



# Assyrian American National Federation

ܐܘܪܝܢܝܐ ܐܡܝܪܝܩܝܐ ܢܘܬܝܢܝܐ ܕܐܢܝܘܢܝܐ



[www.aanf.org](http://www.aanf.org)  
Established 1933

---

## **AANF Statement regarding Turkish Propaganda Film**

Chicago March 20, 2017: The Assyrian American National Federation (AANF) is urging our community here in the United States of America, as well as our community at large, in boycotting the Turkish propaganda film *The Ottoman Lieutenant*. We join in solidarity with the Armenian Youth Federation and the American Hellenic Council in denouncing this clear attempt to rewrite history and to normalize Ottoman Turkey.

This Turkish-funded film, released on March 10<sup>th</sup> paints a story between an American and an Ottoman officer in the city of Van, where scores and scores of innocent people were massacred. However, the movie attempts to normalize Ottoman Turkey as a nation that had back-and-forth tensions with the ethnic and religious minorities. Just as our society should and would never accept a normalization of the Nazis, we should never accept any attempt at normalizing a government that orchestrated a genocidal campaign against Armenians, Assyrians, and Greeks that left millions of innocent people dead.

Turkey has embarked on a media campaign these past several years to paint a false narrative of what occurred during the early 1900's. The Assyrian-American community should stand against letting this false, revisionist narrative perpetuate. We call on the Assyrian community to boycott this film and encourage their family and friends to do the same.

###

### **About The Assyrian American National Federation**

AANF had its birth in the fateful year of 1933, inspired by the merciless massacres of the Assyrians in Iraq. On October 19, 1933, The Assyrian American National Federation strives to unite the Assyrian nation by protecting and promoting the progression of Assyrian culture, education, religion and humanitarian rights.