



By His Excellency JOHN G. ROWLAND, Governor: an

Official Statement

From 1915 to 1923, perhaps as many as 1.5 million Armenians — well over half of the population — were exterminated in a systematic campaign engineered by the Young Turk regime. In addition, up to 500,000 more Armenians were driven into permanent exile.

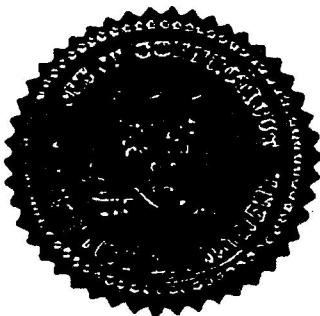
The Armenians were rounded up and imprisoned, forced into death marches and massacred. They were carried to remote areas, where they were left to die of starvation. Armenian women and children were raped and mutilated.

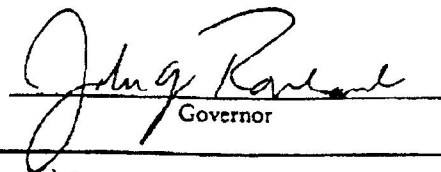
It is critical that we recognize and condemn this genocide — a methodical extermination of a people.

This forgotten Armenian genocide deserves greater investigation and attention by academia and the public, and clear condemnation by all freedom-loving governments and peoples.

Each year, Armenians throughout the world honor those who perished from 1915 to 1923. All the world's people should commemorate the Armenian genocide because it stands as an ugly testament to man's inhumanity to man. It is an historic event that people must remember and continue to learn from.

Therefore, to commemorate the 82nd anniversary of the Armenian genocide of 1915-1923 and to increase awareness of this holocaust, I, John G. Rowland, Governor of the State of Connecticut, do hereby officially designate April 24, 1997 as ARMENIAN CAUSE DAY in the State of Connecticut.




Governor