

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 the

SPIRITUAL ORGANIZATIONS MEETING

26th October 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, Deacons, Respected Nuns
and our beloved spiritual children.

We are extremely happy to be with you all here. We
see that the members from all the spiritual organizations
like Sunday-school, Youth Association, Women's
Association, etc., of our church in Malankara is gathered
here at this evening. We count all these gathering as the

sign of your love and concern for us, and to the Holy Apostolic throne of Antioch. We are much delighted and very happy to enjoy the various cultural programs that were performed here in our honour. We sincerely thank its organisers and you all. This time we were visiting India, mainly to participate in the priestly Golden Jubilee celebrations of His Beatitude the Catholicos. So these all are in honour of His Beatitude also. We take this opportunity to congratulate His beatitude once again at his priestly Golden Jubilee, along with you all.

Our dearly beloved spiritual children, we are much delighted at this fourth Apostolic visit, for all your love towards us and we bless you all for the warm welcome that we are being given at our different churches and institutions. We congratulate you all for all your love and zeal for faith. At the same time we may advice you to always follow the path that our Lord showed us. Now in this modern age, parents have to take much care and

diligence in bringing up our youth in the fear of God. They should be taught to bring themselves up, with their lives founded upon the true rock of foundation; that is Jesus Christ. For that they should be brought up in the love of God and the true faith of our church. Then they will not be lost to us and to the church. In the Gospel of John chapter 15 verse 4 & 5, our Lord says **“Abide in me and I in you. the one who abides in me brings forth much fruit. Without me you can do nothing.”** So our beloved spiritual children, always stay in that wine as living branches which bears fruit. The life that is founded on Jesus Christ, will not be fallen in the winds and tides of this world. Remember what Saint Paul the blessed Apostle says in Second Corinthians Chapter 13, verse 5. **“Examine and test yourselves, to see whether you abide in true faith. Test yourselves”**. Do all things in love and remain at peace with all. Let our lights shine as the lamps put on the lamp-stand. All

people may see our good works and glorify God in Heaven. May God bless you all.