

## 25 amazing facts «The Telegraph» probably didn't know about Armenia

*Dr. of Economics, Prof. Vahanyan G.A.*

It's 25 years (21 September 2016) since Armenia gained independence from the Soviet Union, and to mark the occasion **Telegraph Travel** has unearthed a few things you probably didn't know about the country. «**The Telegraph**» published an article entitled «**25 amazing things you probably didn't know about Armenia**».

It's mentioned in the article, that Armenia is home to the world's oldest winery. It is the first nation to adopt Christianity as the state religion. It has one of the oldest capitals and it boasts the largest lake in the Caucasus. This is a country, where Chess is part of the curriculum.

The authors remind, that it lost 1.5 million people during the Armenian Genocide in the Ottoman Empire. More Armenians leave abroad than in Armenia. According to the authors, Armenia and neighboring Azerbaijan are «technically still at war». It is mentioned that the principal national symbol of Armenia – Mount Ararat, is actually located within Turkey. Armenia has three UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Its bread lavash is placed on UNESCO's list of Intangible Cultural Heritage.

The results of the studies conducted in the last 10 years reveal new amazing facts that change the traditional views on Armenia. From this large list we propose 25 significant facts (table 1), which «The Telegraph» doesn't know. It is the country of the first Dwelling of God, of the virtual knowledge temples, where the descendants of Japheth, Tiras, Askanaz/Ashkenaz and Torgom/Togarmah, Hayk and Cadmus/Kadm transfer ancient knowledge, ensuring the prosperity of the generations. The country, where Vahagn fights for freedom and independence of a man.

**Table 1**

N	<i>25 amazing facts<sup>1</sup> you probably didn't know about Armenia (according to «The Telegraph»)</i>	<i>25 amazing facts about Armenia «The Telegraph» probably didn't know</i>
1.	It's home to the world's oldest winery	<b>The first man Vahagn – the dragonslayer and the thunderer, was born on the territory of Armenia, in the country of the Garden of Eden at the source of the four rivers.</b>

<sup>1</sup> The Telegraph. 25 amazing things you probably didn't know about Armenia. Online available from: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/travel/destinations/europe/articles/amazing-facts-you-probably-didnt-know-about-armenia/>

2.	It was the first nation to adopt Christianity...	<b>Rock Art, depicting the dragonslayer and the thunderer fighting a dragon/vishap, is first discovered in Armenia.</b>
3.	...And it has the churches to prove it	<b>Noah's sons settled on the Promised Land of Armenia.</b>
4.	Chess is part of the curriculum	<b>The children of Tiras (the son of Japheth): Askanaz is the forefather of the Sarmatians (Aesir); and Torgom is the forefather of the Vanir. Tiras is the forefather of Phrygia. The Aesir and the Vanir are sages and gods of the Ancient Scandinavians.</b>
5.	It lost 1.5 million people in the Armenian Genocide	<b>Tiras was the first to invent a script, based on which old alphabets of the world were created. Askanaz perceived ancient knowledge, and Torgom was the one to translate them.</b>
6.	More Armenians live abroad than in Armenia	<b>Tir (Tiras) is the diety/god of wisdom, knowledge and written language, worshipped in Ancient Armenia.</b>
7.	It has celebrity connections	<b>Hayk (the son of Torgom) was the first to build the Dwelling of God (Temple of Knowledge). He divided a year into 12 months, naming them after his children. Armenia is the first country to gain independence and freedom, as a result of the triumph of Hayk over Bel.</b>
8.	Armenians think they know where Noah's Ark is	<b>Cadmus (the grandson of Hayk) used Tiras's script (Danielian script) to create the Phoenician and the Greek alphabets.</b>
9.	Its national symbol is in Turkey	<b>Phoenicia and Cilicia are named after two brothers of Cadmus – Phoenix and Cilix; and Europe – after their sister, abducted by Zeus. Asia and the Caucasus are named after Askanaz.</b>
10.	It has one of the world's oldest	<b>For stealing fire and spreading ancient knowledge among the people,</b>

	capitals...	<b>Zeus ordered to bind Prometheus to the Caucasus Mountains.</b>
11.	...Which is known as the “Pink City”	<b>The ship of the Argonauts sailed to the Caucasus (Colchis) in search of ancient knowledge.</b>
12.	Churchill had a taste for Armenian cognac...	<b>The sons of Europe and Zeus are the rulers of Crete and the founders of the ancient civilization.</b>
13.	In fact Armenian cognac oiled the wheels of Yalta	<b>Beautiful Astghik, the bride of Vahagn, is the god of fertility, motherhood, loyalty and devotion.</b>
14.	It has a record-breaking cable car	<b>Dionysus, the god of wine, is the grandson of Cadmus</b>
15.	It’s technically at war	<b>The principles of Natural Philosophy and Metaphysics, as well as the concept of the four elements – forces of nature, are first presented in the Armenian Rock Art and are described in the song “Birth of Vahagn”.</b>
16.	You can go skiing there	<b>The number of manuscripts per capita (100.000) in Medieval Armenia was 10 times greater than in all the Christian countries.</b>
17.	It’s big on birds	<b>Arithmetic tables of Anania Shirakatsi are considered the oldest in the world.</b>
18.	The people are as hard as nails	<b>The Armenians invented a unique construction of boats, made of leather and willow branches, grown in Armenia.</b>
19.	They like Shakira (sort of)	<b>Armenia – is the country, that first realized the greatness of the One God.</b>
20.	Its bread is Unesco-listed	<b>The Aesir (descending from Askanaz) and the Vanir (descending from Torgom) – are the konungs (kings) of the Nordic countries.</b>
21.	It boasts the largest lake in the	<b>Odin (Aesir) created the Runes.</b>

	Caucasus	
22.	Its women are the sexiest in the world	<b>Sveigdir (Vanir) found the house of Odin, where he met his kinsmen. Sveigdir brought his wife, Vana, to Sweden. Later they had a son – Vanlandi.</b>
23.	They don't have much luck with the footy	<b>The most ancient cultural monuments – vishap-stones (dragon-stones) and cross-stones, are created in Armenia.</b>
24.	It has three Unesco World Heritage Sites	<b>Matenadaran –the largest repository of ancient Armenian manuscripts (over 17 thousand manuscripts and 100 thousand archival documents), is located in the Capital of Armenia.</b>
25.	There's an Armenian alphabet monument	<b>The name of the “Milky Way” is associated with the name of Vahagn. The notion “academy” and the chemical element “cadmium” are named after Cadmus.</b>