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**Armenians celebrate 91st anniversary;
'Genocide committed by Turkey a crime against humanity'**

KUWAIT CITY: The genocide committed by Turkey against Armenians is a crime against humanity, says Archbishop Goriun Babian, the Armenian Prelacy of Kuwait and Arabian Gulf countries. Armenians all over the world commemorate genocide victims on April 24 and this year celebrate the 91st anniversary. Addressing a press conference at the Armenian Church on Sunday, Archbishop Babian added that "what angers the Armenians most is the fact that Turkey has not acknowledged the crimes committed against the Armenians.

This is the main reason why we have not been able to reach a peaceful agreement with Turkey and as result the Armenians are continuing to struggle." As part of the celebrations, the Armenian Youth Federation on Sunday organized a cultural programme at the church followed by a lecture focusing on the genocide. A high mass will be held at 11.30 am on Monday preceded by special prayer service for the martyrs.

Archbishop Babian went on to add that Armenians are grateful to Arabs because they took them under their wings and extended them their hospitality when they were being targeted by the Turks, adding a decree was issued by the Sharif of Makkah in order to safeguard the rights of Armenians. "I am a living testimony of the Armenian genocide. Both my parents survived the genocide and moved to Lebanon at the age of 5. I lost many members of my family during the genocide," added the Archbishop. Goriun said Turkey sentenced to death in absentia three of its top leaders who were involved in the genocide and that other perpetrators got 15 years in jail.

By Francis A. Clifford Cardozo - Arab Times Staff