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The Center for Religious and Heritage Studies in the Holy Land

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We need a religious discourse which unites and does not divide

The majority of the Arab populations during the "Arab uprisings" are making it clear to everyone that the term "pluralism and democracy" should quickly replace the terms associated in the last sixty years with "tyranny and despotism" throughout the Arab world. As a result of these uprisings elections were held in Tunisia, Morocco and Egypt which all resulted in sweeping victories for moderate and fanatic (salafi) Islamic movements in free and transparent elections.

In the midst of these dramatic changes taking place throughout the Arab World, we are in dire need of a religious discourse which totally rejects the one-man despotic rule and which unites all segments of the population against extremists and terrorists. We need

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The Christian and Muslim Arabs' Heritage Conference in the Holy Land

23rd Session, Titled

"The 2011 Arab Uprisings and their Impact: Locally, Regionally and Internationally"

15-17 September 2011, Bethlehem Hotel – Bethlehem

Al-Liqa' Center held its annual Christian-Muslim Dialogue Conference focusing in the proceedings, 15-17 September 2011, on "The 2011 Arab Uprisings (The Arab Spring) and their impact". Participants included leading political, social, religious and educational figures from the West Bank, Jerusalem and Galilee.

Opening ceremonies on Thursday 15 September 2011 included speeches by the Governor of the Bethlehem

Governorate 'Abd Al-Fattah Hamayel; Mr. Jack Khazmo, Editor of Jerusalem's Al-Bayader As-Siyasi and Minister of prisoners and liberated ones, Mr. 'Isa Qararqe' and Dr. Geries Khoury, Director of Al-Liqa' Center who surveyed lessons learned from the Arab Spring uprisings including the ability to stand in the face of Arab regimes' tyranny and restoring the Palestinian problem back to Arab hearts. Mr. Musa Darwish, Deputy Director of Al-Liqa' moderated the

opening ceremonies.

The proceedings of the conference began with a lecture by Prof. Thiab 'Ayyoush on "The Arab uprisings and reasons and motives behind them". Dr. Peter Qumri moderated this lecture. Prof.'Ayyoush focused on factors that led to the uprisings including political, social and economic factors and not to mention the absence of freedoms, corruption and inability to absorb differences in society.

Dr. Bernard Sabella focused in his lecture on "The impact of foreign interference in Arab uprisings". His lecture was moderated by Prof. Qustandi Shomali.

In the second day of the conference, 16 September 2011, a Christian and a Muslim invocations by Bishop Bustrus Mu'allem and Attorney 'Ali Rafi' inaugurated the proceedings. The first lecture was writen by Dr. Eyad Al-Bargouthy and was summarized and read by Dr. Nasri Qumsiyyeh, the moderator of the lecture. Following deep discussions of Al-Bargouthi's paper, conferees took a Friday prayer and lunch breaks.

The afternoon session began with a lecture by Ahmad Ghneim which was moderated by Mr. Zoughbi Zoughbi. Ms. Zahira Kamal followed with a lecture on "The Arab uprisings and the quest for democracy and social justice". Ms. Kamal pointed out ways to

achieve these goals of the uprisings and social justice. Mrs. Hanadi Soudah moderated this lecture.

Dr Mahmoud Yazbek of the University of Haifa lectured on "Historical transformations that led to the uprisings in the media as well as changes in the cultural and social infrastructures". Mr. 'Ziad Shlewit moderated the lecture. Deep and frank discussions by the conferees followed each lecture.

In the third day (17 September 2011) of the conference proceedings began in the aftermath of Christian-Muslim invocations by Bishop Butrus Mu'allem and Attorney 'Ali Rafe'.

The first lecturer was Dr. Al-Mutawakel Taha who focused on "The role of the educated ones in the Arab Uprisings". Attorney 'Al Rafi' moderated the lecture. A panel comprised of Fr. Dr. Rafiq Khoury and Sheikh Jamil Hamami followed. Father Rafiq focused on present popular uprisings which have not produced new leadership that is required to lead to a new and better reality. His focus was the Egyptian Uprising as symbol of other uprisings. He warned of the "Devil of sectarianism" which is deeply rooted in our societies.

Sheikh Hamami had a very positive view of the Arab uprisings and guoted from the Al-Azhar document









which calls for tolerance... like the document of Najran which was developed earlier by the Prophet and the companions. This panel was moderated by Dr. Geries S. Khoury.

The proceedings of the conference were concluded with a panel on "Where the Arab world is heading" which was moderated by Mr. Musa Darwish. 'Ala Al-'Azzah focused on theoretical background of despotism and the present uprisings. On the other hand Dr. Mahdi 'Abd Al-Hadi pointed out that the Ottomans are returning through the gates of Gaza with a new secular discourse. He added that we see the beginning of the end of political Islam and questioned Palestinian indifference toward the PLO. Following deep and frank discussions in the above mentioned panels, Dr. Geries S. Khoury read:

The Final Communiqué of the 23rd Session of the 2011 Conference

It was apparent in recent years and decades that the Arab world was overwhelmed with tyranny and unable to stand up and to play an important role like other peoples in the World. With this background the Arab Uprisings took place to change present realities. It all started in Tunisia in late 2010 and early 2011. The first Arab Uprising took place as a result of economic inequalities, absence of democracy and freedom, until then the world thought of the Arab peoples as human sheep led by autocratic rulers who wanted to maintain the rule with the help of small circles of family members, relatives and friends.

But Arab youngsters whose horizons of the world have been expanding through education and the mass media of the internet... etc were able to attract millions in various fields of knowledge to demand changes in present tyrannical realities.

But there are those whose vested interests in the area's wealth are quick to offer billions of dollars to these countries with the uprisings.

For some it appears even that the Palestinian problems has been marginalized in these uprisings. Despite of that the Palestinian problem remains the central focus in the Arab world now. In the past all major developments in the Arab region have to do with the Palestinian problem.







We, in Palestine, are an integral part of our Arab nation. Our Palestinian problem will be affected by the uprisings. For the Arab Spring of 2011 means the setting up of an independent state with Arab East Jerusalem as its capital. None of the Arab masses have forgotten that this Palestinian quest is a holy duty of every Arab in this great Arab nation. And even though the people of the nation were unable to perform this holy duty, nowadays with the uprisings the masses' voices are loud and clear with the Palestinians and their leaders demanding, among others, all countries

of the world including the United Nations and the

Security Council to recognize the Palestinian state on

the 4th of June 1967 boundaries.

Christian Muslim relations likewise, are deeply impacted by the changes taking place in the region. For this relation is not in isolation from movements in the Arab world. It is affected by it and it is affecting it. If masses are not totally awakened to this reality, this relationship can become a toy in the hands of vested interests of this or that group who are intending to poison this relation.





We are witnessing a new phenomenon in the Arab world. The final chapter has not been written or realized yet. Arab uprisings / Arab Spring must be focused in its trek toward the best interests of the nation. Hope is the key despite doubts and fears. But Hope is not enough. It is necessary that all Arab abilities and energies must be focused in order to realize this Hope economically, culturally, socially, politically and religiously. With Hope and Work Arab people will arrive safely to the shore of the better reality that the Arab Uprisings are seeking. (Read the full report on our website).







Theology and the Local Church in the Holy Land Conference (Palestinian Contextual Theology Conference)

19th Session, on

"An Arab Christian Vision of a Different Arab and Palestinian Future."

15-17 December 2011 | Bethlehem Hotel - Bethlehem

Al-Liqa' Center held its 19th session of the Palestinian Contextual Theology Conference in the Holy Land. Religious, Political, academic and tens of other leading members of the community attended this three day conference.

The opening ceremonies of the conference which took place Thursday the 15th was moderated by Dr. Geries S. Khoury and included welcoming remarks by H. B. Patriarch Michael Sabbah, President of the Board of Trustees of Al-Liqa', Melkite catholic Archbishop Elias Chacour, and Melkite Orthodox Archbishop Atallah Hanna.

The first lecture focused on the Church in the Middle East and political power including the historical experience as a minority was put forth by Rev. Dr. Mitri Rahib of the Lutheran Church in a lecture that was moderated by Mr. Saliba Tawil. The second lecture of the first day was on a "Theological vision of the church and political authority" by Rev. Dr. Na'im 'Ateek of the Anglican Church which moderated by Fr. Dr. Ibrahim Shomali of the Latin Patriarchate.

In the second day of the conference, 16 December 2011, proceedings were preceded by prayers and meditations. The first lecturer Fr. Dr. Jamal Khader of the Latin Patriarchate focused on "How Christian Arabs read and analyze what is happening in the Arab world today". The lecture was moderated by Mr. Zoughbi Zoughbi, Director of Wi'am Center.

This lecture was followed by a presentation by Dr. Geries S. Khoury on "The state of the church in the Arab world today: Participant or sideliner". The lecture was moderated by Mrs. Hanadi Soudah Younan.





Following a short coffee break, Fr. Dr. Rafiq Khoury focused in his lecture on "Christian presence in the East today". The lecture was moderated by Attorney Badira Khouryeh. Each lecture was followed with intensive discussions by conferees and lecturers.

In the afternoon session Mr. Ziad Shlewit focused in his lecture on "The vision of Christians in Galilee about Christian future in the Arab world in light of the ongoing uprisings". His lecture was based on questionnaire distributed to 100 persons who expressed their concerns at present and future Christian presence in Galilee. Dr. Joseph Zaknoun moderated the lecture and focused on a questionnaire he distributed to Bethlehem University students.

In the third day of the conference, 17 December 2011, the proceedings were introduced with prayers and meditations. The first panel revolved around "Testimonies from Church leaders in Arab countries: Syria, Lebanon, Egypt, Palestine and Iraq". The panel was moderated by Dr. Adnan Musallam. Participants in the panel were: Bishop Mar Sawirus Malki Murad of the Syrian Orthodox Church; Fr. Joseph Saghbini from Lebanon; Fr. Abdel Masih Fahim from Egypt; Dr. Charli Abu Sa'da from Palestine. Dr. Musallam introduced the absent Fr. Faris Mansur of the Syrian Catholic Church from Iraq and quoted few paragraphs from his lecture which focused on the present status of Christians in Iraq.

Following a short coffee break the young people's panel took place which focused on "Arab Christian Youth's opinion in the ongoing Arab uprisings and their impact on the future of the church and shared living". The panel which was moderated by Ms. Sima Al-Ghawali included Ms. Roula Habib, Mr. Sharbel Dakwar, Ms. Rania Jacaman-Murra, Mr. Osama Zoughbi, and Ms. Haneen Abu Sa'da. All young people of the panel expressed themselves in a frank and objective manner.

The last panel and event of the conference which was moderated by Dr. Peter Qumri focused on



"What do we expect from churches in the Arab world in view of present developments?". Panel members included Melkite Catholic Bishop Boutros Mu'allem, Anglican Rev. Hussam Na'oum (who spoke on behalf of Bishop Souheil Diwani), Greek Orthodox Bishop 'Atallah Hanna, and Mr. Rif'at Qassis member of the Lutheran Church.

In concluding the 3-day conference, Dr. Geries S. Khoury emphasized the success of the conference and the frankness that was expressed freely. He thanked all those who lectured and participated in the proceedings of the conference. He thanked members of Al-Liqa's Board of Trustees for their full support of Al-Liqa's programs. Dr. Khoury spoke of the intentions to hold a study days in Bethlehem and in Galilee which will revolve around subjects put forth in this conference.

This conference, according to Dr. Geries, was characterized by active Muslim presence in the conference as seen in the presence of Prof. Thiab Ayyoush, Deputy President of Al-Liqa' Board of Trustees and Mr. Musa Darwish, Deputy Director of Al-Liqa' Center from the Bethlehem area, and attorney 'Ali Rafi' and Mr. Fathi Fourani and their wives from Galilee. Also other friends of Al-Liqa' were present who enriched the proceedings of the Conference. (Read the full report on our website).







Silver Jubilee

Silver Jubilee Celebrations of Al-Liqa' (Quarterly review) 1985-2010

July 19th 2011 | Bethlehem Hotel – Bethlehem

Religious leaders, community leaders, academicians and friends of Al-Liqa Center from Bethlehem area and from Galilee, met for three hours to celebrate the Silver Jubilee of Al-Liqa' (Quarterly review), 1985-2010.

Mr. Musa Darwish, Deputy Director of Al-Liqa' Center, moderated the event. Speakers included Dr. Geries S. Khoury who shed the light on the versatile content of Al-Liqa' review in its 25 years of active existence illustrating in the meantime the comprehensive Index of the Al-Liqa' review, 1985-2010.

His Beatitude Patriarch Michael Sabbah followed with a solemn speech about the journal and Al-Liqa' Center. Fr. Dr. Rafiq Khoury, the Executive Editor of the journal, who was described by the moderator as

the dynamo behind the content of the journal, also focused on the various dimensions of the content of the journal. Last but not least a long time friend and an active participant of the Center since its inception in 1982, Attorney 'Ali Rafi' from Galilee reflected on his long association with the Center. Sheikh 'Abd Al-Majeed 'Ata, The Mufti of the Bethlehem Governorate, in addition, reflected on the Center and encouraged everyone to become an active reader and subscriber of the journal.

Participants then were invited for a reception to honor this Silver Jubilee Anniversary. The reception included as well the cutting of the cake that was made especially for this solemn occasion. (Read the full report on our website).







Al-Liqa' Center's Annual Celebration of Christmas

16 December 2011 | The Bethlehem Hotel, Bethlehem

On Friday evening, 16 December 2011, a Christmas Celebration was held at the invitation of Al-Liqa' Center in the Bethlehem Hotel. Two hundred persons, Christians and Muslims attended this celebration. Dr. Geries S. Khoury opened the ceremonies by pointing out that the message of Christians is a message of hope; love and the renewal of faith which is our source of strength, and steadfastness and shared living. Prof. Thiab Ayyoush, Deputy President of Al-Liqa's Board greeted Christian and Muslim attendees. Melkite Catholic Bishop Butros Mu'allem presented a biblical reading of Christmas and its spiritual meaning; while Sheikh 'Abd Al-Majeed 'Ata, Mufti

of Bethlehem, greeted fellow Christians stressing in the process national unity. Melkite Orthodox Bishop Atallah Hanna, likewise, stressed national unity.

Mr. Nayef Khoury and author Fathi Furani presented Christian and Muslim reflections. Attorney 'Ali Rafe' presented Qur'anic recitation of the birth of 'Isa (Jesus). Mr. Laurence Sammour and Dr. Charlie Abu Sa'da chanted eastern Christmas carols, while young Maya Handal accompanied on the Org by her mother Reem Handal sang Christmas carols.

At the end of the evening program the participants were invited to have dinner together.







Ramadan Iftar

Joint Christian Muslim Ramadan Iftar and a Panel on Fasting in Islam and Christianity

11 August 2011 | Bethlehem Hotel, Bethlehem

Leading academic, social, public and religious personalities in the Bethlehem and the Jerusalem area attended the Panel titled "The Basic Principles of Fasting in Islam and Christianity". Sheik Muhammad Isma'il 'Ayesh, Director of the Islamic Awqaf (Endownments) in the Governorate of Bethlehem, and Mr. Laurence Sammour, a member of Al-Liqa' Board of Trustees, took part in this panel which was moderated by Mr. Younes Jaddu'.

Dr. Geries S. Khoury in the opening of this Ramadan gathering welcomed participants and extended a blessed Ramadan month greeting to all. Dr. Khoury mentioned that Al-Liqa' started this tradition of the joint Ramadan Iftar in the early 1980's the aim of which was to strengthen national unity and the spirit of love and respect as well as shared living.

Following the panel presentation as well as the question and answer which followed, and because of the month of holy Ramadan, The month of Fasting, all attendees were invited to Al-Liqa's joint Ramadan lftar. (Read the full report on our website).



International Activities

Initiative of the Holy Land Custody and the Terra Santa Journal

The Antonianum Auditorium in Rome | | 21-22 October 2011



Dr. Geries S. Khoury was invited to the Conference by the Director of Terra Santa Review, Mr. Giuseppe Caffulli, and his colleague Carlo Giorgi. He was asked to talk about Al-Liqa Center's experience in Christian – Muslim dialogue.



Dr. Khoury impressions about the meeting were positive. At the same time he felt that many good people still need more information in order to hear the real story of the Palestinian people and their interest in achieving just peace with the Israelis. (Read the full report on our website).

Activities in Bethlehem

The ICCJ – Kairos Palestine Conversation

Talita Qumi – Beit Jala | 27-28 October 2011

A meeting between Palestinian theologians and Christian theologians' members in the ICCJ was held at Talita Qumi – Beit Jala to discuss some issues regarding the Palestinian Kairos document. At the meeting were present two Jewish members of the ICCJ as observers.

The themes which were discussed included: Approaches to the Bible, Theology and justice, The Jewishness of Jesus, and The religious significant of the land.

Participants discussed the issues in a friendly and frank atmosphere. The aim was to know each other's view more deeply. (Read the full report on our website)



Study Day: Shared Living Program

Sabeel Ecumenical Liberation Theology Center and Al-Liqa' Center for Religious and Heritage Studies in the Holy Land

"Shared Living in the Coming State"

1/12/2011 | Golden Park - Beit Sahour

The Study Day was attended by more than 150 leading Christian and Muslim religious leaders from throughout the West Bank and East Jerusalem as well as from Galilee/ Israel.

The conferees were welcomed by Al-Liqa' Center Director, Dr. Geries S. Khoury, and Al-Sabeel Director, Rev. Dr. Na'im Ateeg.

The first panel of the "Study Day" which was moderated by former ambassador to France, Mrs Hind Khoury, included His Beatitude Michael Sabbah, former Patriarch of the Latin Patriarchate, and his Excellency the Mufti of Jerusalem and the Holy Land, Muhammad Hussein.

The second panel of the Study Day which was moderated by Ms. Samia Khoury of Al-Sabeel, focused on "The future of shared living in light of the establishment of an independent Palestine state". Fr. Dr. Rafiq Khoury and the Mufti of Bethlehem Governate Sheikh 'Abd al-Majeed 'Ata discussed religious discourse and shared living and reaffirmed the need for uniting this religious discourse for the sake of national unity, shared living and the acceptance of the other. Attorney Mary Rock, stressed the legal aspects that would guarantee religious freedom, democracy and civil society. The third panel was





moderated by Pastor Ibrahim Nairooze from Nablus. Participants were Islamic propagator Zuheir al-Dib'i; Rev. Dr. Na'im Ateeq and Dr. Geries S. Khoury Following the above mentioned panels ten group discussions were formed to discuss questions that were pointed out by panel members. Recommendation by each group was crystallized and presented to the conferees. (Read the full report on our website)

The international conference of Kairos Palestine: A Moment of Truth

4-9 December 2011 Bethlehem Hotel- Bethlehem

Dr. Geries S. Khoury, Director of Al-Liqa' Center took part in the proceedings of Kairos Palestine's international conference which took place 4-9 December 2011. Dr. Khoury participated in a panel titled: "Theological Contextual and Perspectives" which was moderated by Dr. Muna Mushahwar of the Kairos Youth. Dr. Khoury focused in his talk on the effect of "A Moment f Truth" on the Christians of Galilee.

Al-Liqa Center Visitors

July 18, 2011

Dr. Geries S. Khoury met a group of pilgrims led by Dr. Paolo Farina from the Italian city Andria and its surroundings, and presented to them a lecture on Al-Liqa' Center and its activities and programs. Dr. Khoury stressed the importance of interfaith dialogue and he pointed out the need of the church in the West to dialogue with Muslims who reside in the West. Khoury focused also on Palestinian local theology and challenges facing Christians in the Holy Land. The lecture was followed by a question and an answer session.



August 25, 2011

An Italian group from different Italian cities visited the Center on 25-8-2011. The group visit aimed to know about Al-Liqa' Center's programs and activities.

Dr. Khoury met the group and explained to them the reasons behind the foundation of Al-Liqa Center and its programs and he stressed the importance of the Arab Christian Muslim dialogue and the Palestinian contextual Theology programs.



October 6, 2011

An Italian youth group led by Fr. Nandino visited al-Liqa Center and met with Dr. G. Khoury, Mr. M. Darwish and Dr. Adnan Musallam. Al-Liqa board members briefed the group about al-Liqa activities and about the actual social and political situation in Palestine. In addition the al-Liqa members spoke about the importance of interfaith dialogue and how this contributes to a social justice and peace. The daily life difficulties were part of the discussion which followed. After this all had a meal together at al-Liqa Center meeting room.

October 11, 2011

Dr. G. Khoury met on Tuesday 11 October 2011 a team of church leaders from England headed by Mr. Richard Jones. The purpose of their visit as they said is to meet the 'living stones' and to listen and to learn. Dr Khoury introduced to them the work of Al-Liqa Center and its importance especially the interfaith dialogue and the Palestinian contextual Theology programs and the al-Liqa research work and publications. In addition Dr. Khoury spoke about the Christian viewpoint of what is happening in Israel/ Palestine and its impact upon the church.

October 28, 2011

Director of the Swedish Center for Theological Studies and Director of the Swedish Christian Center in Jerusalem along with a Swedish delegation visited Al-Liqa' Center. Dr. Geries S. Khoury welcomed group members and presented an overview of Al-Liqa's programs especially the Christian-Muslim dialogue activities hoping that cooperation between the Swedish group and the Center will become stronger in the areas of studies and encounter and in the works of the Center's conferences on dialogue and local theology.



Al-Liqa' Center's Most Recent Publications

June 2011 - December 2011

1. Al-Liqa' quarterly review; year 26, no. 3 + 4

This issue of the quarterly review focuses on the



proceedings of the Synod of Catholic Bishops in the Middle East Conference held in Rome, 10-24 October 2010, at the request of Pope Benedict XVI. The content is introduced by an editorial of Al-Liqa' Center and followed by many studies by clerics and secular persons. Several articles were written

by personalities from inside and outside the Holy Land. Also in this issue are included documents concerning speeches by the Pope and the final communique of the conference.

2. Al-Liga' Journal, volume 36, June 2011

Contents include several articles: a study on Islam in Austria, religious discourse, quality of Christian presence in the Holy Land, and Political instability as reflected in local Palestinian press. Contents included as well opinions on



"Christians and Ramadan" and on the priest as a life of witness. There is also a report on Palestinian Contextual Theology Conference, February 2011.

3. Al-Liqa' Journal, volume 37, December 2011

Contents include several articles: Jerusalem:



One City, Two Peoples and Three Religions in Search of Peace; The Legislative Creation of Palestinian Citizenship: Discourses in the Early Mandate Period; Approaches to the Bible; Al-Kashshaf, Bethlehem, 1934 – 1937; An Introduction to Palestinian Folklore. There are also reports on Christian

– Muslim Dialogue Conference 2011 and on the Palestinian Contextual Theology Conference.

List and Prices of Al-Liqa's Publications 1982-2011 (All publications are in Arabic unless specified)

Christian - Muslim Dialogue Conference (1982 –2010)	
1. Proceedings of the First Conference, <i>Jerusalem</i> 1983 to 12 th Conference, Bethlehem 1994	\$10
2. 13th Conference, <i>Bethlehem</i> . 1995. (see no. 9 Miscellaneous)	\$10
3. 14 th Conference, <i>Bethlehem</i> , 1996	\$10
4. 15 th Conference, <i>Bethlehem</i> , 1998	\$10
5. 16 th Conference, <i>Bethlehem</i> , 2001	\$10
6. 17 th Conference, <i>Bethlehem</i> , 2003	\$10
7. 18 th Conference, <i>Bethlehem</i> , 2005	\$10
8. 19 th Conference, <i>Bethlehem</i> , 2007 (See Al-Liqa' quarterly review, year 22, no. 4, 2007)	\$10
9. 20 th Conference, <i>Bethlehem</i> , 2008 (See Al-Liqa' quarterly review, year 23, no. 3, 2008)	\$10
10. 21 st Conference, <i>Bethlehem</i> 2009 (See Al-Liqa' quarterly review, year 25, nos. 1,2, 2010)	\$10

Al- Liqa' Journal (in English) 1992 - 2011

Vol. 1; August 1992 – Vol. 37; December 2011

Annual subscription:

Individuals \$20 Institutions \$30

Price per one issue \$8 + postage

Al-Liqa' Center's Documents

(Available in Arabic and English)

- 1. Theology and the Local Church in the Holy Land, \$4 (16 pages)
- 2. In Jerusalem, Justice and Peace Embrace Each \$2 Other, (5pages)

Al-Liqa' Arabic Language - Quarterly Review (1985 - 2011)

Year 1-Year 3 (3 issues each year) \$20 per Year

Year 4-Year 26 (4 issues each year) \$40 per Year

Price per one issue \$10

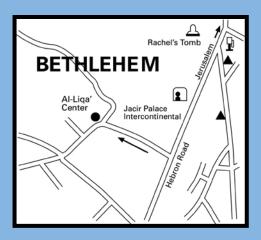
Miscellaneous	
1. Fr. Peter Madrous, Paul the Apostle and the Man (67 pages)	\$5
2. Najib Nassar, Under the Protection of the Arabs (91 pages)	\$5
3. Younis Amr, <i>Jerusalem the City of God</i> (152pages)	\$5
4. Louis I. Hazboun, <i>Principles of Sociology of Religion</i> (162 p.)	\$5
5. Western Christian Zionism, (43 pages)	\$3
6. Jerusalem Between Religious Freedom and Political Sovereignty,(in English) (78pages)	\$5
7. Christian Feasts between Unity and Pluralism, (96 pages).	\$5
8. Qustandi Shomali, <i>El-Carmel</i> (534 pages)	\$10
9. Jerusalem: Palestinian Muslim- Christian Studies (600 pages)	\$10
10. Anton Shomali, Collected Poems (255 Pages)	\$7
11. Fr. Dr. Rafiq Khoury, Contextualized Eastern Churches (393 pages).	\$7
12. Jamal Salsa', Palestinian Poetical Message Between Religion and Nationalism (174 pages)	\$6
13. Thiab A. Ayyoush, Social Problems: An Islamic Perspective (212 pages) (in English)	\$7
14. Sami Adwan, Reality of Religious Education, both Muslim and Christian, in Palestinian Schools .(404 pages)	\$10
15. Fr. Dr. Rafiq Khoury, Say your Word and Go! Quick Inputs into Vital Files (273 pages)	\$7
16. Fr. Dr. Rafiq Khoury, <i>The Book of Days: In Search of the Lost Word</i> (159 pages)	\$7
17. Geries S. Khoury, Arab Christians: Rootedness Presence Openness (278 pages)	\$10
18. Geries S. Khoury, Arab Christians and Muslims: Past Present Future (272 pages)	\$10
19. 'Abd Al-Rahman 'Abbad, Dialogue in Islam (188 pages)	\$10
20. Al-Liqa' quarterly review indexes, 1985-2010 (266 pages.)	\$10

Palestinian Contextualized Theology Conference (1987-2010)	
Proceedings of the First Conference, <i>Jerusalem</i> 1983 to the Eighth Conference, Jerusalem 1995	\$7
Ninth Conference, Bethlehem, 1996 (Contained in Al-Liqa' Journal, Vol. 9/10, (1997)	\$7
10 th Conference, <i>Bethlehem</i> , December 1998 (See Al-Liqa' quarterly review, year 19, vol 1+2, 2004)	\$10
11 th Conference, <i>Bethlehem</i> , June 2003 (There are no published proceedings)	\$10
12 th Conference, <i>the Galilee</i> , 2004 (contained in Al-Liqa' quarterly review, year 20, vol 1+2, 2005)	\$10
13 th Conference, <i>Bethlehem</i> , 2006 (contained in Al-Liqa' quarterly review, year 21, vol 3+4,2006)	\$10
14 th Conference, <i>Ibillin</i>	\$10
15 th Conference, <i>Ibillin</i> (contained in Al-Liqa' quarterly review, year 23, vol. 1, 2008)	\$10
16 th Conference, <i>Bethlehem</i> 2009 (contained in Al-Liqa' quarterly review, year 24, vol. 1, 2009)	\$10
17 th Conference, <i>Haifa</i> 2010 (contained in Al-Liqa' quarterly review, year 25, vol 3+4 2010)	\$10



Al-Liga' Center

In Jerusalem, the city sacred to billions of diverse believers, a Palestinian interfaith initiative led to the establishment of "Al-Liqa' Center", a unique place of research, study and dialogue on the religious traditions, institutions and daily life of the people of the Holy Land and the region. The program includes, interfaith dialogue, Palestinian Contextualized Theology in the Holy Land, international activities, and the publication of journal, newsletters, books and occasional papers. H.B. Patriarch Michel Sabbah, President, Board of Trustees; and Dr. Geries S. Khoury, Director.



Al-Liqa' Center's Headquarter 54-56 Al-Quds Jerusalem Str.

The Center is located less than 200 meters to the southwest of Rachel's Tomb at 54-56 Al-Quds Jerusalem Street. After passing the Jacir Palace Intercontinental to the right on the Hebron-Jerusalem Rd, take a right turn at the first intersection at the end of which Al-Liqa' Center is situated on the right side of the street.

Website of Al-Liqa' Center www.al-ligacenter.org.ps

We hope you will have the opportunity to visit Al-Liqa's web site, and to send us your reflections

Condemnation Statement

Date 28 July 2011

Your Excellency Jens Stoltberg Prime Minister Of Norway,

H.E. Mr. Svein Sevje, Ambassador, Tel Aviv

Head of the Representative Office of Norway to the Palestinian Authority Dear Brothers and sisters,

We were shocked at Al-Liqa' Centre at hearing about the criminal and brutal attack by Anders Behring Breivik on Friday July 22, 2011 where more than ninety innocent Norwegians fell victims most of them young men and women who used to work hard and aspire to a good future with all members of the international community filled with peace, security and safety.

We at Al-Liqa' Centre, Christians and Muslims, strongly condemn this terrorist act and condemn any resort to violence believing that such acts are inconsistent with our human values and religious teachings that call us to love and respect each other instead of hating and humiliating the other. The Most High God commands us in his Heavenly Books to keep away from using force or acts of violence and killing. And in the Holy Bible, He commands us "not to kill". In the Holy Qur'an, God says to us: "If anyone slew a person –unless it be for murder or for spreading mischief in the land-it would be as if he slew the whole people." (Surat Al- Ma'ida: 31)

Therefore violence cannot be justified from the human and religious viewpoint. He who acts like that is mainly motivated by blind hatred and hateful grudge and is completely devoid of moral and human values.etc...(Read the full text on our website)

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a religious discourse which promotes shared living and the understanding of the "other" and the respect of his/her point of view. We are thirsty for a religious discourse which values human dignity and religious freedom, unites and does not divide and promotes the individual and his/her role in building the nation. Yes, and there is a dire need of middle of the road discourse that is able to address the consequences of these uprisings in a clear and a decisive manner and encourages equal rights among all citizens.

To achieve these goals we, Christians and Muslims, should encourage all to participate fully in the daily life, to know and respect each other and to rebuild confidence in ourselves, to strengthen our friendship and deepen our knowledge of our Arabic history in order to strengthen the dialogical and interfaith work and to build strong bridges between all members of our Arab Nation.

This is our hope for a better Arab future in which all citizens are treated equally with full dignity and freedom.