

**Philip O Hopkins**  
*Associate Professor of Church History*  
**Gateway Seminary**  
*Lecturer of Christianity and Islam*  
**Russian-Armenian (Slavonic) University**  
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I am an American religious historian living in Yerevan, Armenia who analyzes ethnic and minority peoples and population segments in Iran, Turkey, and the Caucasus area. My main interest concerns how Christians in Iran – both ethnic Christians and those who have converted to Christianity – interact among themselves and among the general population.

### **Education**

- University of St Andrews – PhD (Iranian History) 2019
- Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary – PhD (Applied Theology) 2005
- Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary – MA (Christian Education) 1998
- The King’s College – BA (History) 1995

### **PhD Dissertations**

- University of St Andrews: “Can I Play with Madness: American Missionaries in Iran during the 1960s and 1970s”
- Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary: “Missions for the Glory of God: An Analysis of the Missionary Theology of John Piper”

### **Research and Teaching Interests**

- History: modern Iran, Christianity in Armenia and Iran, history of Christian missions, church history in the East and West
- Theology: Christian/Muslim relations, theology of Christian missions, comparative religions, religions in Iran, Turkey, and the Caucasus, persecuted minorities and religions

### **Research and Teaching Experience**

- *Associate Professor of Church History*, Gateway Seminary (Ontario, CA), 2019-Present
  - Courses:
    - Engaging Global Cities
    - History and Theology of Islam
    - Introduction to Church History
    - Islamic Worldview and Culture
  - Courses in preparation/prepared to teach:
    - Christianity and Islam
    - Comparative Religions
    - History of Christian Missions
    - Introduction to Islam
    - Introduction to Missiology
    - Introduction to Missions History

- Introduction to Worldviews
- History of Armenian Christianity
- History of Christianity in Asia
- History of Christianity in Iran
- History of Christianity in Central Asia
- Minority Peoples in Iran
- Monotheism in Iran
- Religions in Iran
- Theology of Christian Missions
- *Lecturer of Christianity and Islam, History of Ideas, and Worldviews*, Institute of Oriental Studies, Russian-Armenian (Slavonic) State University (Yerevan, Armenia), 2017-Present
  - Courses
    - Philosophy of Religion and Worldviews
    - Ethno-Philosophical Systems in Modern Times: Armenia, Iran, and Turkey
  - Editor for Russian-Armenian University's various English publications
  - Student Advisor
- *Research Associate*, Centre for World Christianity, School of Oriental and African Studies (University of London), 2018-2020
- *Adjunct Professor, Online Program*, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary (Wake Forest, NC), 2015
  - Course: Introduction to Missiology
- *Adjunct Professor, Online Program*, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, (Ft Worth, TX) 2010-2011
  - Course: Comparative Religions
- *Ghost Writer, Iran and the Caucasus* (Brill), 2007-Present
- *Adjunct Professor*, European Regional Academy of the Caucasus, Language Center (Yerevan, Armenia), 2006-2007
  - Course: Contemporary World Events
  - Student and academic advisor
- *Adjunct Instructor, Applied Theology*, Southeastern College at Wake Forest (Wake Forest, NC), 2004-2005
  - Course: History of Christian Missions
- *Teaching Fellow*, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary (Wake Forest, NC), 1999-2005
  - Courses:
    - Central Asia Studies
    - Cross-Cultural Communication
    - East Asia Studies
    - History of Christian Missions
    - Introduction to Anthropology
    - Introduction to Ethnography
    - Introduction to Evangelism
    - Introduction to Methodology
    - Introduction to Missiology
    - Theology of Christian Missions

- Other:
  - Several practicums
  - ThM theses
  - DMin theses

### Professional Experience

- *PhD Supervisor* (Theology), Asian Graduate School of Theology (Penang, Malaysia), 2022-Present
- *Editor, Yerevan Oriental Series*, 2021-Present
- *Editorial Board, Iran and the Caucasus* (Brill), 2015-Present
- *Founder and Managing Director*, Academics in Culture and Tourism, an educational consulting firm, 2005-Present
- United States Postal Service, 2000-2005; *Managing Director*, 2004-2005

### Refereed Journal Articles

- “An Overview of the Missions Activities of the Southern Baptist Convention’s Foreign Mission Board in Iran,” *Iran and the Caucasus* 22:2 (2018): 168-76.
- “Iran’s Ethnic Christians: The Assyrians and The Armenians,” *Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society* 61:1 (2018): 137-52. Translation into Korean by Simon Lee in *Silk Wave Mission* (Sept 2021).
- “Modern Western Christian Missions in Iran: The Connection Between Government and Missionary,” *Iran and the Caucasus* 19:4 (2015): 299-309.
- “On Why the United States Should Not Attack Iran: A Conservative, Evangelical Christian Response,” co-written with Bruce R Ashford, *The Quarterly Journal of Political Studies of Islamic World* 1:1 [Imam Khomeini International University Qazvin, Iran] (Spring 2012): 21-33.

### Books and Book Chapters

- “The Forgotten Armenians,” in *The Ethno-Cultural Others of Turkey: Contemporary Reflections*, ed. by Ahmet Kerim Gultekin and Cakir Ceyhan Suvari (Yerevan: Russian-Armenian University Press, 2021), 249-68. See: [https://orient.rau.am/uploads/institute/pdf/files/THE%20ETHNO-CULTURAL%20OTHERS%20OF%20TURKEY%20\(2\)YDLyp2sIjT1C3Pp1625408802.pdf](https://orient.rau.am/uploads/institute/pdf/files/THE%20ETHNO-CULTURAL%20OTHERS%20OF%20TURKEY%20(2)YDLyp2sIjT1C3Pp1625408802.pdf). Translated into Turkey by Erdogan Boz (Estimated in 2022) and Russian.
- *American Missionaries in Iran during the 1960s and 1970s* (London: Palgrave MacMillan), 2020.
- “Mission to Unreached People Groups,” in *The Mission of God*, ed. by Bruce R Ashford (Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2011), 173-85.
- *God’s Desire for the Nations: The Missionary Theology of John Piper* (Gonzalez, FL: Energion, 2010).

### Professional Presentations and Interviews

- “The Armenians in the Ottoman Empire and Modern Day Turkey,” *International Conference on the Ethno-Cultural Others of Turkey, Yerevan Oriental Series at Russian-Armenian University*, forthcoming.

- “The Calvinist Understanding of the Doctrine of Election in Relation to the Proclamation of the Gospel,” *International Conference on Practical Theology*, Qom, Iran, 6-7 March 2022.
- Interview with Mohsen Kadivar [research professor at Duke University and Iranian exile], “Theological Reflections of Islam in the Modern World,” *Duke University*, Durham, NC, 25 Feb 2022.
- Interviewed by Mohammad Memarian, “Christian Missions of a Dubious Nature,” *Iran Daily* [an English written Iranian newspaper published in Tehran], 24 January 2022: 6, <https://newspaper.irandaily.ir/Newspaper/Page/6946/6/169288/0>.
- Interview with Fatima Tofighi [assistant professor of religious studies at the University of Religions in Qom, Iran], “Islam and Modernization, Theological Considerations: A Woman’s Role in Islam in Relation to a Woman’s Role in Christianity,” *University of Religions*, Qom, Iran, 9 Nov 2021, <https://vimeo.com/643914111>.
- Interview with Seyyed Hossein Nasr [one of the most important Iranian Muslim academics in the world], “What is Islam and Its Relation to Christianity and the Modern World,” *George Washington University*, Washington DC, 28 Oct 2021.
- “The Transitioning Model of American Christianity in Iran during the Last Years of the Pahlavis,” *25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Iran and the Caucasus* (Brill), 1 June 2021, Yerevan, Armenia.
- “In the Absence of Evidence: Mill and James Against Hume’s ‘On Miracles’ in Conversation with Ancient Voices and Sacred Texts”, with Adam Groza, *International Conference of Rationality, Theism and Atheism*, The Institute of Iranian Philosophy, 1-2 March 2021, Tehran, Iran.
- “Proselytization Efforts of American Protestant Missionaries in Iran during the Last Years of the Pahlavis,” *2020 Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion*, 21-24 Nov 2020, Boston, MA.
- “The Dangers of Expatriate Iranian Messianic Jews Being Deported from the United States to Iran,” unpublished paper, part of information used in a federal court case, 21 Aug 2019, East Palo Alto, CA.
- “Christian Missions in Gorgan,” *Association for Iranian Studies Biennial Conference*; 14-17 Aug 2018, Irvine, CA.
- “Worldviews in Concept: A Comparison of Christianity and Islam,” *The Sixth International Conference on Contemporary Philosophy of Religion*; 6-7 February 2018; Tehran, Iran, [http://philorconf.org/2018/\\_docs/program\\_en.pdf](http://philorconf.org/2018/_docs/program_en.pdf) (submitted and accepted, but visa denied).
- “Southern Baptist Missions in Iran,” *The Association for the Study of Persianate Societies Biennial Conference*; 8-11 Sept 2015, Istanbul, Turkey.
- “Pain, Suffering, and Death to the Glory of God: An Explanation of Evangelical Theologian John Piper’s Understanding of the Problem of Evil,” *The International Conference on Contemporary Philosophy of Religion*; 23-24 December 2012, Tehran, Iran, [http://www.philorconf.org/2012/\\_docs/abstracts.pdf](http://www.philorconf.org/2012/_docs/abstracts.pdf) (submitted and accepted, but visa denied).
- “Geographical Issues Facing Israel and the Middle East: Eschatological Fulfillment of the Promises of Land Made to the Jews,” *International Conference: Middle East: Language, Literature, and History*, 20-21 Oct 2012, Yerevan, Armenia.

- “A Conservative, Evangelical Response to US Foreign Policy towards Iran,” *International Conference: The Turkic World, the Caucasus, and Iran – Crossroads of Civilizational Interaction*, 10-12 July 2009, Yerevan, Armenia.
- “Muslims and Christians Together: Pain Suffering and Death to the Glory of God,” *International Conference: Iran and the Caucasus: Unity and Diversity*, 6-8 June 2008, Yerevan, Armenia.
- “Inspiration,” *Macmillan Publishing Company*, 8 March 2007, Yerevan, Armenia.
- Interview with Keith R Parks [former president of the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention], Murfreesboro, NC, 4 April 2000. Transcript, *Southeastern SBC Historical Missiology Oral History Collection*, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, NC.

### Reviews

- *Prisons in Iran: A Known Unknown*, by Nahid Rahimpour Anaraki, *Iran and the Caucasus*, forthcoming.
- *Armenian Christians Today: Identity Politics and Popular Practice*, by Alexander Agadjanian, *Iran and the Caucasus*, forthcoming.
- *Eastern Armenian for English Speakers: Easy Guide to Master the Alphabet, Grammar and Vocabulary*, by A Mkhitarian and T Baghasaryan, *Iran and the Caucasus*, forthcoming.
- *Muslim-Christian Polemics in Safavid Iran*, by Alberto Tiburcio, *Iran and the Caucasus* 25:2 (2021): 313-16.
- *Confronting Christianity: 12 Hard Questions for the World’s Largest Religion*, by Rebecca McLaughlin, *Southeastern Theological Review* 11:1 (Spring 2020): 139-41.
- *Too Many to Jail: The Story of Iran’s New Christians*, by Mark Bradley, *Iran and the Caucasus* 21:2 (2017): 249-50.
- *The Carter Administration & the Fall of Iran’s Pahlavi Dynasty: US-Iran Relations on the Brink of the 1979 Revolution*, by Javier Gil Guerrero, *Iran and the Caucasus* 21:1 (2017): 118-19. Translated into Farsi, by Ali Mohammad Azadeh, *The Database of Islamic Republic of Iran’s Literature Office*, 18 Jan 2022, [http://22bahman.ir/show.php?page=post&id=22765#\\_ednref1](http://22bahman.ir/show.php?page=post&id=22765#_ednref1).
- *One Nation Under God: A Christian Hope for American Politics*, by Bruce Ashford and Chris Pappalardo, *Southeastern Theological Review* 7:1 (Summer 2016): 140-42.
- *The Child Catchers: Rescue, Trafficking, and the New Gospel of Adoption*, by Kathryn Joyce, *Southeastern Theological Review* 6:1 (Summer 2015): 124-26.
- *Religions of Iran: From Prehistory to the Present*, by Richard Foltz, *Iran and the Caucasus* 19:2 (2015): 199-200.
- *Iran: A Very Short Introduction*, by Ali Ansari, *Iran and the Caucasus* 19:1 (2015): 115-16.
- *The Politics of Nationalism in Modern Iran*, by Ali Ansari, *Iran and the Caucasus* 17:2 (2013): 235-37.
- *Christian Encounters with Iran: Engaging Muslim Thinkers after the Revolution*, by Sasan Tavassoli, *Southwestern Journal of Theology* 54:2 (2012): 241-43.

- *The Fervent Embrace: Liberal Protestants, Evangelicals, and Israel*, by Caitlin Carenen, *Southeastern Theological Review* 3:2 (Winter 2012): 271-72.
- *Non-Muslims in the Early Islamic Empire: From Surrender to Coexistence*, ed. by Milka Levy-Rubin, *Iran and the Caucasus* 16:1 (2012): 265-66.
- *Iran's Constitutional Revolution*, ed. by H. E. Chebabi and Vanessa Martin, *Iran and the Caucasus* 15:1 (2011): 337-41.
- *Hafiz and the Religion of Love in Classical Persian Poetry*, ed. by Leonard Lewisohn, *Iran and the Caucasus* 14:2 (2010): 452-54.
- *The World of Achaemenid Persia - History, Art and Society in Iran and the Ancient Near East*, ed. by John Curtis and St John Simpson, *Iran and the Caucasus* 14: 2 (2010): 459-60.
- *Yek-Sad-o Shast Sal Mobahrazeh bah Deeyahnet Bahia: Gooshah-yi az Tarikh Ejtamah'a-yi – Deeni Iran dar Dorahn Ma'ahsar* [160 Years of Persecution: An Overview of the Persecution of the Baha'is of Iran], by Fereyduun Vahman, *Iran and the Caucasus* 14:1 (2010): 192-95.
- *Dschidad im Kaukasus: Antikolonialer Widerstand der Dagestaner und Tschetschenen gegen Zarenreich (18 Jahrhundert bis 1859)* [Jihad in the Caucasus: Anti-Colonial Resistance of the Dagestanis and Chechens against Tsarist Russia (18th Century to 1859)], by Clemens P Sidorko, *Iran and the Caucasus* 13:2 (2009): 434 [written with pen name].
- *Herrschaft, Recht und Islam in Dagestan: Von den Khanaten und Gemeindebünden zum gihad-Staat* [Rule, Law and Islam in Dagestan: Khanates and Municipal Federations of the Jihad State], by Michael Kemper, *Iran and the Caucasus* 13:2 (2009): 432 [written with pen name].
- *Horses in Asia: History, Trade and Culture*, ed. by Bert G Fragner, Ralph Kauz, Roderich Ptak, and Angela Schottenhammer, *Iran and the Caucasus* 13:2 (2009): 415-17.
- *Osmanismus, Nationalismus und der Kaukasus: Muslime und Christen, Türken und Armenier im 19. und 20 Jahrhundert* [Ottomanism, Nationalism and the Caucasus: Muslims and Christians, Turks and Armenians in the 19th and 20th Centuries], ed. by Adanir Fikret and Bernd Bonwetsch, *Iran and the Caucasus* 13:2 (2009): 433.
- *The Ayatollah Begs to Differ: The Paradox of Modern Iran* by Hooman Majd, in *Iran and the Caucasus* 13:1 (2009): 225-26.
- *Al-Qaeda: The True Story of Radical Islam*, by Jason Burke, *Iran and the Caucasus* 13:1 (2009): 227-28.
- *Method and Theory in the Study of Islamic Origins*, ed. by Herbert Berg, *Iran and the Caucasus* 12:1 (2008): 153-57.
- *The Brill Dictionary of Religion*, ed. by Kocku von Stuckrad, *Iran and the Caucasus* 11:2 (2007): 315-18.

### **Internet, Unpublished, and Popular Articles**

- *A Lesson American Evangelicals Can Learn from Iranian Christians Regarding Making Religious Liberty an Idol*, 25 Sept 2018, *Academics Connecting Together*, <https://www.donyahiran.com/religious-liberty>. See also: *Reformed Perspectives Magazine* 20:50 (9-15 Dec 2018), [http://reformedperspectives.org/articles/phi\\_hopkins/phi\\_hopkins.iranianchristians.html](http://reformedperspectives.org/articles/phi_hopkins/phi_hopkins.iranianchristians.html).

- *Revival and Awakening: American Evangelical Missionaries in Iran and the Origins of Assyrian Nationalism*, by Adam H Becker, 21 June 2018, *Academics Connecting Together*, <http://www.donyahiran.com/revival-and-awakening>.
- *Armenian Christianity in Iran*, 17 April 2017, <http://www.donyahiran.com/armenian-christianity>.
- *An Introduction to the History of Christianity in Iran*, 20 July 2015, *Academics Connecting Together*, <http://www.donyahiran.com/christianity-in-iran>.
- “Did Islam Conquer Christianity in Iran? A Response to Jon Pentecost,” PCI Conference, 2014 [written with pen name].
- *Texts, Documents and Artefacts: Islamic Studies in Honour of D S Richards*, ed by Chase E Robinson, *Academics Connecting Together*, 18 May 2012, <http://www.donyahiran.com/islamic-studies>.
- *The Ayatollah’s Democracy: An Iranian Challenge*, by Hooman Majd, *Academics Connecting Together*, 18 May 2012, <http://www.donyahiran.com/ayatollahs-democracy>; also in *Between the Times*, 5 February 2011, <http://between.thetimes.sebts.edu/index.php/tag/the-ayatollahs-democracy/>.
- *The Oxford Handbook of Iranian History*, ed. by Touraj Daryaee, *Academics Connecting Together*, 5 May 2012, <http://www.donyahiran.com/oxford-history-of-iran>.

#### **Academic Affiliations/Memberships**

- American Academy of Religion
- Association for Iranian Studies
- The Association for the Study of Persianate Societies
- British Institute of Persian Studies
- Evangelical Theological Society

#### **Miscellaneous**

- Grant: *Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives Study Grant*, Nashville, Tennessee, April 2016
- Fundraising and administration responsibilities for a charity since 2005
- Places lived outside the United States:
  1. Armenia (2020-Present)
  2. United Kingdom (2011-2020)
  3. Turkey (2009-2011)
  4. Armenia (2005-2009)
- Places visited outside the US: Asia (China, Japan, Thailand, South Korea), Europe (Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Russia, Spain, United Kingdom), Middle East (Armenia, Iran, Turkey, United Arab Emirates); North America (Canada)
- Various volunteer activities with non-profit charities that include managing overseas projects and budgets, enlisting speakers for conferences, and teaching inner city students
- Hobbies: running, dog training, playing bass guitar, writing music