

National Anthems Online

ARMENIA: Mer Hayrenik

Armenia - officially the Republic of Armenia - is a landlocked mountainous country in the Southern Caucasus, with Turkey to the west and Georgia to the north. Situated along the route of the Great Silk Road, it has impressive scenery with high mountains, caves, lakes and hot springs. Armenia is one of the oldest civilizations in the world and was the first nation to adopt Christianity as its official religion. Although Armenia is constitutionally a secular state, the Christian religion plays a major role in both its history and identity. Armenia adopted the "Mer Hayrenik" as its anthem upon regaining independence from the Soviet Union in 1991.

"Mer Hayrenik" means "Our Fatherland": the words are by Mikael Nalbandian (1829-1866) and the music by Barsegh Kanachyan, one of many Armenian composers, the most famous of whom are probably Aram Khatchaturian, Alan Hovhaness and Loris Tjeknavorian. In 2006 it was decided that Armenia should have a new national anthem. This was because the present one was evidently intended only as a temporary measure; the words were not composed by an Armenian, and there was concern that they do not reflect the modern Armenia. It has been suggested that the melody of the anthem of Soviet Armenia form the basis of a new anthem but at the time of publishing this arrangement it seems that no clear plan has yet emerged. Like other Soviet Republics, Armenia had its own anthem composed by Aram Khatchaturian which was in use until the fall of the Soviet Union in 1991.

Barsegh Kanachyan (1885-1967)
Arranged by Colin Kirkpatrick

♩ = 100

Part 1
f

Part 2
f

Part 3
f

Part 4
f

Part 5
f

Part 6
f

Timpani
f In Eb, Bb and C

Cymbals
f

Snare drum
f

Bass Drum
f

mf cresc.

mf cresc.

You may download the score and the instrumental parts free of charge, making as many copies as you need. However, these may not be subsequently sold. Feedback from users is always welcomed. If you would like to report any mistakes in the music, make comments or suggestions (in English) please contact Colin Kirkpatrick at doctorcolin@csloxinfo.com.

If you perform, record or broadcast this arrangement, please notify the Performing Rights Society (in the UK) or the equivalent performance rights organisation in your own country (e.g. [ASCAP](#) in the USA; [SOCAN](#) in Canada), listing the name of the anthem and the arranger.

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1
2
3
4
5
6
Timp.
Cym.
S.D.
B.D.

1
2
3
4
5
6
Timp.
Cym.
S.D.
B.D.