



Middle East & Middle Eastern American Center

UPCOMING EVENT

Taner Akçam

Talk and Book Signing for

From Empire to Republic: Turkish Nationalism and the Armenian Genocide

Dr. Akçam will examine the relationship between Turkey's transition from Ottoman Empire to Turkish Republic in the opening decades of the 20th century, the Armenian Genocide of 1915, and the process of democratization in Turkey today. He will analyze the socio-political and historical factors behind that complex and crucial history, and provide a framework for understanding Turkish nationalism and its on-going relationship to the Armenian Genocide. Contextualizing the long-term development of Turkey and the reasons for Turkish silence and denial regarding the Armenian Genocide, Akçam will discuss the role of the Armenian Genocide in the process of democratization in Turkey today. Through an exploration of the obstacles to dialogue, he will offer some hope for reconciliation between the Turkish and Armenian communities.

Taner Akçam is currently Visiting Associate Professor in the Department of History, University of Minnesota. He was born in the province of Kars-Ardahan in the northeast of Turkey and became interested in Turkish politics at an early age. In 1977 he settled in Germany as a political refugee. Akçam received his Ph.D. from Hanover University with a dissertation titled, *Turkish Nationalism and the Armenian Genocide: On the Background of the Military Tribunals in Istanbul Between 1919 and 1922*. He has since published five books and half a dozen articles on the topic in Turkish and German. *From Empire to Republic* was published in March 2004 by Zed Books, London.

Friday June 4, 2004, 6:30-8:30 pm
Elebash Recital Hall

Co-sponsored by the Zoryan Institute (Toronto)

Books will be available for purchase
Admission free, but voluntary donations welcome

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