

Father Boghos Lévon Zékiyan



Father **Boghos Lévon Zékiyan** (born October 21, 1943, in Constantinople) is an armenologist, philosopher, Professor of Armenian Language and Literature at Ca' Foscari University of Venice, Pontifical Oriental Institute of Rome and Istanbul University, a member of the Academy of Venice, Foreign member of Armenian National Academy of Sciences, Corresponding member of the Istituto Veneto di Scienze, Lettere ed Arti (1992). He is the Armenian Catholic Archeparch of Istanbul. Zekiyan is the Founding President of the Associazione "Padus-Araxes", the director of Summer Intensive Course of the Armenian Language and Culture at the University of Venice (since 1986), the editor of *Hye Endanik* (1974–82) and *Bazmavep* (1980-1985) periodicals.

Biography

Boghos Levon Zekiyan was born in 1943. He finished the Mekhitarist Seminary of San Lazzaro degli Armeni (1959) and Pontificia Università Gregoriana, Rome (Master in Philosophy (1962), and in Theology (1966)). He was ordained a priest in 1967.

He completed his PhD "The Principle of Interiority in St. Augustine's Theory of Knowledge and the self-knowledge of the knowing subject" at the State University of Istanbul in 1973. From 1982 to 1985 he was the Principal of Moorat-Raphael College. He was the Secretary of the Armenian Academy of the Mekhitarist Fathers at San Lazzaro in Venice (1974–81).

Scholarly interests include Armenian studies including literature and philology, history and identity, as well as philosophical and theological issues.

In 2014 Pope Francis appointed Archpriest Levon Zekiyan as apostolic administrator "sede plena" of the archieparchy of Istanbul of the Armenians, Turkey, elevating him to the dignity of Archbishop.

He knows Armenian (old, modern), Italian, French, English, German, Turkish, Russian and Modern Greek (both elementary), Georgian (initial), Latin, Old Greek, Biblical Hebrew (element.).

Publications

- The first steps of Modern Armenian Theatre and the Movement of Armenian Rebirth in the 18 th century, Venice, 1975 (in Armenian).
- An Ecumenical Dialogue in the 12 th Century. The negotiations between St. Nerses Shnorhali and the Imperial Legate Theorianos in view of the Union of Churches, Venice, 1978 (in Armenian).
- Augustinian interiorism. The ontopsychological structure of the Augustinian interiorism and "memoria sui", Genova, 1980 (in Italian).

- Humanism. Conceptual contents and historic roots, Istanbul, 1981 (in Turkish).
- The Armenian way to modernity. Armenian identity between tradition and innovation, specificity and universality, Venice, 1997 (in English).
- Dialectics between Value and contingency. From cultural phenomenology towards an axiological refunding, Naples, 1998 (in Italian).
- Armenia and the Armenians : Restless «polis» and Spiritual Homeland. The challenge of a Survival, Milano, 2000 (in Italian).