

United Nations

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**GENERAL
ASSEMBLY**

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A/AC.13/NC/60
15 July 1947

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON PALESTINE
COMMUNICATION FROM THE SYRIAN ORTHODOX
METROPOLITAN JERUSALEM

The following letter has been received from the
Syrian Orthodox Metropolitan, Jerusalem:

Syrian Metropolitan of
Jerusalem
11th July 1947

His Lordship E. Sandstrom
Chairman of the Special Committee
on Palestine
UNITED NATIONS
JERUSALEM

Your Lordship,

I am very pleased to express my gratitude
for your kind letter of 9th July 1947 in which you request
me to give an evidence on the religious interests of the
Syrian Orthodox Church in Palestine and hereby beg to state
the following:-

It is a historical fact that the Christian
Syrians and their Orthodox Church have been existing and
functioning in Palestine since the beginning of Christianity
and in spite of all historical events their rights as
Christians have been respected and well preserved until our
times.

We therefore request that the rights and
interests of the Syrian Church in Palestine be well respected,
preserved and guaranteed by all responsible authorities.

Although Palestine on the whole is the nativity
of Christianity yet the Holy Places, specially, Jerusalem,
Bethlehem, Nazareth and the Lake of Tiberious, are of more and
immense interest to the Christians than any other Communities.

From the aforesaid it will appear that the
present Christian Institutions and Churches in Palestine
represent all the Christians of the world and are therefore
requested to safeguard and protect the Holy Places by all
means.

It is hereby hoped that your Honourable
Committee as well as any other authorities

- i) Shall consider and respect the rights, freedom
and interests of the Christians in Palestine

/ii) keep

- ii) Keep up to the 'Status Quo' in the Holy Places
- iii) Safeguard and guarantee the safety of the Christians in Palestine and finally respect their Ecclesiastical Courts and their jurisdiction.

I pray God Almighty that peace may be established in Palestine and all men live in freedom and happiness and remain

By the Will of God Almighty

(Sgd.) Athanasius Yeshue Samuel

SYRIAN ORTHODOX METROPOLITAN
JERUSALEM."
