

ARMENIAN HISTORIOGRAPHY OF THE LATE MEDIEVAL AND EARLY  
MODERN AGES: ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND PROSPECTS

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Modern Armenian historiography has made great strides towards a better history of the Armenian people throughout the ages. There have appeared detailed, regional histories as well as surveys of general nature, where there is a greater emphasis on the ancient period. This is not to say that the middle and modern eras have been neglected, but there is room for improvement.

Broadly speaking, this paper will deal with Armenian ecclesiastical administration, especially in Western Armenia and the western parts of Asia Minor, both before and after the rise of the Ottoman Empire. It will focus on the ecclesiastical administrative network of the Church of Armenia in an attempt to shed some light on the inadequately documented statements and references to the political role played by the Church; its jurisdiction and hierarchies; as well as the ways in which the Church tried to administer, organize and represent its adherents under foreign rule. The paper will emphasize and illustrate certain approaches to the topic at hand, with some general observations on patterns of approach and treatment in modern and contemporary Armenian historiography.