

ICONIC IMAGES OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

“In view of these new crimes of Turkey against humanity and civilization the Allied governments announce publicly to the Sublime Porte that they will hold personally responsible for these crimes all members of the Ottoman government and those of their agents who are implicated in such massacres.”

- Joint Allied Statement, England, France, and Russia, May 24, 1915

The 1915 Armenian Genocide



**TURKS DEPOPULATE
TOWNS OF ARMENIA**

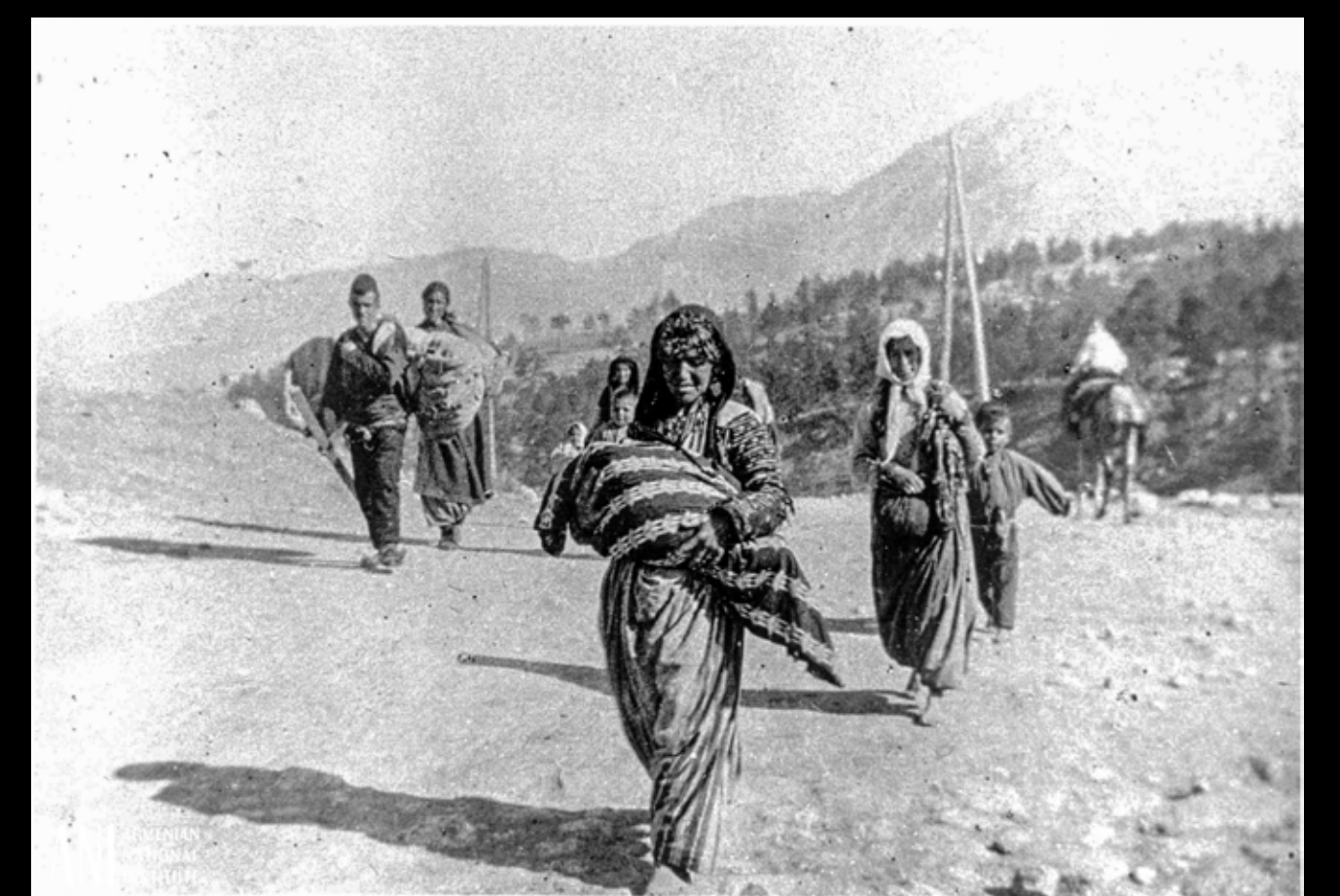
Traveler Reports Christians of
Great Territory Have Been
Driven from Homes.

600,000 STARVING ON ROAD

Adds That More Than 100,000
Greeks Have Been Deported from
the Mediterranean Coast.

BURN 1,000 ARMENIANS.

Turks Lock Them in a Wooden
Building and Then Apply the Torch.



**800,000 ARMENIANS
COUNTED DESTROYED**

**500,000 ARMENIANS
SAID TO HAVE PERISHED**

Washington Asked to Stop
Slaughter of Christians by
Turks and Kurds.



**WHOLESALE MASSACRES
OF ARMENIANS BY TURKS**

Lord Crewe Denounces Influence
of the Germans as “an Un-
mitigated Curse.”



**AID FOR ARMENIANS
BLOCKED BY TURKEY**

Attempts to Send Food to Refu-
gees Frustrated, Says the
American Committee.

PUTS VICTIMS AT 1,000,000

Careful Survey Shows 55,000 Per-
sons Killed in the Vilayet
of Van Alone.



“Deportation of and excesses against peaceful Armenians is increasing, and from harrowing reports of eyewitnesses it appears that a campaign of race extermination is in progress...”

- United States Ambassador Henry Morgenthau, July 16, 1915

DEPORTATION



ANI Wegner Collection



US National Archives



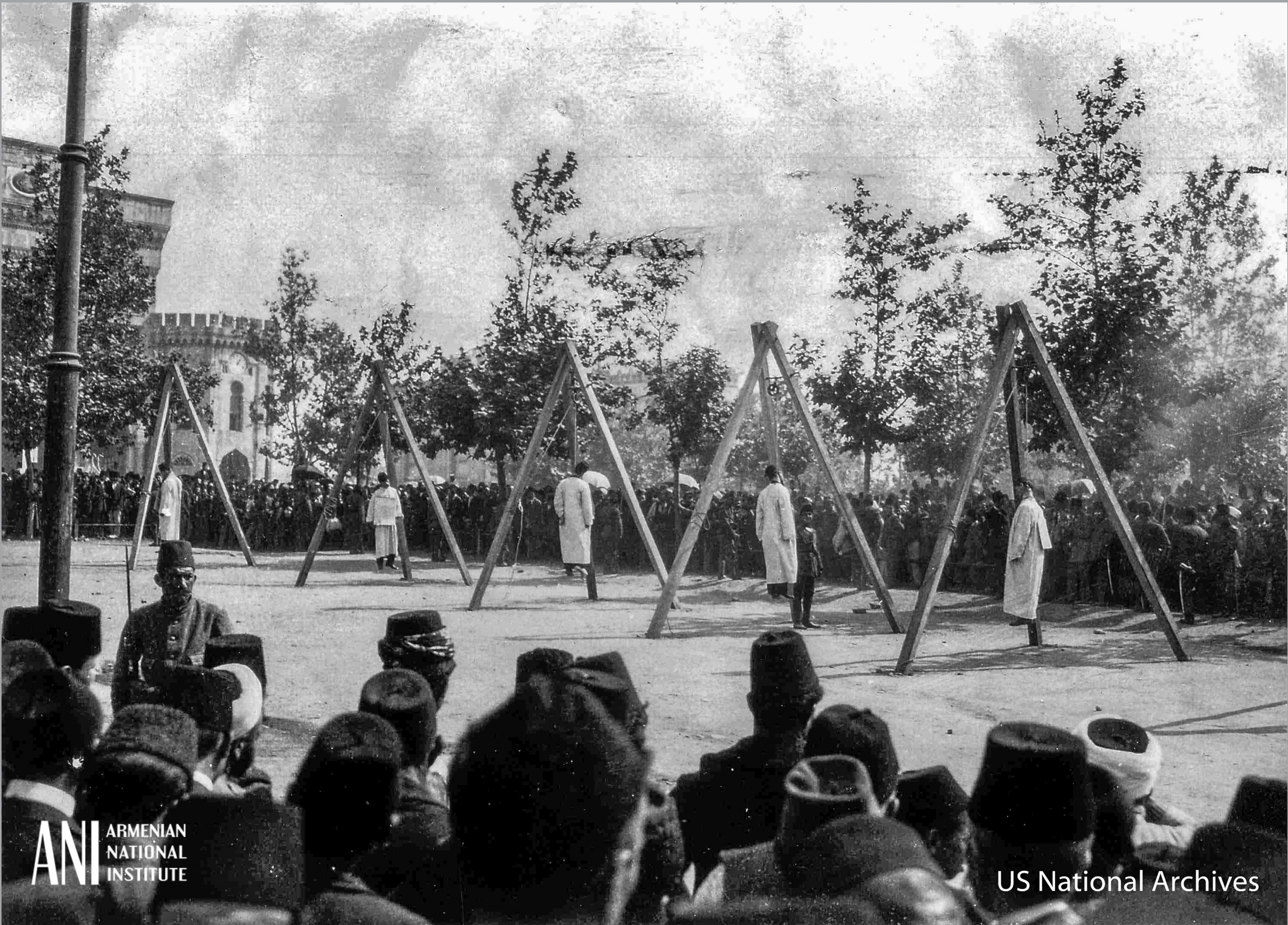
Naturhistorisches Museum Vienna



Republic of Armenia National Archives

In April 1915, the government of Ottoman Turkey began the wholesale deportations of its Armenian population of two million people.

EXECUTION



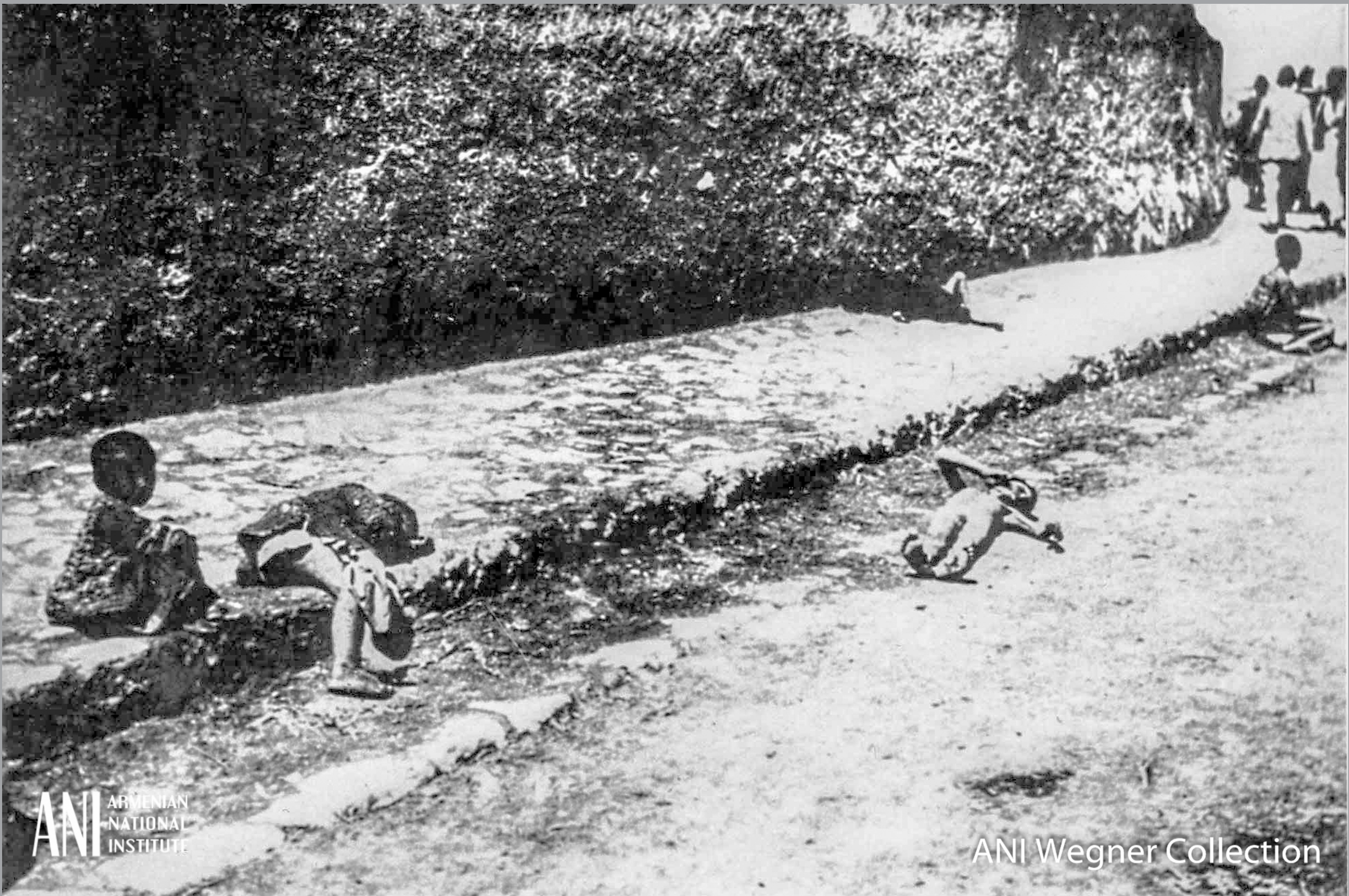
The first acts of the Armenian Genocide included the execution of religious and political leaders of the Armenian community.

MASSACRE



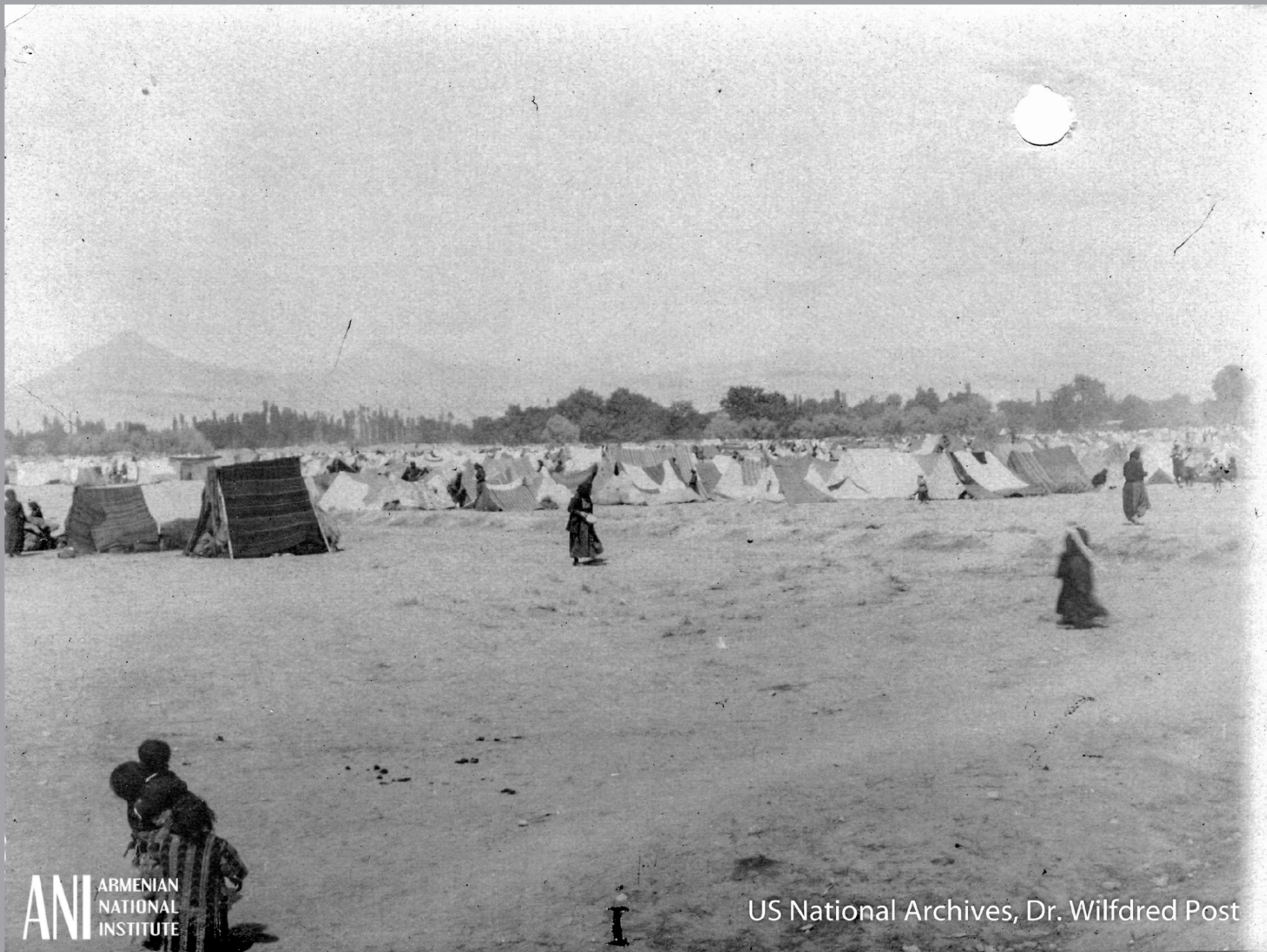
The deportations were designed to result in large-scale deaths and were regularly interrupted by massacres.

MURDER



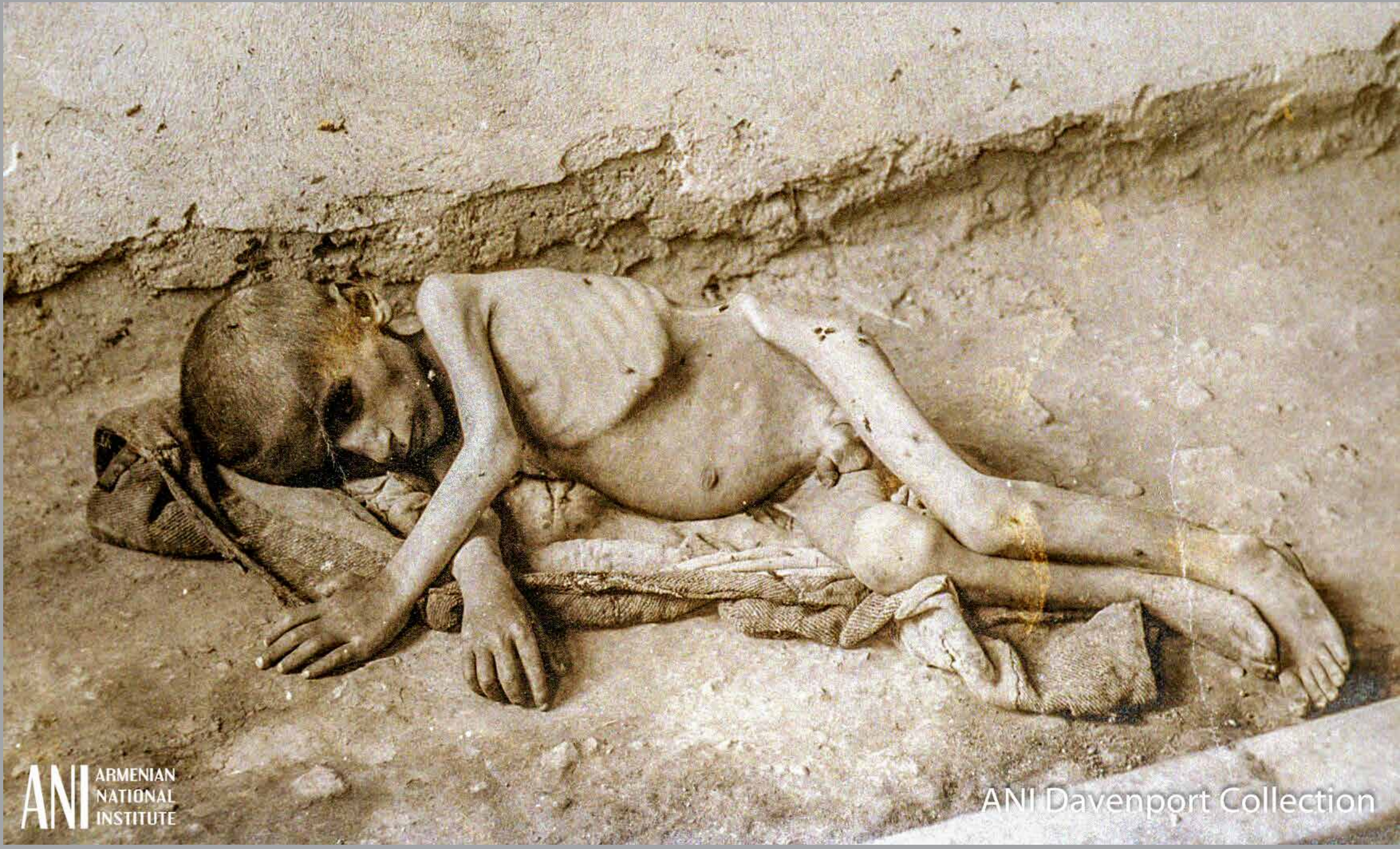
Besides the mass slaughter at killing sites, numerous persons were murdered individually, typically in order to rob them of their possessions.

CONCENTRATION CAMPS



Along the deportation routes and at their destinations in the Syrian Desert, Armenians were herded into concentration camps.

STARVATION



Without food, water, or shelter, countless Armenians died of exposure and starvation.



EXTERMINATION



The perpetrators aimed at the annihilation of Armenians of all ages. An estimated 1.5 million perished between 1915 and 1923.

DESTRUCTION



To complete the eradication of the Armenian people from their homeland, their churches, schools, and towns were systematically destroyed and nearly all traces of their civilization erased or obscured.

PERPETRATORS

TURKEY CONDEMNS ITS WAR LEADERS

Court-Martial Gives Death Sentence to Enver Pasha, Talaat Bey, and Djemal Pasha.

ALL THREE MADE ESCAPES

Djavid Bey and Alusa Metssa Get 15 Years at Hard Labor for Part in the War.

CONSTANTINOPLE, July 11.—Enver Pasha, Talaat Bey, and Djemal Pasha, the leaders of the Turkish Government during the war, were condemned to death today by a Turkish court-martial investigating the conduct of the Turkish Government during the war period.

Enver and his two leading associates in the Young Turk Government fled from Turkey several months ago, and their whereabouts is uncertain.

Djavid Bey, former Minister of Finance, and Alusa Mussa Kiazim, former Sheik-ul-Islam, were sentenced to fifteen years at hard labor.

The court-martial acquitted Rifaat Bey, former President of the Senate, and Hachim Bey, former Minister of Posts and Telegraph.

Henry Morgenthau, American Ambassador at Constantinople, and Sir Louis Mallet, the British Ambassador at the same place, have left no doubt in their dispatches, books, articles, and interviews of the guilt of the Young Turk leaders which has just been proclaimed with sentences pronounced by a Turkish court-martial ordered by the new Grand Vizier Damad Ferid Pasha and convened by Ahmed Abouk Pasha, the Minister of War.

It is the climax of a long series of prosecutions undertaken by the officials of the new régime to clear the skirts of the Turkish people from blame for joining in the war and for the Armenian, Greek, and Syrian atrocities and deportations. It reached its practical climax on April 12, when Kemal Bey, former Minister of Food and Governor of Diarbekr, was actually executed in Bayazid Square, Stamboul.

For, in the present instance, the sentences will not be carried out so summarily. Enver, Talaat, and Djemal fled to Germany a few days before the

New York Times, Published July 13, 1919



CONDEMNATION



“The Armenian massacre was the greatest crime of the war.”

- Theodore Roosevelt, May 11, 1918
(U.S. President 1901-1909)

“Like the genocide of the Armenians before it, and the genocide of the Cambodians which followed it — and like too many other such persecutions of too many other peoples — the lessons of the Holocaust must never be forgotten.”

- President Ronald Reagan, April 22, 1981

ANI ARMENIAN
NATIONAL
INSTITUTE

Library of Congress

The Greatest Horror in History

By Henry Morgenthau
(Formerly United States Ambassador to Turkey)

FEW nations have suffered as much as Armenia. So terrible and continuous have been the atrocities to which it has fallen victim that the very name of Armenia has, to most of

us, become synonymous with martyrdom. Its sufferings during the present catastrophe have been greater than any known in the history of the world. None of the fearful horrors perpetrated in the various zones of the war can compare with the tragic lot of the Armenians. It is my purpose to outline in this article the nature of the Armenian Question and to briefly state the reasons for which the present Turkish Government sought to annihilate these peace-loving, industrious, harmless and intelligent people, and the methods resorted to by the authorities for extermination.

Though deprived of their political independence, the Armenians have never been assimilated by their conquerors, the Turks. They have tenaciously clung to their racial traditions, religion, language and ideals. Their early history—embracing periods contemporaneous with the ancient Assyrians, Babylon-

EX-AMBASSADOR HENRY MORGENTHAU was at his post in Constantinople when the Great War broke out. So he had an unusual opportunity of viewing the operation of the grandiose scheme by which Germany planned to dominate the world. Just as the first German military onslaught was against Paris, so her first great political intrigue centered on the Bosphorus. In the accompanying article Mr. Morgenthau tells, for the first time, his story of the Armenian horror—the greatest single massacre in the history of the world—which Germany could, but would not, prevent. It is of peculiar interest that Mr. Morgenthau, a Jew born in Germany, was, as American Ambassador, the chief protector of the Christians in Turkey. Mr. Morgenthau holds that the destruction of the military power of Germany and the expulsion of the Turks from Europe are essential to the progress of civilization.—THE EDITORS.

ians, Medes and Parthians, is still a source of pride to them, and their religion—Christianity—is and has been the great moral force sustaining and inspiring them against the attacks of the many hordes that have emerged from central Asia and passed through their territory on their way to Europe.

The successful revolution of the Young Turks in 1908, which resulted in the deposition of Sultan Abdul Hamid, was hailed by all the world as the dawn of a new era for Turkey. Everyone was delighted at the substitution of a modern, progressive government in place of the much detested, tyrannous rule of Abdul Hamid. The greatest rejoicings were amongst the Armenians. They promptly offered their assistance to the new Party, which promised equal

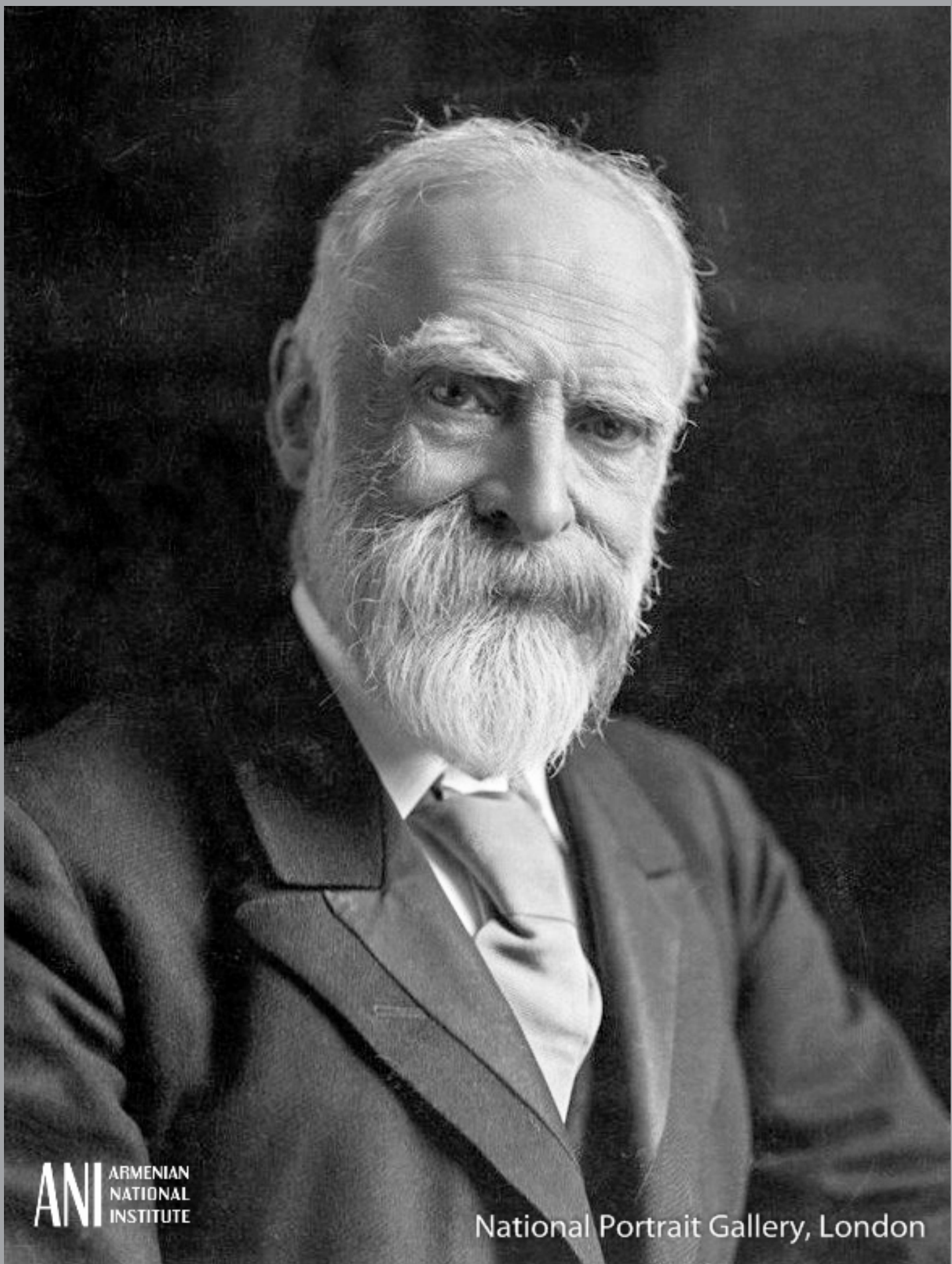
rights to all citizens under a constitutional government. I have not the space here to elaborate on the fact that the performance of the Government was a terrible disappointment after everyone's expectations had been so great. The Massacres at Adana in 1909, and the rapid development of the domineering and chauvinistic attitude of the

Red Cross Magazine



ANI ARMENIAN
NATIONAL
INSTITUTE

ANI Morgenthau Collection



ANI ARMENIAN
NATIONAL
INSTITUTE

National Portrait Gallery, London

ARMENIAN ATROCITIES

THE MURDER OF A NATION

BY

ARNOLD J. TOYNBEE
Fellow of Balliol College, Oxford

WITH A SPEECH DELIVERED BY

LORD BRYCE

IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS

SURVIVORS



With the vast majority of adults killed or starved to death, survivors of the atrocities were mostly children.

RESCUED WOMEN



Many young women were abducted and forcibly converted to Islam. To prevent their escape and impede their identification many of the captive women were tattooed. Their rescue became a priority at the end of World War I.

HOMELESS CHILDREN



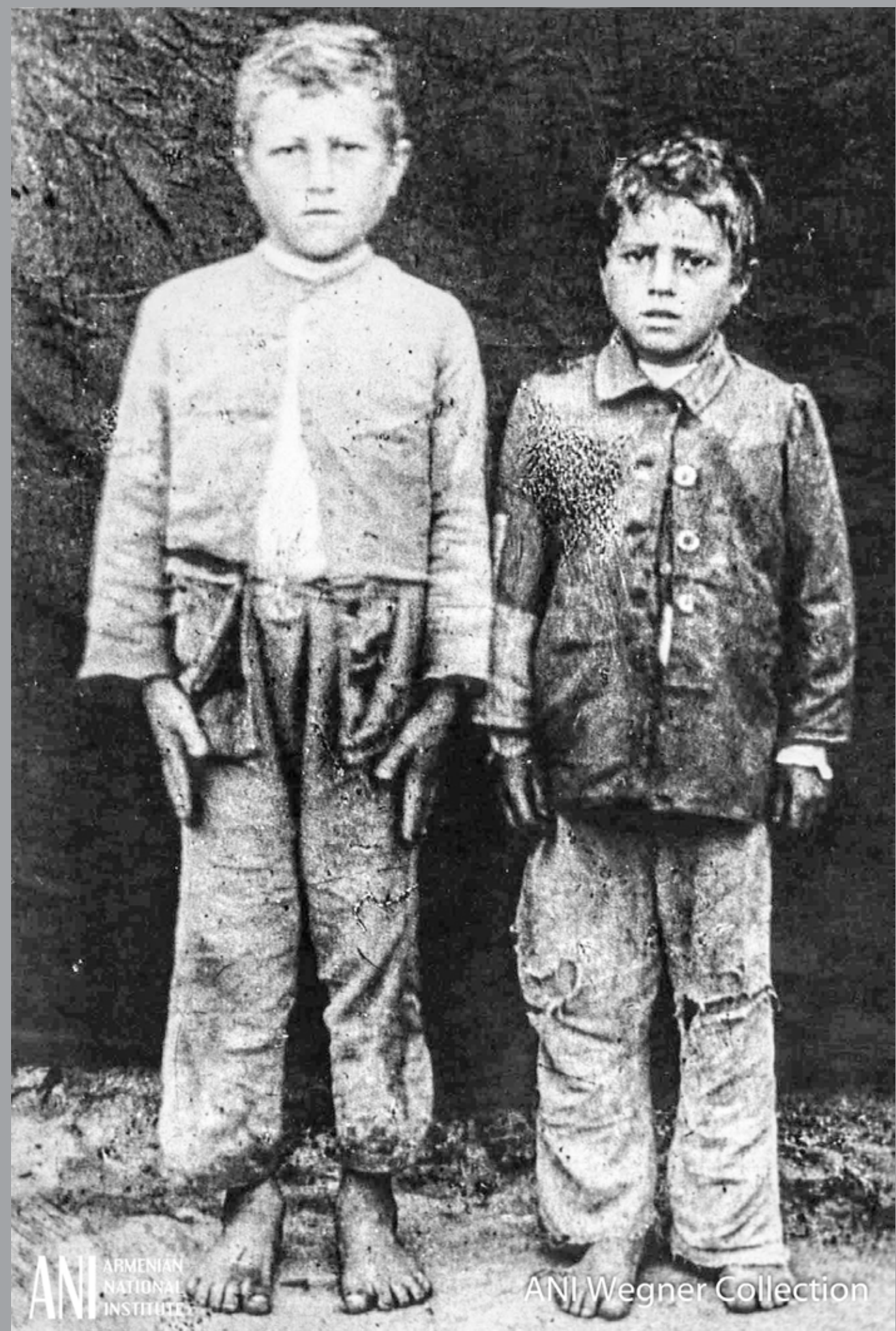
Republic of Armenia National Archives



Near East Foundation



Near East Foundation



ANI Wegner Collection



ANI Davenport Collection



AGBU Nubarian Library



AGBU Nubarian Library

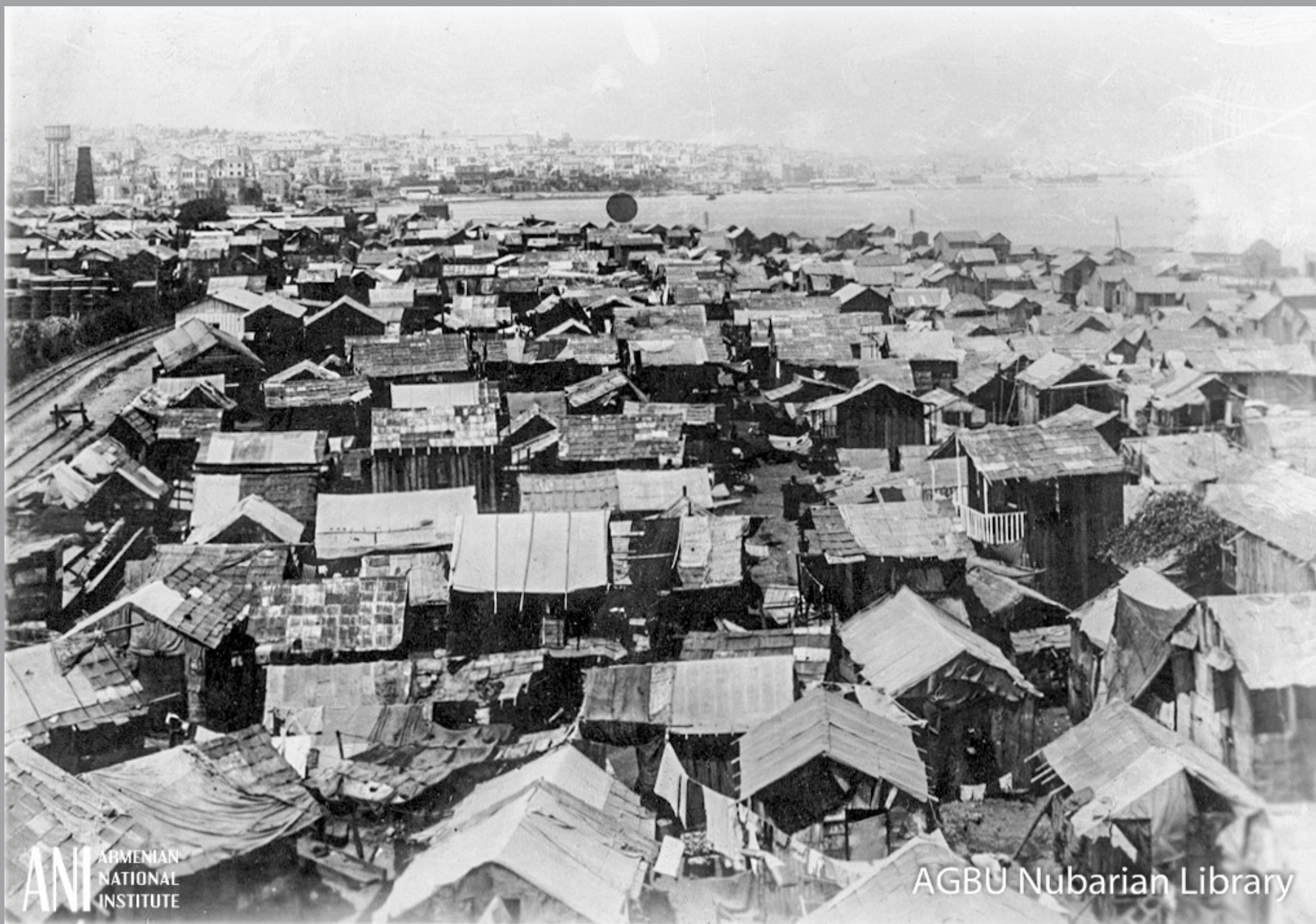
Without families and communities to care for them, thousands of Armenian children were left homeless as a consequence of the Armenian Genocide.

REFUGEES



Denied the right to return to their former homes, survivors gathered in refugee camps across the Middle East.

EXILE



The refugee camps turned into permanent settlements for Armenians.

PHILANTHROPY



Philanthropic organizations in the United States, Great Britain, and elsewhere raised funds to assist the survivors with food and shelter.

The exhibit **ICONIC IMAGES OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE** is a project of the Armenian National Institute, Armenian Genocide Museum of America, and Armenian Assembly of America, Washington, DC. Research and presentation: Rouben Paul Adalian; project design: Joseph Piatt; exhibit graphics: Aline Maksoudian. Dedication: In honor of the exemplary figures in the United States diplomatic service whose conscientious reporting remains a permanent testament to the horrors of the Armenian Genocide, Jesse B. Jackson, US Consul in Aleppo; Leslie A. Davis, US Consul in Harput; Oscar Heizer, US Consul in Trebizond; George Horton, Consul-General in Smyrna; and in Constantinople, Gabriel Bie Ravndal, Consul-General; Hoffman Philip, Chargé d'Affaires; Abraham I. Elkus, Ambassador; and Henry Morgenthau, Ambassador. © 2015, Armenian Assembly of America

RELIEF

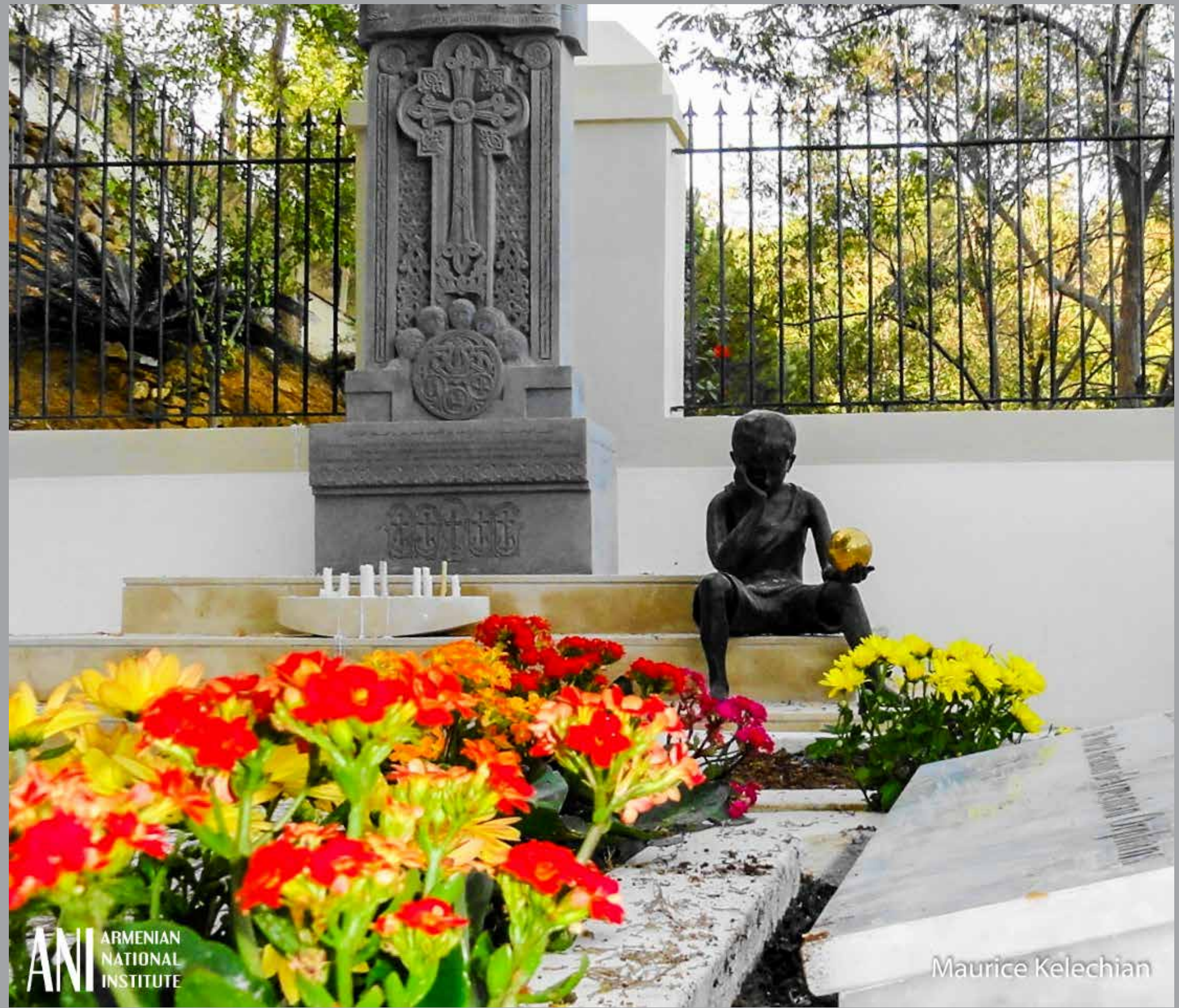


Relief efforts focused on addressing the needs of orphaned children for housing, education, and employment training. The largest undertaking was organized by Near East Relief (NER), a New York-based American charity.

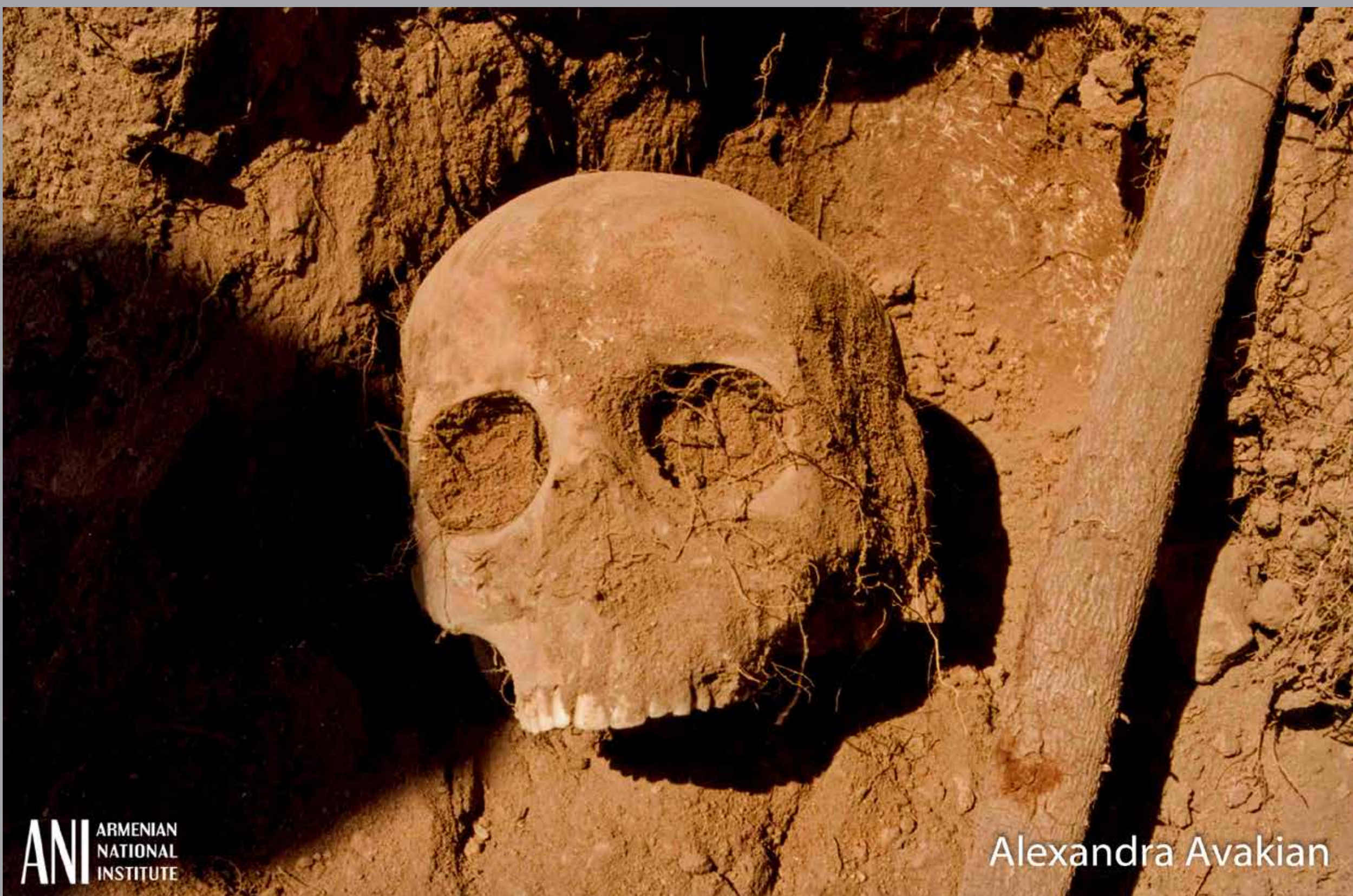
MEMORIALS



The Armenian Genocide is recalled with memorials around the world constructed by survivors and their descendants.



DER ZOR

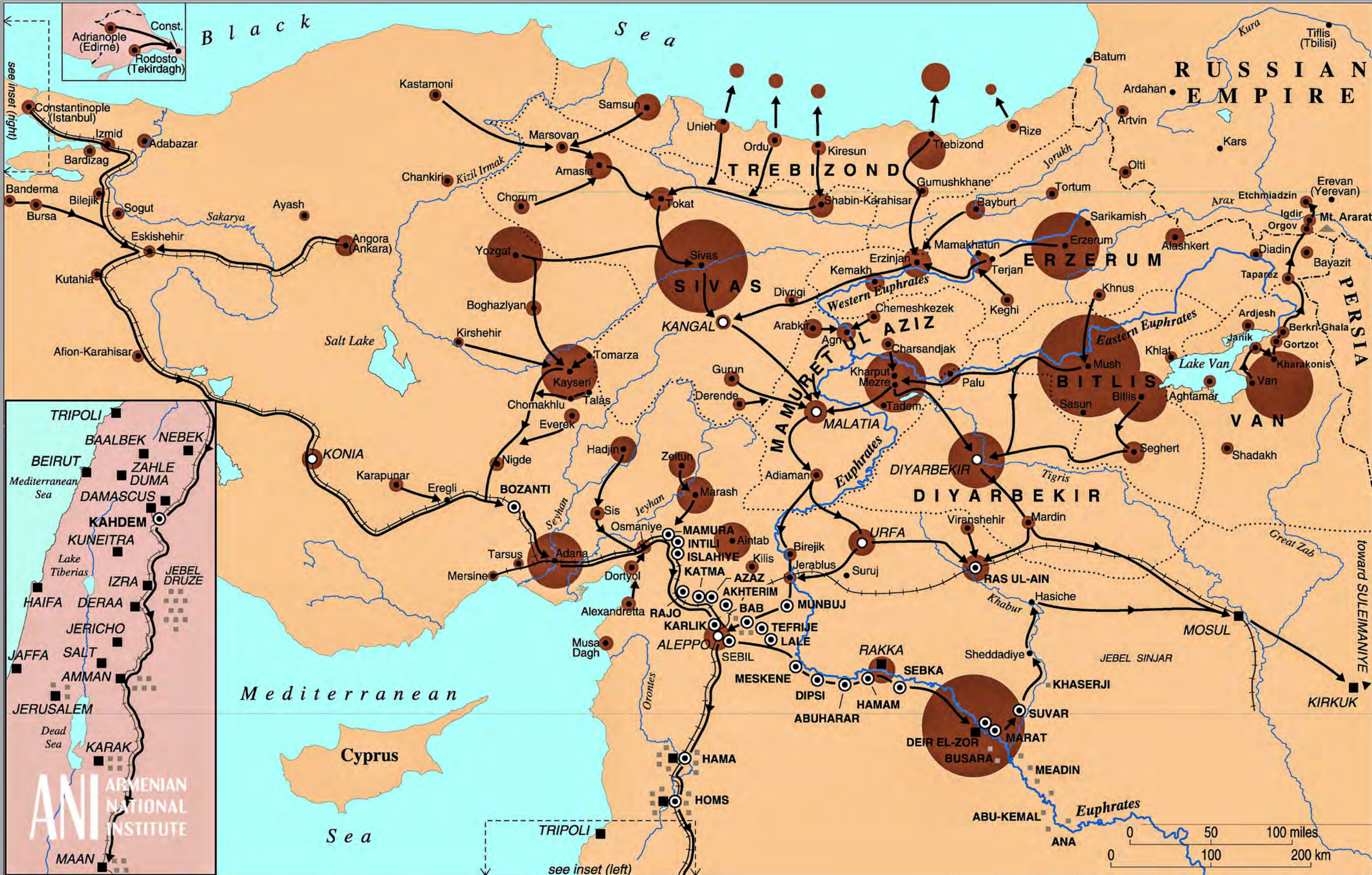


The unmarked mass graves of the Armenians dot the landscape in Turkey and Syria. Der Zor, the final destination of the deportations, was the largest death camp in the Syrian Desert. A quarter million people are estimated to have been liquidated at this site. The memorial chapel dedicated in 1990 in the modern Syrian city of Deir al-Zor was deliberately damaged by the so-called Islamic State on September 21, 2014, the Republic of Armenia Independence Day.



THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

“A Campaign of Race Extinction”



This map illustrates three prevailing aspects of the 1915 Armenian Genocide: the deportations, the massacres, and the concentration camps.

Between the years 1915 and 1923, the vast majority of the 2.1 million Armenians living in Ottoman Turkey were uprooted from their homes through a deliberate policy conceived by the Ottoman government and implemented by its administrative machinery, including the army, police, post, interior ministry, rail system, and special agencies created for the express purpose of deporting, robbing, and slaughtering the Armenian population.

The Armenian Genocide started in the thick of World War I but continued after the war ended in 1918. It continued even after the international treaties, designed to bring peace to the world and to bring to justice those responsible for war crimes, were signed in Versailles in 1919 and in Sèvres in 1920. By 1923, by the hardships and brutalities associated with the deportations, the continuous massacres, the epidemics that raged in the concentration camp sites that lacked all sanitation, and by the pangs of thirst and starvation, 1.5 million Armenians had been killed.

Jesse Jackson, the American Consul in Aleppo, observed the entire process of deportation as hundreds of thousands were routed through Aleppo on their way from the fertile valleys of Armenia and the commercial centers of Anatolia to the parched wastes of the Syrian Desert. As early as June 5, 1915, he reported: “it is without doubt a carefully planned scheme to thoroughly extinguish the Armenian race.” On the basis of this and additional cables from other American consuls, Henry Morgenthau, U.S. Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire, informed the American government on July 16, 1915, that “from harrowing reports of eye witnesses it appears that a campaign of race extermination is in progress.”

The Armenian Genocide was perpetrated by the Committee of Union and Progress, the radical wing of the Young Turk party that seized power in the Ottoman Empire. In their zeal to create a homogeneous society exclusively Turkish and Muslim, the Young Turk radicals sought to exclude the Christian populations that had long inhabited Asia Minor. Through expulsions, expropriations, and extermination, by 1923 no Christians to speak of, including Assyrians and Greeks, remained across Anatolian Turkey. The campaign was chronicled in the archives of the United States, Great Britain, France, Germany, Russia, the Vatican, and the Ottoman Empire.

Writing in 1918, former president of the United States Theodore Roosevelt, described the Armenian massacres as “the greatest crime of the war.” As early as May 24, 1915, the Allied Powers, England, France, and Russia, then at war against the Central Powers, Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Turkey, had condemned the massacres as ‘crimes against humanity and civilization.’ And when in 1919 President Woodrow Wilson sent Major General James Harbord on a military mission to investigate conditions in the Near East, Harbord reported back that “the traveler in that region is seldom free from the evidence of this most colossal crime of all ages.”

Reflecting on the consequences of the Great War in his 1929 book titled *The World Crisis*, the future British Prime Minister, Winston Churchill, wrote: “In 1915 the Turkish government began and ruthlessly carried out the infamous general massacre and deportation of Armenians of Asia Minor.” He added: “There is no reasonable doubt that this crime was planned and executed for political reasons.” Summing up what transpired in Armenia in 1915, he explained that “whole districts [were] blotted out in one administrative holocaust.”

Churchill, Roosevelt, Harbord, Morgenthau and Jackson all described in disbelief the scale of the crimes committed in 1915. Morgenthau went so far as to say: “I am confident that the whole history of the human race contains no such horrible episode as this. The great massacres and persecutions of the past seem almost insignificant compared to the sufferings of the Armenian race in 1915.” Churchill, however, had hit upon a word that would echo across the 20th century as governments planned and implemented ever greater crimes against humanity, many with complete impunity. In 1944, Raphael Lemkin called them genocide.