MOSLEM ARMENIANS

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Souren Seraydarian, Chairman, National Congress of Western Armenians
Paris, 19 August 2015

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Recently clerics refused to baptize three Moslem Armenians during their pilgrimage to Armenia. It is worth reminding the public that not all Armenians belong to the same church.. Indeed some are Catholic, evangelist, Mormon, atheist, etc. This does not prevent them from being recognized as Armenians of different beliefs. It is discriminatory not to recognize Moslem Armenians if they feel they belong to this nation.

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It is high time to distinguish between ethnicity and religion and get rid of medieval thinking and to adopt a conciliatory approach towards all those who identify themselves as belonging to the Armenian Nation. On the other hand there are tens of thousands of baptized Armenians who do no longer wish to be identified as Armenians and are satisfied with their status as fully integrated

persons in foreign societies and countries. Enough is enough. It is time to get our act together since at this delicate political juncture we do need the support and cohesion of all Armenians.