

In the first monograph¹ of my projected trilogy, itself a follow-up to *Literary Responses to Catastrophe: A Comparison of the Armenian and the Jewish Experience*,² I focus on the literary responses of generations of Diasporan Armenian survivors to the traumatic past of their parents and grandparents. I trace the transmission, from the first generation to the next and the next, of the lingering pain and the memory of having survived a cataclysm that was later recognized as the first large-scale genocide of the twentieth century.³

In the present volume, the second in the trilogy, I shift my focus to trace the effects of that past traumatic experience on the formation and metamorphosis of the identity of generations of Armenian survivors who continued living in Turkey. I have therefore chosen “The Metamorphosis of the

¹ Forthcoming. (The aforementioned monograph was published before the present 2nd edition and was titled *The Armenian Genocide in Literature, Perceptions of Those who Lived Through the Years of Calamity*.)

² *Literary Responses to Catastrophe* was an expanded version of my dissertation submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for a doctoral degree at the University of California, Los Angeles, in June of 1989. The book was published in 1993, under the auspices of the Von Grunebaum Center for Near Eastern Studies at UCLA, by Scholars Press in Atlanta, Georgia.

³ Despite this scheme for the first monograph, projected in the 2008 edition of the present book, the published monograph, *The Armenian Genocide in Literature*, covers the literary responses of the first generation survivor-writers and the Orphan Generation, as well as an extensive discussion of a number of survivors' memoirs. The literary responses of the second and third generation Diasporan survivor-writers will be discussed in a future volume, thus turning the projected trilogy into a quartet.