

Attention:
Foreign Affairs
Legislative Aide



Armenian National Committee of America
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

To: Friends
From: Aram Hamparian, Executive Director
Date: January 26, 2006

**Re: Leading Archaeologists condemn Azerbaijan's
desecration of sacred Armenian cemetery**

I wanted to share with you news of a three-page letter sent to the ANCA today by a group of archaeologists condemning the Azerbaijani destruction of the Armenian cemetery in Djulfa as **“an assault upon the common cultural heritage of humanity.”**

The archaeologists signing the letter - including scholars from **Brown University, University of Chicago, University of Michigan, Wellesley College, and the Cotsen Institute of Archaeology** - collectively have over two decades of experience working in the South Caucasus. In their letter, they **“call upon the government of Azerbaijan to immediately commission an international team of conservators and archaeologists to restore the site.”**

Copies of the letter are being forwarded to UNESCO, the World Monuments Fund, the Ambassadors of the United States to Azerbaijan and Armenia, the Ambassadors of Armenia and Azerbaijan to the United States, the presidents of the Archaeological Institute of America, the Society for American Archaeology, the American Anthropological Association, and the European Association of Archaeologists - all of whom are being called upon to lend their voices in condemning the destruction of the cemetery at Djulfa.

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