

Dedicated in memory of
Mr. Fred Tamimi

NINEVEH

*Voice of
The Assyrian Foundation of America*

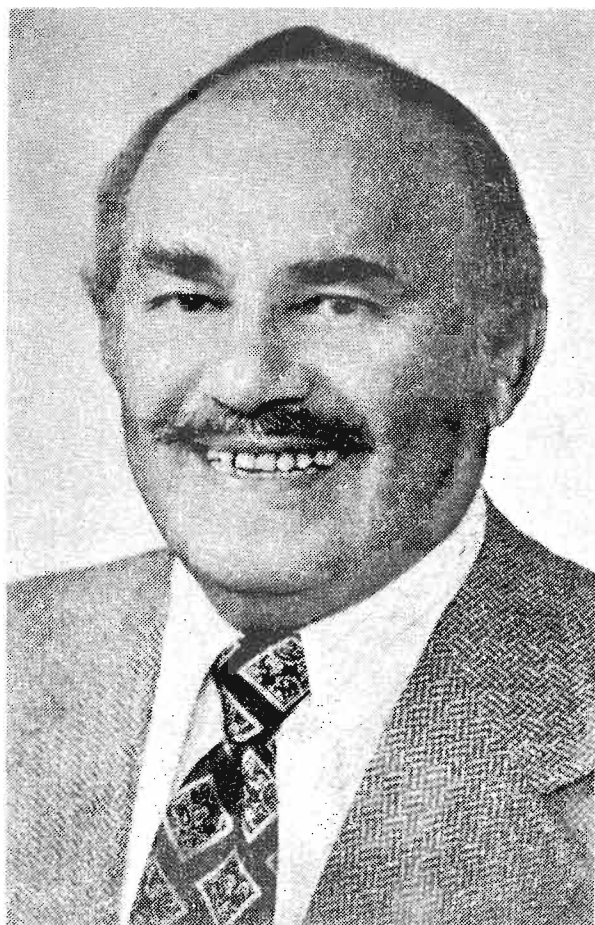


Established 1964

*Dedicated to the
Advancement of Education
of Assyrians*

MAY - JUNE 1980

VOLUME 3 NO. 3



MR. FRED TAMIMI

1910

1980

Transliteration and Translation
from Assyrian Dictionary (Cuneiform)
(Text No. 1, Front, page 2)
by Fred Tamimi

1. **oo sar dan-na sar:** and, the wise king, king
2. **ma(g)-lu ha-su:** his sickle on his back
3. **ma)l-ki satu ku-la mata-tickings,** his throne (over) all the countries
4. **sat-e gurta qat-te-thi:** his huge throne, his scourge
5. **kul mata na-qi-ri:** in) every country are carved
6. **oo dai-ena qa-(dim:** and the ancient judge
7. **ga-miru-the ma-qa-am:** his perfection from beginning
8. **ha-tur-i sa-dan-nu-te:** the blows of his rage
9. **di-e-i-na-t mo (tani:** the judge of the dead
10. **q)nu-ma — sa-qal rishu:** pure light (halo) adores his head
11. **raps-i sar tan-na:** the kicks of the mighty king
12. **i-mar-te da-yim:** his eternal habitation
13. **i-tei allan-i:** high beings (gods, planets, stars)
14. **sakanu beta qa-de(m:** His residence the ancient home
15. **satta alla-ha:** the seat of God
16. **e-sara se-maia:** protecting rock of heaven
17. **ma-lu-u:** burning (enflaming)

NINEVEH

MAY - JUNE 1980

VOLUME 3

NO. 3

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ARTICLES SUBMITTED FOR PUBLICATION WILL BE SELECTED BY THE EDITORIAL STAFF ON THE BASIS OF THEIR RELATIVE MERIT TO THE ASSYRIAN LITERATURE, HISTORY, AND CURRENT EVENTS.

OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN THIS MAGAZINE ARE THOSE OF THE RESPECTIVE AUTHORS AND NOT NECESSARILY THOSE OF NINEVEH.

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Assyrian Periodicals

We urge our readers to read and support the Assyrian publications. The active participation of all Assyrians is the only guarantee of the success of Assyrian periodicals.

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help defray the cost
of publication**

GOODBYE AND GOOD LUCK

This month Sargon and Jermaine Shabbas and their son, Atur, will be moving to Chico, California to be close to the new location of his company.

Sargon has been an active member of the Foundation for many years and Treasurer for the last three years. It is difficult to describe the extent to which he will be missed. Those who worked closely with him are aware of the full value of his contributions to the Foundation, for much of his work took place unpublicized. This is in keeping with his character which is to be modest about his own contribution and to give as much credit to others as possible. He was one of the hardest workers in our organization. In addition to his regular task of the treasurer, he was involved in the publication of *Nineveh* and kept track of our building's needs. But to simply state the work that he did does not capture the true contribution of Sargon. He never hesitated to pitch in and do whatever other work needed to be done without waiting to be called upon. What he did was done cheerfully and generously. It was the graciousness of spirit with which he did things that will be missed the most. Likewise, his lovely wife, Jermaine possesses the same attributes which endeared her to all of us.

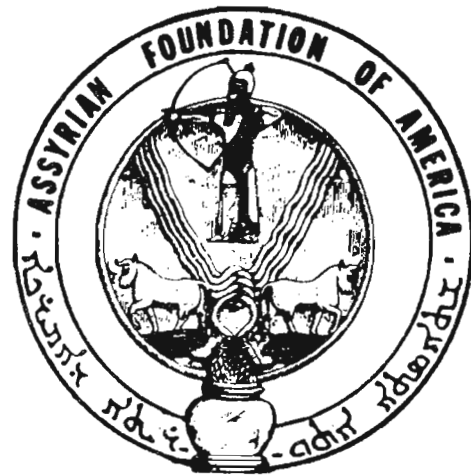
Sargon and Jermaine—you added so much to our organization. God bless you and may you prosper in your new home.

Joel Elias
President

P.S. Sargon and Jermaine will continue their membership in the Foundation.

There is a tide in the affairs of men,
Which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune;
Omitted, all the voyage of the life
Is bound in shallows and in miseries.
On such a full sea are we now afloat,
And we must take the current when it serves,
Or lose our ventures.

Shakespeare



DEDICATED TO THE
ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION
OF ASSYRIANS

NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT



at the picnic

EDITOR'S MAIL

Dear Editor:

As an annual tribute to the memory of Dr. David Perley who passed away July 14, 1979, please include in your next issue Dr. Eden Naby-Fryes' Eulogy for Dr. Perley.

Because of the special issue that "NINEVEH" was published last year in memory of Dr. Perley, I cannot adequately express my appreciation for the memorial masterpiece.

I have written three letters to his only child, his daughter, Penna, to send "NINEVEH" the correspondence Dr. Perley had with famous men, historians or archeologists such as the late Arnold J. Toynbee, and Sir Max Mallowan and numerous others regarding the description of the cruelty of the Assyrians after their conquering the various small troublesome nations. Most of these modern day historians received their information from the Old Testament, whose Hebrew scribes hated and were jealous of the Assyrian Emperors and their conquests and recorded them in the Old Testament.

I hope his daughter did go through his files and sent copies of Dr. Perley's defense in behalf of the Assyrians to you to publish.

Thank you,

Rose B. Dartley
North Bergen, NJ

Dear Sir:

Thanks for the sample copy of your NINEVEH magazine. Enclosed is a \$10.00 check for a gift subscription.

Y. Lowe
San Jose, CA

Reminiscences make one feel so deliciously aged and sad.

G. Bernard Shaw

SPEECH BY BISHOP NAZARIN

Editor's Note—

This talk was delivered by Bishop Nazarin to the audience gathered at Mar Narsai Church of the East Social Hall, San Francisco. The dinner was given in honor of Mar Narsai.

YOUR GRACE, Reverend Fathers, Distinguished Guests, Beloved Friends:

The Assyrian Church is recognized by historians as the world's oldest Christian Church, it being the only church established during the lifetime of Our Lord Jesus Christ before His crucifixion and not after Pentecost, as were the other Churches. But the Assyrian religion, which is different from the Church, was actually founded much earlier. For it was established in that time when God made his covenant with Abraham, the Aramaic speaking Assyrian Patriarch living in the Ur of the Chaldees.

Tradition informs us that the Garden of Eden was created in ancient Assyria or Chaldea in the plains between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers. It was here that mankind in the person of Adam was formed—living, thinking and speaking. The Holy Scriptures make very clear that God spoke His creation into existence. He said: "Let there be light!" and there was light. It was this same speaking God who endowed Adam with speech, making him to share in that reserved, divine power through which he resembles God. And this same antique Assyrian language in which God and man are united has been the vehicle through which the Assyrian Church was introduced into history.

It was in this same Assyrian language that God had preserved from before the time of the Tower of Babel that Jesus left us His thoughts and words recorded in the Gospels—the same Aramaic or Assyrian language that God had spoken on the First Day in the creation of Light.

The Assyrian Church, from its very beginning in the days of the Apostles, was known as the Church of Martyrs, for no church has suffered more terrible persecutions nor endured greater casualties than she has. But through God's grace she finally triumphed over her adversaries and became larger than even the Greek and Roman Catholic Churches combined, both in the number of adherents and in the territory under her control.

In the Eleventh Century, the Church came under attack from Tamerlane and his Golden Horde. This band of Tartars crisscrossed throughout the Assyrian countryside for over two hundred years, leaving only charred ruins where formerly there had been renowned centers of culture and civilizations. The survivors of this onslaught found refuge in the mountains of Kurdistan where they gradually reconstructed their glorious traditions.

Approximately four decades ago, the Assyrian Church was introduced to the United States. Its beginnings here were made difficult and complicated by factionalism and rivalry between the founding groups.

cont'd page 4

THE PATRIARCHAL MITER

Of the Assyrian Church of the East

In 1951 on the thirtieth anniversary of the consecration of Mar Eshai Shimun XXIII to the apostolic patriarchal see of the East, Mr. O.D. Ousep, a member of the Church of the East in India donated the money for the miter, which he presented to Mar Eshai Shimun in the name of his family and the church as a whole. The design was drawn by the Rev. Irwin St. John Tucker, the then president of the Patriarchal Council, with the approval of the Patriarch.

Considerable teaching and history are incorporated in the design of the Patriarchal Miter.

MATERIAL USED: Pure Gold

SHAPE: Shaped like the royal tiaras of the emperors of Assyria-Sargon, Tiglath-Pileser, Asshur-Bani-Pal-as revealed by the sculpture on the walls of the palace of Nineveh. This is because the Assyrian Nation as a whole accepted the religion of Jesus, when proclaimed in Beth-Nahreen by the apostles.

THE TWO RIVERS. Tigris and Euphrates are represented by two curving forms starting at the two upper corners and converging in the center at the bottom.

CHRISTIANITY is represented by the cross, having the famous "Nestorian form" of the cross on the Speaking Stone of Sinan-Fu, in China, established by missionaries of the Church of the East in the seventh century.

SEVEN SACRAMENTS. Around the top are seven stars, each containing a jewel. These represent the Seven Sacraments of the church.

THE TRINITY. God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, are represented by the crown with three points at the top of the cross.

NINE ORDERS. Nine orders of angels and the nine orders in the church are represented by nine jewels on the edges of the cross. Two at the top indicate Cherubim and Seraphim. Following these are the ranks known as Thrones, Dominations, Princedoms, Virtues, Powers, archangels and angels. The angelic order, the lowest, is given a single jewel at the bottom of the cross.

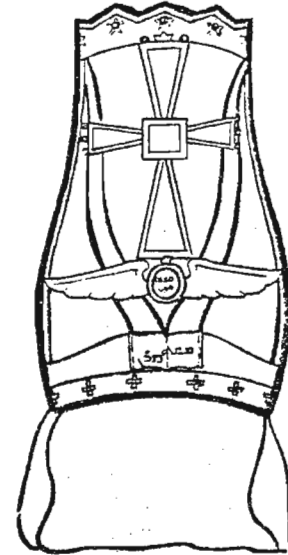
Nine orders in the Ministry of the Church also are indicated. These are; Patriarch, Metropolitan, Bishop; Archdeacon, chorepiscopa, priest; deacon, subdeacon, reader.

ASSYRIA is represented by the Winged Sun, indicating the rapidity of the spread of Assyria's culture, and also the civilization it brought. On the circle of rich red enamel, representing the sun, are the words "Mshikha Skha"—Christ conquers."

GOSPEL. At the base of the miter, where the Two Rivers join at the city of Baghdad and the ancient Babylon, is an open Bible, bearing the words "Qamleh Maran"—Our Lord has Risen" This represents the fact that the Church of the East originated the Bible, the New Testament having been written in our language, Assyriac.

APOSTLES. Around the base of the cross are twelve small crosses, representing the twelve apostles. Each of these contains a ruby, representing the martyrdom of the Twelve, who shed their blood in the defense of the Gospel.

It is said—and truly—that no religious head-dress contains so much vital history as this Patriarchal Miter of the Church of the East. The Miter is presently in the possession of Mar Dinkha, the present Patriarch of the Assyrian Church of the East.



Bishop Nazarin

At the present time, the Church has mostly emerged from these difficulties. Under the enlightened guidance of his Holiness, Mar Dinkha, the church is now approaching a new era of preeminence. God has graced this glorious Aramaic Assyrian Church in these days with a gifted and holy clergy guided by inspired bishops.

It is my deepest conviction, as well as my most fervent petition before God's high throne that the Assyrian nation now led by her great Patriarch will become the standard by which all other Christian bodies will be measured.

Your Grace, on behalf of the American community, I greet and salute your high office and ask that Your Grace will convey my humble felicitations and best wishes to His Holiness, Mar Dinkha. May God preserve him and fill his days with honor. And may God increase and make to prosper the church entrusted to his care.

I thank you.

Bishop Nazarin

Editor's Note: Description of the Patriarchal Miter is taken from the "Light From the East" magazine.



Assyriologist Fred Tamimi in his study. 53 years of non-stop, day-in and day-out research in ASSYRIOLOGY
 "The master key for all historical sciences!"

ATUR-NATIR-APRI*

(Ashurnasirpal's)

ADDRESS TO GOD

by Fred Tamimi

The following translation refutes all erroneous assumptions by non-Assyrian "Assyriologists," who not knowing the Assyrian, and with prejudice, have branded the Assyrians as idol worshippers. The decipherment of this foundation stone from the palace of Nimrud, and hundreds of other Assyrian inscriptions by this researcher proves beyond doubt that ATUR-ISM, the religion of ancient Assyria is indeed, the very source of all monotheistic religions such as Judaism and Islam, and of other religions of mankind such as, Zoroastrianism, Christianity, Hinduism and Buddhism, and that from EDEN, the heartland of Assyria, the knowledge of a Supreme Being, spread out to all corners of the earth.

*ATUR (Ashur), God of merciful heart, Omniscient, Zealous,
 The tiara on the head of all the great gods,
 Victorious guardian of little people,
 The presenter of blessings — his solemn acts of divinity,
 Whose Lorship is unequalled.*

*A divine leader, the destroyer of abominable nations,
 The first born, God of resurrection is he.*

*A warrior God of armies, the ancient councillor of gods.
 Whose habitation is the majestic house of heaven.*

*O Holy Lord of heaven and earth,
 Whose wide throne holds the broad earth,*

O God of peace, sagacious, and pure bright light.

Heaven and earth are the symbols of thy Holiness.

From the minaret of holy light — his residence,

*His eyes watch toward all nations,
 His throne, scourge, and sceptre are raised to judge (decide).*

A Creator God victorious over all stiff-necked races.

Whose brightness cannot be explained with words,

Whose whip silences the voices of all great gods combined.

The God of heaven and earth below, whose light

Compasses heaven and earth and all its creatures.

Holy is the command of King of the skies,

His throne is over all the boundaries of the earth,

His reign seals the light of resurrection for ever,

His scepter does not fail (bend).

His fear, like a flood, levels the country of the wicked,

His name is a terror which trembles nations to pieces,

The God of glory and Prince of the Universe does not sleep,

For he is the fire of heaven and earth, a keystone of arch of space,

And the fountain-head of the blue skies.

The deceivers and the proud do not dare to look upon his tabernacle.

At his habitation only the holy-ones dwell.

The Sun of the Most High God does not fade,

His cup is full of blessings, a merciful God is He,

*Who sits upon his adorned throne,
 Amidst the citizens of QALLEH,***

"His fortress," "A mighty light!"

Who enlightens ATUR NATIR APRA, a mighty king,

King of the world, a king without equal,

*King of all four directions,
 The High Priest over all races of mankind,*

And Viceroy of God of Light, The High Light,

The Most High God, the God of eternity,

A holy light is He, the most pious of all great gods.

His high throne of fire, helps my heart greatly,

The God of light laid His Priesthood upon me (ordained me).

The only Supreme God graciously placed the pouring of

libation in my hand to do honor, peace, and to fear

God ATUR (Ashur), whose light annihilates

The princes of all nations of four directions.

His image and statue must never be removed,

The (inscribed) foundation tablet must never be erased,

May the weight of his hand crush the habitation of the wicked,

May the sun of his morning never rise upon them,

May the moon never shine upon their gardens,

And may it not brighten the settlement of their people.

May their mighty men be imprisoned.

May he expose their shame, and tread every foreign land

May he enlarge his domain over multitudes who

fear the great God of lights

*May he destroy their countries,
 May his sceptre wipe out their cities completely*

From the face of earth, and may he fill their country

With seized captives, and

May their captured tribes be settled (scattered) over all countries.

** Means "ATUR guards his land!"*

*** The city of Calah, Nimrud.*

MR. FRED TAMIMI PASSES AWAY

On May 22, 1980, Fred Tamimi passed away in a Modesto hospital at the age of 69. He was born in Goolpashan, Urmia, Iran to Abraham and Mariam.

In 1918, Mr. Tamimi and his family fled to Baquba, Iraq, thence to Baghdad where he attended an Assyrian school founded by the American Presbyterian Mission. After that, he studied railroad engineering and architecture. In 1929, he worked for Colonial Company, constructing railroads from Baghdad to Haifa. In 1933, he returned to Iran where he stayed for 13 years working in the engineering field. Tamimi and his family immigrated to the United States in 1946 and settled in Turlock, California, concentrating in real estate and general construction projects. In 1969, he founded the Tamimi Assyriology Foundation to promote scientific research into the history and culture of the Assyrians. Tamimi has authored numerous articles on the contribution of Assyrians to world history. He has compiled 15 manuscripts supporting his theories, based on linguistic research, of Assyrian beginnings for all major cultures the world has known. These remain unpublished. In 1971, he was invited to Iran by the Imperial Court and two American foundations to study cuneiform documents of the Pahlavi Library in connection with his research in ancient languages. In 1973, he travelled to UC-Berkeley to confer with a visiting Harvard Assyriology professor on translation of the Assyrian Record of Creation. In April 1979, he visited Baghdad at the invitation of the government of Iraq to discuss his findings.

Fred Tamimi is survived by his lovely wife, Mary, two sons, Sargon of Los Angeles and Niniv of Modesto; two daughters, Arbella of Los Angeles and Sargina of Davis.

The Assyrian people have lost a champion of the Assyrian contribution to world history. He challenged many of the existing ideas of other Assyriologists and historians. By his efforts he served to publicize the Assyrian name and stirred the pride of the Assyrian people in their own identity. He will be greatly missed by all of us.

The Assyrian Foundation extends its deepest sympathy to his wife, Mary, and their children.

FOUNDATION'S NEXT ACTIVITY

Picnic at Boyle Park in Mill Valley (Marin County) on Sunday, August 17, 1980, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Dinner at 12:30 p.m. — Bar-b-que — Volleyball — Nartekhta — Other Games.

GEORGE NEESAN

The Assyrian Foundation extends its deepest sympathy and condolence to Mr. and Mrs. Babajan Neesan of Baghdad, Iraq on the recent loss of their son, George, in Baghdad.

A memorial service, officiated by Archdeacon Ninos Michael was held at Mar Narsai Church of the East, San Francisco. The communion service was followed by a memorial breakfast and eulogy.

George is also survived by five brothers, Sami of Hercules, CA, Phnuel and Sargon of Baghdad, Richard and Robert of Richmond, CA; and by four sisters, Khatoon of Chicago, Shamiran of Santa Ana, Margaret of San Pablo, and Berlante of Beirut, Lebanon.

"Thou hast created us for Thyself, and our heart cannot be quieted till it may find repose in thee."

St. Augustine

The Assyrian Foundation:

Thank you for the beautiful flower arrangement. Your thoughtfulness has helped to ease the pain of our loss.

The Tamimi Family

Learning is the only wealth tyrants cannot despoil. Only death can dim the lamp of knowledge that is within you. The true wealth of a nation lies not in its gold or silver but in its learning, wisdom, and in the uprightness of its sons.

Kahlil Gibran

EULOGY FOR DAVID BARSUM PERLEY

Delivered on the Fortieth Day of his Death by Eden Naby (Frye)
at the Assyrian Orthodox Church of the Virgin Mary on 19 August 1979 Paramus, N.J.

When first asked to participate in this memorial to David Barsum Perley, I hesitated, and suggested that it would be more fitting for a contemporary of his to speak for him. But upon further thought, it seemed to me that it was appropriate for him to be eulogized by someone of another generation. David Perley was a man of such enthusiasm that he spoke to all generations of Assyrians equally well. As one of those who was fortunate enough to know him, I appreciate this opportunity to salute him.

David and I met only one year ago, after several years of correspondence, but during that time I learned to address him as David—however respectfully—but as David, my friend. During the short year that I did know him, he did what he has always done—share himself, his time, his feelings, and his probing and always curious mind. We come here to do honor to a man who was above all generous in the widest sense of that word...a man who did not hide his talents but let them shine forth. As far as his Assyrian people were concerned, his talent, born of many years of often difficult experience, led him to speak and write for his people and to carry his people's heritage and hope to the reading public. Death has not diminished him but confirmed him as an Assyrian hero. His example of persistence, and buoyancy will serve all of us as a reminder to use our talents for the good of our Assyrian people, our fellow human beings and for the glory of God.

There are many ways in which we shall remember David Barsum Perley. We shall remember his wonderful smile, the gusto with which he lived life, the infectious enthusiasm which inspired so many, young and old, to search, seek and do. A very concrete and direct way in which some will choose, and have already chosen to remember him and perpetuate his memory has become available at Harvard University. Here, a fund has been set up called the David B. Perley Memorial Assyrian Fund. It is fitting that a memorial to the recipient of the Star of Ashur should be through donations toward the publication of materials about modern Assyrian history and culture.

To tell people about modern-day Assyrians was one of David Perley's special interests. In his own early years, he was buffeted by the storms of World War I which made a wreckage of his family, his home, and his community in Harput as it did of all our nation. Yet he survived this catastrophe, miraculously at times, as we, the Assyrians have. He used the opportunities that America provided to sustain himself and grow, as we his Assyrian nation have. And he never forgot his home and his people as we must not.

David Perley enriched my life, inspired me in new ways to use my talents. He specifically inspired me to conduct research to finally solve the riddle of whether we are Syrians or Assyrians. I only wish that I too had had an opportunity to know him as long and as well as you his family and long-time friends. When our brave Assyrian nation prospers and produces new generations of Assyrian heroes, it will be because of men like David Barsum Perley. May God look kindly upon us.



Joel Elias, the President of the Assyrian Foundation, presenting a plaque to Sargon Shabbas at our regular membership meeting on June 28. The message on the plaque says "IN APPRECIATION FOR AN OUTSTANDING, FAITHFUL AND DEDICATED WORK."

"THE NEW YEAR BEGAN"

REPORTED AN ASSYRIAN ASTRONOMER TO HIS KING MORE THAN 3,000 YEARS AGO.

By Fred Tamimi

Let us imagine ourselves, some 3000 years ago, we are taking a part, or are the spectators in these New Year celebrations at the ancient city of Ashur, and along with the powerful emperors princes, and governors of Assyria, "Captains and rulers clothed most gorgeously, horsemen riding upon horses, great lords and renowned, all of them desirable young men, girded with girdles upon their loins, exceeding in dyed attire upon their heads, all of them princes to look upon." (Ezekiel 23:). Along the approaches and wide streets designed for such massive celebrations, are double fortification walls, a hundred feet high, wide enough for three chariots abreast, and with frequent battlemented towers shooting to a still loftier height, protected by a large moat from the landward and from the east and north by the fearsome river Tigris, making the city an impregnable fortress designed by a famous military architect of high genius.

We also witness the lofty multi-staged and multi colored like the colors of the rainbow, the temple towers, with the upper shrine gilded with gold and glittering like the rays of the sun. The colorful procession moving majestically and slowly through the main gateway. The sacred way over which the long procession moves is called ABARA TABA, meaning the "divine way." The walls on each side are lined with glazed brick panels decorated with about 600 lions, 120 bulls and RAMI, unicorn bulls, and other animals mainly composed of a combination of animals such as the SHIRSA, with head and tail of a serpent, the front feet of lion and the hind feet of bird. With such queer-looking animals, which did not exist in nature, the Assyrian artist scribes of Assyria wrote the titles and attributes of their supreme God ATUR, and certainly were not objects of worship as is so erroneously supposed. So that we witness architectural ornamentations, art, and the writing skillfully combined in all the features of this empirical fortress of Assyria.

Through these sculptured portals guarded by silent colossal winged bulls, kings, princes priests and warriors had passed for millennia, bearing faithfully sacrifices to their holy altars, long before the foundations of Athens, Rome and Persipolis were laid. Upward, tier after tier, into the blue heavens, ran lines of colonnades on the royal palace nearby, pillars of costly cedar, cornices glittering with gold, capitals blazing with vermilion.

Writing about the majestic winged lions, in his book "Nineveh and its Remains" Layard states; "What more noble forms could have ushered people into the temple of their God? What more sublime images could have been borrowed from nature, by men who sought, unaided by the light of revealed religion, to embody their conception of wisdom, power, and ubiquity of a Supreme being? They could find no better type of intellect and knowledge than the head of the man; of strength, than the body of the lion, and of ubiquity, than the wings of the bird. These winged human headed lions were not idle creation, the offspring of mere fancy, their meaning was written upon them. They had awed and instructed races which flourished 3000 years ago."

Inside the huge halls, about 20 feet from the floor, the walls were lined for miles, literally for miles, with bas-reliefs profusely illustrated in art and records of the past rulers of an ancient nation a mighty nation. In addition to these permanent slabs there were voluminous curtains of silk, purple, scarlet, interwoven with threads of gold.

Imagine when everybody is seated around the imperial throne THE SHAR KULI SHAR AILI, "the king of all kings of Nations" waits to hear from his chief royal astronomer, announce the advent of the New Year, who all of a sudden comes in, with a small tablet of fresh clay on which he has inscribed his observation of the Vernal, or Spring Equinox, and reports with a loud speaker (horn) to his master and the audience.

One of the great temples inside the ancient city of AU-SHARA, was called E'KHATA, meaning "New," wherein all the New Year celebrations and other social activities were held. Among the major New Year activities were the following:

1. According to the laws and traditions of the Assyrians, each New Year the reigning monarch had to be reinstated. He had to travel from his capital of Nineveh, together with his princes and nobles and high-priests, and enter the great temple, and carrying with him a bowl of precious oil for his anointment, for the king was the monarch and the high priest, a mana of "dish" of silver coins, and a set of new royal robes. While at the altar, the king had to confess his sins, that he has done no wrong to his people, that he has done his duty to the state

faithfully and upheld the laws of the land, and that under oath, promises to serve faithfully, the country and people, during the coming New Year.

2. From all over the land, people would come in bringing with them their gifts and sacrifices of clean animals to the God of heavens and to the priesthood which served him.

3. One of the great events which took place during the New Year festivities was the recitation of the famous Record of Creation, which is written on seven tablets of baked clay and consists of more than a thousand lines, as compared with that of or 31 verses of the Genesis. Indeed the latter is but a poor copy of the former. The idea was to preserve the knowledge and indeed, the language and traditions of the ancient race and their faith, in a Supreme Creator. "Let the wise and understanding together ponder on them. Let the father repeat them and teach them to his son."

One of the first to have adopted the New Year of Assyria were the Hebrews, who while in the Egyptian bondage were ordered to use the month of Neesan as the first month of their calendar year, to begin their sacred year (Exodus 12; 1-2). In fact, the Hebrew word ROSH HASHANA is derived from the Assyrian word RESH SHANA, meaning "Head of Year" of "New Year." There is not a single Hebrew word that has no root and meaning in the Assyrian language, since Hebrew is a dialect of the Assyrian.

The Persians, during the entry of Cyrus in Babylon, the last capital city of Assyria, also adopted the Assyrian New Year, and which they call NOW RUZ, of "New Day," ever since 539 B.C.

The Greeks recognized the observance of the Assyrian New Year when the Macedonian Emperor, Alexander, entered Babylon in 331 B.C.

Both Cyrus and Alexander worshipped Mar d'Khair, "the Lord God of Life" in the great temple at Babylon. (The name is erroneously written Marduk), and both observed the holy feast, or the New Year of the Great God of Assyria. Foreign scholars, not familiar with the Assyrian language, in their translation of Assyrian history state that "Cyrus, and Alexander held the hand of Marduk upon entry in the holy temple of Babylon." In Assyrian the word IDA means "hand" and as well as "feast" or "holiday." Therefore, the confusion, instead of writing, they held or they observed the New Year Holiday of Marduk, they state "they held the hand of Marduk."

But it was Seleuchus I Necator, one of Alexander's Generals, who after the death of the latter reigned Assyria and Persia, and who in about 300 B.C. carried away important historical and astronomical works including those of Bar-Assa (Berosus), the last great Assyrian chronicler, and introduced them in Europe and Alexandria of Egypt, where they were stored and used by Ptolmey another general of Alexander.

In 46 B.C. Julius Caesar changed the Assyrian calendar which was lunar and was in use from the beginning of the foundation of Rome, by the Etrurians (Etruscans) Assyrian colonists in Italy, into solar year. The Julian calendar compensated and adjusted the difference between 365 days of the year and 365 1/4 days by introducing leap years, that is providing an addition of an extra day every four years. But still there was a significant error in the Julian calendar, for it was a little more than eleven minutes and fourteen seconds longer than the true solar year of 365 1/4 days. By the time Columbus discovered America in the end of fifteenth century A.D. a discrepancy of 10 full days had accumulated.

To correct the Julian calendar from such error. Pope Gregory XIII, in 1582 revised it, and in order to correct the yearly error of eleven minutes and fourteen seconds, it provided that those century years with a number divisible by 400, such as 800 and 1200, should be leap years, with an extra day being added to the month of February; whereas other century years, such as 900 and 1700 would not be leap years. It happens therefore, that the average Gregorian calendar year is now about 26 seconds longer than the solar year of 365 1/4 days. At this rate it will take a thousands years for the error to accumulate and equal a day.

Moreover, between the beginning of the Julian calendar and the Gregorian a discrepancy of ten full days had accumulated. These days were ordered to be omitted by Pope Gregory in 1582. And thus the day after October 4, immediately became October 15.

But the Gregorian corrections created a great deal of unrest and even rioting throughout Europe, where many countries were forced to accept. But England and her colonies including her thirteen American colonies did not change their calendar until 1752. While Russia changed it in

Continued next page

Moscow Talks of Seances

A Magical Cure

By Craig R. Whitney
New York Times

Moscow

HERE, in the land where "scientific socialism" reigns and there is free medical care for all, intellectuals, workers and even the leaders of the land have been standing in line to be cured by a "sensitive" with magical healing powers, at 250 rubles a seance.

The healer is Dzhuna Davitashvili, a former waitress from Tbilisi, the capital of Soviet Georgia. She tells her patients, "For me, there are no good people and no bad people — only people who are well and people who are sick."



Rumor has it that she worked the apparent miracle that transformed the 73-year-old Leonid I. Brezhnev into the picture of health and stamina in his recent meetings with Western and Communist leaders in Belgrade and Warsaw.

Other high-ranking patients are said to include the Soviet minister of health, Boris V. Petrovsky, and Nikolai K. Baibakov, the minister of planning.

★ ★ ★

FILM STARS, writers and dissidents besiege Davitashvili's apartment in Moscow to sign up for cures, costing the equivalent of \$375.

She has a long waiting list for consultations next month.

"I worry about her," one prospective patient sighed. "What if she doesn't pay income tax on her fees? They'll make her stop practicing."

The Soviet authorities have conferred scientific recognition on Davitashvili and her "biological force field."

The official daily newspaper Trud published an interview with Aleksandr G. Spirkin, a member of the prestigious Soviet Academy of Sciences, who is studying "bioenergy." He documented the powers of Davitashvili and other "sensitives."

"Not long ago, in Tbilisi," he told the paper, "an experiment of healing of a trophic ulcer was carried out. In 15 minutes, after the bandages were removed, this sensitive Dzhuna Davitashvili dried the ulcer completely. In the five minutes after that, a light pink film appeared, evidencing the formation of skin cells."

"I want to add," Spirkin said, "that cures by 'biofields' are nothing new. In Europe and America sensitives give therapeutic aid to thousands of patients every day, under doctors' supervision."

Davitashvili has since become a sensation.

★ ★ ★

SHE WAS BROUGHT to Moscow from Tbilisi by Otar Ioseliani, the Georgian film producer, and was quickly besieged by patients unable to get satisfaction from the public health system.

"She looks at you and says immediately whether or not she can help you," said one patient, a writer. "Sometimes she'll take a look and say, right away, 'I can't cure that,' with complicated things like brain tumors."

Another patient, a cinematographer, went to Davitashvili for relief from chronic headaches. "She put her fingers to my eyes and told me to close them," he told friends later. "It felt as if I was swaying gently back and forth. My friends in the room said I was moving violently from side to side, almost hitting the floor. After the treatment was finished, my headache was gone. Later there were burn marks, like a sunburn, where her fingers had touched my face."

★ ★ ★

DAVITASHVILI is said to be of Assyrian origin. She discovered she had healing powers only by accident, after years of working as a waitress in a Tbilisi restaurant.

Some of her patients say a special clinic is going to be built for her.

The New Year Began —

Continued from previous page

March of 1918.

But it is important to note that the serial numbers of months in Assyrian calendar such as September, October, November and December, which were the seventh, eighth, ninth, and tenth months, to this day have remained the same, even if their position is changed to the ninth (September), tenth (October), eleventh (November) and twelfth (December) in the Julian and Gregorian calendars.

Equally important is the fact that the words EQUI NOX, supposedly derived from the Latin aequus, "equal" and nox "night," are in fact, of Assyrian origin and meaning, and have descended from AKWATH NOK, which means "equal rest." For it is the period of time when the Sun crosses the equator, making day and night of equal length in all parts of the earth. Indeed, the word EQUATOR is also descended from the Assyrian AKWATH AR, meaning "equal earth."

There are hundreds of Greek and Latin words, particularly in the field of medicine, astronomy, astrology and sciences as well as mathematics and religion, that are not Greek or Latin, but Assyrian.

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President-Founder

The Tamimi Assyriology Research Foundation, Inc.
April 4, 1976



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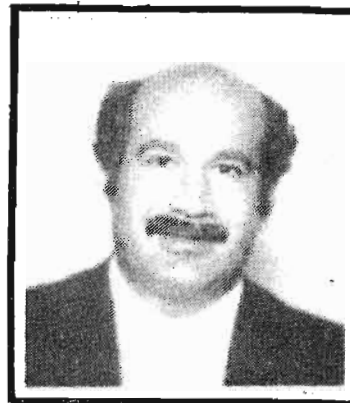
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FEASTS AND COMMEMORATIONS

Assyrian Church of the East, Mar Narsai Parish, 3939 Lawton Street,
San Francisco (731-9537), Archdeacon Nenos S. Michael officiating.

5-18-80	Feast of Ascension	Sunday	Qurbana	9:00 a.m.
5-25-80	Feast of Pentecost	"	"	9:00 a.m.
7-13-80	Feast of Nosedell	"	"	9:00 a.m.
8-3-80	Feast of Transfiguration	"	"	9:00 a.m.
8-17-80	St. Mary's Departure	"	"	9:00 a.m.
9-14-80	Feast of the Cross	"	"	9:00 a.m.
11-2-80	First Sunday of Hallowing	"	"	9:00 a.m.
11-16-80	Commemoration of all Saints	"	"	9:00 a.m.
11-30-80	First Sunday of Advent	"	"	9:00 a.m.
12-24-80	Wednesday before Christmas	Wed.	Service	7:00 p.m.
12-25-80	Nativity of Our Lord			
	Jesus Christ (Christmas)	Thursday	Qurbana	9:00 a.m.

Note: All Sundays of the year not mentioned above are the morning service, and begin promptly at 11:00 a.m.

ASSYRIAN RESTAURATEUR NARSAI DAVID PRESENTED HIS \$5,000 "FEAST ON CALIFORNIA"

Bay Area restaurateur and caterer Narsai David staged his fourth annual gastronomic tour de force at his North Berkeley restaurant on June 8 at 5:00 pm to benefit KQED—TV, San Francisco's public broadcasting station. Narsai's donation to the 1979 KQED Auction, the station's annual fund raising event, is a magnificent "Feast on California," a 14-course dinner of his own design accompanied by 10 complementing wines for a total value of \$5,000.

The annual tradition has grown since 1976 when Narsai recreated Craig Claiborne's controversial \$4,000 dinner. In 1977, a replica of an historic French feast, "The Dinner of Three Emperors," was donated; and in 1978, Narsai, himself created "La Fete Gastronomique," an elaborate 18-course dinner which took eight Bay Area residents five hours to consume. For the 1980 Auction, currently in progress, the restaurateur is donating a recreation of an historic menu created for King Edward VII in 1868.

The "Feast on California" was purchased by eight anonymous East Bay residents for \$2,500. The dinner is designed with the same lavishness as the previous repasts, but with an emphasis on the finest regional fruits and vegetables culled from the state's gardens; and fish, poultry and meat selected from the best farms and waterways.

Prior to the staging of this celebration Narsai had said that he "looked forward to this fourth culinary adventure. Each year it is a challenge to prepare a dinner in the finest tradition, bringing the savoriness of each food to its climax. We know that this dinner will be both a culinary success and a splendid opportunity for the diners to enjoy the age-old tradition of the past when meals were eaten in a sumptuous, leisurely manner."

Narsai's "Feast on California" featured 14 courses in four services and was consumed in at least five hours. Ten of the finest California wines accompanied the repast. All wines were provided by Dr. George Linton, Bay Area wine connoisseur.

The complete menu and wine list for Narsai's "Feast on California" follows:

First Service

California Caviar
Stuffed Snow Peas
Galantine of Quail

Second Service

Chilled Dungeness Crab Legs with 3 sauces
Mousseline of Frog Legs, Duglere
Whole Poached Salmon, Sorrel Sauce

Third Service

Roast Pheasant with Truffles and Cream
Boned and Stuffed Saddle of Lamb
Asparagus with Brown Butter and Pinenuts
Timbale of Fresh Vegetables

Fourth Service

Aged Teleme with Truffle and Pistachio
Savarin Chaud
Bombe Glace, Narsai's
Petits Fours and Glaced Fruit

Wines

1972 Schramsberg Champagne, Blanc de Noir
1958 Beaulieu Vineyard Cabernet
1958 Charles Krug Cabernet
1958 Louis Martini Cabernet
1958 Inglenook Cabernet
1956 Inglenook Pinot Noir
1958 Louis Martini Pinot Noir
1958 Charles Krug Pinot Noir
1959 Beaulieu Vineyard Pinot Noir

1929 Louis Martini Muscatel

Restaurateur and caterer Narsai David is nationally recognized as one of California's top gourmets. His Kensington restaurant has been cited by such prestigious publications as *GOURMET, TRAVEL & LEISURE, GENTLEMEN'S QUARTERLY, CUISINE, NEW WEST* and *THE NEW YORK TIMES*. *TRAVEL-HOLIDAY* magazine has described Narsai as "the most inexhaustible Gourmet of the West." An expert in the area of wine, as well as cooking, Narsai was a contributing wine columnist for the *SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER* and serves as a judge at the Los Angeles County Fair Wine Competition every year.

He is the recipient of the Citation of Outstanding Cuisine from the Hollywood Wine and Food Society, and has served as president of the Berkeley Wine and Food Society. In 1977, Narsai's Restaurant was selected as one of the six best in the U.S. by Cornell University's Food Services Department.

Narsai is also a well known television gourmet having appeared as the featured food and wine authority on KPIX—TV's "The Kathryn Crosby Show" and "The Morning Show." Narsai is currently the cooking expert on the nationally broadcast PBS TV magazine show "Over Easy" with hosts Hugh Downs and Frank Blair.

In addition to his acclaimed restaurant and catering services, Narsai opened his own "gourmet-food-to-go" store, Narsai's Market in 1978. It is located next door to his restaurant and features charcuterie, fine cheeses, select wines, fresh baked pastries and breads, and hundreds of other gourmet food items, including many carrying Narsai's own label.

NARSAI'S RESTAURANT is located at 385 Colusa Avenue in Kensington, North Berkeley. Telephone: (415) 527-7900.



Left to right: Kurt Grasing, Sam David, Rachel Harris, Narsai David

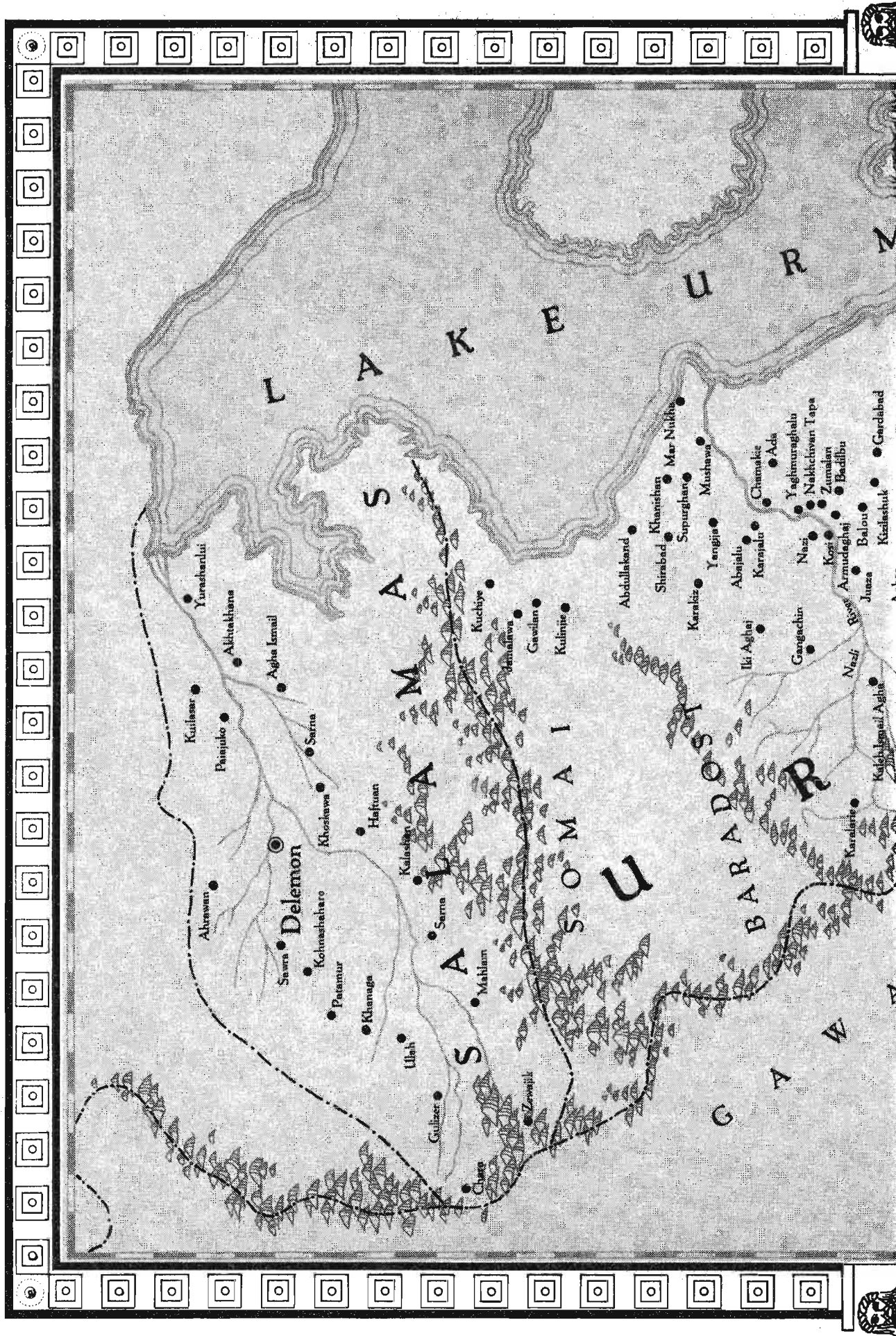
New Members

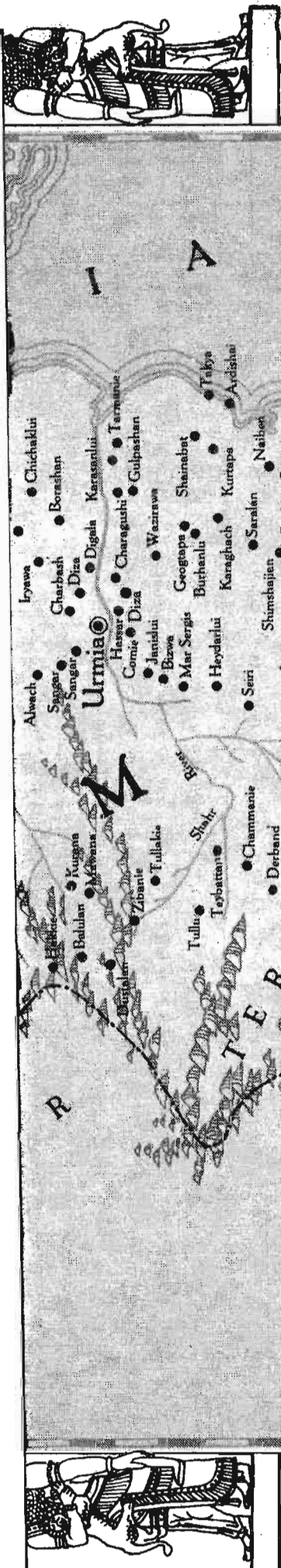
The Assyrian Foundation wishes to welcome Ronald and Debra Younan of Union City as new members of the Foundation.

The deliciously cooked rice for the picnic was donated by Narsai David.

REMEMBER

Assyrian Foundation Picnic
Mill Valley Boyle Park
(E. Blithsdale Exit)
Mill Valley. August 17, 1980





THE ASSYRIANS OF IRAN

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- دَمِي دَجْتَعِلْ لَبْلَم لَهْمَدِي هَدَا
- نَلَا تَجْمَعِي مَبْلَا تَزُول لَهْمَدَا كَدَجْتَا

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- فَهَمِي فَتَجْتَعِلْ تَدَمَب لَذِيْلَا
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- لَبَقْم مَهْمَلَا دَمِيْلَا مَهْمَدَا
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فولادہ ی . سونوڈل

Comodo



Andantino

EMAN LA RA NTI ROON TARPI DE LA NA
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AUA 1979 Humanitarian Awards

Humanitarian Man

Humanitarian Woman



U.S. Senator Edward Kennedy, D.-Mass.

The Assyrian Universal Alliance has presented the Humanitarian Man of the Year award to Senator Edward Kennedy. Senator Kennedy is chairman of the Senate Refugee Sub Committee and has long been a supporter of human rights. The Senator and his staff have been extremely cooperative on Assyrian refugee related matters and as such were instrumental in helping to develop and implement refugee programs for our people.

The award was presented to the Senator on national network television in Chicago last March.



Pat Derian, Asst. Secretary Human Rights & Humanitarian Affairs, U.S. State Dept.

The Assyrian Universal Alliance Humanitarian Woman of the Year award went to Pat Derian, Assistant Secretary, Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs, U.S. State Department.

Mrs. Derian has long been a proponent of human rights and humanitarian affairs. Her sensitivity to our Assyrian refugee problems has been acknowledged and appreciated by the Assyrian community. Her assistance in the development and implementation of refugee related programs has been of inestimable value.

The award was presented to her at the State Department and was video taped for television release.

Code Name "Nimrod"



ENGLAND In London recently, a Special Air Service commando group successfully rescued all 19 hostages being held by Iranian Arab fanatics. Of interest to Assyrians is the fact that the mission was code named **NIMROD** an important ancient Assyrian leader known for his prowess in battle. The English commando team didn't let down the great Assyrian name.

BELGIUM The Churches Committee for the Migrant Workers in Europe convened in Brussels in late May to discuss the Turkish-Christian problem. Almost half the Christians affected are Assyrians. The AUA has their written report on the problems facing our people in Turkey and is planning to meet with the Committee in the near future.

UNITED STATES The AUA continues to help the thousands of Assyrians who have fled from various Middle Eastern countries seeking asylum in the U.S. The AUA has been meeting on a regular basis with the Immigration Service, the U.S. State Dept., and various voluntary agencies to help in the resettlement of Assyrians and to help with their asylum appeals.



Disguised in native dress, CBS News correspondent Dan Rather, right, consultive interpreter Eden Naby, second from left, and two Afghan guerrillas trek through the countryside near Jalalabad, Afghanistan's second largest city. Scene is from film made when Rather and a film crew were smuggled over the border by Afghan tribesmen.

AFGHANISTAN Dan Rather, CBS News Correspondent, recently entered Afghanistan to secretly film a report on the rebel activity against the Russian invaders. The mission was cut off for five days throwing a scare into CBS news leaders who feared they might have been captured or killed.

Along with Rather as a consultive interpreter was an Assyrian, Eden Naby, a specialist in Middle Eastern affairs, is fluent in many of the languages of the region, and has written extensively about the area, and its problems. Eden Naby, had lived in Afghanistan for a short time becoming knowledgeable about the area and its people. Eden Naby is the daughter of the late Rev. Mishael S. Naby, well known Assyrian teacher, poet, author and pastor.

CONTRIBUTIONS

We wish to thank the following persons for their financial support:

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Mr. and Mrs. Julius Danielzadeh	20.00
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ASSYRIAN RECIPE

RACK OF LAMB, ASSYRIAN

You will want 2 lamb racks, each with 8 to 9 ribs (or 3 or 4 if the very small New Zealand lamb). Ask the butcher to remove the flap meat and to French cut the rib bones. Put into a blender and puree:

- 2 large onions
- 2 cloves garlic
- 2 tsp. basil leaves
- ½ lemon with peeling
- ½ tsp. pepper
- 1 cup pomegranate juice
- 1 tsp. salt
- ½ cup red wine

Rub this marinade well into the racks and pour the remaining marinade over the racks in a shallow glass or enameled pan. Let marinate in refrigerator overnight, or at room temperature for 6-8 hours.

Wipe off excess marinade and roast in a 450 degree oven for 10 minutes for medium rare lamb, longer if you like lamb done to a greater degree. Makes four servings.

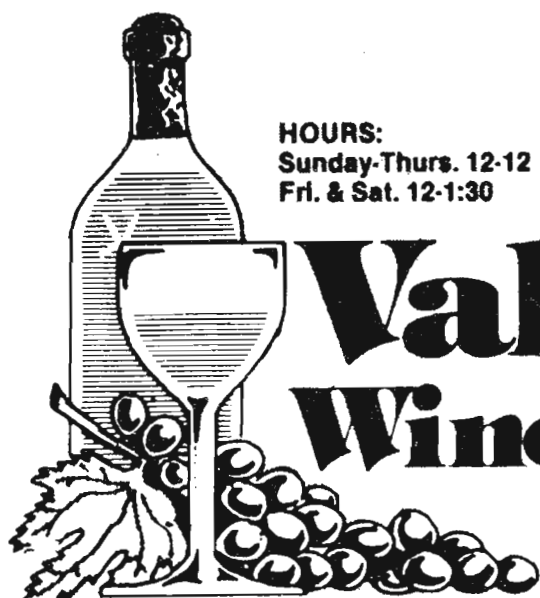
Editor's Note—The above recipe was prepared by Narsai David on Kathryn Crosby Show. Similarly, Rack of Lamb, Assyrian is served regularly at Narsai's Restaurant in Kensington, North Berkeley.



at the picnic

PICNIC A SUCCESS

The Foundation picnic held on June 22nd at Robert Crown Memorial Park, Alameda was very successful. 165 people attended and had a delicious dinner. Everyone enjoyed the event including the games of volleyball, soccer, baseball and Nartekhta.



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Jacob Malek Zadeh



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(בְּיָמֵינוּ: ס. א. מוֹדֵק וְשׂוֹמֵר לְבָרְכֶיךָ בְּכָל עֵת)



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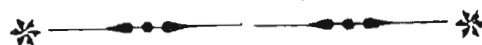
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הַמִּשְׁפָּחָה הַשְּׂמֵחָה



הַמִּשְׁפָּחָה הַשְּׂמֵחָה הַזֹּאת הֵיאָה לְבָרְכֶיךָ בְּכָל עֵת וּבְכָל יוֹם.

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שָׁלוֹם



Sargon and Jermaine Shabbas



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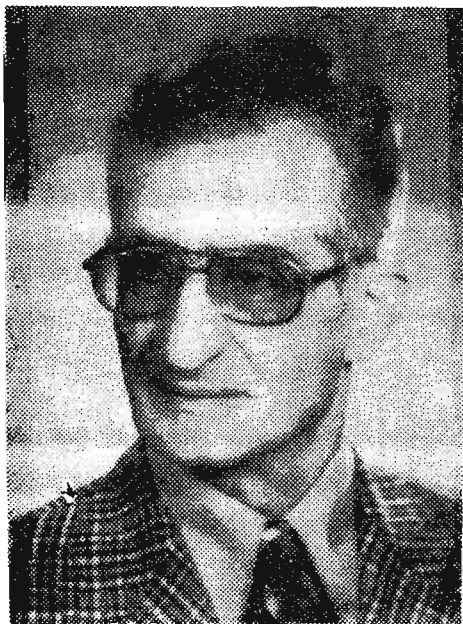
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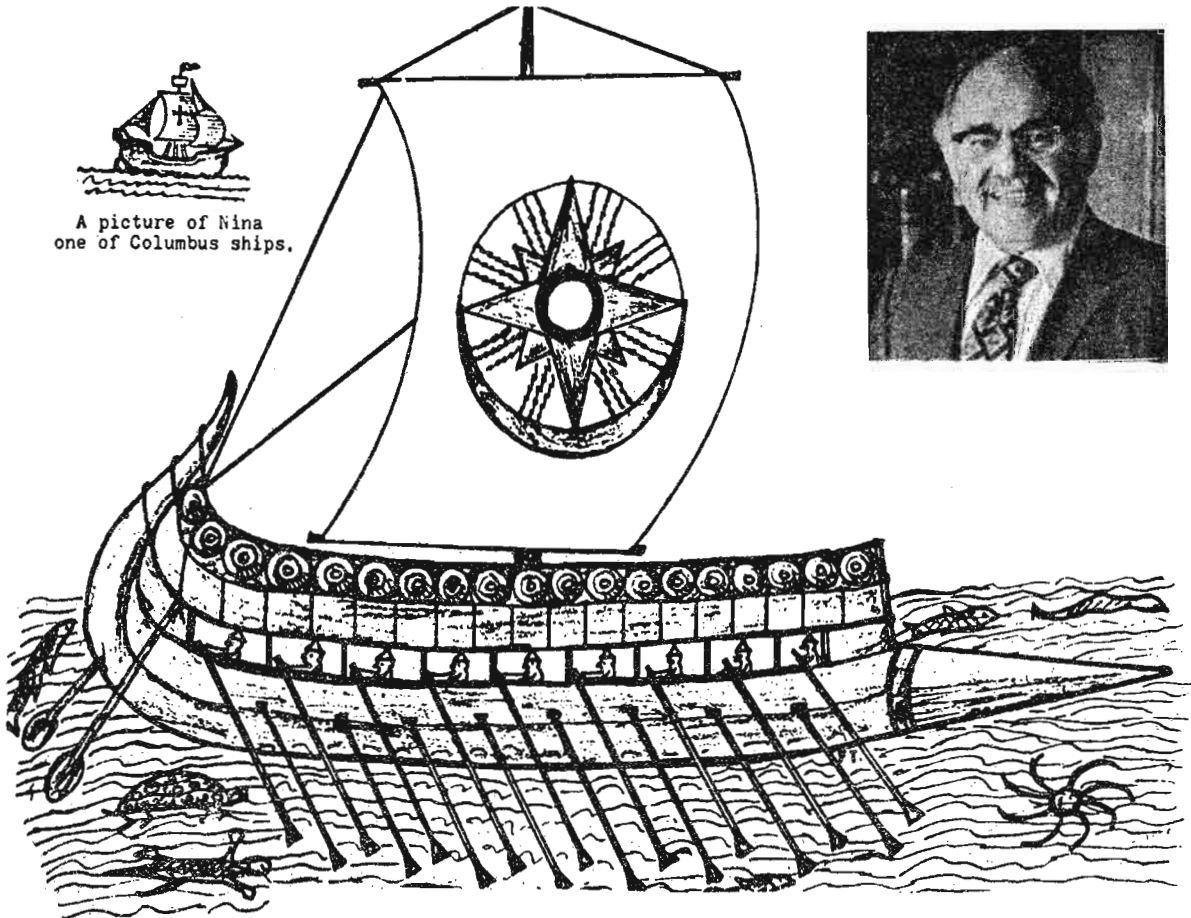
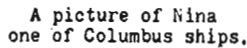
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device which the Romans copied and used for the same purpose. According to Fred Tamimi, the ensign represents the Assyrian words Sara-Sina, "Holy Light," God.

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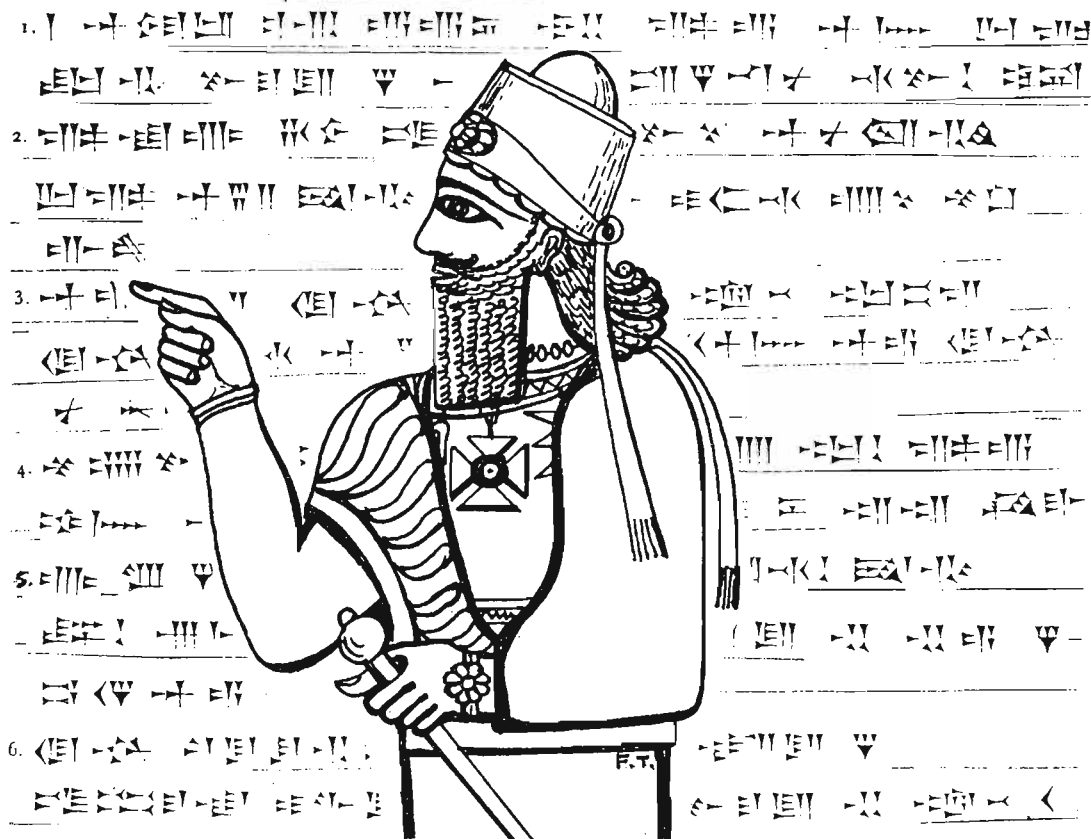
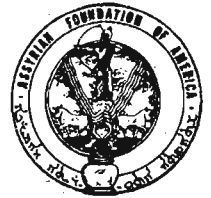
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قَدْ جَاءَكُمْ رَسُولٌ مِّنْ أَنفُسِكُمْ يَتْلُو صُحُفًا مُّطَهَّرَةً .

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His stele and address to God when in the ninth century B.C. he dedicated his newly built palace on the junction of Tigris and Upper Zab, as a fortress and residence to ATUR (Ashur), the Supreme National God of Assyria. The sacred emblems on his breast were borrowed by Christianity and other religions of mankind. (see page 5)

(Illustrated and deciphered by Fred Tamimi.)