



The California State University, Fresno  
**Armenian Studies Program and  
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present

# “THE CITY LAMENT: JERUSALEM ACROSS THE MEDIEVAL MEDITERRANEAN”

BY

**DR. TAMAR M. BOYADJIAN**

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY**



*In The City Lament: Jerusalem Across the Medieval Mediterranean*, Dr. Boyadjian will examine how various ethnoreligious cultures across the medieval Mediterranean world lamented the loss of the city of Jerusalem, and in what ways these lamentations are informed by reinscribing models from the ancient world. The critical objectives of her work is to expose cross-cultural exchange and interaction across the medieval Mediterranean through an examination of the lament tradition across Arabo-Islamic, Cilician Armenian, and Western European literary sources. Dr. Boyadjian will demonstrate how each of these cultures share similar modes of lamenting cities, all of which also coming from ancient prototypes. By understanding the loss of the city, each tradition further its political objectives of reconquering Jerusalem by simultaneously envisaging their own Jerusalem through a textually surrogate geography of the city, also informed by the theological and spiritual tradition of the significance of the city for that particular faith. It is through these city laments that these cultures allow for their own Jerusalems to live anew - through this very paradoxical mourning of its loss and destruction.

*Dr. Tamar M. Boyadjian is an Associate Professor of Medieval Literature and teaches Creative writing (poetry) and Translation courses in the Department of English at Michigan State University. Her academic research and publications primarily focus on the intersections between Europe and the Middle East across the Medieval Mediterranean, with a focus also on the Armenian Kingdom of Cilicia. Further research interests include representation of women across medieval Mediterranean literature and women and lamentation. She is author of the award winning book, The City Lament: Jerusalem Across the Medieval Mediterranean (Cornell UP, 2018), and her current book project is entitled, Eastern Princesses: Complaynt, Conquest, & Conversion in Late Medieval English Literature.*

**Thursday, September 24, 2020 • 7:00 PM**

**VIRTUAL PRESENTATION-ZOOM WEBINAR**

**ZOOM Registration required-to register in advance**

**please go to this link:**

***<https://bit.ly/armenianstudiesboyadjian>***

**Also streamed on YouTube on the Armenian Studies channel:**

***<https://bit.ly/armenianstudiesyoutube>***

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

**<http://fresnostate.edu/armenianstudies>**

