

St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church

كنيسة القديس جاورجيوس الانطاكية الأرثوذكسية

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Mr. Rateb Rabie, President Holy Land Christian Ecumenical Foundation, Inc. 6935 Wisconsin AV, Suite 214 Bethesda, MD 20815

Dear Sir Rateb:

Sincere blessings and best wishes to you and your organization for the dedication and hard work you do in support of our brothers, the Christians in the Holy Land. Our brothers and sisters in the Holy Land and the entire Arab world are in need of our love and support so that they can stay and worship in the Holiest shrines of Christendom.

It is obvious that the world especially here in the west closed their eyes on the plight of the Christians in the Middle East. It is shameful to see the Christians being massacred in their own homes and no one pays any attention. Christians are not only killed these days but the majority of them are refugees in their own lands. Two Hierarchs, Metropolitan PAUL and Archbishop YOUHANNA, and many priests have been kidnapped while the world sits in total silence.

Our beloved Patriarch recently spelled out the formula how to protect the Christians in the Middle East, he said "give us peace and we are protected automatically". He said also, "we need no ships to move us out to different destinations, nor do we want ships full of arms; we only need peace."

I would like to extend to you my utmost support and wish you a very successful 17th International Conference and Awards Banquet. May the Lord bless you all in your philanthropic work. Your work today and the work of the International Holy Land Foundation, is as vital as ever in striving to preserve God's true people in their own land; the land where His son revealed Himself to mankind. Since before the time of Christ, our ancestors dwelled in Palestine and we shall remain there until He returns again.

In Christ's service,

The Very Reverend Economos Nicholas Dahdal Pastor, St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church, Cicero, IL