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SYRIAN ORTHODOX PATRIARCHATE

OF ANTIOCH & ALL THE EAST

BAB TOUMA, P.O.BOX 22260

DAMASCUS - SYRIA



باب توما - ص.ب. ٢٢٢٦٠

دمشق - سورية

BY THE GRACE OF GOD

**Ignatius Zakka I Iwas**

Patriarch of Antioch and All the East

Supreme Head of the Universal Syrian Orthodox Church

No.E94/11

7-April-2011



Apostolic Benediction to our beloved Brother-in-Christ His Beatitude Catholicos Mor Baselios Thomas I, Their Graces the Metropolitans of our Simhasana Churches and Institutions in India and all our other beloved Metropolitans in India and to our beloved spiritual children the Reverend Clergy and the Faithful of our Syrian Orthodox (Jacobite) Church in India.

We are deeply grieved to know of the sad demise of our beloved Metropolitan His Grace Mor Julius Kuriakose of our Simhasana Churches and Institutions in India . He was our Secretary at our Patriarchate in Damascus for the affairs of our Church in India for twenty years from 1984 to 2004. Until 1998 he was a Dayroyo and in that year we consecrated him a Metropolitan and conferred on him the designation 'Patriarchal Vicar for Church Affairs in India '. In 2004, following the demise of the late lamented Metropolitan Mor Osthateos Benyamin Joseph, we relieved him from that post and appointed him as the Metropolitan of our Simhasana Churches and Institutions in India . Earlier, as a Priest at our Mor Ignatios Dayro, Manjinikkara, he had also received the blessing to serve under the late Patriarchal Delegate to India Metropolitan Mor Julius Elias of blessed memory. While at our Patriarchate in Damascus as well as in India he worked hard to protect the true faith and ancient traditions of our Holy Syrian Orthodox Church of Antioch. His sincere service to our Simhasana Churches in India , especially, our Mor Ignatios Dayro of Manjinikkara, our Gethsimon Dayro of Piramadom, and our St. Mary's Syrian Simhasana Church , Arthat, Kunnamkulam, is noteworthy. Our Lord Jesus declared: **"If anyone gives a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is my disciple, I tell you the truth, he will certainly not lose his reward."** ( St. Mathew 10:42) It is therefore our hope and prayer that our Lord Jesus will certainly reward His Grace Mor Julius Kuriakose for his sincere and dedicated service for our Syrian Orthodox Church. Beloved in our Lord Jesus Christ: we share in your sorrow and pray our Lord to give rest to the soul of our late Metropolitan His Grace Mor Julius Kuriakose and to console you all. May He also console all members of the bereaved family of the late Metropolitan. We extend our Apostolic Blessings to you all. And may the grace of God be with you. **ܐܘܨܬܘܠܝܬܐ ܕܩܝܡܬܐ ܕܩܝܡܬܐ ܕܩܝܡܬܐ**