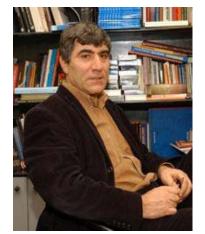


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Homenetmen Glendale Ararat Chapter Cultural Division

Get to Know...

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HRANT DINK

September 15, 1954 - January 19, 2007

Hrant Dink was born in Malatya, Turkey. Dink was best known for his role as editor of Agos, a Turkish and Armenian Language weekly in Istanbul. He worked as the columnist and editor-in chief of AGOS weekly newspaper, which can be regarded as the voice of Armenian community, from 1996 until January 19, 2007 when he was shot dead outside of his office. At the age of seven, he migrated to Istanbul together with his family. In Istanbul, his parents got divorced and he was raised by the Armenian Orphanage in Gedikpasa, Istanbul with his 2 siblings.

He got his primary and secondary education in Armenian schools. Immediately after secondary school, he got married to Rakel, a childhood friend from the orphanage. Hrant finished the Istanbul University's Science Faculty with a degree in zoology. He served 8 months with the Turkish Naval Infantry Regiment in Denizli to satisfy his mandatory military service. He had three children with his wife.

After graduating from Zoology Department of Istanbul University's Science Faculty, he continued his education at Philosophy Department of the same university's Literature Faculty for a while.

He started to publish the Turkish-Armenian weekly newspaper AGOS on April 5, 1996 to establish a bridge of communication and understanding between the larger Turkish population and the Turkish-Armenian community which he complained was living too isolated an existence.

He tried to make AGOS newspaper a democrat and oppositional voice of Turkey and also to share the injustices done to Armenian community with public opinion. He took part in various democratic platforms and civil society organizations. He was charged and convicted of insulting Turkishness in Turkey, charges which he denied. After his high profile trial, he was targeted by Turkish nationalists and murdered by gunshot to the head as he left his office. His son Arat now runs Agos and is now on trial for insulting Turkishness.

