



The California State University, Fresno
Armenian Studies Program
welcomes



DR. OHANNES KILIÇDAGI
17TH HENRY KHANZADIAN KAZAN VISITING PROFESSOR

**Lecture I (of three)-
Friday, September 18 • 7:00 PM**

**“LIVING TOGETHER REQUIRES DYING TOGETHER”:
CONSCRIPTION OF ARMENIANS INTO THE
OTTOMAN ARMY AFTER THE 1908 REVOLUTION”**

**VIRTUAL PRESENTATION-ZOOM WEBINAR
ZOOM Registration required-to register in advance
please go to this link:**

<https://bit.ly/armenianstudieskilicdagi>

Also streamed on YouTube on the Armenian Studies channel:

<https://bit.ly/armenianstudiesyoutube>

After three decades of Hamidian despotism, the July 1908 revolution that restored the constitution and parliament was greeted with joy and hope as people, especially Armenians, regarded it as the end of oppression and beginning of a new era where different ethno-religious groups would live freely as equal citizens. One of the most essential indicators and necessity of equal citizenship was the conscription of Christians and Jews who had been exempted from military service in exchange for paying a special tax until that date. Eventually, in July 1909 the Ottoman parliament abolished all exemptions and military service became compulsory for all males. This talk focuses on these debates and how different Armenian circles, including Armenian MPs, reacted to this idea, what they said and did before and after the promulgation of the conscription law. Armenian opinion leaders, both civil and clergy, were quite enthusiastic about the conscription of Armenian youth. The main sources are articles, news pieces in the Armenian press, speeches of Armenian deputies in the parliament, as well as official Ottoman documents.

Ohannes Kılıçdağı, received his Ph.D. in 2014 from Boğaziçi University, Istanbul, with his dissertation “Socio-political Reflections and Expectations of the Ottoman Armenians after the 1908 Revolution: Between Hope and Despair.” Between 2003 and 2017, he lectured in the Sociology Department of Bilgi University (Istanbul) on the social and political history of the late Ottoman Empire and modern Turkey. From 2017 to 2019 he was a post-doctoral fellow at the Center for the Middle Eastern Studies of Harvard University.

**For more information about upcoming events contact
the Armenian Studies Program at 559-278-2669.
fresnostate.edu/armenianstudies**

