



20 March 2000

The Most Rev. Giovanni Battistelli, OFM  
Chairman  
The Holy Land Foundation  
St. Savior's Monastery  
PO Box 186  
Jerusalem 91001

Dear Bishop Battistelli,

Salaam and Grace in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ and blessed greetings from St. George's Cathedral in Jerusalem.

The Anglican Church has long worked towards emphasizing the importance of the existence of the indigenous Christian community in the Holy Land, which I feel is in dire need of attention and care.

Palestinian Christians from the Holy Land are slowly dissipating, making us a very small minority within a city in which our faith began. Although there are many circumstances which one can emphasize regarding the decreasing number of Christians in this Land, such as the political situation, economic difficulties and racial discrimination, I would like to draw attention to the need for reversing the present situation.

The Holy Land Foundation in its efforts to help the indigenous Churches and Christians in this land is essential in maintaining the 'Living Stones'. I fully support the work of the Foundation and am encouraged by the hard and challenging work they do for our community.

Know that this comes with my prayers and continued good wishes.

In Christ,

+Rt. Rev. Riah Abu El-Assal

DAMASCUS دمشق

ص.ب. 11129 (37) كنيسه جنين القديسين  
P.O. Box 11129 (37)  
☎ 3335720  
C/O 011-3335720

BEIRUT بيروت

صندوق بريد 11-22110  
P.O. Box 11-22110  
☎ 739764  
FAX 803630

Email: stlukes@syberia.net.lb

AMMAN عمان

صندوق بريد  
P. O. B o x  
☎ 06-4658383  
079-60272  
FAX 06-4625383

NAZARETH الناصرة

صندوق بريد 75  
P. O. B o x 75  
☎ 06-6554017  
06-6466837  
H 06-6552726  
050-550711  
FAX 06-6563649

Email: riahasal@netvision.net.il

JERUSALEM القدس

صندوق بريد 19122  
P.O. Box 19122  
☎ 02-6271670  
02-6272932  
050-309277  
FAX 02-6273847

Email: ediosces@netvision.net.il