Ministry of Nature Protection of RA Ecotourism in Specially Protected Nature Areas:



Dr. Vahagn Sargsyan AUA Yerevan 15.04.2017.

Ministry of Nature Protection of RA Ecotourism in Specially Protected Nature Areas



Prior to the late 1970s, all definitions of tourism described the tourist's activities without evaluating the impacts on the environment or host community. In the late 1970s, the concept of ecotourism emerged as part of the new global environmental movement. By the early 1990s, eco-tourism was the fastest growing sector of the tourism industry. Ecotourism is more than simply a niche market within the tourism industry.

Ecotourism is defined as "responsible travel to natural areas that conserves the environment, sustains the well-being of the local people, and involves interpretation and education" (TIES, 2015). Education is meant to be inclusive for both staff and guests.

It includes a wide range of sub-categories such as bird watching, marine wildlife, botanical tourism, hiking and trekking.

Ecotourism is uniting conservation, communities and sustainable travel.

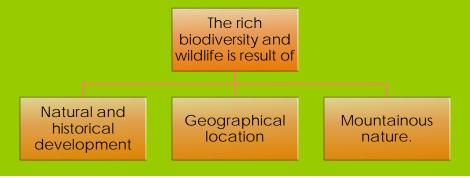




The Nature of Armenia

Armenia is a mountainous country and is covered with extinct volcanos, corrugated mountain ranges, broad plateaus, rugged canyons and large valleys. Mount Aragats is the highest point of the Republic (4095m above sea level), and Debed canyon (375m above sea level) is the lowest. The variety in landscape and altitudes within the country is an important determination of biodiversity in Armenia.

The country's small area is wild contrasts.



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Armenia is home to an essential part of the natural treasures of the Caucasus ecoregion.

Plant diversity











Animal diversity 17500 of which 308 in Red Book













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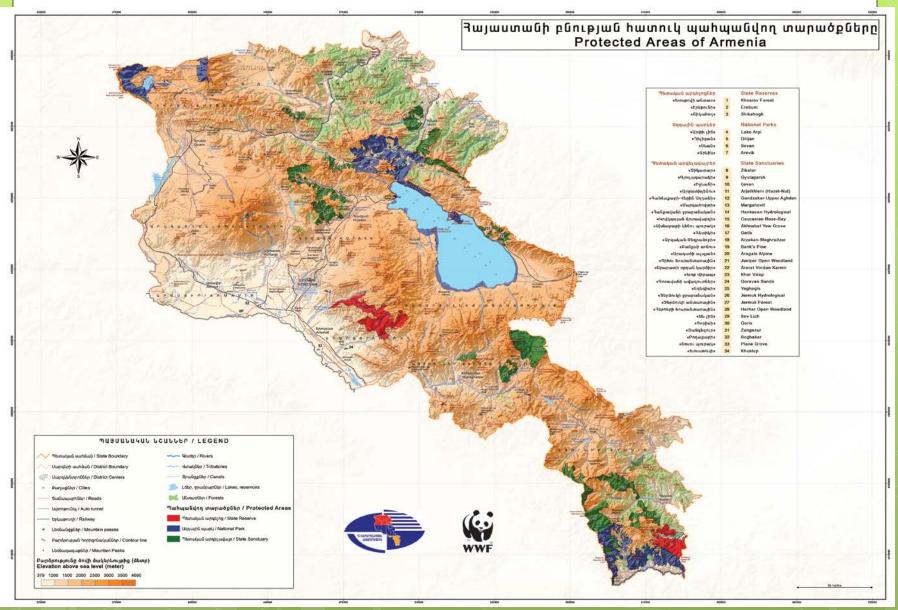
Creation of SPNA in Armenia

1958

- 13% of the territory of Armenia are the SPNAs
- State Reserves **«Khosrov Forest», «Erebuni», «Shikahogh»** /35,439.6 ha 1.19 % /
- National Parks «**Sevan», «Dilijan», «Lake Arpi», «Arevik»** /236,802.1 ha 7.96 % /
- Nature Reserves- 28 /114,812.7 ha 3.95 % /
- Natural Monuments 232



Ministry of Nature Protection of RA Ecotourism in Specially Protected Nature Areas:



Specially Protected Nature Areas

Khosrov Forest State Reserve 30km from Yerevan	"Erebuni" state reserve	Shikahogh State Reserve 320 from Yerevan	
Location: South-west Armenia, Ararat. Size: 23.213 hectares. Altitude 700-2800	Location: Kotayk Altitude: 1300-1400 Size: 118.75 ha	Location: South Armenia, Syunik. Size: 12137 hectares Altitude 700-2400	
Landscape: Mountain ranges, rocks and cliffs, semi-deserts, high mountain steppes, open juniper woodland and oak forests.	Flora is very rich and variegated. It includes about 300 species of higher flowering plants, which is more than 9% of the Armenian flora. The 20 species are included in the "Red Book" of Armenia	Landscape: Mountain ranges, small streams springs, gorges, cliffs, virgin broadleaf forest rocky massifs, subalpine meadows, caves.	
Tourism activities: Wildlife watching, birdwatching, hiking, horse trekking.	Fauna: The reserve is habitat for about 90 species of vertebrate animals.	Tourism Activities: Educational/theme trails, birdwatching, wildlife watching, hiking, hors trekking.	

Arevik National Park 370km from Yervan	Dilijan National Park 95 km from Yerevan	Lake Arpi National Park 180km from Yerevan	Sevan National Park 65km from Yerevan	
Location: South Armenia, Syunik Province. Size: 34.40 hectares. Altitude: 450-3500	Location: North-east Armenia, Tavush. Size: 33765 hectares. Altitude: 1070-2900	Location: North-west Armenia, Shirak Size: 21179 hectares. Altitude 2025-3196	Location: Central Armenia, Gegharqunik. Size: 147343hectares. Altitude: 2000m	
<i>Flora</i> : Juniper, oak, hornbeam, maple, ash	<i>Flora</i> : Oak, beech, hornbeam, pine, juniper, yew, iris, orchids	Flora: Orchids, gladiolus, iris, papaver, meadow saffron, Caucasian scilla rosenii, Siberian iris, alpine auricula.	Landscape: Fresh water ecosystem, pebble beaches, woods, steep rocks, mountain steppes, alpine meadows.	
Fauna: Caucasian leopard, bezoar goat, brown bear, otter, Caspian snowcock, Caucasian black grouse, Armenian mouflon, colchic, pheasant, striped hyena, Armenian viper, Mediterranean turtle	Fauna: Caucasian Black grouse, bearded eagle, Caspian snowcock, Red deer, brown bear, Iynx, wild cat.	Fauna: Dalmatian pelican, Armenian gull, Eurasian otter, brown bear, Darevski`s viper.		
Tourism activity: Birdwatching, Wildlife watching, Hiking, horse trekking	Tourism activity: Birdwatching, hiking, cycling, climbing, horse trekking, boating:	Tourism activities: Birdwatching, hiking, horse trekking, cross- country skiing.	Tourism activities Boating, swimming, birdwatching, hiking, horse trekking,	

Zangezur Biosphere Complex

Zikatar Environment Center SNCO

Location: North Armenia, Syunik. Size: 79.660 ha. Altitude 2100-3900 Location: Northeast Armenia. Size: 150ha. Altitude: 1150-1450

General Objective:

development of

natural resources.

Preserve, protect and reproduce its fauna and flora, natural ecosystems, landscape diversity, nature unique monuments, sustainable

General Objective:

Protection of natural forest ecosystems, landscape and biological diversity.

Armenia considered being one of the best optimum zone in the region for Ecotourism.

Reserve Park Complex:

- "Vordan Karmir" state reservation: Established 1987, Size 219ha, Location Ararat Province, Altitude 850-1000.
- "Jrvezh" Forest-Park:
 Established 1958, Size 423.8ha.
- Stepanavan "Sochut": Established in 1933, Size 35ha.
- Ijevan dendropark:

 Established 1971, Size
 5908ha, Location Tavush
 Province, Altitude 900-2100.
- Vanadzor dendropark:
 Estabished 1936, Size 1944ha,
 Location Lori Province
- Berd "Soranner" dendropark:
 Estabished 1962, Size 62ha,
 Location: Tayush Province



The number of incoming tourist arrivals to Armenia in

2015 comprised 1.192.000

Ecotourism (SPNA) - 2054

2016 comprised 1.259.657

Ecotourism (SPNA) - 2110



- The Ministry of Nature Protection of RA with the contribution of International organizations has devised:
- The management plans of SPNA
- Tourism routs
- Tourism Development plans
- An Ecotourism infrastructure was created
- Was purchased necessary supplies

Cooperate with WWF, CNF, TJS, HSBC Armenia and...

Experience - The Netherlands, Germany, etc.



Ministry of Nature Protection of RA Ecotourism in Specially Protected Nature Areas:





Ecotourism Policy

- " Ecotourism supporting and Development" department was created by MNP Of RA in 2015 - Government of RA
- "Creating Ecotourism Information Centre" is defined as an urgent problem in the government's action plan in 2016



"Ecotourism Information Centre"

- MNP of RA Nature Museum-learn and know about nature and biodiversity in Armenia
- Cooperation with local tourism companies and international organizations
- Creating Ecotourism book
- Development of Ecotourism and Recreation activities
- Publishing scientific literature and informative materials
- Online information, reservation and payment systems
- <<Eco-cafe>> and <<Eco-degustation>> area
- Guides training and licensing

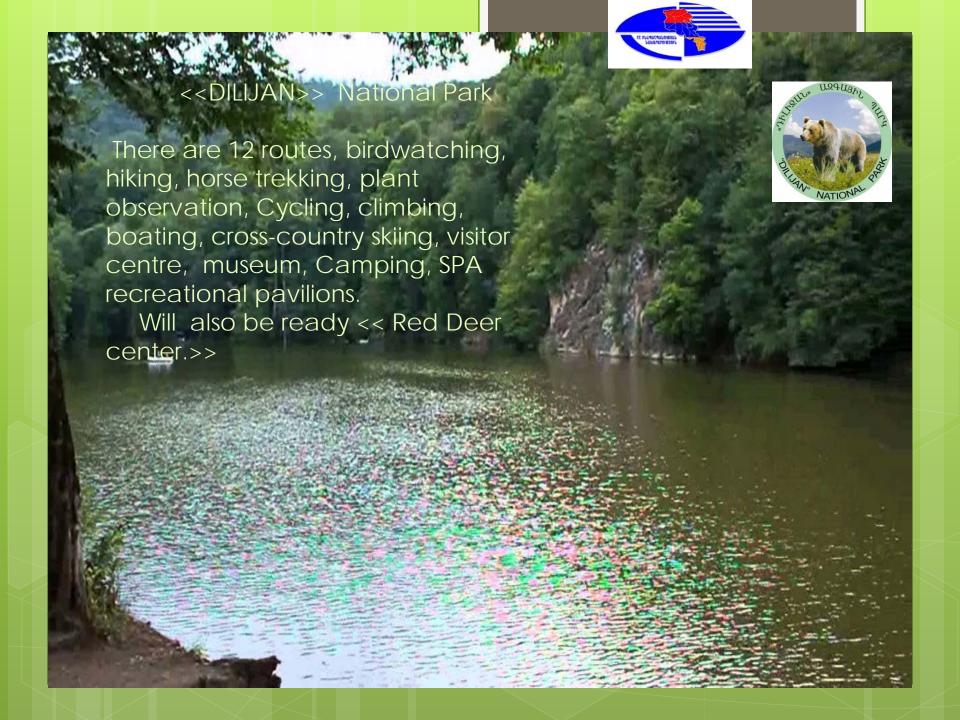


Ecotourism Today in SPNA

- Educational/theme trails
- Birdwatching
- Wildlife watching
- Hiking
- Cycling/ mountain biking
- Climbing/ mountaineering
- Horse trekking
- Boating
- Swimming
- Amateur Fishing
- Cross-country skiing
- Museum
- Guest houses, camping in the park
- **Visitor Centre**
- Public and privet beaches with shelters in Sevan National Park
- Ecologically healthy food and medicinal mineral waters
- SPA tourism
- Agro-tourism







ՔԱՅԼԱՐՇԱՎՆԵՐ <<ԴԻԼԻՋԱՆ>> ԱՋԳԱՅԻՆ ՊԱՐԿՈՒՄ ԵՐԹՈՒՂԻ 2՝ ԴԻԼԻՋԱՆ - ՋՈՒԽՏԱԿ ՎԱՆՔԵՐ -ՄԱՏՈՒՌ -ՇԱՄԱԽՅԱՆ

Երթուղու երկարությունը՝ 3.5 կմ, Քայլարշավի տևողությունը՝ 1.5-2 ժամ, քայլարշավի տեսակը՝ միակողմանի, երթուղու բարձրությունը ծովի մակարդակից՝ 1400մ - 1510մ, ճանապարհի վիճակը՝ գրունտային, հողային ճանապարհ։

երթուղին անցնում է հաստաբուն ծառերով շրջապատված տարածքներով ու մարգագետիններով։ Երթուղու սկզբնամասում է գտնվում Ջուխտակ վանքը /11-12-րդ դարեր/։ երթուղու ընթացքում առկա է փոքրիկ առվակ, ինադարյան մատուռ։ Երթուղուց բացվում է Դիլիջան քաղաքի գեղեցիկ համայնապատկերը։

















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ՎՐԱՆ - 4000 դրամ /4 whah hudun, lon/

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รบาบงนก 8000 դրամ /մինչև 12 անձի



PUUMULA 2000 դրամ /1on/



LUMSER 1000 դրամ /1op/



<u>CENUARSUA</u> 2000 դրամ /lon/



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นบฎกนบรหฯ **CUANFUS** 1000 դրամ /1on/

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ՔԱՅԼԱՐՇԱՎՆԵՐ <<ԴԻԼԻՋԱՆ>> ԱԶԳԱՅԻՆ ՊԱՐԿՈՒՄ ԵՐԹՈՒՂԻ 1' ԴԻԼԻՋԱՆ - ՄԱԹՈՍԱՎԱՆՔ

Երթուղու երկարությունը՝ 1.5 կմ, Քայլարշավի տևողությունը՝ 1-1.5 ժամ, քայլարշավի տեսակը՝ երկկողմանի, Երթուղու բարձրությունը ծովի մակարդակից՝ 1400մ - 1520մ, ճանապարհի վիճակը՝ գրունտային, հողային ճանապարհ։

Երթուղին անցնում է առվակի մոտով, այնուհետև՝ հաստաբուն հաճարենիներով շրջապատված ոլորապտույտ արահետը մեզ կտանի դեպի Մաթոսավանք /13-րդ դար/։ Համալիրը բաղկացած է միմյանց կից փոքր եկեղեցիներից, գավթից և գրատնից։ Հուշարձանախմբից հարավ-արևելք գտնվում է գերեզմանոցը։ Պատերի վրա առկա են քանդակազարդ խաչքարեր և արձանագրություններ։ Համալիրը այժմ կիսավեր է։

















ረቴቡ. 091 72-60-10



ՔԱՅԼԱՐՇԱՎՆԵՐ <<ԴԻԼԻՋԱՆ>> ԱԶԳԱՅԻՆ ՊԱՐԿՈՒՄ ԵՐԹՈՒՂԻ 3՝ ԴԻԼԻՋԱՆ /ՇԱՄԱԽՅԱՆ/ - Հաղարծին վանք

երթուղու երկարությունը՝ 12 կմ,

Քայլարշավի տևողությունը՝ 4.5-5 ժամ, քայլարշավի տեսակը՝ միակողմանի, Երթուղու բարձրությունը ծովի մակարդակից՝ 1440մ - 2150 - 1410մ, ճանապարհի վիճակը՝ գրունտային, հողային ճանապարհ։

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<tn. 091 72-60-10</p>











Trail 1: Garni Visitor Center – Havuts Tar Monastery – St. Stepanos Church – Glan Village – V. Pogr Shen village area - Vahagn and Astghik waterfalls – Geghmahovit village area – Garni Visitor Center.









Trail 1.1: Garni Visitor Center - Havuts Tar Monastery - Garni Visitor Center

Trail 1.2: Goxt village- Havuts Tar Monastery - Garni Visitor Center-Old bridge-Bazalt Organ:

Trail 2 : Garni Visitor Center – Poqr Shen village area – V. Nerqin Vanstan – V. Berdatak – Azat River – Geahmahovit village area- Garni Visitor Center.







Trail 3: Garni Visitor Center – Berdatak – Kaqavaberd – Qotur River – subalpine zone – Verin Vanstan – Nerqin Vanstan – Poqr Shen village area – Geghmahovit village area – Garni Visitor Center.









Trail 4: Vedi Visitor Center - Confluence point of Vedi and Khosrov rivers - Tapi fortress - Khosrov river bed - Vedi Visitor Cent. - White house - bridge - Khosrov village area - meteorological station - oak forest - Trchnaberd - Vedi Visitor Center.









Trail 5: Vedi Visitor Center - Junction of roads to Martuni and Khosrov section of the reserve - confluence point of Vedi and Khosrov rivers - Urts village area - Vedi River walley -gate - confluence point of Vedi and Aghjur rivers - confluence point of Vedi and Mankuq rivers - fish pond - gate- bridge - Jghin pond - Mankuq village area - Spitak Vanq - Vedi Visitor Cntr.









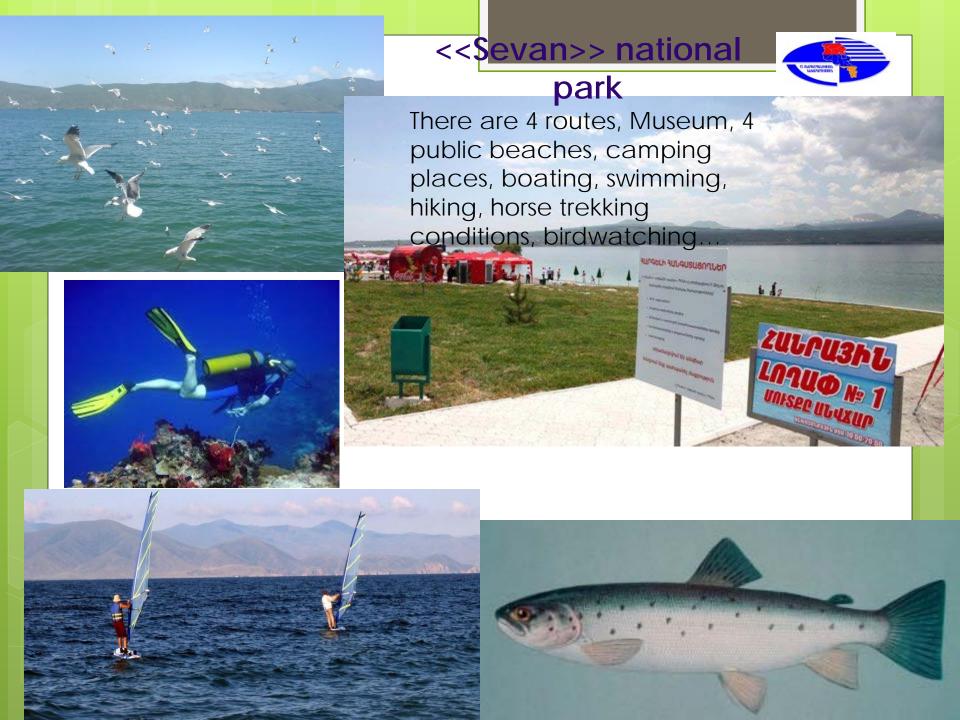












Trail 1 Along the old section of the highway (from the Akhtamar restaurant to the









Trial 2: The route connecting Sevan and Dilijan National Parks.

Trial 3: "Stone Sea (Qare Tsov) chingils" in the vicinity of the villages of Chkalovka and Lchashen.









Trial 4: Sarukhan village - Gri Canyon.











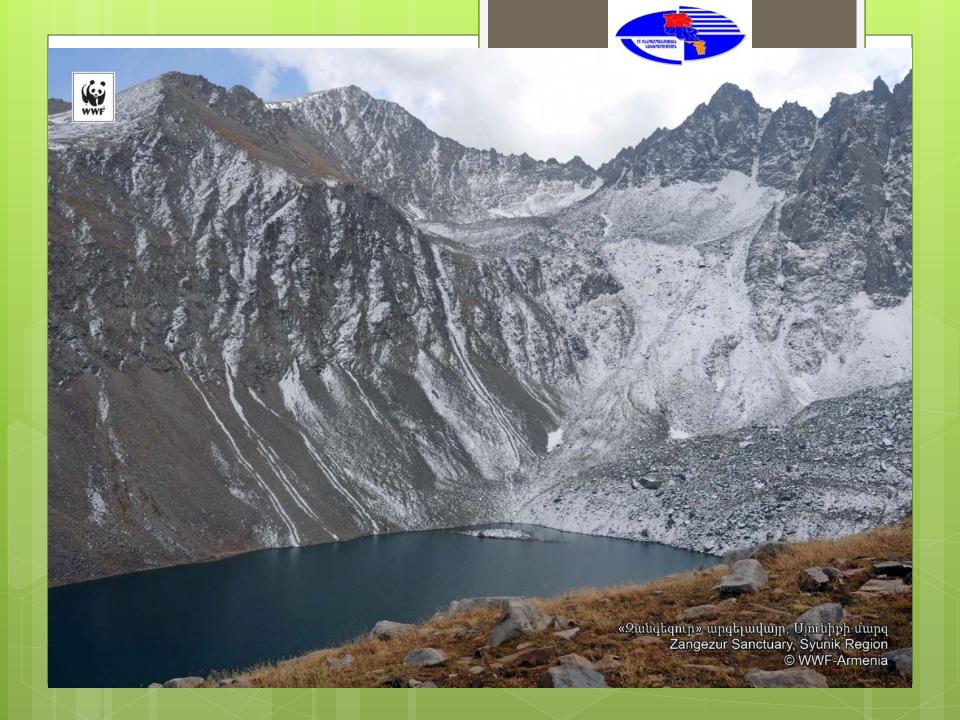




<<Zangezur>> biosphere complex

There are 4 routes, guest houses, recreational pavilions, fishing, birdwatching, accommodation, hiking, horse trekking and other opportunities.

«Զանգեզուր» արգելավայր, Սյունիքի մարզ Zangezur Sanctuary, Syunik Region © WWF-Armenia









Trails

Route 1: Shikahogh village, visitor center-Medieval bridge, Qsajur-Tsav village, Tsav waterfall (Chrchr)-"Plane Grove" sanctuary-Shikahogh village, visitor center









Route 2: Shikahogh village, visitor center- The Meghri ridge- Navs Stone- Shikahogh village, visitor center







Route 3: Shikahogh village, visitor center- Yew grove-Tsav village, the church of Tsav-"Plane Grove" sanctuary- Shikahogh village, visitor center







Route 4: Kapan-Baghaburj village, a cross-stone dedicated to Nzhdeh-Mount Khustup-The bust of Nzhdeh-Shishkert village, Shikahogh village, visitor center





Trails

Trail1: Headquarters, Paghakhn community- Tsaghkut community-Garnarich community-Shaghik community, forest territories «Wolf gates»- Paghakhn community













Trail2: Headquarters, Paghakhn community-Ardenis community (lake Ardenis)-Wetlands (the old riverbed of Akhuryan river)- Headquarters, Paghakhn community











Trail3:Visitor center (Ghazanchi community)-Aghvorik-Alvar-Akhuryan river gorge-Tourism Center (Mets Sepasar community)- Visitor center (Ghazanchi community)





Trail4:Visitor center (Ghazanchi community)-Sepasar community crossroad-Sevsar mountain slops-Saragyugh-Bavra community-Visitor center (Ghazanchi community)





Trail1 - Mshkavanq area



Trail2: Zikatar reserve





Trail3: REDWOOD GROVE





Trail4: Khechqar District





Lovers Park 2015

MNP of RA conclusion of 2015

<<ITB-Berlin 2016>>





In Tour Expo 2016



<< Festival of rural life and traditions >> 2016





During the working process

- Will reduce negative impact to the Environment
- Will increase Eco-education level in the social sphere
- Will develop the capacity of SPNA
- Will increase the number of tourists in Armenia
- Will increase the level of budget revenues
- Will provide development processes in the regions
- Will increase the level of quality and will reduce poverty



Study nature, love nature, stay close to nature. It will never fail you

Thank you Շնորհակալություն

Dr. Vahagn Sargsyan

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