

РЕСПУБЛИКА АРМЕНИЯ
НАЦИОНАЛЬНАЯ АКАДЕМИЯ НАУК
ИНСТИТУТ ИСТОРИИ

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ВАРАЗДАТ ТЕРОЯН

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И
ПУБЛИЦИСТИЧЕСКИЕ
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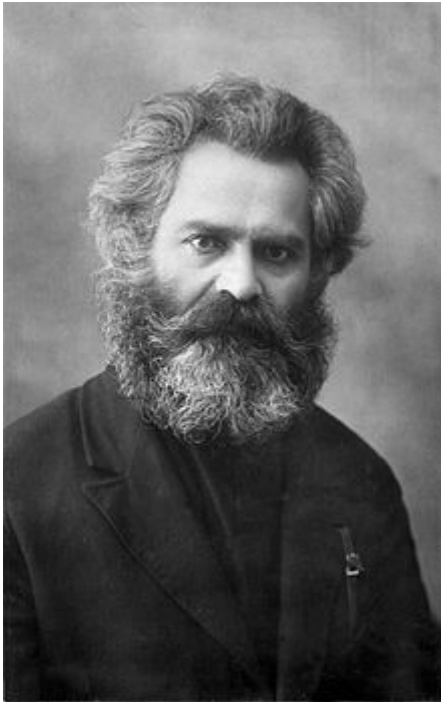
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ЕРЕВАН—2006

ԵՐԵՎԱՆ — 2006

SCIENTIFIC AND PUBLICISTIC STUDIES

Summary



VARAZDAT TEROYAN

Varazdat Mekertich Teroyan (Deroyan, 1887-1938) - an intellectual, scholar and public figure of great merit came into the field of science and public work since the beginning of the 20th century and devoted himself to a number of various problems during his short creative life.

V. Teroyan left numerous valuable studies on the difficult problems of philosophy and literature thus contributing to the development of various aspects of Armenology. He translated major works of classical philosophers from the original. He was also occupied with scientific-organizational work.

V. Teroyan was born in the city of Van (Western Armenia) in 1887/8. He was the younger brother of Vazgen (Tigran) and Zhenia (Zaruhi) Teroyans - national liberation movement figures, the Dashnaktsutyun party members.

After finishing primary school in Van, V. Teroyan went to Paris and graduated from the Philosophy Department of the Sorbonne University in 1912. His degree thesis at the Sorbonne University was "La biologie d' Auguste Comte". Then he studied philosophy in a number of universities in Germany and Austria. His doctoral thesis in Berlin was "Die Soziologischen Grundlagen der Erkenntnis". However, the latter was not finished because of the First World War.

In 1914 he went back to the city of Van and lectured in the local Central School. The government of Young Turks, taking advantage of the beginning of the First World War, carried out the genocide of Western Armenians. In 1914 and especially 1915 the massacre and violent deportation of Western Armenians broke out. In a number of regions the Armenians resorted to armed resistance. Among the first to heroically withstand the assault was the Armenian population of Van, with the active participation of V. Teroyan. The Armenian population of the city was saved thanks to the advance of the Russian Caucasian army jointly with the fighting squads of the Armenian volunteers.

On May 7, 1915, by order of Russian command, Aram Manukyan (Sargis Hovhannisyanyan, 1879-1919) - a famous public, political and state figure was appointed interim governor of Van and neighbouring provinces. V. Teroyan was also involved in the leading bodies of province governing. However, in July 1915 the Russian troops unexpectedly retreated. The native Armenian population of Van-Vaspurakan had to leave, as well. V. Teroyan, along with a group of refugees, moved to Tiflis, then -Baku.

On May 10-13, 1916 he took part in the First Armenian Congress held in Petrograd. On January 9, 1919 V. Teroyan was elected to the preliminary committee of the Second Congress of Western Armenians, then - a chairman of the executive committee by the assembly of representatives of the Armenian refugees in Yerevan.

In the same year V. Teroyan joined the American Committee for Relief in the Near East (ACRNE), where he was put in charge of educational institutions, orphanages and hospitals.

After the establishment of Soviet power in a part of Eastern Armenia on December 2, 1920, V. Teroyan was appointed plenipotentiary representative of ACRNE, and in 1922 - supervisor of educational institutions by the Revolutionary Committee of Armenia. During the years of Soviet power V. Teroyan was unlawfully arrested four times (1922, 1924, 1931 and 1935). After the last arrest he was unjustly sentenced to three years GULAG imprisonment by the special committee of the Soviet NKWD on January 4, 1936. According to the official notification, Varazdat Teroyan died on February 6, 1938, at the age of 51 in one of Siberia's concentration camps in Mariinsk.

V. Teroyan was posthumously acquitted by the Armenian Soviet Supreme Court's panel of judges' decree dated March 16, 1956, which vacated the judgment of 1936 in the absence of *corpus delicti*.

Among V. Teroyan's scientific studies are to be mentioned "Evolution Theory of Bergson", "Pan-Germanism and Historical Philosophy", "Socialism and Socialism", etc. He translated the classics of philosophy - Immanuel Kant's "Critique of Pure Reason", René Descartes' "The Discourse on the Method", Baruch Spinoza's "Ethics", Hippolyte Taine's "Philosophy of Art", etc. He also made *belles-lettres* translations, such as Anatole France's "Red Lily", Henri Barbusse's "Under Fire", etc.

In the present collection Varazdat Teroyan's scientific and public works are presented. For the first time his unpublished scientific articles, his speeches at the Congress of Western Armenian Refugees are brought into the open. There are also materials on his activities in the field of school and philosophical society establishment, as well as his project of creating a philosophical dictionary in three languages (Armenian-German- French).

For the first time an attempt has been made to present the life and work of the sincere patriot and intellectual-scholar, in an effort to acquaint the scientific and public spheres with his scientific heritage. This is especially useful for present-day historians and philosophers.

The appendix of the book deals with documents, comments and indexes. Most documents have not been published up to now. Deep gratitude must be expressed to the Teroyan (Deroyan) family, National Archives of Armenia and National Security Service Archives attached to the government of RA, for placing the documents at the disposal of the publishers of V. Teroyan's valuable collection of "Scientific and Publicist Studies".