

Patriarchal Message

His Holiness Moran Mor Ignatius Zakka I Iwas

Patriarch of Antioch and All the East, the Supreme Head of the

Universal Syrian Orthodox Church

at

MOR IGNATIUS DAYRO, MANJINIKKARA

OCTOBER 23, 2008

In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
the One True God. Amen.

Your Beatitude, our beloved Brother-in-Christ Catholicos
Mor Baselios Thomas I, Your Eminences our beloved
Metropolitans, Very Rev. Corepiscopos and Rambachans
Reverend Priests and Deacons, Dedicated Nuns and our
beloved spiritual children.

We are very happy to visit our Mor Ignatius Dayro
here once again. This is a blessed place. Patriarch Saint
Elias the Third, one of our predecessors, is entombed
here. St. Elias III came to India in 1931 hoping to put an
end to the disputes then going on in our Holy Church in

India and to establish peace. He was in India for about a year. He did all he could to establish peace in the Church. But, just as our Lord Jesus could not do much in His home-town of Nazareth due to the unbelief of the people there, the efforts of St. Elias III did not succeed fully because those who were creating problems in the Church did not listen to his wise advice and obey him. The Saint passed away in 1932 with a broken heart and was entombed here and this tomb is a great source of blessing for all. People from all parts of the world come and pray here and receive God's blessings through the intercession of St. Elias III. This is now a great pilgrim centre of the Universal Syrian Orthodox Church.

We are also glad to note that our beloved Brother-in-Christ His Beatitude Catholicos Mor Baselios Thomas I and our beloved Metropolitan His Eminence Mor Julius Kuriakose of our Simhasana Churches and Institutions in India were ordained Priests at this Dayro by the late Patriarchal Delegate of India Metropolitan

Mor Julius Elias of blessed memory. The tombs of the former Metropolitans of this Dayro – Mor Julius Elias, Mor Julius Yacoub and Mor Osthatheos Benyamin Joseph are also situated here. May God bless their souls.

We take this opportunity to congratulate and bless our beloved Metropolitans who attend to the affairs of this Dayro on our behalf, Their Graces Mor Julius Kuriakose, Mor Deevannasios Geevarghese and Mor Athanasios Geevargis for their dedicated service. We also appreciate the sincere service rendered by all members of the Dayro Committee, and especially, by Commander T. U. Kuruvilla Bar Eto Shariro, who is the Secretary of the Dayro Committee.

Our Lord Jesus Christ has declared clearly: “Blessed are the peace-makers, for they shall be called sons of God.” (St. Mathew 5:9) St. Elias III was indeed an ‘Angel of Peace’. We now entreat all of you, to follow the good example of St. Elias III who stood for peace. Do all things in love and remain at peace with all.

Let all people see your good works and glorify God in
Heaven. May God bless you all.