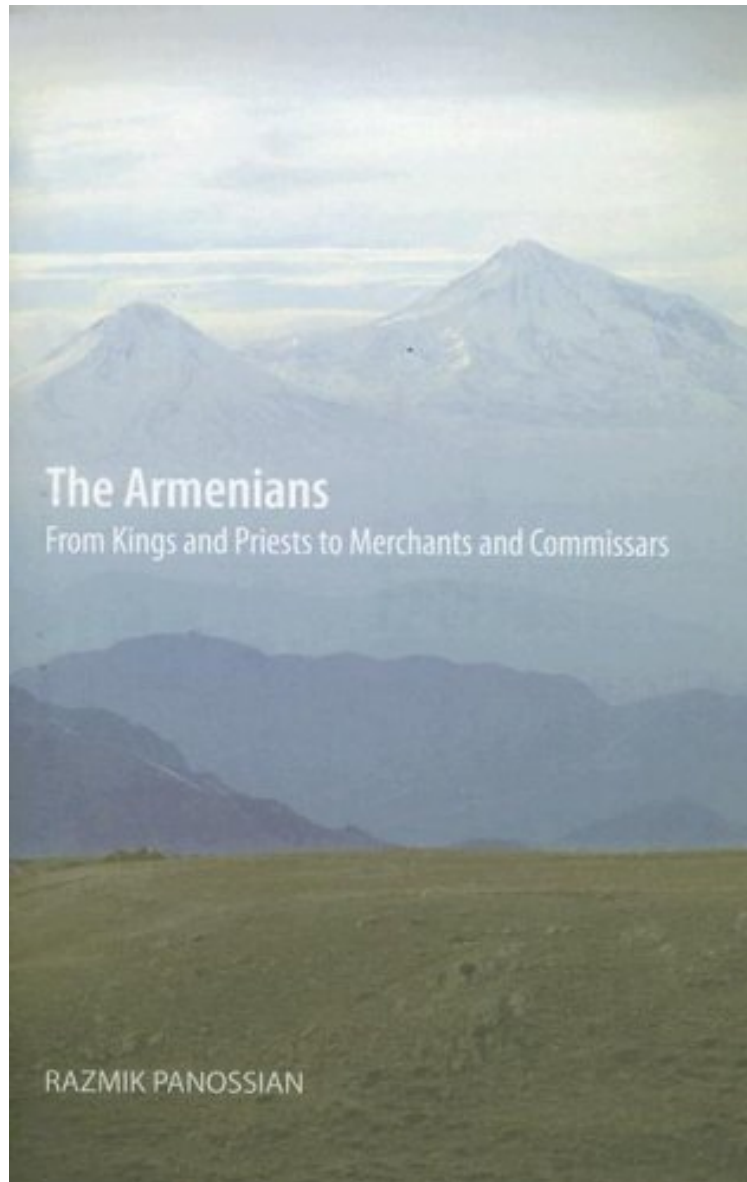


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# The Armenians: From Kings and Priests to Merchants and Commissars

*Razmik Panossian*

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#1697843 in Books Razmik Panossian 2006-05-27Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.54 x 1.17 x 6.00l, 1.51 #File Name: 0231139268492 pagesThe Armenians From Kings and Priests to Merchants and Commissars | File size: 69.Mb

**Razmik Panossian : The Armenians: From Kings and Priests to Merchants and Commissars** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Armenians: From Kings and Priests to Merchants and Commissars:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy khorin salmassianExcellent9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Comprehensive but conciseBy V. GhazarianThe book is very well written, but clearly the value of this book lies beyond its readability this is an original piece of work that is complete in the sense that it covers more of the evolution of the "Armenian identity" than meets the eye. For instance the historic fact driven discussions on the Armenian identity goes to the core of the current political issues of modern day Armenia. The book builds a useful bridge between Armenian history, politics and sociology.If you have ever asked yourself what is an Armenian then you should read this book. I read it twice and it hit me at some point that I was in the process of discovering what it is to be an Armenian.IMHO the author is fairly balanced and unbiased about Armenian issues.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Highly recommended!By SeroujSeminal book on the history of Armenian identity. A fresh take, and for the modern history section, backed by interviews conducted by the author in Armenia and elsewhere. Highly recommended!

The Armenians traces the evolution of Armenia and Armenian collective identity from its beginnings to the Armenian nationalist movement over Gharabagh in 1988. Applying theories of national-identity formation and nationalism, Razmik Panossian analyzes different elements of Armenian identity construction and argues that national identity is modern, predominantly subjective, and based on a political sense of belonging. Yet he also acknowledges the crucial role of history, art, literature, religious practice, and commerce in preserving the national memory and shaping the cultural identity of the Armenian people.Panossian explores a series of landmark events, among them Armenians' first attempts at liberation, the Armenian renaissance of the nineteenth century, the 1915 genocide of the Ottoman Armenians, and Soviet occupation. He shows how these influences led to a "multilocal" evolution of Armenian identity in various places in and outside of Armenia, notably in diasporan communities from India to Venice. Today, these numerous identities contribute to deep divisions and tensions within the Armenian nation, the most profound of which is the cultural divide between Armenians residing in their homeland and those who live in the United States, Canada, the Middle East, and elsewhere. Considering the diversity of this single nation, Panossian questions the theoretical assumption that nationalism must be homogenizing.Based on extensive research conducted in Armenia and the diaspora, including interviews and translation of Armenian-language sources, The Armenians is an engaging history and an invaluable comparative study.

Inspired and thoughtful. (Robert Legvold Foreign Affairs)[A] fascinating and important book. (Christopher J. Walker The Weekly Standard)"Panossian's present work...succeeds in conveying the convoluted evolution of Armenian nationalism." (Leon Torossian The European Legacy)A first rate piece of scholarship. (William Safran Nationalism and Ethnic Politics)Remarkably balanced, empirically sound, and theoretically engaging. (Levon Chorbajian Slavic )The most meticulously researched and scholarly study of the development of Armenian national identity ever written. (Ralph M Coury American Historical )The most sophisticated and comprehensive analysis of the development of self-understanding. (International Journal of Middle East Studies)About the AuthorRazmik Panossian is the director of programmes and policy at Rights and Democracy in Canada.