



The Armenian Genocide



IN DEFENSE
OF CHRISTIANS
IN THE MIDDLE EAST

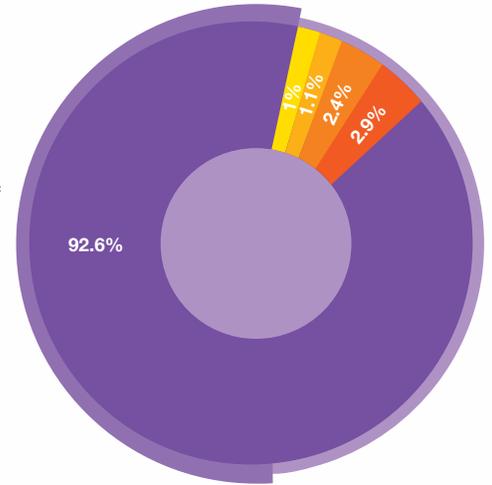
BACKGROUND

- Armenia was the first nation to adopt Christianity as its state religion in the early fourth century. The persecution of Armenians over the centuries has stemmed in large part from their refusal to renounce their apostolic faith. Armenian nationals number approximately three million. However, millions of Armenians live elsewhere in the world, including perhaps as many as a million in Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, and Syria.
- The Ottoman Empire killed over 1,500,000 Armenians, Greeks, Assyrian-Chaldean-Syriacs and others, exiled the Armenians from their historic homeland, and deported hundreds of thousands of its other Christian citizens. Many of the victims were killed expressly because they would not renounce their Christian faith.
- Prior to the Armenian Genocide of 1915, the territory of modern-day Turkey was home to a large, ancient, and indigenous Christian population, comprised of millions of Armenians, Greeks, Pontians, Assyrians, Chaldeans, Syriacs, and other Christian peoples. Today, Christians account for less than 0.1% of Turkey's population.
- There is a growing international consensus that the Turkish government committed genocide against Armenians, Greeks and Assyrian-Chaldean-Syriacs, beginning in 1915. - Forty-three U.S. states have affirmed the Armenian Genocide through resolutions or proclamations and over 20 nations and international bodies have affirmed the Armenian Genocide.
- Despite the international consensus that the Ottoman Empire committed the Armenian Genocide, Turkey continues a campaign of denying the genocide. Turkey's acknowledgement of the genocide is a vital key to improved relations between Turkey and Christians minorities, within its borders and across the region, as well as between Turkey and Armenia

Population: 3, 051, 250

- Armenian Apostolic
- Evangelical
- Other
- None
- unspecified

Ethnic Groups:
Armenian 98.1%
Yezidi (Kurd) 1.1%
other 0.7%



ASK YOUR REPRESENTATIVE TO:

- Co-sponsor bi-partisan H. Res. 220 expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding past genocides
- Work toward equitable, constructive, stable, and durable Armenian-Turkish relations based upon the Republic of Turkey's full acknowledgment of the facts and ongoing consequences of the Armenian Genocide, and a fair, just, and comprehensive international resolution of this crime against humanity.

