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# The New York Times

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FRIDAY, APRIL 23, 1909

## AMERICAN WOMEN IN PERIL AT HADJIN

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Five Missionaries, Entirely  
Defenseless, Send Out Appeal  
for Immediate Aid.

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## ANOTHER TOWN WIPED OUT

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Entire Population of Kirikan Massacred.  
Fire and Pillage Throughout District  
Outbreak Due to Fall of Young Turks.

BEIRUT, April 22.- Five American women missionaries<sup>1</sup> are in danger at Hadjin, in the vilayet of Adana, Asiatic Turkey. One of them, Miss Lambert, has sent a message down to the coast asking for immediate help. The message is dated April 22, and says:

“Hadjin has been surrounded for a week by the villagers of this district, who are awaiting the opportunity to storm the place. All roads are closed, and shots are being fired into the town irregularly. The dwellings on the outskirts have been burned. The authorities at Adana have been appealed to for aid, which has not been sent. A rumor from the outside says that an assault will be made on this place to-night”.

The women are entirely alone and defenseless. The villages surrounding Hadjin are in flames, and Hadjin itself is invested by nomad tribesmen. Messages from the interior are being suppressed by the authorities.

The situation in the country north, east, and west of Alexandretta, arising from the anti-Christian outbreaks, is most serious. The entire population of Kirikan, between Aleppo and Alexandretta, massacred, not even young babies being spared.

The French mission at Ekbaz is besieged by fanatical Moslems.

The Armenian village of Deurtyul is surrounded, and according to a messenger who crawled through the

Arab lines at night and made his way to Aleppo for help, the situation there is hopeless. The buildings on the edge of the town already were in flames when he escaped. There have been massacre and pillage at Antioch, and rioting at Birejik. Aleppo is in a state of panic.

There are only 400 soldiers in the city. Business is at a standstill, and there is every reason to fear a serious outbreak. The city is full of Bedouin Arabs, Kurds, and Circassians.

### Released Murderers Join Mob.

At Ayas, on the west coast of the Gulf of Alexandretta, 418 murderers have been released from prison. They at once joined the mob and began committing depredations.

At Tarsus 100 persons have been killed, 800 houses have been burned, and there are today 5,000 persons without homes.

Several native pastors from Aintab were killed while on their way to attend the district missionary meeting at Adana.

The massacres are being carried out with ferocity. Neither women nor children are spared. The motto of the Moslems is, “No twig of the accursed race shall be suffered to live.”

The Armenians, recognizing that the massacres have been organized and carried out by adherents of the Old Turkish regime are looking to the Young Turks for future protection. The Turkish Government officials at Mersina have done everything possible to check the trouble. The result of their efforts has been very limited, but in spite of this they deserve praise for their work.

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<sup>1</sup> Among these five women missionaries was Rose Lambert, an American missionary with the United Orphanage and Mission Society, stationed in Hadjin. For an extensive eyewitness account of the massacre of the Hadjin Armenians see her book “Hadjin and the Armenian Massacres,” Fleming H. Revell Company, Pub. London. 1911.