



مجلس كنائس الشرق الأوسط

The Middle East Council of Churches

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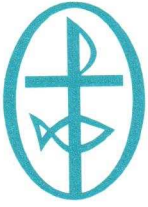
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The MECC general Secretary issued the following statement:

In the midst of the painful events that are swiping across Syria, Palestine and Iraq, and what the Christians in Mosul are experiencing in particular, the Middle East Council of Churches joins the patriarchs and heads of the Churches in the East in their Call to the international community to take bold initiatives and stand against this fierce attack on the passive Christians of Iraq who remained steadfast in the land of their fathers and forefathers where Christianity started, and who were the precursors of culture and civilisation. Therefore, the Council declares the following:

- 1- MECC condemns all that the attempts to displace the Christians and others out of Mosul city and its surroundings in addition to the desecration of sacred places and the systematic attempts to change the cultural and religious image of a city known for its churches, monasteries that are open for dialogue and building the culture of love.
- 2- MECC is in full solidarity with H.B. Patriarch Louis Sako and the prelates of all the Churches in Iraq. The Council endorses the Statement-Call of his Beatitude whereby he draws the attention of the world leaders to the threats and hardships that the government and the people of Iraq, Christians and Muslims, are facing with the attempts to change the image of Iraq as a cradle of civilisations.
- 3- MECC calls upon of human and spiritual communities, Christians and Muslims, to put pressure on their governments and voice out their concerns about what is going on today in Iraq which if not stopped immediately, it will result in human calamities and wars and will affect those who were behind these incidents or did not denounce them.



4- MECC calls all believers of all religions and people of good will to pray God to come for the rescue of people of Iraq especially the Christians who are deeply suffering as if they are sheep taken to be slaughtered and no one is there to advocate for their right for justice, mercy and life.

5- MECC reiterates its condemnation of the tragic events occurring in Syria and Palestine and declares that we can not stay silent about all that threatens the life and safety of the people. It is not permitted to violate the dignity and kill innocents and children. It seems as if in the era of openness and globalisation, we are going back to the prehistory period where human beings were predators and not brothers.

Beirut, July 21, 2014



Fr. Michel Jalakh
Fr. Dr. Michel Jalakh
General Secretary