

The Armenian Massacres of 1909: Prelude to Genocide?

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Spontaneous public outbreaks were the primary cause of the massacres in Adana and the adjacent Aleppo province in 1909. Recent scholarship has insisted on continuity between the 1909 and the Great War events (esp. 1915-1916), depicting them as planned and executed by the government and the Turkist nationalist party (the Committee of Union and Progress, CUP). The talk challenges these conclusions, shifts attention to other similarities, and speculates how 1909 may contribute to a better understanding of the larger tragedy that followed during the Great War.

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