

المجمع السونهادوسي المقدّس
لكنيّسة المشرق الآشورية



ܡܚܘܠܐ ܕܡܫܝܚܐ ܕܡܪܝܢܐ ܕܡܪܝܢܐ
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❖ *The Holy Synod of the Holy Apostolic Catholic Assyrian Church of the East* ❖

For Immediate Release

23 April 2013

The Holy Synod of the Holy Apostolic Catholic Assyrian Church of the East, presided over by His Holiness Mar Dinkha IV, Catholicos-Patriarch, wishes to express its deep sorrow and condemnation of the abduction of the Syriac Orthodox Metropolitan of Aleppo Mar Gregorius Youhanna Ibrahim and the Greek Orthodox Metropolitan of Aleppo Paul Yazigi (Patriarchate of Antioch), the brother of His Beatitude Youhanna X Yazigi, Greek Orthodox Patriarch of Antioch and All the East.

We offer our prayers to the Triune God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, for the safe return of the two metropolitans, while condemning at the same time this treacherous act of cowardice and kidnapping, which goes against every religious principle and morals. We further offer our solicitude and fraternal prayers to His Holiness Mar Ignatius Zakka I Iwas, Syriac Orthodox Patriarch of Antioch and His Beatitude Youhanna X Yazigi, Greek Orthodox Patriarch of Antioch and All the East, the respective heads of the Churches to which these two abducted hierarchs belong. May the driver of the metropolitans, a deacon of the Church, rest in peace with all the martyrs of Christ; Amen.

We call upon the United Nations and the international community at large to do all that is within their power to see to the release and safe return of these two hierarchs. Finally, we pray for an end to the violence in Syria, so that all the ethnic and religious components of that country may co-exist peacefully.

Issued from the Secretariat of the Holy Synod of the Assyrian Church of the East, this 23rd day of April, 2013.

By Grace,

✠ Mar Awa Royel
Secretary

