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## YEREVAN STATE UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE FOR ARMENIAN STUDIES

**ԽՍԾ ՐՈՈՆԵՐԵ** 

## ՀԱՃՆԸ *ԵՎ* ՀԱՅԿԱԿԱՆ ԿՈՏՈՐԱԾՆԵՐԸ

Վերաիրատարակությունը տպագրության պատրաստեց Վարուժան Պողոսյանը

### ROSE LAMBERT

# HADJIN, AND THE ARMENIAN MASSACRES

For nearly twelve years a Missionary of the United Orphanage and Mission Society stationed at Hadjin, Turkey

The new edition has been prepared for printing by Varoujean Poghosyan

ԵՊՀ ՀՐԱՏԱՐԱԿՉՈՒԹՅՈՒՆ ԵՐԵՎԱՆ 2015

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Miss Rose Lambert

Hadjin, and the Armenian Massacres

To the Memory of the Christian martyrs and to the suffering mothers, sisters, widows and orphans this little book is dedicated

#### EDITOR'S PREFACE

American missioner Rose Lambert, who had carried out her activity in Hadjin since 1898, became one of the eyewitnesses of the Armenian massacres organized by the Young-Turkish government in Cilicia in 1909. Together with Marie Gerber, another American missioner, she settled in Hadjin and founded there two orphanages — one of them for the girls and the other for the boys, which included tree hundred children<sup>1</sup>. As to her activity in this field, according to the testimony of Ferriman Duckett, one of the eyewitnesses of the "indescribable carnage", "Miss Rose Lambert (an American lady missionary) rendered splendid services during and after" the siege of Hadjin<sup>2</sup>.

After the Cilician massacres, Rose Lambert as an honest woman published her memoirs about the events which took place in Hadjin in 1909, and tried to also assess the Armenian massacres in the whole region. The geographical position of Hadjin gave the possibility to the Armenians living there to organize a furious self-defense, as a result of which the inhabitants of the town were saved. Certainly, the Armenians of Cilicia struggled against the Turkish troops and bands, and this circumstance was reflected in the testimonies of several foreign eyewitnesses, and Hadjin was not an exception, but the Armenians of other places had not been able to achieve the same results as in this mountainous town.

The memoirs of Rose Lambert, which still preserve their actuality, are very important, because she gives very impartial judgments on the hard situation of the Armenians in the Ottoman Empire after the revolution of 1908, as well as on the tragic events perpetrated by the Young-Turks government in 1909. The author had concentrated her attention on some important circumstances, as the negative position of the Turks towards the liberal changes in the Ottoman Empire after the revolution of 1908 declared by the Young-Turk leaders (in this case, it is very important to remark, that the Turks were very irritated especially on the matter of liberties and equality promised to the Christians), the oppression of the Armenians and their extermination in 1909 on a state

Grkacharian H., Hadjin, si on t'oublie..., Chamigny, 2012, p. 27.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Turkish Atrocities. The Young Turks and the Truth about the Holocaust at Adana in Asia Minor, during April, 1909. Written and compiled by Ferriman Duckett, Yerevan, 2009, p. 47.

level, which is one of the most important components of the genocide as a phenomenon, the refutation of the Turks version about the "rebellion" organized by the Armenians, and so on.

The memoirs of Rose Lambert are undoubtedly very interesting. That is why they have recently been translated into French and published in France<sup>3</sup>. As her memoirs had been published in English more than a century ago, in 1911, and had become a bibliographical rarity, the Institute of Armenological Studies of Yerevan State University preferred to republish it in the English language.

Varoujean Poghosyan

### **Preface**

No attempt has been made in this little book to do more than sketch lightly those events connected with the recent massacres of which the writer had personal experience. All questions relating to the political significance of these events and the new movement and developments in Turkey we have had to pass by. Requests have been so numerous, however, that in behalf of the Armenian people it has seemed best to accede to them, and record in this form something of the events of those days. The many whys and wherefores of the massacres we do not undertake to discuss, but for the sake of the orphans and widows – made such in those awful days – and in the hopes that more knowledge of them and what they endured may result in an awakened interest, which will in turn make the access of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to them wider and more prompt, this story has been told.

R. L. Elkhart, Ind.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Lambert R., Hadjine et les massacres des Arméniens, Chamigny, 2009.