

# ARSHAG DICKRANIAN

## BIOGRAPHICAL PROFILE



ECHOES & REFLECTIONS

TEACHING THE HOLOCAUST. INSPIRING THE CLASSROOM.



Arshag Dickranian was born in 1905, in Izmit (Kocaeli, Turkey). The city was diverse, albeit segregated; Armenians, Greeks, Jews and Turks, all lived there. In 1915, his family and 20,000 other Armenians were transported from Adaparazi, Turkey to Eskişehir, Turkey via cow dung-laden wagons. Arshag and the other targeted Armenians remained in Eskişehir for approximately three days without any shelter and were then transported by wagons to Konya, Turkey, where they lived in a camp. The family was continually able to evade deportation through bribery. Eventually, they were able to move out of the camp and into the village. Arshag and his family frequently changed houses to evade capture. They lived in Konya for four years. Arshag was able to attend school, illegally, in an attic schoolhouse in the Armenian community. For safety reasons, Arshag's father sent him to Istanbul when he was 13 years old. The family immigrated to the United States in 1923. Arshag was interviewed by the Armenian Film Foundation on November 29, 1984, in Beverly Hills, California.