



PRIME MINISTER · PREMIER MINISTRE

April 19, 2006

Statement from Prime Minister on Day of Commemoration of Armenian Genocide

*I would like to extend my sincere greetings to all of those marking this sombre anniversary of the **Medz Yeghern**.*

Ninety-one years ago the Armenian people experienced terrible suffering and loss of life. In recent years the Senate of Canada adopted a motion acknowledging this period as “the first genocide of the twentieth century,” while the House of Commons adopted a motion that “acknowledges the Armenian genocide of 1915 and condemns this act as a crime against humanity.” My party and I supported those resolutions and continue to recognize them today.

We must never forget the lessons of history, nor should we allow the enmities of history to divide us. The freedom, democracy, and human rights enjoyed by all Canadians are rooted in our mutual respect for one another.

I join with you today in remembering the past and I encourage you to continue honouring your forefathers by building a bright future for all Canadians.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen Harper".

*The Right Honourable Stephen Harper, P.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada*