Sona Haroutyunian is a professor of Armenian language and literature at the Ca’Foscari University of Venice. Her research interests include Translation Studies, Linguistics, Trauma and Literature, Migration Studies. She received her first Ph.D. in philology (Yerevan State University) and her second Ph.D. in linguistics (University of Venice). She has been visiting professor at UCLA, at California State University Fresno and at Yerevan State University. She has given courses and seminars as well as presented papers at international conferences in Armenia, France, Hungary, Italy, Malta, Poland, Switzerland, Taiwan, and USA. Author of many scholarly papers as well as of translated books, recently she has published her monograph on the literary expression of the historical event and its translation concentrating on the presentation of Armenian Genocide within Italian Literature.

In many diasporic communities, the Armenian Genocide stories appeared long after the traumatic events of 1915. The survivors often found it extremely difficult to speak at length and in depth about their profoundly painful experiences and memories. They waited for decades to share the trauma through oral history and written memoirs. This is also the case of the Armenian Genocide survivors who took refuge in Italy. This lecture deals with the memoirs of the Armenian Genocide survivors of Italy. It explores how the survivors despite all the trauma and difficulties, decided to put pen to paper and to give expression to the horrors and tragedies they witnessed in order to document that which the world needs to better know.

A LECTURE PRESENTED BY THE ITALIAN SPECIALIZATION OF THE CLASSICAL AND MODERN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES DEPARTMENT - CCNY

Room: NAC 4/108 11:30-12:15. A light refreshment will be served after the lecture.

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