



Հայաստանի Հանրապետության Հիմնադրամ
գործադիր վարչություն

Hayastan All-Armenian Fund
Executive Board

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tel. + (374 10) 52 15 05

A Number of the Armenia Fund's School Furnishing Projects Accomplished

Yerevan, April 10, 2008 – The Armenia Fund accomplished several furnishing projects during the month of March including the Parakar Art school, school N10 in Abovian, Kotaik region, schools N 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 in Artik, Shirak region, secondary school in Kndzoresk, Siunik region and School N78 in Yerevan. All these projects have been initiated and financed through contributions from the Armenia Fund's French Affiliate.

The Art School after Hovik Edgaryan located in the village of Parakar with a population of 7000 was renovated in 2007 with funds from the Armenia Fund French Affiliate. The furnishing project at a total cost of 13,758,549 AMD includes items such as chairs, tables, sofas, hangers, mirrors, drawers, desks, two looms, an oven and a shaping machine for producing ceramic items and a computer. The project is named in memory of the late Loussintac and Sahak Tchopourian.

Around 200 students from Parakar and nearby villages of Tairov, Merdzavan, Ajgek, Baghramyan, Norakert, Ptghunk, Arevashat, Musaler attend different classes at the school. Piano, brass band, dancing, painting, tapestry, pottery and carpet-making classes have classrooms of their own. With facilities for ceramics and carpet-making classes available now, the school administration has started registering pupils who want to enroll on it.

The instructor of the painting class Liparit Shahinyan said they now have 26 children attending the class instead of the 12 they had earlier this year, as they now have 12 easels instead of 6 and more tables and chairs in the classroom. "There was always much interest in painting and pottery classes, but we did not have enough facilities for all those who wanted to join us. We are grateful to the Armenia Fund and our donors for their timely assistance and the stimulus the new environment provides. It is not only pupils who enjoy the new painting tools, it is us, the teachers, who are inspired to do better," said the instructor. Anahit and Anush have been attending the painting classes for 2.5 years now. They said they always enjoyed them but with the new furnished room and tables of their own they enjoy the classes better. Anahit, 13, is quite certain about her future profession and is seriously planning to become a fashion designer.

Two years ago a class for brass band opened at school. Today it has 10 students and a nice display of a dozen instruments – trumpet, clarinet, trombone, baritone, and viola –on the wall in the classroom. The instruments lay idle in the Parakar secondary school where they belonged in and were passed over to the art school so that the brass band class could use it. With the support of the local municipality they were repaired and now make an impressive collection of Soviet era brass instruments.

"Hayastan" All Armenian Fund is a non-profit organization established in 1992 with the aim of facilitating humanitarian assistance and infrastructure development in Armenia and Nagorno Karabakh. The Fund has 19 affiliate structures worldwide.

Contact: Hayastan All-Armenian Fund, Government building 3, Yerevan 0010,
Public Relations Department,
Tel: + (374 10) 52 15 05; 56 01 06; Fax: + (374 10) 52 37 95
E-mail: pr@himmadram.org, Web: www.himmadram.org

Principal of the school Almost Svajyan was greatly excited when showing around the school that was no longer just a nicely renovated and an orderly place which could do with new and more pieces of furniture earlier this year.

Appropriate maintenance is felt in every corner of the building. Although the school was renovated only seven months ago, it is not without the efforts of Ms. Svajyan and her team that the building is kept in good repair; a lot is currently being considered and done to add to it. The curtains obtained by the school management for the concert hall are a perfect match with the chairs. “We are all so pleased with the new interior; it’s an incredible change. We really appreciate the efficiency with which acquisition of the furniture was organized. And we know that not every school in Armenia enjoys the conditions we do today. Many thanks to the Armenia Fund and our friends in France for the school we have,” said Ms Svajyan.

Fittings such as pictures, small rugs and other decorations are part of the principal’s plans. According to her due to the Armenia Fund renovation and furnishing projects the school has now four job openings – one for an administrative assistant and three for support staff. On April 6 the school hosted the festival of sport dances in which groups from Yerevan, Gyumri, Vanadzor, Sisian and Echmiadsin participated.

Within the Armenia Fund upcoming project banisters will be built along the stairs and a fence put up around the building so as to provide safety for school children and prevent the flowers and grass from being trampled.

Similarly eight classrooms for a donation of 3,688,300 AMD drams were furnished in N10 School in Abovian city. The school received tables, chairs, blackboards and hangers. The classrooms were sponsored through the French-Armenian Association for Friendship, Normandy Association for Armenian Solidarity and in memory of late Mihran, Nvart Hatsagortsian and their son Jirair.

The municipality of Vaulx en Velin in France with a total cost of 5,510,000 AMD drams funded five classrooms in schools number 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 in Artik, Shirak region. It is planned that the municipality will go ahead with the full furnishing of these schools.

School 78 located in the center of Yerevan received new furniture with a total cost of 4,283,200 AMD drams. It includes desks, chairs, tables, bookshelves, blackboards, as well as hangers.

The secondary school in Kndzoresk, another beneficiary of the Armenia Fund project, received sport facilities with donation from Michel Tchaloyan. The project was implemented in memory of Melik and Jirair Melik Mardirossian.

The Armenia Fund Executive Director Vahe Aghabegians welcomed the successful accomplishment of the projects. “By giving our young generation modern schools with appropriately furnished classrooms we make yet another step towards a better life for them. We want them to choose to stay and study in their home communities and truly enjoy their learning. The Armenia Fund is doing its best to support the government in its attempts to provide schools to the standard and thus solve the most basic problem existent in the country’s educational system today,” says Mr. Aghabegians.

###

The Armenia Fund