

## **Endorsements for** **Armenia: A Rugged Land, an Enduring People**

“Armenia did not even exist on the maps our children used in school. It was considered “just another part” of the Soviet Union. That’s why I feel that *Armenia: A Rugged Land, an Enduring People* is so important. It’s obvious that Lucine Kasbarian is familiar and comfortable with life in Armenia and has no trouble translating Armenia’s cultural symbols into a language with which young readers can identify. This multicultural educational effort can benefit everyone. It belongs in schools and libraries everywhere. It stands in a unique position not only to educate, but to entertain and even inspire its readers.”

**-- Bob McGrath, CTW Sesame Street Host and author of *Uh Oh, Gotta Go!***

“Most books focus on Armenia’s history, and neglect the rich cultural heritage as a living tradition. *Armenia: A Rugged Land, an Enduring People* by Lucine Kasbarian makes Armenia come alive as an active society today. It includes a wide range of topics, clearly written and accessible to a wide age range. The sections on Education Today and Getting by in Armenia are unique. Visitors to the Armenian Library and Museum of America often ask for books introducing Armenian culture. Most books are either too superficial or too specialized for general readers. This text finally answers that need.”

**-- Gary & Susan Lind-Sinanian, Curators, Armenian Library & Museum of America, Watertown, MA**

I strongly recommend this book for schools and libraries because of its intrinsic value as a clear-cut, honest and impartial introduction to a newly independent country. It definitely fills a need; there is no other work of this kind. I appreciated the work and thought put into *Armenia: A Rugged Land, an Enduring People*, and even found it to be an inspiration for me. Timely and appropriate.”

**-- The late Archbishop Mesrob Ashjian, Prelate of the Armenian Apostolic Church of America and author of *St. Nerses of Lampron: Champion of the Church Universal*, New York, NY**

“*Armenia: A Rugged Land, an Enduring People* by Lucine Kasbarian is a truly wonderful addition to any educator’s collection. As an educator who works within the public school system in California, I am continually looking for resources that will provide Armenian students with a better understanding of their truly rich heritage and provide non-Armenian students and educators with a better understanding of that same history and culture. Lucine Kasbarian is to be congratulated for this undertaking and Silver Burdett-Dillon Press is to be commended for understanding the great void that has existed in educationally textual material for this constantly growing ethnic population and

for stepping up to the plate to meet the needs of students and educators alike. The addition of *Armenia: A Rugged Land, an Enduring People* to school libraries and as a part of multi-cultural curricula is a must.”

**-- Alice Petrossian, Director of Intercultural Education, Glendale Unified School District, Glendale, CA (now the Chief Academic Officer to Pasadena Unified School District, Pasadena, CA)**

“With a broad brush, Lucine Kasbarian has managed to capture the wonderful and confounding aspects of one of the world’s oldest tribes, the Armenians. But she has also bothered to paint many loving details into this fine primer – the pink and black stones of Armenia, the sparkling subways lit by chandeliers, the pagan rituals that endure in the first Christian nation, and even a recipe for jajukh, the cold yogurt and cucumber soup of summer.”

**-- Mark Arax, author of *In My Father’s Name (Pocket Books)*, *The King of California (Public Affairs)* and *West of the West (Public Affairs)*, Fresno, CA**

“Lucine Kasbarian’s book is a welcome addition to the Discovering Our Heritage book series – which is helping to foster understanding and appreciations of the traditions, customs and national character of the many nations comprising our world, and that by extension, will provide Americans with a greater appreciation of the various ethnic peoples of our expanding, enduring nation.”

**-- Nonny Hogrogian, author and illustrator of the Caldecott Medal-winning *One Fine Day*, Northampton, MA**

“Kasbarian’s compact and copious *Armenia: A Rugged Land, an Enduring People* is a benchmark in an ongoing and I dare say inexorable cultural mission: to bring the tragic and heroic story of the Armenian people to the world at large. The reality of the Armenian Genocide of 1915, the first of a century marked by genocides, has been assiduously repressed by the Turkish government and is only now resurfacing in public consciousness. It is essential that this continue, not only for the Armenians but for the Turkish people themselves, so that true healing can at last begin.”

**-- Aram Saroyan, author of *Last Rites: The Death of William Saroyan (William Morrow & Co.)* and *Complete Minimal Poems (Ugly Duckling Presse)*, Los Angeles, CA**

“Lucine Kasbarian’s *Armenia: A Rugged Land, an Enduring People* is a valuable addition to the literature of America’s rich ethnic heritage. Armenians have not received comprehensive treatment in that body of literature and Kasbarian’s book fills that noticeable void. She writes with objectivity, authority, and clarity. This is a book both for the younger and older reader, in or out of school.”

-- Patrick Gallo, Adjunct Professor of History, New York University, and author of *Old Bread, New Wine: A Portrait of the Italian-Americans* (Burnham), NJ

## ***Critical Reviews of Armenia: A Rugged Land, an Enduring People***

“The descendant of survivors of the 1915 Armenian Holocaust, Kasbarian devotes much attention to this horrific event that has until recently received too little coverage.”

-- Lyn Miller-Lachmann for *Multicultural Review*

“Beyond the consumer market, *Armenia* is sure to find shelf-space in schools and libraries as a rare research tool for the “middle-aged” student.”

-- Armenian International Magazine [AIM]

“This comprehensive introduction to Armenia past and present is informative and interesting.”

-- FACES magazine: **People, Places and Cultures**

“Kasbarian’s [book] is an easy read, augmented by striking photography, large type, a casual flow, and chapters which tend to cradle civilization through a discerning eye.”

-- Tom Vartabedian for *The Armenian Weekly*

“The first thing I noticed was the way *Armenia* made history – so often the subject of dry, turgid, massive tomes – a lively and uniquely interesting experience.”

-- Roben Torossian for *The Armenian Reporter*

“*Armenia* takes us closer to filling the void of mainstream educational materials addressing the history of Armenia and Armenians.”

-- Nicole Vartanian for *Armenian Forum*

“This supplementary reader for high school age students is excellent for all ages.”

-- *Project SAVE News*