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ܕܡܪܝܬܐ

ܩܝܡܐ - ܡܪܝܬܐ

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



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(1932-2007)

*A Bright light from the life of the
Very Glorious Patriarch
The Thrice Blessed H.H. Moran Mor
Ignatius Elias III
(1932—2007)*



Compiled, and authored in Syriac by V. Rev. Fr. Boutros Touma Issa,
translated and designed by Theodora, Touma, Tomayess and Theodore Issa with
the inspiration and encouragement of Bathqyomo Marine Khoury-Issa. (2007)



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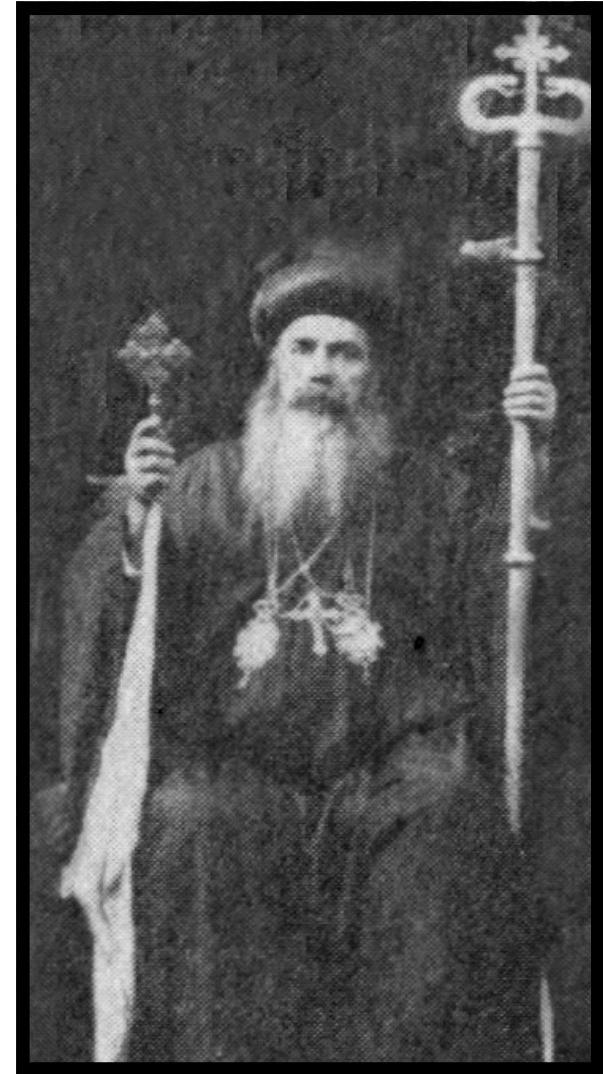
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The thrice blessed Elias III extracted from a group photo at Malabar taken in
1931

Source: The Patriarchal Journal Vol 27 Jan/Feb 1989



*The thrice blessed in the cobe on the day of placing the foundation stone at
Our Lady Virgin Mary's church in Bethlehem on 22nd March 1926—
Source: V. Rev. Fr. Boutros Touma Issa's archives*



سأ اذى حلا وحى و ا متا واحدا حاتا هوقما .
 هانقا املح : و سه حوقلا اوس : حده و ح حه
 طامعا و جا هه صا حبا مبعدا مناه م ح
 لهضنه مقما . ح اام حاصصا ا ح حبا



The thrice blessed with all the honorary medals
Source: *The 2000 Calendar issued by the Archdiocese of
the Eastern States of USA*

من بعدا و بعدا و بعدا و بعدا .

فمنّا - اهلنا واحبا

על

مبعدها في وفي من هذا المذهب وهو واحد
مبعضها واحد حسان : حقيقة لها ومعهما محتاجا :
أخر الحقيقته الكمال احكاما : سب مع مبتغا
وجبا هو منها اوسى محصلا .

2- مَحَلَّاتُ الْفُلُجِيَّةِ، مَحَلَّاتُ الْفُلُجِيَّةِ - أَوْفَدَ مَحَلَّاتُ الْفُلُجِيَّةِ 1933.

4- محمد، علي، صالح - زمزم، رحمة، 27، 1989.

6۔ چلے آؤ، محمد .

سَمِعْنَاكَ يَا رَبِّهِمْ يَا رَبِّهِمْ يَا رَبِّهِمْ
يَا رَبِّهِمْ يَا رَبِّهِمْ يَا رَبِّهِمْ
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يَا رَبِّهِمْ يَا رَبِّهِمْ يَا رَبِّهِمْ

هـ. مع بحثنا على ولاء عملائنا : محلاً لنا
مصلحة لنا في افخنا .

سقا ح منما حرقه او ومنه الكفاة الحماة.

ಗುರುತಿಗೊಳಿಸಿ - ಕೆ.ಎ

2007

[illegible]

سَا مَدَنِي مَدَنِي اِيِيَا لِهَمَدِ الْكَلَامِ مَدَنِي مَدَنِي مَدَنِي
 وَهَمَدِي . مَدَنِي اَلْهَمَدِ وَبَا مَدَنِي حَمْدُ مَدَنِي
 مَدَنِي : « اَنَا مَدَنِي مَدَنِي اَنَا . مَدَنِي
 اَلْهَمَدِ : مَدَنِي . اَلْهَمَدِ اَلْهَمَدِ . مَدَنِي
 مَدَنِي . مَدَنِي مَدَنِي . مَدَنِي مَدَنِي
 مَدَنِي : مَدَنِي . مَدَنِي مَدَنِي .
 مَدَنِي مَدَنِي . لَا مَدَنِي مَدَنِي . اَلَا اَفْ لَمْ
 اَلْهَمَدِ « (2 اَلْهَمَدِ 4 : 6 - 8)

محصل هذا عمله، فلهذا ما مبعض الحكماء : حذروا
وكتبا وحبوا مبعضا منه، وأبغضوا حكامه
عصتا له مطلقا : ولحقا له مطلقا
عاجبا . وخصصوه له محبة مبعضا من خصمه . وسموه

حَفِصَةُ الْحَرِّ حَصَمَةٌ حَلَسَقَا مِنْ حَبِّ حَسْتَا
وَحَبِّ حَلَسَا: هَمٌّ، وَاحِدٌ أَمٍّ حَلَا هُوَ أَوْحَا:
مُبْعَدًا هُوَ وَاحِدٌ لَهَا مِنْ مَنِّ أَيْحَالِهِمْ هُوَ هُوَ
الْحَمَامُ الْحَمَامَا وَحَدَّ عَافِي فَلَمَّا حَا وَأَلْهَمَهَا
هَوَاكَ مَحْسَلَا.

٥٦: دِهَوَا اَعْمَلَا مَبْعَدَا وَاَمَلَا مَدَوْنَا اَحَدَا
 حَبَا اَحَدَا مَدَوْنَا مَدَوْنَا مَدَوْنَا: حَبَا اَحَدَا
 حَبَا: وَاَمَلَا « وَاَمَلَا مَدَوْنَا » وَاَمَلَا مَدَوْنَا
 حَبَا: وَاَمَلَا لا اَحَدَا: حَبَا مَدَوْنَا اَحَدَا
 وَاَمَلَا « وَاَمَلَا مَدَوْنَا » مَدَوْنَا لا اَحَدَا
 اَحَدَا: اَحَدَا مَدَوْنَا وَاَمَلَا مَدَوْنَا حَبَا:
 مَدَوْنَا وَاَمَلَا وَاَمَلَا مَدَوْنَا وَاَمَلَا مَدَوْنَا
 مَدَوْنَا مَدَوْنَا « وَاَمَلَا » (مَدَوْنَا: 2: 20).

[illegible]

لله الشكر
والحمد لله

(† 1932 - 1917 - 1867)

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

ଆଲମା ମାଟ୍ରି - ୧

† ۱۰۰۰ یوم که در آنجا اقامت کردند، و حال:

+ اَللّٰهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ - اَلْوَصِيِّ عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ
وَعَلَىٰ اٰلِهِٗ وَسَلِّمْ ۝ ۱۸۶۷

[illegible]

† اَللّٰهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَىٰ وَجْهِهِ وَآلِهِ وَارْحَمْهُمْ
عَلَيْهِمُ السَّلَامُ

+ ا.ب. و ج.د.ه.ا.س.ع.ف.ي.ك.ل.م.ن.و.ح.ط.ز.ح.ص.ض.ظ.غ.ق.ك.ل.م.ن.و.ح.ط.ز.

ד - השלם

+ محمد افق 1887 اصله خباز، وند
سپا (ون، وند؛ اصله سالار، وند)

+ بعد افتره 1895 اصعدہ قلینڈر مذہب
الجمالیہ حب جمعیہ لایا وبعثا حبنا
مذہب مدومہ وکالایا وبعثہ حب وبعثہ

† محمد ازق 1902 لاهور: افغان
 فغانستان، احمد، صاحب، ولس
 صلا، احمد، زمستان، افغانستان، ۱۰۵

معمولا جبال .

+ جبال ازیة - ازیة 1915 - 1916 هجری
جبال ووهیلا مینا ووهیلا جبال ووهیلا
حتی جبال طاقوئال واهوئال . مری مری
ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا
م لا مری جبال لاسنالا ووهیلا ووهیلا
مری ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا .

+ ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا
جبال ووهیلا : ووهیلا ووهیلا
ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا 27
ووهیلا ووهیلا ازیة 1916 ووهیلا
ووهیلا : ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا
ووهیلا . ووهیلا 17 ووهیلا
مری . ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا
ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا .

ة - ووهیلا

+ ووهیلا 12 ووهیلا ووهیلا 1917
ووهیلا - ووهیلا ووهیلا - ووهیلا
ووهیلا . ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا
ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا

ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا :

ووهیلا 13 ووهیلا 1932

ووهیلا ووهیلا¹ ووهیلا

ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا .
ووهیلا ووهیلا .

ووهیلا² ووهیلا³

- 1- ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا .
- 2- ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا .
- 3- ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا .

ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا

آ. ووهیلا ازیة 1927 ووهیلا ووهیلا
ووهیلا

«ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا»
ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا
ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا
ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا ووهیلا

میرے لیے میرے لیے
 میرے لیے میرے لیے . میرے لیے
 میرے لیے میرے لیے . میرے لیے
 میرے لیے میرے لیے : میرے لیے
 میرے لیے میرے لیے میرے لیے .

+ هذه قصيدتها، وبعضها أهم قصائد
 حسان، مثلها مثل مكي. سبها حسان
 وجمال، ومحمد الكوا.

+ حامداً 8 واهلاً، بعد انقضاء 1922
بمجيءه من الهند فاحسب لانه علم
همه احوالنا في هذا الموضع
منه وحسنه .

+ جے اذہ کلہ سرم جہ و محصم ہے حصہ
محسود ہے جی لای اری للامہ وا ہوا
حق حق حقا مع معلما ہا ونا .
ہو الہد حداس مہادا واسحقا .

+ مع اصغر اور احمد و محمد حیدر صاحب
 خط خدمت احمد: 19 واپس و بعد از قی
 1923 مع احمد احمد سر و صاحب واپس
 ورجع الی .

مبعضاً فليتنا، وألمعنا منضماً . هج
 ح؛ وبعث بعد أسداً بعثنا سداً الف
 مذهب الكائن مع ذه حمم مي 13
 ومحل 1932 جهسا وعدة اهملك؛ ج
 والمحف . مع الحسب حبلا؛ كذا حل
 مع محنه مبعا : سداً صلهما
 محل والأقوال ومحتمل احتال .

† عند صبيحة يوم الجمعة في صلاة ركعتين
 عقب الصلاة تسبيحاً . مصحح كقوله
 وفلان في الصلاة والسلام ، وأوصفتها عقب تسبيحة
 تسبيحاً وصليته .

+ على اذني صبي خفيته : لاني صبي
 جانا ، ومنه منعه ، وانه علمه ، وانا
 جانا ، وانه ، منا جانا ، وانا
 وانه .

+ حصصه و حصصها و حصصهم
اعمالك دقتنا مستفاد : خيال
هيئتال : حصص اسم اذن انما وحصل
مرسده و مفعوله معني : هم مصدع خيال
استندال حاله و اذن بها.

+ סחטן ליל אויפגעבן : מילדעס וועגן
 מערסטע אהערט מען אפלייגן פלייגן
 וואו וועגן וועגן אהערט מערסטע
 מילדעס וועגן וועגן : מערסטע וועגן
 מערסטע

+ אלטס 8 וואו מילדעס וועגן 1931
 גלייכע מערסטע מערסטע מערסטע
 וועגן מילדעס (מילדעס) מערסטע מערסטע
 וועגן וועגן : אויסגעבן מערסטע
 מערסטע .

+ האנדעל 14 וואו מילדעס מערסטע
 מערסטע מערסטע .

+ מערסטע 21 וועגן וועגן
 מערסטע מערסטע מערסטע
 מערסטע מערסטע מערסטע
 וואו וועגן וועגן . מערסטע מערסטע
 אהערט מערסטע אהערט מערסטע
 וועגן אהערט וועגן וועגן
 מערסטע וועגן וועגן . מערסטע
 וועגן וועגן וועגן וועגן וועגן

+ מערסטע וועגן וועגן וועגן
 1925 מערסטע מערסטע 7 וועגן
 מערסטע וועגן וועגן . מערסטע
 גלייכע מערסטע מערסטע
 מערסטע . מערסטע אהערט

+ האנדעל 16 וועגן וועגן וועגן
 מערסטע מערסטע 9 וועגן וועגן
 1926 מערסטע מערסטע וועגן
 אהערט מערסטע מערסטע . מערסטע
 וועגן וועגן וועגן וועגן וועגן
 מערסטע .

+ מערסטע 16 וועגן וועגן וועגן
 1927 מערסטע מערסטע וועגן
 וועגן וועגן וועגן וועגן
 מערסטע וועגן . מערסטע
 מערסטע מערסטע וועגן וועגן
 וועגן וועגן וועגן וועגן וועגן
 מערסטע .

+ מערסטע 13 וועגן וועגן וועגן
 1928 מערסטע מערסטע וועגן
 וועגן וועגן וועגן וועגן וועגן

An image of the thrice blessed sourced from <http://www.syrianchurch.org>



പിറന്നിറങ്ങ - മിഴി

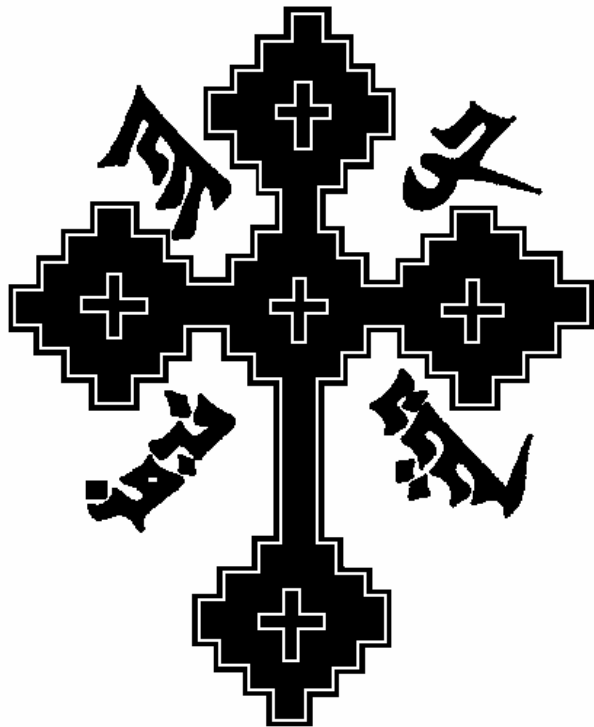


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Compiled, and authored in Syriac by V. Rev. Fr. Boutros Touma Issa, translated into English and designed by Theodora, Afodyakno Touma, Tomayess and Afodyakno Theodore Issa with the continuous support and encouragement of Bathgomo Marine Khoury-Issa. (2007)

*A Bright Light from the life of the Very Glorious Patriarch
the Thrice Blessed Saint Moran Mor Ignatius Elias III (1932—2007)*



An image of the thrice blessed sourced from <http://www.socdigest.org>



*The thrice blessed, Archbishop Gregorious Gabrielle, and some of the monks at St. Mark's Monastery, Jerusalem on 12th March 1926
Source: Patriarchal Journal, Vol 27, January—February 1989*

PREFACE

The thirteenth of February 2007 coincides the seventy fifth anniversary of the departure of the thrice-blessed H.H. Saint Mor Ignatius Elias III from this earthly life to the heavenly chambers.

The time of the enthronement of the thrice-blessed on the Holy See of Antioch was marked with great difficulties. The era witnessed the First World War (i.e. 1914-1918), which was known of its destructive power. This war, brought severe persecution against our community members and huge destruction to Our Syriac monasteries and churches as it did to the entire world. Therefore, the thrice-blessed took care of the church's orphans, widows, and all those who suffered because of this First World War, and most importantly took care of those who were subjected to the severe persecution that our beloved Syriac people suffered at the time.

God the Almighty, allowed several miracles to happen at the hands of the thrice-blessed. These miracles were either at the time the thrice-blessed was still amongst us in this earthly life, or following H.H. departure to the eternal life. Therefore, the thrice-blessed place of rest, in India, became a pilgrimage site that the faithful from around the world would approach, seeking the supplications of, and the prayers of this great saint with immense faith and hope.

The thrice-blessed lived the life of the pious, the merciful, and the righteous fathers, and everyone would recall the era of his reign on the Holy See of Antioch with great respect and honour. The Holy church considers the thrice-blessed amongst her most righteous beatitudes and saints. Therefore, the thrice-blessed life became a beacon and a brilliant example for the faithful to follow in serving the holy church to safe-keep her rights, beliefs, sacred language, culture, and liturgy.

During the reign of H.H. Moran Mor Ignatius Zakka I Iwas, the church declared Patriarch Elias III one of the Syriac Orthodox Church's saints.

In the year 1982, and on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the departure of the thrice-blessed H.H. Patriarch Elias III, I, the undersigned, and at the time of my services as the Parish Priest of St. Ephraim Syriac Orthodox Church, Amman, Jordan organized an exhibition that demonstrated, in snap shots, the righteous life of the thrice-blessed. The material of this exhibition was later kept in a folder in my archive, which formed the base of this booklet. Today, and on the seventy-fifth anniversary of the departure of the thrice-blessed from this earthly life, I offer to present this quick glance of some of the brilliant stages in the life of this great Patriarch deriving from different sources that are detailed towards the end of this booklet, for the benefit of the faithful. May God the Almighty benefit us with the prayers and supplications of the thrice-blessed.

V. Rev. Fr. Boutros Touma Issa
Perth – Australia



*The thrice blessed, with Archbishop Mor Clemis Yohanna Abajji, some priests and some of the faithful in Iraq
Source: Patriarchal Journal, Vol 27, January—February 1989*



The thrice blessed at Mor Gorgeous Church at Malabar, India in 1931 with Archbishops and members of the clergy—also appearing in this picture the personal Patriarchal Secretary
Source: Patriarchal Journal, Vol 27, January—February 1989

THE THRICE-BLESSED PATRIARCH MOR IGNATIUS ELIAS III (1867—1917—1932+)

(A) CHILDHOOD AND EDUCATION

- † He is Nasri, the son of the Archpriest Ibrahim Shaker;
- † He was born in Mardin – Turkey on 30th October 1867;
- † He received his spiritual and ingenuous Christian faith and values at the hands of his righteous and virtuous parents;
- † He received his elementary studies at the Forty Martyrs School in Mardin – Turkey;
- † He was known of being a smart and a hard working student; and at the same time known of his obedience, all this was coupled with an excellent and superb manners;

(B) MONKHOOD

- † In the year, 1887 headed to Za'faran Monastery (*Dayro Okomo "Korkmo" or Dayro Dmor Hanania*) where he was ordained a deacon, and that was the time when he took the name **ELIAS**. At Za'faran Monastery, he exerted many efforts in his studies, thus he mastered both; theology and literature;

(C) PRIESTHOOD

- † In the year 1889 became monk;
- † In the year 1892, and at the hands of Patriarch of Antioch Mor Ignatius Boutros the fourth became a priest, and was appointed at the Patriarchal See, thus becoming the Patriarch's secretary at the time. He used to undertake his work with great enthusiasm and immense passion. In his free time, he used to study and read heavily, mainly the history of the Holy Church. Because of his zealousness to the holy church, he became trustworthy by all those who worked at the Patriarchate, therefore, he was appointed the patriarchal vicar in Diar Baker Parish (Amad);

(D) ABBOTT

- † In the year 1895, Patriarch, Mor Ignatius Abdel Maseeh the second bestowed on him the honor of wearing the holy cross, and appointed him the Abbott of Mor Keryakous Monastery in Beth Shiroyeh where he served with great passion and enormous keenness. That year, 1895, witnessed catastrophic events including the outrageous massacres against our people, therefore, the thrice-blessed, through his zealousness and immense love to the holy church, rescued some seven thousand lives from being massacred at the hands of the



*The thrice blessed with two of the archbishops, and three priests
Source: "Nisbis Desert, the life of Archpriest Malki" by Archbsihop Thewofelous
George Saliba, Printed in Beirut, 1984—opposite page 64*

*A Bright Light from the life of the Very Glorious Patriarch
the Thrice Blessed Saint Moran Mor Ignatius Elias III (1932—2007)*



*An image of a painting of the thrice blessed—India
Source: <http://www.pathanamthittapalce.com>*

enemies of the church, as he gave them refuge at the monastery.

- † In the year to follow, his services were moved to become the Abbott of Za'faran Monastery, the Head quarters of the Patriarchal See then. Once again he demonstrated great work ethic, where he assisted the immense number of orphans, and gave them refuge at the monastery, the number of which was on the increase following the unpleasing events against our people at the time.
- † In the year 1899, he was dispatched to the parish of Medyat (in Turkey) to calm down the unrest and all the unpleasant events that took place there amongst the church's children. Through his great wisdom, he was able to bring all the parties together for the benefit of the holy church, thus solving the problems amongst the children of the one holy church. He spent some three years at that place where all the parties honoured him, and he took the chance to take care of that parish's school, thus improving this school's standards.

(E) PATRIARCHAL VICAR AND BISHOP

- † In the year 1902 his services were moved to the parish of Dyar Baker as the patriarchal vicar there, where his presence was highly visible through the upgrading of the faithful's spiritual and educational levels. Being in that area he mastered the Turkish language, and

took care of the parish churches. The faithful were very impressed with the standard of his services, thus voted him as their bishop. Therefore, he was promoted to the rank of bishop at the hands of Patriarch Mor Ignatius Abdallah the second in the year 1908 under the name of Mor Ivanius Elias. Therefore, his responsibilities increased rapidly, as in addition to the responsibilities at his parish, he used to serve the parish of Mor Keryakos Monastery, as the latter did not have a bishop at the time. During the time of his service at this parish, and he was very active, he supervised the establishment of several churches and schools for our community.

- † In the year 1911, visited the parishes of Nuseibeen (i.e. Nisbis), Al-Jazeera (in Syria), Tor Abdeen (in Turkey), as an Apostolic delegate, during these visits he ensured that the financial affairs of these parishes are organized, then he inaugurated seven schools in the villages of these parishes.
- † In the year 1912, his services were transferred to the parish of Mosul – Iraq, where his great reputation had travelled faster than himself to this parish. In the same manner, he paid specific attention to schools (for both males and females), ensuring that the community at this parish would be at its best status always.
- † In the year 1914, he left to Mardin (in Turkey) as a member of the combined committee to draw up the “committee’s constitution”



The picture was taken in Bethlehem. Appearing in this picture, the thrice blessed, on H.H.'s right appears Archbishop Mor Yvanis Elias Hallouti, and to H.H.'s left a Greek Archbishop, then comes Archbishop Mor Severius Afram Barsoum, and Mor Gregorius Afram Al-Sadadi

Source: V. Rev. Fr. Boutros Toutma Issa's archives



*The thrice blessed, four archbishops, several priests and the personal secretary of the thrice blessed in India
Source: Al-Hikmah—Jerusalem, issue six, July 1931, 5th year, opposite page 266*

- † In the year 1915-1916, at the time when the violence erupted and the massacres were at their peak against our brethren in Turkey, he exerted every effort to take care of the migrants to Mosul in Iraq away from Turkey. He took care of everyone, no matter which church this migrant used to be affiliated with, including the Armenians who migrated from Turkey following the great massacre against our people and their people there.
- † Following the departure of Patriarch Mor Ignatius Abdallah the second, and on 27th February 1916 he was elected as Patriarchal Overseer, thus left Mosul heading to Mardin on 17th October 1916. The Holy Synod met, and this meeting resulted in the election of Mor Ivarius Elias to be installed as a Patriarch on the Holy See of Antioch.

(F) ON THE HOLY SEE OF ANTIOCH— PATRIARCH

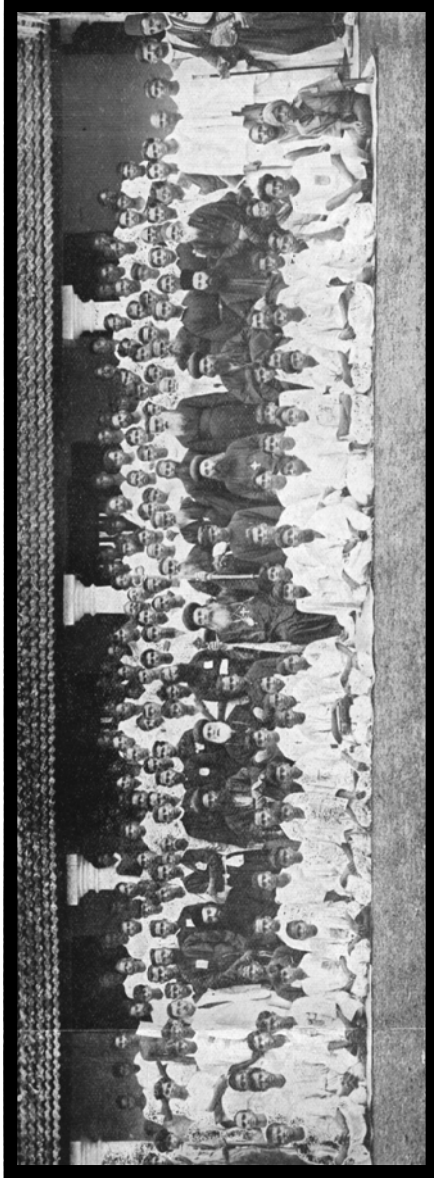
- † On 12th February 1917, and in a prestigious celebration he was enthroned on the Patriarchal See of Antioch, and from those who headed the celebrations of this great occasion was; Archbishop Mor Ivarius Elias Halloleh. The time of the new Patriarch's enthronement, which marks the beginning of his reign as the Patriarch of Antioch, happened to be an extremely difficult period, and with God's will,

such a great personality, exerted every effort to ease the burden on the faithful, for the sake of the Holy Mother our Holy Syriac Orthodox Church.

- † That was a very difficult time; there was plenty of pain and suffering. The children of the Holy Church were killed in their thousands, survivors searching for a refuge away from their homes, as those were destroyed, the churches and the monasteries were destroyed in their hundreds, with the Great War destructing the rest. However, despite all these unpleasant circumstances H.H. placed his total confidence and trust in God the Almighty, defending the church and assisting her children.
- † In view of the above, it is apparent that H.H. was enthroned on the See of Antioch at the most difficult of times, plenty of bloodshed of innocent people at the hands of the enemies of the church, and ruthless people. In addition, poverty and starvation were the hallmarks of the time, thus Za'faran Monastery became the refuge to those who have lost all their properties and belongings, the situation was immensely grave. However, with the wise management of H.H. he was able to cure the spiritual and physical wounds of the children of the church.
- † On 19th April 1919, and following the First World War, H.H. left Mardin, accompanied by a huge delegation heading to Constantinople. On his way H.H. visited the parishes in



*The thrice blessed, three archbishops, several priests and the Sunday schools teachers at the Parish of Kottayam, India
Source: Al-Hikmah—Jerusalem, issue ten, December 1931, 5th year, opposite page 463*



*The thrice blessed, four archbishops, several priests and the students of Mor Gregorius, India
Source: AL-Hikmah—Jerusalem, issue five, June 1931, 5th year, opposite page 228*

Syria to assure himself of the church's children affairs. In Constantinople H.H. met Ottoman Sultan Wahid Eldeen, and was able to lobby him to issue a decree to safe keep the lives of the Christians in Mardin (in Turkey), and the region, and to restore the ownership of their properties;

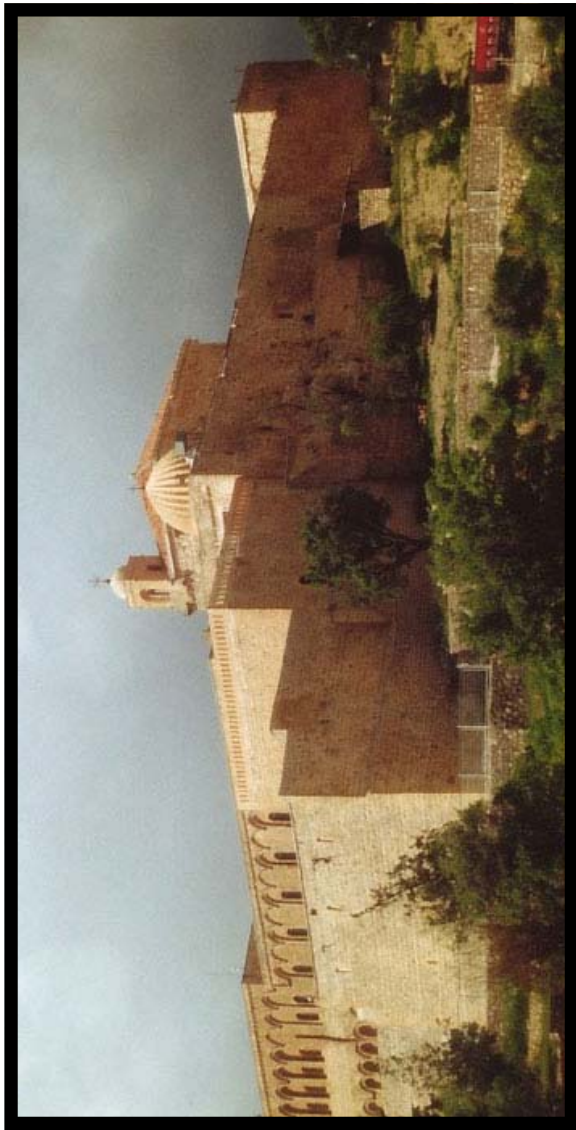
- † In Constantinople H.H. constructed a building composed of thirty three rooms, and supervised the huge renovations at Our Lady Virgin Mary's church there;
- † During that instable, and uncertain period of time, he requested the scholar H.E. Mor Severus Afram Barsoum, Archbishop of Syria and Lebanon then (H.H. Moran Mor Ignatius Afram Barsom I thereafter, 1957+), who was known to be fluent in French, to deputize him on behalf of the Holy Church at the Peace Conference that was held in Paris, France.
- † On 8th July 1922 H.H. sailed from Constantinople to Jerusalem where he spent three months, during which he supervised the renovations of the monastery there.
- † From Jerusalem he left to Damacus, then to Homs, then to Aleppo followed by Ankara where he met Mustafa Kamal the Turkish President then, and attended the inaugurating session of the National Council of Turkey.
- † From Ankara, he went to Mardin, arriving there on 19th May 1923, on which day an extravagant reception was held in H.H.'s honour. As it is the practice, H.H. organized and

supervised the renovation of the monastery, and in addition ordered the construction of additional rooms to expand the monastery's capacity to hold more of the refugees and the visitors;

- † On 12th November 1925 visited Aleppo, and on 7th December consecrated St. Ephraim Church there, then departed to Beirut to check on the affairs of the St. Ephraim Orphanage there; later he travelled to Jerusalem;
- † In Jerusalem, H.H. upheld and upgraded the status of the monastery, ordering new construction there, and urged the community in Bethlehem to construct the church to which he placed the foundation stone on 9th March 1926 (Eastern). Upon completion of the constructions, this church was named after Our Lady Virgin Mary. At the same time, he supervised the establishment of two schools; one in Jerusalem and the other in Bethlehem.
- † Friday, 16th December 1927 (Western) the thrice-blessed left Jerusalem heading to Iraq, passing through Java then Beirut and Zahla where he consecrated yet another church. Then, visited Homs, Hama, Aleppo, Deir Al-zour, and from there went to Iraq where he visited the community members in Sinjar and from Sinjar went to Mosul;
- † Thursday 13th April 1928 the thrice-blessed held an apostolic tour through which he visited the children of the Holy Church in Baghdedah (Qaraqosh), Bartleh, Ba'ashiqah.



*An image that shows the thrice blessed in Malankar with two bishops and some other clergy
Source: <http://soc.cua.edu> (Syriac Orthodox resources) from the archive of Antone Kiraz*



An image that shows the greatness of Dayro Dkorkmo (Za'jaran Monastery) Dayro Dmor Hanania, in Turkey, which used to be the place of the Holy See of Antioch at the earlier years of the reign of the thrice blessed

As for Bahzaneh he postponed the visit to this village until the time he went to St. Matthew Monastery which was on 17th July 1928, where he spent the summer season there. At that Monastery, and as it is H.H.'s practice, he organized and supervised several additions to the monastery buildings, and visited the children of the Holy Church in Bahzaneh;

- † At St. Matthew's Monastery and during the period between 11th – 25th October 1930 (Eastern) the thrice-blessed chaired the Holy Synod that was held there, several Archbishops, bishops, priests and lay people participated in this event;
- † On 11th November (Eastern) the thrice-blessed issued an apostolic bull that gave the faithful a summary of the recommendations of this Holy Synod to become aware of the affairs of the church;
- † The thrice-blessed spent some three years in Iraq. Thereafter, he decided to visit India, to bring forth peace amongst the children of the Holy Church. On 16th February 1931 (Western) he departed his Patriarchal See in Mosul farewelled by thousands of the church's children from Mosul and St. Matthew Monastery's parishes, who were overwhelmed with their feelings, thus their good-byes were mixed with tears, seeking H.H. blessings, and praying for God the Almighty to make H.H.'s journey a safe one. Following the speech, and towards the end of the fare-

well ceremony, one of the priests sang with such a beautiful voice the following verse:

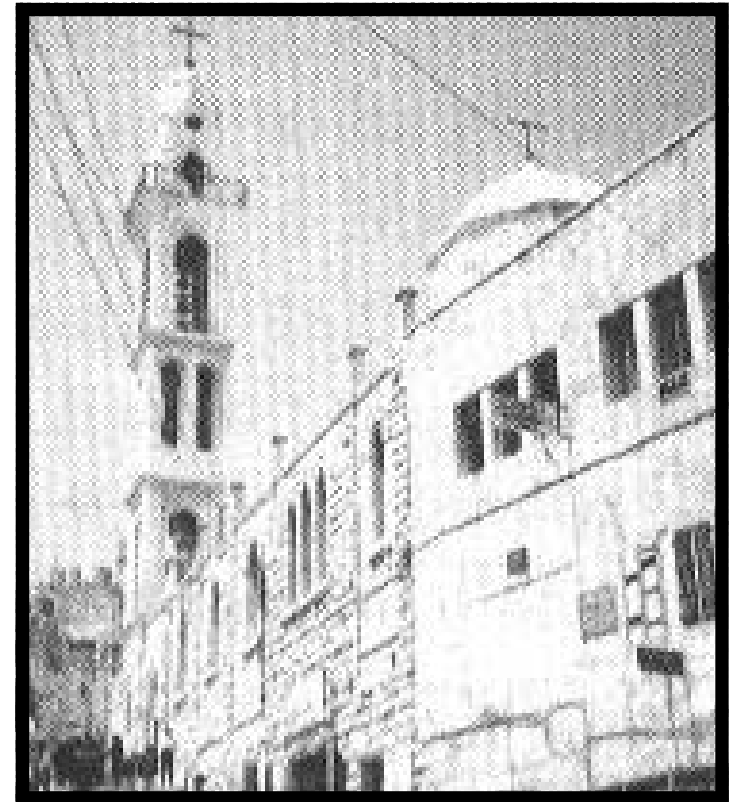
بَعْدَ مَا مَكَرَ لَهُ سِوَا هَٰذَا لَهُ نِعْمَ مُقَرَّرٌ مَّحَلٌّ
لَهُ فِي هَٰذَا الْمَذْهَبِ . وَلَا يَحْتَجُّ هَٰذَا بِغَيْرِ الْإِسْلَامِ ، بَلْ
يُحْتَمَلُ لَهُ لَوْ هُوَ مُسْتَلَمٌ

Translation: Jonah (the Prophet) departed Nineveh (the city) full of regret. The people of Nineveh went out to farewell him saying: Go in peace oh you the preacher of truth! O you who brought us back from darkness to life.

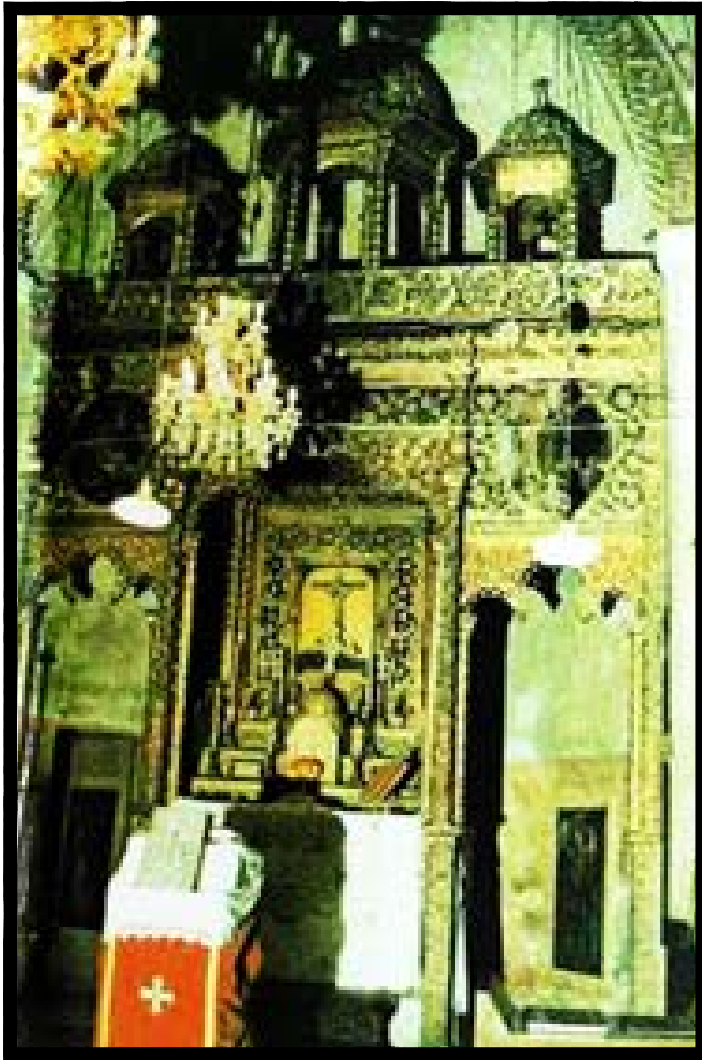
Source: SHHIMO—The edition of Priest Abrohom Al Kanout, India – 1951 – In line with the Syriac Orthodox Church's tradition (pp 309)

Commenting on this farewell we say: The faithful of Nineveh's region (the Northern part of Iraq) went out farewelling H.H. Moran Mor Ignatius Elias III, whom they described as the symbol and teacher of truth.

- † The thrice-blessed spent one night in Karkouk, on his way out of Iraq to check on the affairs of the community and the church there;
- † On 17th February 1931 (Western) the thrice-blessed arrived Baghdad, where he was honoured by King Faisal the first, King of Iraq then, and the British High Commissioner Sir Francis Hamgrez;
- † On 22nd February 1931 H.H. and the accompanying delegation arrived Basra;
- † Saturday 28th February 1931 H.H. and the accompanying delegation departed Basra sailing



An image of Our Lady Virgin Mary's Syrian Orthodox Church's façade and bell tower in Bethlehem. This church which continues to be in use to date, had its foundation stone placed by the thrice blessed in the year 1926



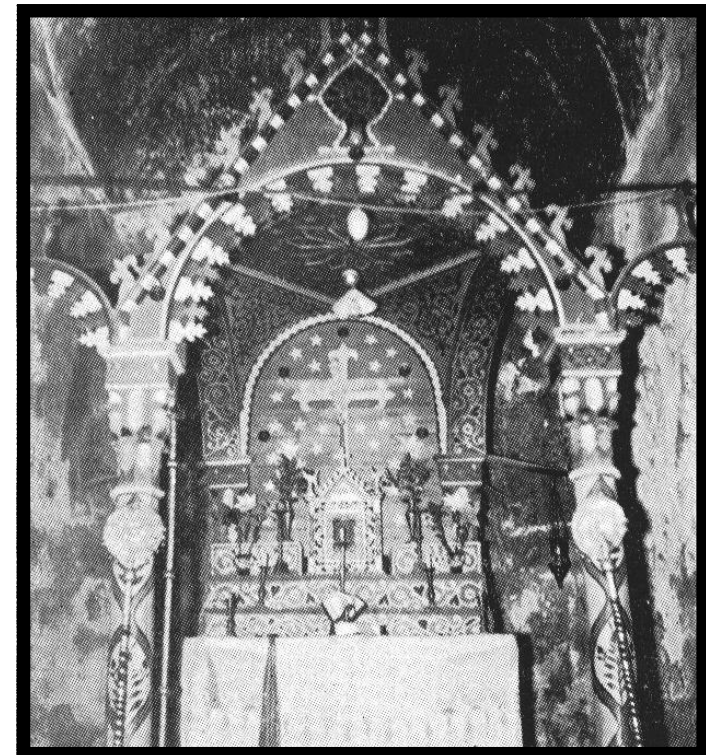
The altar of St. Mark's Monastery—Jerusalem from where the Hikmah (Wisdom) magazine, that has been used as sources for this booklet was published

to the city of Karaji where they arrived on 5th March 1931. In H.H.'s reception were; H.E. Mor Yulyous Elias Koro the Patriarchal Vicar in Malibar, and Mor Athanasyous Boulos Archbishop of Malibar, and a huge number of clergy (priests and deacons);

- † 8th March 1931, H.H. and the accompanying delegation arrived New Delhi, as guests of the King's deputy and resided at the royal palace;
- † 14th March 1931 H.H. and the accompanying delegation arrived Madras;
- † 21st March 1931 H.H. and the accompanying delegation arrived Alawi, and from there headed to Trankafour, Cochin and Kotayam. Throughout this leg of his trip, he used to stop and check on the affairs of the community in every parish. The celebrations in H.H.'s reception in every parish were great, and it would be too long to expand on the description of these great celebrations in the reception of H.H. in different parts of India in this booklet. However, it is worthwhile to mention here that the reception was not only by the Syriac Orthodox community members, but exceeded that to include the honourable government representatives. H.H. was extremely pleased with the scene, as the church community members were extremely thrilled with the sight of their spiritual father amongst them coming to their land from Antioch. He worked hard to re-establish peace amongst the church's children, yet on 13th February 1932

he departed this earthly life to the heavenly chambers in Umallure, where he was buried. Later a cathedral was constructed at the site of his burial, which became the focus of pilgrims to that area from all around the world;

- † The thrice-blessed's life spanned over sixty four years and three months, of which he spent fourteen years, eleven months and eighteen days seated on the Holy See of Antioch;
- † The thrice-blessed consecrated the Holy Myron six times throughout his reign as Patriarch of Antioch. Three times were conducted at St. Mark's Monastery in Jerusalem, two times at Za'faran Monastery in Turkey, and once at Our Lady Virgin Mary's church in Mosul – Iraq;
- † The thrice-blessed ordained ten bishops, the first of whom was the great scholar Mor Severius Afram Barsoum, as a Bishop for the parish of Syria and Lebanon, who later succeeded the thrice-blessed on the See of Antioch under the name of H.H. Moran Mor Ignatius Afram Barsoum I on 12th February 1933;
- † During the reign of the thrice-blessed H.H. Moran Mor Ignatius Elias III, an enormous number of churches were built in different parts of the world, and H.H. played a major role in encouraging the generous faithful to expand on their ideas and construct churches. In several instances the thrice-blessed, and in addition to extending the spiritual assistance,



*The altar of St. Matthew Monastery—Nineveh, Iraq—
where the thrice blessed held the Holy Synod in the year
1931*

- Gekki, MF 1927, Al-Hikmat (Wisdom), vol. 2, no. 1. St. Mark's Syrian Orthodox Convent - Jerusalem.
- Issa, VRFBT 1982, 'The Thrice Blessed H.H. Elias III's Departure from this Earthly life's Fiftieth Anniversary', Amman - Jordan,
- Issa, VRFBT, Issa, T, Issa, T, Issa, T & Issa, T 1995, The Syrian Orthodox Church of Antioch, Perth - Western Australia. Retrieved: 18 January 2007, from <http://www.soca.cjb.net>.
- Kiraz, A & Kiraz, G n.y., H. H. Elias III, Margen-yotho, USA. Retrieved: 18 January 2007, from <http://www.sor.cua.edu>.
- Philips, J 2005, The Thrice Blessed H.H. Elias, Kot-tayam - India. Retrieved: 18 January 2007, from <http://www.syrianchurch.org>.
- Saliba, GA 1984, Nisbis Desert in the life of Arch-priest Malki, Touma Printing, Beirut.
- Shaker, HHEI 1927, Commandments and spiritual guidance to the visitors of the Holy Places in Jerusalem, Apostolic Bull - 1927 H.H. Elias III, Jersusalem.

he extended the financial help to some of those parishes; such as Bethlehem, Aleppo,



The thrice blessed in the middle surrounded by the Church's Archbishops in the year 1930. Appearing in this photo the image of Za'faran Monastery, the Patriarchal See then.
Source: Al-Hikma Magazine, Jerusalem, issue 9, Nov 1930, 4th year opposite page 513

Zahleh, Hasakeh, Sinjar, and some five churches that were built in the Americas;

† The Thrice-blessed ordained Archbishops and those were:

<i>Name of the Bishop/ Archbishop</i>	<i>Parish</i>	<i>Date of Or- dination</i>
Mor Severus Afram Barsoum *	Syria and Lebanon	20 th May (Eastern) 1918
Mor Gregoreous Gabrielle	Jerusalem	12 th March 1923
Mor Clemis Youhanna	St. Matthew Monastery	12 th March 1923
Mor Yuannis Youhanna	Bishop at the Patriarchate	24 th September 1923
Mor Yulyous Elias	General Bishop	24 th September 1923
Mor Timothawous Touma	Tur Abdin	1 st October 1923
Mor Dyonosyous Michael	Kottaym, India	11 th October 1926
Mor Dyoscoros Touma	Kananaya India	11 th October 1926
Mor Qorelous Michael	Bishop at the Patriarchate	11 th October 1926
Mor Timothawous Awkein	Kandanat India	2 nd May 1927

* Patriarch thereafter under the name of Mor Ignatius Afram I

- Anonymous 1931, 'H.H.'s Elias III in India', Al-Hikmat (Wisdom), vol. 5, no. 6, p. opp. 242. St. Mark's Syrian Orthodox Convent - Jerusalem.
- Anonymous 1931, 'H.H.'s Elias III in India', Al-Hikmat (Wisdom), vol. 5, no. 5, p. opp. 228. St. Mark's Syrian Orthodox Convent - Jerusalem.
- Anonymous 1931, 'H. H.'s Elias III in India', Al-Hikmat (Wisdom), vol. 5, no. 10, p. opp. 463. St. Mark's Syrian Orthodox Convent - Jerusalem.
- Anonymous 1931, 'H.H.'s Elias III in India', Al-Hikmat (Wisdom), vol. 5, no. 6, p. opp. 266. St. Mark's Syrian Orthodox Convent - Jerusalem.
- Anonymous 1933, in The Patriarchal Magazine, vol. 1,
- Anonymous 1989, The Patriarchal Journal of the Syrian Orthodox Patriarchate of Antioch and all the East, Damascus - Syria, vol. 27, no. 81-82 (January - February 1989).
- Anonymous n.y., H. H. Elias III, India. Retrieved: 18 January 2007, from <http://www.pathanamthittapolic.com>.

Sources:

- Anonymous 1928/1929, Al-Hikmat (Wisdom), vol. 3. St. Mark's Syrian Orthodox Convent - Jerusalem.
- Anonymous 1929/1930, Al-Hikmat (Wisdom), vol. 4. St. Mark's Syrian Orthodox Convent - Jerusalem.
- Anonymous 1930, Al-Hikmat (Wisdom), vol. 4, no. 9, p. opp. 513. St. Mark's Syrian Orthodox Convent - Jerusalem.
- Anonymous 1930, 'The Holy Synod held at St. Matthew's Monastery', Al-Hikmat (Wisdom), vol. 4, no. 9. St. Mark's Syrian Orthodox Convent - Jerusalem.
- Anonymous 1930, Al-Hikmat (Wisdom), vol. 4, no. 2, p. opp. 65. St. Mark's Syrian Orthodox Convent - Jerusalem.
- Anonymous 1930/1931, Al-Hikmat (Wisdom), vol. 5. St. Mark's Syrian Orthodox Convent - Jerusalem.
- Anonymous 1931, 'H.H.'s departure from Iraq to India - 1931', Al-Hikmat (Wisdom), vol. 5, no. 2. St. Mark's Syrian Orthodox Convent - Jerusalem.
- Anonymous 1931, 'H.H.'s Elias III in India', Al-Hikmat (Wisdom), vol. 5, no. 10, p. opp. 502. St. Mark's Syrian Orthodox Convent - Jerusalem.

To follow, please find a translation of the obituary of the thrice-blessed:

Quote

KOZA NSHIRY 13TH FEBRUARY 1932

Archbishop Severuous – Homs Syria

With deepest sadness, we convey to you the news of the departure of H.H. the Patriarch from this earthly life. Please pass the news to the parishes.

Yuluous Kleimeis

Unquote

- ◇ *Bishop Severus is Mor Severous Afram Barsom, Archbishop of Syria and Lebanon*
- ◇ *Kleimeis is Mor Kleimeis Abacci who accompanied the thrice-blessed to India*
- ◇ *Yuluous is Mor Yuluous Elias Koro, the Patriarchal Delegate in India.*



*The Thrice blessed with three of the Archbishops, and several of the priests in Kottayam, India on the occasion of the priests meeting.
Source: Al-Hikmah Magazine, Jerusalem, issue 10, December 1931, 5th year—opposite page 502*

***From the sayings of the thrice-blessed H.H. Moran
Mor Ignatius Elias III Patriarch of Antioch and all
the East (1867 – 1932+)***

-1-

In the year 1927 the thrice-blessed published a booklet under the name of “*Commandments and spiritual guidance to the visitors of the Holy Places in Jerusalem,*” in 30 pages of the small size. The booklet was distributed to parishes and it was accompanied by an apostolic bull. An extract from this booklet to follow:

“Visit our monastery, which is the house of Mary the mother of Mark nicknamed John that was mentioned in the book of ACTS 12:12 in which several brethren gathered and prayed for the safety of St. Peter, and to which St. Peter came after Our Lord saved him from jail.

While visiting this monastery, remember that Our Lord Jesus Christ came to this place, and had the Passover with his disciples, and that was the day when he performed the last supper. Yes, do contemplate the sweet sayings that Our Lord Jesus Christ told his disciples following the last supper, and pray as follows:

“Oh... you righteous shepherd who came to seek the lost sheep, but instead offered his own self as a sacrifice for this lost sheep. Oh... you I beg to purify me from my sins, renew my soul with your Holy Spirit. Your love Oh ... Jesus owns our hearts and your blessings fill us. Therefore, strengthen, encourage



The images of the church and the tomb of the thrice blessed Saint H.H. Moran Mor Ignatius Elias III at Manjinikkara in India. A place that has been transformed into a pilgrimage site.

Source: <http://sor.cua.edu>



and actions with the gracious spiritual virtues, was extremely loved, admired and glorified. In addition, God the Almighty – ALL GLORY BE TO HIM – bestowed on him the power of delivering miracles, either during his earthly or eternal life. Although I was only born at the time of the departure of the thrice blessed from this earthly life, yet, I have heard, and from my own relatives, friends and other members of the community plenty about these great miracles.

Thus, Moran Mor Ignatius Elias III, lived his earthly life, and became eligible to repeat with St. Paul: *“From henceforth I am ready to die, and the time of my departure is at hand, I have fought a good fight, I have finished my race, I have kept my faith. Henceforth there is preserved for me a crown of righteousness, which my Lord the righteous judge, will give me at that day; and not to me only but also to all those who have loved his appearing. (2 Timothy 4:6-8).*

May the name of the saint Patriarch be glorified to eternity, in the minds and hearts of the Holy Church’s children, who always take refuge in His answered prayers and supplications, who would continue to visit his tomb seeking his blessings, which is the source of blessings and the miracles that continue to take place.

**V. Rev. Fr. Boutros Touma Issa,
Perth – Australia
2007**

and uplift us to become eligible and qualified to participate in your sacred Passover, Oh ... you the source of our lives, and the source of our spiritual growth.”



*An image of the thrice-blessed tomb in Manjnikara—India—shows writing in Syriac, English and Malayalam
Source: The Syriac Orthodox sites on the world wide web*

**From the sayings of the thrice-blessed H.H. Moran
Mor Ignatius Elias III Patriarch of Antioch and all
the East (1867 – 1932+)**

-2-

• ***In FASTING:***

Fast is the father of all virtues, and it has a great impact on the soul of the human kind.

- † *Through fasting, the human being would keep distance from pride and jealousy.*
- † *Through fasting, the human being controls his spirit, his nerves, thus keeping distance from anger and enrage.*
- † *Through fasting, the human being keeps distance from cheating, unfairness, greediness, and lustiness*
- † *Through fasting, the human being will develop in righteousness, and will purify from sin.*

H.H. Moran Mor Ignatius Elias III

The image that decorated the Apostolic Bull that was included in the thrice blessed book "Commandments and Spiritual guidance to the visitors of the Holy Places in Jerusalem"



THE CONCLUSION

Thus, and through those brief points we presented an overview of the brilliant, radiant, dazzling and sparkling earthly life of The Thrice blessed, saint Moran Mor Ignatius Elias III Shaker, Patriarch of Antioch and all the East (1917-1932).

In addition, if we contemplate this righteous and virtuous life, which is considered a blessing to the Church and her faithful children. We can ultimately notice, a truthful attitude of that "beginner monk". Who, within his heart – if not publicly – ;would repeat with St. Paul saying: *"I am crucified with Christ; henceforth it is not I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life which now I live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."* (Galatians 2:20).

Yes,... the thrice blessed totally believed in this saying, and made that saying the sunbeam for his life that he presented willingly to Our Lord Jesus Christ, and his Holy Church; at any stage of his priesthood life; a monk, a priest, a bishop, an archbishop or even a patriarch. Therefore, he was filled with the fruits of the Spirit, from which; love, joy, peace, patience, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, self-control (*those that are mentioned in St. Paul's Epistle to the Galatians 5:22,23*).

Furthermore, all those who were fortunate enough to be with the thrice blessed during his earthly life would confess saying: Yes! This beatitude decorating his life

***An extract from the invitation issued for the St.
Matthew Monastery's Holy Synod, the thrice-
blessed said:***

*“We ask all of you to hold prayers in your churches for
the growth of the church and the success of this Holy
Synod”*



Images of St. Matthew Monastery, Nineveh where this Holy Synod was held

• ***In SCHOOLS:***

Schools are the light, and ignorance is the darkness

- † *Schools will allow us to fulfil our wishes and desires;*
- † *Schools raise within us the dead hopes – Thus, wake up Oh... you the grandchildren of the heroes ... build the glory to your nation, with your emblem and symbol at work: LOVE, and STEADFASTNESS. Thus, bearing in mind that the hand of the smart and diligent workers will prevail and rule as we learn through the book of proverbs “The hand of the diligent shall bear rule” (Proverbs 12:24).*

H.H. Moran Mor Ignatius Elias III



*The thrice blessed in India, together with three bishops, some priests and nuns.
Source: Al-Hikmah Magazine, Jerusalem, Issue 6, July 1931, 5th year—opposite page
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- ***In PRINTING PRESSES:***

Printing presses are the kitchen that prepares the food for the mind. The human being needs three types of food in this life:

- † *Food for the soul which is merely the good deeds and the fear of God*
- † *Food for the body which is merely the daily food that the human being eats, [breakfast, lunch and dinner]*
- † *Food for the mind, which is merely information, data and knowledge*

H.H. Moran Mor Ignatius Elias III



*The thrice blessed during the celebration of placing the foundation stone at Our Lady Virgin Mary's Syrian Orthodox Church in Bethlehem on 22nd March 1926
Source: V. Rev. Fr. Boutros Touma Issa's archive.*

- ***In MEDIA:***

- † *Media (e.g. Magazines, Newspapers) specifically the religious and spiritual of these media outlets, are considered the most important of the tools that would uplift the standards of the community.*

H.H. Moran Mor Ignatius Elias III



The thrice blessed Elias III in the Patriarchal Cope