

BIOGRAPHY

Reverend Khosrof Assadourian

I, baptismal name Yervant, was born on July 20, 1908 in the village of Delbend, district of Kars. My father Khachadour Assadourian and my mother Marinos Assadourian both have been natives of Tortan Village, district of Garin; after the declaration of 1908 Constitution they return to their birthplace Tortan.

My parents and thirty-six immediate members of the family and relatives, who were living under one roof, have fallen as victims of the 1915 bestial genocide. With the Caravan from Garin all of us were forcefully deported towards the unknown, the endless deserts of Mesopotamia. By some miracle and the Will of the Lord, somehow, I survived and after long ramblings managed to arrive in Mosul, Iraq.

During World War I, after the occupation of Iraq by the British armed forces, an Armenian orphanage was established in Mosul and as an Armenian orphan I was granted entrance to this orphanage. Few months later the orphanage moved to Bakuba, Iraq to join the orphans from Vasburagan and merge with Vasburagan Orphanage. After spending three long years under the tents in the deserts of Bakuba and Shat-el-Arab, Vasburagan Orphanage moved to the Magnificent Convent of St. James in Jerusalem and it was renamed Araratian Orphanage.

In the fall of 1923 Mesrob Vartabed Nshanian, the Superintendent of the Armenian Seminary, requested from Yeghishe Vartanian, the Superintendent of the orphanage, ten bright orphans (age 14-15) as students for the Seminary. Finally ten orphans were recommended for this purpose and I was one of them; (see Archbishop Sion Manoogian's book "Yegeghe-tsgani Mh Guianki Hankervanner", page 18).

Thus, from the first semester of 1923 schoolyear up to the Holy Resurrection Day of 1928, which happened to be the first days of May in that year, I obtained my ecclesiastical education for the Priesthood at the Armenian Seminary of Jerusalem. In the next couple of days immediately after 1928 Easter Sunday almost all the students of the Seminary fell into a sort of disagreement with Guregh Vartabed Israeliian, the Deputy Superintendent of the Seminary, and as a result of this misunderstanding I left school for the search of new opportunities with four other students.

After leaving the school and having no immediate support from anyone we never abandoned hope for survival, and as our first priority we managed to find a room that belonged to St. Mary's Church in the Garden of Gethsemane.

With Armenian determination and our unyielding efforts we earned our basic necessities honestly and eventually established our homes and families without being a financial burden upon anybody.

On October 8, 1933 I got married to Miss Mariam Kevorkian, a native of Jerusalem, and later on we were blessed with having one daughter and three sons. All four are married now, have their own children and all of them reside in the U.S.A.

During 1958 at the instruction of the Most Rev. Archbishop Serovpe Manoogian, the Nuncio of Western Europe, the Religious Organization of St. Sahag and St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church of Marseilles officially invited and asked me if I would be willing to get ordained as Pastor for their Church. My answer to this cordial invitation was positive.

At the recommendation of the Most Rev. Serovpe Manoogian, the Nuncio of Western Europe, on November 16, 1958 I got ordained as Pastor for St. Sahag and St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church of Marseilles. The Ordination Ceremony took place in the Archangel Church of Jerusalem and was performed by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Souren Kemhajian; the Very Rev. David Apegha Sahagian officiated as Khaldavirak. The Karasoonk of my Priesthood was spent at Holy Resurrection Cathedral of Jerusalem and my original masses were celebrated in local Churches.

On February 5, 1959 I (newly ordained Rev. Khosrof) and my family arrived in Marseilles where I assumed my responsibility as Pastor Of St. Sahag and St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church from February 1959 until the end of August 1966.

By the permission of the Most Rev. Archbishop Serovpe Manoogian and at the invitation of the Most Rev. Archbishop Sion Manoogian, the then Primate of the Eastern Diocese, I came to the U.S.A. on September 21, 1966.

After my arrival to the U.S.A. I spent few months with my daughter and son-in-law, the Ohanians of Detroit, Michigan. On February 17, 1967 the Most Rev. Archbishop Torkom Manoogian, the newly

elected Primate of the Eastern Diocese, appointed me as Pastor of St. George's Armenian Apostolic Church of Hartford, Connecticut, where I officiate up to this date by the Will of the Lord.

Briefing:

Date of Birth - July 20, 1908

Stole Bearer and Deacon - November 16, 1958

Priest - November 16, 1958

Breast Cross and Ornamented Mantle - I do not have

Affectionately and Graciously Offering my Prayer to God

Reverend Khosrof Assadourian, Pastor

January 24, 1975

St. George's Armenian Apostolic Church
22 White Street
Hartford, Connecticut 06114

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Diocese of the Armenian Church
630 Second Avenue, N. Y. C. 10016

File: Armenian Clergy

Rev. Khosrov Asadourian

Rev. Khosrov Asadourian was born in the village of Tortan, in the Erzroom vilayet, Turkey. He lost his father, brothers and sisters in the course of the Deportation of the Armenians, in 1915, and managed to reach Mosul with his mother and one sister.

After World War I he was transferred from the orphanage in Mosul to Rakuba, Iraq, and later to Nahr el Omar. Early in 1922 he was transferred along with the orphans from Vaspourakan to the St. James Monastery in Jerusalem. From 1924 to 1928 he studied at the Jarankavoratz Seminary. Subsequently he worked in the Polish Consulate and with the director of the Barkless Dispensary, near Jerusalem.

He was ordained as a priest on November 16, 1958, on the recommendation of Archbishop Seroupe Manoogian, by Archbishop Seoren Kemhajian, in the Church of the Holy Archangel in Jerusalem, where he served from 1959-1966. Rev. Khosrov came to the United States along with Yeretzgin (nee Keorkian) and their eighteen year old son in September, 1966. Rev. and Yeretzgin Asadourian have three sons and a daughter. The eldest son and daughter are married and another son is currently studying in Marseilles, France.

Rev. Khosrov Asadourian died in 1982