

**In the blessed name of the Tri-une God, Self-existent,
Beginningless and Endless, Perfect in Being, (Glory be to Him)**

**Moran Mar Baselios Marthoma Paulose II Catholicos of the East and
Malankara Metropolitan enthroned on the Apostolic Throne of St. Thomas**



No. 165/2020

Blessings to our beloved Vicars of the churches, Priests of the locality, *Kaisthanees* and faithful of all the Parishes!

Dearly beloved,

Two millennia have passed after the Holy Church, the body of Christ, has been founded in Malankara by St. Thomas, the apostle of Christ. God blessed us abundantly to remain in this glorious land with Christian witness, upholding our undiluted faith. It is a known fact that many a time our foreign relations and ties forced us into unending disputes and litigations. The historic verdict of the Supreme Court of India on 3 July 2017 was extolled as a fullstop for all these age old quarrels and court cases. We all believed that through this verdict, everlasting peace shall be established in the Church. This is exactly why we exhorted all our beloved Malankara Church believers who share a common heritage of faith and tradition to unite as one Church and arrive at unshakable peace presenting ourselves as One Body of Christ and make litigation free Church. We still continue all possible efforts in this direction. Even a single believer should not be lost from the Church. Peace is a divine gift. The wounds inflicted on the body of the Church by the devil through these disputes are really agonising.

Beloved children, though we diligently pray and hope for divine peace in the Church, we are grieved to see disputes and quarrels continue unabated. We pray unceasingly to establish a lasting and unbroken peace and tranquility in the Church on the basis of our Church Constitution and the unambiguous verdicts of the Supreme Court. In the prevailing circumstances, it is evident that the devil is trying with all his might to take away even the available independence of the Church. The vested interests who try to sabotage peace by unleashing atrocities, attempt to spread fake news and venomous information. The devil who wanders around to 'astray even the holy ones' use such instruments to thwart the opportunities and avenues for peace. The people who perpetrate atrocities in churches, spread fake information through social media and make vicious efforts including attempts to make forged documents, should not forget that these are punishable grave offences in the eyes of God. As our Lord commanded, we should submit our supplications before God in prayer and fasting to establish ever lasting peace in the Church. Chain prayers shall be organized under the auspices of each diocese involving the spiritual organisations and various parishes on 4,5,6 September in our Diocesan centres. We should raise our prayers to get justice from the courts of justice and the administrative machinery. Holy Qurbana shall be celebrated, special prayers shall be offered and Catholicate flag shall be hoisted in all our parishes on 15 September, the day on which the Catholicate, the icon of our independence, was established in Malankara. All our faithful shall try their best through various media to make it known to the public the honest stance and the efforts of our Church to bring about peace in the Church.

May the Grace and Blessings of God Almighty abide with you forever. And may the prayers of the Mother of our God the Holy Virgin Mary, St. Thomas the Apostle of India, our Holy Fathers Yeldo Mar Baselios, Mar Gregorios, Mar Dionysius and all the Holy Saints be a stronghold for us. Amen.

Our Father who art in Heaven.....

From Catholicate Aramana
Devalokam, Kottayam, Kerala, India
On September 2, 2020.


Baselios Marthoma Paulose II