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LIGHT FROM THE EAST

APRIL - MAY 1951

Vol. 4

Published Bi-monthly by The Patriarchal Council, Inc.
6346 N. Sheridan Road, Chicago 40

No. 3

Call For Second National Convention

At its April meeting the Patriarchal Council set the date for the Second National Convention of the Church of the East, to be held in Gary, Indiana, November 8 to 11.

Nov. 8, Thursday, will be registration of delegates.

Nov. 9, Committee meetings; opening convention session at 8 P.M.

Nov. 10, Sessions all day. Banquet in evening.

Nov. 11, Qurbana at 8. Delegates depart for homes in the afternoon.

Gabriel Sargis of 4337 N. Western Avenue, Chicago, is chairman of the convention. Narsay Serges, secretary - treasurer of the Council, is secretary. Communications should be addressed to the Patriarchate, 6346 N. Sheridan Road, Chicago.

At the first convention, in November of 1949, a General Treasury was established, to be built up by payment from each local parish of one-third of its gross income, excluding moneys raised for maintenance of parish priests.

Since that time many great forward steps have been taken, both in this country and overseas. Reports on the progress made in Asia will form an important part of the feature of the convention.

Each parish and community of Assyrians in the United States and Canada is asked to send a delegation to this convention. Names of delegates and alternates should be sent as early as possible to Narsay Serges, the secretary-treasurer.

Working To Spread Light From The East

The Patriarchal Council has received replies from various countries in regard to increasing the reading public of this paper.

From Iran comes assurance of 200 subscribers.

Iraq already has turned in 52 paid subscriptions. Baghdad has appointed a subscription agent. In Syria, Jacob d'Malik Ismail will represent the paper in the Khabour colony. In India Deacon Joseph of the Church of Mart' Maryam at Trichur is receiving subscriptions.

Encouraging reports have come from all these countries. A good sum of money has been accumulated already to the credit of the paper in India, Iraq, Syria and Iran. Great Britain also now is added to the list.

All Assyrians familiar with the name of Maj. Gen. J.M.L. Renton, of the British Army, will rejoice to know that he has sent in his name as a subscriber to this paper. Gen. Renton is known to all who served in the Assyrian and Iraqi Levies, through his extensive travels with the Rab Khaila David d'Beth Mar Shimun.

The Rev. C.B. Moss DD., at the request of the Patriarch, has consented to represent LIGHT FROM THE EAST in England. Dr. Moss' interest in the Church of the East dates back to the time of the mission of the Archbishop of Canterbury sent in aid of the Church of the East. Canon Moss' father, the famous master of Shrewsbury School in England, also was deeply interested in this mission, as was his wife, the Canon's mother.

Doctor Moss is a personal friend of long standing of the Patriarch, who stayed at his hospitable home in England on many occasions. He is a member of the Church of England's Council on Foreign Relations, the organization through which the Archbishop of Canterbury deals with other religious bodies.

Canon Moss also sends in the name of the Chaplain in Chief of the Air Ministry, 15 Cadogan Gardens, Sloane Square, London S.W. 9, as a subscriber for Light from the East.

Samo Eyou, of Habbaniyeh, writes;

Sincerest thanks and appreciation to the Rev. Elisha R. Oushana for his delightful song about His Holiness Mar Eshai Shimun, and a goodly amount of news is derived from it. It is much better to read such an account of a great man's life without having to delve into massive manuscripts and lurid accounts of him.



Youab Toma, of Kirkuk, writes in acknowledgment of 100 copies of this paper. He adds;

"The magazine is of great interest to all subscribers, and they like to have it periodically. I have disposed of 76, and 24 remain in hand, but there are many who have not yet heard about it, and I hope to dispose of the rest. I will send the money for the sales to His Grace the Metropolitan Mar Yosip Khanishoo.

He enclosed a picture, which is published herewith.

The latest subscriber to the Light From The East, is the Anglo Iranian Oil Company.

Iran Asks More Copies Of Paper

Visitor General Samuel Keleita of Iran reports to the Patriarchal Council: "I have received 150 copies of the Christmas issue of LIGHT FROM THE EAST for Iran. These are not enough. Please hereafter send 200 copies. Of these 120 are for Abadan, 50 will go to Tehran, and the rest are for other parts of Iran."

Demand for this publication spreads wherever the Assyrian people learn of it.

The Visitor General also sends a complete report of money received by him, as follows:

From the General Education Fund (Patriarchal Pence)	\$1250, or 64,700 rials
Raised by individual contributions and public collections	21,010 rials
Subscriptions from LIGHT FROM THE EAST	13,300 rials
From other sources	8,821 rials
Total Receipts	107,831 rials
Expended according to detailed report submitted to Patriarch	91,448
Balance.....	16,383

Habbaniya Pays Tribute To The Late Queen Aliyah Of Iraq



By: Hormis J. John - Secretary
R.A.F. Employee's (Assyrian) Club,
HABBANIYA

Sunday, December 24, 1950, was held as a day of mourning by the Assyrians at Habbaniya. It was on the occasion of the premature death of Her Majesty, the late Queen Aliyah of Iraq, which occurred three days previously.

Masses of Assyrians - young and old alike - jamming the large building of the Royal Air Force Employees' (Assyrian) Club, were all wearing black ribbons on the lapels of their jackets, as an insignia of courtesy to the late Queen.

Among members of other communities present were the Sunni and Shia clergymen, two Iraqi Police Inspectors, Arab and Kurdish tribal chiefs and local Government School teachers.

The most distinguished among the Assyrians were the Ven. Archdeacon Eshoo D'beth Mar Sargis, of the Apostolic and Catholic Church of the East, Rev. Gabriel Koda of the Uniate R.C. Church, and Rev. Israel Envia of the Orthodox Church.

The Club president, Mr. Avimalk Yonan, opening the mourning ceremony, explained the purpose for which they had gathered. The Rev. Gabriel Koda, Ph.D., expressed in perfect Arabic the grief felt by all communities at Habbaniya at the loss of the beloved Queen, and gave a brief account of her biography.

Then the Ven. Archdeacon Eshoo and finally Rev. Israel expressed their heart-felt sympathy for H.M. King Faisal II and the Hashemite Royal Family and prayed for the long life of the young King.

Mr. Majid Khan, on behalf of the Moslem Community, expressed the appreciation of the deep sorrow and sympathy felt by the Assyrians at Habbaniya, and thanked the Club president and members for honouring the Moslem community by inviting them to the ceremony.

A telegram of condolence on behalf of the Assyrian Community at Habbaniya was sent to the Royal Family. Special church services were conducted on the following morning by the three denominations in memory of the late Queen, at which approximately 2000 people attended.

Acting on orders by His Grace Mar Yosip Khnanisho, Metropolitan of Shamisdin, and the Right Reverend Mar Sargis, Bishop of Jilu, Assyrians throughout Iraq celebrated a quiet Christmas at home. Instead of the usual drinks, coffee was served at every house.

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The Patriarchal Council, Inc.

Rev. Irwin St. John Tucker, president
Rev. Saul D. Neesan, vice president
Narsay Serges, secretary-treasurer

IRAQ PRAISES PROFESSOR IKEDA FOR WORK IN JAPAN

Growing fellowship of the nations of Asia in their ancient Church is expressed in this letter.

"Sincere thanks to Prof. Sakae Ikeda for so wholeheartedly and enthusiastically devoting his precious time to the cause of the Church of the East. His unremitting efforts towards reinstatement of the Church of the East in Japan have attracted heartfelt appreciation among Assyrians everywhere. It is indeed a pride for me to mention that this honorable gentleman has gained a living name in the history of the church.

I earnestly pray that Our Lord Jesus Christ will bless the Professor Ikeda and his colleagues, and hope that the efforts of ARICE will be crowned with success."

Yours faithfully,

E. GABRIEL
Habbaniya, Iraq.

JAPANESE BELIEVERS TURN TO ANCIENT SHRINE OF DAVID

Eagerly awaiting the opportunity to embrace the Christian faith preached to their forefathers by the Church of the East, the Japanese people are turning their eyes once more to the thousand-year-old shrines of Christianity in Japan.

A letter from Prof. Sakae Ikeda, Honorary Resident Commissioner of the Patriarch of the East in Japan, writes;

"Enclosed is a poem written by Miss Fumiko Murata, teacher of English at Kyoto Municipal Secondary School of Fushimi, who believes in Christianity and is on the tiptoe of expectation."



David's Shrine is the name given to the ancient shrine of the Assyrian Church still standing near Kyoto. It has already become a place of pilgrimage and devotion of the Association for Reinstatement of the Church of the East -- "ARICE."



DAVID'S SHRINE

Wishing our people's felicity
Thou didst cross the high waves
And settled here in the remote
country
The David's Shrine of the Eastern
Church.
Forever embraced by the grace of
Our Lord Eshoo M'Shikha
Hand in hand we brethren and sisters
Go cheerfully to the shrine.

Fumiko Murata

**Parish Of St. Thomas In New Britain
Works For Erection Of New Church**



St. Thomas Parish House in New Britain was bought five years ago with money raised during a visit by the Patriarch. It occupies a lot 200 feet by 200, where a church will be built as soon as sufficient funds can be raised.

For the time being, a chapel has been established in the parish house, which with adjoining rooms will hold 200 people. The parish priest lives there, also a family of church members, who take care of the place.

Entertainments and church dinners are held there, as also Sunday School and youth organization meetings.

The New Britain Parish sent \$390 for the General Treasury, also \$90 collected through the Patriarchal Pence.

In addition to conducting regular services, maintaining a Sunday School and a Youth Organization, in New Britain, the Rev. Iskhag Rehana has visited the congregation in Yonkers twice, celebrating the Qurbana there on Christmas with a very good congregation.

In Philadelphia he celebrated a memorial Qurbana for three members of the church there who recently departed this life. He is very much pleased with the zeal shown by the church in Philadelphia, and expresses special gratitude for the courtesy shown by Absalon Yokhanan, at whose home he was a guest.

Faith Is Bedrock Of Life

By: -Eshai Y. de Kelaita, L.Sc., L.M.Sc.,
Psychologist,
Member International Association of Psychologists,
Psychology Foundation of Great Britain, etc.

Habbaniya, Iraq.

The greatest harm that has befallen humanity has been the destruction of faith by the materialistic scientists of the Victorian era. Their immature findings led them to deny the existence of everything which did not respond to their touch, taste, smell, hearing and seeing.

Today we know well that there are tremendous forces in the universe of whose existence our sense organs are not sensible. Scientists now are able to demonstrate the constructive and destructive effect of a few of these forces in animal life. During such a process, none of the five special senses of the subject can inform him what is passing in his body. The very atmosphere which surrounds us is filled with myriads of vibrations, which are far beyond the range of our senses. From this vast realm of vibrations we can hear and see only a few and that too, with the aid of radio and television.

The black veil of the materialistic scientists of the Victorian era, which has darkened the spiritual life of mankind for over a century, is being torn to pieces today by many of the leading scientists of the world. Our scientific knowledge is so advanced now that we are able to weigh the harm and virtue of a thought. We have found that the negative thoughts of hatred, fear and anger have a devastating effect on the physical and mental life of the individual. We have also found that the positive thoughts of love, kindness and forgiveness promote superb health of body and mind.

These findings bring us back again to the immutable law as expounded by Jesus; that we do reap whatever we sow.

In the light of modern psychology and metaphysical science, many of the teachings of our Church are magnificent. But it is most regrettable that the sons and daughters of the Church do not realize that the practice of these teachings can invoke spiritual forces to aid them in times of crisis and distress.

Chicago Girls Mail Paper All Over World



Girls of the parish of Mar Sargis, Chicago, gather at the Patriarchate to address and mail out copies of LIGHT FROM THE EAST all over the world. They are a jolly group, meeting under the direction of Narsay Serges, secretary-treasurer of the Patriarchal Council, who is at the extreme right. Others in the picture are (left to right) Julia Odishoo, Maureen Hosanna, Shirley Bacus, Bessie Sargis, Irene Lazar and Esther Neesan.

Mar Sargis congregation has elected a new Committee, headed by Gabriel Sargis, president; Jack Bookie, secretary, and Alex Warda, treasurer.

On April 21 a dinner was given in honor of members of the old and new church committees in the beautifully redecorated basement of the church.

India Issues Wonderful Book On Patriarchal 30th Jubilee



From India comes an astonishing and welcome book; "A History of the Holy Apostolic Catholic Church of the East", printed on the Mar Narsay press, at Trichur, South India. It is mostly in the Malayalam language, with foreword and epilogue in English.

On the cover is a reproduction of the Patriarchal Insignia, recently adopted by His Holiness Mar Shimun XXIII. The book, a history of the Church of the East in India, was issued in commemoration of the thirtieth anniversary of the consecration of Mar Eshai Shimun to that exalted office.

Illustrations are profuse. One of them is a picture of the Cathedral Church of Mart' Maryam, at Trichur. Others show the grave of the late Metropolitan of India, Mar Timotheus, and scenes in the long battle of the Church in India to fight off the Jesuit Inquisition brought by the Portuguese. This struggle was vividly portrayed by the renowned English historian Edward Gibbon, thus: 'The title 'Mother of God' was offensive to their ears. They measured with scrupulous care the honours of the Virgin Mary, whom the superstition of the Latins had almost exalted to the rank of a goddess. When her image was first presented to the disciples of St. Thomas, they indignantly exclaimed 'We are Christians, not idolators!' Their simple devotion was content with the veneration of the cross.'

Other illustrations show the Speaking Stone of Si-an Fu, in China, and the cross over the grave of the Apostle Thomas, who brought the faith to India within twenty years of the resurrection of Christ.

Among remarkable features of the book is a series of pictures of Persian crosses, like those worn by prelates of the Church of the East today, and found in considerable number on the walls of church buildings and monuments throughout India. All these Persian crosses are of the same design; square in shape, with three rounds at each end. Above the cross is the descending Dove, symbol of the Holy Spirit, touching the top of the cross with its beak. At the base of the cross is a representation of twin waters believed to represent the Two Rivers, Tigris and Euphrates.

Price \$1.00; order of Patriarchal Council,
6346 Sheridan Road,
Chicago 45, Illinois

New Church To Rise Above Nineveh's Ruins

A new church will crown the huge mound that covers the glories of ancient Nineveh, the Patriarch is informed in a letter from Mosul.

Deacon Giwargis S. Binyamin, of Ashita, writes;

"The total sum now in our treasury is 1,000 dinars." (An Iraqi dinar is the equivalent of the English pound.) "Through God's help in the near future we will begin erecting our church. For its completion we will need 2,500 dinars. We will raise this money before long. We have a limit of one year and three months from this time for raising this sum, according to the permission granted us by the Iraqi government."

Deacon Binyamin is a member of the committee charged with the raising of this sum to build a place of worship in Mosul for members of the Church of the East. He and two companions went to Baghdad. He writes;

"We were greatly assisted by the committee of the Church of Mar Qardagh, in the camp of Gailani, in raising a sum of 100 dinars from members of that congregation. We are grateful to them and also to members of the camp at Habbaniyeh. There we were given the help of three volunteers, Deacon Warda Odishoo, Yacoub Agha Khan and Zaro Amro. For three days these men were going around with us from house to house until 10 o'clock in the evening. In Habbaniyeh we raised the sum of 200 dinars, for which we are very grateful."

Nineveh's enormous ruins stretch for miles along the east bank of the Tigris. Oriental researchers from this country have uncovered only a very little of the tremendous wealth of sculpture that indicates the glory of that ancient capital. Now the cross of Maran Eshoo Meshkha will rise again above it.

San Francisco Parish Revived

On a recent visit to San Francisco, the Rev. Elisha Oushana, priest of the Church of Mar Addai at Turlock, California, revived the Church of the East in that Golden City of the West Coast.

A new committee was named, headed by President Simons Phillips, better known to Assyrians as Amijan Parhad. Kashisha Elisha and the Committee plan to establish a parish in San Francisco on a permanent basis. There are some 140 families of Assyrians living in San Francisco, in addition to 20 families in Oakland.

The Turlock Church is now completely furnished with new benches, installed at a cost of \$5,000. This is the fruit of a great deal of sacrifice by the congregation, each family buying a pew, as well as helping to raise money in other ways.

The San Francisco Church contributed \$500 to this sum out of funds previously collected and deposited in the bank during the first visit of the Patriarch to that city in 1941.

A play, "True Friendship", was given in Turlock on April 29, Easter Sunday according to the reckoning of the East. Church members eagerly bought the tickets.

Divine services during Lent have been conducted regularly, and were well attended.

CUB'S BARBER SHOP

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Hours 9-7 S. Joseph

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1. אדם חייב לנהוג כבוד ויראה כל יצור חי. 2. כל אדם חייב ללמוד תורה ופיתוח אישיותו. 3. כל אדם חייב לנהוג בנאמנות עם אחרים. 4. כל אדם חייב לשלם את חובותיו. 5. כל אדם חייב לנהוג בצדק ולקיים את חוקי המדינה. 6. כל אדם חייב לנהוג ברחמים וחסד עם עניים וחסרי יכולת. 7. כל אדם חייב לנהוג בנאמנות עם אלוהים. 8. כל אדם חייב לנהוג בצדק ולקיים את חוקי המדינה. 9. כל אדם חייב לנהוג ברחמים וחסד עם עניים וחסרי יכולת. 10. כל אדם חייב לנהוג בנאמנות עם אלוהים.

11. כל אדם חייב לנהוג בצדק ולקיים את חוקי המדינה. 12. כל אדם חייב לנהוג ברחמים וחסד עם עניים וחסרי יכולת. 13. כל אדם חייב לנהוג בנאמנות עם אלוהים. 14. כל אדם חייב לנהוג בצדק ולקיים את חוקי המדינה. 15. כל אדם חייב לנהוג ברחמים וחסד עם עניים וחסרי יכולת. 16. כל אדם חייב לנהוג בנאמנות עם אלוהים. 17. כל אדם חייב לנהוג בצדק ולקיים את חוקי המדינה. 18. כל אדם חייב לנהוג ברחמים וחסד עם עניים וחסרי יכולת. 19. כל אדם חייב לנהוג בנאמנות עם אלוהים. 20. כל אדם חייב לנהוג בצדק ולקיים את חוקי המדינה.

לפיכך נראה שהכוונה היא לתפוצת התורה בארץ ישראל בשנת ה'תקל"ב (1812) וזו היא השנה שבה נהגו לכתוב תוספות לתורה.

בנוסף לכך יש להתייחס גם לעניין של פרשנות התורה על ידי רבנים ואנשי אמונה, שהיו מנסים להבין ולהסביר את המעשים הללו.

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