

HISTORY OF ARMENIAN CARTOGRAPHY

Up to the Year 1918

ROUBEN GALICHIAN

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History of Armenian Cartography

Up to the Year 1918

**A study of the birth and evolution of
Armenian cartography**

**by
Rouben Galichian
Yerevan–London**

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Author's Note and Acknowledgements

The only serious study of cartography in the Armenian language was undertaken almost 60 years ago, in 1957 by the Soviet scholar Hovhannes Stepanian, entitled *Armenian Cartographic Publications of 260 years (1695-1955)*, published in Yerevan in Armenian. This work however had shortcomings which were due to the restrictions of access to outside sources encountered by all researchers in the Soviet Union. The study also has some omissions and a few errors, which the present author has tried to rectify and complete. Furthermore, Stepanian's book contains only one very low quality image, which is the first printed World Map in Amsterdam (1695).

The next study was that of Father Sahak Chemchemean of the Mkhitarist Order of San Lazzaro in Venice, which only covered a century of map-making by this venerable institution in San Lazzaro, entitled *A Cartographic School in San Lazzaro in the Eighteenth Century Venice* (1981).

In 2015 I wrote a short article on the subject, but the need for a complete and detailed work was overdue and I hope that I have been able to accomplish it to some extent. In the present study I have also tried to include reproductions of all existing single sheet maps and samples from all atlases, as well as important geography books containing quality maps, so that the interested reader may study images of the maps discussed.

In the long process of collecting data and images from various sources such as libraries and private collections I wish to thank the following individuals, who have assisted me in many ways, providing information and the necessary material

and images. My thanks go to Tigran Zargaryan – Director of the National Library of Armenia and his staff (Alice and Aida Adamyán, and Hasmik Arakelyan), Nancy Kandoian of the New York Public Library, the staff of the Matenadaran in Yerevan, Karapet Minasyan of the Armenian National Academy of Sciences and his assistant Nune Shahumyan, Marc Mamigonian – NAASR, Belmont, Mass., Boris Adjemian – Nubarian Library Paris, Anelka Grigoryan – History Museum of Yerevan, Gary Lind-Sinianian – Armenian Museum of America, Watertown, Mass., Ara Ghazarian – Armenian Cultural Foundation, Arlington, Mass., Matthew Karanian of Pasadena for providing the image of his great uncle Martiros Kehránian's maps, Father Vahan Hovagimean – Mchitarist Order of Vienna, Anoush Amseyan – the ARF Museum, Yerevan, Baris Der-Petrosian of Vienna, and my friend and scholar Gagik Stepan-Sarkissian for doing the difficult job of editing the text.

I wish to thank and appreciate the financial assistance provided by Garni Invest Universal Credit Company of Yerevan, for the publication of this volume.

When mentioning the names of cities where the maps or the books have been published I have used the names as they appear on the original document and were used at the time. For example Tbilisi is mostly been named Tiflis, as it was called until 1918, and Istanbul is mentioned as Constantinople.

*Rouben Galichian
Yerevan & London,
January, 2017*

Transliteration

For the transliteration of the Armenian alphabet I have chosen a system very close to the Library of Congress and the American Library Association system of transliteration, making them simpler yet.

ա	a	ն	n
բ	b	շ	sh
գ	g	ո	o, wo*
դ	d	չ	ch
ե	e, ye*	պ	p
զ	z	յ	j
է	e	ր	r'
ը	ě	ս	s
թ	t'	վ	v
ժ	zh	տ	t
ի	i	ր	r
լ	l	ց	ts
խ	kh	ւ	w
ծ	tz	ու	u
կ	k	փ	p'
հ	h	ք	q
ճ	dz	և	yev
ղ	gh	օ	o
Տ	tj	ֆ	f
մ	m		

(*) sound at the beginning of a word

Some East and West-Armenian names may generally have accepted and commonly used transliterations, in which cases the accepted transliterations have been used, such as Mikael, instead of Miqael.

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Provenance – Abbreviations of map sources (shown in brackets)

- ALMA Armenian Museum of America, Watertown, Mass.
- ANA Armenian National Archives, Yerevan.
- ARF-M Armenian Revolutionary Federation's Museum, Yerevan.
- BL British Library, London.
- CMC Claude Mutafian collection, Paris.
- HMA History Museum of Armenia, Yerevan.
- HMS History Museum of Stepanakert, Artsakh.
- M Matenadaran, Yerevan.
- MAL Museum of Antelias, Lebanon.
- MOV Mchitarist Order, Vienna.
- NAS-A Fundamental Library of the National Academy of Sciences of Armenia, Yerevan.
- NLA National Library of Armenia, Yerevan.
- NLP Nubarean Library, Paris.
- RAA Research on Armenian Architecture, Yerevan.
- RGC Rouben Galichian collection, Yerevan.
- RGC-M Rouben Galichian collection, donated to Matenadaran in 2013, Yerevan.

Introduction

Whenever the phrase “Armenian geography” or “Armenian cartography” is used, it generally refers to geographic and cartographic works originally prepared in, or sometimes translated into the Armenian language. Thus, what may be called Armenian cartography, appeared much later than “Armenian historiography”, which had its primary roots in the fifth century, when the Armenian historian Movses Khorenatsi (Moses of Khoren) lived and worked. His *History of the Armenians* can be considered as the magnum opus of Armenian historiography. Today his writings are used as the most important primary source of historic information of the regional events that took place in earlier times, and even most Persian historians, when referring to events prior to the sixth century, use his writings as their main source, since from that period not many original works have survived in Persian.

Armenian geography has its roots in the seventh century Anania Shirakatsi’s magnum opus, the *Ashkharhatsuyts*.¹ This work however lacks any maps and contains only descriptions and tables of distances, with emphasis on the geographic region of Armenia.

As already mentioned, the present study is the expanded and completed version of a similar and much shorter article previously published by the author.² The article was prepared for a periodical and hence was a short one, with fewer images and map data. I have now decided to expand and rewrite the article altogether, trying to present the information about maps in Armenian as completely as possible. The study is intended for a much wider public, namely those who have interest in cartography and maps.

During the periods discussed there were also maps in European and other languages published by the Armenian publishers, but these fall outside the scope of the present study, which considers solely maps in the Armenian language.

Some of the maps discussed herein as individual sheet maps may have also appeared as inserts in some other works, such as lexicons, geography books or the like, issued by the publishers of the original maps. On the other hand there are many geography textbooks that have been published with small maps as part of the text as well. These textbooks, being specifically published for schools, are generally not included in the present study, as their application and importance as maps are rather limited. Exceptions are made for a few publications which include maps, some of which could be considered as useful maps in their own right, rather than guide maps and sketches (Figure 3.7).

As sources I have used various publications and catalogues of the Mkhitarist Order of Venice and Vienna, as well as books written on the subject by other researchers.³

In the study I have tried to include images of as many of the important Armenian cartographic items discussed in the text as possible. However, not all maps in Armenian were readily accessible or available. The originals of some listed maps are not to be found in any library or collection. These are maps and atlases that may well have been lost without trace.

Having said this, it could be claimed that some of the map images depicted in this study are appearing in

print for the first time and, as yet, no other publication has brought together to show the images of so many Armenian maps in a single volume.

It must also be said that not all maps produced in Armenia could be accommodated in this study. Many manuscript maps are kept as the property of the makers or their families and many more have been made for insertion into books or used as individual documents for specific purposes. Others, such as small reference maps inserted into book texts are mostly excluded from the present study. So too are the maps prepared by military strategists and officials, which, although being valuable sources, have not been prepared for public consumption.⁴

The book covers Armenian cartography from its beginnings until 1918. The end date is chosen since in that year the first independent Armenian Republic was established. Since 1915 – the beginning of the Armenian Genocide perpetrated by the Ottoman Empire – most cultural and artistic activities in Western Armenia came to an abrupt halt and many of the cultural achievements of Western Armenian communities were lost forever. Notwithstanding all the problems, some cultural activities continued in Eastern Armenian communities, particularly in Tbilisi, Georgia which had a huge and flourishing Armenian community with active schools, clubs, newspapers and publishing houses. Here, cultural activities continued until 1918, i.e. until the first Trans-Caucasian republics were established.

Armenians in the European, Middle Eastern, North and South American Diasporas, living a long distance away from the hub of the forced marches, resettlements and mass exterminations, after the initial shock had a better chance of reorganising and resuming their cultural activities, hence the printing of books and maps continued in the printing houses

of the Mkhitarist Order in Venice and Vienna, as well as others centres of Armenian cultural activities such as Tiflis.

During the past two centuries the Armenians, who, for many centuries had lost their independence and statehood became interested in maps depicting and bearing titles such as “Armenia”, “Historic Armenia”, “Greater Armenia”, “Independent Armenia” and similar titles. Those living in the Soviet Republic of Armenia valued antique and old maps printed in Armenian or other languages, where, the name of “Armenia” or “Armenian Highlands” appear on the eastern part of the Ottoman Empire and Turkey. Perhaps these maps were the only, virtual means for them to “visit” the lands where their ancestors had once lived.⁵

It is not by accident that in many Armenian homes one can see maps of “Historic Armenia” either hanging on the walls or in the shape of books and atlases. These helped to heal the open wounds of until the recently unrecognised Genocide of 1915, which is an indication that the world at large has not completely forgotten Armenia and the Armenians. “Armenia” One should bear in mind that Armenia appears on the oldest Babylonian world map in the form of a clay tablet, dating from the sixth century BCE and does so continuously on most ancient, medieval and recent maps.

This phenomenon may be observed on the maps appearing in the last chapter of the present study (except the first three maps) which are made by Armenians, who had recently lost their homeland and livelihood. Through making and drawing these maps they have tried to remember and revive the memories of their lost homeland. The best examples of these are the maps created and drawn by Mkrtych Kheranian, a refugee teacher from Van. He drew

many large maps of his native “Van”, “Defence of Van during the 1915 Ottoman attacks”, maps of “Greater Armenia”, “Armenia according to the Treaty of Sevres”, which today can be seen in various libraries, museums and some private collections

Since Sovietisation, Armenian mapmakers have published many more maps of Armenia, the Soviet republics and the world. The first Soviet maps appeared in 1923, and since then a plethora of maps have been forthcoming, albeit published mostly in Russian.

After independence many more maps of much better quality and variety as well as many atlases of Armenia and the world have been published. These were published by the state-run organisations as well as privately owned cartographic publishing houses and concerns. However, these being outside the timing boundaries of this study, are not discussed in the present volume.

*Rouben Galichian
London & Yerevan
2016*

Part 1 – Manuscript Maps

The earliest Armenian geographic work is the seventh-century manuscript entitled *Ashkharhatsuyts* (*Mirror of the World*), penned most probably by the Armenian mathematician, scientist and geographer Anania Shirakatsi (Anania of Shirak). This work was originally attributed to the fifth-century Armenian historian Movses Khorenatsi, but research has shown that it most probably belongs to the pen of Shirakatsi. My research indicates that it has many similarities with the *Geographia* of Claudius Ptolemaeus (c. 90-168) better known as Ptolemy as well as referring to the work of Pappus of Alexandria, who also used Ptolemy's works. The reference to the work of the sixth-century scholar and traveller Cosma Indicopleustes possibly confirms that it most probably was written after Khorenatsi, who lived and worked during the fifth century.⁶ The work describes and lists the names of various countries, cities and natural landmarks. However, it is not known whether any maps accompanied the manuscript since none have reached us. Therefore it must be assumed that most likely the *Ashkharhatsuyts* is a purely geographical text.

The manuscript also includes a list of important routes for travellers, specifying distances between main towns and cities, which makes it some sort of a mileage chart.

Khorenatsi's *History of the Armenians* as well as the *Ashkharhatsuyts* are considered seminal Armenian historic and geographic works, which were translated into Latin by the Whiston brothers and published in London in one combined volume, where the *Ashkharhatsuyts* was attributed to Movses

Khorenatsi.⁷ The *Ashkharhatsuyts* was later translated into Modern Armenian, French and German.⁸

Based on the information given in the texts of this study many geographers and cartographers have drawn the map of historic Greater Armenia with its fifteen provinces, some even indicating the district divisions of each province.

Among the Matenadaran collection⁹ there is a small volume, numbered MS 1242, which is a collection of eighteen separate articles on religious, moral, mathematical and astronomical subjects, dating mainly from the thirteenth to the fifteenth centuries. The manuscript is prepared in one of the Armenian scriptoria in Caffa (present-day Theodosia/Feodosiya in Crimea). On folio 132a, inserted between a circular "table of the solar orbit" and an article on mathematical riddles, there is a circular world map, which has no obvious relation to any work contained in the volume.

This map is drawn as a standard European religious T-O type map, in line with many of its kind, this is the only Armenian T-O map known so far. For the above reason this author has written a special article about the map and has used some of the information in the present text utilising parts from his previously published paper.¹⁰

This small map was made at the end of the thirteenth and the beginning of the fourteenth centuries is the oldest Armenian language document that could be called a map (Figure 1.1). The map is circular, with the external circle measuring 125mm in diameter.

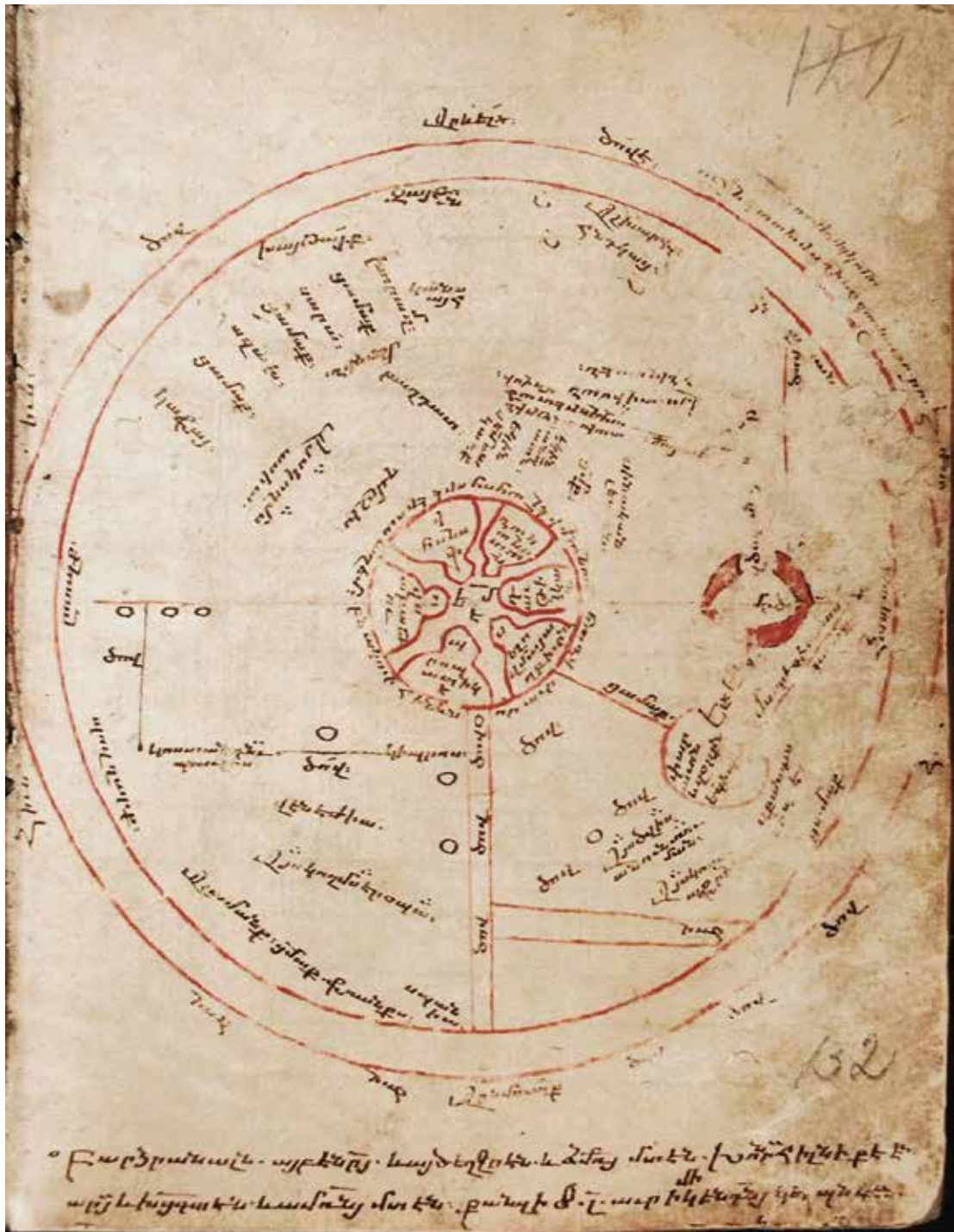


Figure 1.1 – The first medieval Armenian World Map. Matenadaran, MS1242. Caffa: 13-14th cc.

As in many T-O maps of its time, the centre of the map is occupied by the Holy City of Jerusalem, which is shown with its six gates, inscribed with their Armenian names. The extra attention paid to Jerusalem, the Holy Land and other Biblical landmarks is typical of the T-O type maps of the time, attributed to the Christian religious origin of these maps. In Armenian cartographical circles these maps are known as “psalter” maps.

As we have seen, the map can be described as of the T-O type, but its construction has been modified. The O formed by the two circles drawn in red, measures 125mm and 113mm in diameter respectively, with the size of the larger circle being dictated by the width of the page. The horizontal arms of the letter T (stretching north and south of Jerusalem at the centre) represent the rivers Tanais (Don) and Nile, separating the continents.

In conventional T-O maps this is presented as a straight line drawn from the centre of the map and northward reaches the river Tanais-Don, passing through the Aegean and the Black Seas. In this map, however, the Aegean Sea drawn in black, begins from below-centre of the map. This black line reaches Constantinople, turning up (east), as the Black Sea, which extends towards Tanais-Don. Here, the darker single red line represents the river Tanais, the traditional divide between the two continents of Europe and Asia. Two vertical parallel red lines (running from Jerusalem to the western edge of the map at the bottom) represent the unnamed Mediterranean Sea separating Africa from Europe. In accordance with the Western Christian T-O maps, the Armenian map is oriented with east at the top.

The circular legend around the city reads “The city of Jerusalem populated in ancient and recent times by the Israelites”. The considerable prominence given

to Jerusalem can be explained by the fact that the Armenian Church had, and still has, close ties with the Holy City and is one of the four custodians of the Holy Places, with a church, seminary and religious order active since the fifth century.¹¹

In addition to Jerusalem, 27 other place names are found on the map as well as number of descriptive legends inscribed outside and inside the map proper. Outside the double-circle frame of the map we note the names of the four cardinal directions as well as the legend “The all-encompassing ocean, which is in this shape”.

The least ambiguous continental division on the Armenian map is between Africa and Europe. This is shown by the pair of vertical red lines that descend from Jerusalem in the centre to the outer ocean representing the Mediterranean, identified only by the word *Tzov* (Sea). The Mediterranean contains four circular islands represented by small black circles. One circle, well to the north of the parallel lines is labelled *Kipros* (Cyprus). The other three are unnamed. One of these is located at the eastern extremity of the Mediterranean Sea, within the parallel lines, whereas the other two lie just to the north of the lines.

The inscription to the left of the stem of the “T”, below the triangle formed by three dots, reads, *Ays koghms Eropa* (This side is Europe). Around the periphery are the names of three nations, those of the *Bulgharaq* (Bulgars), *Alamanq* (Germans), and *Franks* (Franks), and one country, *Spania* (Spain). Further in from the Ocean two cities are named, *Kostandnupolis* (Constantinople) and *Venezhia* (Venice). The selection of these two cities within Europe was unlikely to have been accidental. Venice was an important hub for the trading Armenian merchants, and Constantinople, capital of the Byzantine Empire, was the most important religious and political hub outside Jerusalem.

The legend at the right of the “T” reads *Ays koghms Afrika* (This side is Africa). Between this inscription and the Mediterranean, i.e. in Western Africa, is a small circle that, being inland, can only denote a lake. Indeed, that is how it is identified, with the phrase *Ays tzovis anunn Tuman* (This sea is named Tuman). West of this water body, an unnamed river is shown by a pair of parallel red lines bearing the simple inscription *Tzov*. These lines, drawn almost at right angles to the Mediterranean, connect with the outer ocean. On the other (eastern) side of the legend indicating Africa a large red circle contains the inscription *P’aravon yev zorqn Yegipt’osi* (Pharaoh and the army of Egypt). To the right of this is the city of Alexandria (named *Skandaria*). The [Red] Sea (*[Karmir] tzov*) is shown as a bold open circle on the borders of Africa and Asia. It is outlined black, coloured solidly in red, with a gap as if to indicate the traditional crossing of the Israelites as they fled from Egypt to Palestine. South-east of this sea the inscription reads *Misr-Yegipt’os*. *Misr* is the Arabic name for Egypt, used also in old Armenian, which the mapmaker has chosen to use in conjunction with the latter day Armenian name of the country. Directly south of the Red Sea we see Ethiopia-Abyssinia, named *Hap’ash*, appearing near the shores of the surrounding Ocean. The Nile is shown well inside Asia, where a vertical (east-west) red line running from close to the eastern Ocean towards the Red Sea bearing the legend *Ays tzovis anun Nil asen* (they call this sea Nile).

The division between Europe and Asia, normally marked with the horizontal crossbar of the “T”, here is demarcated with a single red line and is more complex. As described previously, two black lines, drawn at right angles to each other and to the red lines of the continental division and the Mediterranean, indicate the Aegean and Black Seas.

A gap in the horizontal line for the Aegean, filled with the name *Kostandnupolis* (Constantinople), seems to imply that the horizontal line also represents the Dardanelles, the Sea of Marmara and the Bosphorus. North of Constantinople, the vertical black line, inscribed only as *Tzov*, represents the Black Sea. The northern extremity of the red line dividing Europe and Asia, beyond the eastern end of the Black Sea, must also stand for the Sea of Azov (for which there is no toponym) and the river Tanais. Three unnamed islands are shown in this area, all at the eastern end of the Black Sea. The whole representation may be highly schematic, but the way the Aegean Sea is shown as branching off from the Mediterranean, to the west of Jerusalem, and the east–west alignment of the Black Sea drawn at right angles to the northern end of the Aegean, near Constantinople, presents a more faithful picture of reality than many other T-O maps do. The map-maker being a local inhabitant was possibly better informed about the regional geography.

In keeping with T-O maps in general, the greater part of the Armenian map is allocated to Asia, inscribed *Ays koghms Asia* (This side is Asia). In the north, following the curve of the encircling Ocean, and on the borders of Europe and Asia, is written *Rusq* (Russia). East of Russia a series of place-names is inscribed at right-angles to the circle: *Kafa* (Caffa, the name given by the Italians to the Greek Crimean city of Theodosia), *Tsamaq* (Land), *Azach* (the city of Azov), *Tsamaq* (Land), *Sara* (Sarai),¹² *Tsamaq* (Land), *Khorazm* (or Oxiana-Khwarezm) and finally, placed horizontally near the top of the map, *Kansaih* (Khansai, a trading city in).¹³ By adding the word “Land” between the toponyms, the mapmaker has tried to show that although these towns are widely separated and distant from each other, they constitute a chain

of cities along a route that can only be the Silk Road.

In the east, in the upper part of the map close to the Ocean are the names *Khaytai* (China) and *Zaytun*, another Chinese trading port city.¹⁴ Then comes *Ashkharq Hndkats* (Lands of the Indians), followed well to the southeast by *Hndkast'an* (Hindustan, India). In the Middle Ages, the designation "India" was used loosely to refer to the lands east of Persia, Media and the Middle East, so here "Lands of the Indians" most probably refers to the northern and western neighbours of India, such as Persia as well as its neighbouring countries while *Hndkast'an* "Hindustan/India" denotes India proper.

The presence of these toponyms in the area between Europe and China bears witness to the importance of these towns and provinces in trade and commerce between East and West and is perhaps indicative of the period of the map's creation. It may also be that this is the earliest that the toponyms Caffa, Azov, Sarai, Zaytun and Khansai are found on any Christian T-O type map.¹⁵ Finally, towards the centre of the map we see the cities of *Merdin* (Mardin), *Baghdad* (Baghdad) and *Dmshkh* (Damascus), all of which also were important trading centres in western Asia.

Dating of this map has been controversial; there are suggestions by two Armenian geographers, varying from 1206 to the middle of the fourteenth century. Mkrtych Khachaturian's suggestion that the map dates from 1206 is very unlikely to be correct.¹⁶

Caffa, the first town listed in the row of toponyms along the north-eastern periphery of the map, was only a small Crimean seaside town until the thirteenth century. Only during the late thirteenth century, after the Genoese merchants leased the town from the Mongols, was it transformed into a

flourishing commercial centre, trading with the East and rivalling the Venetian-controlled city of Tanais on the Sea of Azov. The earliest mention of Caffa in Armenian literature dates from the middle of the thirteenth century. By the middle of the fourteenth century there were numerous monastic scriptoria in operation – and the majority of Caffa's population of 70,000 was Armenian.¹⁷ The presence of the city's name on the map is a strong indication that the map was made during the city's heyday, namely in the early fourteenth century. Such a date would fit the suggestion that the Armenian mapmaker, who was most likely a monk, was shown a contemporary Italian T-O map in Caffa. This was a city not only administered by the Genoese, but also to all intents and purposes functioning as an Italian city, and had one of the most suitably placed Armenian communities for intellectual as well as commercial contacts with the West.¹⁸

* * *

A manuscript in the Matenadaran (reference MS-1780), dating from 1617 and 1621, includes the translation of one of the important geographical works, Ptolemy's *Geographia* and Petrus Apianus's (also known as Peter Apian, 1495-1552) *Cosmographia*. In the manuscript there are a number of maps from Apianus's work, which have been translated and redrawn. This is one of the important geographical manuscripts in the Matenadaran.¹⁹

Apianus was a German humanist, astronomer, geographer and mathematician. His most important work is the publication of the volume entitled *Cosmographicus liber* in 1524, also known as the *Cosmography*. The book was reprinted many times as well as having being translated into over ten languages.

Figure 1.2 is the map of our solar system (or rather “earthly” system, since it is depicted as a geocentric one) of planets, which has the Earth at its centre, and depicts the planets according to Ptolemy. This map

has a large sphere of the Earth in its centre, around which all the planets, as well as the sun and moon revolve. The Earth is represented with the eastern hemisphere shown as it was imagined at the time.



Figure 1.2 – The planets, from Apianus’ *Cosmography*. Cilicia: 1617.

The legend around map 1.3 states that the circumference of the map equals to 5,400 German miles, which is 39,520 kilometres (each German mile is around 7,320 metres). This is a very good approximation even by the present-day standards. The Earth's circumference at the Equator and the poles varies from 40,055 to 40,253 kilometres.

In the same manuscript there are two other simple World Maps. These show the climatic divisions of the earth as described by the fourth-fifth-century Roman historian Ambrosius Theodosius Macrobius. The horizontal climatic division of the Earth has been more commonly accepted and used by Islamic geographers and cartographers of the ninth to fourteenth centuries, but these divisions have their roots in the Greco-Roman geography. Even Ovid (43 BCE to 17/18 CE) in his *Metamorphoses* refers to the five climatic zones (Book I: 48-51) and Macrobius's work *Saturnalia*, contains a paragraph in *Commentary on Cicero's Dream of Scipio* describing the climatic zones of the Earth during the second century BCE, while looking down at it from the heavens.

The first zonal map from the abovementioned manuscript could be seen in Figure 1.4, where the world is shown with South at the top being divided into five climatic zones,

- Southern Extreme (Antarctic)
- Southern Temperate
- Central Hot zone (Scorched belt; the Equator divides it into two sub-divisions)
- Northern Temperate zone
- Northern Frigid

The known habitable part of the world was only supposed to be the Northern Temperate zone.²⁰

In the next map of Figure 1.5, the Earth is shown with North at the top; this time with nine climatic zones in each of the northern and southern hemispheres. The climatic zones are named from the Pole to the Equator with the following legends:

- *Septerio* (North Polar Region)
- 9. -
- 8. *Ripheos* (mountain range in north-east Russia)
- 7. *Boristhenes* (River Dniepr)
- 6. *Pontou* (Black Sea)
- 5. *Rhomes* (Rome)
- 4. *Rhodou* (Rhodes)
- 3. *Alexandrias*
- 2. *Syenes* (Aswan)
- 1. *Meroe* (an island in the Nile)
- *Aequi Noctialis* (scorched central zone, where the night and the day have equal lengths).

These are repeated in reverse in the Southern Hemisphere terminating with *Climata Australia* for the South Polar Region.

Matenadaran has many other manuscripts which contain orbs and spheres depicting signs of the Zodiac, astrological tables, wind roses, solar and lunar eclipses, etc, but these are mainly diagrams and can hardly be considered as maps, hence they have not been considered in this study.²¹

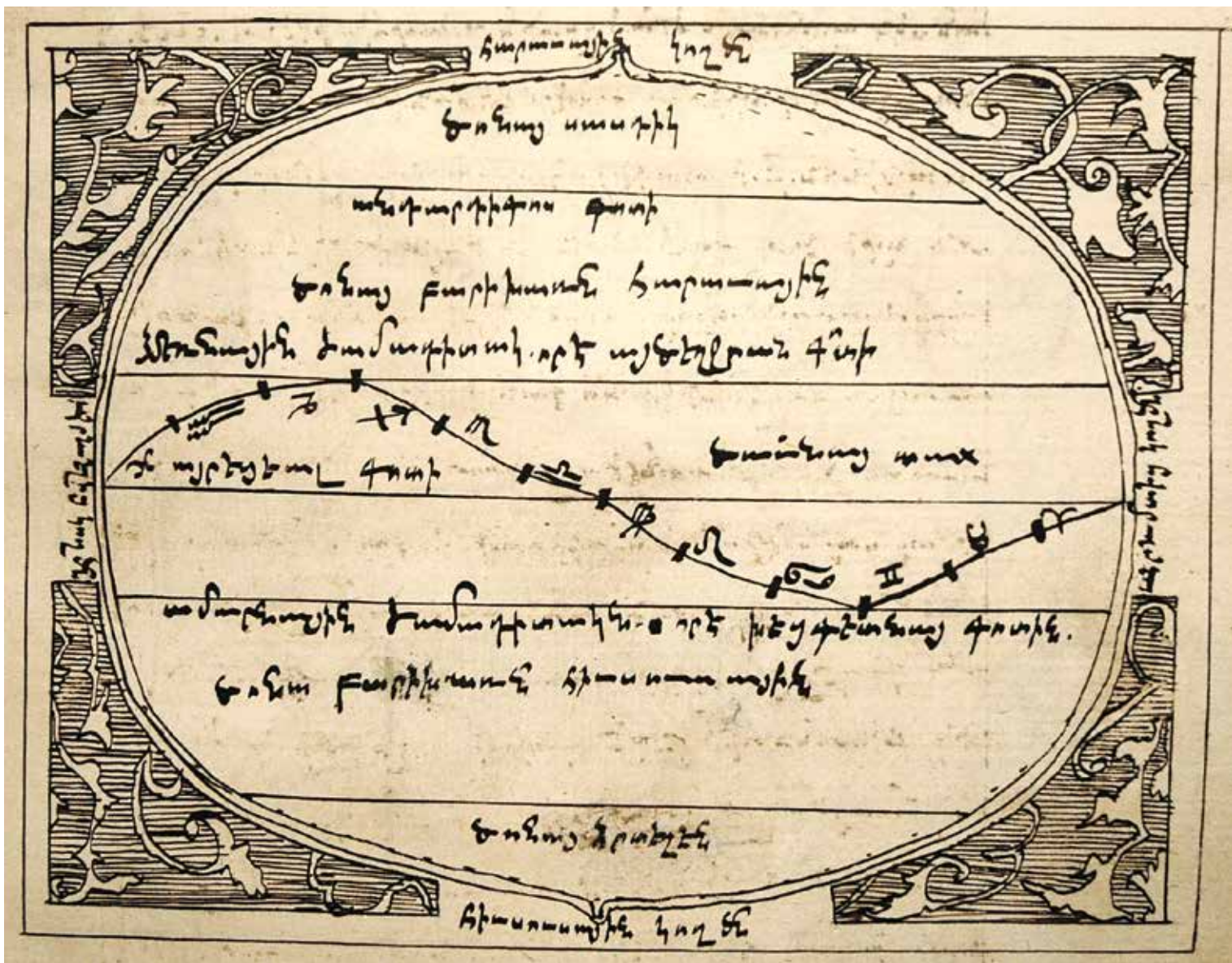


Figure 1.4 – The Earth with climatic zones, from Apianus’ *Cosmography*. Cilicia: 1617.
 On the map North is at the bottom.

During 1990 in the storage vaults of the Bologna University a manuscript map was discovered which proved to be in Armenian. As luck would have it, the university had a resident Classical Armenian professor, Gabriella Uluhogian, who was surprised to see this huge manuscript map. She established that the map bears the date of 1691, measuring 1.20 x 3.58m and was made in Constantinople. According to its legends, the map was made by the order of the Italian Count Lodovico Ferdinando Marsili of Bologna, who then had it translated into German, and sent to Germany and the original was sent to storage in Bologna University, where it was discovered 300 years later (Figure 1.6).

After detailed study of the map Gabriella Uluhogian translated all the texts and the cartouches of the map into Italian, which appear in her scholarly work entitled *An Antique Map of Armenia*.²²

The map is drawn on vellum and has two large cartouche colophons specifying the maker to be an

Armenian scientist, musician, historian and physician named Yeremia Chelebi K'eomurtjean of Constantinople (1637-1695). His other works of importance are *The Four Hundred Year History of the Ottoman Empire* and the *History of Constantinople*.

In one of the cartouches of the map he provides a detailed account of the person ordering the map, and how together with his son they compiled and drew the map, providing on it the required information. The map shows all the Armenian religious centres, churches and monasteries located inside the Ottoman Empire, as well as in Historic Armenia, Artsakh (Karabagh) and some neighbouring countries. Each toponym is shown by a legend accompanied by a small cartouche of descriptive text. Some larger monastic compounds also have markings specifying the rank of their religious leaders. The area covered is from Constantinople in the west to Artsakh (Karabagh) in the east and Jerusalem in the south.

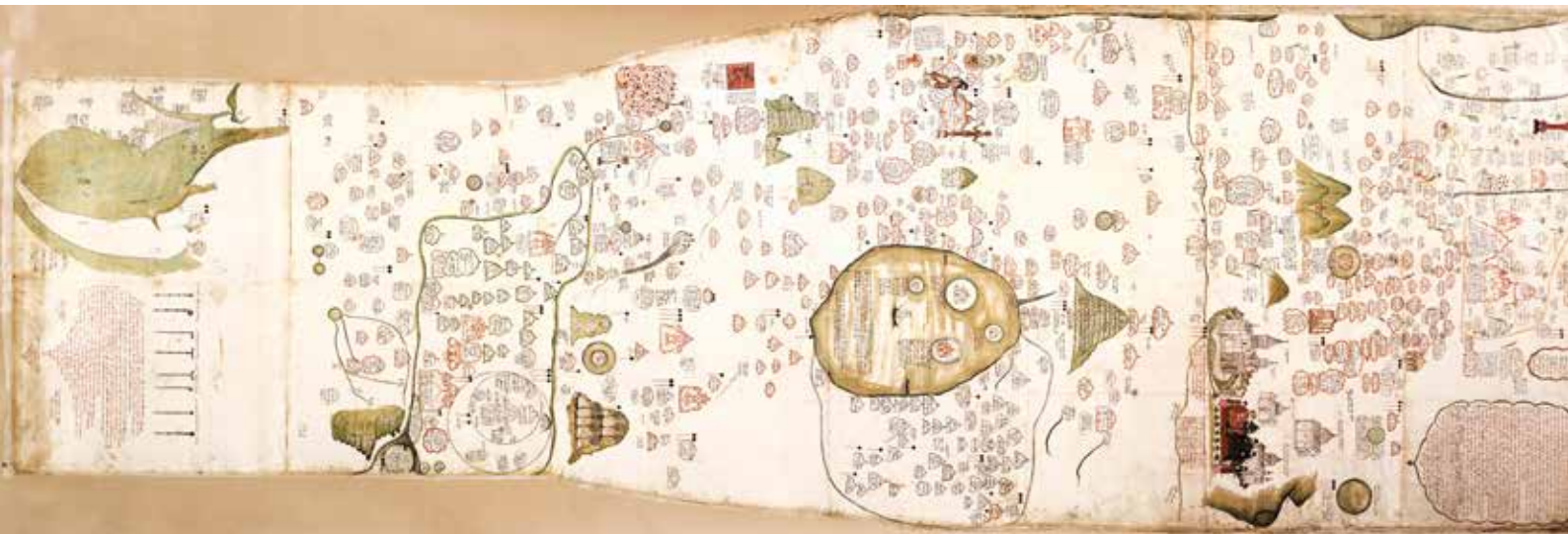


Figure 1.6 – Keomurtjean's map of the Armenian churches and monasteries. Constantinople: 1691.

One of the details of the map (Figure 1.7) is the miniature drawing of the Holy See of Echmiadzin, where the head of the Armenian Apostolic Church, the Catholicos of All Armenians is shown entertaining the Persian sardar (governor), who ruled the region.

The rather lengthy text written with red ink below Echmiadzin reads as follows:

The Only Begotten Son of God appeared to St Gregory the Illuminator of the Armenians, who through a divine vision of light built this temple; he converted the brave King Trdat to the true faith wherefore not only this see is called apostolic because of the Holy Apostles, but also thanks to St Gregory it is called the see of Christ where the Only Begotten himself descended. Henceforth the successors of St Gregory the Illuminator came to be called "catholicos", that is, he was given, by singular grace, the bestowal and removal of ecclesiastical ranks amongst all Armenians, as also recounted by Agathangelos^{23, 24}

In the detail the twin peaks of Ararat can be seen, depicted sideways with the following legend under the main peak.

Here rested Noah's Ark where the mountain and the plain are named Ararat.²⁵

Most important churches of the Holy See of Echmiadzin, its main three-domed Cathedral and the two churches dedicated to the martyred virgins Hripsime and Gayane as well as the church of Shoghakat are depicted on the map. The above-mentioned hospitality scene can be seen in the midst of the churches. To the north-east of this collective of churches stands the four-peaked Mount Aragatz, the second highest mountain in present-day Armenia.



Figure 1.7 – Detail of the region between Mount Ararat and Mount Aragatz from K'comurtjean's map of the Armenian churches and monasteries, 1691.

The map is of immense importance so far as the Armenian Church and its hierarchy is concerned, since it gives the details of each monastery and church, together with any additional information about their popularity, fame and their past history.

The green expanse on the left of the map is the Sea of Marmara, with the central large green circle representing Lake Van, the centre of Akht'amar Catholicate and the church of the Holy Cross. Below Aragatz there is a large cartouche dedicated to the monastery of Saghmosavanq found in the present-day village of Artashavan, near Yerevan. In this village next to the monastery there is a flat and fertile field, which to its east has the deep gorge of the K'asakh River and to its south stands the monastery's main church (Figure 1.8).

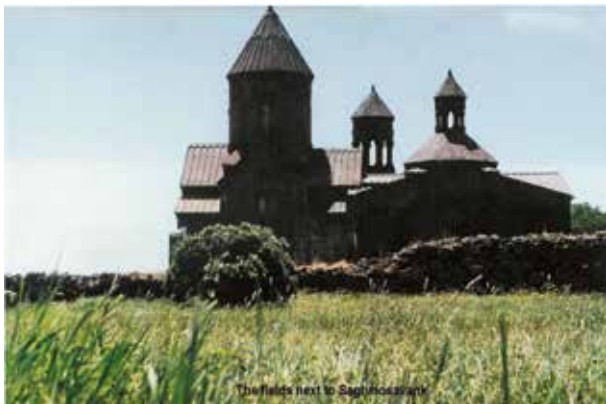


Figure 1.8 – The field near Saghmosavanq.

The field is overgrown with tall wild grass and at the present none of the villagers use it. There is a tale told by the elders claiming that the field has a fertile soil but also an abundance of venomous snakes. When the monastery was active, every spring one of the priests would bless the field, whereupon the snakes would all crawl out and jump into the gorge. The villagers could then cultivate the field without being afraid of

snake bites. Since Soviet rule, when the monastery was closed down, the snakes abound in the field and no one dares to enter or cultivate it.

While studying Uluhogian's work, this author discovered the contents of the cartouche next to Saghmosavanq (Figure 1.9) to be of particular interest. The text reads:

*Episcopal See. Saghmosavanq (Monastery of Psalms). The Holy Sign of Aragatz and Chaser of Snakes and a relic of the True Cross stained with blood. The Holy Sign that has in itself God. The Holy Sign of the Lord. The relic of the right hand of St Jacob of Nisibis. The finger of John the Apostle, brother of the Lord and the tomb of the eyewitness vardapet Gregory.*²⁶

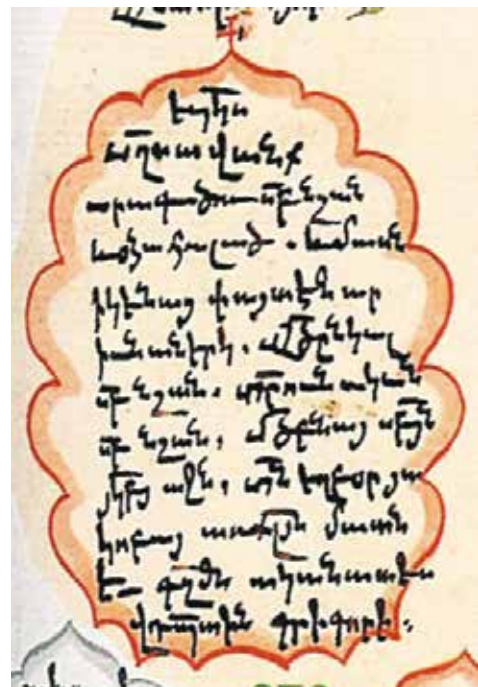


Figure 1.9 – The cartouche of Saghmosavanq.

The myth that is told today seems to be repeated in the text of the cartouche of the map written in 1691 some three hundred years ago, and this was done in Constantinople, a city thousand miles away. The map contains many other relatively lengthy cartouches and legends, and the above most probably confirms that there could be much interesting historical and mythological information hidden in these legends and cartouches, which could be a mine of information for anyone researching the period.

A few words about Count Luigi Ferdinando Marsili (1658-1730), a member of an old aristocratic and ecclesiastic family from Bologna. He had close ties with the German military and has a few works about various aspects of the Ottoman Empire. One of his works is entitled *Story of the Plants and Fishes of the*

Straits of Constantinople, and another is *The Military Status of the Ottoman Empire*. The second book details the strength and armaments of the Ottoman Army, numbers and types of cannons, its fortifications and other military information.

It looks as if K'eomurtjean's map comes to complement the information that could be useful for the Germans, providing data about the network of the Christian Armenians in Turkey. The information provided on the map could be useful during possible campaigns against the Ottomans, by supplying information about the Christian centres located inside an Islamic country. This may explain why, after being translated into German, the original Armenian version, having served its purpose, was discarded.

Part 2 – The First Armenian Printed Map

When writing about the Armenian printed maps, we should first say a few words about the beginnings of Armenian printing in Amsterdam, where the first Armenian map appeared.

Voskan Yerevantsi, an Armenian clergyman born in 1614 in New Julfa (near Isfahan, Iran), travelled to the Netherlands and in 1666 had the first Armenian Bible printed in Amsterdam. He then went on to publish fourteen more books including a *Psalter* and Shirakatsi's *Ashkharhatsuyts* between 1666 and 1670. From Amsterdam he moved to Marseilles and set up a printing house there, where he died in 1674. His close friend and colleague, Matheus Hovhannisian, was born in the village of Vanand in Nakhijevan district of Goghtan in Armenia. Travelling with his friend Voskan, Matthew had learned the business of printing from him and in 1683-5 set up a printing house in Amsterdam, where between 1685 and 1686, despite having only three letter types, he published two books.²⁷ His cousin Bishop Nurijanean of Vanand (known as Vanandetsi) earlier had also travelled to Europe in the company of his nephews Lucas and Mikael Nurijaneans, and had them instructed in the art of printing in Italy.

After his return home Thomas Vanandetsi persuaded Matheus Hovhannisian to return to Amsterdam in order to set up an Armenian printing house. Together with his nephews Matthew arrived in Amsterdam in 1694, where they established a printing house and began the task of publishing

Armenian books.²⁸ Vanandetsi's master typographer, compositor and the printer was Cousin Matthew Hovhannisian, while Lucas and Mikael Nurijaneans were the editor and the proof reader (emendator). The printing house initially operated quite successfully but financial difficulties were encountered and in 1717 the enterprise was pronounced bankrupt and its property was auctioned off.

At this time Armenian cartography, in the sense that the Europeans understood it, was non-existent; therefore when Bishop Vanandetsi decided to print a large map of the world in Armenian, this was to be a landmark for both Armenian printing and cartography.

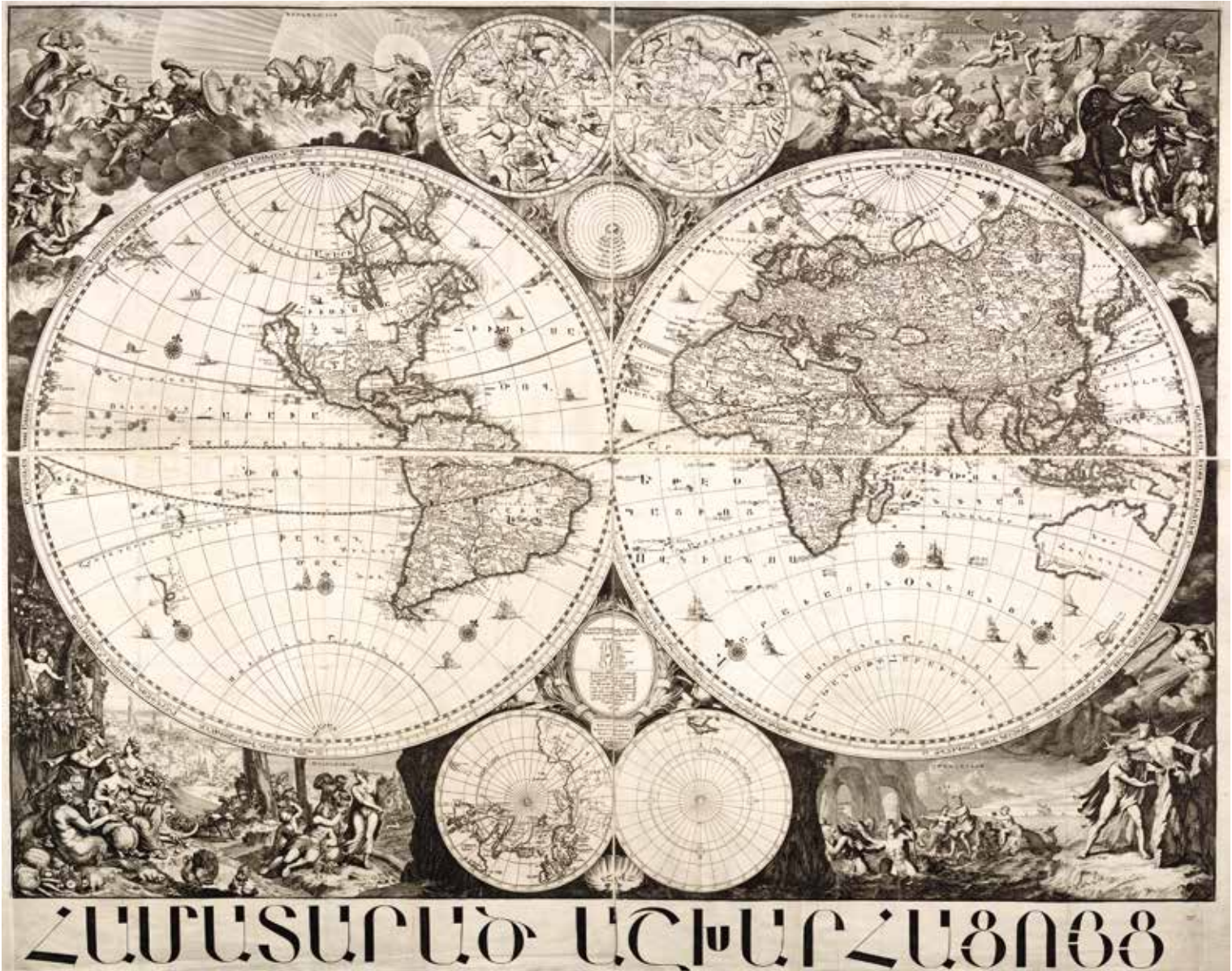
In order to have a high quality map Vanandetsi hired the best possible local masters, the Schoonebeek brothers, Hadrianus and Petrus, to prepare and engrave the copper plates of this map. They were instructed to prepare the printing copper plates of the most up-to-date map of the world with the proviso that all the toponyms and legends would be translated and engraved in Armenian. The map was printed in the Amsterdam printing house in 1695. It consists of eight sections, with an overall size of 158 x 124cm (Figure 2.1). Thus Vanandetsi's *Hamataratz Ashkharhatsuyts* (All-Encompassing World Map) became the first printed map in the Armenian language.

Bishop Vanandetsi describes the use of his map to be:

It is not for the lazy and the weak in mind but for the knowledgeable, researchers, and those men who are eager and . . . But furthermore it is useful for merchants, especially Armenian ones, who amongst the Asiatic and Eastern people are known as being famous and inventive, and are accepted by all nations and liked by many, and who travel the world over unhindered threading paths travelling from land to land.²⁹

The map shows the two hemispheres, with north-west of the Northern America and parts of Australia (here named New Holland) remaining unexplored. In addition there are the two polar and celestial maps, as well as the drawing of the geocentric system of the Earth, Sun and the planets. This is similar to a typical and up-to-date Dutch map, where all the legends have been translated into Armenian (Figure 2.2).

Figure 2.1 – Vanandetsi’s first printed world map in Armenian, the *Hamataratz Ashkharhatsuyts*. Amsterdam: 1695.



The decorations surrounding the main items are once again typical of Dutch cartography of the period. The four corners of the map are filled with mythical, astrological and traditional symbols relating to the four seasons. The main cartouche includes a list of abbreviations, also describing who the mapmakers were, praising their skill in verse. Details of these features will be discussed later.

The most important feature of the map is that all the toponyms and legends present in a modern European map have been translated and engraved in Armenian, a job which most probably was the responsibility of the four persons from the village of

Vanand in Nakhijevan who organised and operated the printing house in Amsterdam. For the first time all the geographical names appear in Armenian creating a unique precedence.

This map is considered as one of the most up-to-date world maps of the day and could be compared with other similar maps of the Dutch and other European masters such as Nicholas de Fer (map dated 1694, Paris), Jacob Robyn (map dated 1696 – Amsterdam), John Harris (map dated 1687 – London), Robert Morden (map dated 1699 – London) and John Seller's map of 1675 published in London, as seen in Figure 2.2.³⁰

Figure 2.2 – Seller's *The Latest World Map*. London: 1675.



When comparing Vanandetsi's map with that of Seller reproduced here (Fig. 2.2), it could easily be proven that the maps have much in common as far as the features and limits of the cartographic knowledge are concerned. Australia in both maps is named *New Holland* and is shown incomplete; the north-western region of North America is also incomplete, since Alaska had not yet been surveyed. Both maps contain additional orbital maps as well as mythological and decorative figures and the signs of the Zodiac.

Let us now consider the various features of the *Ashkharhatsuyts*. In the four corners of the map

there are decorative and mythological features and depictions, which refer to the four climatic seasons of the Earth.

- Figure 2.3 – On the top left we see the legend “Spring”, which includes the mythological name of *Phaeton*, the planets *Venus* and *Mars* and the Zodiac signs of *Aries* and *Gemini*.
- Figure 2.4 – On the top right the legend reads “Summer”, and the depictions of *Artemis*, *Evening*, *Rainbow*, and the planets *Mercury*, *Saturn*, as well as the Zodiac signs of *Cancer*, *Leo* and *Virgo*.



Figure 2.3 – Spring.



Figure 2.5 – Autumn.



Figure 2.4 – Summer.



Figure 2.6 – Winter.



Figure 2.7 – The two hemispheres of the stars in the heaven.

- Figure 2.5 – At the bottom left is the legend for “Autumn” with the mythological *Pomona*, *Chloris*, *Pan* and *Bacchus*, and the Zodiac signs of *Libra* and *Scorpio*.
- Figure 2.6 – At the bottom right is the legend “Winter” with the mythological *Thetis*, *Poseidon*, *Eolos* and *Boreas*, and the Zodiac signs of *Capricorn*, *Aquarius* and *Pisces*.

At the top centre are the maps of the Northern and Southern skies, with all the constellation shapes superimposed on the stars (Figure 2.7). Most of its contemporary World Maps have similar layout of the star maps. These include Rumold Mercator (1594 – Amsterdam), Jodocus Hondius (1636 – Paris),

John Speed (1626 – London), Willem Blaeu (1669 – Amsterdam), Jean Boisseau (1636 and 1645 – Paris), Janszoon Visscher (1638 and 39 – Amsterdam) as well as many others.

At the bottom of the map we see the two maps of the South and North Poles. The South Pole having yet to be discovered and surveyed remains blank. The North Pole, however is shown incomplete, as far as the northern territories of Canada and Alaska are concerned (Figure 2.8 on the following page).

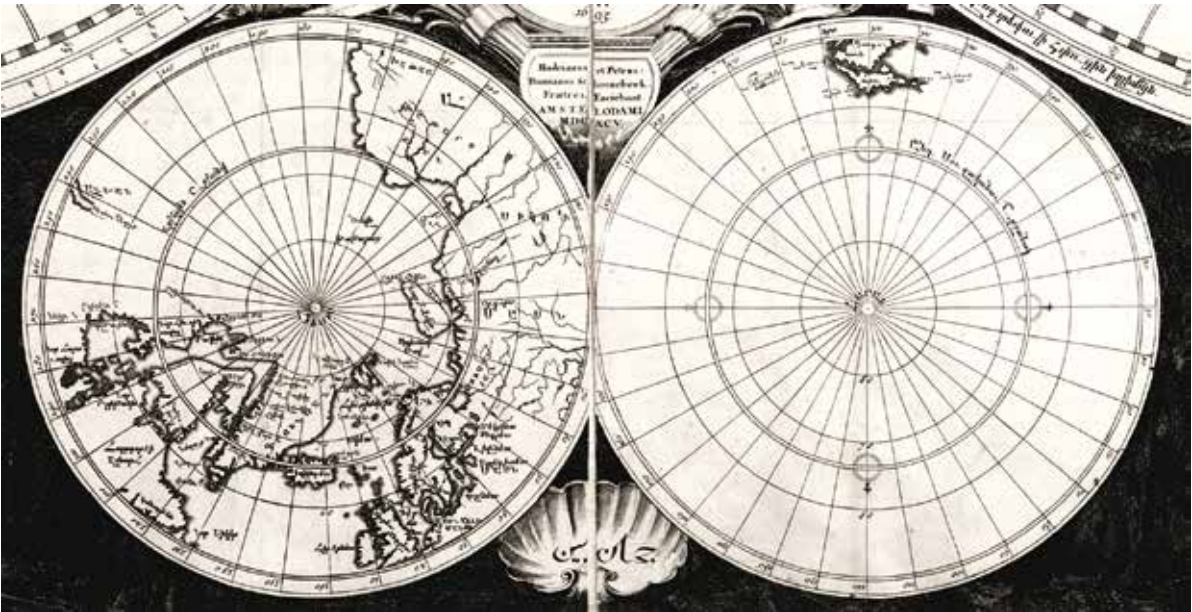


Figure 2.8 – The Polar Regions as depicted on the map.

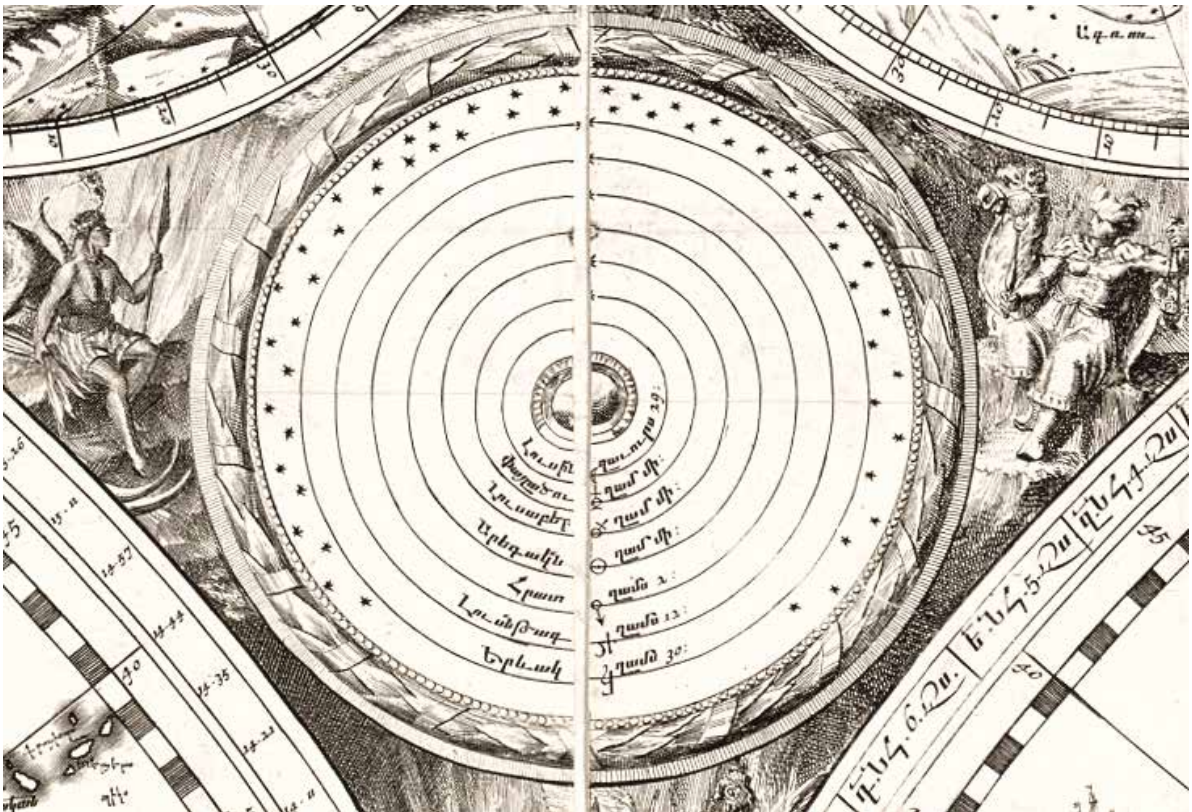


Figure 2.9 – Geocentric system of the planets.

On the map, below the stellar circles there is the representation of our planetary system (Figure 2.9). In spite of the Copernican model already in circulation, it is shown as a geocentric one, with all the planets, the sun and the moon revolving around the central Earth. The sequence of the celestial bodies in the circle is as follows:

1. *The Earth at the centre*
2. *The Moon*
3. *Mercury*
4. *Venus*
5. *The Sun*
6. *Mars*
7. *Jupiter*
8. *Saturn*

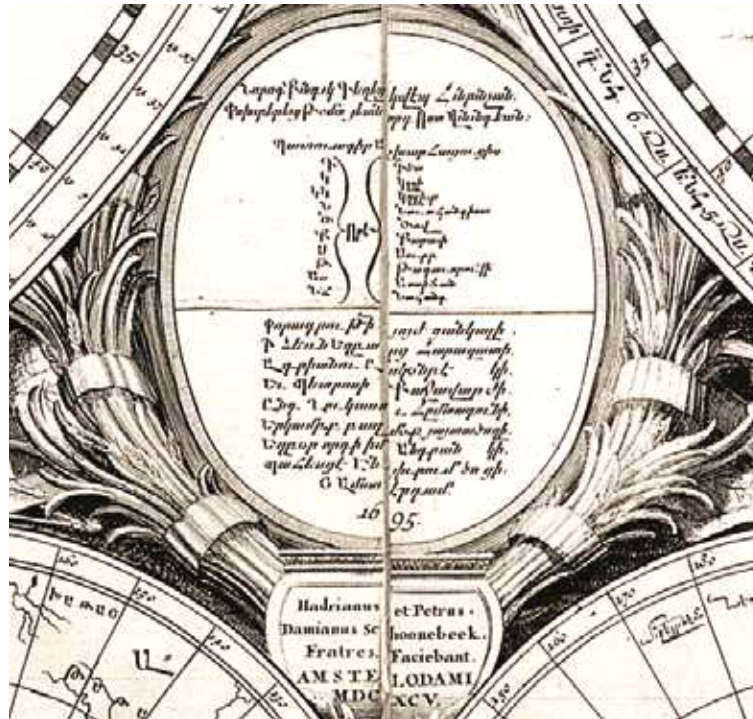


Figure 2.10 – Cartouche of the map with legend.

The cartouche of the map appears in the lower central area of the map and names of those involved in the design and preparation of the map, as well as a short text saying: “This newly engraved and beautiful map was published by Thomas from Vanand.” After the introduction there is a legend of the abbreviations used on the map, followed by a verse naming those who had worked on the map. In loose translation the verse says the following:

The beautiful engraving was made by the brothers Adrian Schoonebeek and the specialist Petrus, together with Master Lucas, my oldest nephew all of whom God should keep safe. Amsterdam, 1695.

Below the verse there is a Latin inscription: *Hadrianus et Petrus Damiani Schoonebeek, Fratres Faciebant. AMSTEL. LODAMI. MDCXCV.*

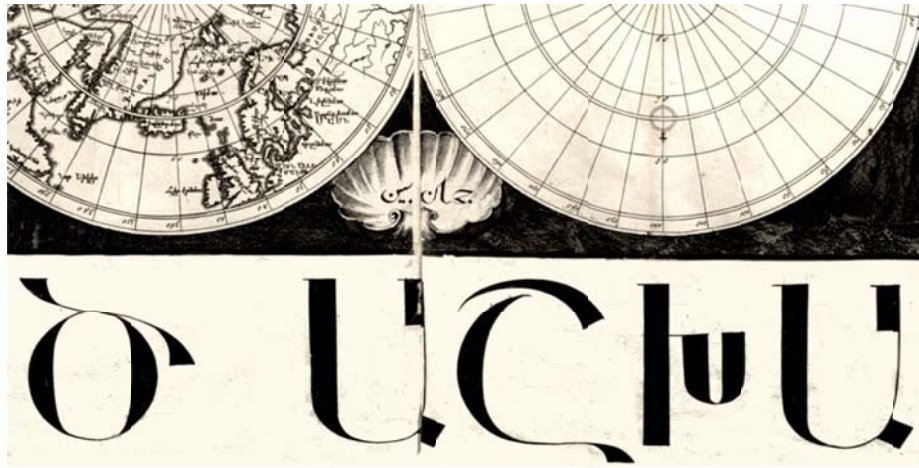


Figure 2.11 – The small Persian title on the two hemispheres, lower centre of the map.

Below the twin polar maps of the world, in the lowest central position of the map, there is a small inverted scallop shell with a Persian inscription inside it. The inscription reads ‘Jahan Bin’ which translates as ‘Viewer of the World’, which is an odd title. Normally on Turkish and Persian maps the map of the world is called ‘Jahan Numa’, which is translated as the ‘Mirror of the World’. However, in this particular map the unusual word ‘bin’ (‘view’ instead of ‘show’) has been used. I suggest that since the family of the mapmakers were from the New Julfa near Isfahan and the village of Vanand in Nakhijevan, which, at the time was under Persian rule, the mapmakers would have been familiar with the Persian language; and they inserted the Persian title on the map to show their affinity with Iran.

It must also be said that ‘Jahan Numa’ could be used in both Persian and Turkish maps, but ‘Jahan Bin’ could not be used in Turkish maps, since it would not have any meaning in Turkish. Thus perhaps the mapmakers by naming the map ‘Jahan-bin’ confirm their affinity with Persia rather than the Ottoman Empire.

In the cartography of the time it was usual to choose the prime Meridian as the one passing through a well-known landmark. These included Jerusalem, Saint Petersburg, Rome, Pisa, Copenhagen, Oslo, Paris, London, El Hierro (in the Canary Islands), the Azores, Ceuta, Philadelphia and others. The Armenian map, in line with most Dutch ones, also chooses the Islands (Canaries) as the Zero degree; the prime Meridian. It should be noted that it was only on October 13, 1884 in Washington, DC that geographers and astronomers adopted the Royal Observatory of Greenwich as the Prime Meridian, the international standard for zero degree longitude.

The region of Armenia, i.e. Lesser Armenia and Greater Armenia, was naturally closer to the hearts of the publisher, printer and the editors, who all were from the region of Greater Armenia. Notwithstanding this, the particular area did not merit any special importance and was given the same treatment as any of the other European maps of the period. The next map (Figure 2.12) shows the details of Greater and Lesser Armenia as depicted on the *Hamataratz Ashkharhatsuyts*.

The legend highlighted green says Greater Armenia, and that highlighted red is the Lesser Armenia, while the one highlighted yellow just says “Armenia”. In the territory of Armenia the cities of *Van, Erzurum, Erzinjan, Khlataber, Berkri, Arjesh, Goghnt, Malatia* and *Kharbert* (Kharput) are shown. North of Greater Armenia there is Georgia and the city of Gori, and to the east of Armenia the Iranian cities of *Maragaha, Salmas, Tabriz, Rasht* and *Baku* are shown.

One of the features of the map, the Caspian Sea, is depicted as a horizontal oval shape. This was the accepted shape of the Caspian for almost two millennia and it was only during the early eighteenth century that Peter the Great had the Caspian fully surveyed and the presently familiar shape appeared on maps.

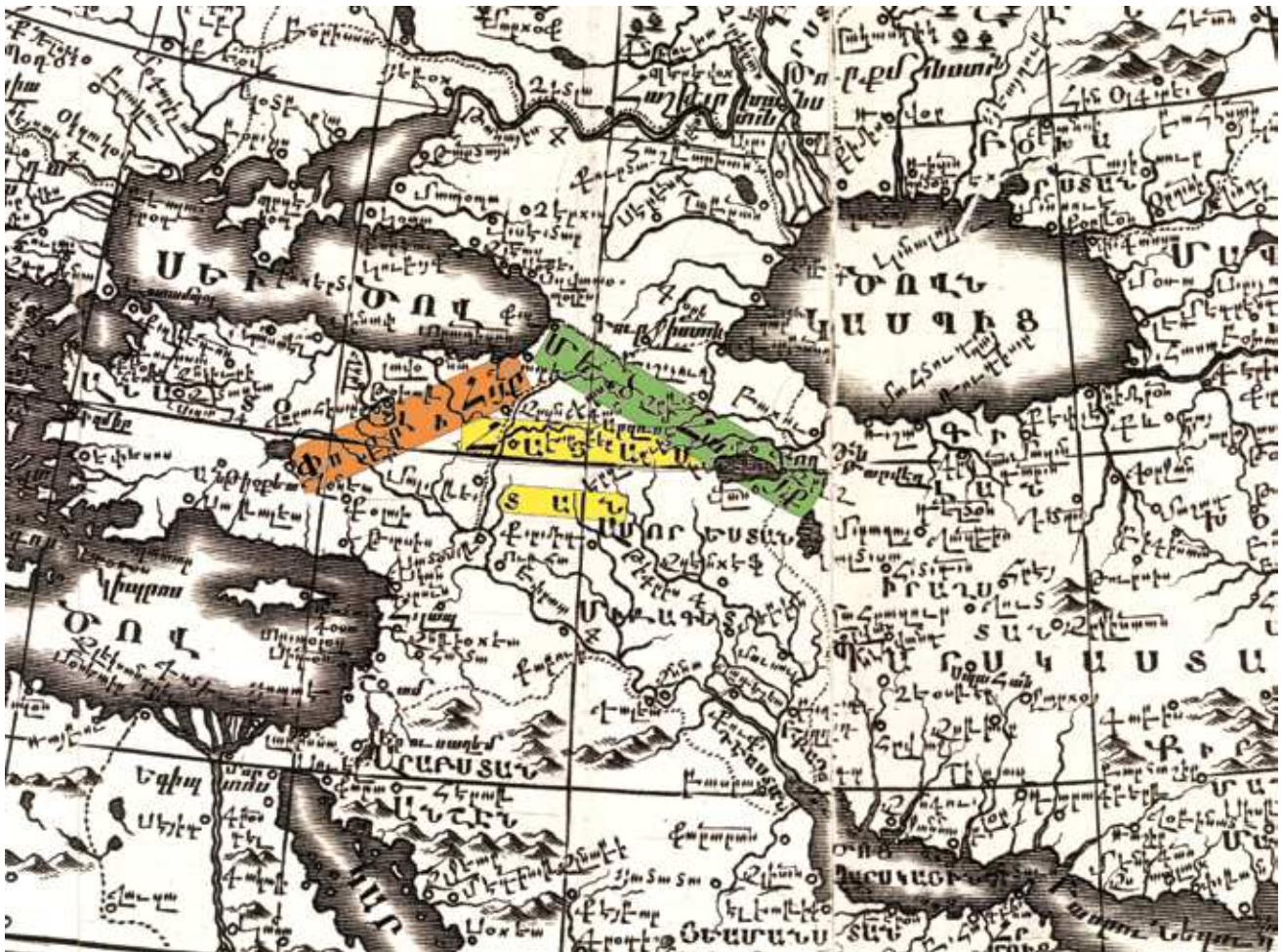


Figure 2.12 – Details of the region of Armenia from the map.

The *Ashkharhatsuyts*, having been published before that survey, still uses the incorrect form for the Caspian. In the later, smaller versions of the same map published in Vienna in 1749, the shape of the Caspian is already corrected to the vertical shaped one (Figure 3.2).

Vanandetsi's map had a great impact on Armenian cartography and laid the foundations of the preparation and publishing of many maps. One of the most important legacies was the transliteration of foreign toponyms, which created the basis for their later development and modifications.

It is recorded that after the publication of the large world map a smaller version was printed in Amsterdam in 1696, but copies of this map are, to my knowledge, non-existent.

* * *

Regrettably Vanandetsi's printing house began to have financial problems and by 1717 it was declared bankrupt. All the chattels were then sold off in an auction to pay the debts and thus all the presses, letters and plates disappeared.

Thirty-four years after the bankruptcy, Father Zakaria Alexanean of the Mkhitarist Order of San Lazzaro during a visit to Constantinople saw the plates of the *Hamataradz Ashkharhatsuyts* in the home of Poghos Bursaoghlu. The plates were being offered for sale for 500 gold coins by his widow. After much negotiation and frantic search for funds, in 1753 the plates were purchased for the stately sum of 220 gold coins and taken to Venice.³¹

During the ensuing two years the copper plates were repaired and now the publishing house in Venice began the printing of copies of the original *Hamataradz Ashkharhatsuyts* for the markets of the Armenian

communities in Turkey and Russia, where they were sold until around 1782, priced six qurush.

However, in the mid-twentieth century once again the copper plates went missing, possibly lost or discarded during major renovations of the tower in San Lazzaro, Venice.

Some fifteen copies of the Amsterdam printed *Ashkharhatsuyts* survive in all. They are in the Matenadaran in Yerevan, Echmiadzin, the National Library of Armenia, the Geographical Society of the National Academy of Sciences – Yerevan, the British Library, Mkhitarist Orders of Vienna and Venice, the Gulbenkian Library of Jerusalem, Bibliothèque Nationale de France, the New Julfa Museum in Isfahan, the Hermitage Library in Saint-Petersburg, Leiden University Library and two further copies in Tbilisi. The fifteenth copy has been reported to be the property of the late French-Armenian cartographer Zatik Khanzadean, but its present whereabouts are not known.³²

From the same maps printed later in Venice there is a copy in Venice and one copy in the National Library of Armenia.

* * *

Soon after the publication of the *Hamataradz Ashkharhatsuyts*, its companion-cum-guide, a small volume entitled *The Key to the Recently Published World Map*, was published in 1696. The booklet is aimed to act as a user manual for the map, describing its contents in detail.³³ It provides the travelling tradesmen with additional information about the cities which at the time were trading with the East. The booklet contains the following chapters, each describing the details of the given feature:

- Note for the reader
- Prologue. Descriptions of the Zodiac, the Poles, the Meridians and other geographic basics.
- Chapter 1 – About the Equator
- Chapter 2 – About the signs of the Zodiac
- Chapter 3 – About the Meridian
- Chapter 4 – About the two tropics
- Chapter 5 – About the two poles
- Chapter 6 – About the bands of the Earth
- Chapter 7 – About Zonal divisions & Climates

- Chapter 8 – About the circle degrees, the longitude and latitude of the places
- Chapter 9 – About measures used by the geographers
- Chapter 10 – Toponyms and their climatic conditions, length of the day, longitude and latitude of the prime meridian.

The table of Figure 2.13 is a page from Chapter 7 of the book, listing the climatic zones of the world, their latitudes, climatic zone, daylight hours, etc.

Համար	Մաս	Մերիդիան	Լայնություն	Երկարություն	Կլիմայի անոթ
0		12. 0	0. 0	0. 0	անցածին
1	0	12. 15	4. 15	0. 0	առաջին է
2		12. 30	8. 34	8. 34	Երկր շարք
3	1	12. 45	12. 43		սինգ
4		13. 0	16. 43	7. 50	Երկր հարթ
5	2	13. 15	20. 33		հարթ երկր
6		13. 30	23. 10	7. 3	Երկր շարք
7	3	13. 45	27. 36		Երկր շարք
8		14. 0	30. 47	6. 9	Երկր շարք
9	4	14. 15	33. 45		Երկր շարք
10		14. 30	36. 30	5. 17	Երկր շարք
11	5	14. 45	39. 2		Երկր շարք
12		15. 0	41. 22	4. 30	Երկր շարք
13	6	15. 15	43. 32		Երկր շարք
14		15. 30	45. 29	3. 48	Երկր շարք
15	7	15. 45	47. 20		Երկր շարք
16		16. 0	49. 1	3. 13	Երկր շարք
17	8	16. 15	50. 33		Երկր շարք
18		16. 30	51. 5	2. 44	Երկր շարք
19	9	16. 45	53. 17		Երկր շարք
20		17. 0	54. 29	2. 17	Երկր շարք
21	10	17. 15	55. 34		Երկր շարք

Համար	Մաս	Մերիդիան	Լայնություն	Երկարություն	Կլիմայի անոթ
22		17. 30	56. 37	2. 0	Երկր շարք
23	11	17. 45	57. 34		Երկր շարք
24		18. 0	58. 26	1. 40	Երկր շարք
25	12	18. 15	59. 14		Երկր շարք
26		18. 30	59. 59	1. 26	Երկր շարք
27	13	18. 45	60. 40		Երկր շարք
28		19. 0	61. 18	1. 13	Երկր շարք
29	14	19. 15	61. 53		Երկր շարք
30		19. 30	62. 24	1. 1	Երկր շարք
31	15	19. 45	62. 54		Երկր շարք
32		20. 0	63. 22	0. 52	Երկր շարք
33	16	20. 15	63. 46		Երկր շարք
34		20. 30	64. 6	0. 44	Երկր շարք
35	17	20. 45	64. 30		Երկր շարք
36		21. 0	64. 49	0. 36	Երկր շարք
37	18	21. 15	65. 6		Երկր շարք
38		21. 30	65. 21	0. 29	Երկր շարք
39	19	21. 45	65. 35		Երկր շարք
40		22. 0	65. 47	0. 22	Երկր շարք
41	20	22. 15	65. 57		Երկր շարք
42		22. 30	66. 6	0. 17	Երկր շարք
43	21	22. 45	66. 14		Երկր շարք

Figure 2.13 – Geographic tables of towns. Amsterdam: 1696.

The last image of this section is a reproduction of the *Hamataratz Ashkharhatsuyts* printed in Venice around 1754. The map was printed using the plates of the Amsterdam map, prepared in the mid-1690s, therefore the changes, improvements and later cartographic information which were available during the ensuing sixty years or so are not reflected on the map printed in 1754.

The main difference of the map printed in Venice was that the figures on the four corners of the map are painted and the title of the map, instead of appearing at the bottom, is now at the top of the map sheet.

This is the copy found in the National Library of Armenia.

Figure 2.14 – The 1750s version of the world map printed in Venice, known as *Hamataratz Ashkharhatsuyts*, the original of which was printed in 1695 in Amsterdam (Figure 2.1).



ԱՐԱԾ ԱՇԽԱՐՀԱՅՈՅՑ



Part 3 – The Eighteenth Century

In spite of the problems encountered by Armenian printing presses in Amsterdam, Marseilles and other locations in Europe, the eighteenth century was to be the Golden Age of Armenian cartography. This was due to the immense effort of the members of the Mkhitarist Order of Venice, who single-handedly established a proper basis for Armenian cartography.

As mentioned earlier, in 1717 the printing house in Amsterdam became bankrupt but, during the same year, a group of Armenian monks from Constantinople, under the leadership of Abbot Mkhitar Sebastatsi (1676-1749), escaping repression arrived in Venice and were given the lease of the island of San Lazzaro in the Venice Lagoon, where they established the Armenian Mkhitarist Order. The aim of the establishment was to promote Armenian religious and literary heritage, to which end they established a library, museum and research centre, followed by a publishing house. Their publishing house gradually became the largest and most active Armenian publisher in the world and for 265 years they printed and published thousands of books and established a cartographic centre on the island. Originally, the printing was done in various printers of Venice until the establishment of the printing house on the island. In addition to books, many maps and geographic works were also printed in San Lazzaro, and during the next century no Armenian maps were produced anywhere else except Venice. This monopoly ended with the establishment of the branch of the Mkhitarist Order in Vienna in 1811. The printing house in Venice ceased its activities in 1991.

As described earlier, in 1751 Father Zakaria

of the Mkhitarist Order of Venice found the copper plates of Vanadetsi's *Hamataratz Ashkharhatsuyts* in Constantinople. In 1753 he managed to purchase and send them to the Mkhitarist Order of San Lazzaro and after some repairs about 30 prints of the map were made in Venice, sold mainly in Constantinople until 1782.

After the appearance of the first Armenian map printed in Amsterdam, for fifty years there was no new development in cartography. Although printed journals and books began to appear in various parts of the world, cartography and maps were not given priority. The possible explanation for this is the fact that Armenia as an independent state did not exist at the time and the Armenian territories were overrun and divided amongst the Ottoman and the Persian Empires, a situation which dragged on for a few centuries.

The first map published after the *Hamataratz Ashkharhatsuyts* of Amsterdam appeared in the Monastery of the Mkhitarist Order in San Lazzaro, Venice. This was the Map of the Holy Land, printed in 1746, 49 x 38cm in size (Figure 3.1), which includes a general map of the regions of northern Egypt, north-eastern Arabia and Palestine, and the main region of the Holy Land is shown divided into three regions of Galilee, Samara and the Land of the Jews. The map was engraved by Father Ignatius Khachaturean in 1749. The same map was also inserted into Volume 2, Part 2 of *Dictionary of the Armenian Language* by Mkhitar Sebastatsi, printed posthumously in 1769, and inserted between pages 232 and 233.³⁴

This map was shortly followed by a smaller version (38 x 24cm) of the World Map printed in 1747, with the two hemispheres depicted on a map. This map contains far fewer toponyms and the shape of the Caspian Sea, instead of being shown in its

traditional flat oval shape, has already been changed to the newly surveyed and corrected shape as we know it today (Figure 3.2).

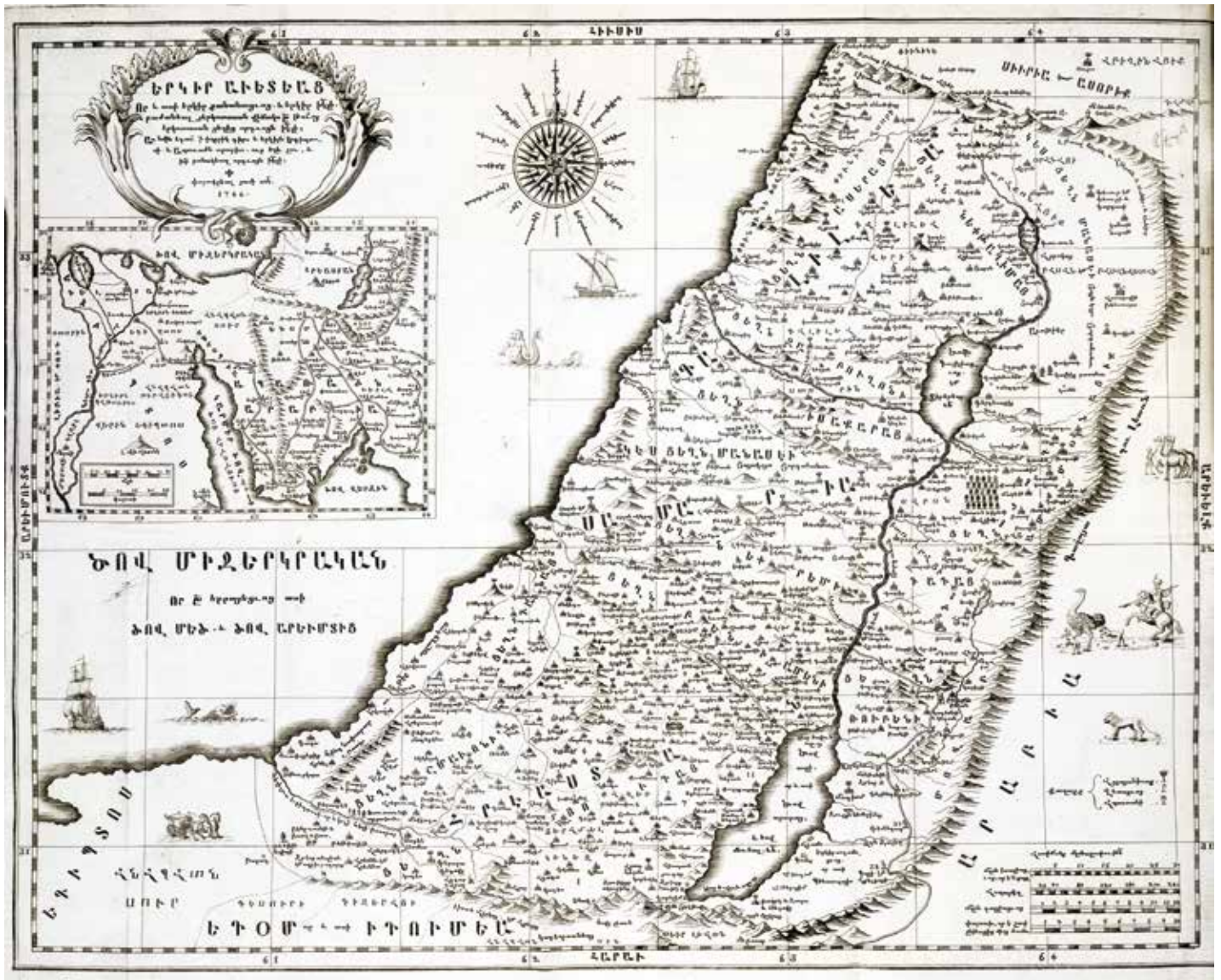


Figure 3.1 – The Holy Land. Mkhitarist Order of San Lazzaro, Venice: 1746.



Figure 3.2 – The small version of the *World Map* of San Lazzaro. Venice: 1747.

The general shape of the map is similar to Dutch and French cartographic works produced after 1720, when the first corrected map of the Caspian Sea was published in Russia.

The regions of north-western America and Australia are still unexplored and incomplete. This map was also engraved by Father Ignatius Khachatorean.

The abovementioned World Map was used by the Mkhitarist Order of San Lazzaro in Volume 1 of *Dictionary of the Armenian Language* by Mkhitar Sebastatsi, printed in 1749, and can be found inserted between pages 258 and 259. The same map was once

again used by Father Stepannos Agonts in his 1817 book of *Discourse on Geography*. Simultaneously a stellar map of the sky consisting of the northern and southern night skies was prepared in San Lazzaro, having the dimensions of 39 x 26cm. This stellar map was also used by the Mkhitarist Order in Volume 1 of *Dictionary of the Armenian Language*, and can be found inserted between pages 500 and 501 (Figure 3.3 on the following page).

In the same volume of the dictionary two further map-related drawings can be seen. One is

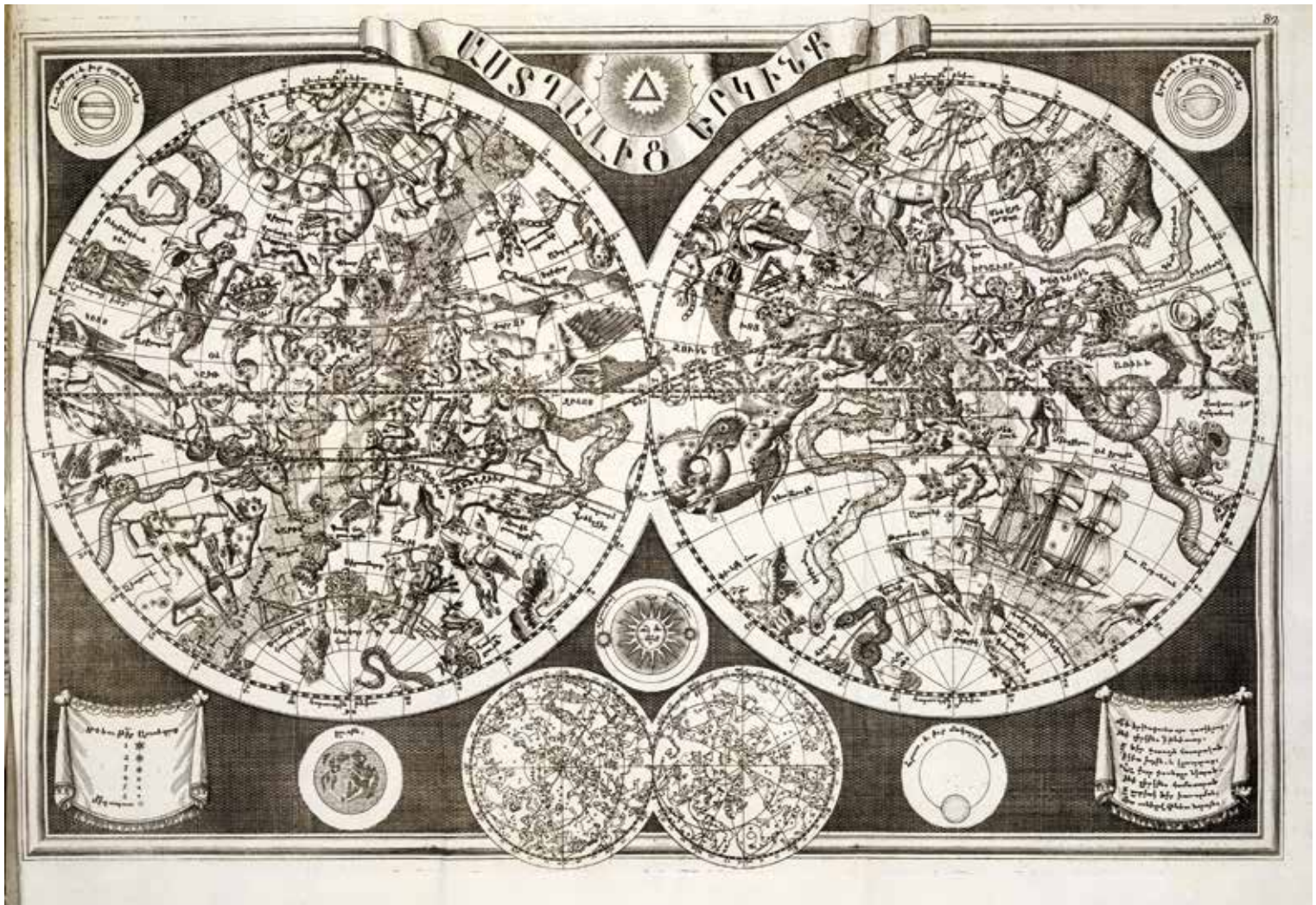


Figure 3.3 – *The Night Sky*. Venice: ca. 1747.

the depiction of the planets on the Zodiac, inserted between pages 256 and 257, and the second is an elaborate Wind Rose inserted between pages 546 and 547.

The next map that was prepared in San Lazzaro and was entitled *Map of Armenia according to Old and New Geographers*. The map is based on the descriptions of the work entitled *Askhkharhatsuyts* by the geographer Anania Shirakatsi, written during the

early seventh century. At the end of his volume the author has also provided an itinerary text, where he specifies the distances of the routes departing from various important cities and the sequence of towns and cities encountered on the road leading to other important towns and cities. This could be considered as some sort of medieval mileage chart and is the closest that one could get to a road map made during the early medieval period.

The map shows various provinces of the Armenian kingdoms of Greater and Lesser Armenia, called “ashkharh”, which literally means “world”. On this map Armenia is shown extending from the Armenian Highlands, beginning in the west roughly from the line connecting the towns of Malatia and Elazig in Eastern Turkey to the confluence of the Arax and Kura rivers in the Southern Caucasus.

This map was printed in Venice in 1751, measuring 51 x 38cm and was engraved by Giuseppe Zucchi. The abovementioned World Map was used by the Mkhitarist Order of San Lazzaro in Part 1 of Volume 2 of *Dictionary of the Armenian Language* by Mkhitar Sebastatsi, printed in 1769, and can be found at the end of Part 1, as page 265 (Figure 3.4).



Figure 3.4 – Map of Armenia according to Old and New Geographers, during the fifth-sixth centuries. Venice: 1751

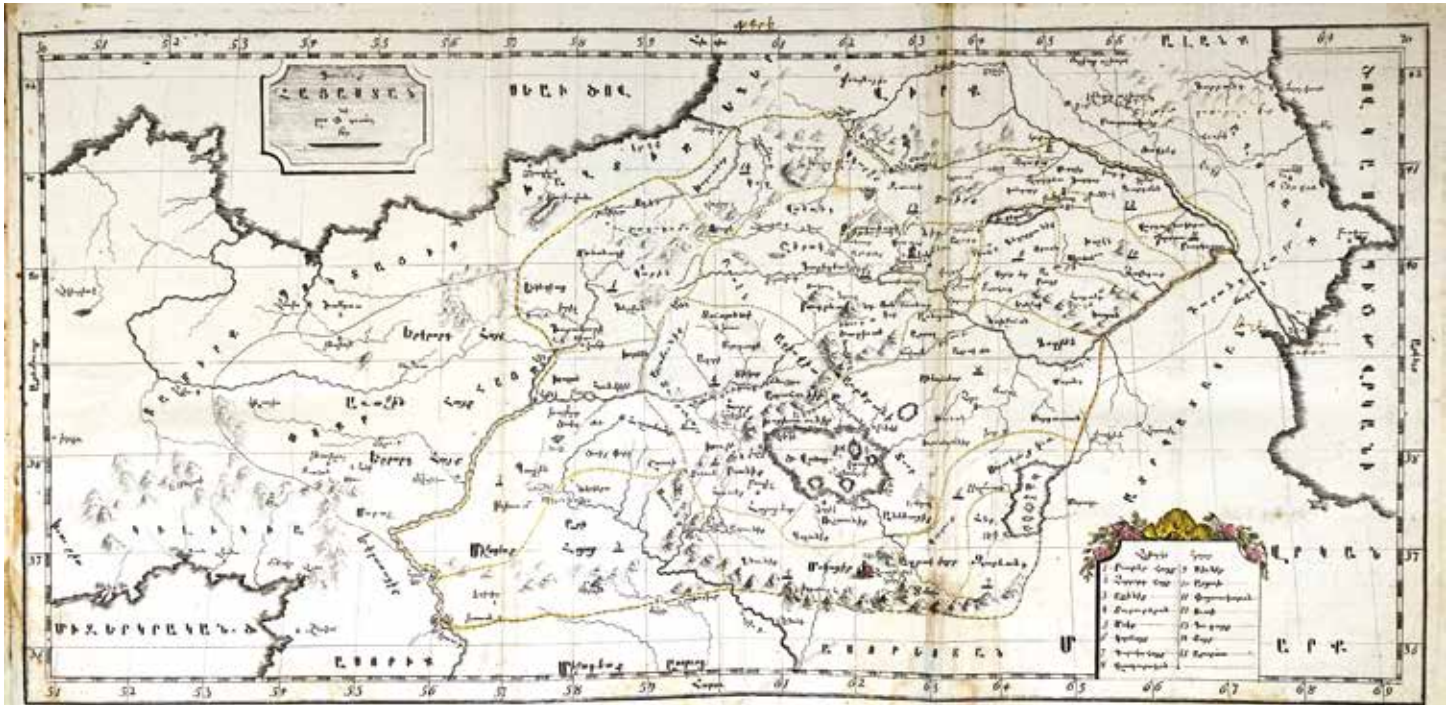


Figure 3.5 – Armenian Provinces. Venice: 1786.

A special map of the *Armenian Provinces* was prepared some time earlier than 1786, which showed the historic divisions of Medieval Armenia and measured 41.5 x 20cm, specifying no date or author. This map was folded and inserted at the end of volume 3 of Mikael Chamchyan's *History of the Armenians*, printed in 1784.³⁵ It tabulates the names of the fifteen Armenian provinces and delineates their approximate borders as seen on the map of Figure 3.5.

During the last quarter of the eighteenth century the market for maps printed in San Lazzaro were gradually stirring interest in the Armenian community of Constantinople. This interest naturally led to the production of new maps with more and more emphasis on the territories of the Ottoman Empire. Various maps of the Ottoman territories, the Black Sea, Bosphorus, Sea of Marmara, etc. were ordered by the community in Constantinople, most of which were

sent to their customers for distribution and sales.

The next large map to appear from the publishing house of the Mkhitarist Order was another map of Armenia, dated 1778. This map was prepared and printed at the request of a wealthy Armenian merchant, Shamir Shamirean (1723-1797) of Madras,³⁶ who ordered the map in memory of his son Jacob, who had passed away in India. The map measures 83 x 83cm and covers the territory of Historic Armenia and the adjacent regions (Figure 3.6).

Shamir was a patriot and his dream was the re-establishment of independent Armenia, towards which end the map was intended to be used. He sent the printed map to many important personalities concerned with the same cause and included patriotic themes on the cartouche of his map.³⁷ The elaborately detailed cartouche depicts flags

and armaments, trumpets and banners, as well as Armenian mythological and historical figures such as King Tigran the Great and King Tirdat, who converted

to Christianity at the beginning of the fourth century. This possibly is the most elaborate cartouche to be found in Armenian cartography.³⁸

Figure 3.6 – *Map of Armenia*. Venice: 1778.



This map has many similarities with the map of Figure 3.4 but highlights features other than the Armenian Provinces. Mount Ararat is shown prominently, with Noah's Ark perched on top, Echmiadzin, the Mother See of the Armenian Church features next to it, with the name of capital city of Ani on the Arax River and the monastery of Soorb Karapet located west of Lake Van. Aghuanq, Caucasian Albania is placed north of the River Kura, above the confluence of the two rivers, Arax and Kura. The city of Nakhijevan is given a prominent place, as it was home to the ancestors of the benefactor, who came to Madras via New Julfa (near Isfahan), both prominently displayed on the map.³⁹

NOTE

Dating of maps printed by the Mkhitarist Order of San Lazzaro is problematic. A few years after

publication of the original prints, the same map would be reprinted without changing the date of the plate. The maps were also used for the other geographical books published in house. These were usually printed on thinner paper, but bore the original date of the etching.

A small scale map of the region of Armenia was prepared in 1784 for inclusion in Mikael Chamchean's *History of the Armenians*. This map shows the territory of the Greater Armenia during the sixth century and can be seen on page 566 of Volume 1. The map is coloured and measures 10 x 8.5cm. On the map Armenia is divided into three parts: Upper (Eastern) Armenia, Lower (Greater) Armenia and Lesser Armenia (Figure 3.7).



Figure 3.7 – Armenia during the sixth century. Venice: 1784.

The next map appearing from the Mkhitarist press was a rectangular *World Map*, drawn according to the Mercator projection. The map was printed in 1784, and measures 43 x 29cm. The engraver was Master Elia Entazean, who was well respected for the quality of his engravings (Figure 3.8).

This is the first Armenian map using the Mercator projection to show the surface of the globe on a flat rectangular shape, together with its parabolic increase of errors in regions nearer the poles, inherent in this type of projection. This small map also depicts

the religious centre of the Armenians, the city of Echmiadzin, as well as Mount Ararat and the capital of ancient Armenia, Tigranakert, which appears on the map as an important Armenian landmark. On the map the Prime Meridian is chosen to be the meridian passing through the legendary Fortunate Islands, where, according to some, the Earthly Paradise was supposed to be located. This name sometimes referred to the Canary Islands and many maps used the Prime – “zero” meridian – as that passing through the islands.⁴⁰

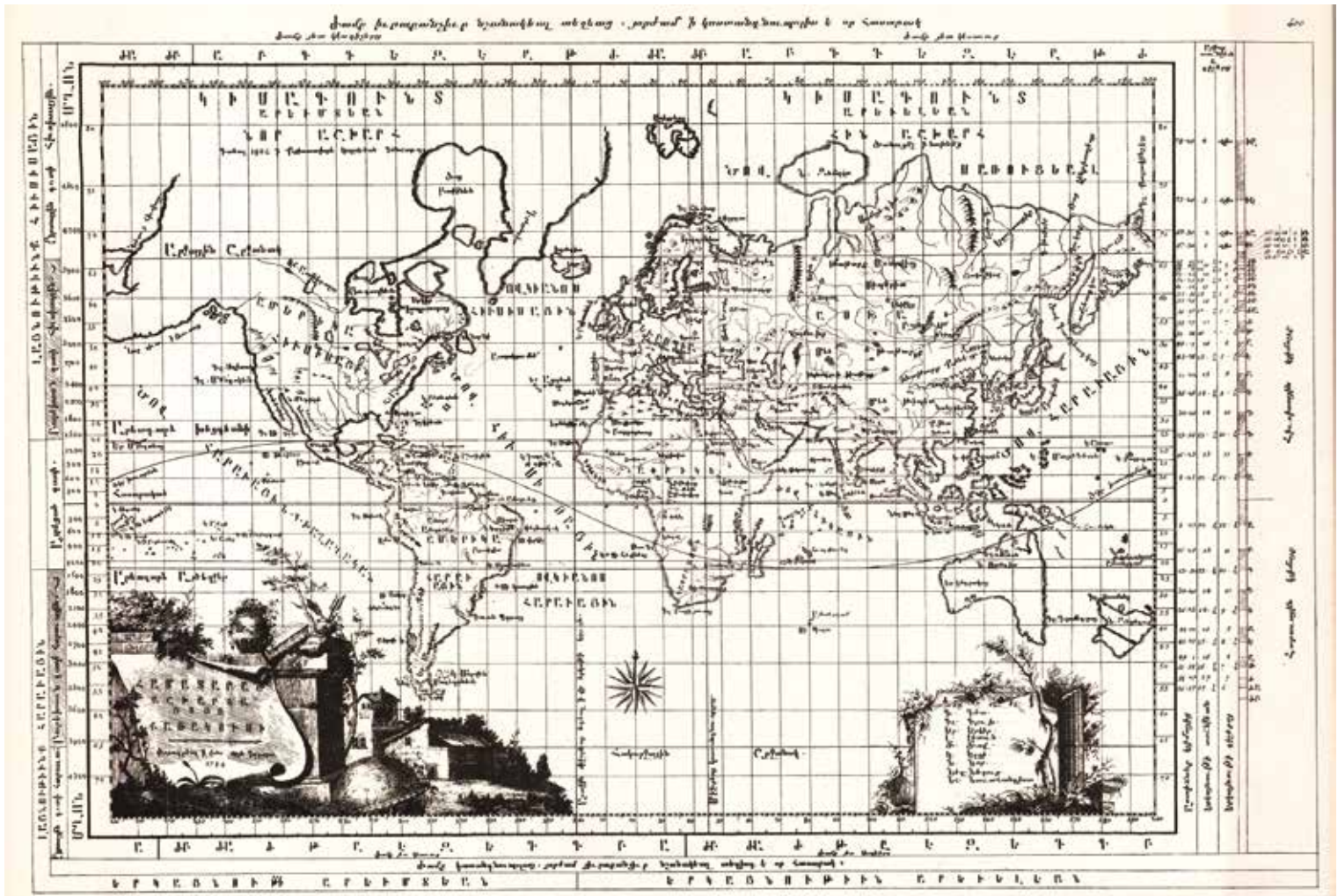


Figure 3.8 – The first Mercator projection *World Map* in Armenian. Venice: 1784. (Courtesy of Claude Mutafian, Paris)

During this period the Mkhitarist Order embarked on a project of producing maps of the four continents and those of the region of the Ottoman Empire, mainly aimed at the market of the Armenian communities in the Empire as well as for the Armenian educational institutions and schools operating therein.

The maps were similar to other modern maps being marketed during the period. By the present standards of mapping, these maps may not be entirely

correct, however they represented the state of the art in the cartography of the time.

Most of these maps were engraved by the master engraver Elia Entazean and bear witness to his art. They are provided with large cartouches bearing figures and diverse scenes. Sadly he passed away during his trip to Constantinople, leaving a legacy of only six engraved maps.



Figure 3.9 –Africa from the series of the Continents, 67 x 48cm. Venice: 1786. (Courtesy of Claude Mutafian, Paris)

The information provided on the map of Africa (Figure 3.9) is sparse. The central region and the sources of the Nile are ambiguous. North Africa is named “Land of Barbarians” but the countries of Morocco, al-Jazair (later Algeria), Tunisia, Tripoli (Libya), Egypt, Nubia and Habesh (Ethiopia) are present. The Sahara desert is named “Desert of the Barbarians” and central part of the continent is named “Ethiopia”. In the southern

part of the continent a number of tribes are named. One of these is the “Hottentots”, a name given to the local Khoikhoi tribesmen by the Dutch settlers, the Boers.

The Prime, “zero” Meridian on the map is the one passing just west coast of the continent and going through the Canary Islands. One of the Canaries bears the legend “Inhabited by savages”.



Figure 3.10 – *Asia* from the series of the Continents, 71 x 48cm. Venice: 1786.
(Courtesy of Claude Mutafian, Paris)

The map of Asia (Figure 3.10) is depicted more accurately than that of Africa, however at the eastern end of the map, East Siberia and the Sea of Japan shorelines and island details are not very accurate. The island of New Guinea is shown incomplete and many of the names used are now obsolete. South China Sea and Sunda Islands are shown in much detail and are depicted relatively accurately. The mapping was done mainly by various trading vessels of the Dutch East India and British East India companies, whose commercial interests made the proper surveys

and mapping of the Far East of utmost importance.

On the map of Europe (Figure 3.11) countries are shown with their borders shown by broken lines. These include Portugal, Spain, France, Germany, Holland, Flanders (Belgium), Switzerland, Hungary, Romania, Austria, Italy, British Isles, Ireland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden (including western Finland, shown as a province of Russia), Muscovy Russia and Poland. Belarus and Ukraine are not named and the region of Ukraine is entitled "Lesser Tataria".



Figure 3.11 – *Europe* from the series of the Continents, 68 x 48cm. Venice: 1787. (Courtesy of Claude Mutafian, Paris)



Figure 3.12 – *America* from the series of the Continents, 66 x 47cm. Venice: 1787. (Courtesy of Claude Mutafian, Paris)

Greece is not named but its provinces are. The Ottoman Empire being outside Europe is not named, but the region up to the borders of Asia Minor and west of the Armenian Highlands is entitled “Anadolu”. East of this region lie “Lesser Armenia”, with “Greater Armenia” further to its east, extending to Iberia, south of the Caucasus Range. The layout of the map of Greater Armenia is reminiscent of that of Figure 3.5

The map of the Americas, entitled *America According to the Latest Surveys*, as all the other maps of the series, bears the influence of the Dutch and French cartography. South America is shown in more detail than its northern brother. Northern Canada and north-western regions of North America (see inset map), as well as the region north of California were yet to be properly surveyed and mapped, hence, they were left with relatively fewer legends and toponyms (Figure 3.12).

It must be noted that the map dimensions listed in the captions are the sizes of the original maps. Some of these maps were later reprinted for commercial reasons and the later print sizes may vary from the originals by as much as 50 per cent.

The year 1787 also saw the publication of a small map entitled *The Extended Ottoman Empire*, which showed most of the Asiatic and European territories

conquered by the Empire. The map was engraved by Elia Entazean and measures 26 x 27cm; some copies of the print run were coloured. On the map Armenia is shown divided between the Ottoman and the Persian Empires, and the Persian rule extends northwards far into the Caucasus Mountains including almost all of Georgia (Figure 3.13).



Figure 3.13 – *Extended Ottoman Empire*. Venice: 1787.

Another, reduced version of the map of Figure 3.13 was used in a calendar for the year 1789, published in Constantinople, as well as being inserted into Volume 5, part 2 of the series prepared by Father Lucas Inchichean entitled *The Geography of the Four Parts of the Earth*, issued in the year 1804.⁴¹ This map is printed on thin paper, folded and inserted at the end of the volume.

Around 1788, six small maps relating to the battles of Ancient Greece were prepared possibly for insertion into some sort of history book. These were about 15.5 x 10cm in size and were entitled:

- Plan of Athens
- Athens and its Environs
- Battle of Thermopylae

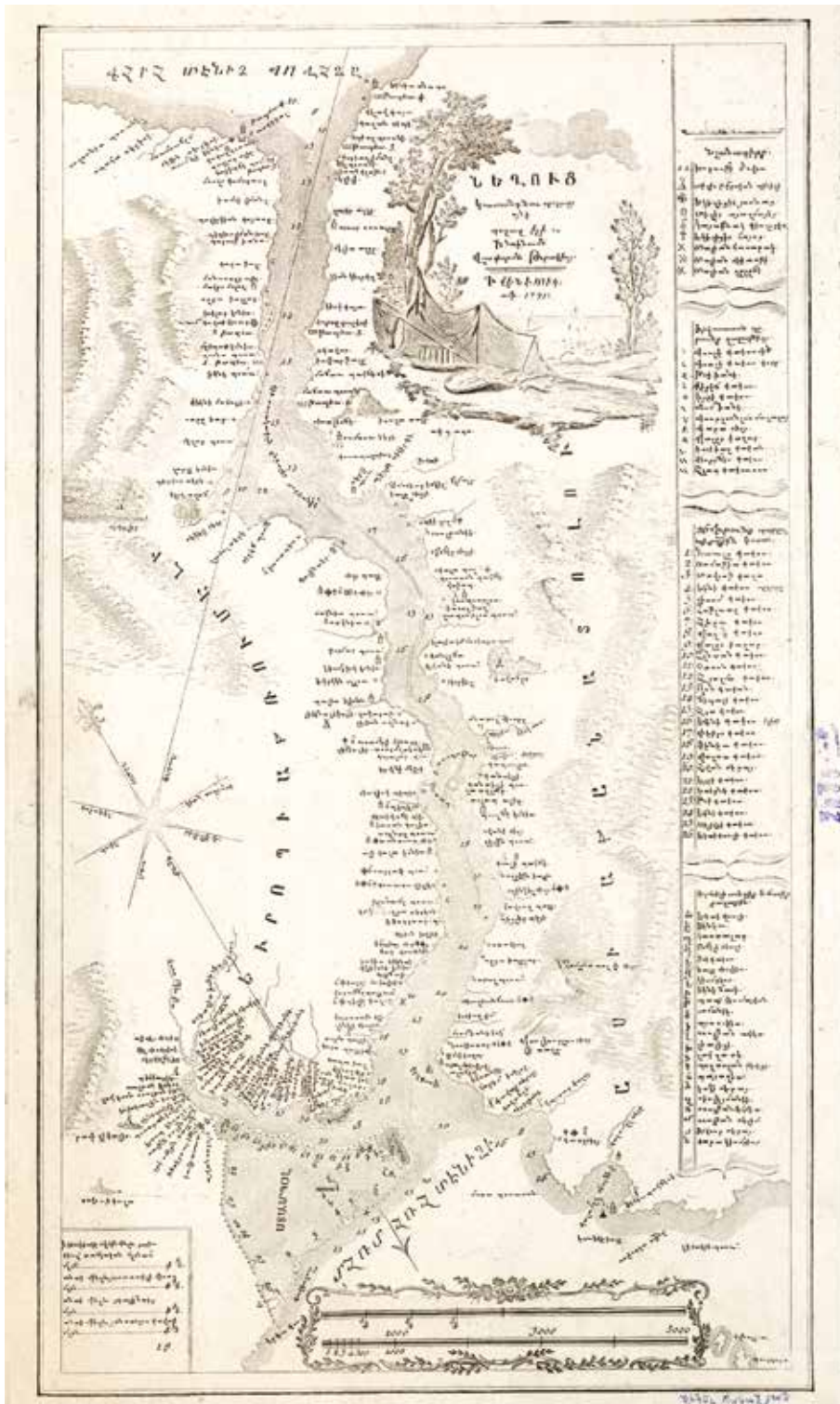
- Battle of Marathon
- Battle of Plataea
- Battle of Salamis

Examples of these maps are very rare.⁴²

Towards the last decade of the eighteenth century two important maps were also printed by the Mkhitarist printing house in San Lazzaro. These include the *Map of the European Territories of the Ottoman Empire*, depicting the northwestern and northern territories of the Ottoman Empire from Hungary, Bulgaria to the Black Sea and Tataria (Southern Russia). The map was engraved by M. Alessandri, measuring 41 x 24cm and was printed in 1791 (Figure 3.14).



3.14 – Map of the Ottoman Territories in Europe. Venice: 1791.



Having lived in Constantinople, Lucas Inchiçian was certain that these maps would be welcome in the community of the Armenian merchants. The full title of the map is self-explanatory and includes the regions around the Black Sea. The map of Figure 3.14 could therefore be an important document for the Armenian traders who still operated in the region during the eighteenth century, crisscrossing the Black Sea. His expectation, however, did not come true.

The second map was that entitled *Map of the Straits of Constantinople*, which was also printed in 1791 (Figure 3.15). The map details the ports and towns along the shores of the straits connecting the Sea of Marmara to the Black Sea specifying around 200 toponyms on the shores. This was also engraved by M. Alessandri and measured 23 x 41cm.

Similar to the map of Figure 3.13, this map was inserted into the geographical work mentioned above.

Figure 3.15 – *Straits of Constantinople*. Venice: 1791.

Part 4 – The Nineteenth Century

During the first two decades of the nineteenth century a few regional maps were published in Venice. But prior to discussing these, let us consider another important milestone in the history of the Mkhitarist Order which occurred in 1806. The branch of the order, which was set up in Trieste, escaping the French occupation was forced to flee to Vienna. Here Kaiser Franz I gave them permission to establish a monastery and the order was thus set up in the city, obtaining a grant for the use of a large building in a street, which later was renamed Mechitaristengasse. As we will see, the establishment of the Viennese branch of the order gave further impetus to the preparation and publication of maps and globes in Armenian.

The first map produced by the Mkhitarist Order of Venice during the nineteenth century was the map entitled the *Sea of Marmara*, published in Venice, in 1805, measuring 38 x 25cm. The map can also be found inside Stepannos Gyuver Agonts' set entitled *Geography of the Four Parts of the World*, Part 2 of Volume 6.

On this map the cartouche is in Armenian but all the toponyms appearing on the maps are the Turkish names written in Armenian lettering. For example the Black Sea is written as “Kara Deniz” in Armenian characters, being its name in Ottoman Turkish.

Figure 4.1 – *Sea of Marmara* and the straits leading to the Black Sea. Venice: 1805.

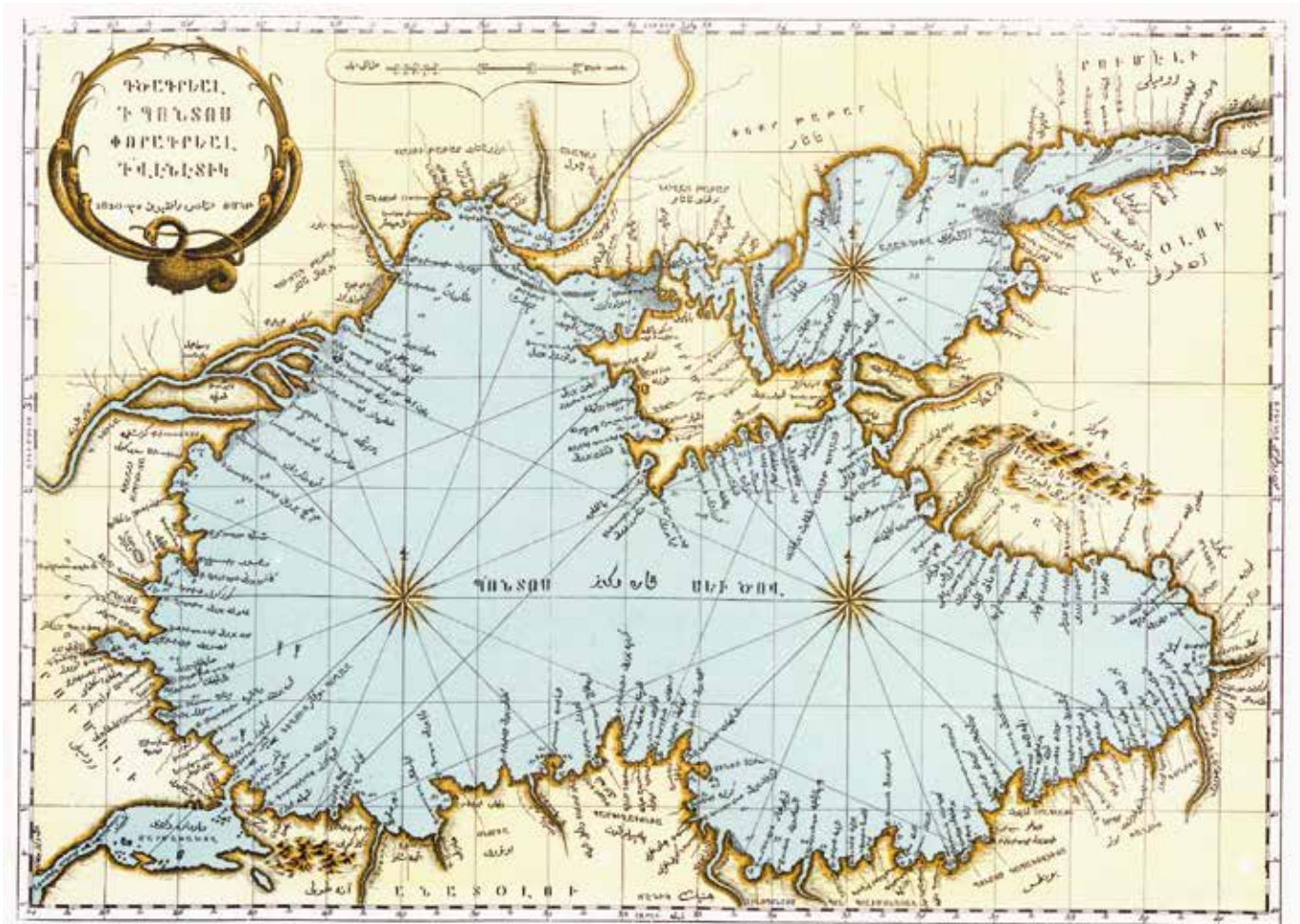


The next map published in Armenian was entitled *Pontus* (The Black Sea), printed in the year 1820 in Venice. This map measures 63.5 x 44.5cm and contains details of the ports and cities around the shores of the Black and the Azov Seas. This is the first bilingual map and portolan chart prepared in Venice aimed at consumption in Constantinople. All the toponyms are written in Armenian and Ottoman Turkish (Figure 4.2).

The third map appearing during the nineteenth century Venice was that of *Helvetia*, published in 1827, which seems to be lost.

After the sack of Ani, the capital of Armenia, in 1064 by Seljuk Turks, the population of this large city escaped and settled in distant countries and regions. Some ended up in Poland, Rumania and Bulgaria, others travelled south as far as the north-eastern corner of the Mediterranean Sea, where the Armenian Kingdom of Cilicia was established. Yet others settled in the region of the Crimea and on the shores of the Black Sea. In many Crimean cities there were Armenian communities, one of the largest being in the city of Caffa (present-day

Figure 4.2 – Map of the Black Sea. Venice: 1820.

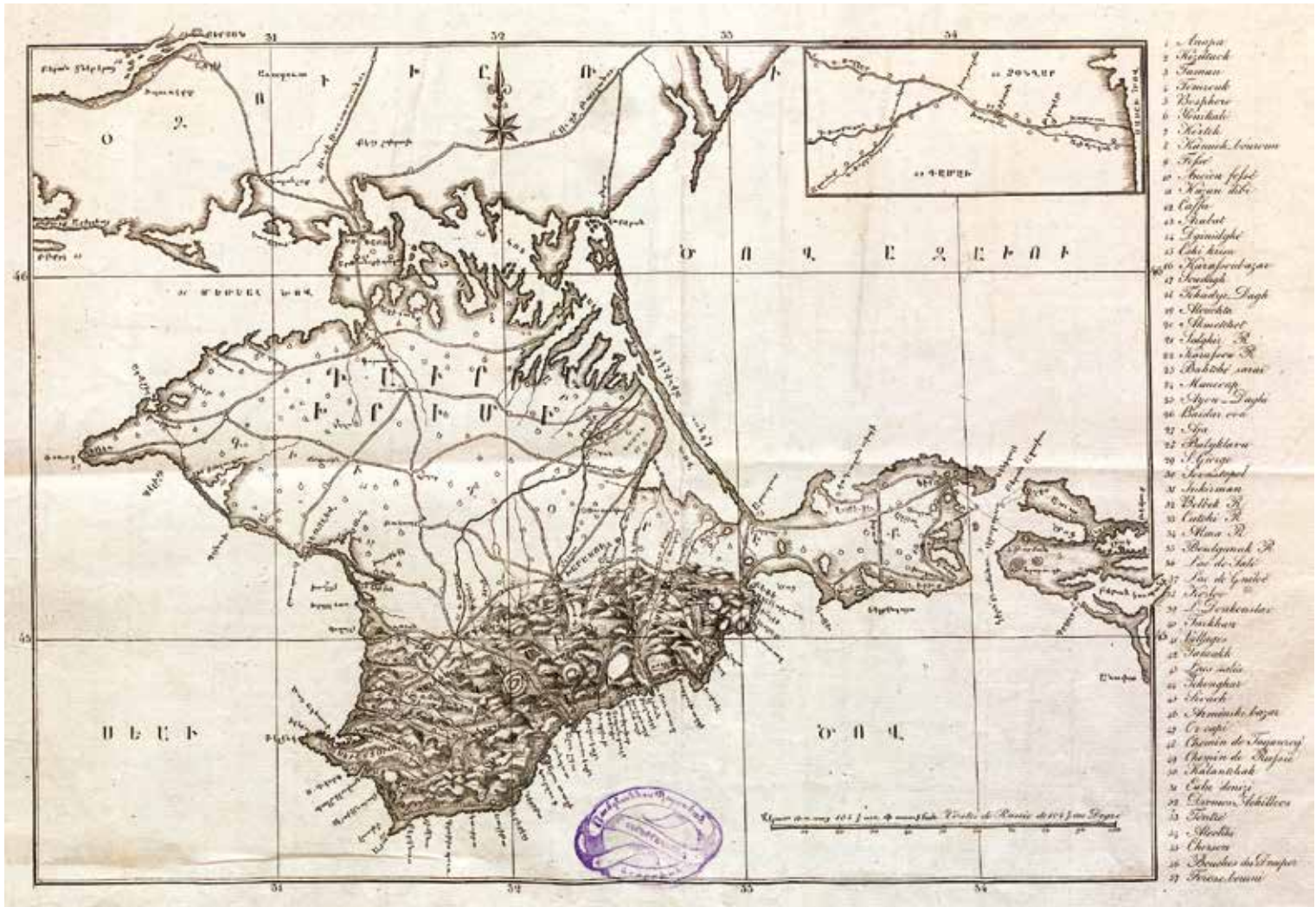


Feodosiya or Theodosia) which, during the fourteenth century numbered around 50,000. The city had Armenian schools, churches and scriptoria, where many important manuscripts were written or copied.

Since the twelfth century Crimea gradually began to be a trade centre where Armenian merchants with sizeable business houses operated, hence its importance for Armenian cartography. It must also be mentioned that the oldest Armenian map known to us, discussed and reproduced in Figure 1.1, was prepared in this city.

Figure 4.3 is the map of Tauric Crimea. The peninsula is named so, since during the Middle Ages Crimea was sometimes known by its Greek name "Taurida". This is a very detailed map of the peninsula, showing many towns and villages with their Turkish names written in Armenian lettering. Most of the toponyms are numbered. The Latin versions of the toponyms are listed outside the right edge of the map. The map measures 45 x 32cm and was printed in San Lazzaro, Venice, during the year 1830.

Figure 4.3 – Map of Tauric Crimea. Venice: 1830.



Two maps of *European Turkey* and the *Asiatic Turkey* (25 x 19cm) were published later, in the 1840s. These maps are reproduced in the following figures.

They do not include any information regarding the cartographer, engraver or the date of publication, and may have been produced for insertion into a book.



Figure 4.4 – *European Turkey*. Venice: ca. 1840.

The map of Figure 4.4 depicts the European territories under the occupation of the Ottoman Empire. These include Albania, Bosnia, Bulgaria, Dalmatia, Greece, Moldova, Rumeli (lands of the Romans), Serbia, Slovenia and Wallachia.

The next map, that of Figure 4.5, covers the Asiatic territory of the Ottoman Empire, which includes the regions and countries of Asia Minor, Georgia, Greater Armenia, part of Egypt, Kurdistan, Mesopotamia, part of Saudi Arabia and Syria.

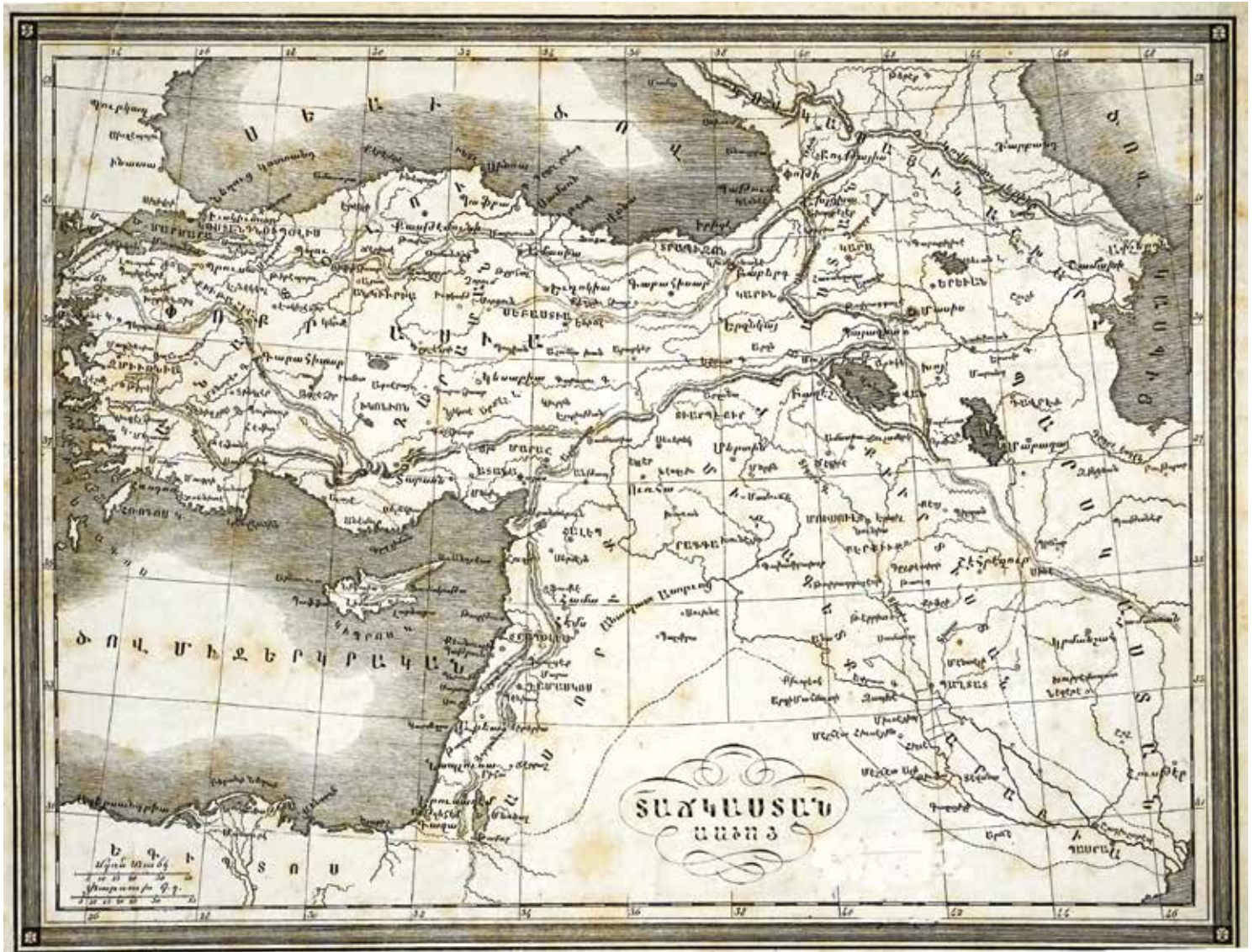


Figure 4.5 – Asiatic Turkey. Venice, ca. 1840.

The map of Figure 4.6 is a single sheet map produced and printed in 1850 by Father Alexander V. Paltjean of the Mkhitarist Order of Vienna. The main items on the map are the two hemispheres, surrounded by a number of insets which show different aspects of the world that we live in.

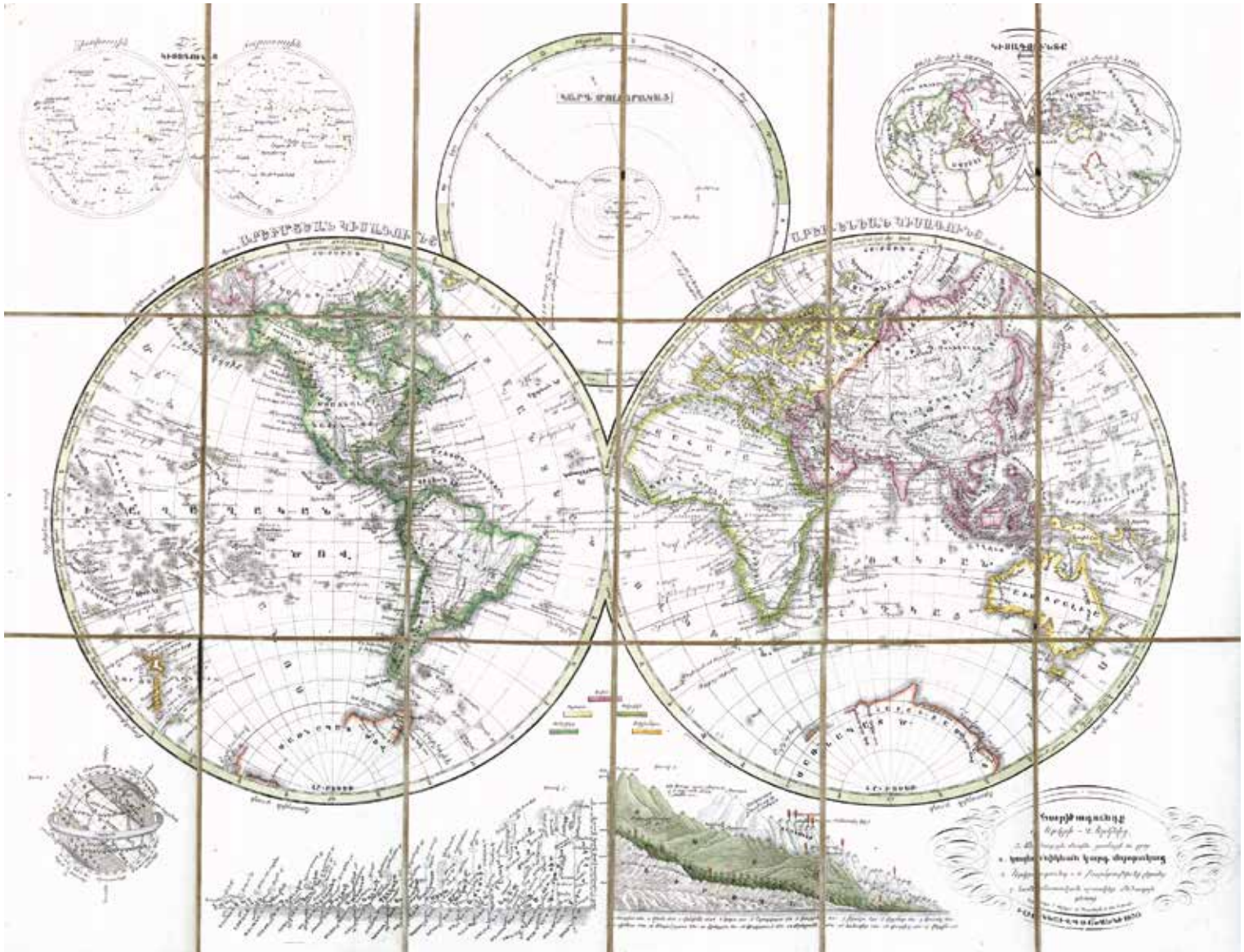
The map includes the following drawings and maps:

- The two hemispheres, as the main items.

- The Copernican system of planets including orbits of three comets
- Northern and Southern skies
- Areas covered by major continents and oceans
- Climatic regions
- The tallest mountains
- The longest rivers.

Some copies of this map, measuring 63 x 49cm, were coloured in outline.

Figure 4.6 – *Map of the World*, prepared by Father Alexander Paltjean. Vienna: 1850.



The most ambitious cartographic project undertaken in Venice was the preparation of the world atlas whose full title is *Atlas of the World According to the Royal Geographers of France, England, Germany and Russia*, printed in 1849. This is a large atlas, measuring 47 x 62cm, the engraving of which was funded by Hovhannes Amira (an honorific title for Ottoman Armenians) Dadean, with maps engraved in Paris. The frontispiece is an extravagant eulogy dedicated to the benefactor Hovhannes Amira.

The atlas has forty-seven pages of double-column texts on the solar system, the earth and various countries represented in the maps, followed by ten double-page folding maps of the world, continents and the two countries “Ottoman Empire” and “Armenia”.

All the maps were prepared by the best engravers in Paris, Henry Seuroy and H. D. Lal. The atlas was published by the San Lazzaro Mkhitarist Order to the highest possible quality (Figures 4.7 & 4.8).

The maps appear in the stated sequence, showing the various regions and continents as follows:

- The World in two hemispheres 91 x 62cm
(plus seven additional diagrams)
- Europe 77 x 55cm
- Cosmography 76 x 54cm
- Asia 77 x 55cm
- Africa 77 x 55cm
(with inset of Morocco & Tunisia)
- North America 77 x 56cm
- South America 77 x 56cm
- Oceania 79 x 56cm
- The Ottoman Empire 78 x 56cm
- Armenia (Figure 4.8) 81 x 57cm

The map reproduced on the following page is the last plate, number 10 of the Atlas, entitled “Armenia according to Ancient Geographers”. The region of the Historic Armenia is coloured pink



Figure 4.7 – Inner cover of the 1849 Atlas.

and covers the Armenian Provinces as described in Shirakatsi’s *Ashkharhatsuyts*.

In this map the cartographer has chosen two alternatives for the “zero” meridian; one was that passing through Paris and the other as the one passing over Mount Ararat, the Holy Mountain of the Armenians. At the time the convention of using the Greenwich Meridian as reference was not yet established and cartographers were free to choose their reference meridian, which could be London, Paris, the Canary Islands, etc. This map was reprinted in Venice as a single sheet in original and reduced sizes in 1919. Smaller versions of the map were also used as inserts in various books.



Figure 4.8 – *Armenia According to Ancient Geographers*. Venice: 1849.

In 1851 the Mkhitarist Father Ghevond Alishan compiled and produced a large book entitled *Illustrated Political Geography*. This book contained 801 pages (21 x 28.5cm) of detailed information, texts, images and maps of various countries and continents. Similar to the 1849 *Atlas*, the maps were detailed and were prepared meticulously, having been engraved in Paris by Henry Seuroy and H. D. Lal. The book is said to have ten monochrome maps and was republished in 1852. However, the 1851-2 publications of the book are presently very scarce.⁴³

Most copies of the book that have reached us consist of three parts. The main part written in

1853 consists of 714 pages and in the Introduction it mentions that the second part, the Appendices, would be prepared in 1854, which was duly done. The author claims to have used French and German sources for his maps. The edition bearing the date 1853 also contains a third part consisting of a 105-page section entitled *Topography of Greater Armenia (Teghagrut'yun hayots metzants)*, containing details of the region of Greater and Eastern Armenia. It is noteworthy that the introduction to this additional part is dated 1855. The main title of the book has also been revised and now reads *Political Geography with New Images*.

As mentioned above, the edition marked 1853 is the one generally found and comes in two versions, one as a single volume, generally with twelve maps, and the other as a two-volume set, having one extra map. The additional map is that of Armenia entitled *Armenia according to Previous Geographers*. This is marked with an asterisk in the list of maps shown below. This edition was printed in 1855, but the table “A” showing the sociopolitical status of countries inserted after page 721, is dated 1854, while the frontispiece shows the date 1853.

All the costs of printing of the above editions were undertaken by Hovhannes Amira Dadean, who was also the benefactor of the 1849 *Atlas*.

The book is a source of valuable and detailed information about various countries and their important cities, particularly if they had active Armenian communities.

The two-volume 1853 edition (actually printed in 1855) of the book contains the following maps:

- The Two Hemispheres	38 x 24
- The World (Mercator projection)	31 x 24
- Europe	32 x 24
- Known World of the Ancients	40 x 24
- France (Gallia), divided into Provinces	31 x 24
- Africa	32 x 24
- Asia	32 x 24
- Part of Asia According to the Saints ...	24 x 20
- The Holy Land Divided into Twelve Tribes of Israel	24 x 20
- North America	32 x 24
- South America	24 x 40
- Oceania	32 x 24
- Armenia According to Previous Geographers*	32 x 24

The design of these maps, especially those of the continents, is very similar to the maps of the 1849

atlas, whose maps are larger and are printed in colour.

The map of *Armenia According to Old Geographers* of Figure 4.14 was also used in the 1853 edition of *Political Geography*. This map is a modern presentation of the geographical region east of Anatolia and South Caucasus, and in many ways is also similar to the map of 1751 (Figure 3.4). The title of the previous map is *Armenia According to Old and New Geographers*, but the present map is entitled *Armenia according to Old Cartographers*. In the new maps, names of the important cities are shown bold and the provinces are indicated with Armenian letters, which refer to the names in the table inserted at the bottom-centre of the page. In most other respects this is the same political map, drawn on a different geographic presentation.

Figure 4.9 is the *Map of the World* presented as per Mercator’s projection. In the present study there are other maps of the world drawn to Mercator’s projection, the oldest is dated 1784 (Figure 3.8) and the latest dated 1914 (Figure 5.22). Comparison of these three world maps shows that modern geographic and cartographic developments had been fully incorporated into the maps.

In the oldest version the region of Alaska and Australia are incomplete but in the later maps these are almost completed. On the two older maps dating from 1784 and 1695 the continent of Australia is named “New Holland”, but in later editions this has been changed to “Australia” (Figures 5.1 & 5.22).

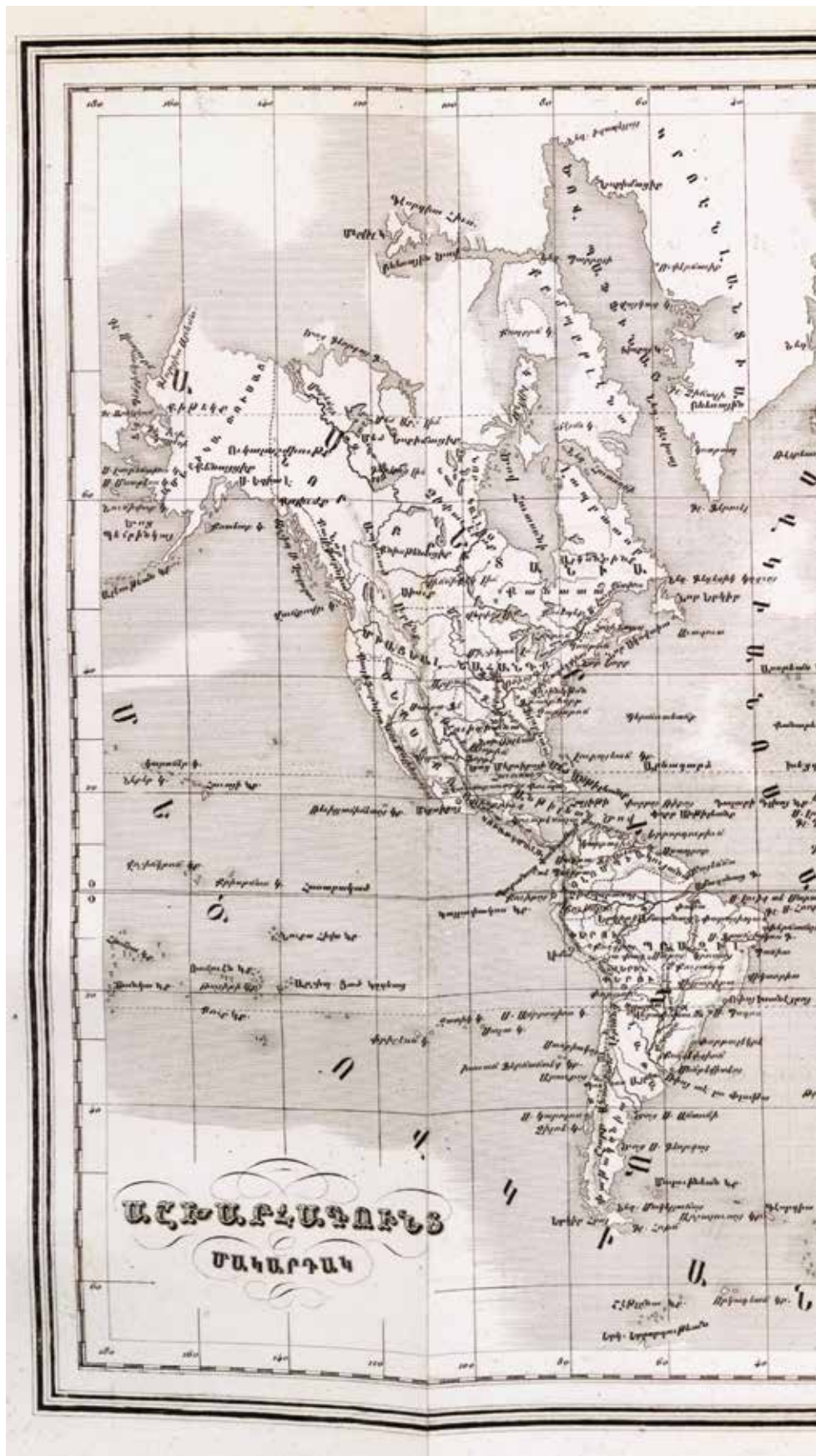
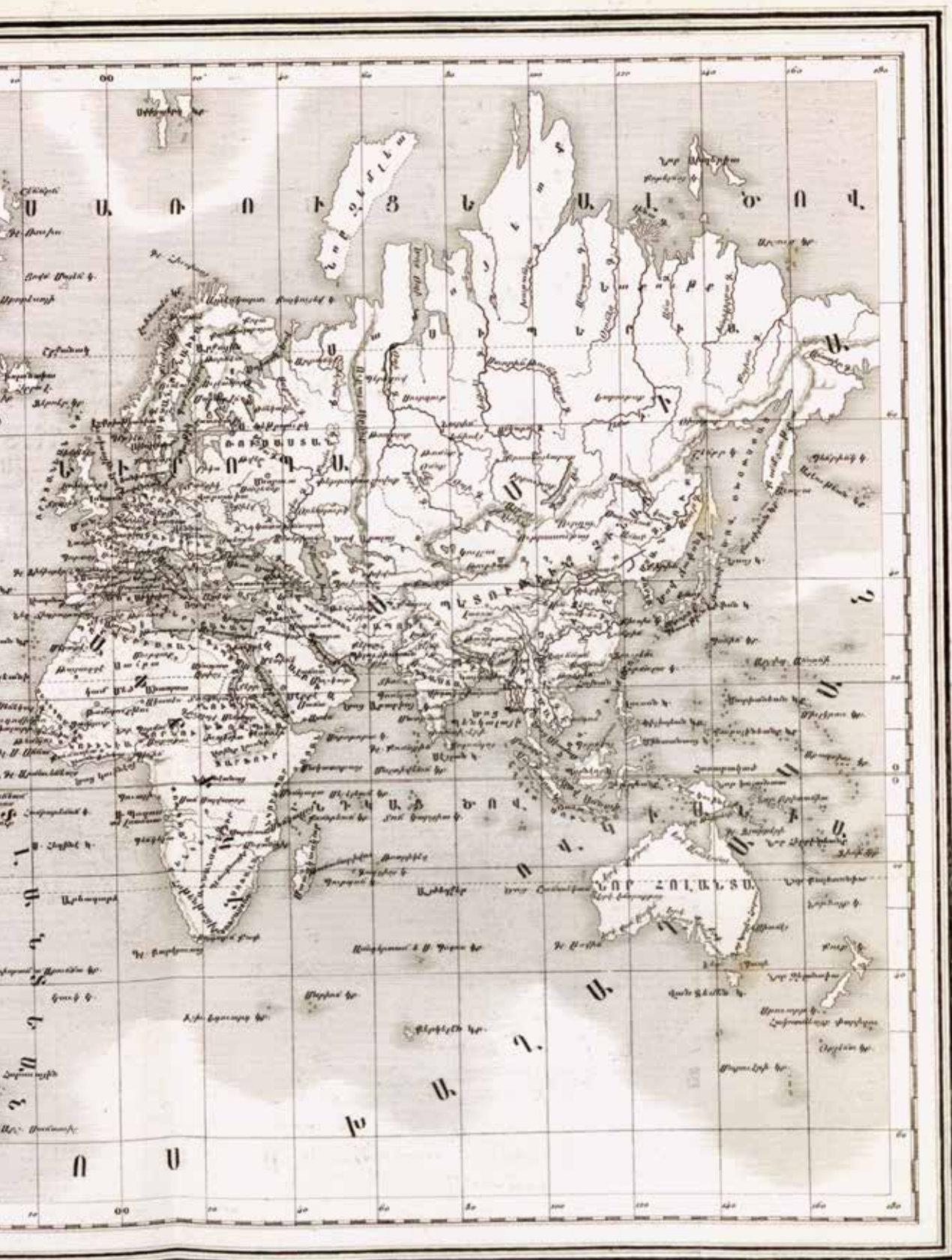


Figure 4.9 – World Map from Alishan's Political Geography. Venice: 1853 (1855).



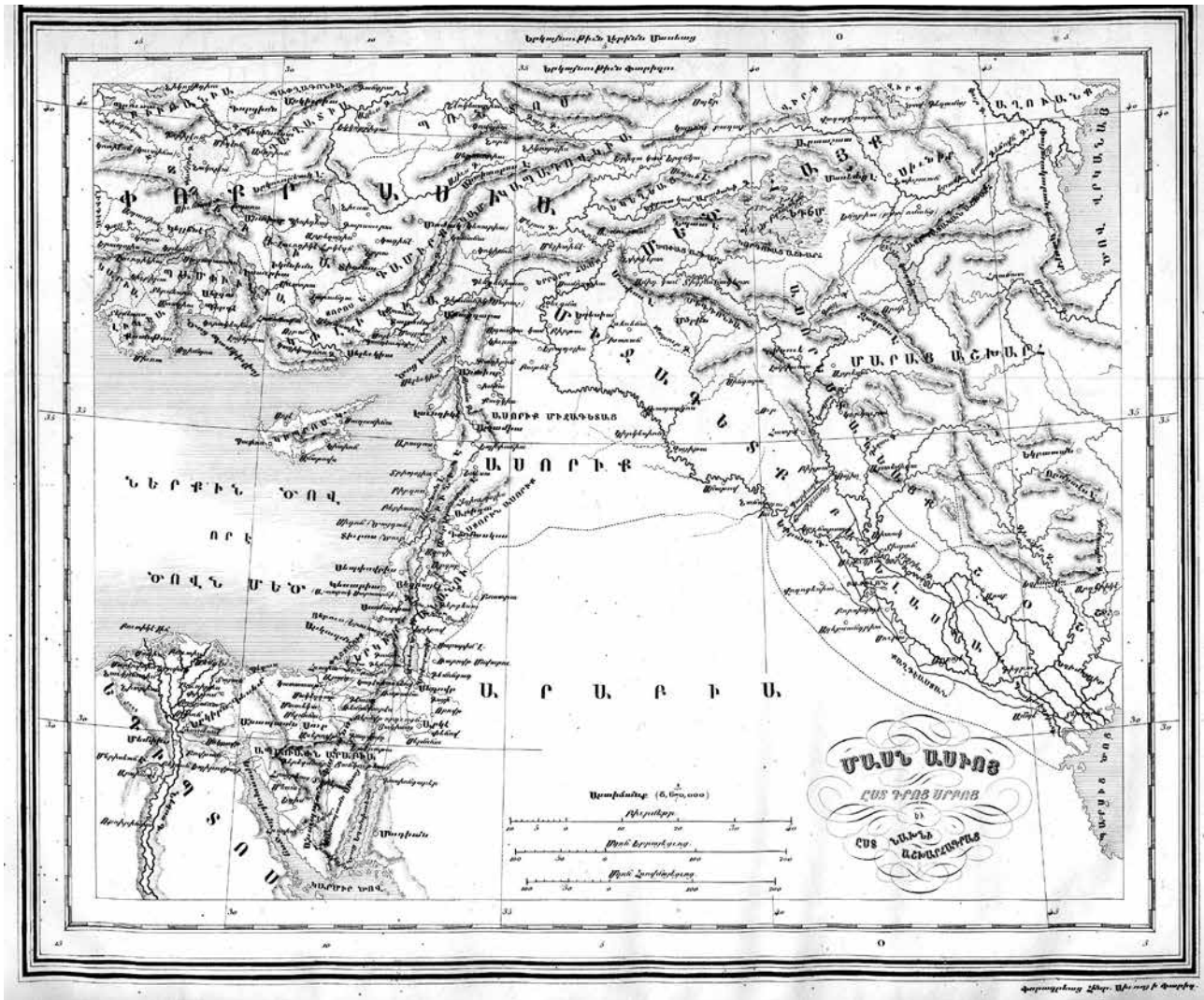


Figure 4.10 – *Part of Asia [Middle East] according to the Saints*. Venice: 1853.

Meanwhile it seems that the first map printed by the Mkhitarist Order of Vienna was that of the Helvetia (Switzerland), printed in 1847. During the following years, up to 1883, some single sheet maps were printed in the Viennese branch of the Order, as per the list below:

- Venice and Lombardy 1848
- Palestine 1851
- Sevastopol 1856

- Railways of Europe 1864
- Palestine (small) 1883

It must, however be mentioned that copies of these maps are very rare and the author has not been able to find and examine them. However their titles and dates are mentioned in the *General Book list of the Mkhitarist Bookshops of Vienna Trieste, Plovdiv, Cairo and Beirut*, published in 1972.⁴⁴

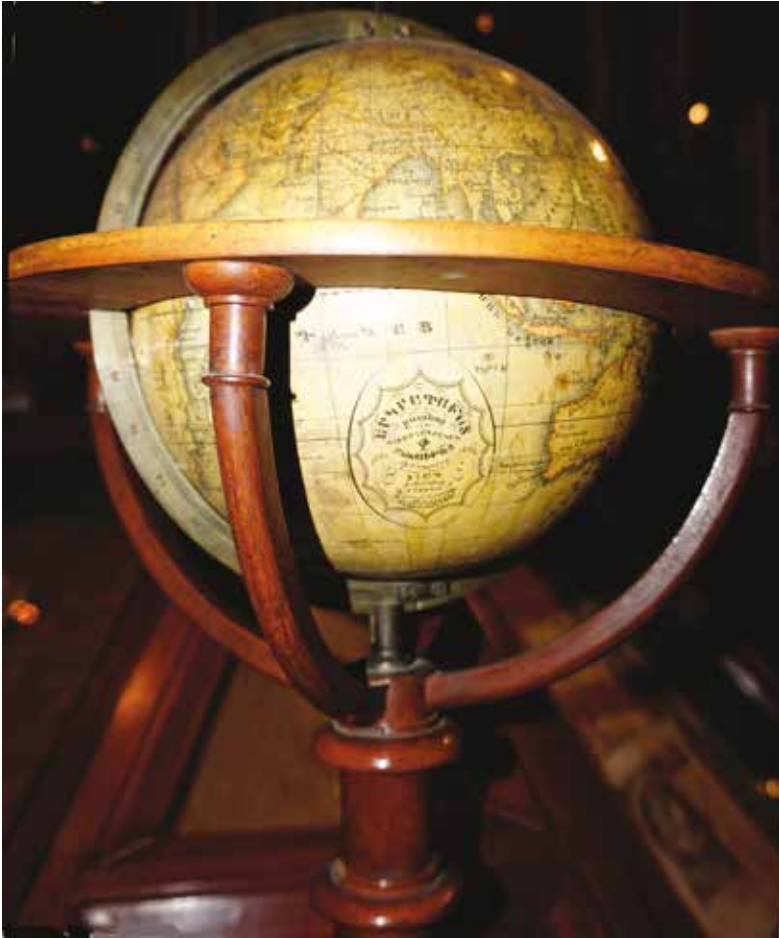


Figure 4.11 – The small globe of Vienna: 1838.

Cartouche of the small globe.

Globe of the Earth

According to the latest geographical surveys
Prepared by F. A. P.
in the Mkhitarist Order of Vienna,
The Monastery of the Holy Mother of
God.

Below the cartouche, the small inscriptions reads “Joseph Czerny, 1838”.

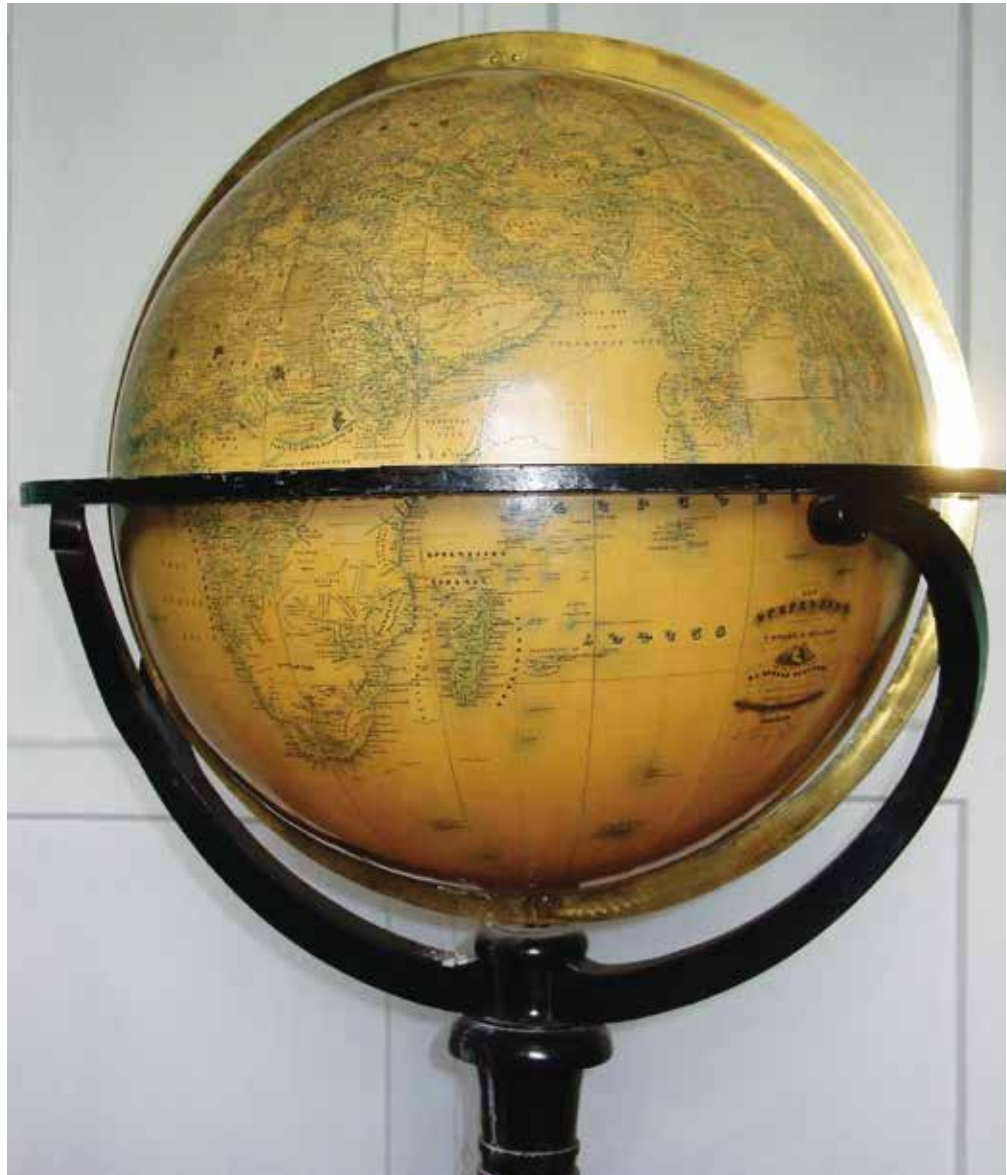
In the middle of the century there were further developments in the Mkhitarist Order of Vienna, which led to the preparation and manufacture of globes in Armenian. These would appear to be the first such globes in the world.

The first globe planned was a small one, mounted on its wooden pedestal shown in Figure 4.11, measuring about 21cm in diameter. It was mounted on wooden stand and shows all the continents, countries and geographical features and is full of toponyms, in simple and effective blue and orange outline colouring only. The cartouche, placed west of

the Australian mainland, bears the inscription shown above.

The second globe (Figure 4.12), prepared and made in Vienna, was a much larger one, with a diameter of about 63cm, mounted on a solid wooden stand. The design and colouring of the two globes are very basic and similar, but on the larger globe the designer has mainly used the colour blue for emphasizing the borders and shorelines. The letter fonts used for the printing of the globe were designed especially for this purpose.

Figure 4.12 – The larger globe made in Vienna, 63cm in diameter, dated 1850-56. During these years various versions of the globe were prepared and the unmounted globe gores were also printed and sold.



The cartouche of the globe reads as follows:

New Globe of the Earth

Prepared by Father Alexander Baljean

Designed according to the latest surveys by **Father Arsen Aydenean** of the Mkhitarist Order

Requested and funded by the **Magnificent Prince Hovhannes Amira Dadean**

At Vienna, at the Monastery of the Protector of Holy Mother of God.

18 . .

The globes kept in Vienna Mkhitarist Order's Museum are dated 1848 and 1850, but the copy in Yerevan University (Figure 4.12) mentions only 18., missing the two last digits. See also Figure 4.13. It appears that the large globe had been printed or at least, the gores had been mounted on the spherical form between the years 1848 and 1858. As seen in the translation, the cartouche provides the names of the designer and cartographer, as well as the person who ordered and paid for their manufacture.



Figure 4.13 – The cartouche of Figure 4.13.

As seen on both the globes of Figures 4.11, 4.12 and 4.13, they were designed and made in the Mkhitarist monastery of Vienna and were the result of the diligent work of one of the abbots, Father Alexander Baljean of the Order. However, although

the larger globe cartouche includes his full name, for the sake of brevity, the name of the designer and builder of the smaller globe appears only as initials F.A.P.

* * *

One of the first textbooks prepared and printed specifically as a geography textbook was published in Venice in 1857, by Father Manuel Qajuni. The textbook was entitled *Geography of Old and New Armenia for Seminary Students*. The book has a map which measures about 39 x 29cm and, similar to the other maps printed during the middle of the nineteenth century.

In order to assure its quality it was engraved in Paris by Henry Seuroy. The map was possibly copied from the map inserted in Volume 2 of Alishan's *Political Geography*, 1853-55 (Figure 4.14).

The map is entitled *Armenia according to Previous Geographers* and covers the area of Anatolia (Asia Minor) to the Armenian Highlands and the Caspian Sea. The fifteen ancient Armenian provinces are shown and their borders delineated. The regional divisions of the provinces are also named, which makes the map rather overcrowded with toponyms.

This map was most probably used as a source for the map of Figure 5.17.



Figure 4.14 – Armenia According to Previous Geographers, Venice: 1855.

Another important project undertaken by the Vienna branch of the Mkhitarist Order was the preparation and printing of the Armenian school atlas. This is a small atlas entitled *Atlas or World Maps for the Use of the Community Schools*, designed and planned by

Father Astvadzadur Avagean of the Mkhitarist Order. The atlas was first printed and published in 1857 with a reprint in 1860. It contained twenty-one double-page maps in the following order:

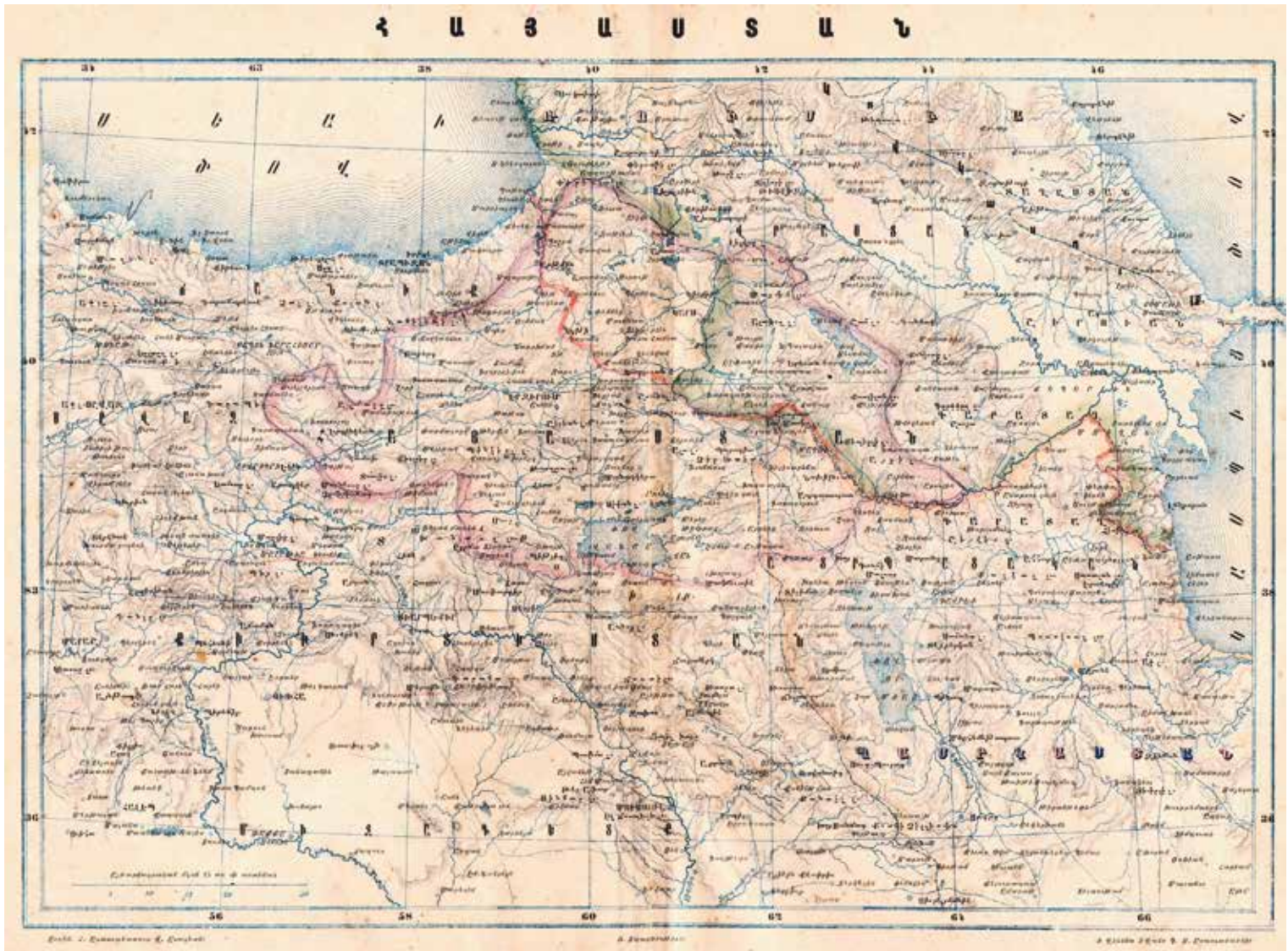
- Europe
- Asia
- Africa
- North America
- South America
- Oceania
- Spain and Portugal
- France
- Great Britain and Ireland
- Italy
- Germany
- Austria
- Prussia
- Belgium
- European Russia

- Greece
- Ottoman Empire in Europe
- Ottoman Empire in Asia
- Armenia
- Persia
- India

The intended recipients of the atlas probably were the Armenian schools operating in the Ottoman Empire.

Most of the maps of this atlas were also printed individually on separate sheets and were sold as maps in their own right.

Figure 4.15 – Armenia is one of the nineteen maps from the second edition of the *School Atlas*. Vienna: 1860.



Another small atlas, this one published by the Mkhitarist Order of San Lazzaro in Venice was printed in 1862. This was entitled a *Small World Atlas* and was designed and engraved in Paris, but printed in the printing house of the Viennese Mkhitarist Order. The atlas contained the following maps:

- Two hemispheres – World map
- The Ancient World the – Europe
- Asia – Africa
- North America – South America
- Oceania
- France divided into its counties
- Armenia acc. to Ancient Geographers
- Part of Asia as per the Saints & Old Geographers.

Since these maps were engraved in Paris, one of the maps was dedicated to France. The atlas is described in the list of San Lazzaro publications, but copy of the actual atlas could not be found in any library and collection researched by this author.⁴⁵

Based on the quality and list of maps one could conclude that this atlas is the reprint of ten of the maps of the abovementioned 1851-53 *Political Geography* by Alishan, without the related texts.

* * *

In 1848, Nerses Sarkisean of the Mkhitarist Order of Venice designed a map of Lake Van, using one of the maps of the German cartographer Heinrich Kiepert (1818-1899) as his source. The map was engraved in Berlin by K. Oman with a scale of 1/500,000 and measures 35 x 19cm. It was engraved in 1865, but the book *Topography of Lesser and Greater Armenia*, where the map was inserted, was published one year earlier, in 1864 in Venice (Figure 4.16).

The book also contains regional maps and sketches of Sebastia, Baiburt, County of Karin (Erzurum), Tortom and Shirak-Zarishat, as well as plans of buildings, churches and copies of many ancient inscriptions.



Figure 4.16 – Neighbourhood of Lake Van. Berlin: 1864.

A geography book was published in Constantinople in 1876 by the Boyadjean Printing House, carrying the title of *Concise Textbook of Geography with Questions and Answers, for Use in Schools*. It contained maps of the hemispheres, Asia, Europe, Americas, the United States of America, Africa and Oceania, as well as the European and Asiatic Turkey and Great Britain. The textbook had its second printing in 1881.

This was a special type of geography book which contained mainly maps and map related questions with their answers. The pupils could answer the

questions by studying and interpreting the maps. Since the questions were about physical geography and toponyms, the maps produced had to be detailed and of far higher quality than those of many other textbooks.

According to the Preface, the textbook was based on geography textbooks published by James Montieth (New York: Barnes & Butt, 1865) and Mary Hall (Boston: Ginn Brothers, 1873) which used a new methodology in vogue after the second half of the nineteenth century in New York.



Figure 4.17 – United States of America. Constantinople: 1881.



Figure 4.18 – *The British Isles*. Constantinople: 1881.

In 1887 H. G. Palagashean published a booklet entitled *Topography of Constantinople and its Environs with a Plan of the Bosphorus* in Constantinople. It seems to refer to a map of the Bosphorus but the mentioned

plan is a small sketch measuring 48 x 72mm, on page 6 of the booklet, which could hardly be considered as a map.

Having been written and published in the Ottoman Empire, the textbook does not include a separate map of Armenia which would have been politically unacceptable for the censors of the Empire. Armenia can be seen in the Asiatic part of the Ottoman Empire. See the reproduction of the map in Chapter 6, Figure 6.21.

From this textbook maps of Americas (Figure 4.17) and the British Isles (Figure 4.18) have been reproduced in the present study.

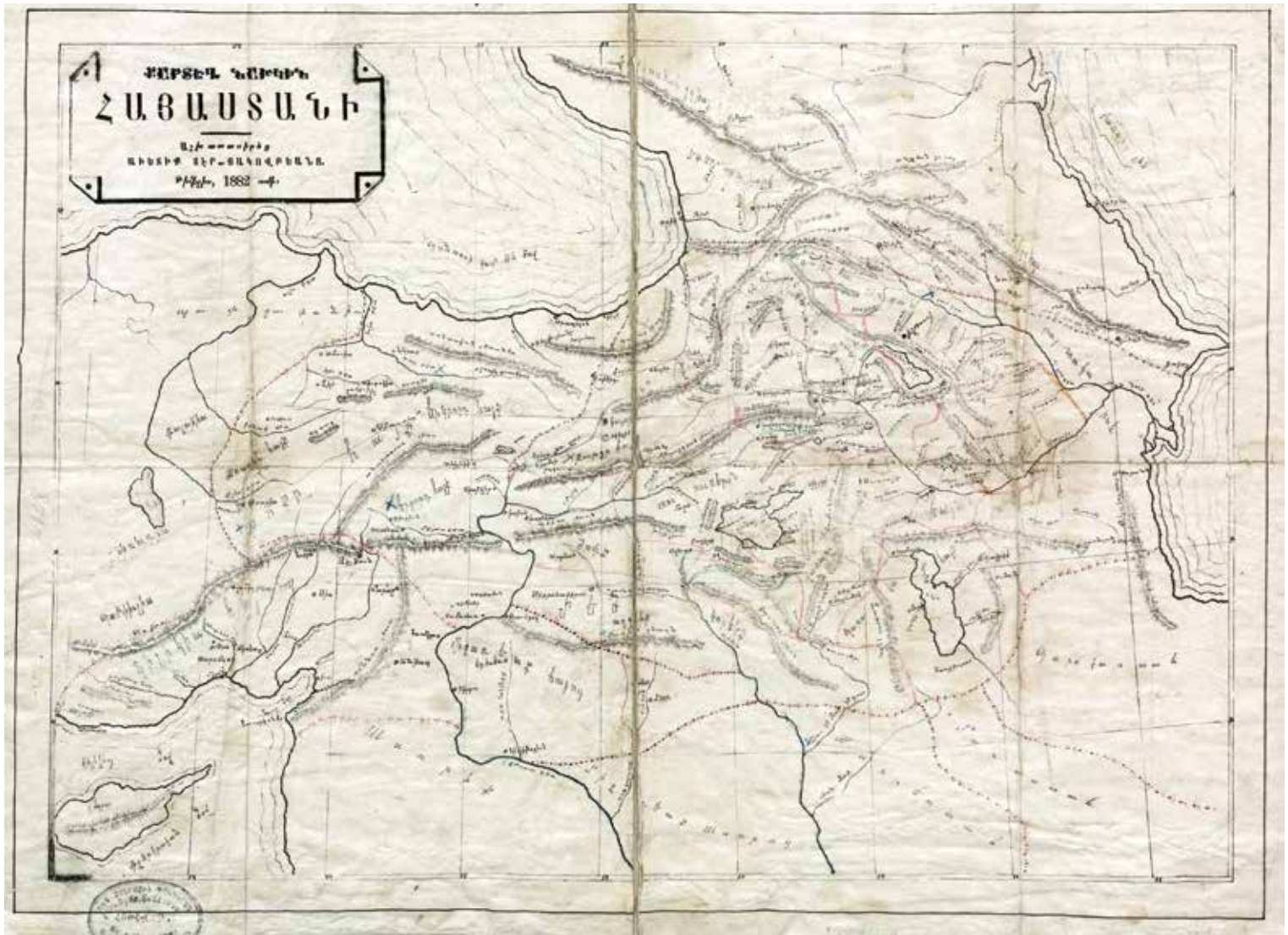


Figure 4.19 – *Map of Old Armenia*, 45 x 32cm. Tiflis: 1882.

The *Map of Old Armenia* was published in Tbilisi in 1882. Designed by Avetiq Der-Hakobean, the map is loosely based on the map entitled *Map of Armenia According to Old and New Geographers*, (Figure 3.4) dating from 1751. The map measures 45 x 32cm.

This is a relatively primitively drawn map printed in black and white, but on the copy reproduced above, the borders of the Armenian provinces are highlighted in red pencil.

Before the end of the nineteenth century the Mkhitarist Order printing house published a few more single sheet maps, intended to be inserted in the four geographic and historic volumes of the local scholar and historian Father Ghevond Alishan, who was one of the most learned and prolific members of the Mkhitarist Order, living and working in San Lazzaro in Venice. He produced books on the history and geography of the various provinces and counties of Armenia. These had the highest quality of workmanship and were designed and printed in-house. However, in order to keep up the standard of the quality of the printing and design of the series, printing of the maps of the regions were contracted out to the specialist Istituto Geografico Italiano in Rome, as well as to other specialist printers.

These four volumes were part of Alishan's geographical and historical works dedicated to Greater Armenia and were entitled Shirak, Cilicia, Ayrarat and Sisakan-Syuniq, four of the historic Armenian provinces.

- *Province of Shirak*, 1881, 66 x 49cm. Scale 1/200,000.
- *Province of Cilicia or Sisuan* 1885, 67 x 35cm. Scale 1/1,000,000.
- *Ayrarat Province*, 1890, 67 x 43cm. Scale 1/500,000.
- *Sisakan or Syuniq*, 1893. 38 x 43cm. Scale 1/500,000.

The first book of the series was that of Shirak, which included a map of the province (Figure 4.20).

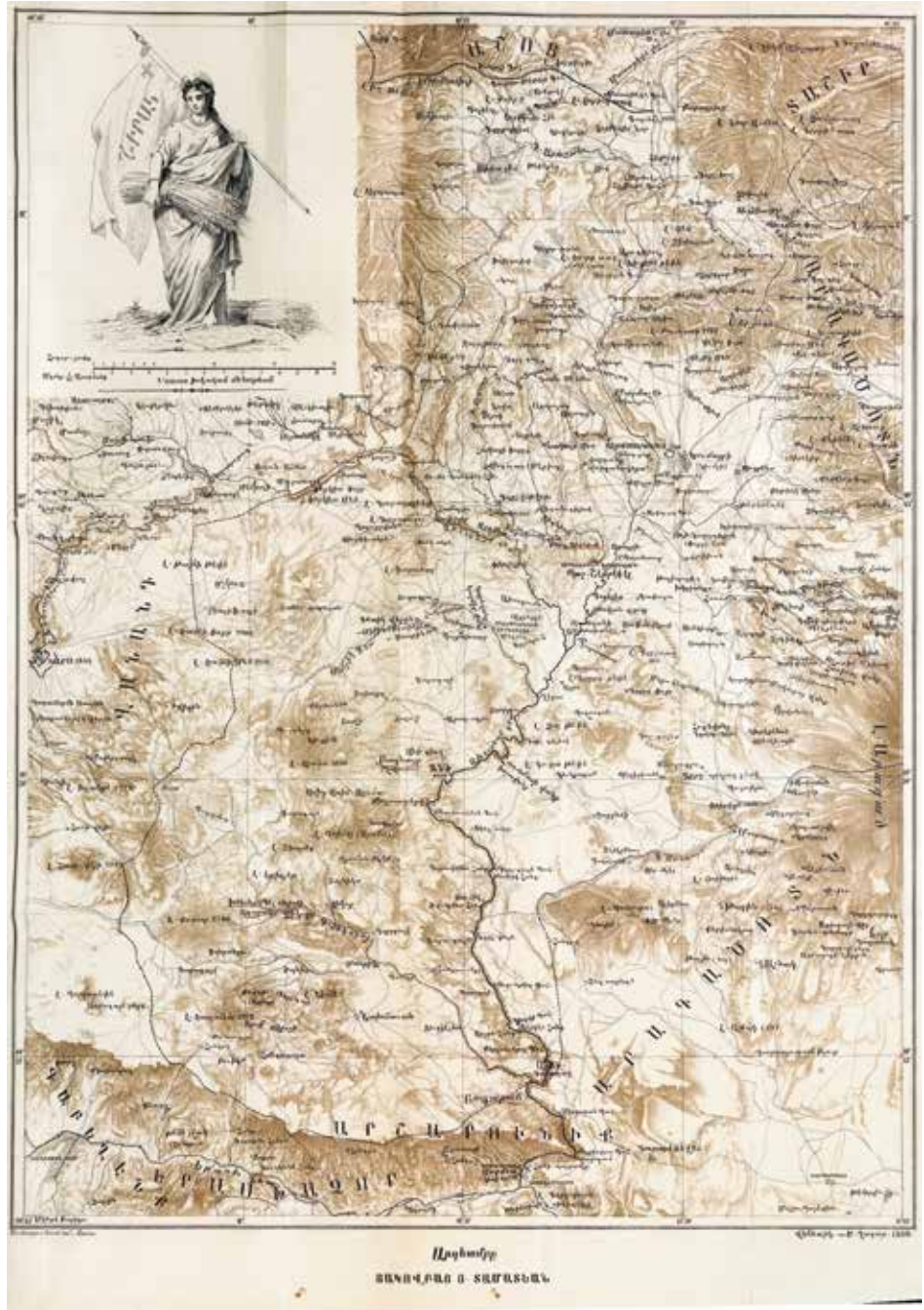


Figure 4.20 – *Shirak*, province of Armenia. Venice: 1881.



Figure 4.21 – *Sisuan* or Cilicia by Alishan. Venice: 1885. ↑

↓ Figure 4.22, *Ayrarat* by Alishan. Venice: 1890.



The last of the Armenian regional maps from the book on the Province of Sisakan (or Syuniq) appeared in 1893. The map covers part of the eastern region of East Armenia, neighbouring the region of Karabagh (Artsakh) and Iran, the ancient provinces of Vaspurakan and Atropatene (or Iranian Azerbaijan). The map shows the administrative division of the regions shown with red lines. It measures 38 x 43cm and was printed by the C. Ferrari printing house of Venice.



Figure 4.23 – *Sisakan Province of Armenia*. Venice: 1883.

The map entitled *Land of Aghuanq* [Caucasian Albania] appearing in Figure 4.24 is taken from the book *Aghuanq and Neighbours*, published in Tiflis in 1893, where it was folded and inserted at the end. Most of the copies of this volume found in Armenia are missing the map, although in some traces of an insert could be found.

This is a detailed map of the region east of the Caspian extending to Lake Sevan. Although the book

was printed and published in Tiflis, the map was printed in Berlin by Schaefer & Co. Verlagsanstalt, without the author or date being mentioned. It measures 58 x 42cm and was probably hand drawn just before 1893.

The map includes much detail about the toponyms of the region, with the indication of major churches (with a cross) and mosques (with a crescent).

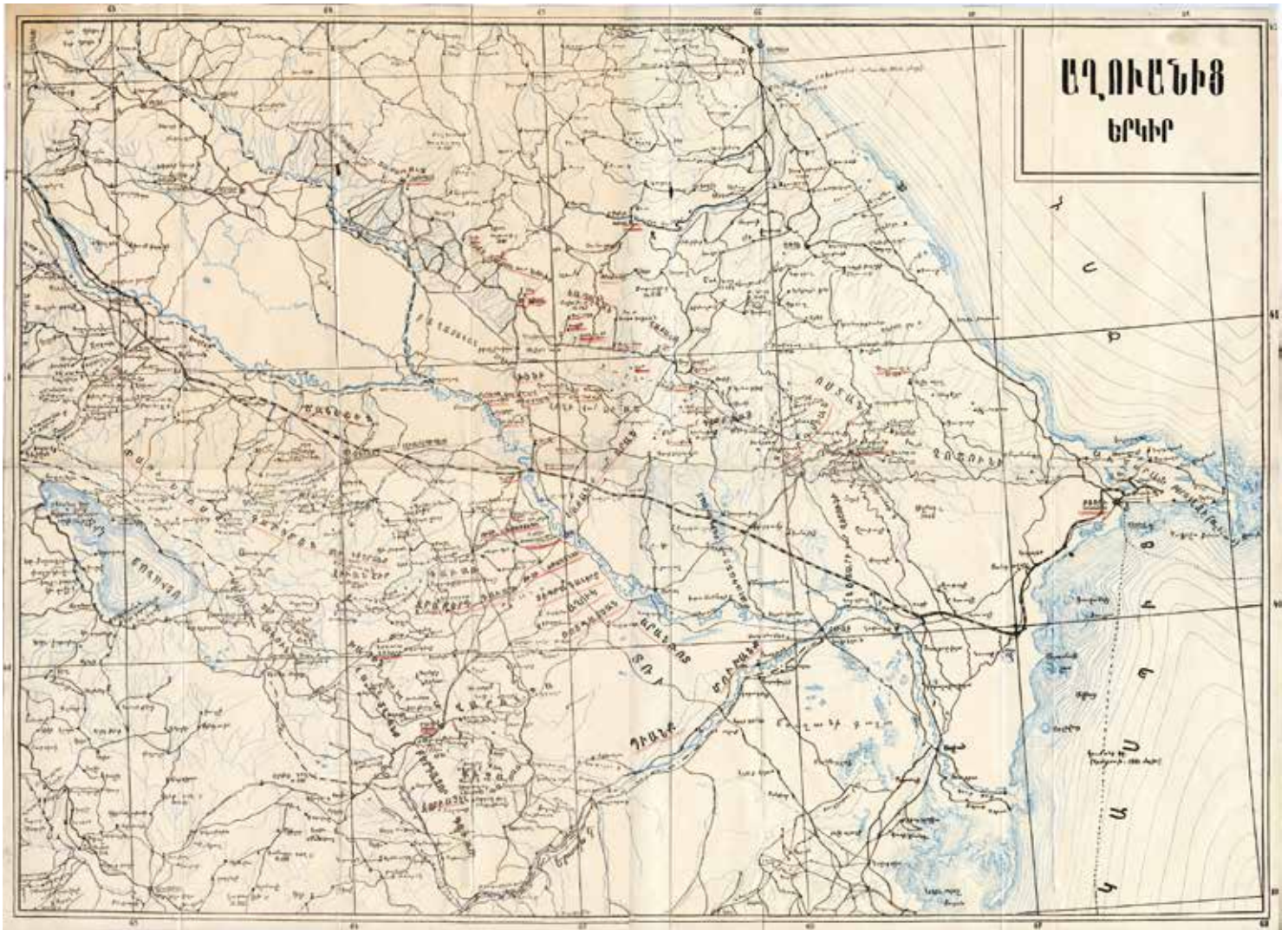


Figure 4.24 – *Land of Aghuanq*. Tiflis: 1893.

During the last decade of the nineteenth century the Armenian communities of the Sasun region of the Ottoman Empire (south-west of Lake Van) were struggling to survive. Their livelihood was in danger because of the exorbitant double taxation of Christians as well as further taxes levied by local Kurdish warlords, which they could not pay any more. There were widespread protests, in answer to which the Ottoman government sent troops, and during the years 1894-96 more than 300,000 Armenians were massacred all over the Ottoman Empire. These were chiefly peasants, whose villages were also razed to the ground. This was an important event in Armenian historiography, which resulted in the preparation of the map of Sasun, the first map showing details of a chiefly Armenian-populated region of the Empire.

The map of Sasun (Figure 4.25) was printed in 1895 in Tiflis, prepared by K'alantar, lithography by K. L. Meskhiev, measuring 27 x 29cm.

Due to its popular demand, the map was reprinted in 1904.

The map was inserted in a book containing some basic information about the geography and population of the area. The map was originally prepared due to public interest in the region and the events happening in this mountainous region. The attached map was also published in a local Armenian newspaper, to be used as a guide for the reader.

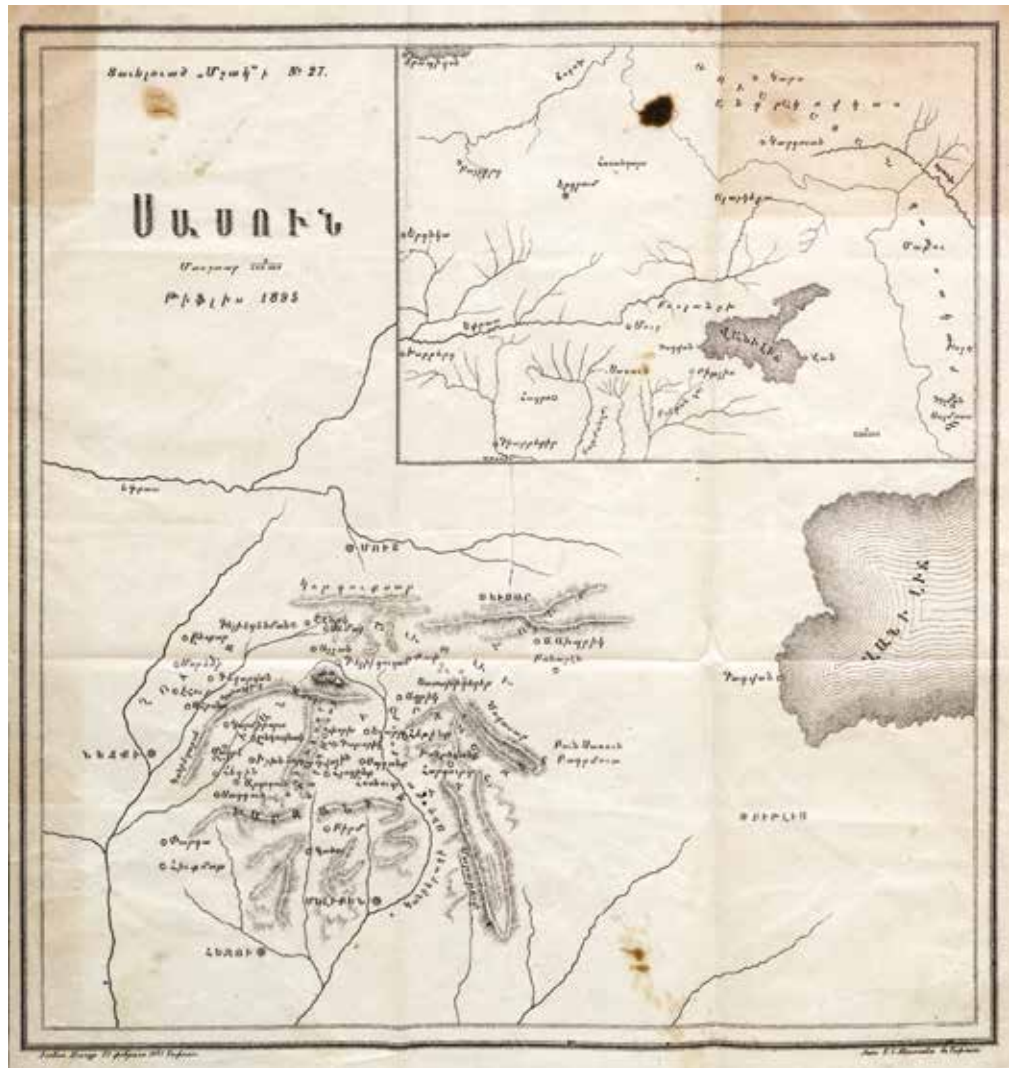


Figure 4.25 – *Sasun* prepared by K'alantar. Lithograph prepared by Meskhiev. Tiflis: 1895. Scale 1/300,000. Source: *Mshak* newspaper.

Another map produced near the end of the nineteenth century was that of the Gandzak county of Shirvan, at the time populated by a well-established and large community of Armenians, who had been living in the region for many centuries and had established schools, churches and scriptoria. Some of the books copied in the region's scriptoria could be found in the Matenadaran, Yerevan.⁴⁶ At present the city is in the Republic of Azerbaijan, whose authorities claim that

no Armenians ever lived there.

Under Persian rule, the capital of this region was called Gyanja. From the time that the Russians occupied the region in 1828 up to the early twentieth century it was renamed Elizavetpol. Under the Soviet Union it was named Kirovabad, while the Armenians always used its historic name, Gandzak. The map was drawn by Vartan Mirzoeants and was printed in Tiflis during 1899, measuring 60 x 45cm.

Figure 4.26 – Gandzak county. Tiflis: 1899.

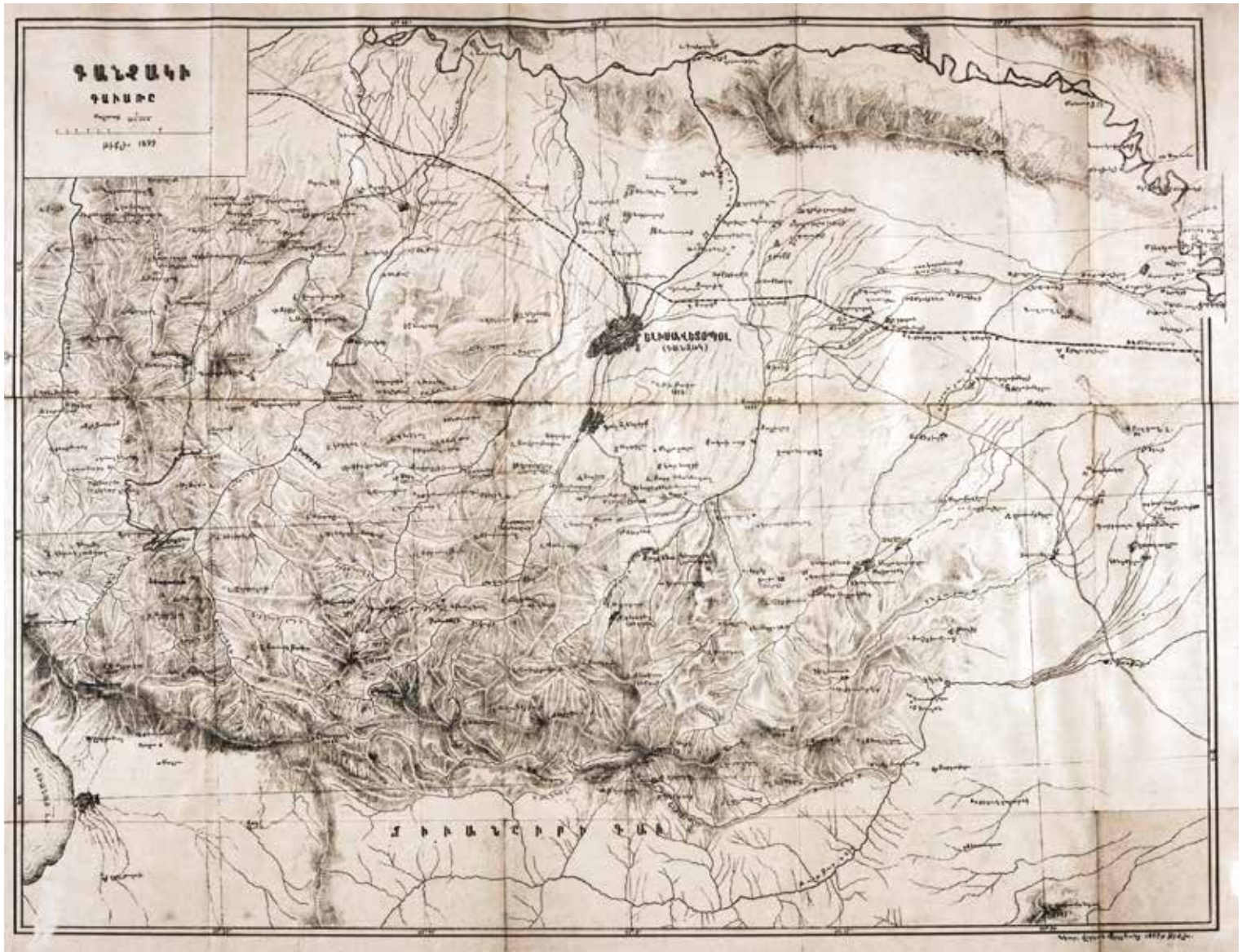


Figure 4.27 is the map of the north-western part of Lake Van, the county of *Bulanêkh* or *Harq*. This is the region around the town of Khat, which was an important trade city in Armenia. One of the important geographical features of the area is the town of Manazkert (Malazkirt), where the important battle between the Byzantine and Seljuk forces took place in

1071, culminating in the defeat of the Byzantine army, and the 4,434m high, three-peaked Mount Sip'an revered by the Armenians.

The map measures 19 x 11.4cm and is drawn to the scale of 1/500,000. It is drawn for the article about this region and appears in Volume 5 of the *Ethnological Journal*, published in Tiflis, 1899.



Figure 4.27 – *Bulanêkh* or *Harq*. Tiflis: 1899.

The last map of this chapter is that of Figure 4.28, a map included in the book about Zeytun (a town in north-east Cilicia), printed in 1900 by the Mkhitarist Press in Vienna. The map entitled *Eastern Cilicia* (Cilician Kingdom of Armenia) is drawn to the scale of 1/1,000,000, with topographic and geographical

details. It measures 29 x 22cm, and is prepared by Freytag & Berndt of Vienna. The zero meridian of the map is the one passing through Paris.

The book is entitled *From the Past and Present of Zeytun* and in addition to this map it includes a map of the town entitled *Zeytun or Ulnia*.

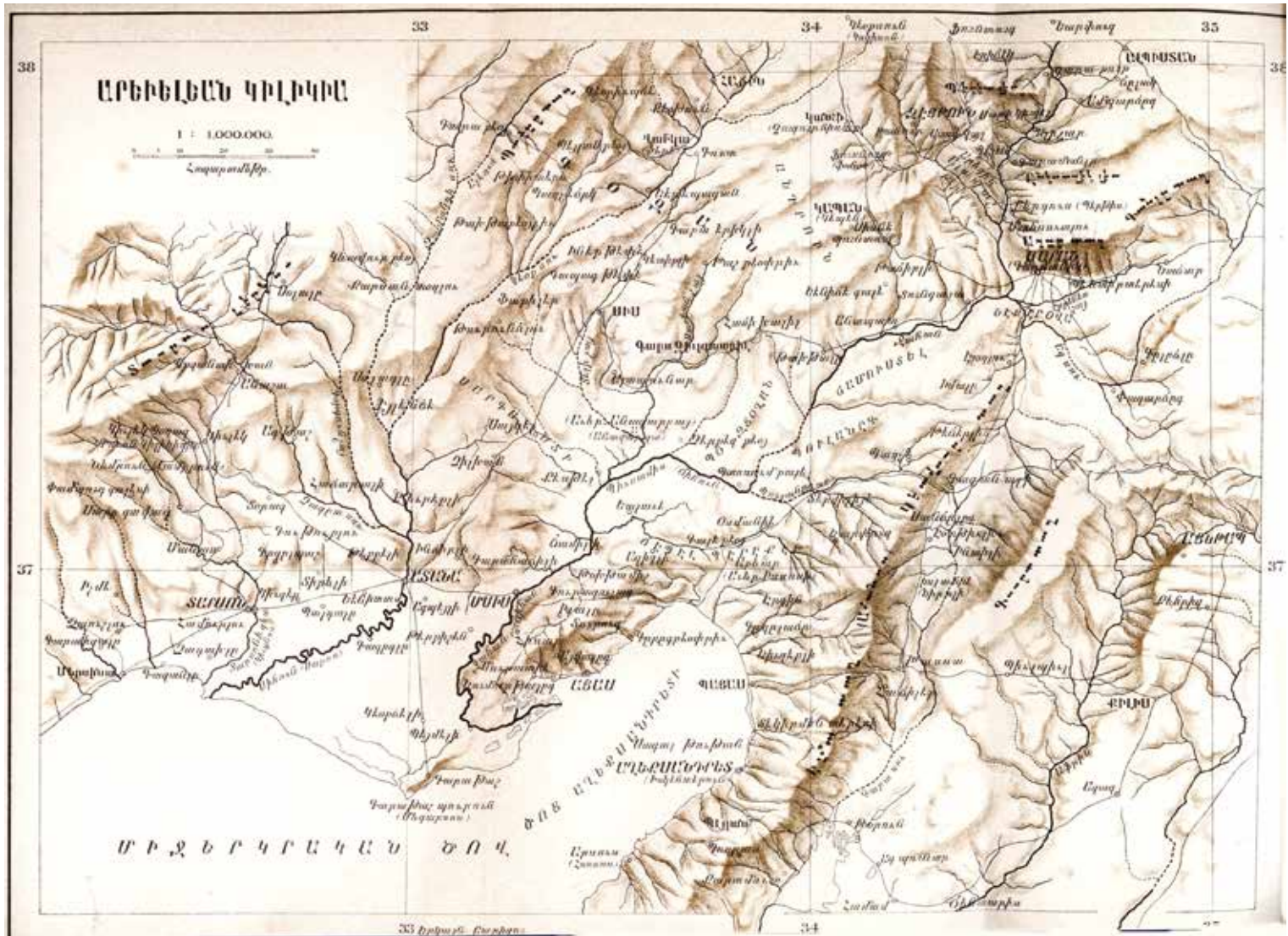


Figure 4.28 – *Eastern Cilicia*. Vienna: 1900.

Part 5 – Maps from 1901 to 1918

The first pocket atlas in Armenian was prepared by Sahakean and printed in Venice in 1901 edited by Suqias Ep'rikan. The booklet measures 12 x 18.5cm and consists of 108 pages of texts and 18 colour maps. In addition there are pages of world flags and other images.

Four of the maps are printed on double-page spreads. One such map is the Mercator projection of the world (Figure 5.1), reproduced below measuring 20 x 16cm, with a scale of 1/200,000,000.

The atlas was reprinted during the first year of its publication as well as having a third print run in 1905.

The booklet contains the following maps:

- The world (Figure 5.1) 20 x 16cm
- 13 double-page maps of Europe, British Isles, Russia, France & Switzerland, Germany, Austro-Hungary, Spain and Portugal, Italy, Balkans, Africa, Asia, North America and Oceania. 21 x 16cm.
- Four single-page maps of Sweden-Norway & Denmark, Belgium & Holland, Asia Minor & Caucasus and South America. 9 x 16cm.

Figure 5.1 – *The World* shown in Mercator's projection. Venice (San Lazzaro): 1901. ↓



One of the early maps of the twentieth century was that of the region of Borchalu (north-eastern region of Eastern Armenia), neighbouring Georgia. This is a detailed map of the region with a scale of 1/500,000 and includes some topographical data. The

map measuring 60 x 57cm was prepared by Vardan Mirzoeants and printed in Tiflis in 1902. Most of the toponyms relate to the names given by the Persian rulers of the territory in earlier times.

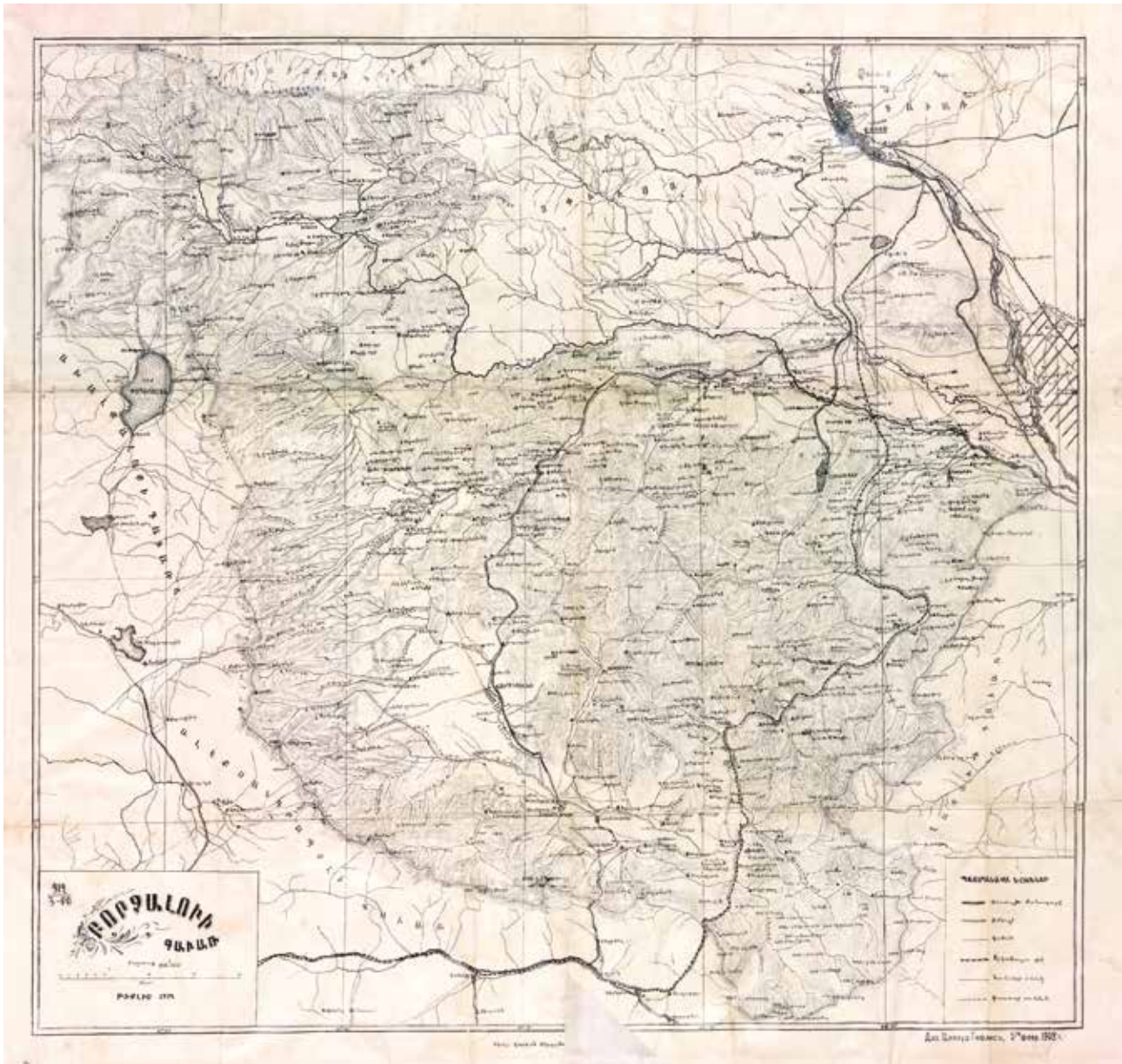


Figure 5.2 – Borchalu District of northern Armenia. Tiflis: 1902.

In 1902 a geography textbook was prepared by H. H. Manisajean in Constantinople, entitled *Illustrated Geography*. The textbook contains 59 images as well as 12 maps, which are of standard quality. One of the maps, North America, is reproduced in Figure 5.3, showing the standard of the cartographic work.

The book measures 18 x 24cm and contains maps of the two Hemispheres, Europe, the Balkan Peninsula, Western Europe, British Isles, Asia, Africa, Oceania, North America, South America, European Turkey and Asiatic Turkey. The single-sheet maps measure about 16 x 21cm.

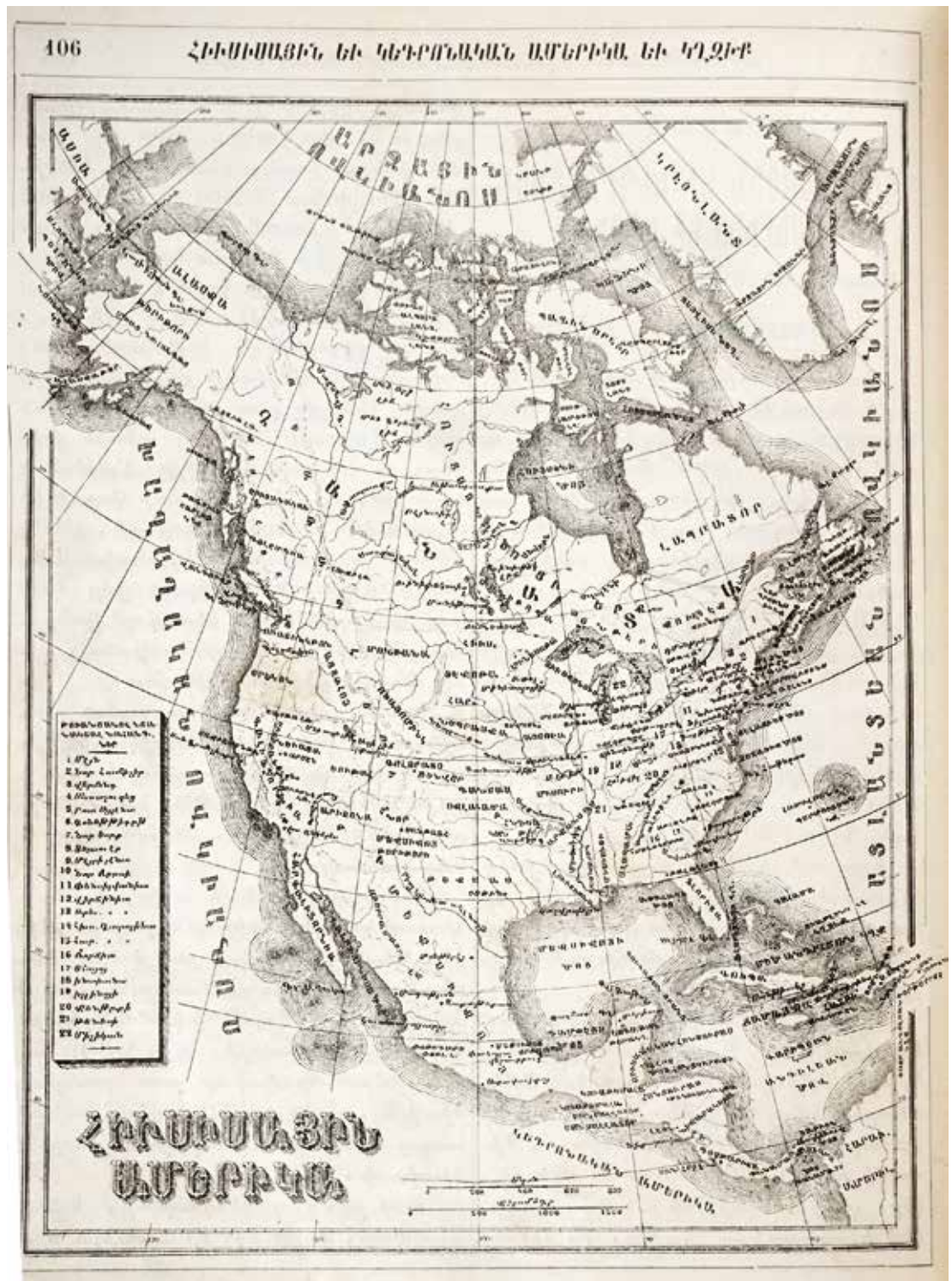


Figure 5.3 – North America from Manisajean’s textbook. Constantinople: 1902.



Figure 5.4 – Schematic Map of the Armenian Centre’s Offices and Stores, Affiliated with the Central Committee of Charitable Society of Armenians in Caucasus. Tiflis: 1903.

The map above is an unusual one. In addition to the territory of Armenia it covers much to its north, extending from the Black to the Caspian Seas and northward to the northern slopes of the Caucasus Range, to the cities of Mozdok and Vladikavkaz. It was published by the Central Committee of the Armenian Charity, set up in Tiflis in 1881 in order to provide relief to the refugees of the Russo-Turkish war of 1877-78. It lists the major towns and cities, government stores,

refugee schools and orphanages, soup kitchens, water mills, workshops and the offices of the charity.

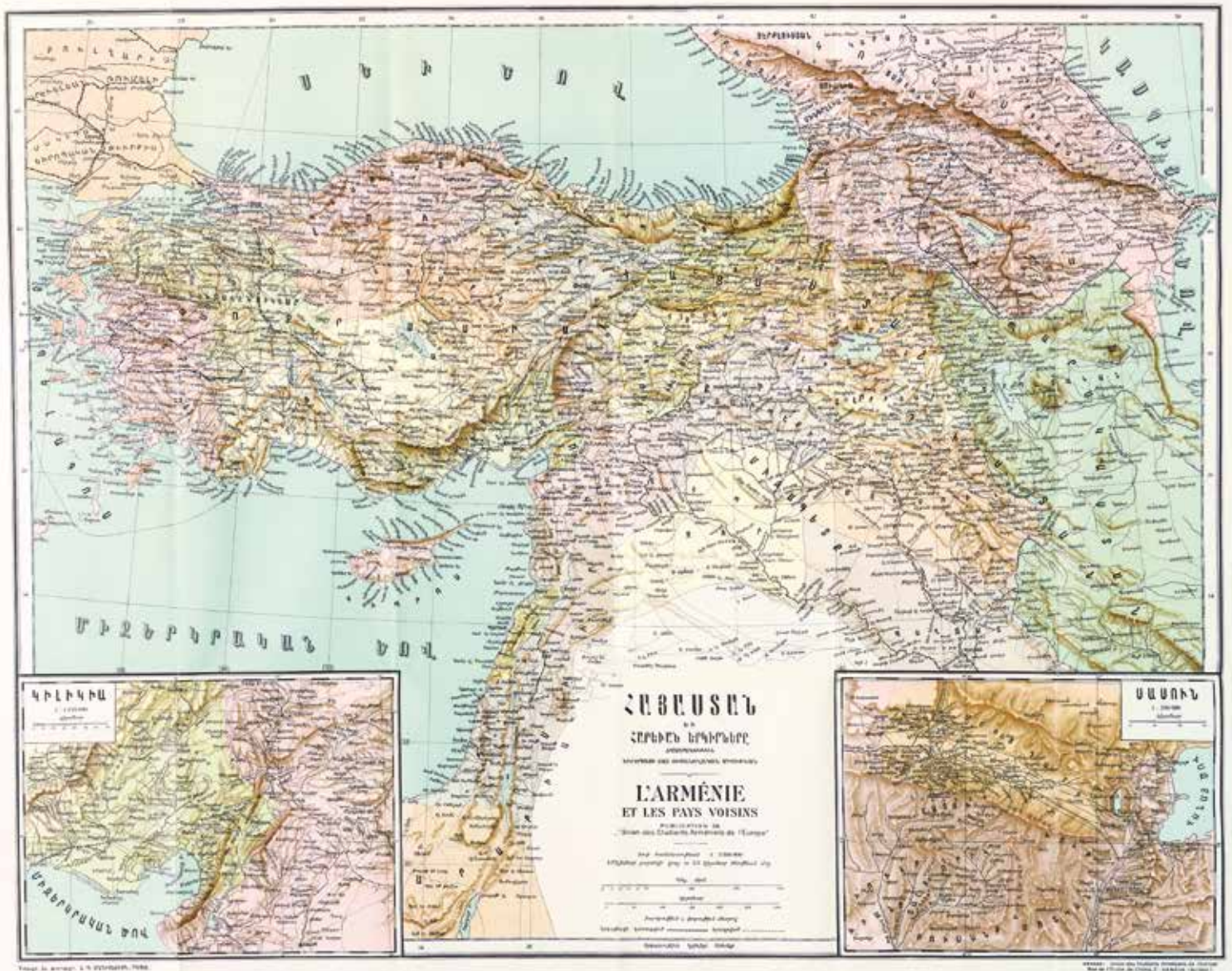
In addition there is a table of statistics about the number of refugees, schoolchildren, orphanages as well as the orphans living in the region.

This is a large map printed in 1903, measuring 97 x 73cm.

The Armenian Students Association of Geneva was an active cultural organisation based in Switzerland. In 1904 it published a map entitled *Armenia and Neighbouring Countries* for the benefit of the local Armenian communities. The map was prepared with care and attention and was designed and engraved by H. P. Manisajean in Basel. The map scale is 1/3,500,000 and it measures 64 x 51cm (Figure 5.5).

The map has two insets which were chosen due to the political importance of the regions depicted for the Armenians. One is the region of *Sasun* in Greater Armenia (see the text on Figure 4.24). The second inset is that of *Cilicia*, where the medieval Armenian kingdom of Cilicia was established and ruled for almost 300 years during the eleventh to fourteenth centuries.

Figure 5.5 – *Armenia and Neighbouring Countries*. Geneva: 1904.



During the same year (1904) the Armenian Revolutionary Federation (ARF) of Geneva printed a map of the Mush and Sasun regions of the Ancient Armenian region within the Ottoman Empire. Most probably the publication was to serve as a reminder to the community about the massacres of the

Armenians, which happened in Sasun and other regions of the Ottoman Empire during 1894-96. This is a simple map indicating the names of the towns and villages of the region. It measures 43 x 31cm and the original of this reproduction is kept in the archives of the ARF Museum in Yerevan.

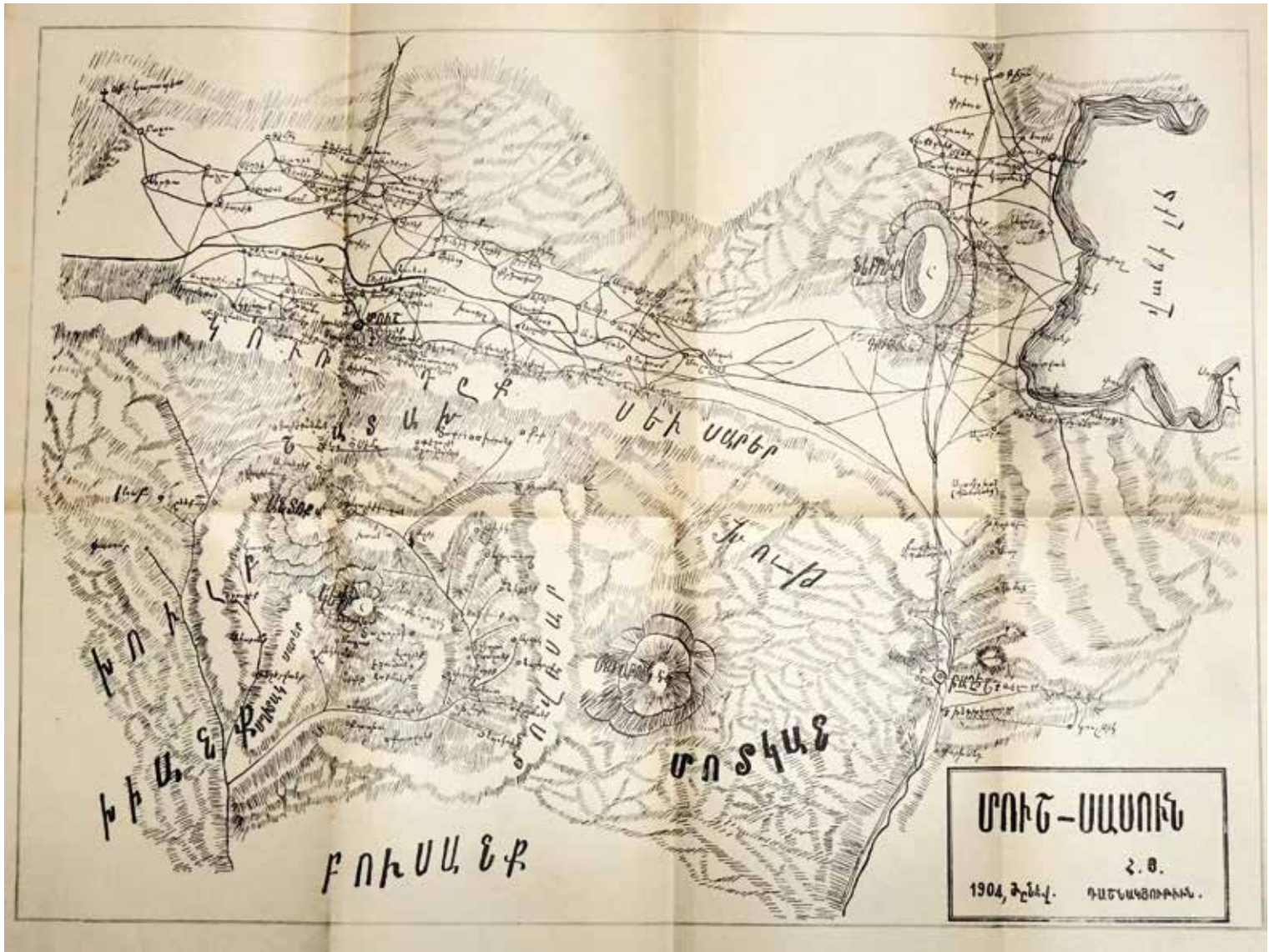


Figure 5.6 – *Mush and Sasun*. Geneva: 1904.

In 1904 the Constantinople-based bookseller published one of the few geography textbooks that included numerous maps. The textbook was entitled *A New and Illustrated Geography*, authored by Davit' Khachkonts (1866-1918) who had many textbooks to his credit.

The original book had 128 pages and over 30 monochrome maps and sketches measuring about 18 x 24cm.

The textbook was revised as *Illustrated Geography with Maps*, published for middle schools – 1910 having 136 pages, elementary schools – 1912 with 88 pages and high schools – 1914 having 184

pages. These were not ordinary textbooks but ones which, in addition to various images, included 19 monochrome maps as well as sketches. These were maps that could be considered as cartographic items as seen from the following reproduction, namely the map of north-western corner of the Asiatic Turkey, taken from the 1904 edition of the textbook drawn to the scale of 1/1,000,000 and measuring 19 x 11cm.

The later republished textbooks were made more appealing for the pupils by having inserts of colour plates of the continents and the Ottoman Empire. These are reproduced in Figure 5.8 as an example of Khachkonts' innovative work.

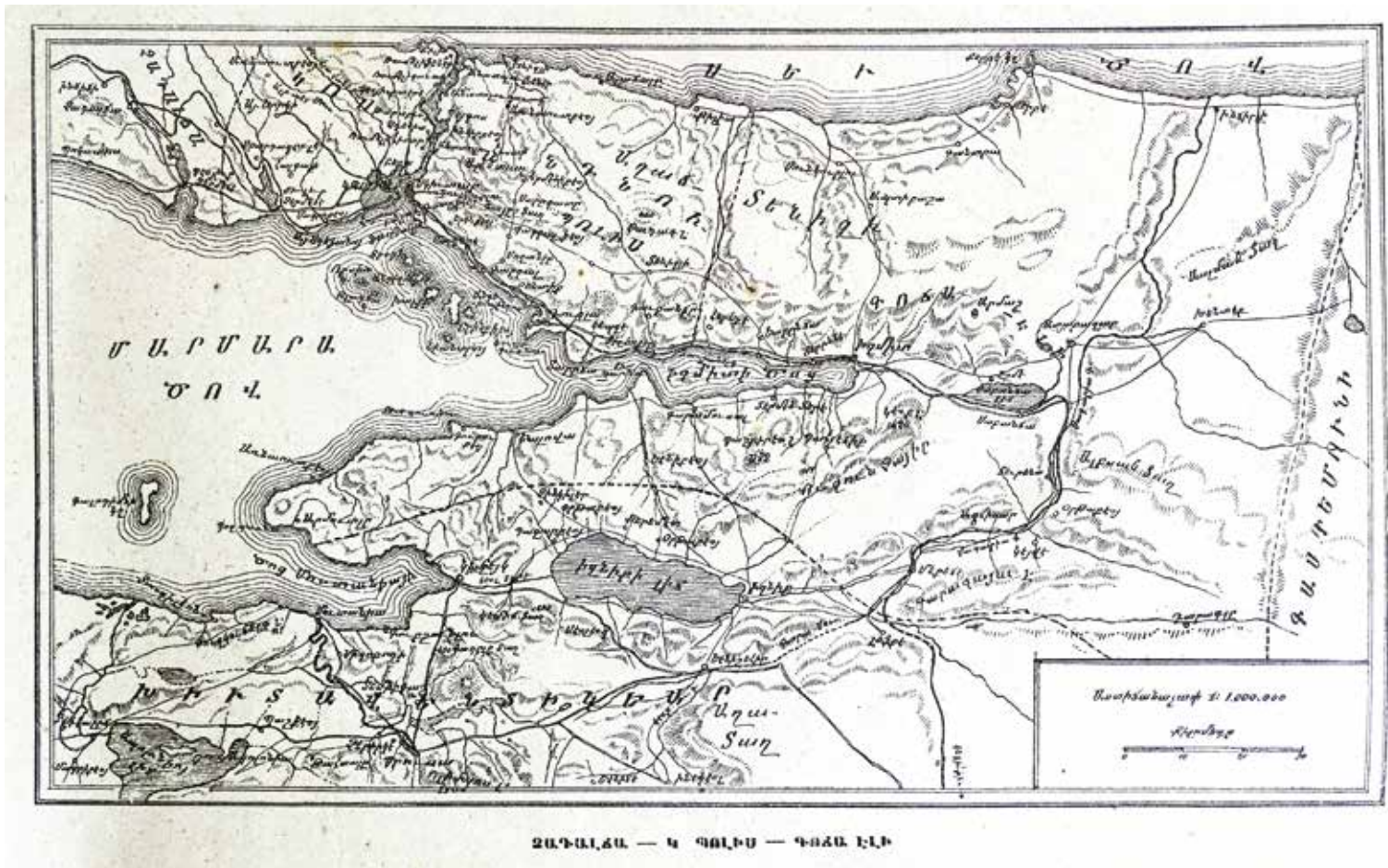


Figure 5.7 – Map of the region of Constantinople, from the geography textbook of Khachkonts. Constantinople: 1904.



Figure 5.8 – The five colour plates on this page, the maps of the Americas, Asia, Europe, Africa and the Ottoman Empire were printed in Constantinople during 1904 to 1914. These were inserted in Khachkonts’ geography textbooks printed in 1904, 1910, 1912 and 1914. They measure around 16 x 21cm and are drawn to various scales.

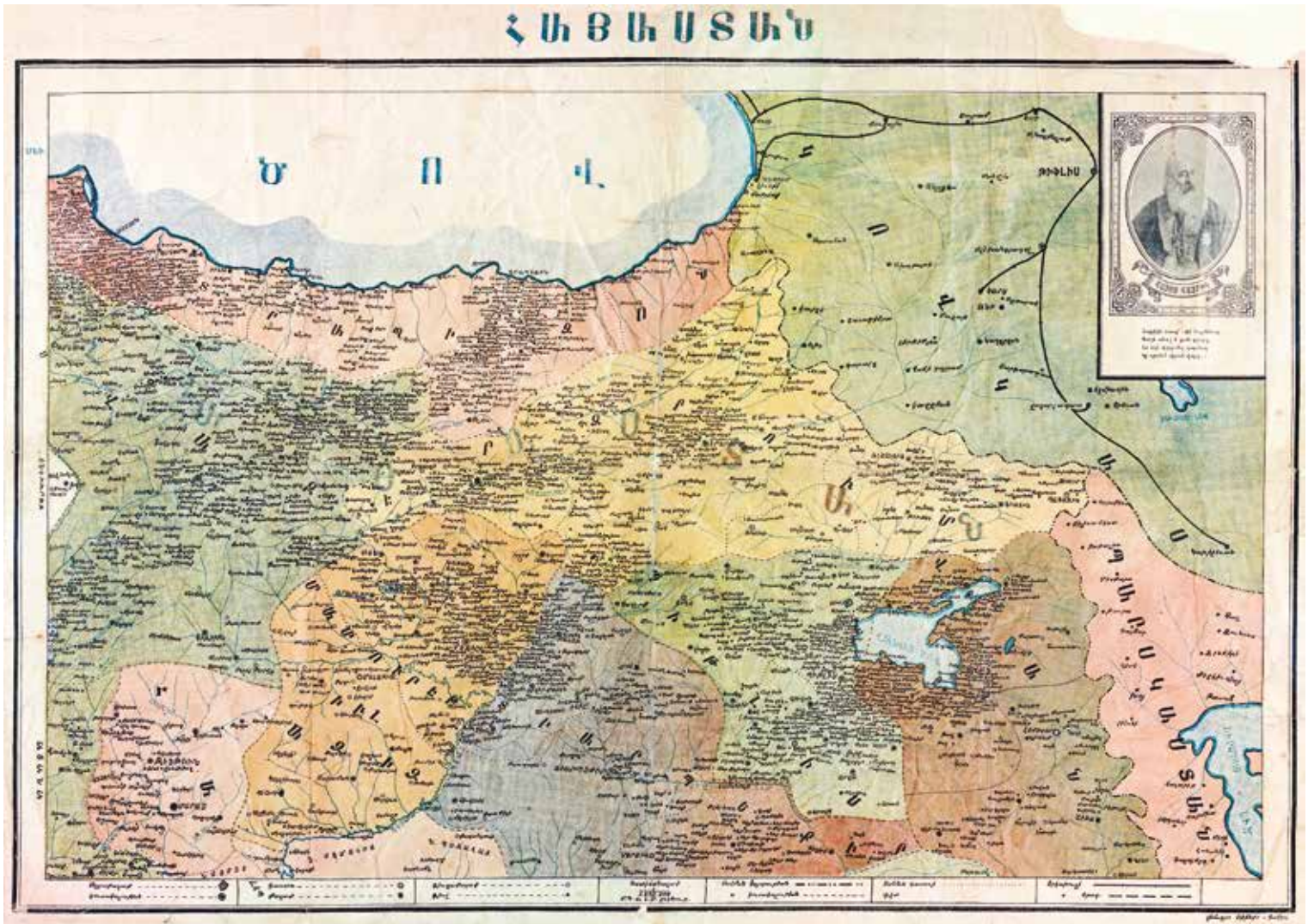


Figure 5.9 – *Armenia* published by Sphinx Publishers. Cairo: ca. 1905.

In the above reproduction we have one of the few maps printed in Cairo, Egypt, by the local Armenian organisations. The map is simply entitled *Armenia* and covers the region of historic Greater and Lesser Armenia occupied by the Ottoman Empire. However, the division of the territory is shown according to the Ottoman vilayets as it was during the nineteenth century.

The map includes detailed toponyms of many towns and villages located in the territory of Greater and Lesser Armenia. It is drawn to the scale of 1/1,250,000 and measures 72 x 51cm.

On the map there is an inset depicting a portrait of Khrimean Hayrik, the humanitarian Catholicos of All Armenians who was universally respected and loved.

In 1906 the publishing house of the San Lazzaro Mkhitarist Order printed a large map, probably for the Armenian schools active in the Ottoman Empire, which bears the title *Orient*. This was possibly referring to the eastern territories occupied by the Empire (Figure 5.10).

The map measures about 120 x 100cm and covers most of the Asiatic and African territories of the Ottoman Empire, but as far as details are concerned, it contains only selected toponyms. The map must have been prepared to order for the Armenian communities living in the Empire, since its presentation has been cautious, taking into account

all sorts of “inconvenient” political considerations.

As per the usual practice, the names of various countries are printed on the map with conspicuous and bold letters. Amongst these the name of the capital of the Ottoman Empire, Constantinople, is shown using the largest lettering to be seen on the map. However, the name “Armenia” is mentioned on the map in most cautious and inconspicuous manner, so much so, that it is almost obscured by the surrounding toponyms. Furthermore, the map contains an insert, showing a detailed map of the region of the capital Constantinople.

Figure 5.10 – *Orient*. Venice: 1906.



As mentioned, the name Armenia is on the map and can be seen spread over the territory beginning from the west of Lake Van and ending near the confluence of the Arax and Kura rivers (Karabagh), all with relatively small lettering. The size of the letters used to indicate Armenia is actually almost half the size of those used to indicate the names of the cities of the region, such as Erzurum, Tabriz, Van and others. This can only be explained by expediency towards the ruling political atmosphere of the Empire at the time.

The map also contains some statistical tables regarding the administrative divisions of the Empire and the Caucasus, including basic statistical figures

of various ethnic populations of various districts. An estimate of the Armenian population has been laid down in a separate table.

* * *

During the same year (1906) the historian and writer Leo published a map of historic Armenia, entitled *Old Armenia* which delineates the borders of Armenia during the fourth and fifth centuries.

The map was drawn by Yerkanean and published in Tiflis by Der-Markarean, measuring 50 x 40cm. Its main feature is Greater Armenia and its administrative divisions (Figure 5.11).



Figure 5.11 – *Old Armenia*, prepared by Leo. Tiflis: 1906.



Figure 5.12 – Sharur-Daralagyaz and Nakhijevan Districts of Yerevan Province. Tiflis: 1906.

The map in Figure 5.12 shows details of Sharur and Nakhijevan districts of the Province of Yerevan, Armenia, prepared by Yervand Lalaeian in Tiflis and published in 1906. It measures 62 x 66cm and includes extensive and detailed topographical information.

The next map (Figure 5.13 below) is that of the region of New Bayazed or Gegharquniq in the Province of Yerevan, located north-east of the city of Yerevan. It was also prepared by Y. Lalaeian, drawn by P. Marimeian and published in 1908 in Tiflis. This map also includes much topographic data and measures 68 x 47cm.



Figure 5.13– New Bayazed or Gegharquniq Region of Yerevan Province. Tiflis: 1908.

In 1909 Karapet Mirianian published a book in Tiflis entitled *Rudiments of Civilisation and the Armenian Myths*, which contains a simple folded map. The map is very basic, however it contains the toponyms of

all the Historic Armenian capitals, which makes it is worth considering as a source of information. The map measure 51 x 47cm and is printed in colour (Figure 5.14).

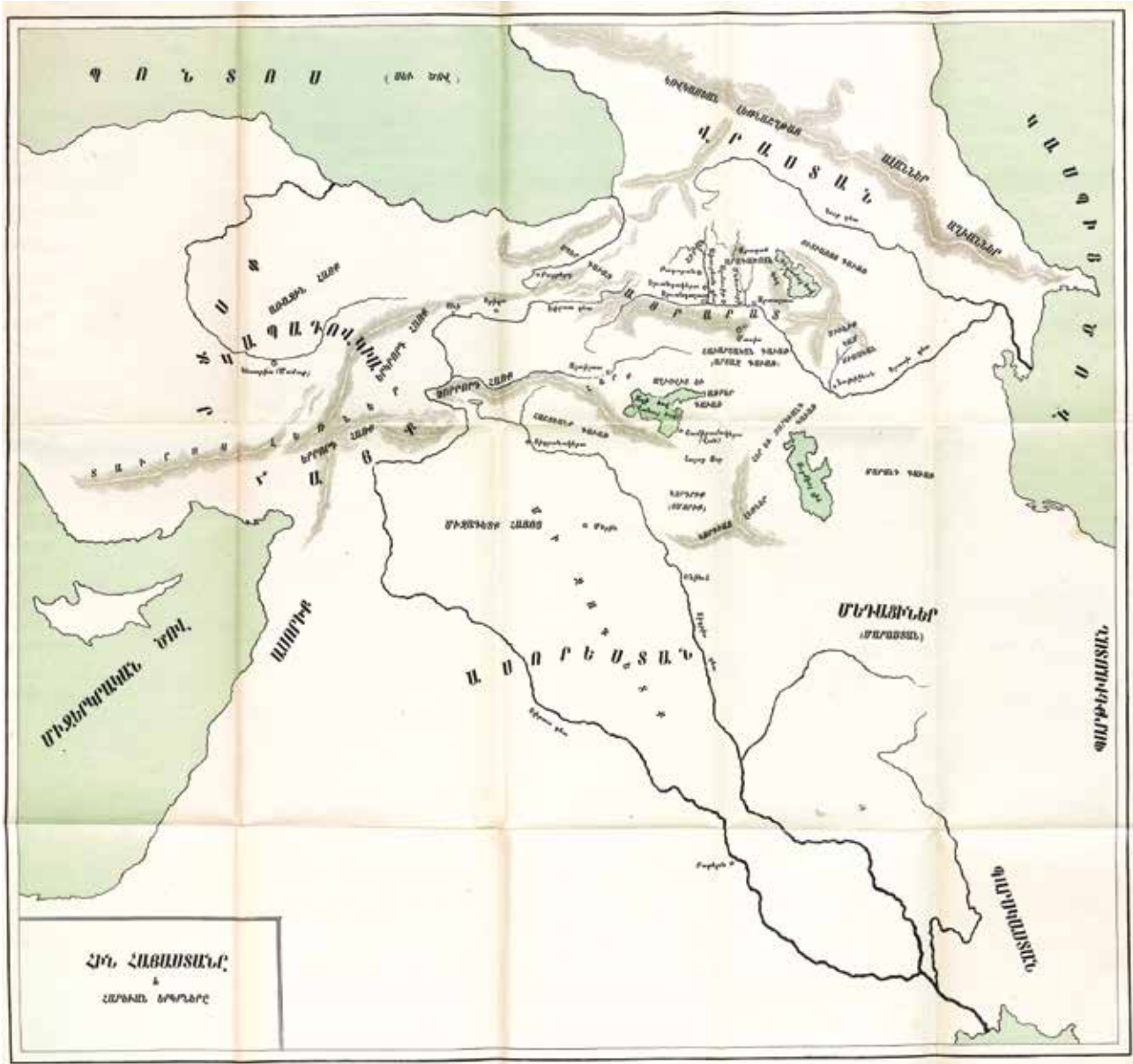


Figure 5.14 – *Old Armenia and Adjacent Countries*. Tiflis: 1909.

According to Hovhannes S. Stepanian, a map entitled *Ethnographic Map of the Trans-Caucasus* was published in Russian as well as Armenian by the Armenian Cultural Association of Baku in 1912.⁴⁷ The search for the Armenian map has proved to be futile and no surviving copy could be located.

After much research a damaged copy of the Russian version of the map was discovered in the archives of the Fundamental Library of the Armenian National Academy of Sciences. The map bears the inscription of *Map of the Caucasus Region: With the Indication of the Density of the Armenian Population*, published by the abovementioned society in Baku, not in 1912, but in 1908. The map measures 145 x 136cm and includes ethnographic statistical tables.

As the Armenian language copy could not be located, it was decided to reproduce the Russian version instead. From the partial detail of the map shown in Figure 5.15 it is obvious that the map is in dire need of restoration (to be implemented in due course). Colour coding shows the density of the Armenian population in the area (reds range 45-100%).



Figure 5.15a – Colour guide for the map.

↓ Figure 5.15 – Detail of Eastern Armenia from the 1908 map.



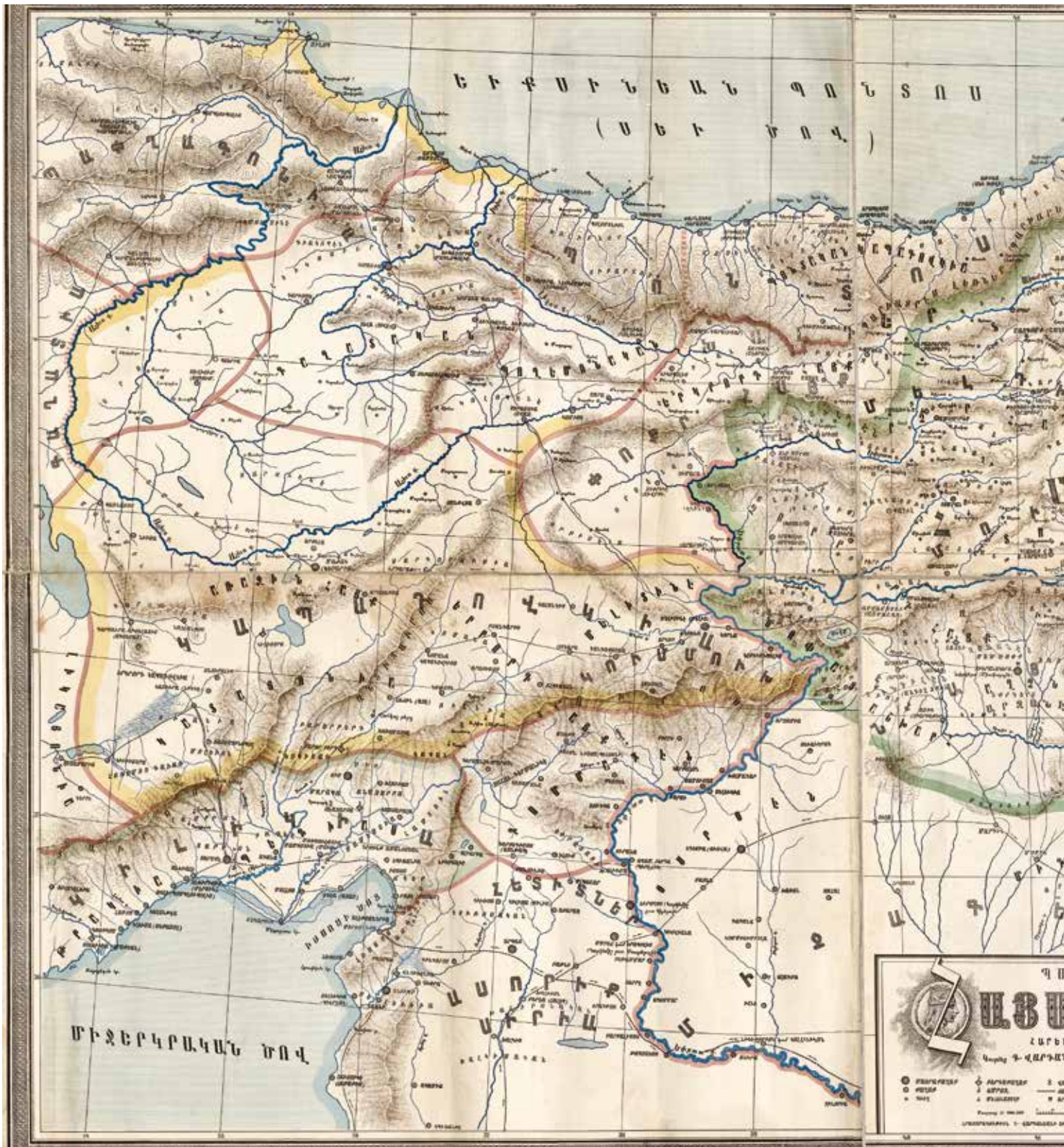


Figure 5.16 – *Historic Armenia and Neighbouring Countries* by G. Vardanean. Tiflis: 1910.

In 1910 G. Vardanean published a large map of Armenia in Tiflis entitled *Historic Armenia and*



Neighbouring Countries. The map was engraved by G. Duisterdik and was printed in colour. This is a very large map, measuring some 193 x 107cm, which includes much topographic detail. It is the largest map printed in Armenian before the establishment of Soviet Armenia.



Figure 5.17 – Old Armenia and Neighbouring States. Constantinople: 1910.

This map of *Old Armenia and Neighbouring Countries* is based on the map from Qajuni’s geography book of 1857 (Figure 4.14). The map was designed by Gevorg Mesrop, drawn by Aram P’ilikian and engraved by A. Jenderjean in Constantinople. The present version was published in 1910 and measures 31 x 25cm.

On this modern map layout the medieval Armenian kingdoms or provinces are outlined in red, and includes the names of their constituent districts. The names of the fifteen provinces (kingdoms) are listed at the bottom centre of the map.

After almost three centuries of Persian rule and the incorporation of the territory of Eastern Armenia within the Russian Empire in 1828, the first map of Armenia appeared in the Russian occupied territories in 1853. This map was prepared and printed in Tiflis in Russian. Two similar maps followed in 1858, depicting ancient and present-day Armenia but having been printed in Saint Petersburg in Russian, they are not discussed in the present chapter. However, due to their importance these are included in the last chapter bearing the title “Curiosity Maps”.

In Russia the earliest Armenian-language maps appeared during the late nineteenth and the early part of the twentieth century. These were later augmented by other maps mostly printed in Tiflis, which at the time was the centre of Armenian intellectual life in the South Caucasus.

Historical note

As mentioned above, since the Middle Ages until the establishment of the independent Trans-Caucasian Republics in 1918, Tbilisi

(Tiflis) was the centre of the Armenian intellectual life in South Caucasus, where most of the East Armenian intelligentsia lived and worked. During the 800 years ending in 1917 from a total of 47 mayors of the town, 45 were of Armenian origin.⁴⁸ Most of the main European-style buildings in the centre of the town, as well as the Opera House were built by Armenian merchants living and working in Tbilisi. The local municipal authorities, however, since independence have been trying to conveniently forget this “unpleasant” fact.

According to the 1876 census, from the 104,024 population of Tiflis 36.1% were Armenian, 29.6% Russian and 21.3% Georgian.⁴⁹

* * *

The Mkhitarist Order of Venice in 1910 published another small atlas entitled *Hand Atlas (Ar'dzern atlas)* which included images and maps in colour. The author of the work was Father Mesrop Sahakean.

This was the revised and updated version of their *Pocket Atlas* of 1901. The texts were updated and now contained 130 pages with 42 plates of maps. The maps of this atlas were exactly the same as those of the earlier version; only the colouring of the maps was different. One of the maps of this atlas entitled *Asia Minor and the Caucasus* is reproduced in Figure 5.18 as an example.



Figure 5.18 – *Asia Minor and the Caucasus* from the *Hand Atlas*. Venice: 1910.

In 1911 the activist and publisher Ruben Khan-Azat (1862-1929) and G. Vardanean published a concise “History of Armenia” aimed at schools as well as the public at large. The booklet was printed in Tiflis by Aghanean printers and contained a folded colour map entitled *Old Armenia and Neighbouring Countries*, drawn with the scale of 1/4,000,000 and measuring 45 x 34cm.

The map shows the eastern half of Asia Minor, Armenia and the north-western part of Iran. Engraved by a well-known master, G. Duisterdik, it does not contain many details but specifies the relative positions of the historic regions and countries surrounding Armenia (Figure 5.19).



Figure 5.19 – *Old Armenia and Neighbouring Countries*. Tiflis: 1911.

In 1913 there was a plethora of maps published in Constantinople and elsewhere. One of the maps was the route of the Retreat of the Ten Thousand, from the history by Xenophon, translated from the original German version entitled *Durch Armenien, Eine Wanderung und der Zug Xenophons bis zum Schwarzen Meere. Eine militär-geographische Studie* (Through Armenia. A Military-Geographical Study of Xenophon's Wanderings and Travels on His Way to the Black Sea).

The original book was published in Leipzig in 1911. In 1913 it was translated into Armenian and published in Constantinople by K'eoshkerean as Volume 17 of his Gutenberg series.

The book includes two maps one of which is reproduced here. The map shows the route travelled by the ten thousand Greeks who passed through Armenia on their way to the Black Sea. It measures 34 x 28cm (Figure 5.20).



Figure 5.20 – Xenophon's Travels through Armenia. Constantinople: 1913.

Two large maps of the Ottoman Turkey and the Balkans were prepared by A. Piper'tjean and drawn by H. P'ap'azean and S. Akayean respectively.

Each of these two maps was accompanied by explanatory booklets providing data about the countries and cities shown on the map. The maps and the booklets were published by Hayreniq publishers of Constantinople in 1913.

The first map of Figure 5.21 is entitled *Extended Map of the Ottoman State* [in Asia]. This map covers the territory extending from Constantinople and the Aegean Sea in the west to the Caucasus, Iranian Azerbaijan and the Caspian Sea in the east and from the Black Sea in the north to the Persian Gulf, Mesopotamia and Egypt in the south. It has insets of Arabia and Ancient Armenia-Urartu.

The scale of the map is 1/1,250,000 and measures 110 x 82cm.

In the territory marked "Armenia" the large cities shown are *Amasia, Yevdokia-Tokat, Babert-Baiburt, Sebastia-Sivas, Yerznka-Erzinjan, Karin-Erzurum, Van-Tosp, New Kharbert, Mush, Baghesh-Bitlis, Malatia* and *Diyarbekir*. *Artvin, Kars* and Eastern Armenia are shown inside the Russian territory.



Figure 5.21 – *Extended Map of the Ottoman State* in Asia by Piper'tjean. Constantinople: 1913.



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Figure 5.22 is the reproduction of second of these two maps and is entitled the *Latest Extended Map of the Balkan States*, most of which had previously been occupied by the Ottoman Turkey. The territory shown extends from the Black and Marmara seas to the Adriatic Sea. The map measures 120 x 75cm and is drawn with the scale of 1/864,000. The countries shown are *European Turkey, Bulgaria, Greece, Serbia, Albania, Romania and Montenegro*.

The first of these two maps depicting Asia Minor and the Asiatic part of the Ottoman Empire included the region of Armenia, named so on the map. The

second map however, the Balkan States of Figure 5.22, has no relation to the region of Armenia and there was no reason for Armenians to publish such a map. The only common denominator was that these regions had also suffered under the occupying Ottomans. The map probably owes its existence to the fact that these territories had been occupied by the Ottoman Empire for an extended period and hence their importance to the Ottomans, where the Armenian makers of this map also lived. Perhaps psychologically through their work they were trying to demonstrate loyalty to the rulers of the Empire.



Figure 5.22 – *Latest Extended Map of the Balkan States* by Piper'tjean. Constantinople: 1913.

The year 1914 saw the publication of a small but important atlas in Constantinople, authored by A. Piper'tjean and entitled *The Latest Pocket Atlas of Political, Statistical and Commercial Information*. The atlas was printed in the Sanjakjean printing house and published by Hayreniq-Yeprat publishers. This was a small, cloth-bound book measuring 10.5 x 17.5cm. The first 80 pages were taken up by the descriptive texts and tables, while the remaining section consisted of 23 double-page colour maps, with three of them having folded flaps making them 39 x 17.5cm in size (Figure 5.23).

There were also seven tables regarding the languages spoken, European schools, Europe's ethnographic distribution, governments' income and expenditure, exports and imports of countries and statistics of major shipping ports. The atlas contains much information in condensed form and would have been of real help to the world traveller of the time. The other maps of the atlas are as follows:

- Relative sizes of the sun and the planets
- World's major travel and trade routes
- Europe
- Asia
- Africa
- North America
- South and Central America
- Australia and Oceania
- Turkey in Europe and the Dardanelles
- Turkey in Asia
- Syria and Mesopotamia
- Arabia
- The Balkan States
- Russia
- France
- Britain, Ireland, Netherlands and Belgium
- Germany
- Austro-Hungary
- Italy
- Spain and Portugal
- Switzerland
- Sweden and Norway

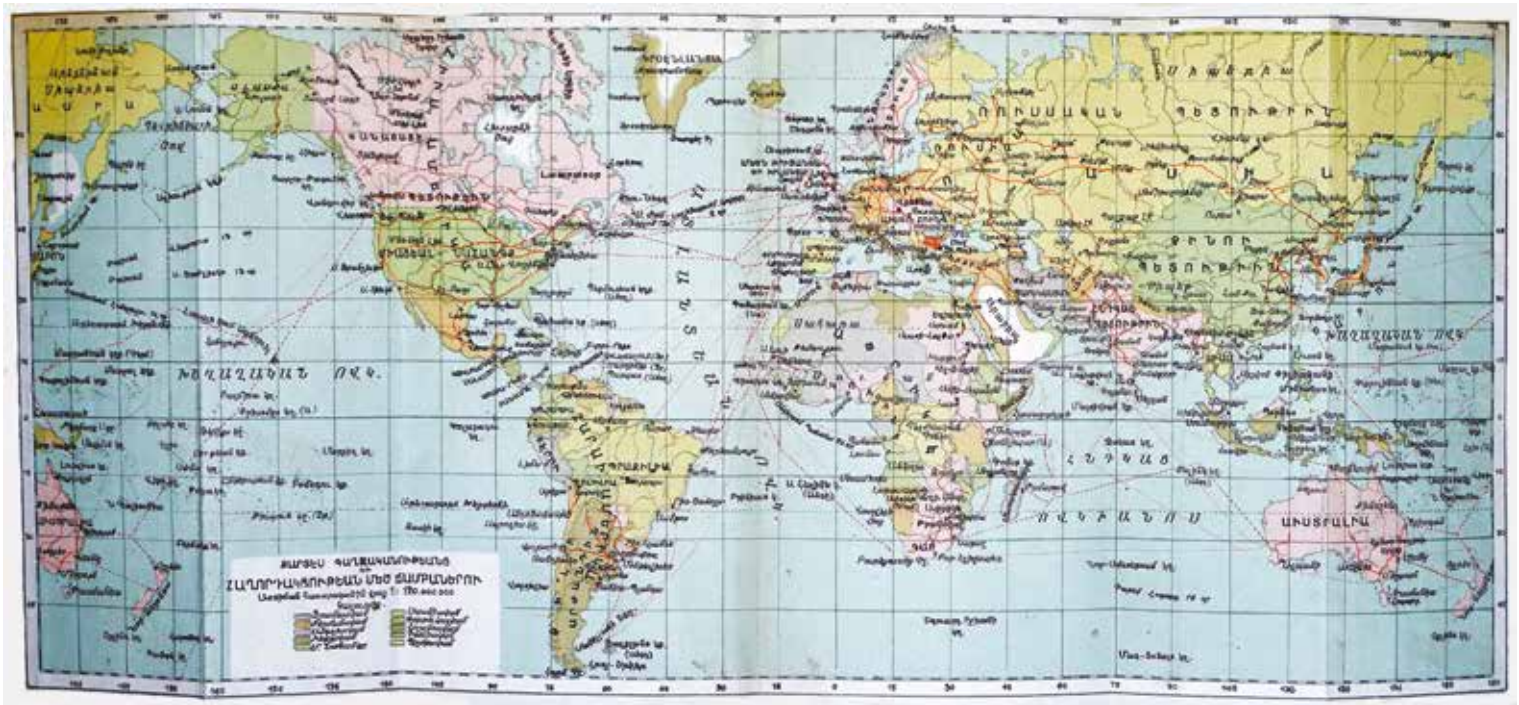


Figure 5.23 – Mercator projection of the World, showing major travel and shipping routes. Constantinople: 1914.

In order to give the reader an idea about the quality of the map details covered by this small *Pocket Atlas* the map of Asia from the 1914 atlas is also reproduced below. The map measures 19 x 17cm and has a scale of 1/60,000,000 (Figure 5.24).

This seems to be the last cartographic work published in West Armenia and Ottoman Turkey. All cultural activities were stopped abruptly by the initiation of the Armenian Genocide in the Ottoman Empire in 1915.⁵⁰



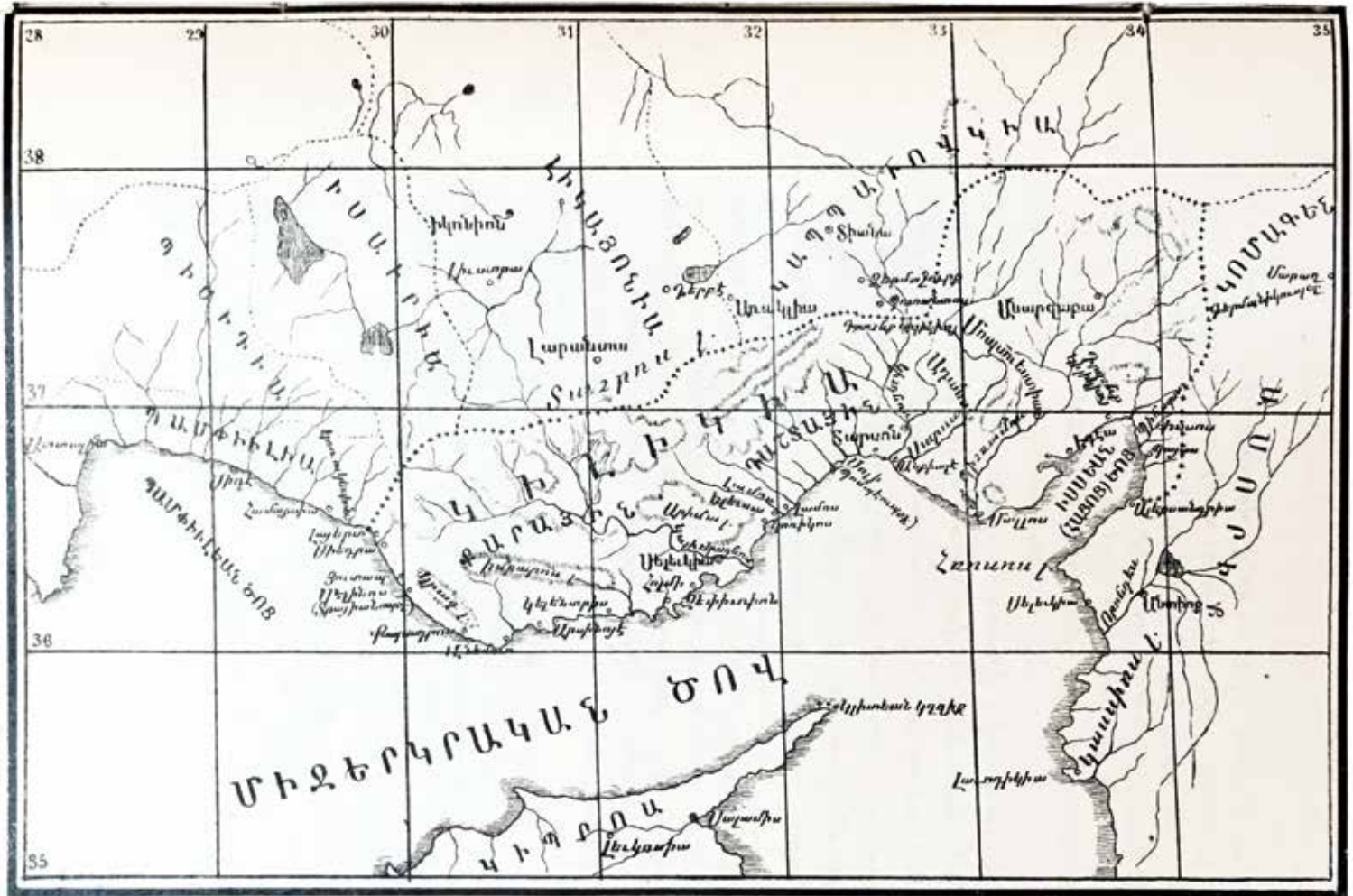
Figure 5.24 – Asia, from the *Pocket Atlas*. Constantinople: 1914.

In 1914 Avetiġ Der-Hakobean published a geography textbook entitled *Physical, Ethnological and Political Geography of Armenia*, printed in Tiflis by Esperanto Press. The book measures 16 x 23cm (Figure 5.25).

The chapter entitled Cilicia contains the only detailed map of the Armenian Kingdom of Cilicia,

where all the toponyms are those used by the Armenians of the day.

Although prepared for a geography textbook, the map has all the features and characteristics of a cartographic work, hence its consideration in this study. The map measures 18 x 12cm.



Հայկական Կիրիկիա:

Figure 5.25 – *Armenian Cilicia*, from the geography textbook by Ter-Hakobean. Tiflis: 1914.

Elibekian was a geography teacher in the famous Nersisyan School in Tiflis. In 1914 he published a map of the Caucasus, which covers both south and north of the Caucasus Mountains. It is a detailed map produced by H. Duisterdik and printed by S. Bichov in Tbilisi.

The map was used by Elibekian in the geography textbook he produced in Tbilisi during the same year. The map is a good cartographic work, made by a prolific mapmaker of the time.

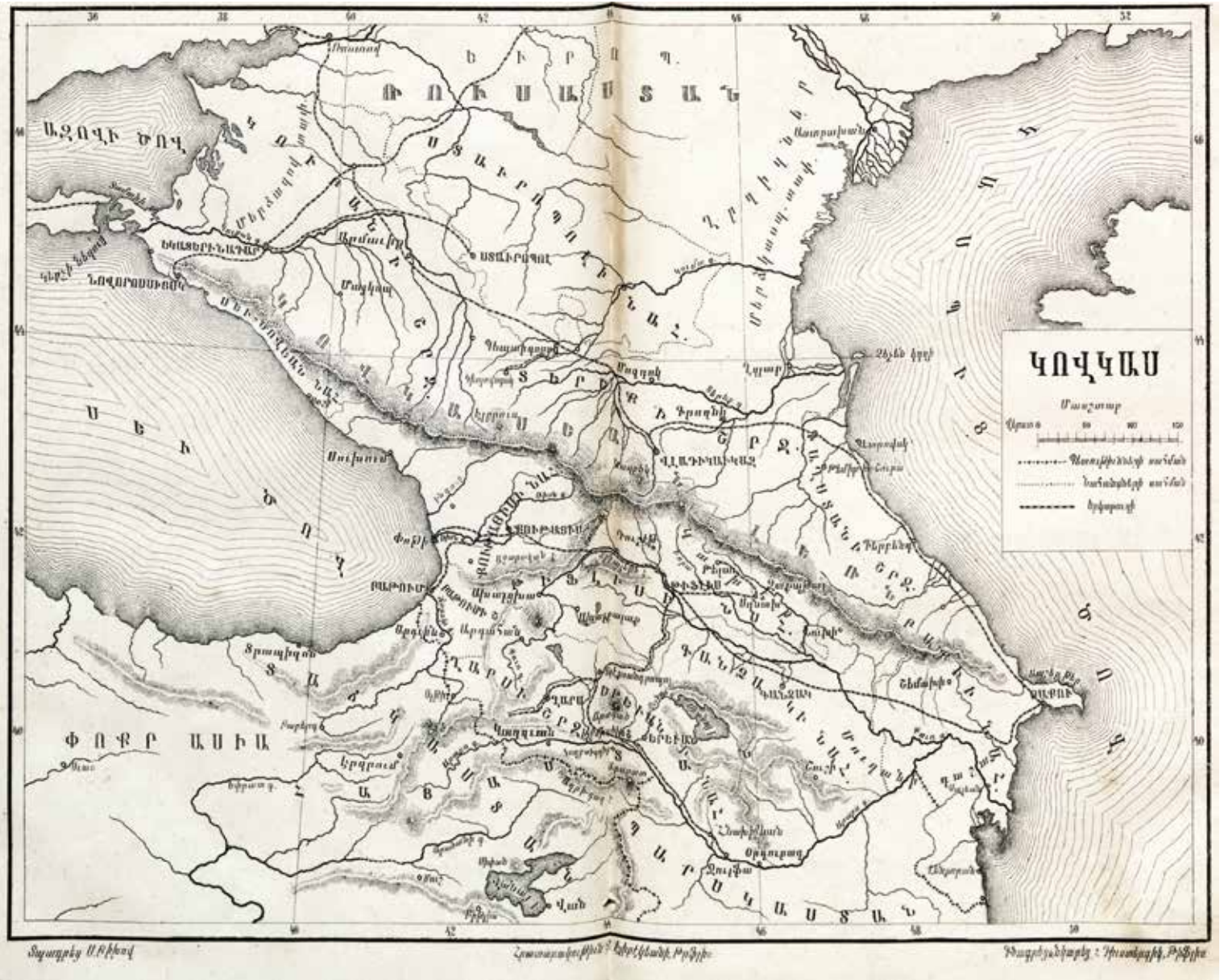


Figure 5.26 – *Caucasus*, published by Elibekian. Tiflis: 1914.

Artashes Abeghean (1878-1955) was a prolific cartographer, who working in Tbilisi produced many maps, especially for geography textbooks.

Between the years of 1907 and 1917 he also translated and prepared no fewer than a range of

13 geography textbooks. Most of them contained maps, a few of which have been reproduced in this study.



Figure 5.27 – *Caucasus* from Abeghean’s textbook. Tiflis: 1914. The South Caucasus is divided into the Russian administrative provinces with no consideration to the ethnic populations of these regions.

The historian Karapet Basmadjean (1864-1942) of Constantinople had drawn a map of Old Armenia which has been used in various geography textbooks such as those of Avetiğ Der-Hakobean and Artashes Abeghean published in Tiflis in 1914 (Figure 5.29).

This is a simple map of Armenia during the later years of the reign of the Arshakuni dynasty (52-428 CE). It shows the 15 provinces with their names listed in the inset table.

The map measures 30 x 18cm and the numbers on the map refer to the names of the Armenian provinces, as delineated on the map. The table in the next columns is the translation of names of the provinces with complementary data.

Province (<i>ashkharh</i>)	Area (km ²)	Regions (<i>gavar</i>)
1 Upper Armenia	23,860	9
2 Sophene	18,890	8
3 Aghdznig	17,532	11
4 Turuberan	25,008	17
5 Moxene	2,962	8
6 Corduene	14,707	11
7 Parskahayq	11,010	9
8 Vaspurakan	40,870	35
9 Syuniq	15,237	12
10 Artsakh	11,528	12
11 Paytakaran	21,000	10
12 Utiq	11,315	8
13 Gugaraq	16,795	9
14 Tayq	10,179	8
15 Ayrarat	40,105	22

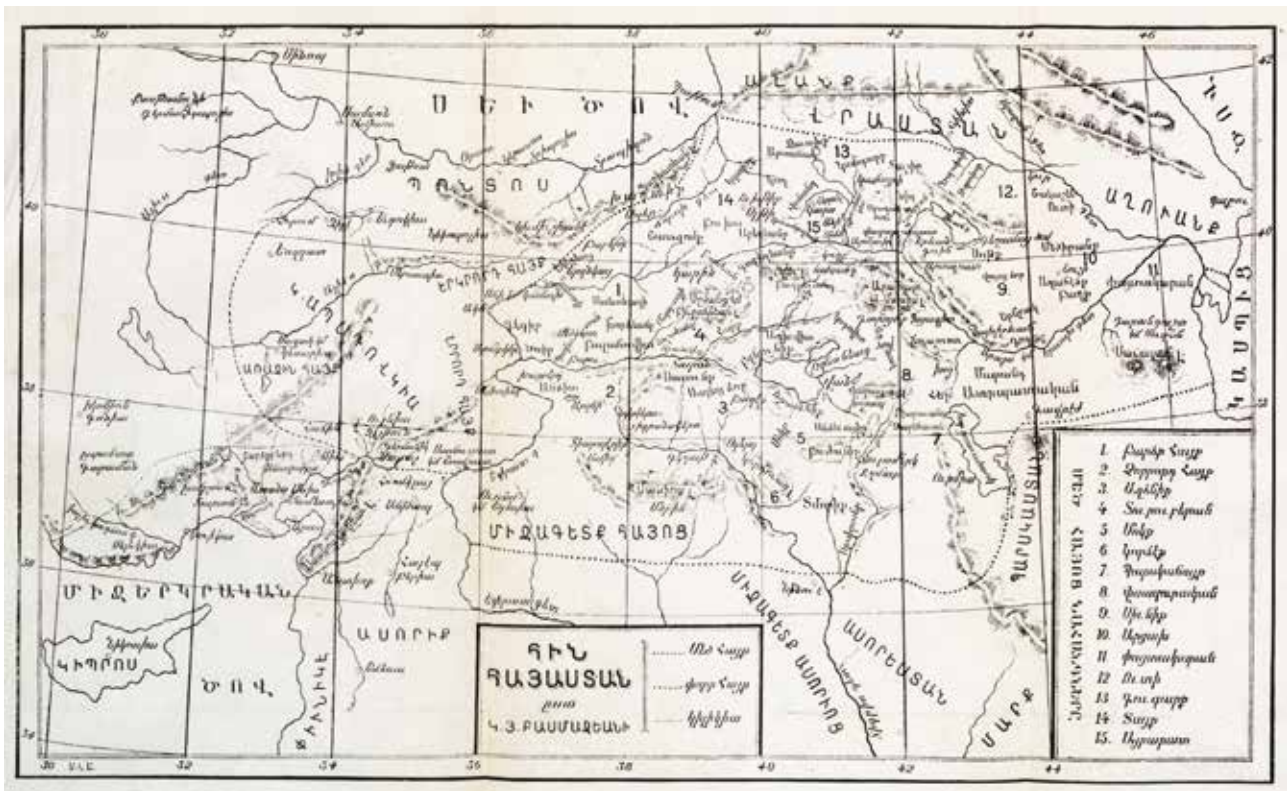


Figure 5.29 – Old Armenia, Basmadjean, Tiflis: 1914.



This simpler map of *Ancient Armenia and Adjacent Countries* was prepared by A. Abeghean and used as an insert in another geography textbook published in 1915. It shows no borders but indicates the names of adjacent countries as being the Land of the Alans, Pontus, Mesopotamia, Assyria, Persia and Media (Figure 5.31).

Lesser Media, northern part of Media, was later renamed “Atropatene” in honour of the leader who defended the land against the invasion of

Alexander the Great. After the Arab occupation the name gradually evolved into Aderbigan, Adherbijan and finally “Azerbaijan”. Armenian is the only language that still uses the old name “Atrpatakan” for this north-western province of Persia-Iran.⁵³

The map was engraved by Duisterdik in Tiflis. It measures 61 x 37cm and is similar to the maps of Figure 5.16 and 5.19 in design and colour scheme.

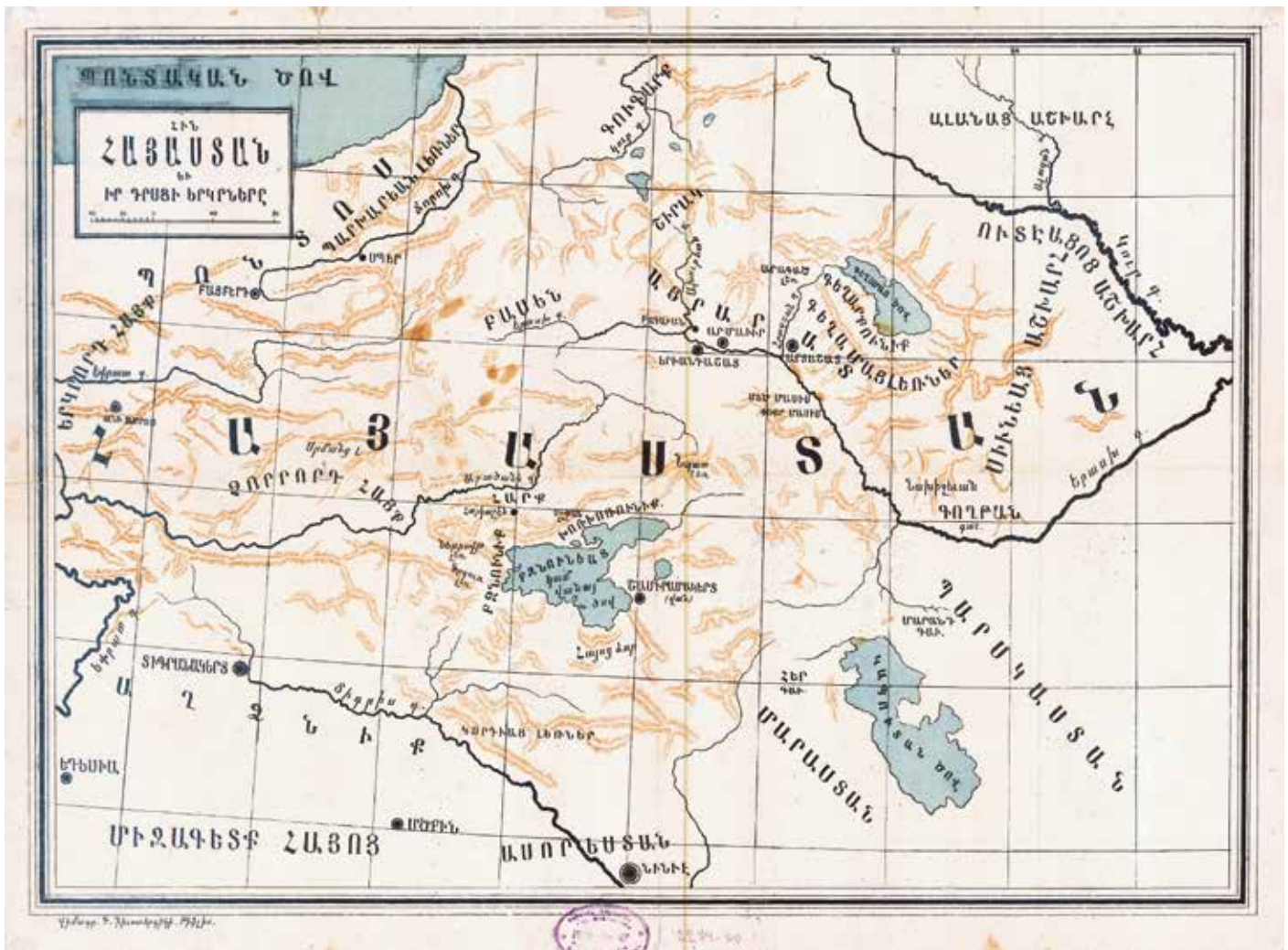


Figure 5.31 – *Old Armenia and Its Adjacent Countries*, Abeghean. Tiflis: 1914-16.



Figures 5.32 – ↑ Russo-Turkish War Map, *Trebizond and Erzurum*. Tiflis: 1916.

For detailed descriptions see the next page.

Figure 5.33 – ↓ Russo-Turkish War Map, *Van and Iranian Azerbaijan*. Tiflis: 1916.



During World War I, since the Armenian territories became a theatre of the war between the Ottoman and Russian Empires the Armenian communities became interested in the progress of the war. During the war years, three maps of the theatres of the conflict were published in Tiflis and sold separately. The first two, Figures 5.32 & 5.33, were published in 1916 and encompassed the historic regions of Armenia, i.e. Karin-Erzurum and Van. The maps measure 32 x 22cm.

The map of Figure 5.34 was published in 1917 and is the general map entitled *Russo-Turkish Theatre of War, Armenia and Adjacent Countries*. The lithograph was done by S. I. Bikhov and the map was published by the *Mshak* newspaper of Tiflis. It includes a statistical table of the ethnography of the population of the six Ottoman vilayets of Erzurum, Van, Bitlis, Kharbert, Diarbekir and Sivas in Eastern Turkey, where most Armenians lived. It measures 64 x 49cm.

Figure 5.34 – *Russo-Turkish Theatre of War, Armenia and Adjacent Countries*. Tiflis: 1917.



Around the same period the cartographer Artashes Abeghean produced a map of the province of Vaspurakan (region of Van now in Turkey) which was later reproduced in the book telling the history of

the defence of Van during the resistance against the Ottoman Army. The map is reproduced in Figure 5.35, traced from Abeghean's map. It measures 24 x 19cm.

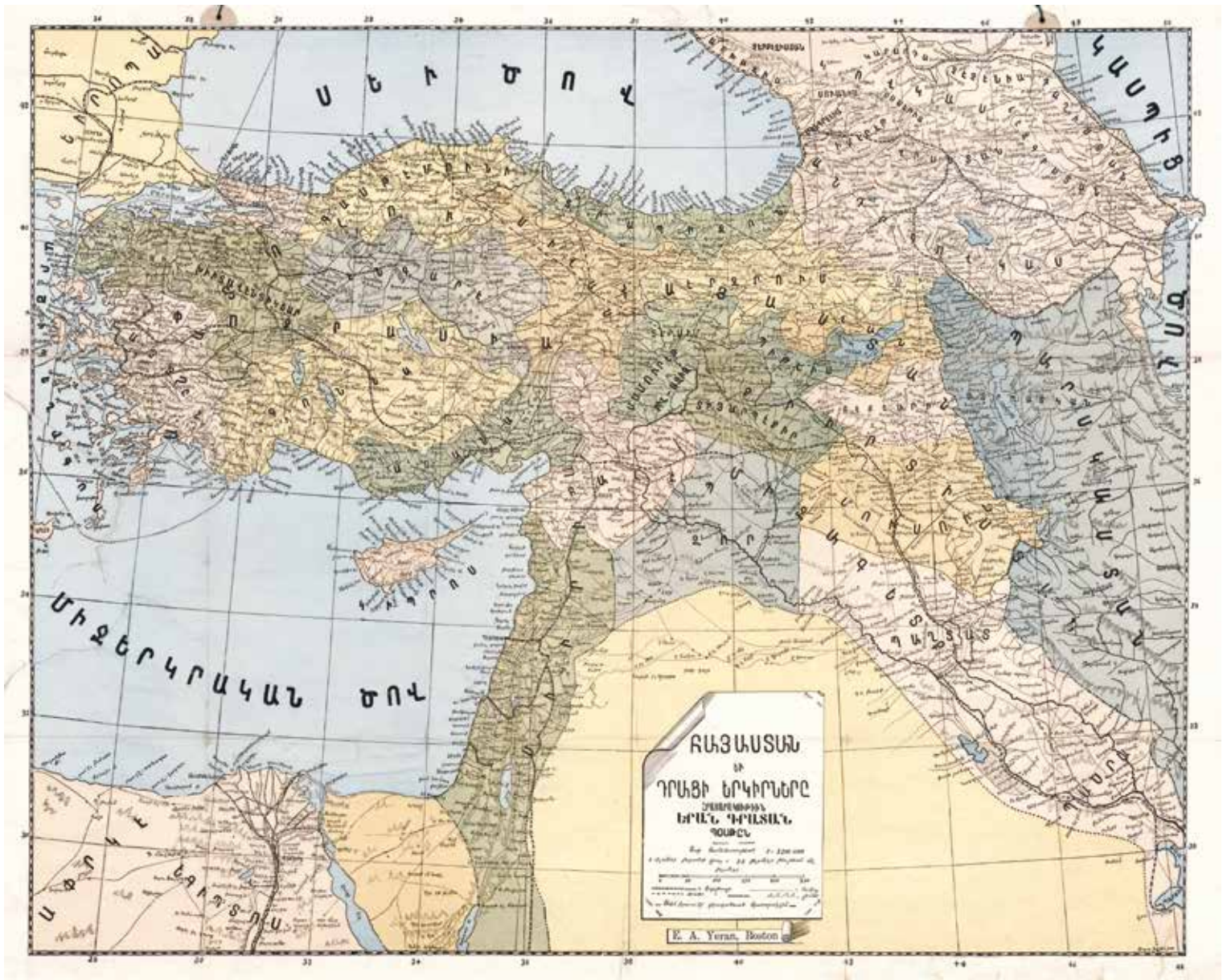


Figure 5.35 – Vaspurakan, taken from the book *The Events of 1914-1915*, by A-Do. Yerevan: 1917.

Meanwhile in Boston two similar maps were published under the title of *Armenia and Neighbouring Countries*. These were identical in every respect except for the cartouche mentioning the name of the publisher. The area covered is that of the Ottoman Empire and Eastern (Russian) Armenia. One was published by Yeran Publishing House in 1917 and was used as an insert into the book entitled *General History of Armenia* by Harutune Chakmakjean (Figures 5.36 & 5.36a).

It appears that sometime later Yeran was taken over by H. N. Ashodean. In some volumes of the above history book the name of “Yeran Gratun” on the map has been covered by a sticker stating “Property of H. N. Ashodean”. Later still, the map was re-printed with the name “Yeran Gratun” changed to “H. N. Ashodean” (Figure 5.38). Neither map carries a date. These two maps measure 58 x 46cm. They both have been based on the similarly titled map of 1904 of Figure 5.5, published in Geneva in 1904.

Figure 5.36 – *Armenia and Neighbouring Countries*. Boston: 1917.



The story of this map does not end here. During the days of World War I the map of Figure 5.5 was once again used, this time in Tbilisi, where it was copied and presented as *War Map*. The top part of the cartouche of the original map was removed and replaced by its new title in Russian and Armenian. The map otherwise is a replica, kept in the

Armenian National Archives under reference F.247-3-57 (Fig. 5.39).

The four cartouches of this map, published in different continents and times are reproduced below. None of the later maps refer to the original of 1904, which was the source of their published map (Figure 5.37).



Figure 5.36a – Cartouche of the Yeran version. Boston: 1917



Figure 5.38 – Cartouche of Ashodean's version. Boston: 1917.



Figure 5.37 – Cartouche of the original Geneva version of the map, 1904.



Figure 5.39- Cartouche of the Tiflis version. Circa 1917.

In 1917 A. Abeghean published a *School Atlas* for use in the Armenian schools in Tbilisi. The atlas measuring 15 x 21.5cm was printed by the Caucasus Military Topography Division, on low quality paper and includes nine double-page colour maps, each measuring around 25 x 20cm. In spite of the quality of the paper, the maps are tastefully drawn and coloured. The first map of the atlas, reproduced below, depicts the eastern and western hemispheres as well as a Mercator projection and the traditional zonal divisions of the world. (Figure 5.40)

The atlas map titles are:

- The two hemispheres
- Europe
- Asia
- Africa
- North and South Americas
- Australia
- European Russia
- Caucasus
- Turkish Armenia

As a reminder to the Master Colonialist (UK), on the map of Australia the map of Great Britain is shown as an inset on the same scale.

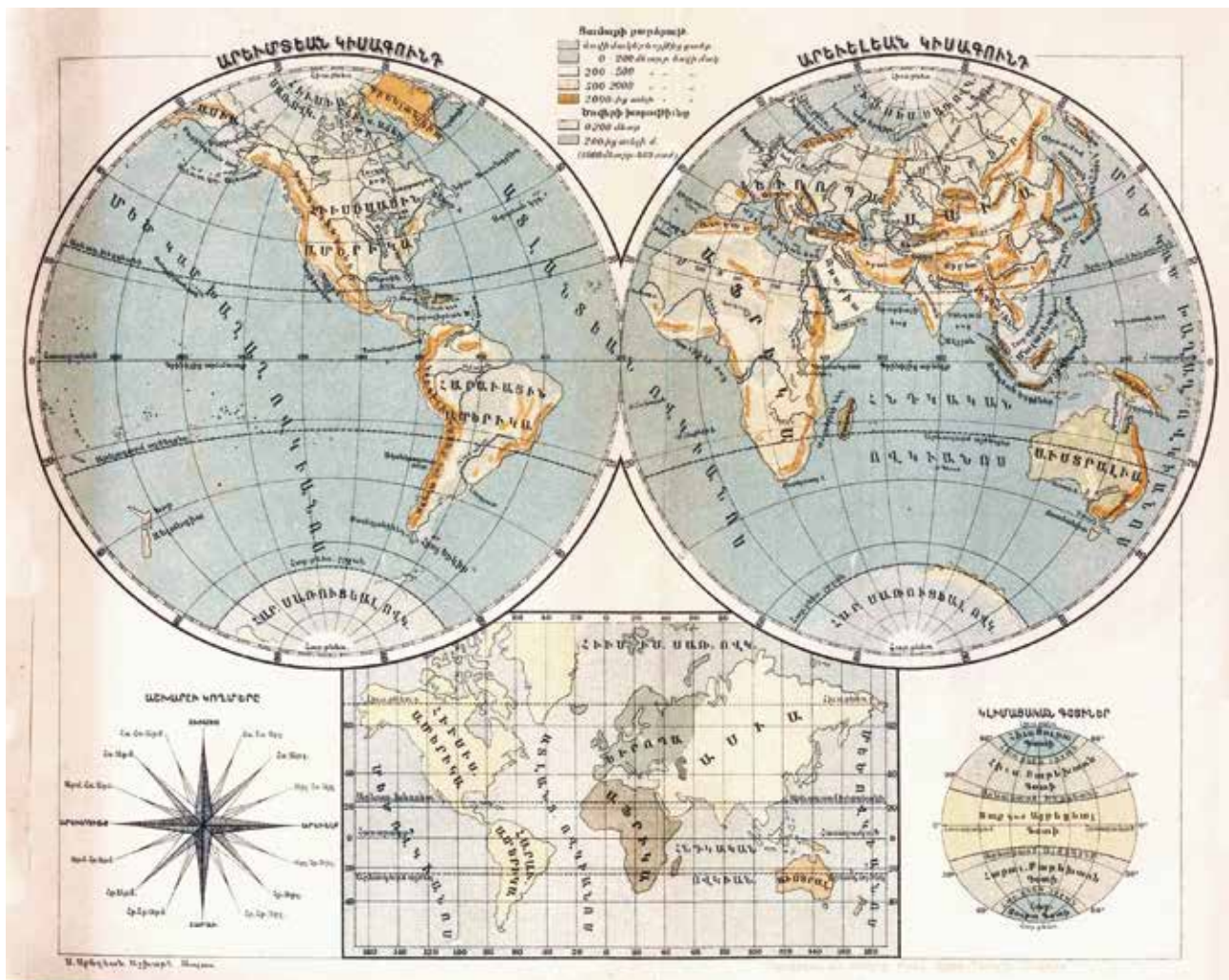


Figure 5.40 – The two Hemispheres from Abeghean’s *School Atlas*. Tiflis: 1917.

A second map from Abeghean's *School Atlas* of 1917 is also reproduced below, as the penultimate map of this section. It shows the quality of maps produced by Abeghean. This is the map of Europe, measuring 25 x 20cm (Figure 5.41).

The last two maps of this atlas, those of the Caucasus and Turkish-Armenia, have also been used in Abeghean's other geography textbook published in 1917 and mentioned in the descriptive texts of Figures 5.27 & 5.28.



Figure 5.41 – Europe, from Abeghean's *School Atlas*. Tiflis: 1917.

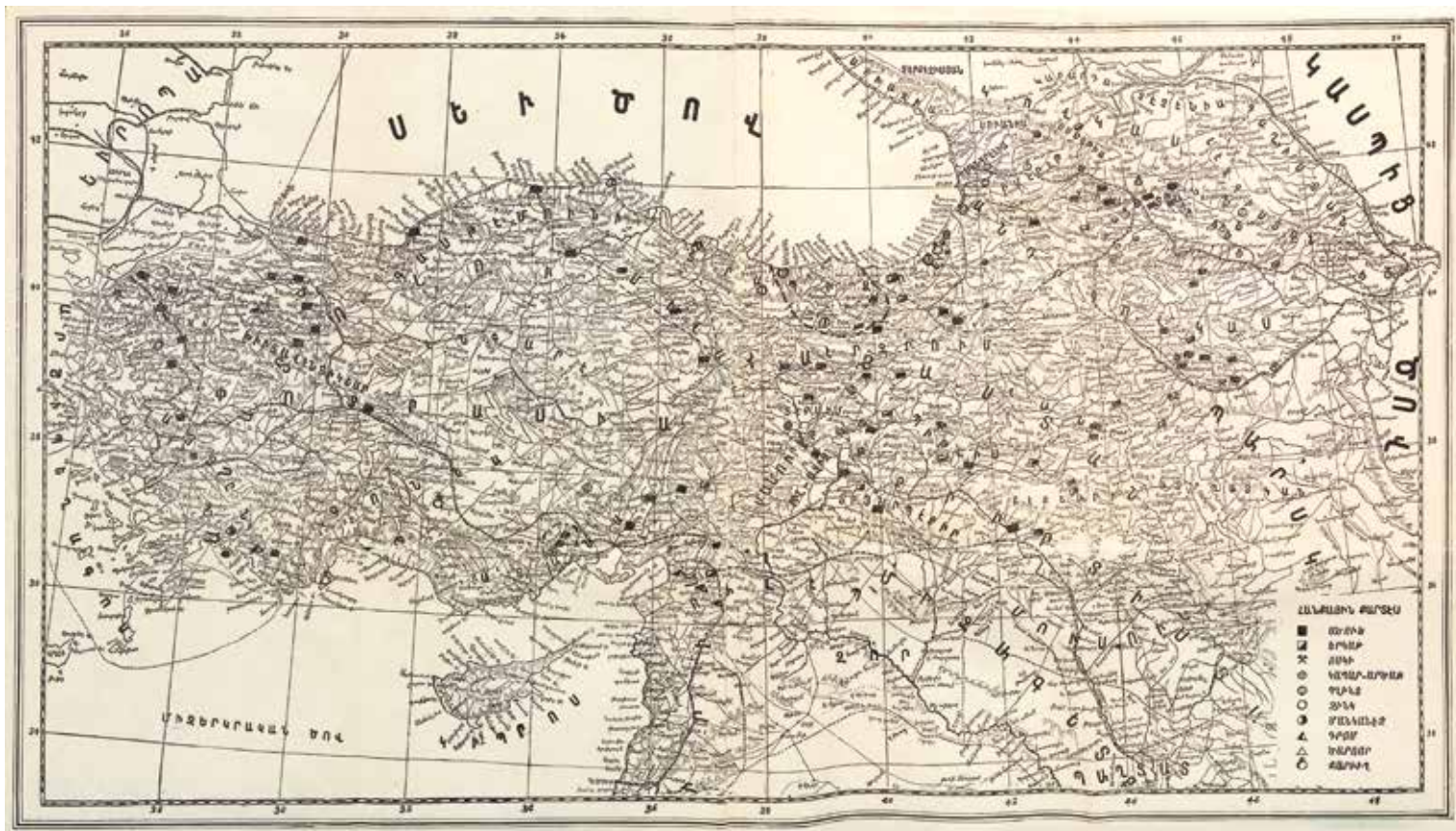


Figure 5.42 – Map of the Mines of Armenia, Asia Minor and Cilicia. New York: 1915 (1919).

In 1915 Hagop A. Kharajean (Karajian) of New York published a book entitled *Regional Geology and Mining of Armenia*. The book included a map of the area with the mines utilised at the time. The author translated the book, giving it the title *The Mines of Armenia, Asia Minor and Cilicia*, publishing it in New York by Haik publishers in 1919.

The map accompanying the book was also translated into Armenian and added in the book as a folded inset (Figure 5.42).

From the borders of the Russian and Ottoman Empires it is obvious that the map's political borders were those of the pre-1918 period, therefore it is perhaps proper to assume that the map was a copy of the map included in the original book in English, published in 1915. The map measured 50 x 28cm and includes the locations of coal, oil, gold and other metal ore mines as they were in use prior to the war.

Part 6 – Curiosity and Manuscript Maps of the 19th-20th Centuries

This section of the study is concerned with unusual maps or manuscript maps which have curiosity interest. The study is only concerned with maps published or printed in Armenian, with the exception of the first three maps of this section which are in Russian. These three are the first maps made by Armenians but in Russian. They appear in books published in 1853 and 1859.

The map of Figure 6.1 is from P. Shanshiev's Russian translation of the book of *About Vardan and the War of the Armenians* by the fifth-century historian Yeghishe. There is no name given for the mapmaker. The map covers the region of Armenia (outlined in pink) and Sassanid Persia (outlined in blue) extending eastward up to Central Asia. This map measures 61 x 39cm and shows some of the important cities of the time.



Figure 6.1 – Untitled map of the region of Armenia and Persia. Tiflis: 1853.

The next two maps were inserted in the book entitled *A Study of Armenia and Neighbouring Countries*, published in Saint Petersburg in 1859, but the maps were prepared in 1858. The author of the book is A. Khudabashean. The following two reproductions are of the first maps in Russian dedicated to Armenia.

The map of Figure 6.2 is entitled the *Map of Armenia and Adjacent Countries*, drawn to a scale

of 1/2,600,000 and measuring 57 x 45cm. The map was prepared by the military staff of Commandant Strauss in Tbilisi.

In the map although Armenia is split between the Russian, Ottoman and Persian Empires, its name is prominently displayed on the area from Malatia to Artsakh (Karabagh).



Figure 6.2 – *Map of Armenia and Adjacent Countries*. Saint Petersburg: 1858.

The map of Figure 6.3 is also inserted in the abovementioned book and is that of Ancient Armenia, with its provinces and their names. This map measures 24 x 20cm and has a scale of 1/4,410,000. It shows approximate borders of Armenia in the Middle Ages, as well as delineating and naming its 15 provinces.

Countries surrounding Greater Armenia are shown as follows: Iberia to the north, Albania to north-east, *Adrbadakan* (the Persian province of Azerbaijan) to the east, Assyria and Armenian-Mesopotamia to the south, Cilicia and Lesser Armenia to the west.

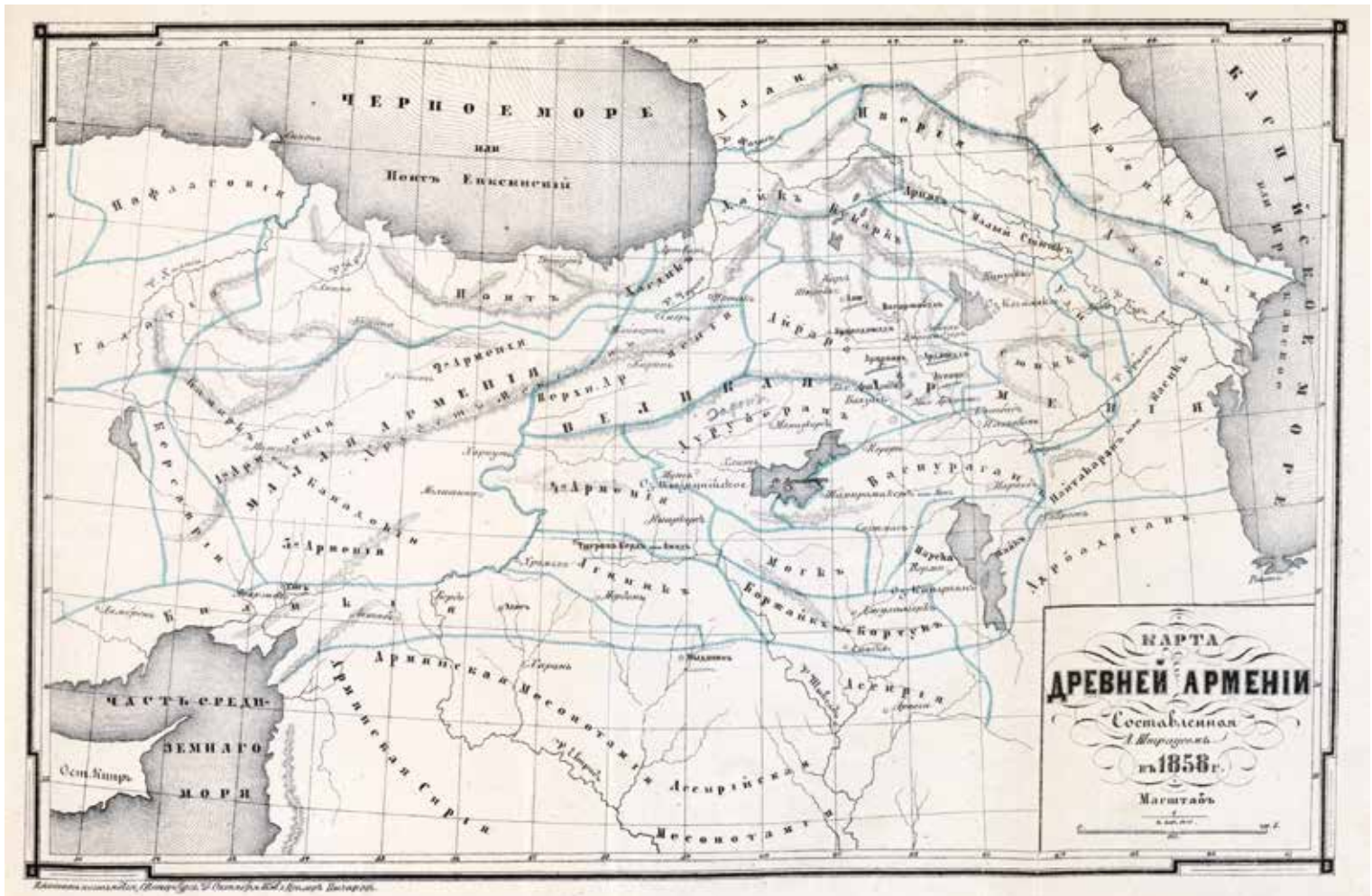


Figure 6.3 – Map of Ancient Armenia. Saint Petersburg: 1858.

In 1898 Dadean was appointed as the assistant head of the Armenian Diocese of Atrpatakan in Tabriz. At this time he had the region with its centre in Salmast surveyed and mapped. The resulting sketch map is shown in Figure 6.5, measuring 22 x 16cm.

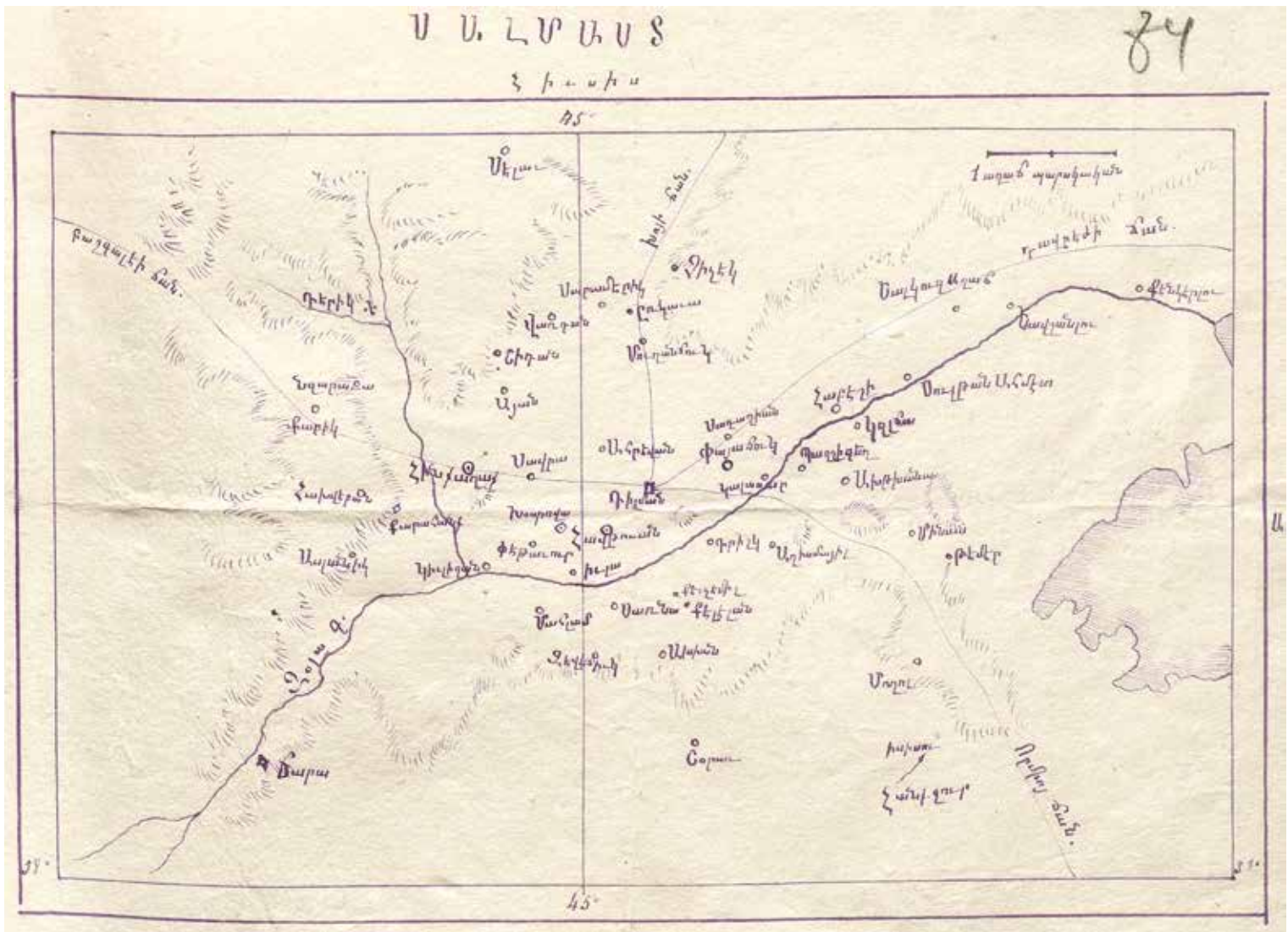
Both these sketch maps are kept among Dadean's personal papers in the Armenian National Archives (ref. 319.1.179, pages 19 & 84).

During the following decade another map of the region of Salmast was produced locally. This was

a much more detailed map than that of the previous figure. On this map each village is indicated with the ethnicity of its inhabitants, which consisted of Armenians, Turks, Assyrians and Jews. Kurds being mainly nomadic have not been indicated as settlers of any of the villages shown.

The cartographer of the map of Salmast of Figure 6.6 is unknown, neither is the exact date of its preparation. The map measures about 25 x 35cm and is kept in the ARF Museum in Yerevan.

Figure 6.5 – Map of the region of *Salmast* (Zarishat) drawn in 1899.



During the late nineteenth century cartography enthusiasts in various parts of the Armenian homeland and Diaspora prepared high quality handmade maps, some drawn on fabric and others on technical drawing papers etc. Some of these maps are included in this chapter. These are not sketch maps as those in Figures 6.4, 6.5, 6.6 and 6.8, but are detailed and fully carefully prepared maps. This tradition continued well into the mid-1920s, gradually diminishing as the Soviet Armenian authorities began publishing maps in Armenian.

One of the oldest of such maps was a World Map with the two hemispheres entitled *The Globe divided into two Hemispheres according to the most*

recent French and German Maps, prepared by Chit'tjean in Van, 1899 and reproduced in Figure 6.4 below.

The use of west European sources is apparent, as the map resembles many world maps of the late nineteenth century Europe.

The map measures 170 x 90cm and is drawn on fabric, executed with much care and attention. At the present time it is housed in the History Museum of Armenia, in Yerevan.

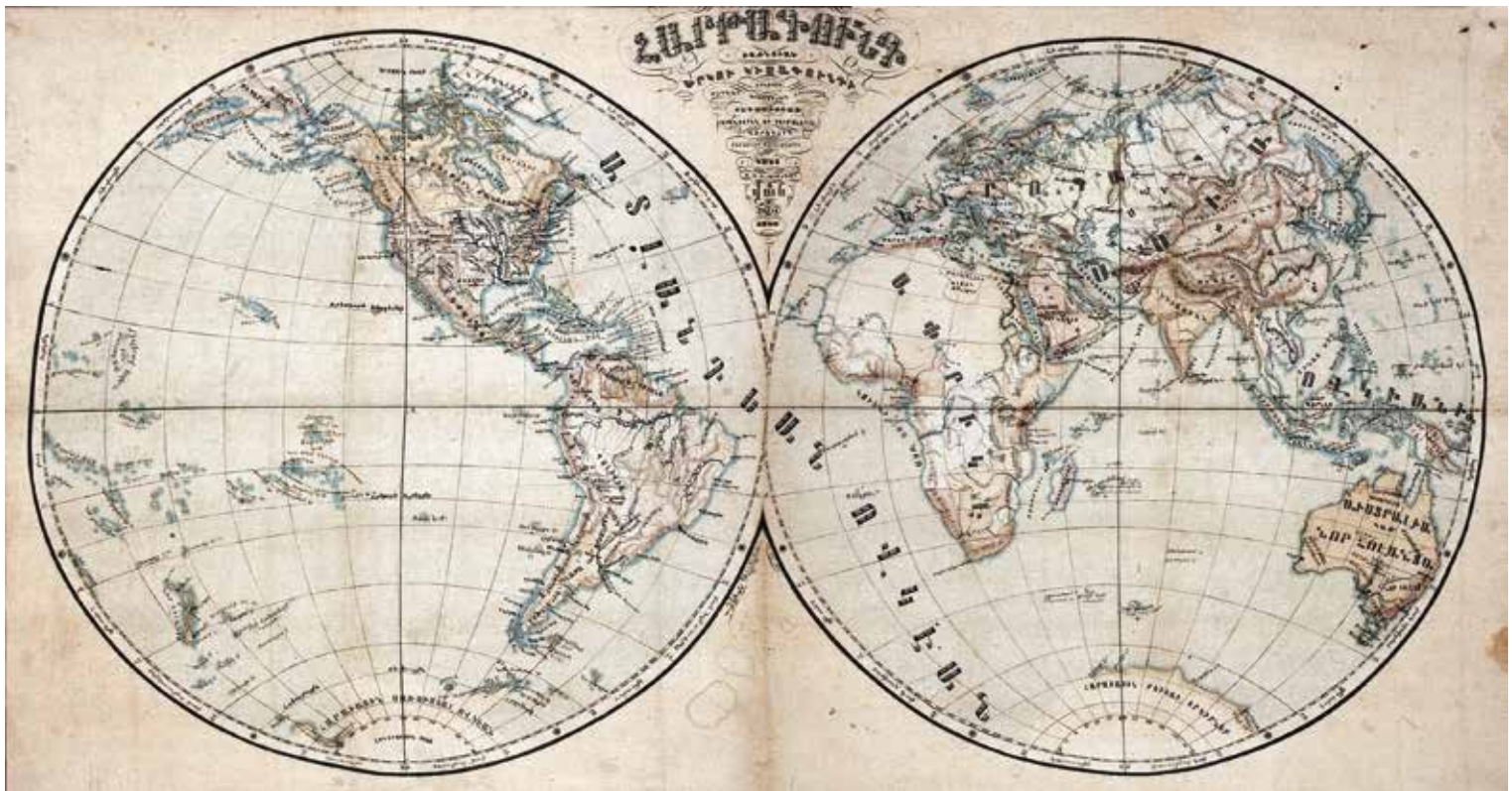


Figure 6.7 – Manuscript *Hemispheres* map of Chit'tjean on fabric. Van: 1899. (History Museum of Armenia, Yerevan.)

Mkrtich I (Khrimean Hayrik), the Catholicos of the time, in early 1900s had some detailed maps made, some of which relating to the region of Echmiadzin have survived. Most of these maps however were made in Russian. An Armenian-language detailed map of the region of Nakhijevan has also survived in the archives of Mesrop Smbatean, kept in the Armenian National Archives (ref. 429.1.226.1).

Regrettably the part of the large map, where the name of the cartographer and the date would have been is missing; hence its maker and its exact date remain unknown.

The map is very detailed and many toponyms of the region may be seen. The map measures 65 x 49cm (Figure 6.8).

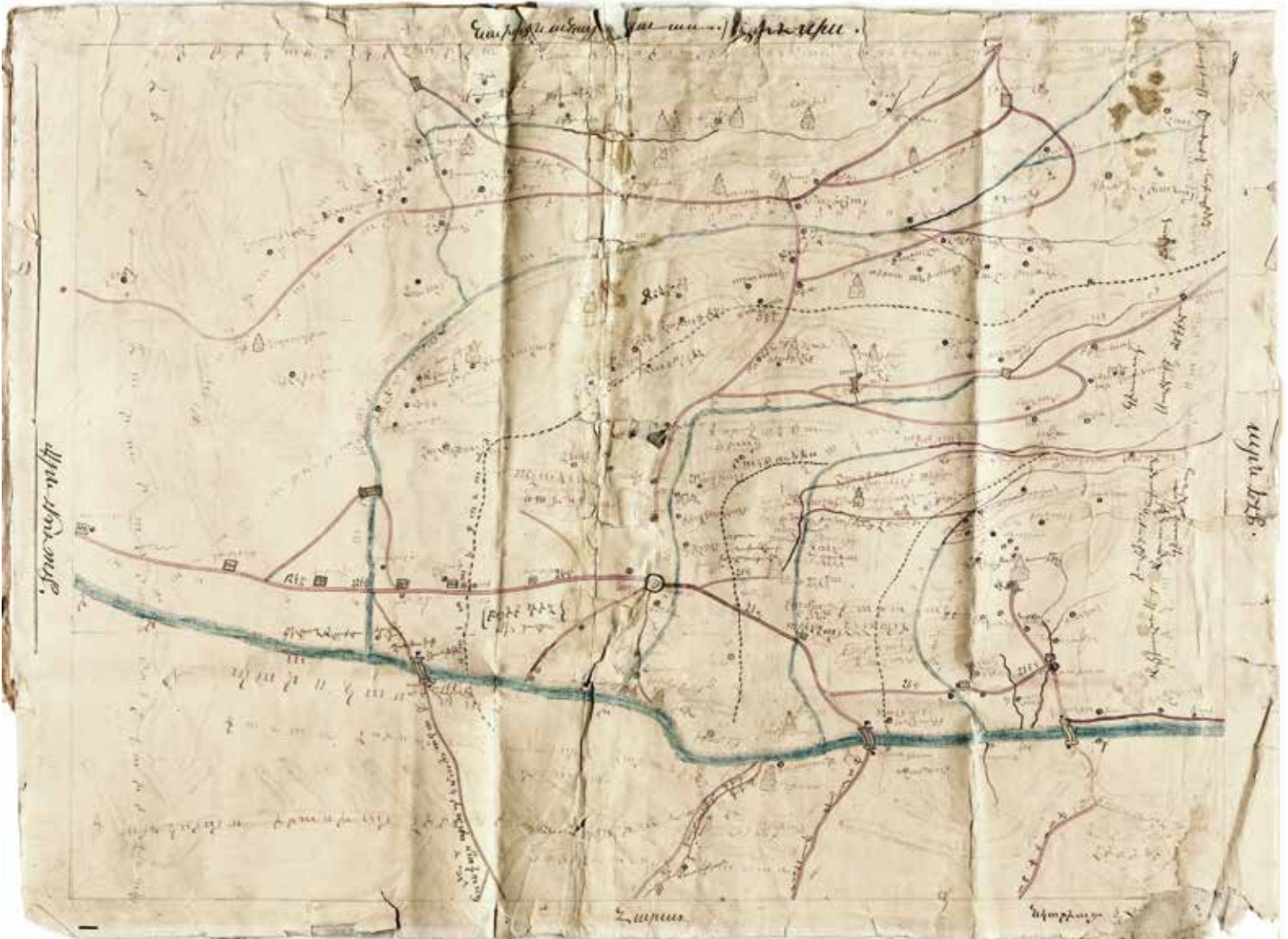


Figure 6.8 – Manuscript map of Nakhijevan, ca. 1900.

Another enthusiast by the name of V.G. Brutean from Erzinjan, living in Alexandria, Egypt, copied the map of Figure 5.5, entitled *Armenia and Neighbouring Countries*, made by the Armenian Students' Association of Geneva in 1904, enlarging and redrawing it on fabric in 1907.

The map measures almost 1.5 x 1.5m in size. It covers the area of the Asiatic territories of the

Ottoman Empire, including the North Caucasus and the Iranian Province of Azerbaijan.

The two insets are those of the Armenian Kingdom of Cilicia and the region of Sasun in historic Armenia. The map scale is 3/3,500,000.

It is now framed and covered with glass, and is hanging in the museum of the Mkhitarist Order in Vienna as seen in Figure 6.9.



Figure 6.9 – *Armenia and Neighbouring Countries*. Copy made on fabric, from the 1904 Geneva map. Alexandria: 1907.

(Vienna, Mkhitarist Order.)

* * *

In 1916 a refugee from Van by the name of Maghaq Shaltjean was appointed as the head of the American orphanage in Sanahin, North Armenia. Being educated in Van and Constantinople, he was also a map enthusiast. Through his contacts in the USA he obtained special coloured inks and began his work on this large map of Armenia, measuring 190 x 105cm, drawn with a scale of 1/800,000 on fabric. His map bears the title of *Historic Armenia and Neighbouring Countries*. This is a finely drawn and detailed map providing some historic information such as medieval trade routes as well as the routes travelled by Xenophon and Alexander the Great. The two inserts of the map are those of Asia Minor and Western Persia.

The map is the property of his granddaughter, Mrs Anahit Beglaryan of Yerevan, Armenia. He had other manuscript maps made for the family and friends. As an example of his work, a small detail from his map is shown below as Figure 6.10a.

Figure 6.10a – Detail from Figure 6.10.

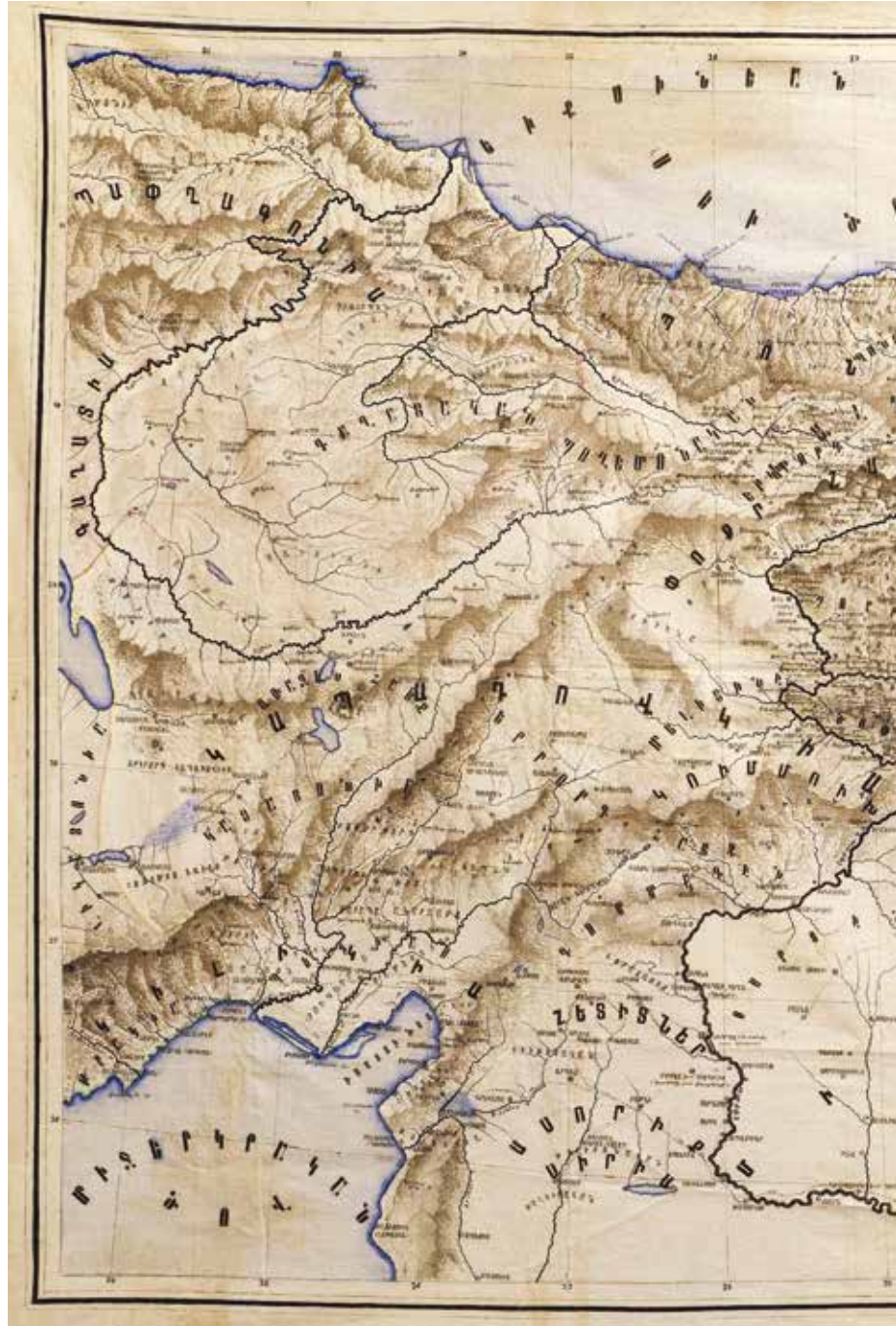




Figure 6.10 – *Historic Armenia and Neighbouring Countries* by M. Shaltjean. Gyulagarak, Lori: 1916.

Martiros Kheranean was a native of Van, who was also a prolific cartographer and teacher. Between 1910 and 1930 he drew and copied numerous detailed maps of Van and Armenia, hand drawn and painstakingly marked with many toponyms. For his map paintings he mainly used fabric.

In 1913 he had already prepared a map of his home region. This is a very detailed map of the Van District, with names of towns and villages, etc. measuring about 80 x100cm. As an inset he has drawn the plan of the city of Van, lying just under the Rock of Semiramis (Figure 6.11).

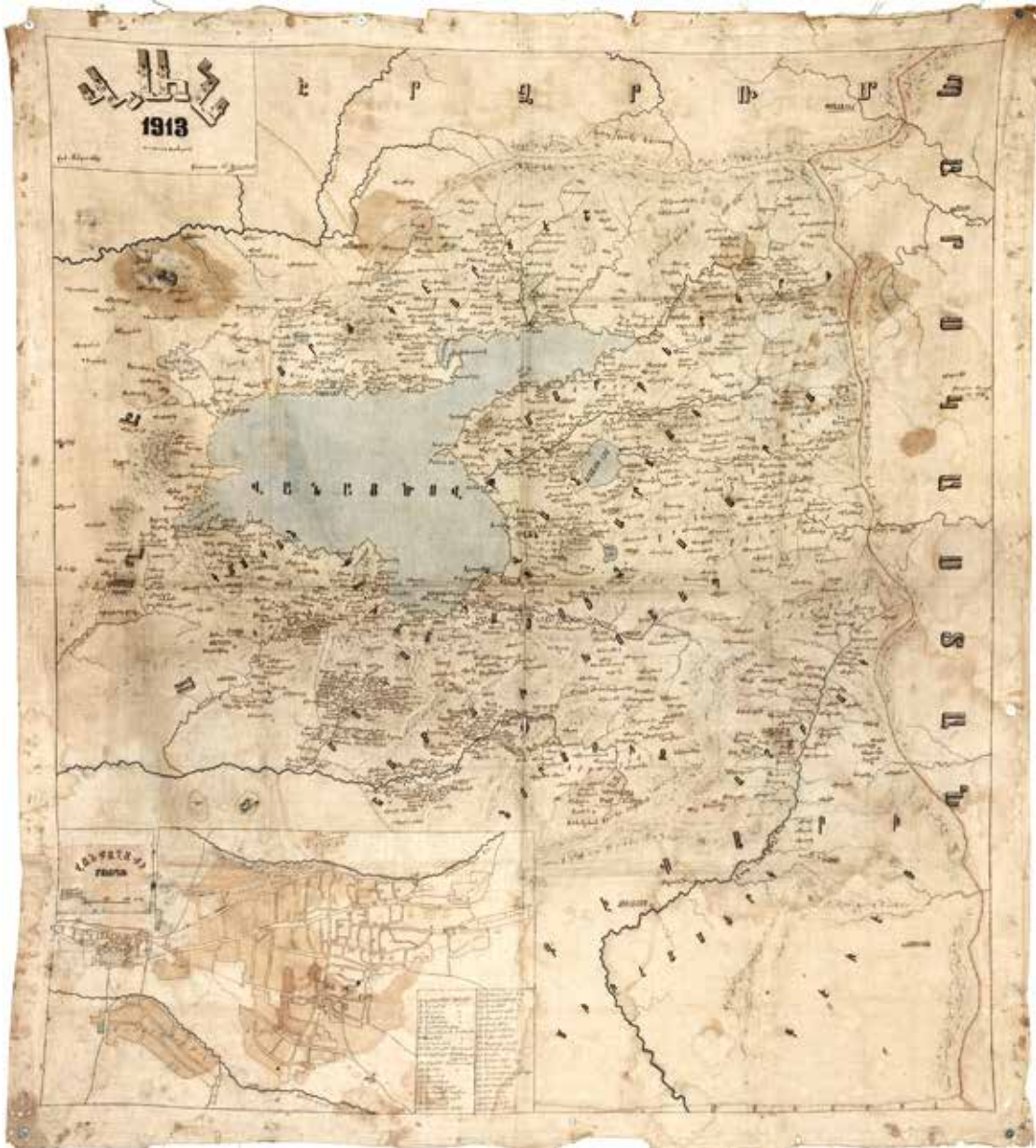


Figure 6.11 – *Van 1913*, by Martiros Kheranean, drawn on fabric. Van: 1913. (History Museum of Armenia, Yerevan.)

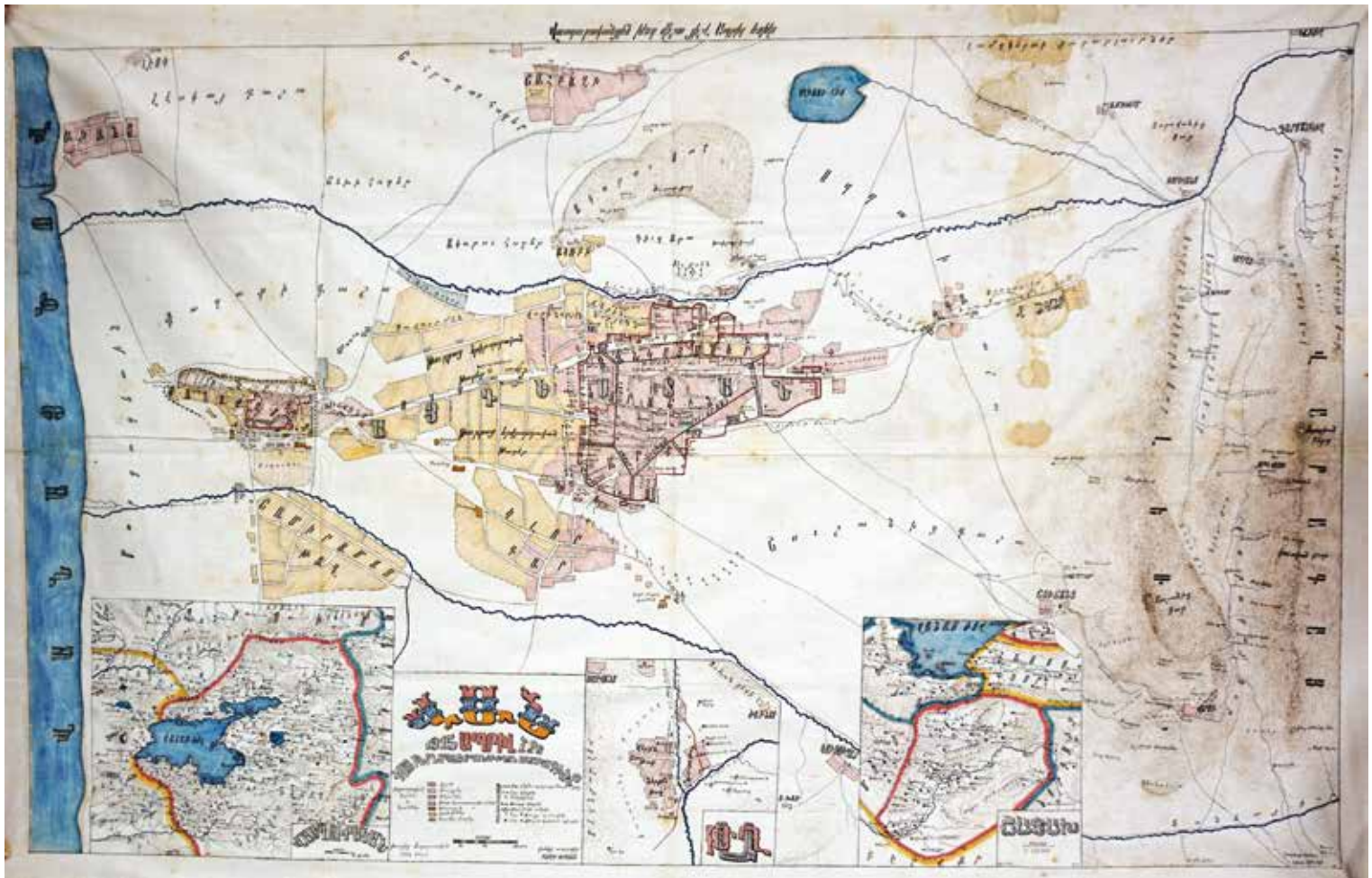


Figure 6.12 – Map of *Defence of Van in April 1915*, drawn on fabric by Kheranean. Tabriz: 1928. (ARF Museum, Yerevan)

Kheranean participated in the battle for the defence of Van during the 1915 Genocide, and later drew a number of maps and plans of the city of Van and its defensive lines, built during the siege of the Armenian Quarter of Van in April 1915 (Figure 6.12).

Maps of the Defence of Van reproduced above, measure about 1.5 x 0.98m and are to be found in the ARF Museum in Yerevan. The red lines on the map are indicative of the makeshift defence lines of the Armenian civilian volunteers, who, defending their town and families were facing the might of the Ottoman Turkish army.⁵⁴

Another copy of the map of Van is kept in the ARF museum, as well as two slightly different versions in the History Museum of Armenia and a further copy is owned by Jirayr P'khrikyan of Yerevan.

After escaping from Van, Kheranean became a refugee in Iraq. Being a map enthusiast, in addition to the maps of the defence of Van, he began drawing and copying a number of maps of his homeland entitled *Independent Armenia, Armenia and Its Neighbours, Armenia According to the Borders Delineated by President Wilson*, as well

other similarly titled manuscript maps. These were all drawn meticulously on fabric.

Most of these had very large dimensions, approaching the area of three to four square metres and included many small details, being coloured with taste and precision.

The first of his large maps was drawn in August 1919, while as a refugee he was living in a tent in Baqubah, just north of Baghdad. It is astonishing how much detail he packed on the map, which measures 229 x 154cm and is drawn on cotton fabric.

A wide colour range is normally prevalent in Kheranean's other maps. However, the primitive conditions and probably the lack of basic paints and materials were the reasons for the limited range of colours used in this map.

This map is entitled *Independent Armenia and Neighbouring Countries* and is kept in the Armenian Revolutionary Federation's (ARF) museum in Yerevan. (Figure 6.13)

Figure 6.13 – Kheranean's map entitled *Independent Armenia and Neighbouring Countries*. Baqubah: 1919. (ARF Museum, Yerevan)





Figure 6.13a – Cartouche of the map, indicating the date and place that the map was made. Baqubah: August 1919.



Figure 6.13b – A small detail from the map, the area around Yerevan. This is indicative of the detail shown.



Chronologically the next map drawn by Kheranean was in 1922. While a refugee in Hamra, Basra, he drew this map entitled *Armenia with Borders as Drawn by [President] Wilson*.

The map covers the territory bordered by Central Anatolia in the west to the Iranian city of Ardabil in the East, and from the Black Sea in the north to the Mediterranean in the south. It shows the borders of Armenia according to the mandate given to President Wilson of the United States of America by the Treaty of Sèvres.

The central theme is the borders of Armenia as set out in the mandate, covering an area of over 200,000 square kilometres.



The two images above are that of the cartouche of the map as well as a section of it, which have been reproduced below, bearing evidence to the detail of work involved on a map drawn under such primitive conditions. Kheranean's maps are all drawn to the same exacting standards.

Figure 6.14 seen below is the cartouche of this map drawn in Basra, during Kheranean's sojourn there. This map probably is the first Kheranean map depicting Wilson's borders, as the other maps having the same title appeared during 1926, drawn while he was already living in Tabriz.

This map is kept in the offices of the ARF-Hairenik Association in Watertown Mass., and measures about 1.5 x 1.2m.

By the early 1920s Kheranean had reached the north-western Iranian city of Tabriz. At the time Tabriz had a small but thriving Armenian community with schools, cultural societies and churches. The Armenian religious seat of north-western Iran was located in the city, led by the enlightened Nerses Archbishop Meliq-Tangean (1866-1948). The community had a fully organised cultural and musical

life, mainly owing it to the recently arrived intelligentsia, who had fled their homeland escaping the communist initiated political controls and persecutions.

As mentioned above, at least two other maps were drawn in 1926, which are kept in the History Museum of Stepanakert, Artsakh and the Armenian Library and Museum of America in Watertown (ALMA). These maps of Armenia are drawn according to the borders proposed by the Treaty of Sèvres and mandated for implementation to the US President Wilson. The map of Figure 6.15, measuring 1.8 x 1.5m is kept in the Armenian Museum of America, in Watertown, Mass. (ALMA).

The map in Stepanakert measures 191 x 166cm. Both these maps are also drawn on fabric (Figure 6.16).



Figure 6.14 – Cartouche of Kheranean's map of *Armenia with Wilson's Borders*. Basra: 1922. (ARF-Hairenik offices in Watertown.)

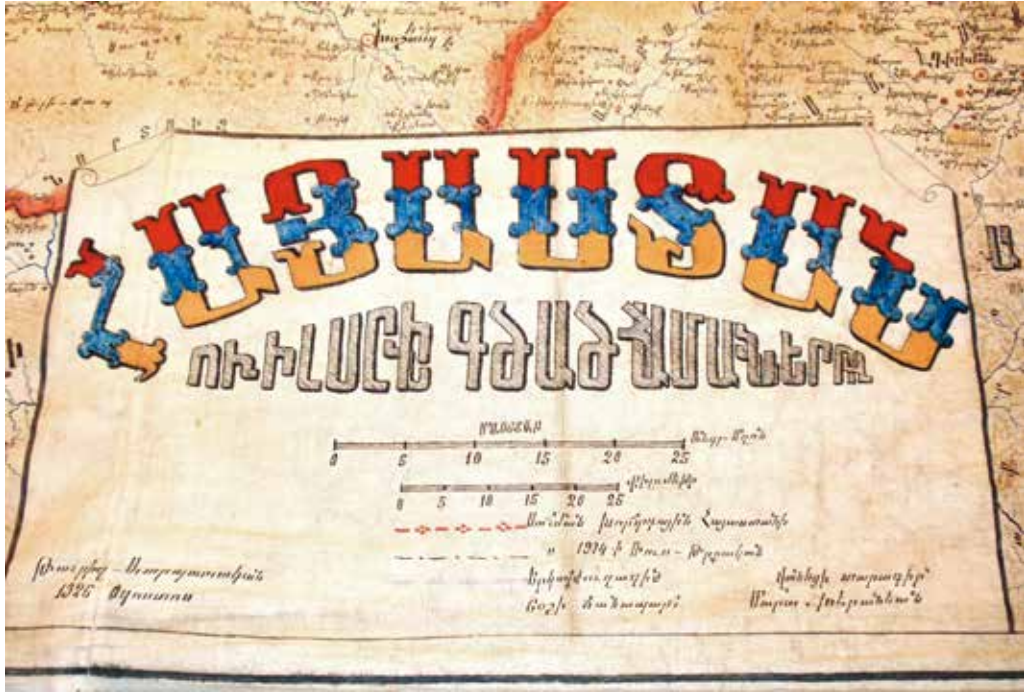


Figure 6.15 –Cartouche of the map *Armenia According to Borders Drawn by Wilson*. Tabriz: August 1926. (ALMA.)



Figure 6.16 – Cartouche of the map *Armenia according to the Borders drawn by Wilson*. Tabriz: November 1926. History Museum, Stepanakert.





Figure 6.17– Armenia with Borders as Drawn by [President] Wilson. Basra: 1922. (Courtesy of the Holy See of Echmiadzin). Image by Hrair Hawk Khacherean.

The map produced in Basra is by far the largest map produced by Kheranean measuring 255 x 166cm and is kept the Holy See of Echmiadzin. He mentions that he has used British military maps of 1916 as his source. For details of the map see below.



Figure 6.17a – Detail from the Echmiadzin map.

Another map entitled *Armenia and Adjacent Countries*, measuring 145 x 99cm, was made by Kheranean during 1928 in Tabriz. The original is kept in the Armenian National Committee of America’s (ANCA) offices in Detroit, while a facsimile adorns the conference room of ANCA offices in Washington DC (Figure 6.18).



Figure 6.18 – Cartouche of Kheranean’s map kept in Detroit. Tabriz: 1928.



Figure 6.19 – Cartouche of *Map of Armenia and Neighbouring Countries*. Tabriz: June 1926. (Museum of the Catholicosate of the Holy See of Cilicia, Antelias, Lebanon.)

The detail shown in Figure 6.19 is from yet another map drawn by Kheranean in Tabriz, dated June-August 1926. This also has similar dimensions to the previous maps but is entitled *Armenia and Neighbouring Countries*. It was donated to the Museum of the Catholicosate of Cilicia in Antelias by Mrs Satenik Asirian of Tehran.

Kheranean's next map is also entitled *Armenia and Neighbouring Countries*. It was drawn in 1928 in Tabriz measuring 166 x 107cm and shows the area between Eastern Asia Minor and the confluence of the Arax and Kura rivers, and the Iranian province of Azerbaijan. The cartouche of this map shown in Figure 6.20 is reprinted with permission from the book *Historic Armenia After 100 Years* by Matthew Karanian.



Figure 6.20 – Cartouche of the map *Armenia and Neighbouring Countries* drawn by Martiros Kheranean in 1928 and owned by Kheranean's heirs, the Karanians, in Pasadena.

Commander Zatik Khanzadean (1886-1980) was one of the most highly placed French-Armenian military cartographers of the twentieth century, who worked for the French military until the end of his life. He was a collector of maps and has many detailed maps to his credit, mostly prepared in French.

He could have been a great influence in Armenian cartography as well as its presentation into the world cartography since he did produce two important cartographic documents. However, these collections of maps regrettably have certain shortcomings, about which anon.

The first of these documents was a compendium of ancient and medieval maps depicting Armenia in various stages of history entitled *Rapport sur l'Unité Géographique de l'Arménie – Atlas Historique*, printed in Paris in 1920. The book of 25 maps was produced for the use of the participating nations in the Treaty of Sèvres, as official documentation, where the case of Armenia and its territories was to be discussed.

His second and larger work is a box of plates, most of them containing maps of the region of Armenia. Here also he has utilised maps of renowned cartographers. This work is entitled *Armenia – Atlas Historique*, which is a leather-bound box of 39 x 53 x 4cm containing 100 sheets each measuring 36 x 50cm depicting over 300 plates and maps, published in Paris, 1960.⁵⁵

Both of these volumes included important documents produced in their original languages, but what is baffling is that the author, instead of reproducing the original maps of the mainly non-

Armenian ancient, medieval and later authors, chose to redraw each map, naming its author, while also signing them as “Drawn by Z. Khanzadean”, thus making these cartographic documents legally not acceptable as historical references. How could they be accepted as official historic documents while they all were signed as drawn by Khanzadean or one of his team of cartographers? As an example see the following two figures depicting the maps of Asiatic Turkey.

The image of Figure 6.21 is taken from an 1881 textbook discussed earlier (see the texts accompanying Figures 4.17 & 4.18). This map was printed in Constantinople in 1881.

Figure 6.22 is the same map, drawn by Khanzadean in the 1950s, as an exact replica of 1881 map included in the geography textbook published in Constantinople. In his rendition Khanzadean has added a decorative border and used a different inset of his own design. The original map inset shows a map of the *Straits of Bosphorus*, which Khanzadean has replaced with a table bearing the names of the fifteen provinces of medieval Greater Armenia. Even the additional Ottoman Turkish text (underlined yellow), confirming details of the printing of the original map used by Khanzadean, has been copied.

In the text pages of the study there is a reference to the source map (page 15), but no reference can be found on the map page. The map is numbered Plate 99, printed on page 177 of the box of maps published in 1960.



Figure 6.21 – *Asiatic Turkey* taken from the geography textbook of 1881, published in Constantinople.

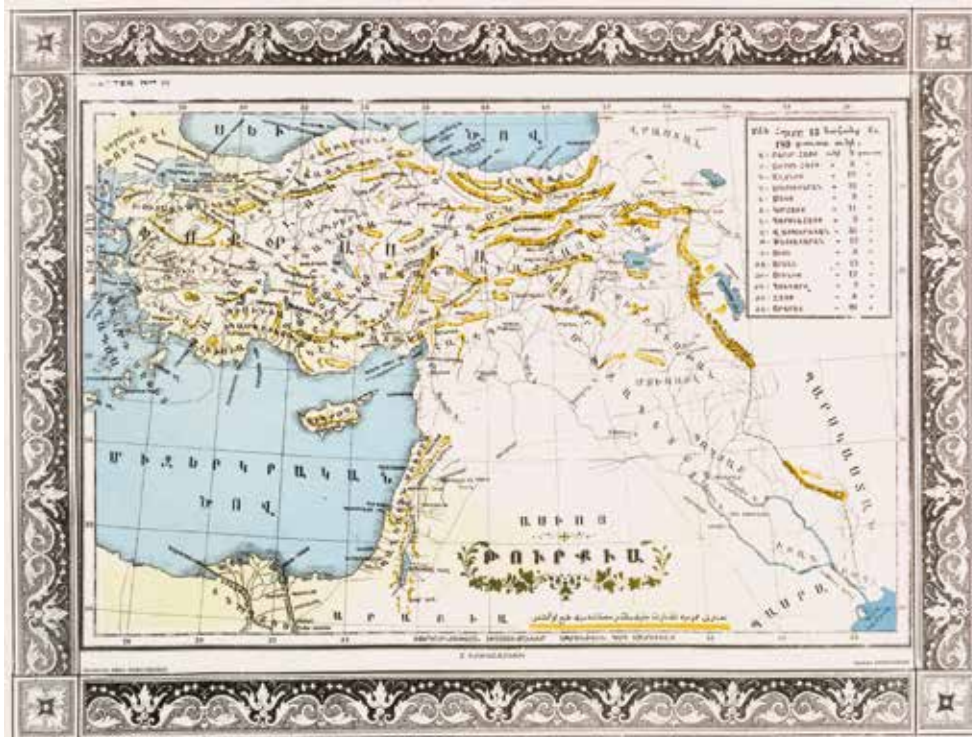


Figure 6.22 – The same map copied by Khanzadean in the 1950s, with added decorative frame and changed inset.

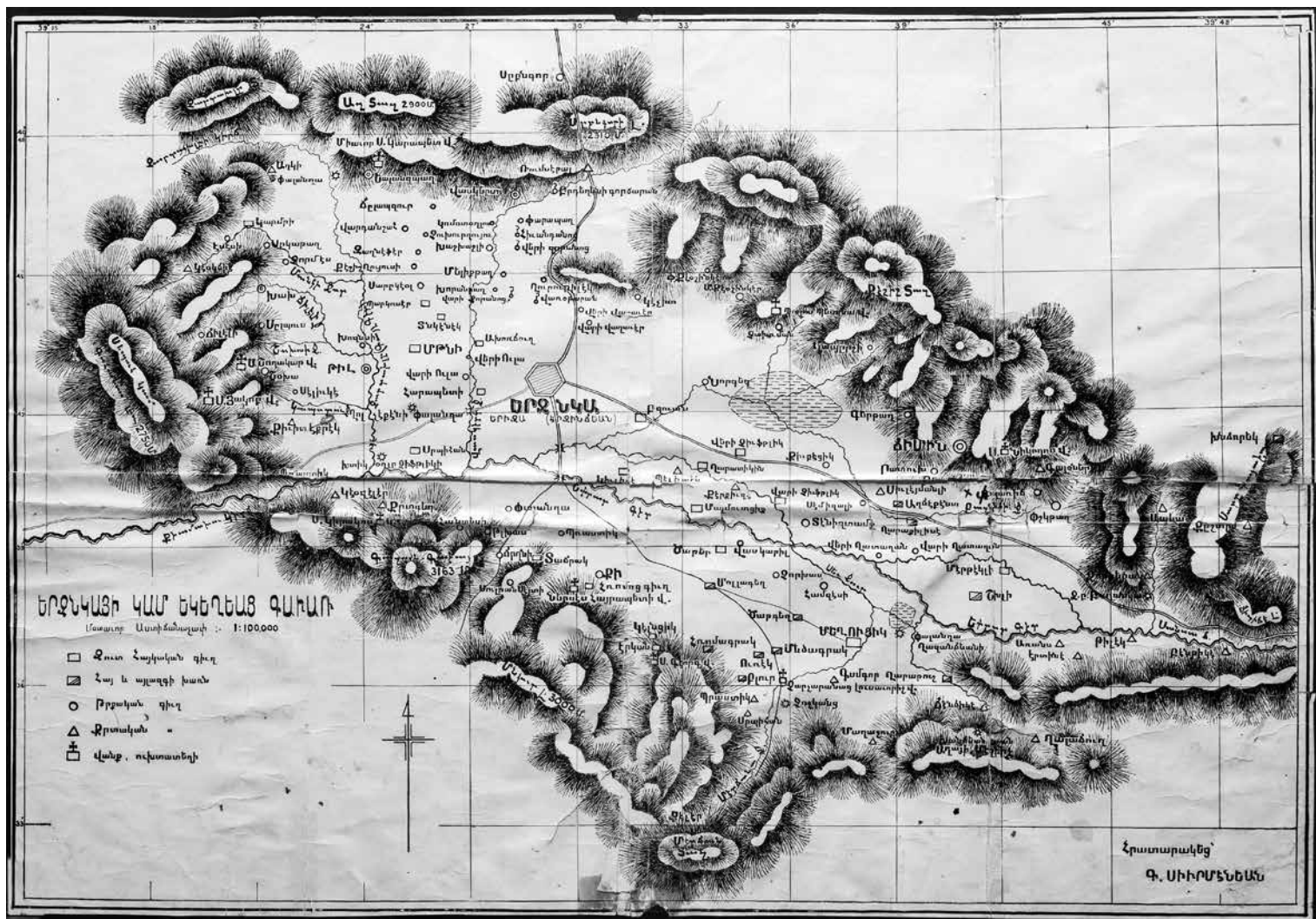


Figure 6.23 – Erzinjan, regional map, with ethnicity of villages. Erzinjan. Cairo: 1947.

The map of the region of Erzinjan in the vilayet of Erzurum was published by G. Syurmenean in Cairo, Egypt, during 1947. It was inserted in a book entitled Yertzka (Erzinjan) by the same author, used as a reference map of the region, indicating the ethnic population of (Armenians, Turks and Kurds) of villages (Figure 6.23).

The map measures 52 x 36cm and is drawn to the scale of 1/100,000. Over 120 towns and villages, including five churches are named. It also includes the topography of the region, indicating and naming

the mountains, with their elevations and rivers, etc. The infamous gorge of Kamakh, where thousands of Armenians were pushed over the heights of vertical cliffs into the raging Euphrates river is at the left side of the map, where the river flows through the gorge on its way out of the region. It is interesting to note that four of the five churches are built on the slopes of the Dersim mountain range, south of the province.

The present map image is reproduced courtesy of Mr Henrik Naranian of Canada.⁵⁶

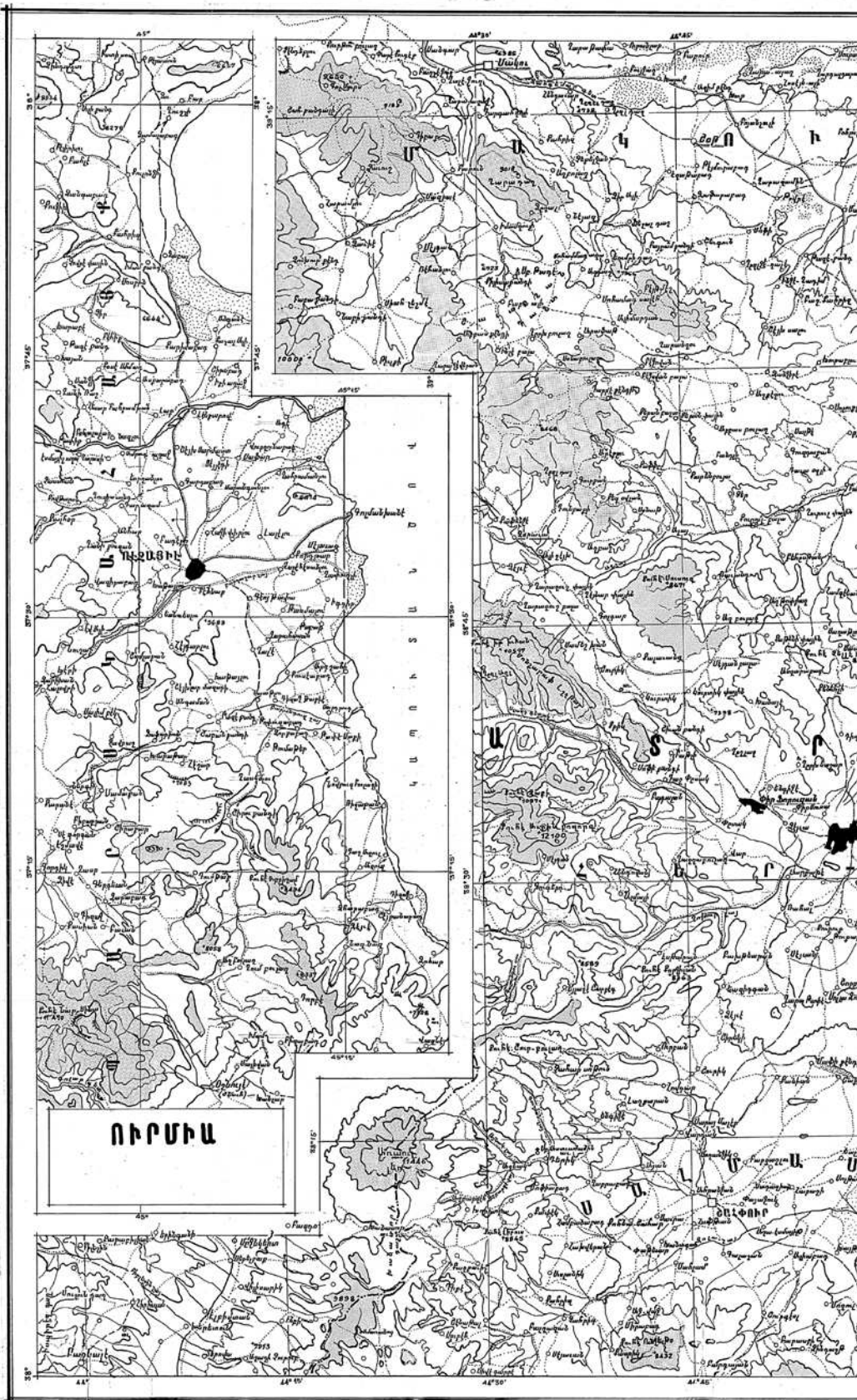
In 1968, a highly qualified Armenian draughtsman by the name of Derik Abrahamian in Tehran drew the localities map of the Armenian populated areas of North-Western province of Iran, which includes the regions of *Urmiah*, *Salmas*, *Tabriz*, *Maku* and *Karadagh*. The map measures 1.2 x 0.85m, drawn to the scale of 1/250,000 (Figure 6.24).

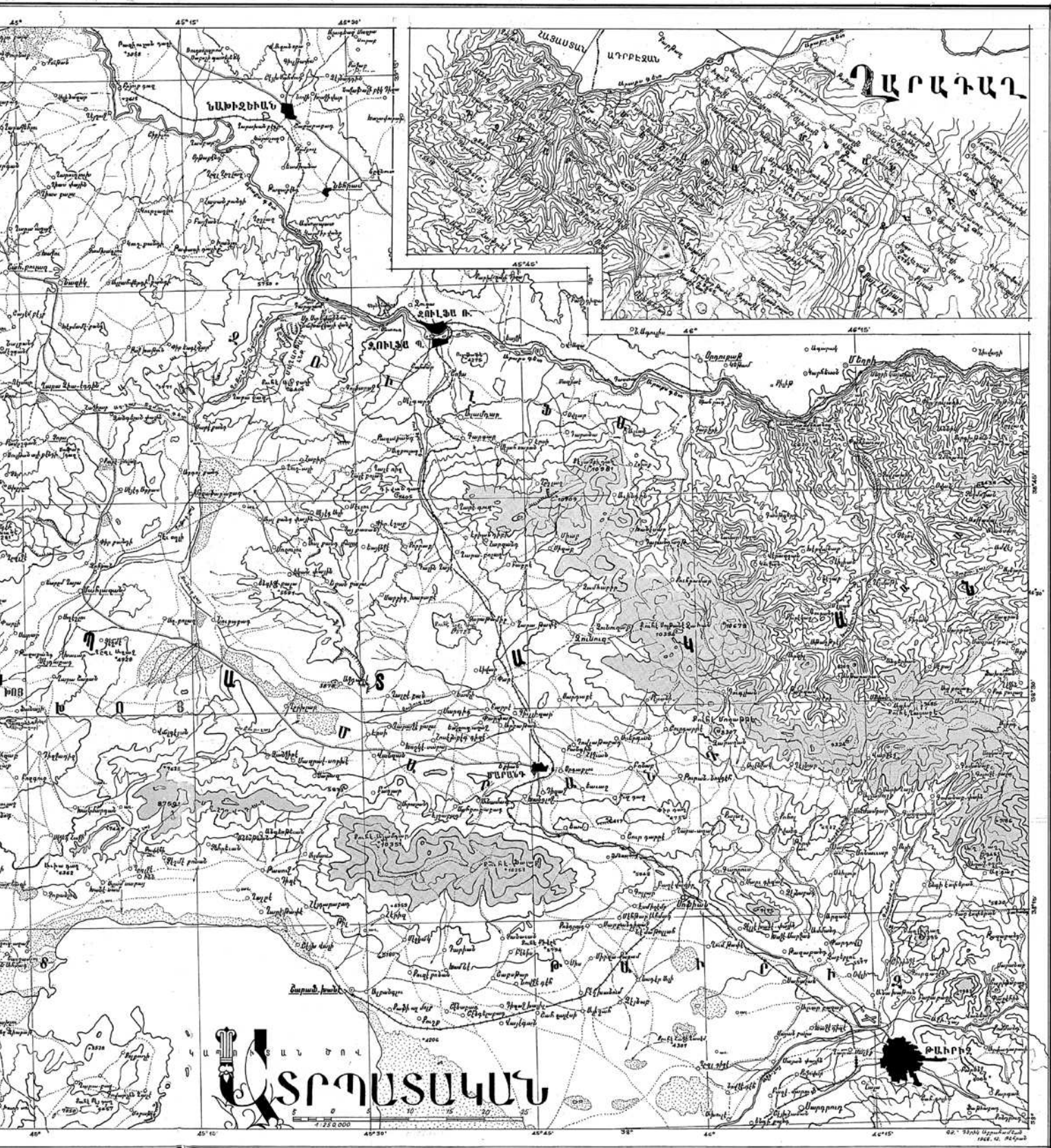
It must be said that at these regions had sizeable Armenian population, who, between the years of 1946 to 1980s gradually moved out of the region to the larger metropolises such as Tehran and Isfahan and some to Soviet Armenia as well as the United States of America. At the present time there are not many Armenians living in those areas.⁵⁷

This map, as well as the companion map of the Armenian populated regions of Central Iran (Figure 6.25) are drawn in meticulous detail, with contour lines. On the map all towns and villages are labelled with their present-day Persian toponyms.

The region's Persian name is Azerbaijan, while in the Armenian language the original name of 200 BCE, Atropatene, has been preserved in its Armenian translation as Atrpatakan (the land of Atropat).

Figure 6.24– Map of the Armenian populated regions of north-western Iran – Atrpatakan, by Derik Abrahamian. Tehran: 1968.





ՀԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԿԱՆ

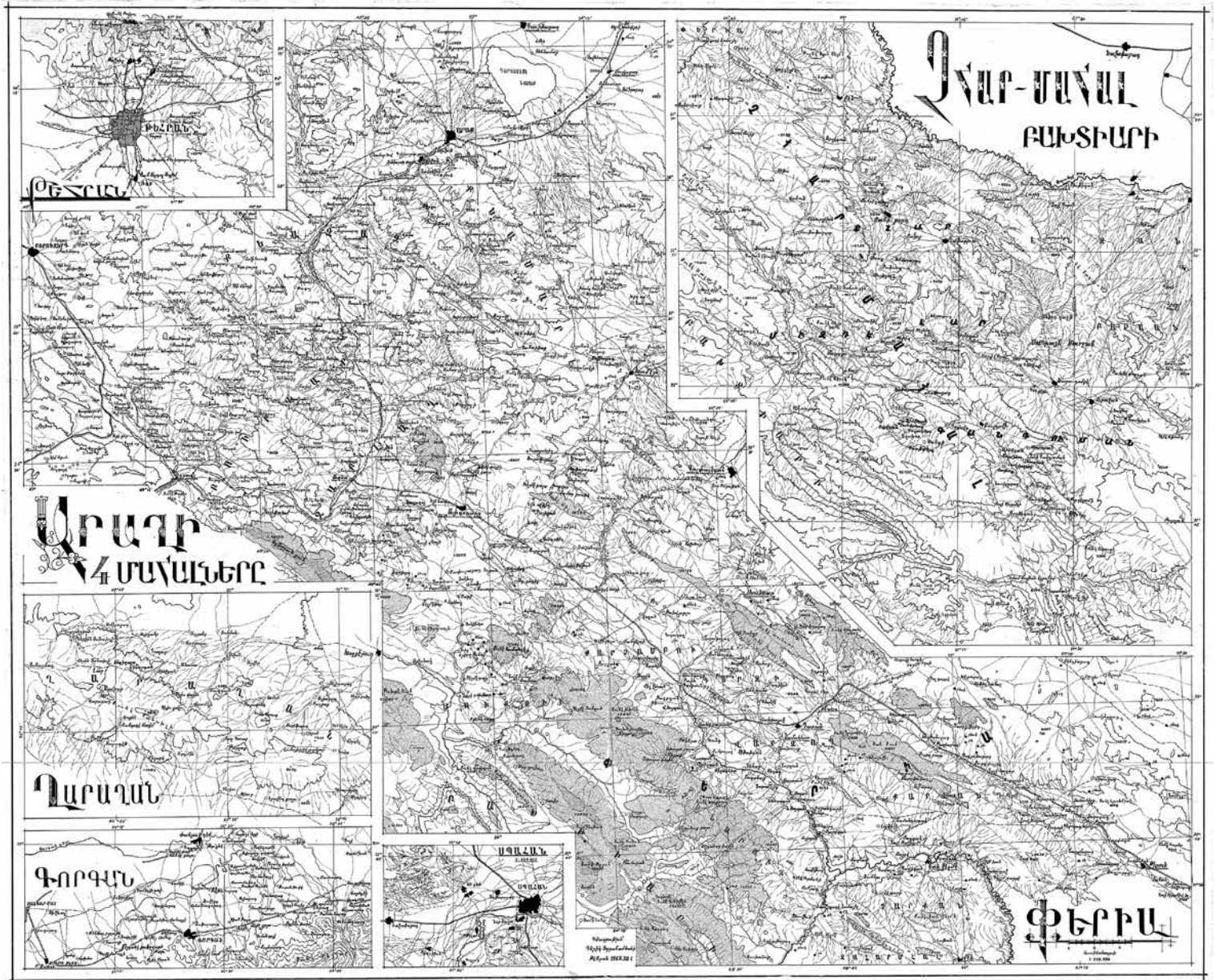
1:250,000

Պատկերը կազմված է 1968 Վ. Պետրյանի 1:250,000 մասշտաբի քարտեզի վրա

Abrahamian's second map was that of the central region of Iran, including *Chahar Mahal Bakhtiari*, *Arak*, *P'eria*, *Isfahan*, *Gharaghan*, *Tehran* and *Gorgan* (north-eastern Iran). These are the regions where many of the Armenians brought to Iran by

Shah Abbas during the early seventeenth century were settled. The map measures about 1 x 0.9m and is drawn on architectural drawing paper with black ink, to the scale of 1/250,000 (Figure 6.25).

Figure 6.25 – Map of Armenian populated regions of Central Iran, by Derik Abrahamian. Tehran: 1968.



As mentioned earlier, since Sovietisation, Armenian mapmakers have published many maps of Armenia, the Soviet republics and the world, most of which are readily available. After independence, Armenian cartography has gradually been established in Yerevan. Maps and atlases have been printed by the National Centre for Geodesy and Cartography (now the State Committee for Real-Estate Property Cadastre of the Government of the Republic of Armenia), as well as

privately owned and run companies such as Collage, Printinfo, Zangak, Tigran Metz and others. The USA/UK based publisher Macmillan has published three volumes of the *Historic Atlas of Armenia*, prepared by the late Babken Harutunyan. Many road maps and political maps of the Southern Caucasus have also been published in recent years, all available from bookshops in Armenia.

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- _____ *Historic Maps of Armenia. The Cartographic Heritage*. London & New York: I.B. Tauris, 2004.
- _____ "A Medieval Armenian T-O Map". *Imago Mundi*, 2008, Vol. 60:1.
- _____, *The Invention of History. Azerbaijan, Armenia and the Showcasing Imagination*. London: Gomidas Institute, 2010.
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Endnotes

- 1 Rouben Galichian, *Historic Maps of Armenia. The Cartographic Heritage*. 2004. 15-17.
- 2 Rouben Galichian, "A Brief History of the Maps of Armenia", *Journal of Armenian Studies*, Yerevan: 2013, Vol. 1 (1). 83-106.
- 3 Hovhannes Stepanian. *Armenian Cartographic Publications of 260 years (1695-1955)* (in Armenian). Yerevan:, 1957, and Sahak Chemchemian, *A Cartographic School in San Lazzaro in the 18th Century* (in Armenian). Venice: 1981, and Ninel Voskanian et al. *The Armenian Book during 1512-1800* (in Armenian). Yerevan: Ministry of Culture, 1988. Vrej Nersessian, *Catalogue of Early Armenian Books: 1512-1850*. London: British Library, 1980.
- 4 Some detailed maps of the military campaigns of the armies of the Republic of Armenia against the Bolshevik armies are kept in the museum of the Armenian Revolutionary Federation in Yerevan.
- 5 The same is proposed by Harutyun Marutyan, *Iconography of Armenian Identity*. Yerevan: Gitutyun Publishing House of NAS, 2009. 17.
- 6 Rouben Galichian, *Countries South of the Caucasus in Medieval Maps*. London: Gomidas Institute, 2007 and Yerevan: 2007. 60-65.
- 7 George and William Whiston, *Moses Chorenensis Historiae Armenicae Libri III, Epitome Geographiae*. London: 1736.
- 8 Rouben Galichian, *Historic Maps of Armenia. The Cartographic Heritage*. London & NY: 2004. 15, 172, 173.
- 9 "Mesrop Mashtots Institute of Ancient Manuscripts", commonly called Matenadaran is one of the largest depositories of medieval manuscripts in the world. Located in Yerevan, Armenia, it has a rich collection of Armenian and other medieval manuscripts and books.
- 10 Rouben Galichian, "A Medieval Armenian T-O Map". *Imago Mundi*, 2008, Vol. 60:1, 86-92.
- 11 It may be worth bearing in mind that for over four centuries, Christianity was predominantly an Asiatic and North African religion, and that the Christian world was not divided into a Latin West and a predominantly Byzantine East until after the Council of Ephesus in 431. According to tradition, Christianity had reached Armenia through the preaching of the Apostles Bartholomew and Thaddeus. It became the state religion in the early fourth century, after the conversion of King Tirdates III, which makes the Armenian Church one of the oldest Christian denominations. Armenian Christianity's ties with the Western churches were severed in 554 over irreconcilable doctrinal differences.
- 12 Caffa is today the city of Feodosiya/Theodosia in the Crimean Peninsula. Sarai refers to the old capital of the Mongols; it is either Sarai-Batu (Old Sarai), built in 1240s, or Sarai-Berke (New Sarai), dating from around 1260. These cities were located in the region of Astrakhan, northwest of the Caspian Sea.
- 13 The fourteenth-century Arab traveller Ibn-Battuta (1304–1368/9) describes the port of Khansai (Khansa in Arabic), located not far from Zaytun, another city on the map, as the largest metropolis in China, {Ibn-Battuta, *Rehle* [Travelogue], translated into Farsi and annotated by Muhammed-Ali Movahhed; 2 vols. (Tehran, Sepehr-Naghsh Publishers, 1990), vol. 2, ch. 29: 202–3}.
- 14 Zaytun was the Arabic name given to the port of Quanzhou or Tseu-Tung in the province of Fujian in China. In the Middle Ages it was an important trading post for Arabs and Persians. According to Ibn-Battuta (1304–1368/9), this was the "largest port [he] had ever seen, which could easily accommodate over 100 large Chinese junks", (Ibn-Battuta, *Rehle*, vol. 2, ch. 29: 290–295). The port was located across the water from the island of Formosa. The thirteenth century traveller Marco Polo mentions the names of the towns of *Zai-tun* and *Kin-sai*

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- as being important cities, trading with Japan (Zippangu), as well as with the Arabs and Persians {Marco Polo, *The Travels of Marco Polo*, translated and edited by William Marsden, (Garden City, NY, Doubleday & Co., 1948), Bk. 2, ch. LXXVII: 245-247 and Bk. 3, ch. IV: 258}.
- 15 Zaytun and Khansai appear on the Catalan Atlas of 1375 as *Ciutat de Zaytun* and *Ciutat de Cansay*, respectively; Fra Mauro's map of 1460 contains both toponyms as *Çayton* and *Chansay*. These, however, were portolan charts and not T-O maps.
- 16 Mkrtich M. Khachaturian, "Medieval oval map" (in Armenian), in *History of Science and Natural Sciences in Armenia*. Yerevan: 1976, vol. 6: 213-239.
- 17 *Soviet Armenian Encyclopaedia*, vol. 4 (Yerevan, 1978), 4: 170 (in Armenian).
- 18 Vardges A. Mikayelyan, *Armenian-Italian Connections: Genoese Documents about Armenians of Crimea*. Yerevan: 1974: 21–32 (in Armenian).
- 19 Rouben Galichian, *Countries South of the Caucasus in Medieval Maps*. London: 2007 and Yerevan: 2007, 146-152. Petrus Apianus, *Cosmographia*, Antwerpiae, 1524-1544.
- 20 Rouben Galichian, *Countries South of the Caucasus in Medieval Maps*. Op. cit. 31-35.
- 21 Ibid. pp. 146-150.
- 22 Gabriella Uluhogian, *Un'antica mappa dell'Armenia*. Ravenna: 2000.
- 23 Agathangelos was an Armenian historian who lived in the fourth-fifth century and is the author of the *History [of the Armenians]*, Venice: 1862 and Yerevan: 1987.
- 24 Uluhogian, op.cit. 91, 93 Ref. 302.
- 25 Ibid. 91, 93 Ref. 301.
- 26 Ibid. 87-88 Ref. 269.
- 27 Mesrop Grigorian, *New Materials and Observations about the Vanandetsi Publishers*. Vienna: 1969. 14
- 28 Ibid. 21.
- 29 Ibid. 22-23.
- 30 Rodney W. Shirley, *The Mapping of the World: Early Printed World Maps 1472-1799*. London: 1984. 560-593.
- 31 Sahak Chemchemian, A Cartographic School in the 18th century Venice. *Bazmavep*, 1980, Vol 1-4. Venice: 1980. 76-80.
- 32 Ninel Voskanian et al. *Hay Girqe 1512-1800 T'vakannerin*, Op. cit. 116.
- 33 Ghukas Vanandetsi, *Key to the Our Recently Published World Map* (in Armenian). Amsterdam: 1696.
- 34 Mkhitar Sebastatsi, *Dictionary of the Armenian Language*, in two volumes, Vol. 2. Venice: 1769.
- 35 Mik'ayel Chamcheanc , *History of the Armenians from the Creation to the year of our Lord 1784*, in three volumes. Venice: 1784, 1785, 1786.
- 36 Shahmir Shahmirian was also known as Sultanian. See Sahak Chemchemian, *A Cartographic School in San Lazzaro in the 18th Century*, p. 19.
- 37 Vardan Grigorian, "Shahmir Shahmirian and the Map of Armenian" (in Armenian). *Matenadaran Newsletter #6*, 1962, Yerevan: Armenisn SSR Academy of Sciences, 1962. 353-362.
- 38 Sahak Chemchemian, *A Cartographic School in the 18th century Venice* (in Armenian). Venice: 1981.
- 39 During 1603-5 Shah Abbas of Iran forced the Armenian population of Nakhijevan and surrounding regions to move to Iran, settling most of the craftsmen and merchant classes near Isfahan. His intentions were twofold, to affect a scorched-earth policy aimed against the Ottoman Turks, thus minimising their interest in the northern region of Iran, as well as using the Armenian craftsmen and merchants to help him develop his kingdom. The Armenian merchant had been trading with the European countries and hence were given the responsibility of developing trade between Iran and Europe.

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- 40 Stepannos Gyuver Agonts, *The Geography of the Four Parts of the World* (in Armenian). In 12 octavo volumes. Volume 5, Part 2, *Africa*. San Lazzaro, Venice: 1802. 605.
- 41 Ghukas, Inchichian, *Geogrphay of the Four Parts of the Word, Asia, Europe, Afirca and America*. Venice: 1804, Part 2, Volume 5.
- 42 Ninel Voskanian et al. *The Armenian Book during 1512-1800* (in Armenian). Yerevan: Min. of Culture, 1988. Items 1041, 1054-58. The maps are claimed to exist only in Zatik Khanzadian's collection. These claims, however, could not be verified.
- 43 Garegin. Zarbhanalian, *Armenian bibliography. Alphabetical list of Armenian publications that have reaced us from the discovery of printing to the present*. Vienna: 1883.
- 44 *General Book list of the Mkhitarist Bookshops of Vienna Trieste, Plovdiv, Cairo and Beirut*. Vienna: 1972. 47.
- 45 Garegin Zarbhanalean, *Armenian Bibliography. Armenian bibliography. Alphabetical list of Armenian publications that have reaced us from the discovery of printing to the present*. Venice: 1883. 62.
- 46 Far a brief list of these manuscripts, written prior to 1828 see p.48, Rouben Galichian, *The Invention of History. Azerbaijan Armenia and the Showcasing Imagination*. London: 2010. 47-49.
- 47 Stepanian (Endnote 3) lists this map on page 49 of his study as "large and coloured", but no Armenian copy could be found in the researched libraries. This is conformed by Gevorg S. Stepanian , a specialist of the history of the Armenians of Baku.
- 48 Samvel Karapetian, *The Mayors of Tbilisi*. Yerevan: 2003.
- 49 Ronald Suny. *The Making of the Georgian Nation*. Bloomington: 1988. 350.
- 50 Most of the intellectuals of Western Armenia living in the Ottoman Empire were concentrated mainly in the capital Constantinople. Consequently most specialised books and literature, as well as newspapers and periodicals published in the Ottoman Empire originated from that city.
- 51 H.F.B. Lynch. *Armenia. Travels and Studies*. London: 1901. Volumes 1 and 2.
- 52 The same map was re-published by Abeghian, in a larger format around 1940. It was printed by Kurt Mair in Stuttgart, between the signing of the Ribbentrop-Molotov Pact between the Soviet Union and Nazi Germany, and the German attack on Soviet Union in June 1941. The map however has no mention of its originators, Lynch and Oswald. This map also includes statistical data about the Armenian population in the world in 1939.
- 53 Rouben Galichian. *Clash of Histories in the South Caucasus*. London: Bennett and Bloom, 2012. 77, 106.
- 54 The paternal grandfather and great-uncle of the author were members of the Defence Council for Van, organised hastily and with old-fashioned rifles and shotguns for the defence against the advancing Ottoman army, under whose occupation all would have been slaughtered. The civil defence of Van was the reason that the majority of the people of Van escaped the Ottoman massacres. The American-Armenian painter Arshile Gorky (real name Vostanik Adoian, 1904-1948) was one of the boys running around carrying food and supplies for the fighters.
- 55 For Zadig Khanzadian's biography and sample of his later atlas (1960) see the website of Fundamental Armenology at <http://www.fundamentalarmenology.am/datas/pdfs/186.pdf>.
- 56 Reduced version of this map was used as an insert in the book *Yerznka*, by Surmenian, published in Cairo, 1947.
- 57 These two maps by Derik Abrahamian were found by the author in a street market in Yerevan during the early 1990s.

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Rouben Galichian (Galchian) was born in Tabriz, Iran, to a family of immigrant Armenians who had fled Van in 1915 to escape the Genocide, arriving in Iran via Armenia, Georgia and France. After attending school in Tehran Rouben received a scholarship to study in the UK and graduated with a Hon. Degree in Electronics Engineering from the University of Aston, Birmingham in 1963.

Rouben's interest in geography and cartography started early in life, but he began seriously studying this subject in the 1970s. In 1981 he moved to London with his family, where he had access to a huge variety of cartographic material. His first book was entitled *Historic Maps of Armenia: The Cartographic Heritage*. The following year, an expanded version of the book (produced in Russian and Armenian) was published in Armenia. His third book, *Countries South of the Caucasus in Medieval Maps: Armenia, Georgia and Azerbaijan*, provides more detailed cartographical and geographical information for this region. His fourth book, *The Invention of History: Azerbaijan, Armenia, and the Showcasing of Imagination* is about the historical and cultural inventions of Azerbaijan. His other, a more academic book on a similar subject is entitled "*Clash of the Histories in the South Caucasus. Redrawing the maps of Armenia, Azerbaijan and Iran*". In 2014 his abridged and edited version of the *Historic Maps of Armenia* was published and 2015 saw the publication of his latest volume, *A Glance into the History of Armenia through Cartographic Records*.

For his services to Armenian historical cartography Rouben was awarded an Honorary Doctorate by the National Academy of Sciences of Armenia in November of 2008. In 2009 he was the recipient of "Vazgen I" cultural achievements medal. In 2013 Rouben Galichian was awarded the medal of "Movses Khorenats" for outstanding achievements in the sphere of culture. He is married and shares his time between London and Yerevan.



The only serious study of cartography in Armenian was made available almost 60 years ago in 1957 by the Soviet scholar Hovhannes Stepanian, entitled Armenian Cartographic Publications of 260 years (1695-1955), published in Yerevan. The study however contains only one low quality map image along with many other shortcomings, nor does it consider many of the maps prepared and published by Armenians living outside the Russian Empire and the Soviet Union. In order to rectify this, Rouben Galichian offers here an almost complete study of the history of Armenian cartography from its inception up to the year 1918, including images of as many maps as possible. Appearing in print for the first time are a number of maps, some in private collections, that have come to light through Galichian's extensive research.

The final chapter of the book also includes manuscript maps made between 1890-1968 which represent important contributions to the Armenian cartographic heritage. Meanwhile, the author does not rule out other maps in Armenian that may exist in other private collections yet remain inaccessible to the public.


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