

United People in Christ, Inc.



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A registered and licensed non-profit organization

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WHOSE BIRTHDAY IS IT, ANY HOW !!!

"I am The ... Life" - John 14:6. The believers in Christ know where they are going.

"I am the light of the Word" - John 8:12. When you believe in Christ, you don't walk in the dark and you don't get lost.

"I am the bread of life" - John 6:35. When you believe in Him, you shall never hunger or thirst.

"I am the truth" - John 14:6. When you believe in Christ, you stand on a solid foundation that cannot be moved.

"I am the way" - John 14:6. All ways do not lead to Rome, no man comes unto the Father but by Him.

"I am the door" - John 10:9. Knock on this door, it will be opened for you and you will be with Him.

"I am the vine" - John 15:15. We are only the branches and without Him we can do nothing.

"I am the Good Shepherd" - John 10:11. If you believe in Him, you experience the unlimited, and beyond understanding, Love of God.

"I am the Resurrection" - John 11:25. When you believe in Him, you fear no death.

"I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end." Rev. 22:13.

Do you know who "I am" refers to; do you know who He is? Many people know the holiday celebrates a birthday, but too many do not know whose birthday it is.

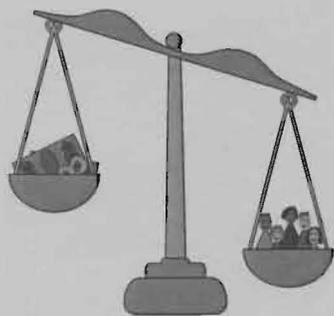
I pray and hope you know Him; that you know Him very well and you are celebrating His birthday with love, devotion and the dedication of your life to His service.

Wishing each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas and happy and prosperous New Year.

Sincerely,

Amid Habib, M.D., F.A.A.P., F.A.C.E.

WHAT HAVE WE DONE WITH YOUR MONEY?



This past November, United People in Christ celebrated its 9th year helping our needy brothers and sister in Christ in the Middle East.

Your donations have totaled **\$199,503.12** of which we have distributed **\$174,363.38** to help our needy brothers and sisters in Christ living in Egypt, Sudan, Jordan, Palestine, Israel, Iraq, Lebanon and Syria. We continue to spend less than 10% of your donations on administrative expenses. Your total donations for 2007 to date is **\$31,103.00**.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the UPIC board members who have helped me through the years without complaint. I want to give a special thanks for YOU, who donated money through the years, helping us to help our needy brothers and sisters in Christ in the Middle East. I want to thank a very special person, Esther Phelps, who contributes \$1,000.00 per month to UPIC and has faithfully done so for many years.

The distribution of funds in 2007 were as follows:

EGYPT:

\$1,500.00	Via Bishop Tadros of Port Saaid.
\$ 525.00	St. Mary and Arch Angel Michael Coptic Church.
\$5,000.00	Coptic Care.
<u>\$1,000.00</u>	Egyptian Relief Association - Orphanage fund of Egypt.
\$8,025.00	

IRAQ:

\$1,000.00	Via the Syrian Orthodox Beneficiary Society to help the Christian Iraqi refugee in Homs, Syria.
\$1,000.00	Through Caritas International of Syria for the same purpose.
\$1,000.00	Through the Convent and Church of Ibrahim Al-Kalil in Damascus, Syria.
<u>\$2,000.00</u>	Via Peter and Paul Good Samaritan fund, South Field, Michigan.
\$5,000.00	

ISRAEL:

<u>\$1,000.00</u>	Via the Shepherd Field Evangelical Church in Jerusalem.
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LEBANON:

\$1,000.00	Lebanese Society to Eradicate Leprosy.
\$1,000.00	Christian Orthodox Hospital of Beirut.
\$2,000.00	S.O.S. of Lebanon.
<u>\$1,000.00</u>	My Brother and Traveling Companion Society.
\$5,000.00	

PALESTINE:

<u>\$2,000.00</u>	Via The Bethlehem Association to the poor & needy Christians in Bethlehem, Beit Jala and Beit Sahour.
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SUDAN:

\$1,000.00	Via the Voice of the Martyrs.
<u>\$1,000.00</u>	Via Pastor Naser Barakat of the First Baptist Church of Kissimmee.
\$2,000.00	

SYRIA:

\$1,000.00	Syrian Orthodox Beneficiary Orphanage in Homs, Syria.
<u>\$6,000.00</u>	Via St. Vincent DePaul in Damascus to be distributed to 25 families@ \$20.00 per month for 1 year.
\$7,000.00	
\$ 250.00	Donated to the Arabic First Baptist Church of Kissimmee to help in buying medication for a child afflicted with Leukemia.

TOTAL DISTRIBUTIONS IN 2007 WERE \$30,275.00

I am indebted to Janet Williamson and Linda McAleer for preparing and editing this newsletter.

How Can You Help?

Here are some ideas on how each of us can contribute and help in our cause:

- All of our board members are volunteers serving the Lord, they have no personal benefit or interest and receive no salary or compensation. Become an advisory board member, the board meets on the third Monday of each month. If you are interested in helping, please come.
- Tell your friends and relatives about UPIC and its cause.
- We need someone with computer knowledge and expertise to help us on the Internet.
- Make a monthly contribution, even if it is as little as \$10.00 per month. If you need donation envelopes, please call our office to have these envelopes mailed to you.
- Teach your children to save their change in a piggy bank and bring it to our Spring picnic or Fall dinner. Teach them their change will help a lot of people in the middle East who are hungry.
- UPIC is interested in opening a branch or sister organization in one city in each state. If you have friends or relatives, in other states in the United States, you think would be interested in helping our brothers and sisters in Christ in the Middle East and help our cause, please ask them to call us.
- Please notify us of any change in your address so we can make appropriate corrections. We do not want waste money.
- If you have suggestions, corrections, criticisms, advice, equipment or any other items that can be used, please call or write us.
- If you have old or new clothes, shoes, furniture, medical equipment or any other items that can be used, please deliver them to my office address or call us to send someone to pick it up. We continue to send these items to our needy brothers and sisters in Christ

مسيحيو الشرق يتخرون

اندلعت اواسط السبعينيات، وهي حرب لا تزال تفاعلاتها السياسية والاقتصادية خصوصاً في المرحلة الحالية تدفع اللبنانيين الى الخارج.

وفي الارقام: يصل تعداد المسيحيين في المنطقة العربية الى ما بين ١٢ الى ١٥ مليون نسمة غالبيتهم يعيشون في مصر، ويتوقع بعض المراقبين ان يهبط الرقم الى ٦ ملايين نسمة فقط بحلول العام ٢٠٢٠، نتيجة موجات الهجرة المتوالية للمسيحيين.

وتشير الدراسات الى ان تعداد المسيحيين في تركيا بلغ مليوني نسمة في العام ١٩٢٠ وتناقص الى بضعة آلاف وهو ما يهدد الحضور المسيحي التاريخي هناك.

وفي سوريا كان تعداد المسيحيين في بداية القرن العشرين يقارب ثلث السكان، وتناقص حالياً الى اقل من ١٠ بالمئة من مجمل الشعب السوري.

وفي لبنان كان المسيحيون يشكلون ما يقرب من ٥٥ بالمئة من سكانه المقيمين في العام ١٩٣٢، واصبح يدور حول ٣٦ بالمئة من السكان فقط، فيما تعتبر مصادر ان هذا الرقم غير دقيق وان النسبة في حدود ٤٠ بالمئة.

والتقديرات في مصر متضاربة، حيث يرى بعض الاسلاميين ان تعداد الاقباط لا يزيد عن ٦ بالمئة من السكان، فيما ترى المصادر القبطية ان العدد يراوح ما بين ١٢ و ١٥ بالمئة من السكان.

يتردد بين وقت وآخر التحذير من هجرة المسيحيين العرب، وهي هجرة تتصاعد منذ عقود في البلدان التي يشكلون جزءاً اساسياً من بناها الديموغرافية مثل العراق ولبنان ومصر وفلسطين وبلدان أخرى.

آخر التحذيرات الصادرة عن هجرة المسيحيين جاءت من العراق حيث حض رؤساء الطوائف المسيحية هناك الحكومة العراقية على «اتخاذ الاجراءات اللازمة للحد من العمليات الارهابية التي تقوم بها جماعات متطرفة، مما يدفع الى هجرة المسيحيين وتهجيرهم، فيتوجه بعضهم بدءاً نحو البلدان المجاورة وجزء آخر يغادر الى منطقة كردستان في شمال العراق، وفي الحالين نحو محطة انتقالية يهاجر منها مسيحيو العراق في احوال كثيرة الى دول اخرى خصوصاً الدول الأوروبية والأميركية.

وفي فلسطين تعتبر سياسة الاحتلال حيال الفلسطينيين والمسيحيين منهم خصوصاً سببا رئيسيا لهجرتهم، من دون اغفال تأثير التشدد الديني الاسلامي في حملهم على هذا القرار. وقد تدهورت اعدادهم في شكل لافت خلال الاربعة اعوام الأخيرة. وكان انخفاض عدد هؤلاء واضحا في المدن والقرى المسيحية والمختلطة مثل القدس وبيت لحم.

وفي لبنان تعددت الأسباب وبرزها البحث عن فرص افضل للعمل او الهرب من الحرب المتعددة الجوانب والاوجه التي

Al Kifah Al Arabi /11/6/ 2007

This Christmas, we need your help!

Please use the enclosed self-addressed envelope and send your Tax-deductible donation, not to help us, but to help your needy brothers and sisters in Christ in the Middle East.

What better way to celebrate the real meaning of Christmas, than to help a needy Christian you do not even know.



SUCCESS!!

The UPIC Spring picnic and Fall dinner were a great success, and everyone had a good time. Picnic donations were \$4,735.00; dinner donations were \$7,063.00; for a total of \$11,798.00 Thanks to everyone who attended and helped to make these two events a real success.