

(†2006 - 1929)

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*Research by V. Rev. Fr. Boutros Touma Issa, translation and design
by Theodora, Touma, Tomayess and Theodore Issa.—Sep06—
(Revised July 2009)*

سبحنہ وجہ لغتہا و صفا
 مہولہ قلیہہ ذہنہ صغیرہ لہولہ محسلا

১৯৭৬ সালের ১৫ই আগস্ট
 ঢাকা

പിറമുഖം - ൧

*St. Ephraim's Syriac Orthodox Church
Perth—Western Australia*

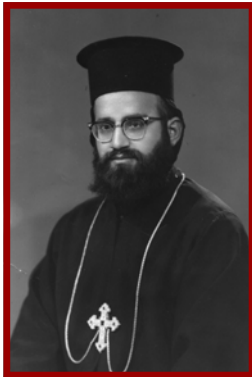


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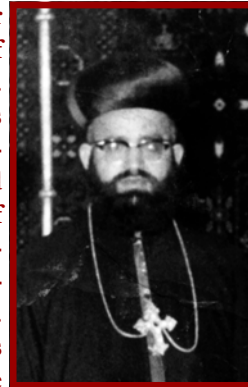
H.E. Mor Dioscoros Luka Sha'aia, in his capacity as an Archbishop during the period 1st December 1963 – 22nd September 2006✝, had occupied several positions in the Holy Church. He acted as The Patriarchal Vicar in Damascus, Beirut, Jerusalem, the Dean of the Holy Synod of the Syriac Orthodox Church of Antioch until 2005. Departed this earthly life as the Head of the Archdiocese of St. Matthew Monastery, Iraq

**THE THRICE BLESSED H.E. MOR
DIOSCOROS LUKA SHA'AIA
1929 – 2006+**

- ✞ He is Gorgis the son of Zora Sha'aia;
- ✞ The Thrice blessed was born in Bartleh in 1929;
- ✞ Received his elementary studies at the school of Bartleh. These studies went hand in hand with him attending classes to enrich his religious knowledge and ability to communicate in Syriac/Aramaic language. These were his activities during the summer months at the church's school of St. Shmouney in Bartleh;
- ✞ Completed the first year of his secondary school in Mosul – Iraq;
- ✞ In the year 1945, joined the St. Ephraim Seminary in Mosul, which was, at the time, re-located there from Zahleh – Lebanon;
- ✞ On the Feast of the Holy Cross, 14th September (Julian) (i.e. 27th September Gregorian) 1948 was one of the two seminary students who were blessed and took the Monastic habit. The other person was Mousa Salama (the thrice blessed Archbishop Mor Crisostomos Moussa Salama). In the speech conveyed on the day H.E. Dioscoros Luka gave the roadmap of what he intends to achieve being a member of the monk hood. On that day he was given the name "LUKA". *(Please refer to Lisan Al Mashriq Magazine, 1, 3 & 4, November and December 1948 pp.*



- ✞ In the year 1951 the thrice blessed was awarded Diploma in Philosophy, Theology and Nomocanon. This was followed by his appointment as a teacher at the same seminary;
- ✞ In the year 1953 his services were transferred to St. Matthew's Monastery in Nineveh;
- ✞ On 29th June 1955 he was ordained a priest/monk (Ramban);
- ✞ In the year 1961, The Thrice Blessed H.H. Moran Mor Ignatius Yacoub III (1957-1980+) issued an apostolic decree awarding the thrice blessed Luka the Holy Cross, in appreciation to his services to the Holy Church. This was joined by his appointment as a teacher at the St. Ephraim Seminary in Zahleh – Lebanon;
- ✞ In the year 1963, his services were transferred to the Patriarchate to serve at the offices of the Thrice Blessed H.H. Moran Mor Ignatius Yacoub III;
- ✞ Sunday 1st December 1963, and at the hands of The Thrice Blessed H.H. Moran Mor Ignatius Yacoub III he was ordained Archbishop and was given the name of DIOSCOROS, appointing him as the Patriarchal Vicar in Damascus. During the period of his services in Damascus, he also served the community in Lebanon on periodic intervals;
- ✞ Saturday 18th June 1966, he was appointed as the Patriarchal Vicar of Jerusalem, where he displayed the same zealotness towards the Holy Church and exerted many efforts in the service of our Holy Church and Syriac Orthodox Community;
- ✞ In the year 1980, and following the departure



of H.H. Moran Mor Ignatius Yacoub III, and in line with the huge number of requests from the faithful of St. Matthew Monastery, H.H. Moran Mor Ignatius Zakka I was approved the thrice blessed move from Jerusalem to the Archdiocese of St. Matthew Monastery in Iraq, which used to be a place that occupies a precious place in the thrice blessed heart.

- ✞ Saturday morning, 27th December 1980 left Amman, Jordan heading to Iraq to takeover the responsibilities of running the affairs of St. Matthew's Monastery, where he served wholeheartedly for some twenty five years;
- ✞ In the year 2005, and in line with the Syriac Orthodox Church's Constitution, he retired opening the way for others to serve the Church;
- ✞ On 22nd September 2006, departed this earthly life to the heavenly chambers;
- ✞ The burial service was held at the Church of St. Shmouney, Bartleh – then the thrice blessed body was carried to St. Matthew's Monastery to join the forefathers who earlier departed this earthly life.

The Thrice Blessed H.E. Mor Dioscoros Luka was known of his zealotness and seriousness, coupled courage towards the Holy Church and her affairs, always in the defense of the church's canons and laws. These great attributes were coupled with huge humility, and excellent communications skills. Whoever met him enjoyed his company, and would immediately notice his zealotness towards the Holy Church, and his eagerness to build solid relationships with others based on humility, humbleness and care. May God the Almighty rest your soul Your Eminence Mor Dioscoros Luka Sha'aia, and benefit us with your prayers.

*Your companion from youthful days
V. Rev. Fr. Boutros Touma Issa
Perth—Western Australia—The LIGHT—2006
(revised July 2009).*