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The Kalaydjian Foundation Launches its University Scholarship Programme

The Kalaydjian Foundation is pleased to announce the start of its new scholarship programme that aims to provide free post-graduate education to gifted Armenian Cypriot students. The primary aim of this programme is to allow talented students, who would otherwise not have the chance to continue their education, the opportunity to receive a Master's degree and therefore enhance significantly their career prospects. To that end, the Kalaydjian Foundation has signed a collaboration agreement with the American University of Armenia in Yerevan whereby scholarship students will be able to study for a post-graduate degree for free.

The American University of Armenia (AUA) is a US-accredited educational institution affiliated with the University of California and located in Yerevan. AUA's academic programme provides English-language graduate education in Business and Management, Industrial Engineering, Information and Communication Technologies, Political Science, Health Sciences and Law. Since its inception in 1991, it has provided advanced education to over 1,600 Armenians from all over the world.

Of particular importance for Armenian Cypriot students is the AUA's two-year MBA (Master of Business Administration) programme that aims to help future managers of business to interact effectively within today's global and highly competitive environment. The MBA programme offers two specialisations: Accounting & Finance and Marketing & Management, and includes internships at approved organisations during the programme's second year. A major advantage is the fact that enrolled students from the diaspora live in the safe and beautiful city of Yerevan and make vital contacts and life-long friendships in their ancestral homeland.



The Kalaydjian Foundation aims to send one Armenian Cypriot student every year to the AUA for higher education, starting from the academic year 2010-2011. It will provide a full scholarship that will cover the entire cost of tuition. It will also offer advice and assistance on other issues, such as accommodation in Yerevan. The deadline for applications is 31 March 2010. The admission criteria are stringent and include an undergraduate degree from a recognised university or college in Cyprus or Europe/America, and suitable work experience. Interested parties should contact the Foundation on r.kalaydjian@cytanet.com.cy. More information on the AUA can be received at www.aua.am.

The Kalaydjian Foundation's New "Support For Education" Programme

As part of its efforts to provide support for education in the present difficult economic climate, the Kalaydjian Foundation has decided to provide an annual grant to all Cypriot students who are graduates of Narek elementary schools and are currently enrolled or will be enrolled in private secondary schools in Cyprus.

This assistance, up to €400 per child, will be given to all eligible applicants irrespective of their family's income level and will be provided

at the beginning of every academic year, starting from autumn 2009. Families who would be interested in receiving this grant should submit an application to Mr. Hagop Kasparian by 30 September at the latest. Mr. Kasparian can be contacted on 22-429306.

The Kalaydjian Foundation's "Support for Education" programme is in memory of Bedros and Aram Kalaydjian, the two brothers who founded the Foundation in 1984.

The Founders – A Brief History of the Kalaydjian Foundation

The Kalaydjian Foundation was founded as a non-profit benevolent organisation on the 11th of May 1984 with the purpose of helping disadvantaged and needy members of society, with a major focus being on the Armenian community in Cyprus.

According to its founding charter, the Foundation aims to maintain a rest home for the elderly, grant scholarships to gifted students for higher education in Cyprus or abroad, give financial assistance to people in urgent need of medical treatment abroad, provide aid to disadvantaged members of society in Cyprus, provide funding for the restoration of buildings and monuments of traditional character and/or architecture, and to promote and sponsor the development of culture and the arts in Cyprus.

The Kalaydjian Foundation was founded by brothers Bedros and Aram Kalaydjian in Larnaca, Cyprus.

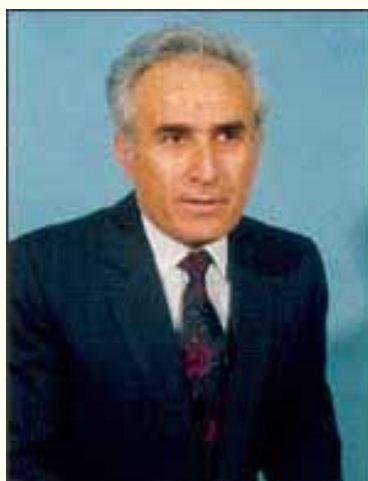


Bedros Kalaydjian was born in 1934 and graduated from the American Academy in Larnaca in 1953, following which he joined his father's textile trading business. He was elected to the Cypriot Parliament, the House of Representatives, as the Representative of the Armenian Community in 1995 and again in 1996, and was re-elected in 2001.

He was also a distinguished Rotarian and served for many years on the boards of various organisations, including the Cyprus chapter of the AGBU (Armenian General Benevolent Union), the American Academy Alumni Foundation, and the Cyprus-Armenia Friendship Association, which he co-founded.

Furthermore, on his initiative, an Armenian Genocide Memorial was erected in Larnaca on the spot where thousands of refugees fleeing the genocide of 1915-1923 first landed in Cyprus. This memorial was officially inaugurated by the President of the Republic of Cyprus on the 28th of May 2008.

Bedros Kalaydjian passed away after a long illness in September 2005.



Aram Kalaydjian was born in 1936 in Larnaca and graduated from the American Academy, following which he joined the family business of textiles and real estate. He served as Armenian Representative in the Cypriot Parliament from 1982-1995, being elected to that post three consecutive times in 1982, 1986 and 1991. He was Chairman of the Larnaca Chapter of the AGBU from 1968-1976 and of the Cyprus Chapter from 1976-1995. He was also Chairman of the Melkonian Educational Institute from 1976-1995. In April 1982 he was instrumental in passing through the Cypriot Parliament a resolution condemning the Armenian Genocide of 1915. In 1986 he was made an honorary citizen of Beirut in recognition of his assistance to Lebanese refugees during the civil war in Lebanon. In 1990 he was appointed Honorary Consul-General of the People's Republic of Bangladesh in Cyprus, a position still held by his family. Following his death in 1995, the Municipality of Larnaca named a street after Aram Kalaydjian.

The Kalaydjian Foundation is registered in the Republic of Cyprus as a philanthropic organisation (Registration No. 41) and as such all donations to it are tax-exempt.

The Committee Members Today

The Management Committee of the Kalaydjian Foundation at present comprises seven members: Roupen Kalaydjian, Dikran Kalaydjian (Chairman), Levon Arakelian (Vice-Chairman), Gregory Kupelian (Secretary), Hagop Kasparian, David Shahabian and Stephan Haroutunian. Roupen and Dikran Kalaydjian are the rotating Chairmen. The tenure of each member is four years.

Acknowledgements

The Kalaydjian Foundation gratefully acknowledges the support it receives from various donors and donor organisations and hereby expresses its sincere gratitude to all those who believe in its work and who have assisted it in its charitable mission.

Donations to the Kalaydjian Foundation can now also be made through the Foundation's website (www.kalaydjianfoundation.org).

Helen Nshanian – a Champion of Selfless Service to the Community

In 2008 the Kalaydjian Foundation paid tribute to Helen Nshanian, who had managed the day-to-day operations of the Kalaydjian Rest Home for twenty years. Helen's management role started when the rest home first opened its doors in 1988, and over two decades she displayed diligence, honesty and tireless devotion to duty, qualities that were a hallmark of this remarkable and indefatigable woman. The Kalaydjian Foundation is extremely grateful to her for her selfless service to the Kalaydjian Rest Home community and wishes her the best in her new pursuits.

Dr. Vahakn Atamian

The Kalaydjian Foundation also wishes to express its sincere gratitude to Dr. Vahakn Atamian, whose invaluable services to the Kalaydjian Rest Home are highly appreciated and have allowed its residents to have immediate access to medical advice and screening. Dr. Atamian was honoured for his services to the Kalaydjian Foundation during the official inauguration of the new wing of the rest home that took place on the 28th of June 2006.

The Kalaydjian Rest Home for the Elderly – Yesterday and Today

The Kalaydjian Rest Home for the Elderly has long been regarded as one of Cyprus' finest nursing homes. It has stood out amongst its peers due to its superior facilities and high standards of hygiene and service. Over the years, it has provided a clean and safe environment for hundreds of senior citizens, who have resided within its walls and been given dignified care and treatment. The rest home has now been in operation for over twenty years and has undergone many expansions and renovations, but its primary mission has remained unchanged, namely to care for its residents with the utmost of respect, appreciation and sensitivity.



The Kalaydjian Rest Home was officially opened on Sunday the 6th of March 1988 by the then Minister of the Interior Christodoulos Veniamin, with the religious blessings of Catholicos Karekin II of the Holy See of Cilicia and Bishop Yeghishe Manjikian of the Armenian Prelature of Cyprus.



The home originally comprised 12 rooms that surrounded a central courtyard. There was also a large dining area and a sitting room with a library.

In 1995 a small chapel was built next to the home to address the residents' spiritual needs. The chapel was named Sourp Amenaprkich and was consecrated by Catholicos Aram I of Cilicia in a ceremony on Sunday the 16th of February 1997.

Following a major renovation and extension in 2005, the rest home now has a total of 22 rooms, with capacity for up to 40 people. Its facilities include two large sitting rooms with libraries and satellite television, two dining rooms, and air-conditioning, heating and private bathrooms in every room. The new upper floor is named after sisters Arousiak and Alice Rafaelian, who bequeathed their house on Armenia Street in Nicosia to the Foundation.

On the 28th of June 2006, the then President of the Republic, the late Tassos Papadopoulos officially inaugurated the new wing of the Kalaydjian Rest Home. The opening ceremony was attended by numerous distinguished personalities from the political and business spheres of Cyprus, including the Ministers of Health and Labour, party leaders and representatives, the Mayor of Strovolos, the Director General of the Ministry of the Interior and the Law Commissioner. They were joined by many members of the Armenian community of Cyprus, including the current and past Armenian representatives in the Cyprus Parliament. The religious blessings were conducted by the Archbishop of the Armenian Prelature of Cyprus Varoujan Hergelian and by the Bishop of Kykkos Nikiforos.

The government of Cyprus contributed €170,000 to the project, against a total cost of around €700,000.



Today, the Kalaydjian Rest Home welcomes Greek Cypriots as well as Armenians. Its management team and staff comprise a total of 12 people, of whom 2 are full-time nurses. The home also has a qualified physician, Dr. Vahakn Atamian, who regularly provides health checks and prescriptions and who is on permanent stand-by. The day-to-day administration is undertaken by a qualified social worker, Ms. Elena Symeou, while overall managerial supervision is the responsibility of Mr. Hagop Kasparian, who reports directly to the Foundation's board.

The Kalaydjian Rest Home for the Elderly is located at 28 Korinthou Street in Strovolos, Nicosia.
Tel: 22-429306.



The official opening of the Kalaydjian Rest Home in March 1988



The consecration of the Sourp Amenaprkich Chapel in February 1997



The inauguration of the Rafaelian Wing of the Kalaydjian Rest Home in June 2006

OTHER PROJECTS

The Armenian Genocide Memorial Square in Larnaca

In the spring of 2008 the Kalaydjian Foundation sponsored the creation of the Armenian Genocide Memorial Square, which is located directly in front of the Armenian Genocide Monument in Larnaca.

The Armenian Genocide Monument marks the spot where thousands of Armenian refugees fleeing the genocide of 1915-1923 first landed in Cyprus. It was a joint project between the governments of Cyprus and Armenia that was initiated by Bedros Kalaydjian, designed by the world-famous architect Angelos Demetriou and funded by the Ministry of Education and Culture of Cyprus. The four granite plaques at the base of the monument were made by the Government of Armenia.

The Memorial Square links the Armenian Genocide Monument with Larnaca's main promenade. It is intricately designed using a combination of granite and sandstone and was financed entirely by the Kalaydjian Foundation, at a cost of €22,500.

In November 2006, during the state visit to Cyprus of the President of Armenia, the monument's foundation stone was laid by President Robert Kocharyan.

The Armenian Genocide Monument was officially inaugurated by the President of the Republic of Cyprus Mr. Demetris Christofias on the 28th of May 2008.



The Memorial Square in front of the Armenian Genocide Monument

Chronicle of the Armenian Community of Cyprus – English Edition

As part of its cultural activities, the Kalaydjian Foundation decided in early 2009 to sponsor the translation into English of a chronicle of the Armenian community in Cyprus. The original article was written in Greek by journalist and historian Alexander-Michael Hadjilyras and appeared in the Politis newspaper on 14 September 2008. The English edition was printed in the Republic of Armenia and will soon be available at the offices of the Kalaydjian Foundation in Larnaca and at the Kalaydjian Rest Home for the Elderly in Nicosia. More information can be received by calling 24-659200.

The Grand Benefactors

The Kalaydjian Foundation's Grand Benefactors are Arousiak and Alice Rafaelian and Arto Matossian.

