

ARRIVALS AND VISITORS...

Welcome to San Francisco Bay Area:

- a) Mr. Ivan Kakovitch of Washington, D. C., formulator of the Assyrian Manifesto, arrived in San Francisco on August 17. He attended the dinner given by the California Assyrian Organization and the picnic given by the Assyrian Foundation on August 21.
- b) Sargon & Charlotte Neesan and their 2 children, Lena (age 6) and Luai (age 2) of Baghdad, Iraq landed at the Oakland Airport on September 8 from Santa Ana where they have been visiting with his sister, Shamiran Jacob and her family. Sargon is the brother of Sami Neesan of Richmond. They will be staying with Sami & Lily (Foundation members) for a couple of weeks, and then on to Chicago where a visit with the other side of the family, Charlotte's sister, Mary Benjamin and her family is scheduled.
- c) John & Victoria Yonan and their daughter, Soyna of Baghdad, Iraq landed at the Oakland Airport on September 6 from Chicago where they stayed for 2 weeks. John is the brother of Charles Yonan of Pleasanton. The Yonan's have 2 boys living in the East Bay, Ronald and Baba Yonan. The second daughter, Viona Odisho of Chicago and her 2 children accompanied the Yonan's from Chicago. This was a very pleasant and joyous re-union for the Yonan's as the whole family got together in Pleasanton after many years of separation. The Yonan's are presently staying with Charles and Florence. About 35 relatives and friends, a few from Turlock-Modesto area, welcomed the Yonan's at the airport, then everyone drove to Pleasanton for a beautiful reception given in their honor by Charles and Florence, Ronald and Debbie, and Baba. On Victoria's side, it was also a jubilant re-union with her parents, Shimshum & Elizabeth Shallo & her brother, William & his family from Turlock.

- d) Mr. B. D. (Paloosha) Moosholo of Tehran, Iran arrived at the Oakland Airport together with the Yonan family. Paloosha is John's cousin. They rendezvoused in London, England before arriving in the U. S.
- e) Dr. Phrydon Baba and his wife, Shamiran are here from Youngstown, OH visiting his parents, Shushan & Paulu. Baba of Turlock and his sisters Freid. Badal, Hilda Amirkhas of Sunnyvale and Samrida Baba of San Francisco, and the families. Phrydon and Shamiran are originally from Tehran, Iran. Phrydon has successfully completed his National Medical Board Exam and is planning to practice medicine in California after one more year in Ohio. A daughter, No was born to the Baba's early this year. Phrydon and Shamiran have scheduled to leave for Ohio soon.
- f) Mr. Alex Ayvas of Tehran, Iran who is visiting his relatives in the Bay Area. Alex is the cousin of Mrs. Nellie Sarkis of El Cerrito where he has been staying for the last three weeks.

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NEW RESIDENTS IN THE WEST BAY....

- 1) Shimshon & Marlene Antar and their two boys, Raymond & Ronald, arrived recently from Yonkers to settle in the West. Millbrae's Assyrian population has increased by 4. Welcome to sunny California!
- 2) Bella Danielzadeh of Tehran, Iran, her daughter, Bernadette, and her son, Bobby, are presently residing in San Francisco. Bella is Martin Jacob's (Foundation member) sister. Welcome to pleasant California! Mr. Danielzadeh will be joining the family soon.

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Continued Next Column....

FURTHER INCREASE IN ASSYRIAN BABY POPULATION OF THE EASY BAY...

The most recent arrival is a beautiful GIRL, Zena Sargina, born on August 24 to Layla & Sargon Michael of Pinole (Foundation members). Congratulations!

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BABY CHRISTENING...

On Sunday, September 11, Nora, daughter of Shamiran & Dr. Phrydon Baba, was christened at Mar Narsai Church of the East in San Francisco, with Freida Badal and Morris Amirkhas as God-Parents. The christening was followed by a reception at Freida and Victor Badal's (Foundation members) home in Sunnyvale.

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HAPPY SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY....

Paul Neesan (age 6) - September 6
born in Richmond, son of Sami & Lily Neesan (Foundation members)

Sargon Henderson (age 2) - September 26
born in Concord, son of David & Alice Henderson (Foundation members)

Brenda Patricia Badal - September 11
(age 3) born in San Francisco, daughter of Phrydon & Conceicoa Badal (Foundation members)

Luai S. Neesan (age 2) - September 8
born in Baghdad, Iraq, son of Charlotte & Sargon Neesan (visiting in the US)

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HAPPY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY....

Peggie & Carlos Hernandez - September 16  
(4 years)

Maggie & Teddie Jacob - September 12  
(1 year)

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FOUNDATION PICNIC--A SUCCESS....

We are glad to report that the Foundation annual picnic held on August 21 at Robert Crown Memorial Park in Alameda was very successful. It drew about 250 people. Everyone had a very pleasant time. Many individuals worked hard to make this picnic a success, and we want to thank them all, with special thanks to Bellas Yelda who was in charge of all the arrangements and of organizing the picnic.

Mr. Homer Ashurian, the Assyrian Representative in the Iranian Parliament, attended the picnic as a guest of the Foundation, and many people had an opportunity to talk to him.

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OUR THANKS GO TO....

Daniel W. Shabbas for his valuable contribution of time and effort during the renovation of the Center. He has worked all along with the contractors to get the job done as quickly and smoothly as possible. We greatly appreciate his tireless efforts.

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NEW FOUNDATION MEMBERS....

- 1) Shimshon & Marlene Antar of Millbrae, originally from Baghdad, Iraq.
- 2) Morris & Hilda Amirkhas of Sunnyvale, originally from Tehran, Iran.

Ed. Note: Thank you and welcome to the Foundation family of members.

ASSYRIAN COMMUNITY CENTER RADIO BROADCAST....

Tune in and listen to the voice of Assyria coming to you from San Francisco every Monday at 8:30 p.m. on KBRG 105 FM with George Yoseph & Mariana Shabbas as your hosts.

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LUTHER HOOPYAR, FORMER TURLOCKER TO
RETRACE HIS 'ROOTS' (EXCERPTS FROM
TURLOCK DAILY JOURNAL....

Luther Hoopyar, member of a pioneer Turlock family and frequent visitor here, will soon be off to retrace his "roots" in Persia and Ancient Assyria.

The nationally known concert tenor and lecturer on Biblical and Mideastern history will take a 4 month study tour with other members of the University of Chicago's Oriental Institute. The trip, among other places, will take him to his birthplace at Urmia, now known as Rezaiah, and to villages where relatives and friends still live.

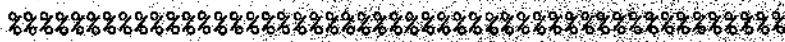
The former Turlocker just completed a spring series of concerts and lectures, and last year booked an evangelical tour for the President's sister, Ruth Carter Stapleton.

The tour starts at Tehran, Iran and continues southward through Isfahan and on to Shiraz. Crossing salty Lake Urmia, where young Hoopyar learned to swim before coming to the United States, he will be in the area of his boyhood enroute to the city of Baghdad, Iraq.

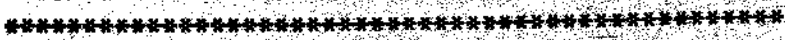
Nineveh, ancient Assyrian capital, destroyed in 612 B.C. will be a special spot. For the past 135 years, since 1842, amateur and professional archeologists have removed thousands of ancient Assyrian artifacts covered and hidden by desert sands for over 2500 years, and filled the world museums and libraries with startling unbelievable new knowledge about Assyria.

Traveling on to Dur Sharukin, the group will see the Sargon City, thence to Nimrud, Ashurbanipal's capital, and on to the region of Ur and Chaldees. Haran, reportedly the birthplace of Abraham will climax the Mideast tour.

Hoopyar's brother, Arby Sr. and his family live in Turlock. Hoopyar graduated from Turlock High School with the class of '22. He is also a graduate of UCLA.



A WINDOW SHOPPER IS A BUY PASSER!



FEASTS & COMMEMORATIONS....

Holy Apostolic & Catholic Church of the East, Mar Narsai Parish, 3939 Lawton Street, San Francisco, the Ven. Nenos S. Michael, Archdeacon officiating:

Sunday Mass Service with the offering of Qurbana Kadeesha are held at 9:00 a.m.

For further information, you may contact the Archdeacon at 415-564-9126.

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THE ASSYRIAN FOUNDATION EXTENDS ITS
DEEPEST SYMPATHY & CONDOLENCE TO....

- 1) Elsey Warda (Voltaire's wife) of Millbrae at the recent loss of her parents, Youlia & Babajan Vallibaba of Tehran, Iran. Youlia of the village of Ada was born in 1901 and passed away on September 6, 1977. Babajan of Chamakeye, born in 1900, died on September 18, 1977. The couple are survived by two sons and three daughters.
- 2) Mrs. Shushan Ashouri (wife of Babajan Ashouri) of Pleasanton at the recent loss of her mother, Khana Mattam in Pleasanton. Khana Khana of the village of Spoorghan was born in 1883 and passed away on September 1977 at the approx. age of 95. Khana was the grandmother of Florence Yonan of Pleasanton, Frederick Ashouri of Danville and Flora Kingsbury of Saudi Arabia.

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VACATIONERS TO RETURN HOME....

- a) Roset & Odette Danielzadeh, daughters of Julius & Bella Danielzadeh. The girls have a pleasant surprise for the Foundation. Look for the subsequent issues for the surprise.
- b) Mariana Shabbas
- c) Diana George
- d) Janet Yonan

- e) Peggy Hernandez (after a 2-week stay in Santa Ana with her parents, Nina and Emmanuel Jacob).
- f) Dumarina Shabbas, daughter of Violet and Julius Shabbas (after a 2-week stay in Santa Ana with her Aunt Nina and her husband, Emmanuel Jacob).

MISSION IMPOSSIBLE!!!

Nay--not so. With foresight, dedication, cooperation, we have accomplished our mission, a mission. We have a Center, a beautiful one where we could all meet. The people who make up the Assyrian Foundation have, over the years, worked hand-in-hand to make this dream a reality. Without that financial/material support from members, and contributions from admirers and friends of the Foundation, we would still be day-dreaming. Again, we extend our appreciation.

IRAQI SUMMER RESORTS...

Nature has endowed the north of Iraq lavishly, the scenery being much admired by visitors. The summer resorts in Iraq are many. In the north, not far from the cities of Mosul, Arbil and Sulaimaniya, there are lofty mountains, snow-topped in winter, with streams in all the valleys. The region is well wooded and admirable for open-air holiday-makers. In the hot summer months, the sun's rays being tempered by the altitude, so that the climate is always bracing. The winding forest roads leading to the mountains are surfaced, and visitors can reach all the beauty spots by car without trouble.

SALAHIDDIN

The oldest and most popular summer resort area, located on the peak of Salahiddin mountain, is 45 minutes drive from the city of Arbil. Salahiddin mountain is in the Sifin and Perman range extending all the way to the Iraqi-Iranian border. Along both sides of the well-paved road to the resort area, modern residential buildings are seen amidst the green valleys. Due to its location and proximity, Salahiddin is usually crowded with vacationers. The town is well

provided with various convenient accommodations, hotels, cottages, tents, restaurants, cafes, shops, grocery stores, swimming pools as well as tennis, football, volleyball and basketball courts. There is also a Central Tourist Information Bureau.

SARSINK

Is located in the Governorate of Duhok. The dominant feature which gives Sarsink its prominent place among Iraqi summer resorts is its location. It is situated in a valley surrounded by the Cara mountains from the east and Mating mountains from the west. The valley is spacious and covered with fir, oak, pine, fruit and walnut trees. The temperature at Sarsink remains refreshingly cool during the summer months. Sarsink has all the conveniences one desires, hotels, swimming pool, campgrounds, cottages, a bank, restaurants, cafes, stores, gas station, hospital, telephones, entertainment programs, theater, tourist information center, etc.

Ed. Note: Other resort areas in Duhuk Governorate include Swaratouka, Ashwa, Soulaf, Amadia.

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PATRIARCHS OF THE CHURCH OF THE EAST...

Do you know that 111 (one hundred eleven) Patriarchs of the Church of the East have served on the See of the Church of Khuky in Seleucia-Ctesiphon, Babylon, since the establishment of the Church?

A list of these Patriarchs compiled by the late Catholicos Patriarch of the Church of the East, His Holiness Mar Eshai Shimun XX will be incorporated in the next issue of NINEVEH WEST.

WE HAVE MORE FOOD TO EAT IN THIS COUNTRY THAN ANY PLACE ELSE IN THE WORLD, AND MORE DIETS TO KEEP US FROM EATING IT.

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Looking over a beautiful green valley, nine kilometres north of the city of Mosul, and between the ruins of Nineveh stands the Mar Gorgees (Saint George) Monastery. It is a huge fortress.

The monastery is visited daily by hundreds of people to see its historic monuments and to have a good time enjoying the beautiful landscape.

According to father Dr. Joseph Habbi, the priest in Mosul, who has written on old monasteries in Iraq, the Mar Gorgees Monastery was at first a church for a village called Beawera; the date of its establishment is not known. But the historian Marie Ben Suleiman said in his book, which was written in mid 12th century, that the church was existing at that time and was named after the Mar Gorgees (Saint George) who was born in Al-Lud, in Palestine in the year 280 A.D. and who was executed by the Romans on April 23, 303 A.D.

According to father Dr. J. Habbi, it was first called a monastery in a Syriac manuscript

CHALDEAN MONASTERY



dating back to 1661 and is kept now at the library of Chaldean Monks Monastery of the Lady. The name went on in all the manuscripts that followed. Many of them are now kept at the libraries of Iraq, France, and the Vatican.

The Monastery's importance grew with the increase of the number of monks living in it.

The Monastery premises include the building and orchard. It is provided with electricity and fresh water and other

facilities, and is connected with the main Mosul-Dohuk highway by a 300 metre paved road. The building has undergone many restoration works specially in the years 1922, 1955, 1968, 1979, and 1984.

The main gate was restored in 1946 with the painting representing the Saint installed above the gate and under it a Syriac writing saying "The gate of the Glorious Martyr Mar Gorgees of the Chaldean Monasteries has been renewed in the year 1947".

There are many paintings representing the Saint at the monastery. One of them is 300 years old which is kept in the upper church and represents the saint riding a horse on his way to save the king's daughter from a dragon while the king is watching from the top of the city's tower; another painting is from the 18th century painted in a Byzantine style.

The Monastery consists of two churches, the upper church with its old style and the second church near the main entrance of the monastery. Besides, the living quarters have enough rooms for the monks to live in.

The Monastery has been used throughout its history as a resort, where families from the Mosul vicinity used to go and spend two days there to offer thanks and enjoy good weather.

Father Dr. J. Habbi said finally that if archaeological explorations were made around the monastery, its history will be well clarified.



Assyrian Costumes



...fashioned that were well advanced. The artist was precise in sketching out the costumes worn by the Assyrians and by the colourful details. According to the sculptures and drawings, dating back to the Assyrian era, one notices elegant fashions and designs.

Every social class of the population had its own way of life and was recognized by the way it was dressed. Kings were accompanied on their trips and battles, by artists to sketch and record the important events they were witnessing specially in the later rules of the Assyrians.

A typical Assyrian costume consists usually of a dress, and according to the social class, different decorated pieces are added to it representing the social class, and the same goes for the head-dress, while men's hair was very long, even though beards

...were familiar in the later part of King Sargon's rule.

The royal costume usually consists of a long dress decorated with colourful ribbons and embroidery works, with a shawl laid on the king's shoulders. While the army commanders and senior officers wore a costumes relevant to the royal costumes, while lower classes costumes were less expensive, and officers uniforms were mainly consisting of short dresses and belts around their waists and helmets or ribbons. Priests wore short dresses with wide large belts and long shawls.

Commoners and workers usually wore simple dresses, but writers wore long dresses. Women's outfit were various but generally consisted of long simple dresses and a veil covering themselves with.

Writings describing how these costumes were to be dressed showing out of the social level of the persons were found among the Assyrian literature.



Kamil Awad

BAGHDAD OBSERVER