



# MEMORIES OF YEREVAN

EDITED BY NICOLAS V. ILJINE

*Memories of Yerevan* is a richly illustrated exploration of one of the world's oldest continually inhabited cities. Yerevan dates back to 782 BCE, when Urartian King Argishti I founded the Erebuni Fortress, something recorded on Yerevan's "birth certificate," a contemporaneous cuneiform inscription. This book brings together the work of twenty authors, each of whom is an expert in their field. It is an accessible look at the history and culture of Armenia through the story of its capital.

In 301 CE, Armenia was the first country to adopt Christianity as an official religion. *Memories of Yerevan* provides a detailed description of the religious life of the country as seen through its unique churches and its written heritage, including the precious documents kept in the Matenadaran in Yerevan, the world's largest repository of Armenian manuscripts.

As well as ancient history, the book explores the key period of the early 20th century, when Yerevan became the capital of Armenia and the country had a brief period of independence from colonial rule. In 1920, the Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic was formed. *Memories of Yerevan* records the changes that then took place in the city, including the creation of its unique early Soviet buildings and the stories of the Yerevan-based architects who designed them.

*Memories of Yerevan* will appeal to a wide range of readers, from those already familiar with Armenia, its capital, and its people to those who are reading about the beautiful city of Yerevan for the first time.

### List of authors:

Artak Movsisyan, Robert H. Hewsen, Fr. Asoghik Karapetyan, Karen Davidov, Mikael Badalyan, Emma Petrosyan, Armine Sargsyan, Erna Revazova, Marina Khachmanukyan, Hayk Demoyan, Marietta Gasparyan, Mark Grigorian, Meruzhan Karapetyan, Seyranush Manukyan, Rouzan Sarian, Marianna Tigranyan, Armen Budaghyan, Armen (Chico) Tutunjian, David Gasparyan, Ani Dantser-Harutyunyan

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> **PUBLISHER** Artguide Editions  
+420 777 544 740  
editions@artguide.com

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+1 917 691 4550  
www.goldhawkinternational.com

