

Armenian Genocide 1915 – 1923

What was the Armenian Genocide?

The Armenian Genocide was the attempted elimination of the Armenian people by the political party in power in the Ottoman Empire, now known as Turkey. It began in 1915 and ended in 1923 with a break of two years from 1918 to 1920.

What happened?

Armenian people were deported, tortured, murdered and starved to death. Most of the population was sent to the deserts in nearby Syria. Thousands died of thirst and hunger.

How many died?

It is estimated that 1,500,000 people died.

What happened to children?

The Minister of the Interior of the Ottoman Empire ordered that "All Armenians from five years upwards are to be taken out of the towns and slaughtered."

Without special protection, children were starved, poisoned, burned, and drowned. In some cases children were deliberately targeted so that future generations would be eliminated.

How did the international community respond?

There was very little response. Turkey continues to insist that they did not participate in the genocide of Armenians. Even now many governments are reluctant to acknowledge that what happened in Armenia was genocide. Canada did not recognize the Armenian genocide until 2004. President Obama still refused to use the word "genocide" to describe what happened in Armenia.

- Beyonce video:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F60m4quv5pw>
- Frequently Asked Questions About the Armenian Genocide:
<http://www.armenian-genocide.org/genocidfaq.html>