



Golden Jubilee Celebrations in the U. S. A.

A great event in the glorious history of the Holy Apostolic and Catholic Church of the East has just passed. On June 27th, 1970, The Church of The East and the Assyrian people throughout the world celebrated with great pomp the fiftieth anniversary of the consecration of His Holiness Mar Eshai Shimun XXIII Catholicos Patriarch of the East. These events will long be remembered by the members of the Church throughout the world, and especially, by the nearly onethousand guests who attended the banquet given in honour of the occasion at the Sheraton Hotel, Chicago sponsored by all the parishes in this country, and at which His Holiness was present in person.

Some three hundred of these guests came from the various parishes from all over the country; San Francisco, Turlock, Los Angeles, California, Gary, Indiana, Flint, Michigan, Yonkers, New York, New Britain, Connecticut Etc.

The following is a list of the guests of honour who attended the function.

His Grace, Mar Yosip Khnanishu, Metropolitan and His Holiness' Representative in Iraq.

His Grace, Bishop Timotheus of the Greek Orthodox Church of North and South America.

The Most Rev. John, Archbishop of Chicago and Minneapolis, Russian Orthodoxy.

The Rt. Reverend Gerald Francis Burill, Bishop of Episcopal Diocese of Chicago.

The Venerable Ralph J. Deppen, Archdeacon of the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago.

The Honorable Djamal Hatam, Consul General of Iran and Mrs. Hatam.

The Honorable Nicholas S. Salamie, Consul General of Lebanon.

Lady Esther D'MarShimun (mother)

The Honorable General (Rab Khaila) David D'Mar Shimun (father)

The Honorable Ralph T. Smith, United States Senator from Illinois and Mrs. Smith.

The Honorable Captain Sargon (brother) and Mrs. Mary D'Mar Shimun.

Lady Rowena D'Mar Shimun (sister)

Lady Plarin D'Mar Shimun (sister)

John and Sargina Yohanan (sister)

Fred and Wardia Kelait (sister)

Mr. Eshaya D'Mar Shimun.

Lady Helen (sister) and Louie Odishoo

Mr. & Mrs. Aprim De Kelaita from
London, England (aunt)

The Honorable Roman Pucinski, United
States Congressman, 11th. District.

Mr. & Mrs. Kalvin Smith.

The Venerable David. H. David. Chaplain
to the Patriarch

Reverend Aprim E. DeBaz, Priest, Mar
Sargis Parish, Church of the East, Chicago,
Illinois.

Reverend Gulyad Y. Isaac, Priest, Mar
Shimun Bar Sabbae Parish, Church of the
East, Flint, Michigan.

Reverend Isaac Rehana, Priest, St.
Thomas Parish, Church of the East,
New Britain, Connecticut.

Reverend Michael J. McCoy, Priest,
St. Bar Tholomew's Parish, Church of the
East, Los Angeles, California.

The presence of the guests, and the
messages from the Heads of States and
the leaders of the various Christian Churches
which they brought with them were deeply
appreciated, not only by His Holiness,
but indeed by all the Assyrians irrespective
of their denominational affiliations, and by
all the members of the Holy Church, who
individually and collectively felt a part of
their unequalled ancient culture and spiritual
Christian heritage personified in His Holiness
the Patriarch.

The Patriarch especially felt the
presence of the members of the Patriarchal
family at this function. including his beloved
parents, all of whom have shared in
the significant events of the tribulant and
tragic history of the Assyrians during the
past nearly sixty years; beginning with the
First World War.

Indeed, God's providence is beyond the
comprehension I

That the historic invitation from the
President of Iraq, should have come to His
Holiness on this fiftieth Anniversary of His
Patriarchate; thus enabling him not only
to visit the historic land of his forefathers,
but the very site where he was consecrated
to this awesome position, at the age of
twelve years. namely the Baquba Camps,
is indeed an act of providence!

As His Holiness stood in the scorching
sun, at this historic and Holy site to every
Assyrian, to say a prayer of thanksgiving
for His mercy and goodness: he no doubt
vividly recalled the nearly hundreds of
thousands of Assyrians who lived and
suffered for over two years as refugees
in these camps. and where several thousand
of them were laid to their eternal rest.

An account of this historic visit has
already been briefly mentioned in the sum-
mary of His Holiness' speech delivered at
the banquet which was made a grand
success, by the Fiftieth anniversary Patriar-
chal committee under the able Presidency of
Mr. Narsai Sergis.

Here it should also be mentioned that
the Honorable Adam Benjamin, Jr., State
Senator from Indiana, who acted as
toastmaster for this historic occasion
performed his duty in a most able manner;
habitual to him in all his undertakings. May
God bless them for this, their labour of love
and devotion to the glorious history of their
forefathers and to His Holiness who is the
symbol of that history.

Space does not permit publishing in
detail the speeches made by the various
dignatories. However, excerpts from the
main speeches are given below.

CONGRESSMAN ROMAN PUCINSKI

"I am really privileged to be here this
evening to add my own greetings to the
fine testimonial symbol of human dignity.
As we meet here this evening, to pay
tribute on the Fiftieth Anniversary; the
Golden Jubilee of the Patriarch, His Holiness

Mar Eshai Shimun, it gives all of us an opportunity to recall the interest of America. This great republic of 200,000,000 people has within its body and coastlines, practically every nationality, every race, every religion, and we have assembled here tonight to pay great tribute to a great spiritual leader, who symbolizes the spirit of the Assyrian people for 3,000 years."

"Your presence here this evening demonstrates again that one can be a good loyal American, yet be proud of your Assyrian ancestry and your religious beliefs. This is the great strength of America and this is the great means of America. Here, within our shores, we can too assemble as Americans respecting each other. I tell you that the depth of your ethnic origin is an inspiration to all."

"We Americans, all of us, Assyrians, as well, and all the others are proud that we could claim him as one of ours in this country.

And we can emulate the great spirit that he has reflected over these fifty years. The world is so much richer today that he has been with us to provide the kind of leadership he has provided. Your Holiness, I congratulate you and add my best wishes for many many more years of successful work and effort in the cause of your rich religion. For indeed, in the final analysis, man must find his soul, his strength, his courage, his comfort in the teachings of his God and so long as we have leaders like His Holiness, the future of the world might be secured."

THE RT. REV. G. F. BURRILL, BISHOP OF
THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF CHICAGO

"There has been a close personal relationship that has grown through the years. And wherever Anglicans are found, we feel that despite the fact that we came at the end of the line, that we have a great affection for all of you my friends. The Archbishop of Canterbury could not be here tonight. However, he wrote me a letter and

asked me to represent him on this occasion and through my representation, the whole of the Anglican Church throughout the world. He wanted to honor his friend, His Holiness, but he could not do so personally so he wanted to do it in another way. Through the last centuries, the Archbishop has on occasion, honored great leaders of the Christian Churches and has bestowed upon them a particular symbol for accomplishments. He has then asked to present in his name to His Holiness the highest award that can be given by the Anglican Church, the Anglican Cross, and I do so, wishing you joy, happiness and a long life."

SENATOR RALPH SMITH

"I honor you all for participation that you have had in this history and for the reverence that you have and pride in both the history of the church and the Assyrian people. And while I know that our United States of America is somewhat sometimes described as the melting pot, I also know as you do so well, that there are some things that do not melt. One of the things that doesn't is the pride that people bring to these shores from their native lands, the heritage and the faith; the things that you treasure and revere. Not only your Church but your national origins, the background and origin. So, I am so very grateful tonight to have the opportunity to be invited. I add my congratulations to you and to His Holiness for what just has to be a very lovely event for all of you. Thank you so much."

H. E. MOST. REV. BISHOP THIMOTHEUS,
RODOSTALON (Greek Orthodox Church)

"I feel honored and happy to convey to His Holiness the Patriarch of the Church of the East on the occasion of his Fiftieth Anniversary the best wishes of the Archbishop Iakovos of North and South America."

After, speaking of the great Assyrian culture and civilization and of their impact on other countries, Bishop Timotheus said:

MESSAGES RECEIVED

HIS MAJESTY THE SHAH OF IRAN

MAR ESHAI SHIMUN XXIII,

On the occasion of the anniversary of the Patriarchate of Your HOLINESS, I take pleasure in conveying to you my warm congratulations together with my sincere good wishes for your continued good health and happiness as well as for the welfare and increasing prosperity of your community

MOHAMMAD REZA PAHLAVI
SHAHINSHA ARYAMEHR, TEHRAN, IRAN

"Now you are a symbol of this great civilization and the great contributors to the civilization. His Holiness, the Patriarch is honored today. I am very proud and very pleased because you keep the traditions of the East in this country where tradition is most needed because the American land is fulfilled by the people from the other side of the world and has no traditions by itself; the Greek tradition, the Assyrian tradition, the Russian tradition and the traditions of other people are the traditions and the roots of this country's life. You are contributors to this great nation and you are honored by such inheritance, Your Holiness."

THE HONORABLE CONSUL OF LEBANON

"I want to add the little flower of Lebanon to the bouquet of congratulations to His Holiness on the Fiftieth Anniversary. Not too long ago, I saw in the Daily Star, a paper that comes from Beirut by air, the picture of His Holiness and our President. The wonderful relations which we have with His Holiness make us proud to be neighbours and friends."

"The President of the Republic of Lebanon has personally sent his congratulations for this Fiftieth Anniversary of His Holiness. In behalf of His Excellency, I would like to offer my congratulations and hope that he reigns as he did before on this ancient Church, and we are proud to have Assyrians in Lebanon. We like all the Assyrians in this country and in Lebanon, and we admire them for their culture."

THE HONORABLE CONSUL GENERAL OF IRAN IN CHICAGO.

The Honorable Consul General of Iran in Chicago, Jamal Hatam, said that it was a great pleasure for him and his wife to be invited to represent His Imperial Majesty, The Shah of Iran, on this historic occasion of His Holiness' Golden Jubilee.

Then he proceeded to read the message sent by His Majesty to His Holiness, the Patriarch.

HIS HOLINESS POPE PAUL VI

PATRIARCHATE MAR ESHAI SHIMUN XXIII,

Learning of the happy occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Patriarchate of Your Holiness, we express our sincere congratulations and prayers for yourself and all your people.

WITH SINCERE REGARDS,
PAULUS P P VI

PRESIDENT AND MRS. NIXON U. S. A.

DEAR MR. SERGES :

I know President and Mrs. Nixon will be pleased to have your kind invitation to participate in the important activities of the 50th Anniversary of the Patriarchate of Mar Eshai Shimun XXIII.

Although they would very much enjoy having a part in your banquet, the requirements of the official schedule will not permit them the pleasure of joining the members of your committee for this event.

With appreciation for your thoughtfulness and with very best wishes,

SINCERELY,
CAROL REAVIS
APPOINTMENTS SECRETARY
TO MRS. NIXON

VICE PRESIDENT AND MRS. AGNEW, U.S.A.

DEAR MR. SERGES:

The Vice President and Mrs. Agnew have asked me to thank you for your cordial invitation. Unfortunately, it will be impossible for them to be with you due to their heavily committed schedule. I am sure that you can understand the great demands on their time.

Your thoughtfulness in extending this invitation is appreciated.

SINCERELY,

W. ERNST MINOR, ASSISTANT
TO THE VICE PRESIDENT

PRESIDENT CHARLES HELOU AND
MRS. HELOU, LEBANON

DEAR MR. NARSAY SERGES,

I have the pleasure to convey the thanks of H. E. the President and Mrs. Charles HELOU for your invitation on behalf of the committee in charge of the 50th Anniversary to be held in honour of His Beatitude Mar Eshai Shimun XXIII, in Chicago which invitation they have received coupled with a nice greeting for Lebanon. I also have pleasure to convey to you the President's and the First Lady's heartfelt participation, as of now, in the happy event and their best wishes for His Beatitude and his honourable community.

WITH MY HIGHEST ESTEEM
AND CONSIDERATION
CARLOS KHOURY
DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE
PRESIDENCY OF THE
REPUBLIC, P. I.

HIS GRACE THE ARCHBISHOP OF
CANTERBURY

YOUR BEATITUDE,

BELOVED BROTHER IN CHRIST,

News of the impending celebration of the Golden Jubilee of your Patriarchate has given me great pleasure and joy. It is a rare achievement for any pastor to lead the flock entrusted to him by Almighty God for half of a century, but your own anniversary will be even more notable an occasion for the great difficulties which you and your Church

have suffered in these past years. It is, therefore, with great gladness that I shall join my thanks to Almighty God with yours for the leadership of your Church which He has been pleased to bless and guide you in through these many years.

As Your Beatitude had been absent from your own homeland and in the United States it must have been a particular joy for you to be able to return home to visit your beloved people there at the invitation of the President of Iraq. It is my hope that this journey will not have proved over arduous that you will have returned to your adoptive home strengthened in faith and courage to continue to lead your people in the way of salvation.

In order to pay tribute to your wise shepherding of your widely scattered flock, it is my desire that Your Beatitude should be pleased to accept the award of the Lambeth Cross which is the highest tribute which an Archbishop of Canterbury can pay to the leader of another Church. It will be given to you in particular recognition of the Golden Jubilee of your consecration as Patriarch and the courageous leadership which you are continuing to give to your Church. Although I would have wished to be present in person at the Jubilee Banquet which will be held in your honour, the Cross will, be presented for me by the Right Rev. G. F. Burrill Bishop of Chicago who will be happy to represent me personally. You may be sure however, that all who are not actually with you will be present in mind, thanking God for what you have done in the past and praying that He will preserve you in good health to guide the faithful of your Church with His blessing in the years which lie ahead.

With my congratulations to Your Beatitude and my prayers for you, I send you my warmest greetings in the name of the Saviour of us all.

Your Beatitude's beloved Brother in Christ,

YOURS VERY SINCERELY

ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY
PRIMATE OF ALL ENGLAND
AND METROPOLITAN

HIS EMINENCE CARDINAL CODY

DEAR MR. SERGES:

Under instructions from His Eminence, Cardinal Cody, I wish to acknowledge your recent invitation to the dinner honoring Patriarch Mar Eshai Shimun XXIII. Unfortunately, because of another commitment for June 27, it will not be possible for the

DR. AND MRS. W. Y. BET-MANSOUR

DEAR MR. SERGES :

With great pleasure we received your honorable invitation to attend the banquet in honor of His Holiness Mar Eshai Shimun XXIII on the occasion of the 50th year serving Holy See of the Church of the East.

It is greatest regret that we will not be able to be present to take part and have share in honoring His Holiness Mar Eshai Shimun XXIII.

May this and many other Anniversaries be celebrated with health and happiness for His Holiness and Church of the East.

DR. AND MRS.
W. Y. BET - MANSOUR
ASSYRAIN REPRESENTATIVE
IN IRANIAN PARLIAMENT.
(MAJLIS)

MAR DENKHA, IRAN.

MAR EASHAI SHIMUN
CATHOLICOS PATRIARCH OF THE
CHURCH OF THE EAST,

On behalf of the Church laity and ourselves, we faithfully and sincerely congratulate Your Holiness's 50 th Anniversary of Patriarchate of the Church of the East and wish you happy healthy and long years of leadership.

FOR CHURCH COUNCIL,
IRAN
MAR DENKHA

MAR NARSAI AND CENTRAL COMMITTEE

HIS HOLINESS MAR ESHAI SHIMUN

On the occasion of the golden jubilee of the consecration of Your Holiness as Patriarch of our beloved Church; we wish to extend our heartiest congratulations praying the Almighty to give Your Holiness a long life to further serve our Church.

MAR NARSAI AND CENTRAL
COMMITTEE

ADMINISTRATOR, CHURCH OF THE EAST,
TRICHUR-INDIA

HIS HOLINESS MAR ESHAI SHIMUN

Indian Church convey their greetings to Holiness on occasion of sacerdotal Golden Jubilee and pray Almighty grant His Holiness health and longevity.

THE VENERABLE
ANTHONY CHAKOLA,
ADMINISTRATOR

ASSYRIAN SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

CHAIRMAN ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

On this happy and auspicious fiftieth anniversary of the Patriarchate of Mar Eshai Shimun XXIII, Assyrians in Great Britain send loyal greetings and pray for God's continued guidance and protection of His Holiness.

ASSYRIAN SOCIETY OF
GREAT BRITAIN

SECRETARY OF COUNCIL, CHURCH OF
THE EAST

HIS HOLINESS MAR ESHAI SHIMUN XXIII :

On behalf of all Assyrians and members of the Church of the East we congratulate you on your 50 th Jubilee and ask God Almighty to guide you to be a bright light in our history and lead our people to success.

YOUKINA P. HASKAL
SECRETARY OF COUNCIL
CHURCH OF THE EAST