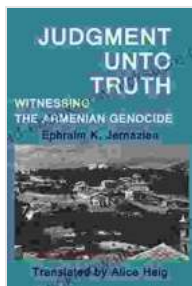


# Witnessing the Armenian Genocide: Exploring the Zoryan Institute's Survivors' Memoirs



## Judgment Unto Truth: Witnessing the Armenian Genocide (Zoryan Institute Survivors' Memoirs Book 4)

by Molly Buchanan

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 4752 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Print length : 188 pages



The Armenian Genocide of 1915-1923 was a systematic and brutal campaign of mass murder and ethnic cleansing perpetrated by the Ottoman government against the Armenian population of the empire. An estimated 1.5 million Armenians were killed during this dark period, leaving an indelible scar on history and the collective memory of the Armenian people.

To preserve the stories and experiences of the survivors, the Zoryan Institute in Los Angeles has meticulously collected and preserved a vast archive of survivors' memoirs. These firsthand accounts offer a profound glimpse into the horrors endured by the Armenian people during the genocide, as well as their unwavering resilience and determination to rebuild their lives.

## Exploring the Zoryan Institute's Collection

The Zoryan Institute's collection of survivors' memoirs is an invaluable resource for genocide studies and human rights research. It contains over 5,000 written and audio-recorded testimonies, providing a comprehensive and diverse record of the Armenian experience during this tragic period.

These memoirs vary greatly in length, from brief fragments to extensive narratives. Some survivors chose to focus on specific events or experiences, while others provided detailed accounts of their entire lives, encompassing both their pre-genocide existence and their post-genocide struggle for survival.

### The Value of Survivors' Memoirs

Survivors' memoirs play a crucial role in understanding the complexities of the Armenian Genocide. They provide

- **Historical Evidence:** These memoirs serve as firsthand accounts of the events leading up to and during the genocide. They provide historians and researchers with valuable insights into the perpetrators' actions, the victims' experiences, and the international community's response.
- **Psychological and Emotional Insights:** The memoirs offer a glimpse into the psychological and emotional toll that the genocide had on its victims. Survivors recount the trauma, fear, and loss they endured, as well as the resilience and hope that sustained them.
- **Collective Memory:** Survivors' memoirs contribute to the collective memory of the Armenian people. They help to pass on the experiences

and lessons of the genocide to future generations, ensuring that the memory of this tragedy is not forgotten.

### **Voices from the Past: Excerpts from Survivors' Memoirs**

The Zoryan Institute's collection contains numerous poignant and unforgettable accounts from survivors of the Armenian Genocide. Here are a few excerpts that offer a glimpse into their harrowing experiences:

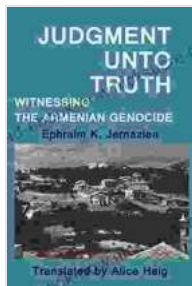
**Mariam Voskanian:** "I remember the day the Turkish soldiers came to our village. They were like wild animals, looting and killing. They took my father and brother right before my eyes. I escaped into the forest, hiding among the trees until nightfall."

**Garabed Ohanian:** "I was forced to march with other Armenian prisoners for many days and nights. We were given little food or water, and many died along the way. I witnessed the horrors of the death marches firsthand, the suffering and desperation of my people."

**Armenouhi Kirakosian:** "After the genocide, I was left alone and orphaned. I wandered from village to village, desperately searching for any family or friends who might have survived. I found work as a servant, enduring years of hardship and discrimination before finally rebuilding my life in a new country."

The Zoryan Institute's collection of survivors' memoirs is a powerful testament to the resilience of the Armenian people in the face of unimaginable adversity. These firsthand accounts offer invaluable insights into the Armenian Genocide, shedding light on the horrors inflicted and the indomitable spirit of those who survived.

Preserving and studying these memoirs is essential for ensuring that the memory of the Armenian Genocide lives on. By listening to the voices of survivors, we can better understand the complexities of this tragedy and work towards a future free from genocide and persecution.



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