

Adding “Apology” to Injury: A New Spin on Genocide Denial?



Ayda Erbal Revisits the “Apology” of Turkish Intellectuals

The *We Apologize* campaign initiated by four Turkish intellectuals and signed by thousands of others was a remarkable yet controversial development in modern Turkish-Armenian relations. It also stands as a unique occurrence in modern Turkish history, since no other similar *apologizing act* has been extended to any other group that has been victimized by state policies.

What does an “apology” mean after a century of dispossession, discrimination and denial? Join **Ayda Erbal** as she examines the apology’s text, political context, the Armenian response and Turkish counter campaigns. She will also look at post-1915 intimidations and government theft from churches and communities. During the Q & A, inquire about last summer’s Gezi Park demonstrations, increasingly divergent Turkish attitudes, Kurdish calls for Genocide recognition and the upcoming centennial.

Ayda Erbal teaches *Middle Eastern Politics and Democratic Theory*, as adjunct professor of politics at New York University. An award winning filmmaker on the side, Erbal is in the process of writing her second narrative short-film. Erbal is also a published short-story writer and one of the founding editors of *Azad Alik* (<http://azadalik.wordpress.com>), a multilingual politics blog primarily dealing with minority politics in Turkey.

Thursday, March 13, 2014 @ 7:45 p.m.
St. Leon Armenian Church / Grace & Charles Pinajian Youth Center
12-61 Saddle River Road, Fair Lawn, NJ
For information call 201-791-2862

This event is **jointly sponsored** by

AGBU Ararat, Armenian Network of America- Greater NY
Hye Doon: Armenian-American Support & Education Center, Knights of Vartan Bakradouny Lodge of NJ
National Association for Armenian Studies and Research (NAASR), NY Armenian Students Association
St. Leon Armenian Church, Tekeyan Cultural Association- Greater NY Chapter, and Tibrevank Alumni

The event is free and open to the public. A reception will follow the discussion.