


The background of the slide features a photograph of ancient stone ruins. On the left and right sides, there are tall, weathered stone walls. In the center, a dark, semi-transparent rectangular box contains the title text. Behind this box, a hill covered in dense green trees is visible under a bright sky. The foreground shows a rocky, uneven ground with some green grass and small plants.

# 20<sup>th</sup> Century Hellenic Genocide: Overview and Current Impact

Part of the AHEPA Seraphim Canoutas  
Lecture Series





# Overview and Big Picture

- Genocide from 1914-1923
- “The anti-Greek and the anti-Armenian persecution are two phases of...the same program, the extermination of the Christian element in Turkey.” – Johannes Lepsius, German Pastor, Missionary, Author
- Occurred in Asia Minor and Thrace
- Regional Recognitions: Asia Minor, Pontos, and Thrace
- “1.2 million killed or deported”
  - Death toll estimates: 500k-900k
  - Deportations: Almost 800,000

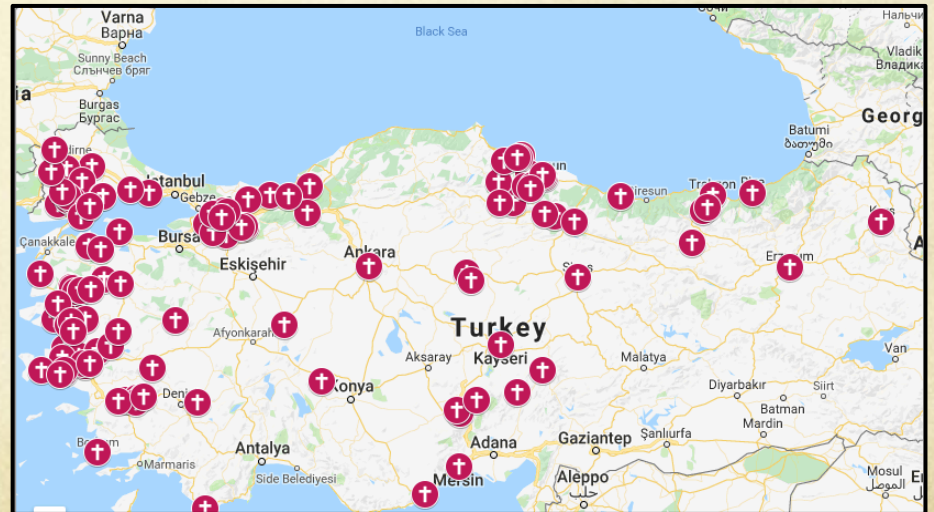


# Brief Geography



Left: Depicts the regions of the area, including Eastern Thrace (yellow), Asia Minor (blue), and Pontos (red)

Right: Map depicts massacres that occurred in the region between 1914-1923( some noted as early as 1912)



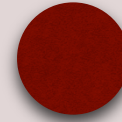
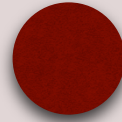
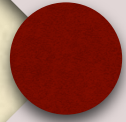
# Timeline of Major Events

1908: CUP comes to power

April 6, 1914: "Black Easter" in Eastern Thrace

1915: Conscription into labor battalions

1917: 30k deported from Aivali



1912: First known massacre (Aivali)

June 1914: Phocaea Massacre

1916: Deportation and killings begin in Pontos





# Timeline of Major Events (Post-WWI)

1919: CUP officers sentenced to death for crimes

1921: Deportations and killings in Samsun

July 24, 1923: Treaty of Lausanne signed

Late 1919: Mustafa Kemal sparks Turkish Nationalist Movement and pushes for “Turkification”

1922: Burning of Smyrna

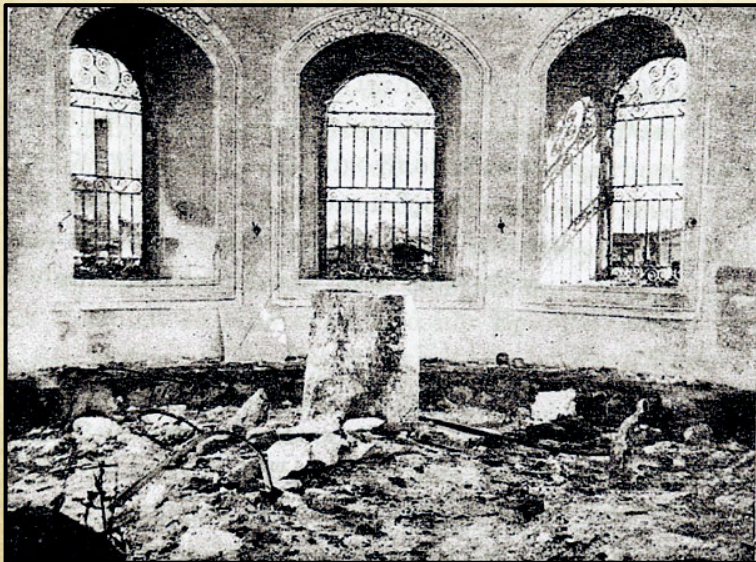




# Pictures



8,000  
Anatolian  
refugees  
sheltered in  
Syrian caves  
(left);  
Refugees of  
Anatolia circa  
1915-16  
(right)



Greek  
Orthodox  
Church set on  
fire by  
Turkish  
forces(left);  
Doped-up  
children  
found in  
Istanbul  
cellars (right)



Photo E. J. Harcastle



# Aftermath

- 1923 Population Exchange based on religious identity
- 1940s: Coining of the term “genocide”
- 1955: Istanbul Pogrom

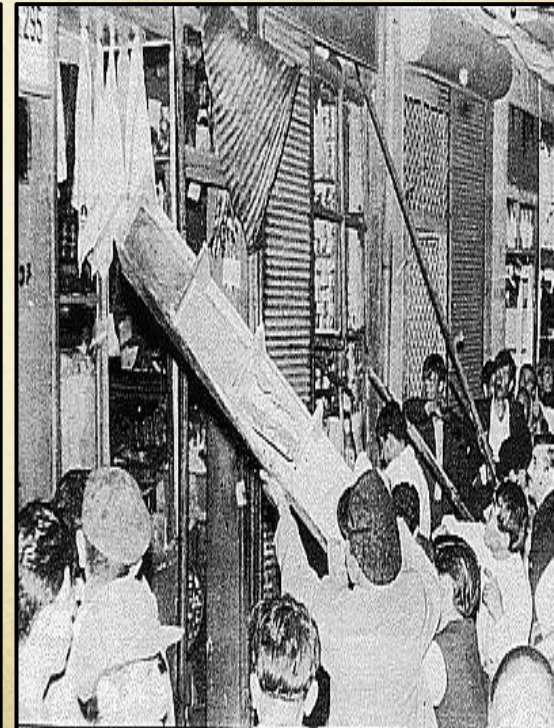


## **RAPHAEL LEMKIN ON THE GREEK AND ARMENIAN GENOCIDES**

*"By its very legal, moral and humanitarian nature, it [genocide] must be considered an international crime. The conscience of mankind has been shocked by this type of mass barbarity. There have been many instances of states expressing their concern about another state's treatment of its citizens. The United States rebuked the government of Czarist Russia as well as that of Rumania for the ghastly pogroms they instigated or tolerated. There was also diplomatic action in behalf of the **Greeks** and **Armenians** when they were being massacred by the Turks."*

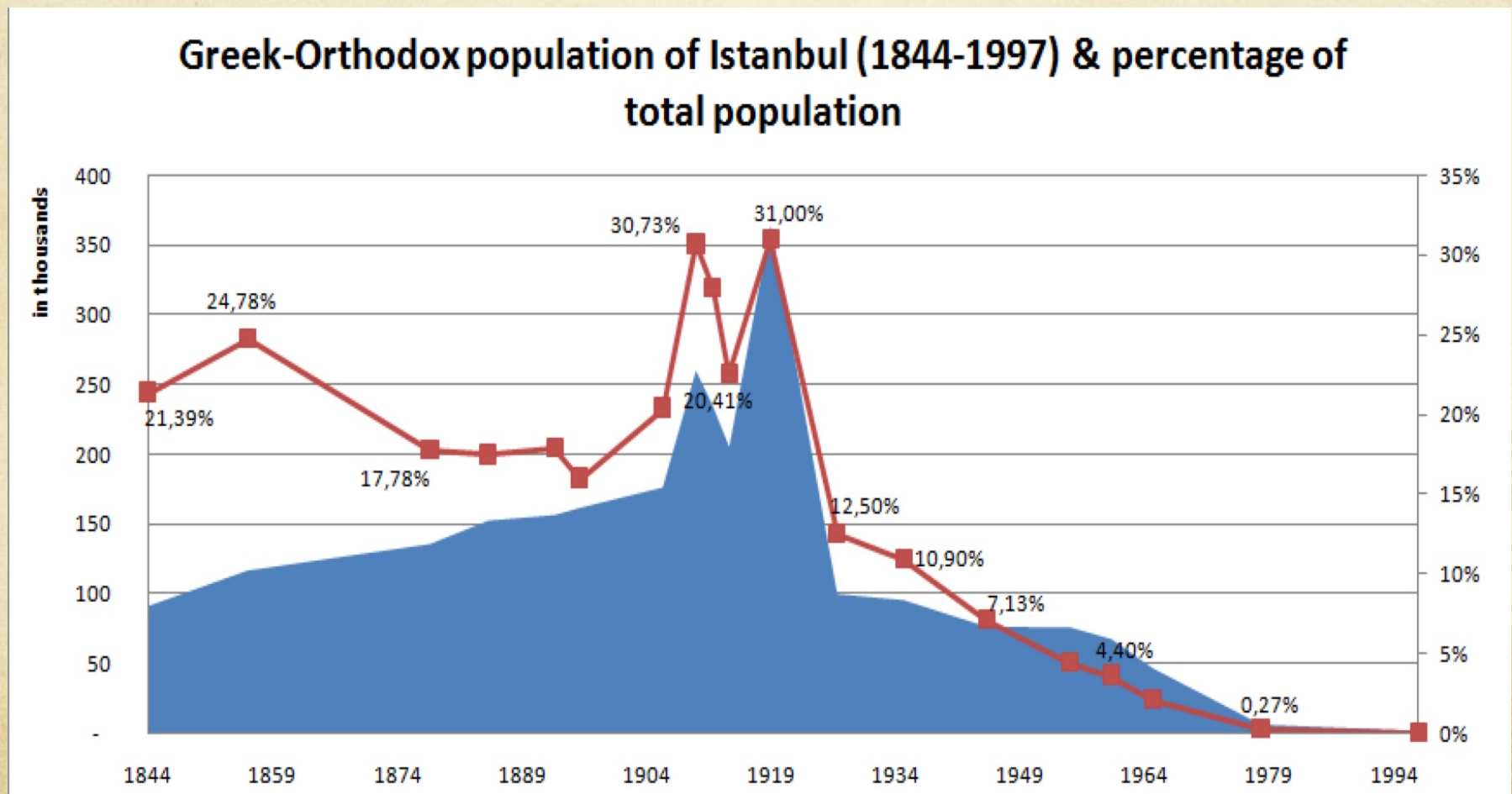
**- Raphael Lemkin**

*Source: American Scholar, Volume 15, no. 2 (April 1946), p. 227-230*



# Current Impact

## ○ Population Changes





# Current Impact

- Treaty of Lausanne and Border Disputes
  - Protection of religious minorities
  - “Grey zones”
  - Claims that treaty must be “modernized”
- Use of Rhetoric: “throw the Greeks into the sea”





# Recognition Efforts

- Regional Recognition
  - Asia Minor: September 14
  - Pontus: May 19
  - Eastern Thrace: April 6
- Armenian Recognition – April 24 is “Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day” in 48 U.S. states
- Full Recognition
  - State of South Dakota
- Push for Full Recognition – Florida, Rhode Island, and more

