

# The Seizure of Armenian Property by Local Elites in Aintab



## Ümit Kurt *presents* The Emergence of a New Wealthy Class, 1915-1922

The genocide and deportation of Aintab's Armenians were carried out by local notables and provincial elites. These local actors prospered and became a new wealthy social class through the appropriation of Armenian property and wealth.

By examining the carefully planned confiscation of Armenian property as an integral part of the genocide, **Ümit Kurt** sheds light on how the property of massacred and deported Armenians changed hands.

**Ümit Kurt** will also discuss the *Abandoned Properties Laws* that dealt with the administration of property "left behind" by Armenians. He argues that these laws are not only a structural element of the genocide in 1915, but today's legal system in Turkey. As such, they could continue, to this very day, to preserve the rights of Armenians to their properties.

**Ümit Kurt** is a native of Aintab. He is currently a Ph.D. Candidate in the Department of History at Clark University and an instructor at Sabancı University.

**Thursday, April 10, 2014 @ 7:45 p.m.**

**St. Leon Armenian Church / Abajian Hall  
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.*