



Armenian Genocide Proclamation from California State University, Fresno

WHEREAS, The Ottoman Turkish Empire initiated an eight-year program of terror and mass execution beginning in 1915 that resulted in the deaths of more than 1.5 million men, women, and children of Armenian heritage, and which succeeded in the elimination of the more than 4,500-year presence of Armenians in their historic homeland; and

WHEREAS, The Armenian Genocide began with the arrest, exile, and murder of hundreds of Armenian intellectuals, and political, religious, and business leaders, starting on April 24, 1915; and

WHEREAS, This campaign of dispossession and murder was undertaken with a clear and ultimate purpose to annihilate the Armenian race through a practiced policy of coordinated deportation and massacre; and

WHEREAS, Attorney, Raphael Lemkin, who coined the term 'genocide' in 1943, was the earliest proponent of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Genocide, invoked the Armenian case as a definitive example of genocide in the 20th century; and


WHEREAS, Fresno has become home to as many as 50,000 residents of Armenian descent over this last century, and those citizens have enriched our state through leadership in the fields of academia, medicine, business, agriculture, law, government, and the arts and are proud and patriotic practitioners of American citizenship; and

WHEREAS, By honoring the survivors and consistently remembering and forcefully condemning the atrocities committed against the Armenian people, as well as the persecution of the Assyrian and Greek populations of the Ottoman Empire, we guard against repetition of the crime of genocide; and

WHEREAS, Leaders of nations with strategic, commercial, and cultural ties to the Republic of Turkey should be reminded of their duty to encourage Turkish officials to desist from efforts to distort facts and deny the history of events surrounding the Armenian Genocide; and

WHEREAS, April 24, 2015, marks the centennial commemoration of the Armenian Genocide, on which Armenians throughout the Republic of Armenia and Diaspora have come together to remember and demand justice for the victims and survivors of this crime against humanity; therefore, let it be


RESOLVED We, the Associated Students, Inc., of California State University, Fresno, do hereby proclaim April 24, 2015, as a Day of Remembrance of the 100th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, and urge the Fresno State community to join in activities being held on campus and throughout the greater Fresno Metropolitan Area to commemorate this solemn observance.



Edited by Kiranjit K. Dhanjan,
ASI Vice President of External Affairs

04/22/2015

Date



Moses R. Menchaca, ASI President & CEO
With support of the ASI Senate

04/22/2015

Date