholars, students, and administrative staff – with the unique title of “The Mother of the Collective.”

Your laborious, selfless work and devotion were also deservedly praised and highly appreciated by the staff of the Trade Unions of the medical workers of the Republic of Armenia.

Your devotion and experience as a colleague and a personality, as a parent and a grandma are especially valuable for your colleagues and students, your relatives and friends.

So, dear Mrs. Khachatryan, please accept our humble praise, respect, and gratitude.

We wish you good health, long and fruitful life, and happiness always!

May God bless you and your family!

Sincerely yours,

Mkrtich (Serj) Mkrtchyan, Director

April 3, 2013, Yerevan, Armenia

*Congratulatory Address by the Yerevan
Basic Medical College on the Occasion
of Rima Khachatryan’s 75th Birthday*

Chapter 24

Rewards

For an extensive and successful career marked with notable achievements, Mrs. Rima Khachatryan was awarded with different national and public awards both of the Soviet Union and the Republic of Armenia. She was also the recipient of numerous certificates of appreciation.

1984

A Medal “Veteran of Labour,” awarded by the Presidency of the Supreme Soviet of the Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic on behalf of the Presidency of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR (Decree N 1378, 22 March 1984).

The Medal “Veteran of Labour” was a civilian labour award of the Soviet Union established on January 18, 1974 by the Decree of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR (No.5999-VIII of May 20, 1974) to honour workers for many years of hard work in the national economy, sciences, culture, education, healthcare, government agencies, and public organizations in recognition of their lifelong labour⁸³.

1987

An Honorary Certificate for exceptional achievements as a finalist in the pan-USSR socialist competition in pedagogy, awarded by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the Council of Ministers of the Soviet Union, the All-Union Central Council of the Trade Unions, and the All-Union Leninist Young Communist League.

Socialist competition or socialist emulation was a form of competition between state enterprises and between individuals practiced in the Soviet Union.

The first variant (socialist competition) is a literal translation of the Russian term, commonly used by Western authors. The second form (socialist emulation) is an official Soviet translation of the term, intended to distance it from the “capitalist competition”. It was implied that “capitalist competition” only profited those who won, while “socialist emulation” benefited all involved.

Vladimir Lenin was the originator and promoter of the idea of socialist emulation that was everywhere where people worked or served: in industry, agriculture, institutions, schools, hospitals, etc.

In practice, however, the competition between industrial workers and industries for overcompletion of the five-year plans led to increasingly unrealistic targets, which could only be satisfied with cheating, double accounting, and hoarding of resources – which, in the long term, led to a collapse of the supply chain in the economy⁸⁴.

1988

Honorary Certificate for long-standing active and conscientious work in trade unions, awarded by the Presidium of the Armenian Republican Committee of Trade Unions of the Medical Workers (Decree No.18, April 3, 1988).

2002

Honorary Certificate for the contribution to the development of medical vocational education, long-standing service, and remarkable achievements, awarded by the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Armenia (June 16, 2002).

2005

Gold Medal for the great contribution to the development in the sphere of education and science, awarded by the Ministry

of Education and Science of the Republic of Armenia. (Order of the Minister No. 503-A, September 26, 2005).

2008

Certificate of Appreciation for the long-standing activities in trade unions, awarded by the Confederation of the Trade Unions of Armenia (Decree of the Presidium of the CTUA No.3-1-2, April 28, 2008).

2009

Anania Shirakatsi Medal for significant contributions to the development of the medical vocational education system of Armenia, awarded by the President of the Republic of Armenia (Decree No.NH-123-A, May 26, 2009).

*The Anania Shirakatsi Medal is awarded for significant activities, inventions, and discoveries in the spheres of economy, engineering, architecture, science, education, and technics*⁸⁵.

2012

Jubilee Certificate for the great contribution to reinforcing solidarity and unity of the labor union movement, and strengthening its public awareness, awarded by the Executive Committee of the All-Union Confederation of the Trade Unions (Resolution of April 16, 2012).

2013

Certificate of Completion, for completing the Training for Teachers (TOT) course organized by the National Centre for Vocational Education and Training Development on the topic: “Organisation and implementation of instructional programmes aimed at learning outcomes.” Awarded by the

Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Armenia
(Certificate No. 3808N).

2017

The Honorary Title of Honoured Pedagogue of the Republic of Armenia. Awarded by the President of the Republic of Armenia (Decree No. NH-388-A, dated May 17, 2017).

The Honorary Title of Honoured Pedagogue of the Republic of Armenia is awarded to teachers, pedagogues, lecturers, and educational staff who have worked for at least 15 years in pre-school, off-school, general, undergraduate, graduate, and post-graduate specialized institutions for their significant success and outstanding merit in educating and the rearing of younger generations⁸⁶.

2017

Silver Medal “25 years of the All-Union Confederation of the Trade Unions.” Awarded by the Executive Committee of the All-Union Confederation of the Trade Unions (Resolution No. 10-14, dated June 21, 2017).

2018

The Prime Minister’s Commemorative Medal for significant personal contribution to and remarkable advocacy of the medical vocational education, and in honor of the 55th anniversary of pedagogical activities (Resolution of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia N 291-A, dated March 27, 2018).

*All the mentioned documents are taken from
the personal archive of Rima Khachatryan*

LEGACY

Chapter 25

Portrayals and Memorials

In different years, painters, photographers, and architects created Mrs. Rima's image in their art.

The most natural photo-portrait of her was taken by renowned Soviet Armenian photographer Armenak Hovhannisyanyan in his private studio in 1982. 38 years hence it appeared on the cover of Rima Khachatryans' first book of memoirs *Untold Story*, published by the publishing house Newmag in 2020.

In 2012 prominent modern Georgian painter of Orthodox Christian icons, Zurab Modebadze, celebrated Rima Khachatryan in a traditional guise of the Armenian mother with an icon of the Virgin and Child in her hands. The portrait was made from another photograph of Rima Khachatryan from the early 1970s. Modebadze had never painted portraits of humans, thus this portrait is the only one of its kind.

A marble sculpture "On a step above heaven" by well-known Armenian sculptor David Minasyan was placed on the Nork Hills in Yerevan, Armenia with a granite tombstone alongside its pedestal in 2020. A female image, staring into space, emerges from the snowy marble clouds with a proud strut, attractive and noble. Leaning her snow-white hand on the granite, she silently gazes at the world.

Also in 2020, inspired by Mrs. Rima's biography, prominent Spanish painter Ricardo Sanz derived her portrait from photographs of different years. "I really like the photos of your mother. I can see in her a great sweetness... I am sure, from the way you express yourself, that you are great people, because of the affection you show for your mother, and that you have great honesty. This motivates me to create her painting, because I also loved my mother very much, and I will love her all my life,"-wrote Master Sanz in his letter to Rima Khachatryans' children on September 24, 2020.

Later, in an e-mail dated October 11, 2020, he wrote to Rima Khachatryan's children: "I prepared sketches of your mother's portrait until I made a charcoal sketch that I really liked and satisfied me. I wanted to highlight the strength and sweetness in your mother's face at the same time. I mean, the strength of a woman who has studied and struggled a lot in life, and also shows her sweetness as a mother. I thought about painting your mother with a jacket in a medium blue tone and a white blouse that illuminates and frames her face. I see in your mother's style the elegance of simplicity, and that is what I wanted to highlight in her clothes and in the painting."

In 2021 Newmag published the second book of the trilogy about the life of Rima Khachatryan. The fictional biography "Munich: The Terminus (A True-Life Story)" is a collection of stories describing the rail travels of Mrs. Khachatryan across Europe, interwoven with a story of a life reaching its final destination.

To perpetuate the memory of Mrs. Rima Khachatryan, an Honoured Pedagogue of the Republic of Armenia, the Executive Coaching and Training Institute⁸⁷ in Armenia was named after her in 2020 and a merit scholarship⁸⁸ was established in her memory for the ECTI students with strong academic backgrounds, outstanding professional or extracurricular achievements, and financial need. The Rima Khachatryan Scholarship

was set up to provide scholars with an opportunity for lifelong learning and self-development.

Chapter 26

Author of Textbooks and Educational Innovator

In 2007-2009 Mrs. Rima Khachatryan authored textbooks for the students of medical colleges:

- Khachatryan, R., *Inorganic Chemistry: Textbook for medical colleges, Volume I*, Yerevan, Lucky Print 2007, 136 pages, ISBN 978-99941-71-19-4
- Khachatryan, R., *Inorganic Chemistry: Textbook for medical colleges, Volume II*, Yerevan, Lucky Print 2007, 196 pages, ISBN 978-99941-71-19-4
- Khachatryan, R. 2009. *Analytical Chemistry: Textbook for medical colleges*, Yerevan, Legal Plus 2009, 116 pages, ISBN 978-9939-815-19-0

Both have been used as textbooks and as a basis for courses to teach the relevant curricula in various medical colleges, including Yerevan Basic Medical College and the state medical colleges of Vanadzor, Kapan, Gyumri, Hrazdan, and Gavar.

The textbooks are designed for the students of medical colleges. Theoretical content in each chapter is complemented with application activities and a concluding section with a relevant quiz, which considerably facilitates the learning process.

In the two-volume *Inorganic Chemistry*, a modern approach is employed to present the fundamental concepts and laws of chemistry, the structure of molecules and atoms, theoretical

issues of valency, the physical and chemical properties of chemical elements and their compounds, as well as to expose their use in the pharmaceutical industry and medicine.

Analytical Chemistry discusses modern up-to-date scientific methods to present the relevant theories of chemical solutions, basics of the electrolytic dissociation theory, acid-base homeostasis (pH balance), redox reactions, decay and discovery of ions, as well as the methods of quantitative analysis.

In 2013 she led the efforts to create a new methodology for teaching the discipline of Pharmaceutics. Hence, she was largely responsible for the introduction of a new curriculum in the medical vocational colleges of Armenia.

The innovative educational methodology developed by Rima Khachatryan caused a wide resonance in Armenian society and attracted substantial attention of the professional pedagogical community. More than that, it was about transforming the educational experience itself.

Chapter 27

The Textbooks that Are Never Outdated

During the state of emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic, when according to the decree of the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of the Republic of Armenia, all the educational institutions had to shift to distance teaching, availability of relevant textbooks and learning materials online became a key issue.

“Not all textbooks can be used for online learning,” notes the director of the Yerevan Basic Medical College, Naira Nersisyan. “In this regard, the textbooks *Inorganic Chemistry* and *Analytical*

Chemistry, authored by Rima Khachatryan, the former Dean of the Department of Pharmaceutics, are simply incomparable.”

The two-volume *Inorganic Chemistry* and the one-volume *Analytical Chemistry*, which have been developed for medical colleges in accordance with the state program in the “Pharmaceutics” discipline are both learner-centered and user-friendly. Theoretical content in each chapter is complemented with application activities, which considerably facilitates the learning process.

“For more than a decade, the textbooks have been used to teach the relevant curricula in our college, and they meet the contemporary needs of the students the same way they did more than ten years ago,” notes the director of Vanadzor State Medical College, Julietta Joklinyan.

“Both textbooks are key learning resources in the relevant curricula in our college, and compared to other resources, their main advantage is the consistency of the instructional design and the learner-centered approach to presenting the content. Being able to apply theoretical knowledge through the application and practice activities, the student is given a broader opportunity for self-learning, and does not need a lot of instructional intervention. This is perhaps the best praise for any textbook,” adds the director of Kapan State Medical College, Araksya Sargsyan.

Entrepreneur Varduhi Hakobyan, who owns two pharmacies in Yerevan, says that pharmacists in her stores still refer to the textbooks for assistance with certain tasks; the same textbooks they used to study inorganic and analytical chemistry in medical colleges.

“While studying in the college, thanks to the two volumes of *Inorganic Chemistry*, I was able to shape a clear understanding of what pharmaceutics is and how chemical elements and their compounds can be used in medicine. All this knowledge is of enormous use today in my career. Moreover, this textbook is

still one of the best reference books I often turn to at work,” says Arpi Hovhannisyan, manager in the Natalie Pharm drugstore chain.

Curriculum and education experts claim that availability of such textbooks online will significantly facilitate studies at medical colleges. The staff of the Department of Methodology of the Yerevan Basic Medical College assured our correspondent that they had already undertaken concrete steps towards digitization of the textbooks. They will be available online quite soon.

News.am/medicine, May 11, 2020

Ahead of the new academic year, the Methodology Department of the Yerevan Basic Medical College came up with a long-awaited development – two-volume *Inorganic Chemistry* and *Analytical Chemistry* textbooks authored by Rima Khachatryan, an Honored Pedagogue of the Republic of Armenia, are now available online as well.

Printing textbooks, especially high-quality printing, is quite costly and time-consuming. Moreover, hard-copy textbooks have a short shelf life and become worn-out over time. Reprinting requires another sizeable investment of time and money. Students are the ones who suffer the most as a result of this vicious cycle.

Therefore, the Methodology Department has made the decision to post all of the required textbooks online, and went ahead with posting the ones that are traditionally in high demand by the students. The college library has analyzed the country-wide textbook collection turnover rate, identifying which of the textbooks were most circulated.

Rima Khachatryan's *Inorganic Chemistry* and *Analytical Chemistry* have been written in accordance with the require-

ments of the state curricula for medical colleges and are intended for the students of these colleges. For about one-and-a-half decades, both textbooks have been the core learning resources for various medical colleges, including Yerevan Basic Medical College, the state medical colleges of Vanadzor, Kapan, Gyumri, Hrazdan, and Gavar, as well as other medical colleges around the country.

“Our next step is making the online textbooks interactive. For instance, it will be possible to complete the practice tests and quizzes in the textbooks online. By answering the quiz questions or completing an assignment from the textbook, students will be able to get immediate feedback: they will learn right on the spot if they have answered correctly, and if not, what was the right answer,” notes Naira Nersisyan, Director of the Yerevan Basic Medical College.

Tert.am, August 30, 2020

Chapter 28

Memoirs of Rima Khachatryan are Published by Newmag

Newmag published the first illustrated volume of the memoirs of Rima Khachatryan, Honoured Pedagogue of the Republic of Armenia: *Untold Story*. It brings together memoirs of Rima Khachatryan and recollections of her colleagues, course-mates, and friends.

The book is based on Rima Khachatryan’s personal archive, including a variety of documents and photos as well as publicly available information about people and institutions mentioned

The Daughter of an Émigré

in her memoirs. It tells the story of the Honored Pedagogue's life and her impact on educational and trade union practices in the country.

The memoirs are illustrated with 76 unique photos depicting Mrs. Khachatryan's life and professional activities in various periods, and her travels and meetings that highlight her career line.

Readers will enjoy fascinating stories that have not been shared with the public before: stories of remarkable chapters in the life of a favorite teacher and a respectful trade union leader that has made significant contributions to the development of nursery education in Armenia, and stories of relationships with people that have influenced her career at various stages of her life.

For 55 years Rima Khachatryan worked in Yerevan Basic Medical College. She authored two textbooks for the students of medical colleges, namely the two-volume *Inorganic Chemistry* and *Analytical Chemistry*, that continue to be key learning resources in almost ten medical colleges in the country.

For five decades she led the trade union of the college – a distinctive record in the union leadership experience. For her significant contribution to the development of the nursery education system in Armenia, Rima Khachatryan was awarded with national and trade union medals and appreciation certificates.

Aysor.am, July 17, 2020

Chapter 29

A True Story About a Life-Journey

Newmag published the second book of the trilogy about the life of a great educator, Honored Pedagogue⁹⁰ of the Republic of Armenia, Rima Khachatryan. The fictional biography *Munich: The Terminus (A True-Life Story)* is a collection of stories describing the rail travel of Mrs. Khachatryan across Europe, interwoven with a story of a personal life reaching its final destination.

The Austro-German contemporary reality and the life and reflections of an Armenian, encompassing the last two decades and the second half of the 20th century, are intertwined through a prism of one person: through one destiny that moves through time and social orders, transforming social norms and historic events.

The volume is permeated with the psychology and wisdom of a working person. The characters stand out for their personality, temperament, worldview, and attitudes towards their realities. Each story reflects an aspect of the Soviet lifestyle, and an angle of social and economic life in the Soviet Union.

The collection reveals the reflections of the prominent educator on the contradictions of transitional times and different social orders, and on the behavioral red lines people draw, maintain, or cross.

The descriptions of the events abroad continue with images of life in Yerevan, depicting individual destinies in realistic surroundings.

It is the clarity of the psychological portraits and the aspiration to rethink and to present life events truthfully that characterize the writing.

The Daughter of an Émigré

Each chapter is a self-contained narration about a specific period and event.

The volume is intended for general audiences.

Aysor.am, January 31, 2021

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Persons⁹¹

Abovyan, Khachatur (1809 – 1848), Armenian writer, educator, public figure and an advocate of language modernization. He mysteriously vanished in 1848 and was eventually presumed dead. Reputed as ‘the father of modern Armenian literature’, he is best known for his novel *Wound of Armenia*. Written in 1841, it was the first novel published in the Modern Armenian.

Aghababyan, Lena Sureni (born March 12, 1950), infectious disease physician, trade union leader, Chairwoman of Myasnikyan District Committee of the Health Workers Trade Union (1981-1989), Head of the “Public Health” branch of the Association of the University Graduate Women.

Aghayan, Ghazaros (Lazarus) (1840 – 1911), Armenian writer, educator, folklorist, historian, linguist and public figure.

Andropov, Yuri Vladimirovich (1914 – 1984), Soviet official, the general secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU). Following the 18-year rule of Leonid Brezhnev, Andropov served in the post from November 1982 until his death in February 1984.

Areshyan, Grigor Hakobi (1881-1957), Armenian physician, obstetrician-gynecologist, professor (1928), Honored Worker of Science of the Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic (1935).

Ashton, Catherine Margaret, Baroness Ashton of Upholland (born March 20, 1956), a British labour politician who served as the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and the First Vice-President of the European Commission (2009 – 2014).

Aznavour, Charles, born **Shahnour Vaghinag Aznavourian** (1924 – 2018), French-Armenian singer, lyricist, actor and diplomat. Aznavour was known for his distinctive tenor voice: clear and ringing in its upper reaches, with gravelly and profound low notes. In a career as a composer, singer and songwriter, spanning over 70 years, he recorded more than 1,200 songs interpreted in 9 languages.

Barton, James Levi (1855-1936), missionary and executive of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions (ABCFM). He was a principal architect of Near East Relief after World War I, represented the Foreign Missions Conference of North America at the London Conference in 1921, and attended the Lausanne Conference (1922-1923), where an American treaty to end the war with Turkey was framed.

Baruch, Bernard, in full **Bernard Mannes Baruch**, (1870 – 1965), American financier who was an adviser to U.S. presidents.

Byron, George Gordon, 6th Baron Byron, (1788 – 1824) known as **Lord Byron**, British Romantic poet and satirist whose poetry and personality captured the imagination of Europe.

Benedict XVI, original name **Joseph Alois Ratzinger**, (born April 16, 1927), bishop of Rome and head of the Roman Catholic Church (2005–13). Prior to his election as pope, Benedict led a distinguished career as a theologian and as prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. In 2013 he became the first pope to resign since Gregory XII in 1415.

Bibin, Leonid Alekseevich (born January 12, 1930), Soviet statesmen, Deputy Chairman of the Soviet State Building Committee – Minister of the Soviet Union (1986-1989).

Brezhnev, Leonid Ilich (1906 – 1982), Soviet statesman and Communist party leader who was, in effect, the leader of the Soviet Union for 18 years (1964-1982). He gave the Soviet Union a formidable military-industrial base capable of supplying large numbers of the most modern weapons, but in so doing he impoverished the rest of the Soviet economy. After his death, he was criticized for a gradual slide in living standards, spread of corruption, and the generally stagnant and dispiriting character of Soviet life in the late 1970s and early '80s.

Bush, George W., in full **George Walker Bush**, (born July 6, 1946), 43rd president of the United States (2001–09), who led his country's response to the September 11 terrorist attacks in 2001 and initiated the Iraq War in 2003. Before his election as president, Bush was a businessman and served as Governor of Texas (1995–2000).

Clark, Maurice B. (1827–1901), partner in a produce business with John D. Rockefeller Sr. Clark was from Malmesbury, England and moved to the United States in 1847. He studied with Rockefeller at Folsom's Commercial College in Ohio.

Chekhov, Anton, in full **Anton Pavlovich Chekhov**, (1860 – 1904), Russian playwright and master of the modern short story. He is regarded as the outstanding representative of the late 19th-century Russian realist school.

Churchill, Winston, in full **Sir Winston Leonard Spencer Churchill** (1874 – 1965), British statesman, orator, and author who as prime minister (1940–45, 1951–55) rallied the British people during World War II and led his country from the brink of defeat to victory.

Chernenko, Constantin Ustinovich (1911 – 1985), Soviet official, the general secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU) from February 13, 1984 until his death on March 10, 1985.

David Erevantsi, byname of **Babayan, Davit** (born August 22, 1940), Armenian sculptor, People's Painter of the Republic of Armenia (2014). Lives and works in France.

Dashtents, Khachik, byname of **Khachik Tonoyan** (1910 – 1974), Armenian writer, poet and translator.

Dewey, John (1859 - 1952), American philosopher and educator who was a cofounder of the philosophical movement known as pragmatism, a pioneer in functional psychology, an innovative theorist of democracy, and a leader of the progressive movement in education in the United States.

Dodge, Cleveland Hoadley (1860 – 1926), American businessman, investor, and philanthropist. He was also known for his charity work in the World War I. Cleveland was a loyal friend to Woodrow Wilson throughout his life.

Elizabeth II, in full Elizabeth Alexandra Mary, officially Elizabeth II (born April 21, 1926, London, England), by the Grace of God, the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of her other realms and territories (from February 6, 1952), Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith. In 2015 she surpassed Queen Victoria to become the longest-reigning monarch in British history.

Francis, also called **Francis I**, original name **Jorge Mario Bergoglio**, (born December 17, 1936), the bishop of Rome and the leader of the Roman Catholic Church (since 2013). He was the first pope from the Western Hemisphere, the first from South America, and the first from the Jesuit order.

Franklin, Benjamin, pseudonym **Richard Saunders**, (1706 – 1790), American printer and publisher, author,

inventor and scientist, and diplomat. One of the foremost of the Founding Fathers, Franklin helped draft the Declaration of Independence and was one of its signers, represented the United States in France during the American Revolution, and was a delegate to the Constitutional Convention.

Gandhi, Indira Priyadarshini (1917 – 1984), Indian politician and a central figure of the Indian National Congress. She was the first and, to date, the only female Prime Minister of India. Indira Gandhi was the daughter of Jawaharlal Nehru. She served as Prime Minister from January 1966 to March 1977 and again from January 1980 until her assassination in October 1984, making her the second longest-serving Indian Prime Minister after her father.

Gandhi, Rajiv Ratna (1944 – 1991), Indian politician and government official who rose to become the leader of the Congress (I) Party (a faction of the Indian National Congress established in 1981) and served as prime minister of India (1984–89) after the assassination of his mother, Indira Gandhi in 1984. He was himself assassinated in 1991.

Ghazaryan, Marine Levoni (born April 14, 1971), Rima Khachatryan's daughter, educator, Head of the Department of Pharmaceutics of the Yerevan state Medical college (1988-2020), chemist, graduate from the Yerevan State University (1994), one of the founders of the Executive Coaching and Training Institute (ECTI).

Gorbachev, Mikhail, in full Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, (born March 2, 1931), Soviet official, the general secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU) from 1985 to 1991 and president of the Soviet Union in 1990–91. His efforts to democratize his country's political system and decentralize its economy led to the downfall of communism and the breakup of the Soviet Union in 1991. Gorbachev was awarded the Nobel Prize for Peace in 1990.

Grigoryan, Manik Rubeni (born October 4, 1946), pediatrician, college teacher. She taught Pharmacology in the Yerevan Basic Medical College from 1973 till her retirement in 2014.

St. Gregory the Illuminator (circa 240 – 332), the 4th-century apostle of Christianity in Armenia. Semilegendary 5th-century chronicles describe Gregory as a Parthian prince who fled the Persian invasion and was educated as a Christian in the Greek culture of Caesarea, Cappadocia. He returned to Armenia in the midst of a Christian persecution pressed by King Tiridates III and was imprisoned in a burial pit. After being rescued about the year 300, Gregory reputedly converted the king, and subsequently evangelized parts of the country remaining under Roman control and influenced Christianity in other regions of the Caucasus mountains.

Harutyunyan Nagush Khachaturi (1912 – 1993), Armenian Soviet mechanic, member of the Academy of Sciences (1950), Honored Worker of Science of Armenia (1961), Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet (the titular head) of the Armenian S.S.R. (1962-1975), author of the mathematical theory of mechanics of hereditarily aging materials, also known as the Theory of Maslow-Harutyunyan.

St. John Paul II, Latin **Johannes Paulus**, original name **Karol Józef Wojtyła**, (1920 – 2005), canonized April 27, 2014; bishop of Rome and head of the Roman Catholic Church (1978–2005), the first non-Italian pope in 455 years and the first from a Slavic country. His pontificate of more than 26 years was the third longest in history

St. John the Baptist, (born 1st decade BCE – died 28–36 CE; feast day June 24), Jewish prophet of priestly origin who preached the imminence of God's Final Judgment and baptized those who repented in self-preparation for it; he is revered in the Christian Church as the forerunner of Jesus Christ. After a period of desert solitude, St. John the Baptist emerged as a

prophet in the region of the lower Jordan River valley. He had a circle of disciples, and Jesus was among the recipients of his rite of baptism.

Karapetyan, Sahak Karapeti (1906 – 1987), Soviet-Armenian statesman and scientist, Chairman of the Council of Ministers (1947 – 1952), Foreign Minister (1944 – 1947) of the Armenian S.S.R., member of the Academy of Sciences (1943), Honored Worker of Science of Armenia (1966), doctor of biology, physiologist.

Khachatryan, Mhitar Harutyuni (1903 – 1971), Rima Khachatryan’s father, survivor of the Armenian Genocide, former resident of the NEF orphanage in Alexandropol, worked in the “Armmasloprom” (Directorate for production of dairy products) of the Ministry for Food Industry of the Armenian S.S.R.

Khrushchev, Nikita, Russian in full **Nikita Sergeyeovich Khrushchev**, (1894 – 1971), first secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (1953–64) and premier of the Soviet Union (1958–64) whose policy of de-Stalinization had widespread repercussions throughout the communist world. In foreign affairs he pursued a policy of “peaceful coexistence” with the capitalist West.

Komitas, byname of **Soghomon Soghomonian** (1869 – 1935), Armenian ethnomusicologist and composer who created the basis for a distinctive national musical style in Armenia. Orphaned at age 11, he was sent to study liturgical singing at a seminary in Vagharshapat. He graduated in 1893 and adopted the name Komitas, that of a 7th-century Armenian hymn writer. He settled in Constantinople (now Istanbul) in 1910, but the Armenian massacres of 1915 in Turkey so affected him that he had a nervous breakdown, and from 1919 until his death he lived in a hospital in Paris. Komitas was the most important collector of Armenian folk songs, and his exact and detailed

researches established Armenian musicology on a scientific basis.

Lenin, Vladimir (original name **Vladimir Ilich Ulyanov**) (1870 – 1924), founder of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, inspirer and leader of the Russian Revolution of 1917, and the architect, builder, and the first head (1917–24) of the Soviet Union. He was the founder of the organization known as Comintern (Communist International) and the posthumous source of “Leninism,” the doctrine codified and conjoined with Karl Marx’s works by Lenin’s successors to form Marxism-Leninism, which became the Communist worldview.

Lincoln, Abraham, byname **Honest Abe**, or **the Great Emancipator**, (1809 – 1865), 16th president of the United States (1861–65), who preserved the Union during the American Civil War and brought about the emancipation of enslaved people in the United States.

Longfellow, Henry Wadsworth (1807 – 1882), the most popular American poet in the 19th century, known for such works as *The Song of Hiawatha* (1855) and *Paul Revere’s Ride* (1863).

Mackay, Charles (1814-1889), poet, journalist, author, anthologist, novelist, and songwriter, remembered for his study *Extraordinary Popular Delusions and the Madness of Crowds*. Much of his early life he spent in France. Coming to London in 1834, he engaged in journalism, acted as *Times* correspondent during the American Civil War, and in that capacity discovered and disclosed the Fenian conspiracy.

Mahatma Gandhi, byname of **Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi**, (1869 – 1948), Indian lawyer, politician, social activist, and writer who became the leader of the nationalist movement against the British rule of India. As such, he came to be considered the father of his country. Gandhi is internationally esteemed for his doctrine of nonviolent protest to achieve po-

litical and social progress. In the eyes of millions of his fellow Indians, Gandhi was the Mahatma (“Great Soul”).

Makarenko, Anton Semyonovich (1888 – 1939), teacher and social worker, one of the founders of Soviet pedagogy, the most-influential educational theorist in the Soviet Union, who promoted democratic ideas and principles in educational theory and practice. In 1988 UNESCO considered Makarenko as one of the four educators, along with John Dewey, Georg Kerschensteiner, and Maria Montessori, who determined the world’s pedagogical thinking of the 20th century.

Manukyan, Ashot Levoni (born April 8, 1968), Rima Khachatryan’s son, Ph.D. in Economics, Armenian top-manager, businessman, statesman.

Martirosyan, Siranush Gevorgi (1909-1990), Rima Khachatryan’s mother, survivor of the Armenian Genocide. She lost her parents at the age of six, was educated in the American orphanage (1920-24), married (1930), gave birth to three children (son (1931), son (1933), and daughter (1938)), until her retirement worked at *Krasny Shveynik* (*Russian: ‘Red Seamstress’*) sewing association in Yerevan, Armenia first as a seamstress, then as an accountant.

Matevosyan, Mkrtich Tachati (1923 – 1999), Soviet Armenian physician, Director of the Yerevan State Basic Medical College (1957-1990), doctor (candidate) of medical sciences, veteran of the World War II.

St. Mesrop Mashtots (*circa* 360 – 440), monk, theologian, and linguist who invented the Armenian script in 405 and helped establish Armenia’s golden age of Christian literature. He is venerated as a saint in the Armenian Apostolic Church, the Armenian Catholic Church, and in Eastern Orthodox and Roman Catholic churches.

Mendeleev, Dmitri Russian in full **Dmitry Ivanovich Mendeleev** (1834 – 1907), Russian chemist who developed the periodic classification of the elements. Mendeleev found that, when all the known chemical elements were arranged in order of increasing atomic weight, the resulting table displayed a recurring pattern, or periodicity, of properties within groups of elements. In his version of the periodic table of 1871, he left gaps in places where he believed unknown elements would find their place. He even predicted the likely properties of three of the potential elements. The subsequent proof of many of his predictions within his lifetime brought fame to Mendeleev as the founder of the Periodic Law.

Minasyan, Davit (born February 17, 1974), Armenian sculptor, theatrical decorator, Honored Painter of the Republic of Armenia (2011).

Mkrtchyan, Shoghik (1911 – 2000), Armenian folk singer, People's Artist of the Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic (1954).

Mnjoyan, Armenak Levoni (1904 – 1970), Armenian chemist, professor (1966), academician of the Academy of Sciences (1953) and Honored Worker of Science (1961) of the Armenian SSR, Hero of Socialist Labour (1969), founder of the synthesis of physiologically active substances in Armenia.

Modebadze, Zurab (born March 30, 1975), Georgian icon-writer. Zurab mastered the traditional school of icon painting on his own, without teachers and mentors. The first church he painted was the Basilica of St. Nino in a prison, where the 19-year-old future prominent artist served a sentence in 1990s.

Montessori, Maria (1870 - 1952), Italian educator and originator of the educational system that bears her name. The Montessori system is based on belief in the creative potential

of children, their drive to learn, and the right of each child to be treated as an individual.

Morgenthau, Henry Sr. (1856 – 1946), American lawyer, businessman and United States ambassador, most famous as the American ambassador to the Ottoman Empire during the World War I. As ambassador to the Ottoman Empire, Morgenthau has come to be identified as the most prominent American to speak about the Armenian Genocide.

Nehru, Jawaharlal, byname **Pandit** (Hindi: “Pundit” or “Teacher”), (1889 – 1964), first prime minister of independent India (1947–64), who established parliamentary government and became noted for his neutralist (nonaligned) policies in foreign affairs. He was also one of the principal leaders of India’s independence movement in the 1930s and ’40s.

Nersisyan, Naira Viktori (born December 2, 1964), physician, director of the Yerevan Basic Medical college since December, 2018 (acting director in 2017-18).

Nightingale, Florence, byname Lady with the Lamp, (1820 – 1910), British nurse, statistician, and social reformer who was the foundational philosopher of modern nursing. She was the first woman awarded the Order of Merit (1907). International Nurses Day, observed annually on May 12, commemorates her birth and celebrates the important role of nurses in healthcare.

Nicholas I, Russian in full **Nikolay Pavlovich**, (1796 – 1855), Russian emperor (1825–55), often considered the personification of classic autocracy. For his reactionary policies, he has been called the emperor who froze Russia for 30 years.

Obama, Barack, in full **Barack Hussein Obama II**, (born August 4, 1961), the 44th president of the United States (2009 – 2017) and the first African American to hold the office. Before winning the presidency, Obama represented Illinois in the U.S. Senate (2005 – 2008). He was the third African American to

be elected to that body since the end of Reconstruction (1877). In 2009 he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize “for his extraordinary efforts to strengthen international diplomacy and cooperation between peoples”.

Orwell, George, pseudonym of **Eric Arthur Blair**, (1903 – 1950), English novelist, essayist, and critic.

Papazyan, Greselda Maghaki (born March 3, 1942), infectious disease physician, trade union leader, Chairwoman of Leninyan District Committee of the Health Workers Trade Union (1983-1989).

St. Peter the Apostle, original name **Simeon** or **Simon**, (died 64 CE in Rome, Italy), disciple of Jesus Christ, recognized in the early Christian church as the leader of the 12 disciples and by the Roman Catholic Church as the first of its unbroken succession of popes. Peter, a Jewish fisherman, was called to be a disciple of Jesus at the beginning of Jesus’ ministry. He received from Jesus the name Cephias (from Aramaic Kepa (“Rock”); hence Peter, from Petros, a Greek translation of Kepa).

Puccini, Giacomo Antonio Domenico Michele Secondo Maria (1858 – 1924), Italian composer, one of the greatest exponents of operatic realism, who virtually brought the history of Italian opera to an end.

Reagan, Ronald, in full **Ronald Wilson Reagan**, (1911–2004), 40th president of the United States (1981 – 1989), noted for his conservative Republicanism. The only movie actor ever to become president, he had a remarkable skill as an orator that earned him the title “the Great Communicator”.

Robertson, George Islay MacNeill, Baron Robertson of Port Ellen (born April 12, 1946), British Labor politician who served as the 10th Secretary General of NATO (1999-2004), and as a UK Secretary of State for Defense (1997-1999) before

becoming a life peer being created Baron Robertson of Port Ellen on August 24, 1999.

Rockefeller, John Davison Sr. (1839–1937), American industrialist and philanthropist, founder of the Standard Oil Company, which dominated the oil industry and was the first great U.S. business trust. He is widely considered as the wealthiest American of all time and the richest person in modern history.

Roosevelt, Franklin, in full **Franklin Delano Roosevelt** (1882 – 1945), 32nd president of the United States (1933–45). The only president elected to the office four times, Roosevelt led the United States through two of the greatest crises of the 20th century: the Great Depression and World War II. In so doing, he greatly expanded the powers of the federal government through a series of programs and reforms known as the New Deal, and he served as the principal architect of the successful effort to rid the world of German National Socialism and Japanese militarism.

Sachar, Howard Morley (1928 – 2018), American historian, professor emeritus of history and international affairs at the George Washington University in Washington D.C., author of 16 books and numerous articles in scholarly journals, on the subjects of Middle Eastern and Modern European history. His writings, which have been published in six languages, are widely regarded as solid reference works.

Safaryan, Gohar Soghmoni (born October 2, 1934), chemist, graduate of the Armenian State Pedagogical University (1955-1960), Rima Khachatryan's university classmate, who also pursued her talent for poetry (she had written verses since adolescence).

Sanguino, Luis Antonio de Pascual (born August 13, 1934), Spanish sculptor born in Barcelona. Luis Sanguino's style emerges gradually as he increases his studies in plastic

and artistic areas, perfecting sculptural techniques such as wood carving, stone, modeling, etc.

Sanz, Lopez Ricardo (born June 6, 1957), Spanish portrait painter and landscape painter. His pictorial work includes portraits of the Spanish royal family. He is considered as an exponent of Luminism in the Sorolla tradition, although his work also reflects influences from the classics and other renowned portraitists such as John Singer Sargent. He has obtained the National Prize for Living Culture, the Goya Foundation Prize, and the Paul Harris Medal awarded to him by the Rotary International Foundation.

Saroyan, William (1908 – 1981), U.S. writer who made his initial impact during the Depression with a deluge of brash, original, and irreverent stories celebrating the joy of living in spite of poverty, hunger, and insecurity. The son of an Armenian immigrant, Saroyan left school at 15 and educated himself by reading and writing. He was concerned with the basic goodness of all people, especially the obscure and naive, and the value of life.

Shahnazaryan, Larisa Sergoyi (born September 23, 1937), chemist-engineer and trade-union activist, graduate of the Armenian State Pedagogical University (1955-1960), Rima Khachatryan's university classmate, worked as a chemical engineer in the Plant of Actuators and Mechanisms in Sevan city, Armenia (1962-1993).

Sharimanyan, Sedrak Simoni (1898 – 1989), Armenian surgeon, professor (1939), Honored Worker of Science of the Armenian SSR (1956), considered as the founder of the modern neurosurgery in Armenia.

Shaumyan, Stepan Georgevich (1878 – 1918), Bolshevik revolutionary and politician active throughout the Caucasus. Shaumyan was an ethnic Armenian and his role as a leader of the Russian revolution in the Caucasus earned him the

nickname of the “Caucasian Lenin”⁹². The founder and editor of several newspapers and journals, Shaumyan is best known as the head of the Baku Commune, a short-lived committee appointed by Lenin in March 1918 with the task of leading the revolution in the Caucasus and West Asia.

Shakespeare, William, byname **Bard of Avon** or **Swan of Avon**, (baptized April 26, 1564 – died April 23, 1616), English poet, dramatist, and actor often called the English national poet and considered by many to be the greatest dramatist of all time. Shakespeare occupies a position unique in the world literature. His plays, written in the late 16th and early 17th centuries for a small repertory theatre, are now performed and read more often and in more countries than ever before.

Sherman, John (1823 – 1900), American statesman, financial administrator, and author of major legislation concerning currency and regulation of commerce. He served in the U.S. House of Representatives (1855–61) and in the U.S. Senate (1861–77, 1881–97), was Secretary of the Treasury (1877–81) and Secretary of State (1897–98).

Shiraz, Hovhannes, byname of **Onik Karapetyan** (1914 – 1984), Armenian poet, laureate of the State Prize of the Armenian SSR (1975). Shiraz was an anti-establishment poet who was very popular with the people both in Soviet Armenia and in Diaspora.

Siabandov, Samand Ali (1909 – 1989), a Soviet writer, military officer and politician of Kurdish origin who was awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union during the World War II, author of two published poems in the Kurdish language and an Armenian-Kurdish dictionary.

Stalin, Joseph, Russian in full **Iosif Vissarionovich Stalin**, original name (Georgian) **Ioseb Dzhughashvili**, (1878 – 1953), secretary-general of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (1922–53) and premier of the Soviet state

(1941–53), who for a quarter of a century dictatorially ruled the Soviet Union and transformed it into a major world power. Joseph Stalin probably exercised greater political power than any other figure in history.

Thatcher, Margaret, in full **Margaret Hilda Thatcher**, Baroness Thatcher of Kesteven, née Margaret Hilda Roberts, (1925–2013), British Conservative Party politician and Prime Minister (1979–1990), Europe's first woman prime minister. The only British prime minister in the 20th century to win three consecutive terms and, at the time of her resignation, Britain's longest continuously serving prime minister since 1827. She accelerated the evolution of the British economy from statism to liberalism and became, by personality as much as achievement, the most renowned British political leader since Winston Churchill.

Tiridates III, also known as **Tiridates the Great** (*circa* AD 250 – *circa* 330), king of Armenia (298 – *circa* 330). In 301, Tiridates became the first monarch in history to impose Christianity on his people. He did so about 20 years before Constantine I.

Tumasyan, Edward Aleksandri (born January 18, 1947), Armenian labor-union leader, Chairman of the Republican Committee of the Trade Union of Medical Workers (1985–2007) and the Confederation of Labor Unions (since 2007) of Armenia.

Verdi, Giuseppe, in full **Giuseppe Fortunino Francesco Verdi**, (1813 – 1901), leading Italian composer of opera in the 19th century, noted for operas such as *Rigoletto* (1851), *Il trovatore* (1853), *La traviata* (1853), *Don Carlos* (1867), *Aida* (1871), *Otello* (1887), and *Falstaff* (1893) and for his *Requiem Mass* (1874).

Wesley, John (1703 – 1791), Anglican clergyman, evangelist, and founder, with his brother Charles, of the Methodist movement in the Church of England.

Wilson, Woodrow, in full Thomas Woodrow Wilson, (1856 - 1924), 28th president of the United States (1913–1921), an American scholar and statesman best remembered for his legislative accomplishments and his high-minded idealism. Wilson became the creator and leading advocate of the League of Nations, for which he was awarded the 1919 Nobel Prize for Peace. During his second term the Nineteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, giving women the right to vote, was passed and ratified.

Yarrow, Ernest Alfred (1876 – 1939), Christian missionary known for his leadership of a relief effort carried out by the Near East Foundation (NEF) that saved and cared for tens of thousands of Armenian refugees. In 1920, Yarrow took charge as the director of the NEF. At one point as director, he had responsibility for 30,000 children who had sought refuge in the Caucasus. In Armenia, Yarrow started a street cleaning program and other irrigation projects which provided jobs to some 150,000 refugees; through the program, many of the refugees earned wages which helped them finance their daily activities independently. He later remarked that «in training 25,000 children for future citizenship I feel that I have a real part in the development of the new Armenia.»

Zaryan, Nairi, byname of **Hayastan Yeghiazaryan** (1900 – 1969), Armenian poet and writer, president of the Writers' Union of Armenia (1944 – 1946). He also served as the chairman of the 'Committee for Defense of Peace' of the Armenian SSR.

Zetkin, Clara, née **Clara Eissner** (1857 – 1933), German feminist, Socialist, and Communist leader, who after the World

War I played a leading role in the new Communist Party of Germany and the Comintern (Third International).

Institutions⁹³

American Red Cross, U.S. humanitarian and disaster-relief organization, a national affiliate of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. In 1881, after observing the success of the International Red Cross in Europe, social reformer and nursing pioneer Clara Barton founded the American Red Cross to provide assistance for Americans suffering from disasters or serving on the battlefield.

American University of Armenia (AUA), private institution of higher learning, offering a global education in Armenia. AUA is affiliated with the University of California and accredited by the WASC Senior College and University Commission. Founded in 1991, it is the first U.S. – accredited institution in the former Soviet Union that provides undergraduate and graduate education.

Armenian National Agrarian University, state agrarian university and higher educational institution in Armenia. Established as the State Agricultural Institute in 1930, it provides educational and research programs in various fields of Agriculture. The university includes a Central Campus in Yerevan and Branch Campuses located in Gyumri, Vanadzor, and Sisian.

Armenian State Pedagogical University (ASPU), public university in Yerevan, Armenia, founded on November 7, 1922. In 1948 it was named after Khachatur Abovyan.

Armmasloprom, Directorate for production of dairy products of the Ministry for Food Industry of the Armenian S.S.R.

British Museum, in London, national museum with particularly outstanding holdings in archaeology and ethnography. Established by act of Parliament in 1753. The collections (which also included a significant number of manuscripts and other library materials) were housed in Montagu House, Great Russell Street, and were opened to the public in 1759.

Bujquyrakan Gorts (English: Nursing), official journal of the Yerevan Basic Medical College since 2001. Contains free articles, including descriptions of practice innovation, book reviews, conference reports, clinical skills guidelines, etc.

Cecilienhof Palace (*Schloss Cecilienhof*), a palace in Potsdam, Germany built from 1914 to 1917. It is famous for having been the location of the Potsdam Conference in 1945, in which the leaders of the Soviet Union Josef Stalin, the United Kingdom Winston Churchill and the United States Franklin Roosevelt made important decisions affecting the shape of post World War II Europe and Asia.

Shirak Museum of Regional Studies, in Gyumri, Armenia, comprehensive regional museum with particularly outstanding holdings in archaeology, ethnography, anthropology, fine arts and modern history. Established by the Government of the Armenian S.S.R in 1930. Its permanent collection of some 30,000 works have been widely collected during the Soviet period.

Church of the Holy Sepulchre, also called **Holy Sepulchre**, church built on the traditional site of Jesus' Crucifixion and burial. According to the Bible (John 19:41–42), his tomb was close to the place of the Crucifixion, and so the church was planned to enclose the site of both the cross and the tomb.

Church of the Nativity or **Basilica of the Nativity**, a basilica in Bethlehem in the West bank. The site of the Nativity of Jesus was identified by St. Justin Martyr, a 2nd-century Christian apologist, as a manger in “a cave close to the village”; the cave, now under the nave of the Church of the Nativity in the heart of the town, has been continuously venerated by Christians since then. St. Helena (c. 248 – c. 328), mother of the first Christian Roman emperor Constantine I, had a church built over the cave; later destroyed, it was rebuilt in substantially its present form by Emperor Justinian (reigned 527 – 565). The Church of the Nativity is thus one of the oldest Christian churches extant.

Columbia University, major private institution of higher education in New York. It is one of the Ivy League schools. Founded in 1754 as King’s College, it became Columbia University in 1912.

Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU), also called (1925–52) All-Union Communist Party (Bolsheviks), the major (ruling) political party of Russia and the Soviet Union from the Russian revolution of October 1917 to 1991. It arose from the Bolshevik wing of the Russian Social Democratic Workers’ Party. The Bolsheviks, organized in 1903 and led by Vladimir Lenin argued for a tightly disciplined organization of professional revolutionaries who were governed by democratic centralism and were dedicated to achieving the dictatorship of the proletariat. In 1918, the Bolsheviks changed their organization’s name to the All-Russian Communist Party; it was renamed the All-Union Communist Party in 1925 after the founding of the U.S.S.R. and finally to the Communist Party of the Soviet Union in 1952.

Congress of the United States, the legislature of the United States of America, established under the Constitution of 1789 and separated structurally from the executive and judicial branches of government. It consists of two houses: the Senate,

in which each state, regardless of its size, is represented by two senators, and the House of Representatives, to which members are elected on the basis of population.

Executive Coaching and Training Institute (ECTI), international training center providing study programs with a mission to educate the sustainability leaders of tomorrow with innovative and novel methodologies. It was founded by the Honored Pedagogue of Armenia Rima Khachatryan in 2011.

Folsom's Commercial College, the first college founded in Cleveland in 1848. Its original purpose was to provide young men with rudimentary training in business skills in order to fill positions in Cleveland's rapidly growing business community. Among the courses offered at Folsom's were penmanship, bookkeeping, and drawing. Night classes were offered for those who worked during the day. Schooling lasted only 2-3 months. John D. Rockefeller graduated from Folsom's in 1855.

Hyde Park, park in the borough of Westminster, London. It covers more than 138 hectares and is bordered on the east by Mayfair and on the west by Kensington Gardens.

King's College, London, internationally renowned university delivering exceptional education and world-leading research. Founded in 1829, it has more than 29,000 (as of 2021) students from over 150 countries around the world.

Knightsbridge, neighborhood in the London boroughs of Westminster and Kensington and Chelsea. It was a village in the Middle Ages and was recorded as Cnihtebrige ("Bridge of the Young Men") in the mid-11th century.

Laeken or **Laken**, residential suburb in north-west Brussels in Belgium. It belongs to the municipality of the City of Brussels.

La Scala, Teatro alla Scala, theatre in Milan, one of the principal opera houses of the world and the leading Italian house.

Built in 1776–78 by Empress Maria Theresa, it replaced an earlier theatre that had burned. Bombed during the World War II, the theatre reopened in 1946.

Les Invalides, in full **Hôtel National des Invalides**, formerly **Hôtel Royal des Invalides**, an extensive complex of 17th-century structures and courtyards in Paris (on the Left Bank of the Seine) designed for the care and housing of disabled veterans and as a place of worship. Parts of Les Invalides were later converted into tombs for Napoleon I and others.

Louvre, official name Great Louvre, national museum and art gallery of France, housed in part of a large palace in Paris that was built on the right-bank site of the 12th-century fortress of Philip Augustus. It is the world's most-visited art museum, with a collection that spans work from ancient civilizations to the mid-19th century. The Louvre ceased to be a royal residence when Louis XIV moved his court to Versailles in 1682. The idea of using the Louvre as a public museum originated only in the 18th century.

Malibu, city and beach community in Los Angeles county, southern California, U.S. With 34 km of coastline, Malibu lies along the Pacific Coast Highway just west-northwest of Santa Monica.

National Polytechnic University of Armenia, technical university in Armenia. Established as the Karl Marx Institute of Polytechnic in 1933, it provides educational and research programs in various fields of technology and science related to engineering. The university includes a Central Campus in Yerevan and Branch Campuses located in Gyumri, Vanadzor and Kapan. It has more than 8,000 students and more than 750 faculty members (as of 2021).

Newmag, publishing house established in 2007 in Yerevan, Armenia, specialized in publishing non-fiction literature.

Palace of Versailles, *Château de Versailles*, former French royal residence and centre of government, now a national landmark. It is located in the city of Versailles, 16 km west-southwest of Paris. As the centre of the French court, Versailles was one of the grandest theatres of European absolutism. The original residence was primarily a hunting lodge and private retreat for Louis XIII (reigned 1610–43). Under the guidance of Louis XIV (reigned 1643–1715), the residence was transformed (1661–1710) into an immense and extravagant complex surrounded by stylized French and English gardens.

Pravda, (Russian: “Truth”), newspaper that was the official organ of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union from 1918 to 1991.

Prado Museum, art museum in Madrid, housing the world’s richest collection of Spanish painting and masterpieces of other schools of European painting. The Prado’s building had its start in 1785 when Charles III commissioned the architect Juan de Villanueva to design a natural-science museum. The construction of the Neoclassical-style building was interrupted during the Napoleonic Wars, but it was completed under Ferdinand VII in 1819 and was opened to the public as the Royal Museum of Painting. In 1868 it became the National Museum of the Prado.

Rockefeller Foundation, U.S. philanthropic organization. It was endowed by John D. Rockefeller and chartered in 1913 to alleviate human suffering worldwide. Among its many activities, the foundation supports medical research and education. It also provides grant and fellowship programs in the social sciences, agricultural sciences, global environmental studies, and in building democracy and international philanthropy.

Royal Opera House, opera house that is the home of Britain’s oldest national opera and ballet companies. Located in Covent

garden. The Covent Garden Theatre was opened by John Rich in 1732 and served for plays, pantomimes, and opera.

Schloss Schönbrunn, Rococo-style 1,440-room summer palace of the Habsburgs in Vienna. The first design for the building, meant to rival France's palace of Versailles, was done in 1690. A second, somewhat less ornate, plan, however, dating from 1695–96 was adopted, and the palace was finished by 1711. The palace and its gardens were designated a UNESCO World Heritage site in 1996.

St. Peter's Basilica, also called **New St. Peter's Basilica**, present basilica of St. Peter in Vatican City. It is designed as a three-aisled Latin cross with a dome at the crossing, directly above the high altar, which covers the shrine of St. Peter the Apostle. The edifice – the church of the popes – is a major pilgrimage site, which holds a unique position in the Christian world.

Trade Unions in the Soviet Union, headed by the **All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions**, had a complex relationship with industrial management, the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, and the Soviet Government, given that the USSR was ideologically supposed to be a state in which the members of the working class ruled the country and managed themselves.

UNESCO, acronym for the **United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization**, specialized agency of the United Nations (UN) that was outlined in a constitution signed November 16, 1945. The constitution, which entered into force in 1946, called for the promotion of international collaboration in education, science, and culture. The agency's permanent headquarters are located in Paris, France.

University of California, the world's leading public research university system. Founded in 1869, the UC system includes more than 280,000 students and more than 227,000

faculty and staff (as of 2021), with 2.0 million alumni living and working around the world.

White House, formerly **Executive Mansion** (1810–1901), the official office and residence of the president of the United States at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington, D.C. It is perhaps the most famous and easily recognizable house in the world, serving as both the home and workplace of the U.S. president and the headquarters of the president’s principal staff members.

Yerevan Basic Medical College, one of the oldest vocational educational institutions in Armenia. The Government of the Armenian SSR created a School of Midwifery at the Yerevan First Maternity Hospital in 1921. In the following decades it was converted first into an independent Nursing School, and finally into a Medical College with 6 departments: nursing, pharmacy, dental technology, midwifery, and cosmetology.

Yerevan State University (YSU), the oldest public university in Armenia. Founded in 1919, it is the largest university in the country. According to the University Ranking by Academic Performance it is the 1st-ranked university in Armenia.

Toponyms⁹⁴

Alexandropol, now **Gyumri**, also spelled Kumayri, Leninakan, city in Armenia. A fortress was constructed on the site by the Russians in 1837, and Kumayri was renamed Alexandropol after Czar Nicholas I’s wife, Princess Alexandra. Alexandropol was renamed Leninakan for the Soviet leader Vladimir Lenin in 1924. Leninakan was severely damaged by an earthquake that devastated northwestern Armenia on

Dec. 7, 1988. Almost all of the city's multistory buildings collapsed, killing thousands and leaving many others homeless. Gyumri is now the second city of Armenia in both industry and population.

Anggh, also **Ankgh**, town in the present-day eastern Turkey's Vilayet of Van, in the *Khoshab* river valley. The name of the town comes from the word 'vulture' (in Armenian – 'anggh'), as these birds were very common there. At the beginning of the XX century, there were 105 households with 492 inhabitants, also a church and a vocational school in the town. It was completely destroyed during the World War I.

Agra, city in western Uttar Pradesh state, northern India. It lies in the Indo-Gangetic Plain on the Yumuna River about 200 km southeast of Delhi.

Batumi, city and capital of Ajaria, southwestern Georgia, on a gulf of the Black Sea. With a history dating from the 1st millennium BC, Batumi was ceded by Turkey to Russia in 1878. It is an important port. There is an oil refinery using petroleum piped from Baku.

Bethlehem, town in the West Bank, situated in the Judaeen Hills 8 km south of Jerusalem. According to the Gospels (Matthew 2; Luke 2), Bethlehem was the site of the Nativity of Jesus Christ.

Caesarea, ancient port and administrative city of Palestine, on the Mediterranean coast of present-day Israel south of Haifa. Originally an ancient Phoenician settlement, it was rebuilt and enlarged in 22–10 BCE by Herod the Great, and renamed for his patron, the emperor Caesar Augustus.

Cappadocia, ancient district in east-central Anatolia, in the centre of present-day Turkey. Rock-cut churches and underground tunnel complexes from the Byzantine and Islamic eras are scattered throughout the countryside.

Cecilienhof, palace in Potsdam, Brandenburg, Germany, built from 1914 to 1917. It is famous for having been the location of the Potsdam Conference in 1945, in which the leaders of the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom and the United States made important decisions affecting the shape of post World War II Europe and Asia.

Cleveland, or **City of Cleveland**, major city in the U.S. state of Ohio, and the county seat of Cuyahoga County. It is located along the southern shore of Lake Erie, across the U.S. maritime border with Canada and approximately 100 kilometers west of the Ohio-Pennsylvania state border.

Covent Garden, square in the City of Westminster, London. It lies just northwest of the Strand. For more than 300 years it held the principal fruit, flower, and vegetable market of the metropolis. Adjacent to the former market site stands the Royal Opera House (Covent Garden).

Heraklion, Modern Greek **Iráklion**, largest city, a *dímos* (municipality), and principal port of the Greek island of Crete.

Kars, city in northeastern Turkey, near the border with Armenia. The seat of an independent Armenian principality during the 9th and 10th centuries, Kars was captured by the Seljuqs in the 11th century. Taken by the Mongols in the 13th century and by Tamerlane in 1387, it was incorporated into the Ottoman Empire. In 1514. After withstanding a siege by Iranians in 1731 and successfully resisting the Russians in 1807, it fell to the Russians in 1828. It was returned to Turkey in 1918, though the Soviet Union later (1945–47) tried unsuccessfully to reclaim it as part of the Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic.

Kiev, chief city and capital of Ukraine, a port on the Dnieper (Dnipro) River and a large railroad junction. It is a city with an ancient and proud history as the centre of Kyivan Rus 1,000 years ago. Kiev was severely damaged during World War II,

but by the mid-1950s it had been restored, and in the second half of the 20th century it enjoyed a well-developed economic and cultural life.

Malmesbury, town (parish), administrative and historic county of Wiltshire, southwest-central England. It is situated in the northwestern part of the county on a ridge between the River Avon (Lower, or Bristol, Avon) and a tributary.

Manhattan, borough of New York City, coextensive with New York county, mainly on Manhattan Island. Manhattan is considered one of the world's foremost commercial, financial, and cultural centres.

Nazareth, historic city of Lower Galilee, in northern Israel. In the New Testament Nazareth is associated with Jesus as his boyhood home, and in its synagogue he preached the sermon that led to his rejection by his fellow townsmen. The city is now a centre of Christian pilgrimage.

Palm Jumeirah, artificial offshore islands in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. From the air, the archipelago resembles a stylized palm tree within a circle. Palm Jumeirah was built in the early 21st century and was largely financed from Dubai's substantial income from petroleum.

Pennsylvania Avenue, major thoroughfare of Washington, D.C. It runs through Washington's well-known central section lined with government buildings between the Capitol and the White House. Pennsylvania Avenue is the traditional route of presidential inaugural and other major parades.

Shirak, province in Armenia located in the north-west of the country. The province is bounded on the north by Georgia, on the west by Turkey. Gyumri, located in the centre of the province, is the capital and the largest city. The territory of Shirak has been settled since the early Stone Age. At the higher areas

that are above 2000 meters, many remains have been found from the early Bronze Age.

South Carolina, constituent state of the United States of America, one of the 13 original colonies. It lies on the southern Eastern Seaboard of the United States. The state is bounded on the north by North Carolina, on the southeast by the Atlantic Ocean, and on the southwest by Georgia. Columbia, located in the centre of the state, is the capital and largest city

Spitak, town and urban municipal community in Armenia, 96 km north of the capital, Yerevan. Spitak was entirely destroyed during the devastating 1988 earthquake. It was rebuilt in a slightly different location.

Syrian Desert, arid wasteland of southwestern Asia, extending northward from the Arabian Peninsula over much of northern Saudi Arabia, eastern Jordan, southern Syria, and western Iraq.

Tel Aviv-Yafo, major city and economic centre in Israel, situated on the Mediterranean coast. Tel Aviv was founded in 1909 as a Jewish garden suburb of the ancient Mediterranean port of Jaffa (now Yafo), with which it was joined in 1950.

Van, city in the present-day eastern Turkey's Vilayet of Van, located on the eastern shore of the lake Van. The city has a long history as a major urban area. It has been a large city since the first millennium BC, initially as Tushpa, the capital of the Kingdom of Urartu from the 9th century BC to the 6th century BC, and later as the center of the Armenian Kingdom of Vaspurakan. Today, Van has a Kurdish majority and a sizeable Turkish minority.

Vltava River, the longest river in the Czech Republic. It rises in southwestern Bohemia from two headstreams in the Bohemian Forest.

Westminster or **City of Westminster**, inner borough of London. It lies on the north bank of the River Thames at the heart of London's West End. The City of Westminster is flanked to the west by Kensington and Chelsea and to the east by the City of London.

Windsor, historic market town and unparished area in the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead in Berkshire, England, close to London.

CURRICULUM VITAE

Biography

Rima Khachatryan was born on April 3, 1938 in Yerevan, into a family of survivors of the Armenian Genocide. Her mother was from Van (a present-day city in eastern Turkey's Van Province) and her father was from Alashkert (a present-day town and district of Ağrı Province in Turkey). Rima's parents met in the orphanage of the American Relief Committee in the Near East in Alexandrapol (present-day Gyumri in Armenia).

Rima's maternal grandfather, Father Gevorg, was the priest of the Anggh village of the Van Vilayet. He escaped the Genocide in 1915 and immigrated to the United States, where he died in a car accident in 1924.

Rima Khachatryan started her career as a planning technician in 1961. From September 1, 1965 till her death, for 55 years, she worked in the Yerevan Basic Medical College.

She was married with two children.

Education

- 1943-1954* Stepan Shaumyan Secondary School No.1 in Yerevan.
- 1955-1960* Khachatur Abovyan Armenian State Pedagogic Institute, Department of Biochemistry.
- 1965* graduated from the Armenian State Agricultural Institute.

- 1969 received Diploma in Chemistry from the Department of Professional Development for Secondary School Teachers, adjacent to the Karl Marx Polytechnic Institute in Yerevan.
- 2013 completed the “Organisation and implementation of instructional programmes aimed at learning outcomes” training-for-trainers’ course organized by the National Center for Vocational Education and Training Development.

Pedagogic Activities

- 1965-2020 Yerevan Basic Medical College, Lecturer of Analytical, Pharmaceutical, Organic, and Inorganic Chemistry.
- 2002-2014 Yerevan Basic Medical College, Head of the Pharmaceutics’ Department.

In 1984, for excellence in a long pedagogic career, she was awarded with the “Veteran of Labour” medal by the Presidency of the Supreme Soviet of the Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic.

In 1987, as a finalist in the pan-USSR socialist emulation in pedagogy, she was awarded an honorary certificate for exceptional achievements by the Central Committee of the Communist Party, the Council of Ministers, the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions, and the All-Union Leninist Young Communist League of the Soviet Union.

In 2005 she was awarded with a Gold Medal by the Ministry of Education and Science for an extensive and successful pedagogical career marked with notable achievements.

In 2013 she led the efforts to modernise the curriculum for the “Pharmaceutics” discipline and was largely responsible for the

introduction of the new curriculum in the medical colleges in Armenia.

In 2017 the President of the Republic of Armenia bestowed a title of Honoured Pedagogue of the Republic of Armenia on Mrs. Khachatryan.

Textbooks

In 2007-2009 Rima Khachatryan authored two textbooks for the students of medical vocational colleges:

- Khachatryan, R., Inorganic Chemistry: Textbook for medical colleges, Volume I, Yerevan, Lucky Print 2007, 136 pages, ISBN 978-99941-71-19-4
- Khachatryan, R., Inorganic Chemistry: Textbook for medical colleges, Volume II, Yerevan, Lucky Print 2007, 196 pages, ISBN 978-99941-71-19-4
- Khachatryan, R. 2009. Analytical Chemistry: Textbook for medical colleges, Yerevan, Legal Plus 2009, 116 pages, ISBN 978-9939-815-19-0

Both have been used as textbooks and as a basis for courses teaching the relevant curricula in various medical colleges, including Yerevan Basic Medical College and the state medical colleges of Vanadzor, Kapan Gyumri, Hrazdan, and Gavar.

Nurse Education Development

From 1975 to 2015 Rima Khachatryan played a key role in expanding the network of medical colleges in Armenia, which led to the establishment of medical vocational schools in rural areas of Armenia (Gavar, Ararat, Hrazdan, Armavir, and Martuni), as well as of the first scientifically-based nursing

schools at St. Gregory the Illuminator Hospital (2008) and #11 Polyclinic (1996) in Yerevan.

In 2002 she was awarded with an honorary certificate by the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Armenia for her significant contribution made to the expansion of the medical vocational educational institutions' network in Armenia.

In 2009 she was awarded with the “Anania Shirakatsi” medal for her contribution to the development of medical vocational education, as well as for an extensive and successful career marked with notable achievements.

Trade union activities

1969-2020 Head of the Trade Union of the Yerevan Basic Medical College, which had over 5000 members.

1981-1989 Deputy Head of the Trade Union of Medical Workers' Myasnikyan District Committee, Yerevan.

1984-1986 Head of the Trade Union of Medical Workers' Myasnikyan District Committee, Yerevan.

1980-2020 Member of the Republican Council of Trade Unions of Medical Workers of Armenia, then of the Republican Union of Trade Organisations of Healthcare Workers.

1987 was awarded with an honorary certificate by the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions.

1992-1994 Introduced the principle of “the trade union treasury as a cash register for mutual support” to honour those who served and to raise money for the College's veteran students and their families. The action was also intended to ensure success

for veteran students and create pathways for their professional growth and opportunities for career advancement.

In 1996 Rima Khachatryan significantly contributed to the elaboration of the RA Law on Medical Assistance and Service to the Population, where for the first time ever issues regarding legal regulation of nursing and the assessment of the workload of mid-level health workers as a reference for staff planning were touched upon. In particular, a tool to measure the workload of health professionals in Primary Health Care was developed. All applicable interventions were validated in a single instrument to measure the workload for a clinician, nurse, nurse assistant, etc.

In 2008 she was awarded with an Honorary Certificate of the Confederation of the Trade Unions of Armenia.

An advocate of lifelong learning

Rima Khachatryan's mother, Siranush, passed on to her all the virtues she'd obtained in the American orphanage: love for freedom and liberty, mercy, tolerance and compassion – providing her access to opportunities throughout her life.

“We always knew that having an education gives us a special position in society to help our people and our nation survive”; her mother always told her about the years spent in the orphanage. It was a philosophy and a call to action that became part of Mrs. Khachatryan's life.

Rima Khachatryan used to say “self-education is an important virtue of a teacher,” and she educated herself relentlessly throughout her life.

In 2011 Rima Khachatryan established the Executive Coaching and Training Institute – an international training center pro-

viding study programs with a mission to educate sustainability leaders of the future with innovative and novel methodologies.

In 2013, at the age of 75, she completed the “Organisation and implementation of instructional programmes aimed at learning outcomes” training-for-trainers’ course organized by the National Center for Vocational Education and Training Development and led the efforts to introduce a new educational program for the “Pharmaceutics” discipline in medical colleges of Armenia.

Awards

- Honourable Title of Honoured Pedagogue of the Republic of Armenia (Decree of the President of the Republic of Armenia N NH-388-A, dated 17 May, 2017)
- “Anania Shirakatsi” Medal (Decree of the President of the Republic of Armenia NH-123-A, dated 26 May, 2009)
- Commemorative Medal of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia (Resolution of the RA Prime Minister N 291-A, dated 27 March, 2018)
- Gold Medal of the Ministry of Education and Science (Order of the Minister of Education and Science of the Republic of Armenia N 503-A, dated 29 September, 2005)
- Medal “Veteran of Labour” (Resolution of the Presidency of the Supreme Soviet of the Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic N 1378, 22 March 1984)
- Silver Medal of the General Confederation of Trade Unions (Decree of the Executive Committee of the Confederation N 10-14, 21 June, 2017)

Legacy

- The most natural photo-portrait of Rima Khachatryan was made by renowned Soviet Armenian photographer Armenak Hovhannisyan in his private studio in 1982, which later appeared on the cover of her book *Untold Story*, published by the NewMag.
- In 2012, modern Georgian painter of Orthodox Christian icons Zurab Modebadze celebrated Rima Khachatryan in a traditional guise of the Armenian mother with an icon of the Virgin and the Child in her hands (Tempera). The portrait was painted from a photograph from the early 1970s.
- In 2020 the sculpture “On a Step Above Heaven” by well-known Armenian sculptor David Minasyan was placed on the Nork Hills in Yerevan, Armenia (Marble).
- In 2020, inspired by Rima Khachatryan’s biography, a prominent Spanish painter, Ricardo Sanz, painted her portrait from photographs of different years (Canvas).

ENDNOTES

¹ *Armenian Genocide*, campaign of deportation and mass killing conducted against the Armenian subjects of the Ottoman Empire by the Young Turk government during 1914–18. Throughout summer and autumn of 1915, Armenian civilians were removed from their homes and marched through the valleys and mountains of Eastern Anatolia toward desert concentration camps. The deportation, which was overseen by civil and military officials, was accompanied by a systematic campaign of mass murder. Conservative estimates have calculated that some 600,000 to more than 1,000,000 Armenians were slaughtered or died on the marches (*Encyclopedia Britannica*). U.S. President George W. Bush in his Presidential Statement of April 24, 2007, claimed that “as many as 1.5 million” Armenians were killed. U.S. President Ronald Reagan used the term ‘genocide’ in his Presidential Statement of April 22, 1981. Pope John Paul II (on November 9, 2000) and Pope Francis (on June 24, 2016) described the mass killing of Armenians under Ottoman Turkish rule in World War One as a genocide. US President Joe Biden also recognized the massacre of Armenians by the Ottoman Empire in 1915 as a genocide in his Statement on Armenian Remembrance Day on April 24, 2021.

² *Syrian Desert*, arid wasteland of southwestern Asia, extending northward from the Arabian Peninsula over much of northern Saudi Arabia, eastern Jordan, southern Syria, and western Iraq.

³ *Alexandropol* (now Gyumri), also spelled Kumayri, Leninakan, city in Armenia. A fortress was constructed on the site by the Russians in 1837, and Kumayri was renamed Alexandropol after Czar Nicholas I’s wife, Princess Alexandra. Alexandropol was renamed Leninakan for the Soviet leader Vladimir Lenin in 1924. Leninakan was severely damaged by an earthquake that devastated northwestern Armenia on December 7, 1988. Almost all of the city’s multistory buildings collapsed, killing thousands

and leaving many others homeless. Gyumri is now the second city of Armenia in both industry and population.

⁴ See: www.neareastmuseum.com

⁵ *Anatolia*, also called Asia Minor, the peninsula of land that today constitutes the Asian portion of Turkey. Because of its location at the point where the continents of Asia and Europe meet, Anatolia was, from the beginnings of civilization, a cross-roads for numerous peoples migrating or conquering from either continent.

⁶ *Presbyterianism* is a part of the Reformed tradition within Protestantism. The name was given to various Protestant churches that share a common origin in the Reformation in the 16th century. The term ‘Presbyterian’ designates a collegial type of church government by pastors and by lay leaders called elders, or presbyters, from the New Testament term *presbyteroi*.

⁷ As World War I ended, war relief efforts became substantial. The Foundation spent more than \$22 million, sending food supplies to Belgium, Poland, Serbia, Armenia and other countries, even chartering its own ships. President George E. Vincent once said: “I suppose we had to do it, and I suppose it was worthwhile, but think of the creative job we could have done with that money in a world of reason and sanity!” (rockefellerfoundation.org/about-us/our-history).

⁸ *Ottoman Empire*, empire created by Turkish tribes in Anatolia (Asia Minor) that grew to be one of the most powerful states in the world during the 15th and 16th centuries. The Ottoman period spanned more than 600 years and came to an end only in 1922, when it was replaced by the Turkish Republic and various successor states in southeastern Europe and the Middle east. The term Ottoman is a dynastic appellation derived from Osman I who founded the empire about 1300.

⁹ See: The 66th Congress 2nd Session House of Representatives Document No. 791.

¹⁰ *World War I*, also called First World War or Great War, an international conflict that in 1914–18 embroiled most of the nations of Europe along with Russia, the United States, the Middle East, and other regions. The war pitted the Central Powers – mainly Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Turkey – against the Allies – mainly France, Great Britain, Russia, Italy, Japan, and, from 1917, the United States. It ended with the defeat of the Central Powers. The war was virtually unprecedented in the slaughter, carnage, and destruction it caused. World War I was one of the great watersheds of the 20th-century geopolitical history. It led to the fall of four great imperial dynasties (in Germany, Russia, Austria-Hungary, and Turkey), resulted in the Bolshevik Revolution in Russia, and, in its destabilization of European society, laid the groundwork for the World War II.

¹¹ The information is obtained from neareastmuseum.com, as well as from Karine Aleksanyan, Activities of the Near East Relief in Aleksandropol Uyezd in 1919-1921 ([http://shirak.asj-
oa.am/647/1/128-135.pdf](http://shirak.asj-oa.am/647/1/128-135.pdf)), and from the memoirs of Siranush Martirosyan.

¹² *Kazachi Post* or *Cossack Post*, a sentinel post, built in 1827 on the hill in Alexandropol. It was furnished by pickets and counted as a military observation post on the south border of the Russian Empire. Temple-chapel of the Archangel Michael was built near the Cossack Post. It was consecrated in 1886 by the archbishop of the Greek-Russian Orthodox Church of Georgia Pavel.

¹³ *Seversky*, the military base of the 18th Seversky Dragoon Regiment, a cavalry regiment of the Russian Imperial Army, one of its two most honored regiments. Formed on April 3, 1856. Initially, it was based in Pyatigorsk, later in Alexandropol.

¹⁴ *Polygon*, one of the military posts of the Russian 102nd Military Base in Gyumri (Alexandropol). Formerly it was the base of the Russian Imperial Army in Alexandropol, then 127th Motor Rifle Division of the Soviet Seventh Guards Army.

¹⁵ Ernest Yarrow's signature can be found on the Certificate of

Education issued to Siranush Martirosyan, Rima Khachatryan's mother, on June 16, 1924 in Alexandropol (*see the Gallery*).

¹⁶ *Brown, Milton D.*, Mr. Brown, who received his education at Carnegie Institute and Columbia University, was a volunteer during the war with the Norton-Harjes Ambulance Corps, and also served with the French and Roumanian Commissions of the American Red Cross. From August, 1920 to October, 1922, he was with Near East Relief in the Caucasus as director of orphanages and schools. (*Source: "A Close-up of Some Overseas Workers," The New Near East magazine, Sept. 1923, The Story of Near East Relief - Barton - 1930*).

¹⁷ *Mitchell, Edwin Knox* of Hartford, returned to the States on November 25, 1919, from service in Alexandropol.

¹⁸ Information is obtained from neareastmuseum.com, as well as from Karine Aleksanyan, Activities of the Near East Relief in Aleksandropol Uyezd in 1919-1921 (<http://shirak.asj-oa.am/647/1/128-135.pdf>), and from the memoirs of Siranush Martirosyan.

¹⁹ *Boy Scouts*, organization, originally for boys from 11 to 14 or 15 years of age, that aimed to develop in them good citizenship, chivalrous behaviour, and skill in various outdoor activities. The Boy Scout movement was founded in Great Britain in 1908 by a cavalry officer, Lieutenant General Robert Baden-Powell.

²⁰ *The Catastrophe of Smyrna*, or the Great fire of Smyrna, destroyed much of the port city of Smyrna (present-day Izmir, Turkey) in September 1922. Eyewitness' reports state that the fire began on 13 September 1922 and lasted until it was largely extinguished on September 22. It began four days after the Turkish military captured the city on September 9, effectively ending the Greco-Turkish War. Estimated Greek and Armenian deaths resulting from the fire range from 100,000 to 180,000. (see: Stewart, Matthew, "Catastrophe at Smyrna". *History Today*, Volume: 54 Issue: 7).

²¹ *Anggh*, also Ankgh, village in present-day eastern Turkey's Van Vilayet, in the Khoshab river valley. The name of the town comes from the word 'vulture' (in Armenian – 'anggh'), as these birds were very common there. At the beginning of the XX century, there were 105 households with 492 Armenian inhabitants, also a church and a vocational school in the town. It was completely destroyed during World War I.

²² *Alekpól* is the shortened form of Alexandropol.

²³ *Krasny Shveynik* (Russian: "Red Seamstress"), Yerevan branch of "Krasny Shveynik," the association of the production of a garment named after Clara Zetkin.

²⁴ Rima Khachatryan's son became a renowned industry manager and statesman, and her daughter became a prominent educator. Her grandchildren also received excellent education: her grandson, Davit, graduated from King's College, London, and her granddaughter, Zhanetta, graduated from the American University of Armenia, an affiliate of the University of California.

²⁵ *Vocational education*, instruction, intended to equip persons for industrial or commercial occupations. It may be obtained either formally in trade schools, technical secondary schools, or in on-the-job training programs. After World War II the demand for trained paraprofessionals in the fields of computer science, electronics, engineering and medical services led to an increased interest in short-term postsecondary specialized training programs in these areas as an alternative to the traditional college education.

²⁶ *Gavar, Ararat, Hrazdan, Armavir, and Martuni*: towns and urban municipal communities in Armenia.

²⁷ *Araks river* – river rising in the Bingöl mountains; it flows eastward, forming for approximately 440 km the boundary between Armenia and Azerbaijan on the north and Turkey and Iran on the south. Below the eastern boundary of Armenia, the stream emerges into a broad valley. After a course of about 1,070

km, the Araks joins the Kura river

²⁸ *Ejmiatsin* (also spelled Ejmiadzin), the seat of the supreme catholicos of the Armenian Apostolic Church; “the home of the catholicos of all Armenians.” Upon the conversion of Armenia to Christianity in 301 CE, it became the residence of the Armenian patriarch (*Encyclopedia Britannica*). Ejmiatsin is also the former name of Vagarshapat, a city in Armenia. It lies on the plain of the Araks River, 20 km west of Yerevan.

²⁹ *Ellis Island*, island in Upper New York Bay, formerly the United States’ principal immigration reception centre. Often referred to as the Gateway to the New World, the island lies about 1.6 km southwest of Manhattan Island, New York City. From 1892 to 1924, approximately 12 million immigrants arriving at the Port of New York and New Jersey were processed there under federal law. Today, it is part of the Statue of Liberty National Monument.

³⁰ *Meds Yeghern* or *Medz Yeghern* means Great Calamity. The President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic Nargush Harutyunyan proclaimed these words at the official commemoration of the Armenian Genocide on April 24, 1965 in Yerevan. U.S. President Barack Obama used the same term in his Statement on Armenian Remembrance Day, April 24, 2009 (and subsequent years). The term was also used to describe the Armenian Genocide in the *Armenian Soviet Encyclopedia* (vol. 7, Yerevan 1981, page 423).

³¹ *Times Square*, square in Midtown Manhattan, New York City, formed by the intersection of Seventh Avenue, 42nd Street, and Broadway. Times Square is also the center of the Theatre District.

³² *The Battery*, formerly known as Battery Park, is a 10 ha public park located at the southern tip of Manhattan Island in New York City, facing New York Harbor. It is bounded by Battery Place on the north, State Street on the east, New York Harbor to the south, and the Hudson River to the west. The park and sur-

rounding area is named for the artillery batteries that were built in the late 17th century to protect the settlement behind them.

³³ *Manhattan*, borough of New York City, coextensive with New York county, mainly on Manhattan Island. Manhattan is considered one of the world's foremost commercial, financial, and cultural centres.

³⁴ *Yerevan*, capital of Armenia. Though first historically recorded in 607 CE, Yerevan dates by archaeological evidence to a settlement on the site in the 6th–3rd millennia BCE and subsequently to the fortress of Erbuni in 783 BCE. The Armenian Academy of Sciences (est. 1943) is the most prominent of the many research institutions in the city. The Matenadaran archives (founded 1920) hold a rich collection of ancient manuscripts.

³⁵ *Castle Clinton* or *Fort Clinton*, previously known as Castle Garden, is a sandstone fort located in Battery Park, in Manhattan, New York City. Built in 1808 – 1811, the fortification was the first American immigration station (predating Ellis Island), where more than 8 million people arrived in the United States in 1855 – 1890.

³⁶ *Hayots Dzor* (Armenian: Armenian Gorge), province in the Vilayet of Van.

³⁷ *The Ulster Scots*, also called Ulster Scots people, ethnic group in Ireland, found mostly in the province of Ulster and to a lesser extent in the rest of Ireland. Their ancestors were mostly Protestant Presbyterian Lowland Scottish colonists.

³⁸ *Oligarch* is a member or supporter of an oligarchy, a group exercising control especially for corrupt and selfish purposes (*Definition by Merriam-Webster dictionary*).

³⁹ *Sherman Antitrust Act*, first legislation enacted by the U.S. Congress in 1890 to curb concentrations of power that interfere with trade and reduce economic competition. It was named for U.S. Senator John Sherman of Ohio, who was an expert on the regulation of commerce.

⁴⁰ *American Civil War*, also called War Between the States, four-year war (1861–65) between the United States and 11 Southern states that seceded from the Union and formed the Confederate States of America.

⁴¹ A devout Baptist, Rockefeller turned his attention increasingly during the 1890s to charities and benevolence. Rockefeller's benefactions during his lifetime totaled more than \$500 million.

⁴² *Robber Barons*, pejorative term for powerful 19th-century American industrialists and financiers who made fortunes by monopolizing huge industries through the formation of trusts and engaging in unethical business practices. Alternatively, those who credit the explosive growth of American capitalism during this period to the indefatigable pursuit of success and material wealth are likely to celebrate these entrepreneurial tycoons as "captains of industry." Among the sectors in which they compiled their great wealth were the oil, steel, liquor, cotton, textile, and tobacco industries, railroads, and banks. The term derives from the Raubritter (robber knights), the medieval German lords who charged illegal tolls on the primitive roads crossing their lands. The metaphor appeared for the first time on February 9, 1859 in the *New York Times*.

⁴³ *Vanovite* is a native or resident of the present-time eastern Turkey's Vilayet of Van, located on the eastern shore of the lake Van. The city of Van (the center of the vilayet) has a long history as a major urban area. It has been a large city since the first millennium BC, initially as Tushpa, the capital of the Kingdom of Urartu from the 9th century BC to the 6th century BC, and later as the center of the Armenian Kingdom of Vaspurakan. Today, Van has a Kurdish majority and a sizeable Turkish minority.

⁴⁴ *Statue of Liberty*, formally Liberty Enlightening the World, colossal statue that stands on Liberty Island in the Upper New York Bay, commemorating the friendship of the peoples of the United States and France.

⁴⁵ *Windsor Castle*, English royal residence that stands on a

ridge at the northeastern edge of the district of Windsor and Maidenhead in the county of Berkshire, England, on the south bank of the River Thames.

⁴⁶ *1988 Armenian earthquake*, also known as the Spitak earthquake, an earthquake that struck northwestern Armenia on December 7, 1988 at 11:41 local time, devastating numerous cities, including Gyumri, Vanadzor, and Spitak.

⁴⁷ Shortly after the Near East Relief withdrew from Armenia in 1931, Severski, along with Kazachi Post and Polygon, were again converted into military bases.

⁴⁸ *BBC Radio 4*, British national radio station owned and operated by the BBC. It broadcasts a wide variety of programs including news, drama, comedy, science and history from the BBC's headquarters in London.

⁴⁹ www.margarethatcher.org/document/107853

⁵⁰ *Soviet Union*, in full Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (U.S.S.R.), former northern Eurasian empire (1917/22–1991) stretching from the Baltic and Black Seas to the Pacific Ocean and, in its final years, consisting of 15 Soviet Socialist Republics (S.S.R.s). The capital was Moscow then and it is now the capital of Russia.

⁵¹ *Cold War*, the rivalry that developed after World War II between the United States and Soviet Union and their respective allies. The Cold War was waged on political, economic, and propaganda fronts and had only limited recourse to weapons. The term was first used by the English writer George Orwell in an article published in 1945. It was first used in the United States by the American financier and presidential adviser Bernard Baruch in a speech at the State House in Columbia, South Carolina, in 1947.

⁵² *The Era of Stagnation* or *Stagnation Period*, also called the Brezhnevian Stagnation, the period in the history of the Soviet Union that began during the rule of Leonid Brezhnev

(1964–1982) and continued under Yuri Andropov (1982–1984) and Konstantin Chernenko (1984–1985). The term “Era of Stagnation” was coined by Mikhail Gorbachev in order to describe the negative way in which he viewed the economic, political, and social policies of the period.

⁵³ *Dolma* is a family of stuffed dishes found in the Balkans, South Caucasus, Central Asia, and the Middle East.

⁵⁴ Refers to the bilateral protocols signed on October 10, 2009 in Zurich by Armenia and Turkey, brokered by the United States, Russia, and France that envisioned starting the process of normalizing relations between the two countries. The internationally mediated normalization and reconciliation process is also known as “soccer diplomacy.”

⁵⁵ *Great Purge*, also called purge trials, three widely publicized show trials and a series of closed, unpublicized trials held in the Soviet Union during the late 1930s. The trials were the public aspect of the widespread purge that sent millions of alleged “enemies of the people” to prison camps in the 1930s.

⁵⁶ *Saint Sarkis Cathedral* or St. Sarkis vicarial church, an Armenian cathedral on the left bank of the Hrazdan river in Yerevan, Armenia, the seat of the Araratian Pontifical Diocese of the Armenian Apostolic Church. It was built in 1842.

⁵⁷ *Armenian Apostolic Church*, independent Oriental Orthodox Christian church and the national church of Armenia. Armenia was evangelized by the apostles Bartholomew and Thaddeus. It became the first country to adopt Christianity about 300 CE, when St. Gregory the Illuminator converted the Arsacid king Tiridates III.

⁵⁸ *Non-Aligned Movement* (NAM), international organization dedicated to representing the interests of developing countries. NAM emerged on the wave of decolonization that followed World War II. In the early 21st century the Non-Aligned Movement counted 120 member states. In the context of the Cold War, the

NAM members argued that countries of the developing world should abstain from allying with either of the two superpowers (the U.S. and the U.S.S.R.) and should instead join together in support of national self-determination.

⁵⁹ *The Neuwittelsbach Hospital* is sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy of St. Vincent de Paul. In the religious community women have come together to live according to the example of St. Vincent de Paul. Fascinated by a God of love and mercy, it stood up for needy, poor, sick, old, and searching people. The mother house of the Sisters of Mercy is located in Munich, Berg am Laim district.

⁶⁰ *Knowledge Day*, often simply called The 1st of September, is the day when the school year starts in former Soviet republics as well as in the former Eastern Bloc countries (excluding Romania) and Israel. Originated in the USSR, where it was established on June 15, 1984.

⁶¹ The 1988 Armenian earthquake.

⁶² *Ashtarak*, a town and urban municipal community in the Aragatsotn Province of Armenia, located on the left bank of Kasagh River along the gorge, northwest of the capital Yerevan, the administrative centre of the Aragatsotn province.

⁶³ One of the 8 Districts (Boroughs) of Yerevan City (capital of Armenia) before 1990 (namely: Leninyan, Shaumyan, Spandaryan, Myasnikyan, Sovetakan, Ordzhonikidze, After 26 Commissars, Mashtots).

⁶⁴ A special award for trade union members, a pre-paid all-inclusive travel voucher, widely used in the Soviet Union. The costs of these vouchers were partially or totally covered by the trade union.

⁶⁵ *Kinkaku-Ji* or Kinkaku Temple (the Golden Pavilion), built on the northwestern outskirts of Kyoto after retirement of Ashikaga Yoshimitsu, shogun of Japan, from the shogunate in 1394 in

favor of his son.

⁶⁶ *Kyoto* (literally “Capital City”), city in Japan. It was the capital of Japan for more than 1,000 years (from 794 to 1868).

⁶⁷ *Raj Ghat*, memorial area in Delhi, India, originally dedicated to Mahatma Gandhi. Today cremation spots of other famous leaders of India, in particular, Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi, can be found in the vicinity of Raj Ghat.

⁶⁸ *Taj Mahal*, mausoleum complex in Agra, India. The Taj Mahal was built by the Mughal emperor Shah Jahan (reigned 1628–58) to immortalize his wife.

⁶⁹ *The Nuseibeh Clan* (alternatively spelt Nusaibah, Nussaiba, or Nusseibeh) is the oldest Muslim dynasty in Jerusalem. Since the arrival of Islam in Jerusalem in the seventh century, the Sunni Muslim family has held the keys to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher alongside the Juodeh Al-Goudia family, who were added to the original arrangement in the time of Saladin, the Muslim conqueror who seized the holy city from the Crusaders in 1187. This arrangement emerged during the days of the second caliph Umar Ibn al-Khattab, who hoped to avoid clashes among rival Christian sects for control over the church. Although symbolic, the arrangement has provided stability that the Christians of the city needed, and is a symbol of tolerance and inter-religious harmony.

⁷⁰ *Wailing Wall* in the Old City of Jerusalem, a place of prayer and pilgrimage sacred to the Jewish people. It is the only remains of the retaining wall surrounding the Temple Mount, the site of the First and Second Temples of Jerusalem, held to be uniquely holy by the ancient Jews. The First Temple was destroyed by the Babylonians in 587–586 BCE, and the Second Temple was destroyed by the Romans in 70 CE.

⁷¹ *Dead Sea*, also called Salt Sea, landlocked salt lake between Israel and Jordan in southwestern Asia.

⁷² *The Monument in homage to Komitas* is a memorial to

Armenian victims of the 1915 Genocide and Armenian fighters who died for France. The statue of Komitas located between the Pont des Invalides and the Grand palais in Paris is a part of the Memorial. It's a six-meter-high statue made by David Erevantzi.

⁷³ *Berlin Wall* (German: ‘Berliner Mauer’), barrier that surrounded West Berlin and prevented access to it from East Berlin and adjacent areas of East Germany during the period from 1961 to 1989. In the years between 1949 and 1961, about 2.5 million East Germans fled from East to West Germany. In response, East Germany built a barrier to close off East Germans’ access to West Germany. That barrier, the Berlin Wall, was first erected on the night of August 12-13, 1961. It was a guarded concrete barrier that physically and ideologically divided Berlin during the period from 1961 to 1989. According to some estimations during this period, thousands of people attempted and over 5,000 succeeded in escaping over the Wall, with an estimated death toll ranging from 136 to more than 200.

⁷⁴ *Plachutta*, world-famous restaurant in the heart of Vienna.

⁷⁵ *The Augustiner-Keller*, traditional restaurant with beer garden in Munich. It was opened in the first half of the 19th century and is one of the most popular beer gardens in Munich.

⁷⁶ *The Atomium*, landmark building in Brussels (Belgium), originally constructed for the 1958 Brussels World’s Fair (Expo 1958). It is located in Laeken, where the exhibition took place.

⁷⁷ *The Kremlin* is the symbol of both Russian and (for a time) Soviet power and authority, and it has served as the official residence of the president of the Russian Federation since 1991.

⁷⁸ *October Revolution*, also called Bolshevik Revolution, (Oct. 24–25 [Nov. 6–7, New Style], 1917), the second and last major phase of the Russian Revolution of 1917, in which the Bolshevik Party seized power in Russia, inaugurating the Soviet regime.

⁷⁹ *Bolshevik*, (Russian: “One of the Majority”), plural Bolsheviks, or Bolsheviki, member of a wing of the Russian Social-Democratic

Workers' Party, which, led by Vladimir Lenin, seized control of the government in Russia (October 1917). The group originated at the party's second congress (1903) when Lenin's followers, insisting that party membership be restricted to professional revolutionaries, won a temporary majority on the party's central committee. They assumed the name Bolsheviks and dubbed their opponents the Mensheviks ("Those of the Minority").

⁸⁰ *Kitay-gorod* (English: China-Town) is a historic quarter of Moscow and a major tourist site. Within the Kitay-gorod, along the east wall of the Kremlin, lies the Red Square, the ceremonial center of the capital and the scene of holiday parades.

⁸¹ *The Tube* or *London Underground*, underground railway system that services the London metropolitan area.

⁸² *Mediterranean cuisine* is the food and method of preparation used by the people of the Mediterranean Basin. The idea of a "Mediterranean cuisine" originates with the cookbook author Elizabeth David's *A Book of Mediterranean Food* (1950).

⁸³ http://www.libussr.ru/doc_ussr/usr_8238.htm

⁸⁴ *Heller, Mikhail* (1988). *Cogs in the Wheel: The Formation of Soviet Man*. Alfred A. Knopf. ISBN 978-0394569260.

⁸⁵ <https://www.president.am/en/medals/17/>

⁸⁶ <https://www.president.am/en/honorary-titles/23/>

⁸⁷ www.ecti.am

⁸⁸ <http://ecti.am/en/scholarships>

⁸⁹ The Honorary Title of Honored Pedagogue of the Republic of Armenia is awarded by the President of the State to teachers, pedagogues, lecturers, and educational staff who have worked for at least 15 years in pre-school, off-school, general, undergraduate, graduate, and post-graduate specialized institutions for their significant success and outstanding merit in educating and rearing of younger generations (www.president.am/en/honor-

[ary-titles/23](#)).

⁹⁰ The Honorary Title of Honored Pedagogue of the Republic of Armenia is awarded by the President of the State to teachers, pedagogues, lecturers, and educational staff who have worked for at least 15 years in pre-school, off-school, general, undergraduate, graduate, and post-graduate specialized institutions for their significant success and outstanding merit in educating and rearing of younger generations ([president.am/en/honorary-titles/23](#)).

⁹¹ The information is obtained from the Encyclopedia Britannica, Armenian Soviet Encyclopedia, Great Soviet Encyclopedia, John W. Cousin, *A Short Biographical Dictionary of English Literature*, 2004 [eBook #13240, ISO-8859-1], and other public sources.

⁹² Panossian, Razmik. *The Armenians: From Kings And Priests to Merchants And Commissars*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2006, p. 211; ISBN 0-231-13926-8

⁹³ The information is obtained from the Encyclopedia Britannica, Armenian Soviet Encyclopedia, Great Soviet Encyclopedia, and other public sources.

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ABOUT ECTI

The Executive Coaching and Training Institute (ECTI) is an international training center providing study programs with a mission to educate sustainability leaders of the future with innovative and novel methodologies.

ECTI was founded by an Honoured Pedagogue of Armenia Rima Khachatryan in 2011.

The core mission of ECTI is to prepare managers for the energy sector by offering short courses tailored to their professional needs, and to cultivate leaders, who are ready to address the growing demands of technology-driven challenges in energy efficiency, renewable energy, sustainability and effectiveness of managing the environmental risks.

The students of the Institute are provided with a whole new style of learning (as distance-learning enabled the classroom to go fully digital), allowing them to commit to a state-of-the-art education that creates a customized, personalized, “have it your way” kind of educational experience.

The proliferation of high-bandwidth Internet access plus web-based and video technologies combined in a way to give flexibility that reaches learners of all styles while, at the same time, allowing the instructor to be more effective.

ECTI is an institution that has a transformative impact on people’s social, economic, and intellectual capacities, and inspires students to advance knowledge, to network and connect with different people, to forge their path to make a difference and become responsible managers and leaders.

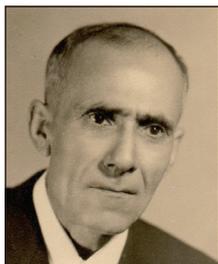
PHOTO GALLERY



Grandfather:
Gevorg



Grandmother:
Antaram



Father: Mkhitar
Khachatryan



Mother: Siranush
Martirosyan



Brother: Henrik



Brother: Hrachik



Son: Ashot
Manukyan



Daughter: Marine
Ghazaryan



Grandson: Davit
Ghazaryan



Granddaughter:
Zhanetta Ghazaryan

Rima Khachatryan's ancestors, siblings and descendants



*Rima Khachatryan's grandfather - Father Gevorg
New York, 1924*



*Rima Khachatryan's mother - Siranush Martirosyan
Yerevan, 1924*

NEAR EAST RELIEF ASSOCIATION - CAUCASUS BRANCH
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ՎՎԱՅԱԿԱՆ № 62 CERTIFICATE

Տրվում է սույն վկայականը *Սիրանուշյան Արամայի* -ին,
հայրը - *Զրաբեկ* (*Գրի*), մայրը - *Առնամուհի*
(*Մար*), ծնված *1909* թվին, ծննդավայրը - *Առջ*

Կրթիչ Լուսնայ-Յոսա և *Սիրանուշյան* :
Ամերիկայի վերընդհանրում նա ստացել է իննամյա *չորս* տարի Գրքագիտությունում
սովորել և է գուրս և զարկն *Վեյքսթրոմ* բաժանմունքից: Նա սովորել է նաև
78 ամին *Յրաբանություն* արձեռնանշում:
ամսվա *և* *Լուսնայ-Յոսա* *Կրթության* կոմիտեից նա ստացել է
Սիրանուշյան վերընդհանր կանոնավոր կերպով, սույն 1924 թվին *Յուլի*
16-ին, խոստանալով լինել պատվավոր *և* բարի քաղաքացի ու այլևս ուրիշ իննամ-
բին չը դիմել:

Ան այդ տրվում է այս վկայականը, որպեսզի կարողանա և կրթված Ամերիկայի պաշտոն-
նական կնիքով:

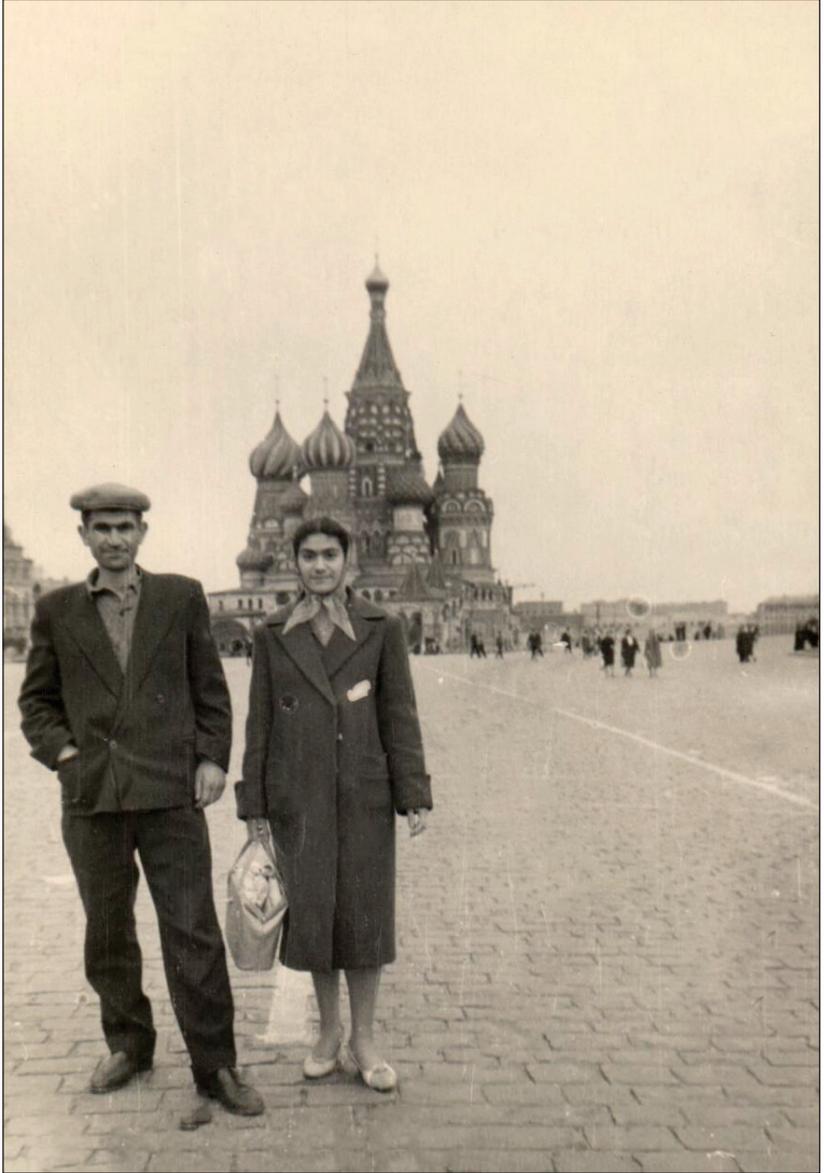
Եսթարոն
B. C. BERRY
Վարչահանուր Վարիչ Ամերիկայի
Կոմիտեյան Մասնաճյուղի



Wm Brown
W. F. BROWN
Վերընդհանրային Վարիչ Ամերիկայի
և Կիսայան Մասնաճյուղի

1924 *հունիս* « 16 » Ամերիկական

Certificate of Graduation
issued to Siranush Martirosyan
by the Near East Relief on June 16, 1924



*With younger brother Hrachik
on the Red Square
Moscow, 1960*



Graduate of the Khachatur
Abovyan Pedagogical
Institute, 1960



Chemistry Teacher of the
Yerevan State Medical
College, 1985



Rima Khachatryan, photo portrait

Windsor Castle, The Royal
Residence
Berkshire, 2004



Komitas Monument and
the Armenian Genocide
Memorial
Paris, 2005



At the Schönbrunn Palace
Vienna, 2005



Statue of Gregory the
Illuminator
Vatican, 2006



Salzburg, Austria
2015



Castel Sant'Angelo
Rome, Italy, 2006

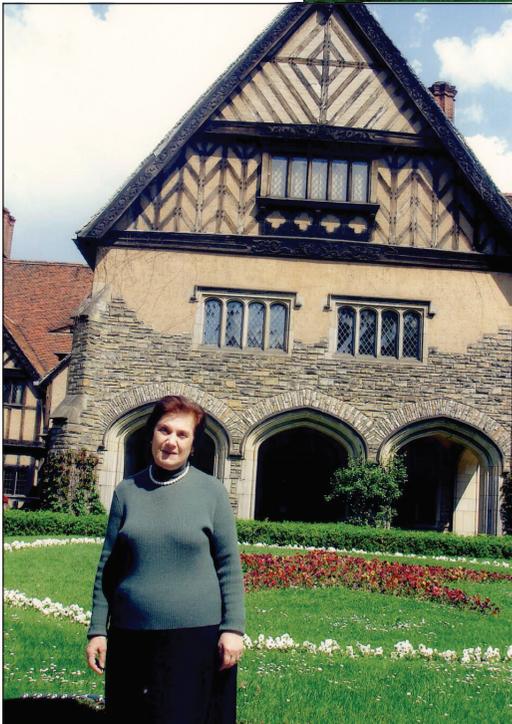
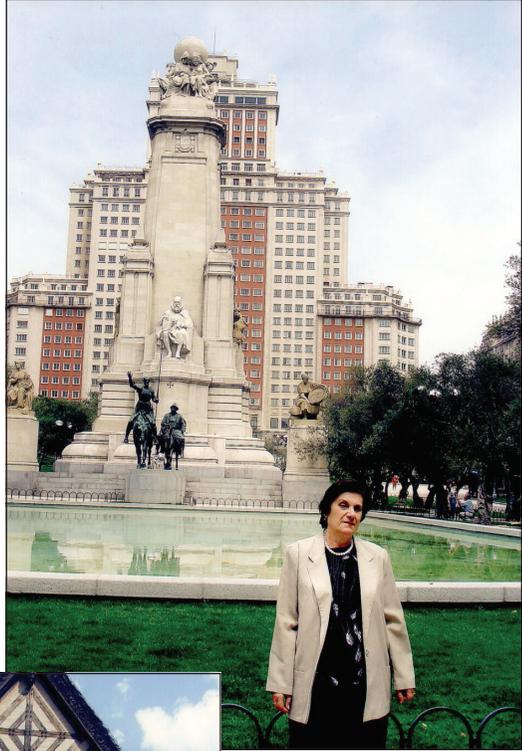


The Atomium
Brussels, 2007



The Allée des Nations with the flags of the UN member countries
Geneva, 2007

Miguel de Cervantes
Monument in
Plaza de España
Madrid, 2008



Cecilienhof Palace
Potsdam, Germany, 2008



At the Church of Our Lady
before Týn
Prague, 2008



At the cremation spot
of Indira Gandhi in the
vicinity of Raj Ghat
New Delhi, 2009



The Taj Mahal mausoleum
Agra, 2009

Monastery of Saints John and George of Choziba
Wadi Qelt, a serene oasis in the Judean desert
Israel, 2012





Panoramic view of Tel-Aviv
Jaffa, 2012



Knee-deep in Jordan River
near the place where the Bible says Jesus Christ was baptized
Israel, 2012



View of Mount Fuji from the top of the
Kawaguchi Mt. Tenjō Ropeway
Japan, 2013



Kinkaku-ji “Temple of the Golden Pavilion”
Kyoto, 2013



“The Immigrants”
near Castle Clinton
Battery Park, Manhattan,
New York
October, 2016



In downtown Los Angeles
United States, 2019



Statue of
Leonardo da Vinci
in Piazza della Scala
Milan, Italy, 2015



The Berlin Cathedral
Germany, 2008



President of Armenia awards
Rima Khachatryan with
Anania Shirakatsi medal
Yerevan, May 27, 2009

President of Armenia awards
Rima Khachatryan with the badge of
Honored Pedagogue of Armenia
Yerevan, May 28, 2017





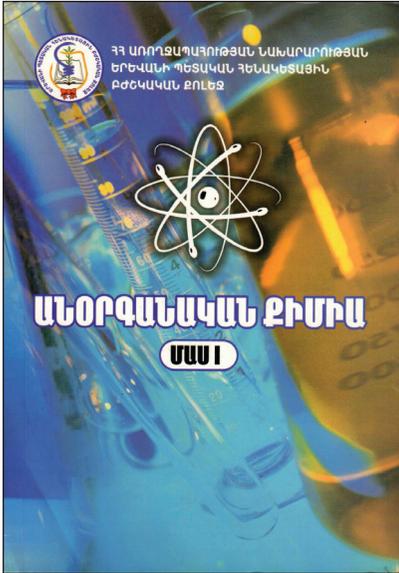
The sculpture "On a Step Above Heaven"
Author: Davit Minasyan
Marble, 2020



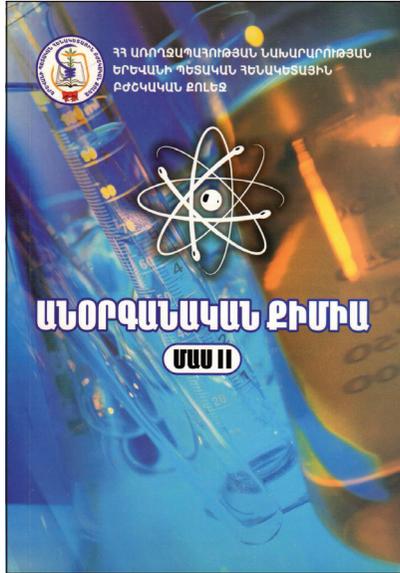
*“Armenian Mother with an Icon of the
Virgin and the Child in Her Hands”
Rima Khachatryan’s portrait derived from a photograph of early 1970s
Author: Zurab Modebadze
Tempera, 2012*



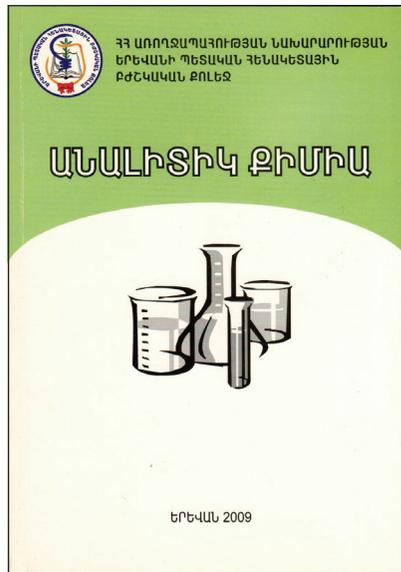
Rima Khachatryan: Portrait
Author: Ricardo Sanz
Oil, Canvas, 2020



Inorganic Chemistry (Volume I)



Inorganic Chemistry (Volume II)



Analytical Chemistry

Covers of the first edition of the textbooks authored by Rima Khachatryan

4 չգոլի շերտեր + 200g. խմոր
 + 1 ստուգի + 1 1/2 քաշակ շերտեր
 խմորի մասը
 5 քաշակի շերտեր քաշակի շերտեր
 6 շերտեր - 1 1/2 թ շերտեր, 2 թ շերտեր
 17

200g. խմոր, 2 քաշակ խմոր.
 1 քաշակ ստուգի, 0,5 թ շերտեր շերտեր
 1 քաշակ խմոր, 1 քաշակ ստուգի, 1 չգոլի
 0,5 քաշակ խմոր և չգոլի խմորի շերտեր
 խմորի շերտերի քաշակի.
 Չգոլի շերտեր խմոր, խմոր.
 չգոլի շերտեր և խմոր: խմորի
 խմորի շերտեր խմոր: խմորի շերտեր
 խմորի շերտեր խմորի շերտեր

2 շերտեր (1 շերտ).
 2 շերտեր, 1 քաշակ ստուգի, 1 չգոլի
 խմորի շերտեր խմորի շերտեր
 2 շերտեր, 1 քաշակ 1 թ շերտեր շերտեր
 խմոր, 1 թ շերտեր շերտեր
 խմորի շերտեր խմորի շերտեր
 խմորի շերտեր խմորի շերտեր

Recipes of the Stonehenge Cuisine handwritten by Rima Khachatryan



Mkrtych
Matevosyan, 1985



Mkrtych (Serzh)
Mkrtychyan, 2003



Larisa Shahnazaryan,
1960



Gohar Safaryan,
1960



Edward Tumasyan,
2015



Lena Aghababyan,
2016



Greselda Papazyan,
1995



Manik Grigoryan,
2018



Naira Nersesyan,
2018

Authors of the Memoirs about Rima Khachatryan



A Labour Day celebration
in 1970s

A Knowledge Day
celebration in 1980s



*This is how she will exist in the memory of the next generations:
with a proud stance, attractive, noble, and so feminine!*

RIMA KHACHATRYAN
The Daughter of an Émigré

Editor:

Cassandra Dunn

Computer Typesetting:

Paruyr Amirjanyan

Publisher:

Executive Coaching and Training Institute
www.ecti.am

***Printed and bound by Freestyle Print
Freestyle Solutions Ltd
(Company Number 4466173, VAT Number 796394171)
Unit 5, Rufus Business Centre,
Ravensbury Terrace,
London,
SW18 4RL***

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