

Today's Martyrs – April 1916

Sunday April 2, 1916



Turkey: Islahiye

Bishop Grigoris Balakian (aged 41, arrested in [Constantinople](#) on [April 24, 1915](#), later deported to Cankiri and then Deir ez-Zor, on the way was told of the plans for the Armenian genocide, **UPDATE**: escaped from the death march, later that day passed a railroad construction site where hundreds of Armenian women and children in rags manually crushed stones for starvation rations, infants were denied milk while their mothers worked)

Setrak Shakhian (aged 65, merchant from Cankiri, husband, father, aided Bishop Grigoris Balakian in his escape from the death march, refused to escape with him, said "...I can't walk for long, so you may be endangered on my account. Your life is precious - mine is pretty much over. Save yourself and write the history of our suffering, let the future generations know...", survived the genocide)

Turkey: Ayrar

Mrs. Soghomonian (elderly seamstress, mother of a son and two daughters, entire family employed by the German railroad, hid Bishop Grigoris Balakian in her home despite risk of death, **died of typhus** the following month)

https://openlibrary.org/books/OL26219878M/Armenian_Golgotha

Friday April 7, 1916



Turkey: Ayrar

Bishop Grigoris Balakian (aged 41, arrested in [Constantinople](#) on [April 24, 1915](#), later deported to Cankiri and then Deir ez-Zor, on the way was told of the plans for the Armenian genocide; escaped from the death march in [Islahiye](#) on [April 2, 1916](#), later that day passed a German railroad construction site where hundreds of Armenian women and children in rags manually crushed stones for starvation rations, infants were denied milk while their mothers worked, hid in the home of Mrs. Soghomonian despite risk of death)

to her family; **UPDATE:** left the Soghomonian home and began employment with the railroad)

https://openlibrary.org/books/OL26219878M/Armenian_Golgotha

April 1916, date unknown