

St. Ephraim Syrian Orthodox Church
Perth—Western Australia

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A publication by St. Ephraim Syrian Orthodox Church,
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under the leadership of V. Rev. Fr. Boutros Touma Issa

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Australia



Noohro The Light

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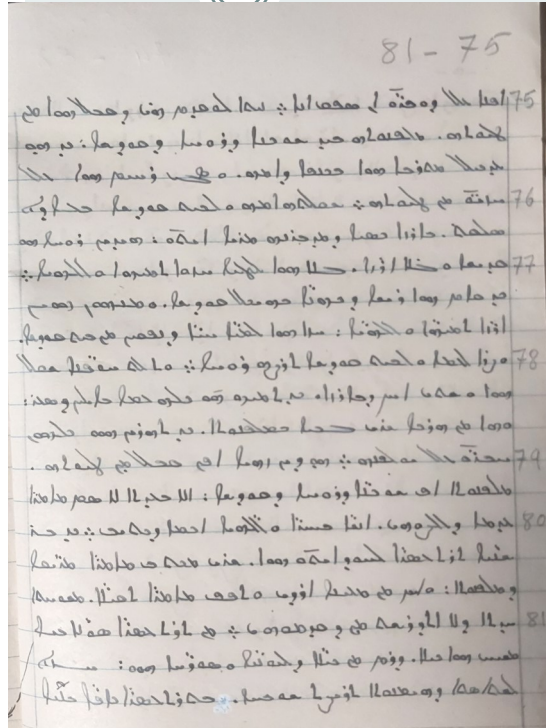


Image of the poem by Bar Sabuni on St. Jacob of Serugh—handwritten by the seminarian Boutros in 1950 (later V. Rev. Fr. Boutros Touma Issa).

Published—March 2021 on the 1,500 year since the
eternal sleep of St. Jacob of Serugh (521-2021).

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On the 1,500 Jubilee year (521-2021) of the eternal sleep Mor Jacob of Serugh

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He was born in the year 451 in the village of Kurtem near Serugh that is located on the Euphrates. His father was a priest and at the time he became three years of age, his father took him to the church on Mor Mqimshabro's feast. Elaboration on this event is to follow:-

"The church at the time was full of faithful, and the altar had a number of priests. During the Divine Liturgy, and at the time when the prayers were recited for the Holy Spirit to descend on the Holy Eucharist the child Jacob left his mother's lab, going through the lines of people and headed to the altar.

At the time of his arrival to the Throne, The spirit projected to him a miraculous scene. This child Jacob, at the time, and to those present at the church, appeared to be sipping from a stream of water that appeared in front of him for three times.

This is a very similar incident to what happened to Prophet Ezekiel when he ate the scroll in line with God the Almighty's order (Please refer to Ezekiel 2:8, 3:01-03). Following the sipping of water, child Jacob returned to his mother with the faithful watching with astonishment and pleasure with what they just witnessed."

This event is included in several of the sources that wrote on the life and miracles of this great saint. This event was mentioned in the two biographies written on the life of this great saint, and it was also mentioned by the great and famous Syriac Scholar Mor Youhanon Bar Sabuni, Archbishop of Malatya (1095+) in that lengthy poem he wrote on the life of this great saint Mor Jacob of Serugh. It is worthwhile to note here that V. Rev. Fr. Boutros Touma Issa transcribed this poem in 1950, the part that talks about the above event is reflected in the image of that poem. *May we benefit from the supplications and prayers of Jacob of Serugh.*

(Published in the LIGHT NOOHRO ܕܥܝܪܐܩܝܐ - Volume 10 - Issue 5 of 28th November 2004)

Bar Sabuni: He is Mor Youhanon (Sa'eed) Bar Sabuni. Bar Sabuni was born in Malatya. Educated at 'Arneesh Monastery. In the year 1095 ordained bishop for Malaya under the name of Youhanon. On 4th July 1095 (i.e., 40 days following his ordination as a bishop) he was unfairly targeted and killed at the hands of Gabrielle the Greek, whilst still very young. With his killing the church lost a brilliant and virtuous scholar.

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