

**JOINT STATEMENT
OF ASSYRIAN RELIGIOUS AND NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

May 11, 2021

We, the undersigned Assyrian Churches and National organizations, come together and make this joint statement in condemnation of the recent disturbing remarks made against God and our Christian faith by the producer and owner of the Assyrian National Broadcasting (ANB Sat), based in San Jose, California.

These remarks, made publicly on Thursday, April 29, 2021, along with other similar statements made at various times, are direct and utter blasphemies against God and the Lord Jesus Christ. Further, attacks have been made against those serving our Nation in the nationalistic and ecclesial spheres, which is equally distressing for us. Consequently, these statements have greatly disturbed our people and have caused much disgust among our Assyrian believers and national activists. Therefore, we unreservedly condemn any and all such statements that attack our Christian faith and denigrate those who serve our Assyrian Churches.

What our Assyrian nation needs today are activists who promote peace, dialogue and reconciliation among the various aspects of our nation, particularly our Churches. The language of blasphemy, name-calling and mud-slinging should have no place in our various media and social-outlets, across the board, for they only can cause division and discouragement among those who are sincerely serving the Assyrian Nation and Churches. Rather, it befits us most as Christians and as true sons and daughters of our Assyrian nation to be respectful of one another, and to engage in a discourse that promotes harmony and respect among all Assyrians, without respect of ecclesial or organizational affiliation.

Therefore, we unequivocally renounce ANB Sat and its administration on account of the division which it is caused by its disrespectful and blasphemous rhetoric, which is fragmenting our Assyrian Nation. We call upon its administration and founder to abandon this divisive behavior, as this does not at all benefit our Assyrian Nation as a whole. Let us all commit ourselves collectively to promote understanding and respect among all of the Churches and organizations of our Assyrian Nation. Only the rhetoric of peace, reconciliation and love should be promoted among our ecclesial and national organizations, both here in the U.S. and globally.

NAMES OF THE RELIGIOUS AND NATIONAL ENTITIES:

- Mar Aprem Khamis, bishop of the Assyrian Church of the East, Diocese of the Western USA.
- Mar Awa Royel, bishop of the Assyrian Church of the East, Diocese of the California.
- Mar Paulus Benjamin, bishop of the Assyrian Church of the East, Diocese of Eastern USA.
- Mr. Sheba Mando, President of the Assyrian National Council of Illinois (ANCI).
- Mrs. Juliana Taimoorazy, Iraqi Christian Relief Council.
- Mrs. Angel Kindo, Executive Director – Urhai Community Service Center.
- Mr. Sam Darso, Assyrians for Justice.
- Mr. Tiglat Issbey, President of the Assyrian Cultural Foundation
- Mrs. Mona K Oshana, President and Director of Power of Three, Nonprofit organization.
- Mr. Yousip Bet Rasbo, AUA America's Chapter Secretariat.
- Mr. Billy Haido, Board of Directors, Vote Assyrian.