RESURRECTION

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Category: Opinions

Viken L. Attarian, Montreal, 8 January 2015

For the past 24 hours I have been deeply disturbed with what has been going on in France. For three reasons: first, I was a big fan of one of the murdered cartoonists Wolinski who was also a great French artist of Bandes Dessinées. He had a raw, in-your-face style and mad talent that was unique and inimitable; the second reason is because I have relived the days of the murder of the Turkish-Armenian journalist Hrant Dink and the subsequent demonstrations of solidarity in Istanbul.

Finally, because I witnessed like many of you, the cold-blooded killing on our TV screens of the wounded and already downed policeman who was apparently Muslim.

In tribute, I have expressed my solidarity in the only way possible, as someone who has believed that ideas and freedom matter.

The poem reflects these themes and emotions.

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Resurrection

Your God and mine are the same
I pray.
    You kill in his name.

The Creator gave you spirit, thought
Your mother who has brought
you forth
Into this world,
Did they both not in you inspire
    That only for freedom you should die?

God tells you to freely use your mind
Yet blindly you murder your own kind,
Whose sacred place is in the mosque,
Where you come together with those who
to the Creator themselves give
But the keeper of peace
    you let not live.

As the darkness takes your heart
    How dare you shout the name of God?

Against your bullets we all rise
Strong in numbers, in words, ideas
From our eyes
We dry our tears
In billions we raise our pens
    We do not kill but we fight

For freedom

Because we write.