



ARDA ARSENIAN EKMEKJI, PH.D.
Dean of Arts and Sciences
Full Professor of Intercultural Studies and Archeology

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30 years of Full-Time Academic Career in Liberal Arts Education.

20 years of Administrative Management and Supervision of Three Faculties and 23 Departments at both BA and MA levels.

Author, publisher and participant at numerous professional and scholarly conferences.

Founding Member and Chair of numerous International and Local Boards & NGOs.

Key-note speaker, lecturer and moderator at scores of local and international fora.

Member of Lebanese Government's Electoral Law & Electoral Supervisory Commissions.

I. Education

- 1994** - Ph.D. (Doctorat with Honors) in Archaeology. Paris I, Panthéon - Sorbonne, France.
1990 - DEA (Diplôme D'Etudes Approfondies) Paris I - Sorbonne. France.
1974 - M.A in Archaeology, American University of Beirut (AUB), Lebanon.
1971 - B.A in Ancient History. (With Distinction). AUB, Lebanon.

II. Professional Experience: Administrative & Academic

1. 1998 - Present: Dean of Arts and Sciences, Haigazian University, Beirut, Lebanon

- Administrative and Academic Manager of the Faculties of Sciences, Social & Behavioral Sciences and Humanities.
- Experience in Academic Administration, Supervision, Governance, Strategic Planning, Board Reports/Meetings, Budgeting, Recommendations for Promotions and Contracts, and Performance Management (Monitoring KPIs).



- Liaison between University and Ministry of Education, sister institutions in establishing cooperation and drafting MOUs.
- Ex-Officio member of the following university standard committees:
 - University Cabinet (regular meetings with University President).
 - Arts & Sciences Committee (Monthly meeting with Chairs and Coordinators).
 - Faculty Assembly (Bi-Monthly meeting of all F.T. Faculty).
 - Academic Standing Committee (Monitoring Dean's Lists, Probations, Petitions and Academic Disciplinary issues).
 - Curriculum Committee (Catalogue Changes, Course Outlines, Syllabi, and Evaluations).
 - Personnel Committee: Addressing Faculty Academic Grievances and ensuring quality assurance.
 - University Research Board (Evaluating research projects, research grants and requests for research leaves).
 - University Graduate Committee (Establishing Graduate Policies, review of Thesis proposals and Defense procedures).
 - Member of the Editorial Board of the *Haigazian Armenological Review*, (an annual refereed trilingual university publication).

*ADHOC committees:

- Chair of the Haigazian University 60th anniversary Banquet committee (2014-2015).
- Representing Haigazian University in the League of Universities' sub-committee on "Higher Education Policies in Lebanon" (2013-Present).
- Faculty Handbook Committee (2010)
- Quality Assurance Committee (2010)
- Member of the Accreditation Steering Committee (NEASC) and Chair of Standard 2. (2009).

2. Director of Humanities – Haigazian University 1997-1998

Supervising and coordinating the Eight Departments of the Faculty of Humanities.

3. Academic Experience

- **1997- Present: (Haigazian University)** - Assistant, Associate, Full Professor in Archeology and Intercultural Studies; Coordinator of the Intercultural Studies Core Education Program; Initiator of the monthly cultural forum entitled the *Cultural Hour @ Haigazian University*.
- **1986-1997: (American University of Beirut)** – Full Time Faculty member teaching in the Civilization Sequence Program and occasionally in the Archeology Department. Participated with the Archeology Department and Tübingen University in the Beirut Downtown excavations of Site B020 - Phoenician Beirut (Summer 1996). (10,000 pottery shards analyzed and digitized).



Member of the Financial Aid Committee; Advisor to Majorless Students (with Prof. Heineken and K. Shaaban); Moderator of the CS Forum (1993-1995).

- **1984-1986: Part -Time** Instructor in Ancient History, Ancient Religions and Cultural Studies at AUB and Haigazian University.
- **1978-1983:** Seminars and lectures on Archeology of the Near East in Khobar, Saudi Arabia
- **1977-1978:** Part-Time Instructor in Ancient History, Ancient Religions and Cultural Studies at AUB and Haigazian University.
- **1971-1974:** Teaching two cultural studies courses per semester in Cultural Studies Department at AUB as the first Graduate Assistant in CS Program appointed by Prof. Hugh Harcourt.

III. Research & Publications

**Towards Golgotha: The Memoirs of Hagop Arsenian, A Genocide Survivor*, HU Press, Beirut 2011, 2015 (second printing). www.towardsgolgotha.com ; www.amazon.com/Towards-Golgotha-Arsenian.../dp/995302166X (Used as textbook in History classes, cited in numerous books, articles and references.) <https://books.google.com.lb/books?isbn=0199350698> ; <https://books.google.com.lb/books?isbn=0674735498>. (other references available upon request).

* “*The Absence of Diaspora Armenian Women from Decision making Positions*”, in **Armenian Identity Issues in 21st century**, pp.105-121, Faculty of Humanities, Yerevan State University, 2013.

**Confessionalism and Electoral Reform in Lebanon*, Aspen Institute, Washington DC, July 2012. <http://www.aspeninstitute.org/publications/confessionalism-electoral-reform-lebanon>.
Reviewed in <http://chicagopolicyreview.org/2012/11/09/decisions-divisions-and-discontent-reforming-lebanons-electoral-procedures/>

*“*Surviving Massacre: Hagop Arsenian’s Armenian Journey to Jerusalem, 1915-1916*” in **Institute for Palestine Studies**, Issue 49, 2012, p. 26 <http://www.palestine-studies.org/jq/fulltext/78468>; <http://www.jadaliyya.com/pages/contributors/85129>

* *The Cultural Hour @ Haigazian University*, a booklet compilation of 10 years of lectures at Haigazian University, Beirut 2007, ISBN 978-9953-475-08-0, 2007.



The Implementation of a Women's Quota System in Lebanese Legislation*", **Al Raida, Vol. XXIII 111-112, 2005-2006, pp.44-47. <http://iwsaw.lau.edu.lb/publications/al-raida/al-raida-the-status-of-women-in.php>

* ***Pathology of Violence: The Relation between Aggression and Territory***, " Paper presented at Lebanese American University Conference on Violence in the Middle East. (May 2004). h-net.msu.edu/cgi-bin/logbrowse.pl?trx=vx&list=h

* *Armenian Women in Lebanese Universities*" Paper presented at AIWA (Armenian International Women's Association) conference in Geneva on October 24-27, 2004.

* *"Archaeological Heritage of Armenia"* (Arabic) published in **Al Bouhouth**, Beirut, Lebanon, April 2003.

* *The Foolishness of God is wiser than human Wisdom*", (Armenian) **Chanasser**, Beirut. September 2002.

**"Revisiting Artin in Beirut: How Armenians are viewed in Lebanon"*, Paper presented at the ARAB STEREOTYPING Conference, November 2001, Lebanese American University, Beirut. inhouse.lau.edu.lb/bima/papers/Arda_Ekmejki.pdf

*Author of the words of the Haigazian University *Alma Mater* (1999).

**"War and Peace in the Ancient Near East: an Archeological Perspective*, Proceedings of Conference organized by ISODARCO, Italian Pugwash Group on Peace in the M.E. Amman 1997.

**Les Relations archéologiques entre les cités Urartéennes et les états du nord de la Syrie entre le VIII^e et le VI^e Siècle. av.J.C-* Paris I- Sorbonne (2 volumes: Text (490 pages, 897 Bibliographical references; 85 plates), 1994. Bibliothèque Nationale. Référence: 94PA010670, Paris. <http://www.theses.fr/1994PA010670>

* *The Unknown Soldiers of AUB*" **Al Kulliyah**, 1995.

* **BERYTUS**- Archeological Journal of AUB - Exclusive Volume No.40 -Index of volumes 1-40 Compiled and edited by A.Ekmekji.1994.

*Unpublished Research for:

a. Diplôme d'Etudes Approfondies (DEA), Paris 1989:

Two 50 page Theses entitled:

1. "Les Relations entre L'Egypte et le Moyen Orient au III^e millénaire."
2. "La Céramique pré-classique du musée de l'Université Américaine de Beyrouth." (A digital analysis of the pre-classical pottery of the AUB Museum).



b. M.A. THESIS (AUB 1974): "*The Bichrome Painted Ware of Early Iron Age Palestine: The Problem of the Philistine Pottery*" - 1974-Beirut (212 pages, 52 plates.)

<http://hdl.handle.net/10938/2650>

(A more exhaustive list is available upon request)

IV. Public Lectures, Presentations & Key Note Speaker

- Lecture on *Lebanon Through the Ages* given to the CHIEF EXECUTIVES ORGANIZATION (CEO) conference of 60 executives from all over the world. May 9, 2017- AUB Museum.
- Participation in Round Table on "*How does the Valorization and the Understanding of the Cultural Heritage of communities in Lebanon contribute to enrich the socio-cultural development?*" Badguer, May 19, 2017.
- "*Dikran Ekmekjian : a Man for all Seasons*". A Paper presented at the Conference Armenians of Iraq. May 5, 2017, Haigazian University (to be published in proceedings).
- Moderation of Panel *Empowerment of Armenian Women* with the participation OF Azadouhi Simonian, Lerna Ekmekcioglu and Anita Moutchotan, Haiagzian University, April 29, 2017.
- "*Mona Takiddine Amyuni: Passion and Compassion*". Speech at Memorial Ceremony, November 9, 2015, Bathish Hall, AUB, Beirut-Lebanon
- "*The Armenian Genocide-One Hundred years Later*". AUB Senior University, April 20, 2015.
- "*Reveal the Handwork of God*". Commencement Speaker at the Near East School of Theology, June 23, 2013, Beirut-Lebanon
- *Reconciliation: "Memories and Prejudices"* paper presented at the European Project for Interreligious Learning (EPIL) conference entitled *Committed to Staying Together, One People, Multiple Confessions (2 - 10 February, 2013), Antelias, Lebanon.*
- Key Note speaker and commentator on Chris Bohjalian's *The Sandcastle Girls*. December 5, 2012 at the Armenian Catholicosate, Antelias, Beirut.



- *The Pioneer Role of Armenian Women in the Genocide Survival Process*”, Paper presented at the Armenian International Women’s Conference (AIWA), San Francisco, (October 6-9, 2011).
- *Armenia Through the Ages*. Lecture given at the AUB Friends of the Museum on June 22, 2011.
- Key Note Speaker on International Human Rights Day, December 10, 2010, Pauline Mission, Harissa-Lebanon.
- Key Note speaker on *Museums in a Changing World New challenges, New inspirations*” at the International Day of Museums celebration at the American University of Beirut, May 18, 2010.
- Key Note speaker at the honoring Ceremony of Mrs. Nina Jidejian at the Antelias Cultural Movement, March 19, 2010.
- Lecture on “ *The Ancient Glory of Yerevan-Ereponi*”, Haigazian University, October 25, 2007
- Lecture on *Proposed Electoral Law* to Media and Journalists workshop, AUB, August 28, 2007.
- “*Preserving Universal Heritage*” Key note speaker at AUB Alumni Gala Banquet, Abu Dhabi, May 9, 2007
- Lecture on “*What’s New in the Proposed Electoral Law*” (in Arabic) to Makassed Students, Sidon, April 24, 2007.
- *The Art of Public Speaking* (in Armenian) to the Lebanese Armenian Red Cross, Bourj Hammoud, April 16, 2007.
- “*Positive Discipline*” Presentation at *Positive School Environment Conference* at Jesus and Mary Conference, Rabieh, Lebanon-January 27, 2006.
- “*Arménie: premier Etat Chrétien*”, Lecture/Seminar at Ambassadors' Wives Association, February 3, 2005, Beirut-Lebanon
- “*Women in Parliament*”, Paper presented at workshop organized by Electoral Commission, Nov.26, 2005, Grand Serail, Beirut.



- *Armenian Women in Lebanese Universities*". Paper presented at AIWA (Armenian International Women's Association) conference in Geneva on October 24-27, 2004.
- *"The Impact of Wars on Cultures of Peoples"* (Arabic). Paper presented during a Round Table Panel at Tekeyan Cultural Association, Beirut, June 13, 2004.
- *The Challenges facing Armenian Women at the Threshold of the 21st century*", Armenian Syrian Women's Association, Damascus. March 1, 2004.
- *"Ani, City of 1000 Churches*, Lecture at AUB Museum, January 15, 2003.
- *"The University as the Conscience and Pulse of society: The Case of Lebanon"*. Paper presented at the Conference on the "Role of the University and the New Humanism". Kaslik University. March 2001.
- *The Role of the Christian School in the Community: The Armenian Evangelical Schools in Lebanon*". Actes du colloques sur 1700 anniversaire du christianisme. Issy Les Moulineaux- May 24-28, 2001 France.
- *The Role of Cultural Studies in Liberal Arts Education.*" December 9, 2001: Organized and moderated a one day seminar at Haigazian University under the Patronage of the Minister of Culture. Guest speaker: Prof. H. Harcourt with the participation of AUB, LAU, NDU and BALAMAND.
- *"The Evangelical Community in Lebanon and Syria: Facts and Figures"*. (In Arabic). Presentation for the 25th anniversary conference of the Fellowship of Evangelical Churches in the Near East. December 3, 2001.
- *"The Kingdom of Van"*, Lecture at Hamaskaine, Ainjar, Lebanon, Nov. 16, 2001. (Armenian).
- *"The Importance of Emotional Intelligence in the Classroom"*. Conference organized by the Fellowship of Evangelical Churches in the Near East, July 2000, Ayia Napa, Cyprus.
- *"Treasures of the Kingdom of Ararat"*. Lecture at Melkonian School – Nicosia. Cyprus. May 15, 1999.
- *"The Treasures of Ainjar"*, Key note speaker –Armenian Evangelical School Commencement, Ainjar, Lebanon. July 1998.
- *"The Kingdom of Ararat/Urartu"*. AUB Museum, Beirut, June 14, 1995.



- “*Diplomacy, Pacts and Peace Treaties in the Ancient Near East: Evidence for Cultural Interchange*”. CS Forum, AUB Nov, 9, 1996.
- *Dilmun: Land of Paradise or Merchandise?*”, CS FORUM, AUB, June 1988.
- “*The History and the Archaeology of the Phoenicians*”, King Feisal University, Dhahran Saudi Arabia (January 1983).
- “*The Frankincense Trade and the Caravan Routes of Arabia Felix*”, Aramco, Saudi Arabia (September 1982) Udailiyah Base, Saudi Arabia, 1983.

V. Service to the Lebanese Government

- Member of the Supervisory Commission for Elections (Lebanon), 2017-2018
- Member of the Supervisory Commission for Electoral Campaign (Lebanon) 2008-2009 (appointed by Lebanese Cabinet- only female member).
- Member of the National Commission for Drafting the Electoral Law (Boutros Commission) 2005-2006 (appointed by Lebanese Cabinet- only female member).

VI. Service to the Community

- Chair of the Advisory Board of World Vision-Lebanon (2010-Present).
- Founding Member and Treasurer of the Friends of the Lebanese Philharmonic Orchestra (2014- Present).
- Chair of the Educational Board of the Union of Armenian Evangelical Churches of NE. (2002-present).
- Founding Member of the Association of Evangelical Schools Lebanon (1995-Present).
- Founding Member of UIFER (University Initiative for Electoral Reform), (2006-2007, 2015).
- Advisor to the Friends of the AUB Museum - Beirut (1992- Present).
- Member of the executive Committee of the All - Armenian Fund. (2005- present).
- Secretary of the Joint Christian Committee for Social Service in Lebanon (MECC Committee of Service to Palestinians (1995-Present).
- Member of the Cilicia Museum Committee- Antelias (Chaired by Catholicos Aram I).
- Member of ICOM (International Committee of Museums).
- Member of the Advisory Board of Dan Mission - Middle East /Copenhagen. (2011-2013)
- Chair of the Board of the Armenian Evangelical College (1984-2008).



- International Board Member - GLOBAL MINISTRIES- USA (2003-2009).
- Member of Screening Committee of Fulbright Scholarships applicants. ((June 29, (2003); June 29, (2006), AMIDEAST Beirut.
- Member of the Editorial Board of *Al Raida*, Journal of the Institute for Women's Studies in the Arab World, LAU, Lebanon. (2004-2014).
- Chair of the ICNDR (Emergency, Relief and Rehabilitation Committee) of MECC Middle East Council of Churches. (1996-2005).
- Board Member of ACT- Action of Churches Together for Relief (Geneva) - Middle East Representative 1999-2004.

VII. Honors, Awards & Certificates

- BA in Ancient History (AUB, 1971 with Distinction).
- Doctorate from Paris I –Sorbonne with Honors.
- Honored by the Lebanese Parliament as *Lubnaniyat- Prominent Women of 2020*. August 2016.
- Decorated with Medal of Lebanese Female Academicians (2003) by First Lady Andrée Lahoud
- Decorated with the Medal of the Lebanese Ministry of Interior (2009) by Minister Ziyad Baroud.
- Certificate of Recognition from California Legislature Assembly for the publication and launch of *Towards Golgotha*. (Glendale, CA July 2012)
- Recognized by the Armenian Evangelical Church with the Church Shield, for 25 years of Service to the Armenian Evangelical School Board, Lebanon. May 22, 2010.
- Featured in *Who is She* – Women's Website launched by LAU, March 2010.
https://www.google.com.lb/?gfe_rd=cr&ei=efpnVp74LKHf8AeemoHgCA&gws_rd=ssl#q=who+is+she+ekmekji
- Published in *Who's Who Lebanon* 1999-2005.
- Acknowledged by Prince Claus Foundation, Holland, for high Cultural Recommendations. 2000.
- Numerous Media interviews:
https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?id=213540958904&story_fbid=10153246882898905
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kKfD9UrGYNU&index=1&list=PL_ aiKCsGozdNUvsvwY_ biW_Skb0XAI0J4bg

VIII. Technical Experience

- Certificate in “Performance Management Systems” awarded by Expand Your Horizons Program funded by USAID. (November-December 2014), Beirut.



- Workshops in Strategic Planning, SWOT Analyses, Quality Assurance, Self-Study, Governance, Risk Management, IT, *BlackBoard*, *Classroom Management*, through Haigazian University Faculty development Programs and World Vision Board Meetings.
- Workshops on *Tempus*, *Erasmus Projects* (European Union) and Quality Assurance (Ministry of Education, Lebanon).
- Workshops on Classroom Dynamics, Bloom's Taxonomy, Course Outlines, Syllabi, Objectives and Outcomes, Grading and Assessment through Haigazian Personnel Development Program.

IX. Language Skills

- **English, French, Arabic, Armenian** – Fluent in Reading, Writing and Speaking
- **Italian** – Reading and manageable conversation
- **Classical Greek**- Reading

X. Family Status

- Daughter of Noubar Arsenian, AUB (Ph.C.1935).
- Married to Jacques Ekmekji, (AUB Civil Engineer 1971), grandson of Dikran Ekmekjian (AUB BA, 1901).
- One Daughter, Karma Ekmekji, (AUB 2004, BS Environmental Health- Penrose award.)