

**THE FESTIVAL OF CULTURE OF ARMENIANS OF HAMSHEN TO BE HELD
IN KUBAN**

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The 7th traditional festival of culture of Armenians of Hamshen "Sound the Hamshen Zurna" (a kind of clarinet) will be held in Kuban. In the current year the event will be held on March 19, in the village of Shahumian, Tuapse region, Krasnodar territory, that was the center of the Armenian Administrative region included in the Krasnodar territory until the August of 1953. As the newspaper of the Armenians in Russia "Yerkramas" (territory) informs, Armenian creative groups and performers from different regions of the Krasnodar territory and the Republic of Armenia will take part in the festival. The organizers of the festival are the Lazarev Center of National Cultures, the Department of Culture of the Lazarev region of the city of Sochi, and the rural administration of the Shahumian village. The Armenians of Hamshen make the majority of the Armenian population on the coast of the Krasnodar territory and also in a number of regions of Kuban and Adigei. There are emigrants from the region of Hamshen in the Western Armenia (formerly in the territory of Turkey), who migrated to Kuban in middle of the 19th century and at the beginning of the 20th century after the Armenian Genocide in Turkey. According to the data of the experts, nearly 250 thousand Armenians of Hamshen compactly live in Kuban, Adigei and Abkhazia, and according to the data of different sources, from 700 thousand to half million Islamized Armenians of Hamshen live in the territory of Turkey within the limits of traditional living