

**Contributions to the Role of Gheorghe Asachi and Cristea Caracaș in the
Establishment and Development of Armenian Schools in Iași**
(Abstract)

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This paper explores the significant contributions of Armenians to the cultural and educational landscape of the Moldavian region in present-day Romania. It specifically examines the roles of two prominent Armenian figures, Gheorghe Asachi and Cristea Caracaș, in founding and developing Armenian schools in Iași. This research uncovers new insights into the Armenian origin of Gheorghe Asachi, a renowned scholar whose ethnic origins have been a subject of contemporary debate. The study details the publication of the first Armenian books on the Romanian land, published in Asachi's printing house to support the local Armenian educational initiative.

Additionally, Cristea Caracaș made a profound impact by converting his residence into a prestigious boys' boarding school. This institution quickly rose to prominence, becoming one of the foremost educational establishments in the region and nurturing numerous future Romanian and Armenian personalities. Caracaș also established the Armenian Society of Iași, dedicated to fostering Armenian national education and identity.

This study draws on a range of unique sources, many of which are in Armenian and housed in various archives, offering a fresh perspective on the enduring influence of Armenian cultural and educational endeavors in Moldavia.

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