

## **Former Armenian President, Levon Ter-Petrossian, Acknowledges Armenian role in Azerbaijani Ethnic Cleansing in Nagorno-Karabakh**

Armenia's first president, Levon Ter-Petrossian, openly boasted about the ethnic cleansing of Azerbaijanis from Armenia in 1993, stating: 'We resolved a 600-year-old problem for the Armenian people by cleansing Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh of Azerbaijanis. We completely removed Azerbaijanis from all formerly Azerbaijani-majority regions of Armenia, including Masis, Amasia, and Syunik.'

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JR4yhACAICE>



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Video of former President of Armenia Levon-Ter Petrosyan confessing to ethnic cleansing against non-Armenians in Armenia and the Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan at the congress of the terrorist organization "Yerkrapa" in 1993 was revealed 31 years later, it led to serious debate. Yerkrapa was founded by Armenia's first defense minister, Vazgen Sargsyan, following independence in 1991. It consisted of Armenian volunteers. This terrorist organization played an active role in the occupation of Azerbaijan territories and the Khojaly genocide.

“Armenia and Karabakh have been completely cleansed of other nations (meaning Azerbaijanis – ed.). I repeat once again, this was a 600-year-old problem. Its significance will be felt by the Armenian people for another 600 years. Imagine, if today in Armenia there were 170,000 people of other nationalities (Azerbaijanis – ed.) who were here before 1988, we would not have a state today. We would not be able to protect our northern and eastern regions, to defend the Sevan area. Moreover, we would have three new problems here. Remember that in three regions Azerbaijanis made up the majority – Vardenis, Masis, and Amasya. They formed a significant portion in the Zangezur corridor.

And this problem has been solved. It didn't come to us as a gift from the heavens. This problem was solved by our movement. The national liberation struggle of our people. The Armenian national movement and its military wing – our self-defense units, 'Yerkrapah.' The same thing in Artsakh. Today, the entire territory of Artsakh, and much more, is in the hands of Armenians,” he emphasized.

Note: The Friedlander Group LLC has filed registration statements under the Foreign Agents Registration Act with regard to its representation and dissemination of information on behalf of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Additional information is on file with the Foreign Agents Registration Unit of the Department of Justice in Washington, DC.