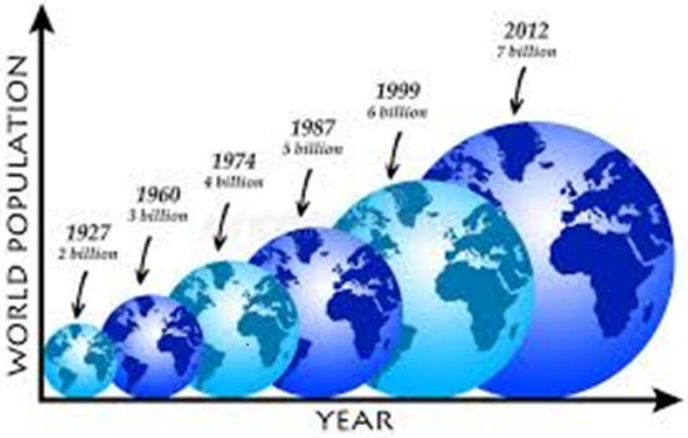
CRUEL NUMBERS

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Category: Opinions

By Jirair Tutunjian, Toronto, 8 April 2025

In 1915 the world population was 1.6 billion. One-hundred-and ten years later, the world population is over 8 billion. If we use the same ratio for our dead (1.5 million killed during Ottoman Turkey's genocide of Armenians from 1915 to 1923), there would be 8 million more Armenians; thus, raising the global Armenian population from the current 9 million to 17 million.

During the Hamidian massacres (1894-1897) 100,000 to 300,000 Armenians were killed by the Ottoman Turks and their hired Kurds. As a compromise, let's say 200,000 Armenians were killed in the mid-1890s. In l909 another 30,000 Armenian civilians were killed in Adana. If we apply the above ratio, the 1890s and 1909 massacres victims would total 1,200,000 bringing the total Armenian population to 18,200,000.

Consider also the survivors of the 1915 Genocide who didn't procreate because of physical and mental problems. Consider that living uprooted and without a community, many didn't marry or if they did, their offspring were not raised Armenian on foreign soil. Others married *odars* in exile.

With a population of 18,200,000, we would have been 73rd on the United Nations' global list of 233 states and dependencies. We would have had a population larger than that of Belgium, the Czech Republic, Portugal, Greece, Hungary, Austria, Switzerland, Bulgaria, New Zealand, Lebanon, Finland, Norway…and Azerbaijan.

Since 1915 we have given to the world a great many inventors, writers, composers, artists, diplomats, politicians, professors, film directors… Had we not experienced several attempts at eliminating us, imagine how many more Damadyans, Dadoyans, Sarafians, Simjians, Saryans, Saroyans, Saroukhans, Troyats, Tamiroffs, Khachaturians, Aznavours, Agaganians, Amaras, Ajarians, Hampartsoumians, Karshs, Mamoolians, Mkhitaryans, Mikoyans, Deukmejians, Chers, Egoyans, Ziljians… we could have given to the world. Does the world know the accordion, MRI, ATM, the automatic gear shift and many, many more necessities were invented by Armenians, often away from their homeland?

The world and not just racist, lawless, and genocidal Turkey that's much poorer for the Turkish government's attempt to eliminate Armenians and occupy Western Armenia while the world was preoccupied by the First World War. The lives of countless Turks have been saved thanks to the MRI machine invented by Damadyan

And let's not forget the forcibly turkified Armenian women, young girls, and orphans. Consider the little Armenian girl (Khatun Sebiljian) who was adopted by Ataturk. As Sabiha Gokcen, she became the first "Turkish" female fighter pilot. When Istanbul's *Agos* newspaper published an article in 2007 that Gokcen was Armenian, far right Turks assassinated *Agos* Editor Hrant Dink.

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Comments



Mig – 2025-04-11 00:02:58
This is a very sad, yet accurate, extrapolation. Thank you Jirayr for putting it together, in such a clear and concise manner.