

Al-Liqa' Center for Religious, Heritage and Cultural Studies in the Holy Land



Universal Peace Federation

and

Al-Liqa' 29th Annual International Conference

The Reality of the Church and Christians in the Middle East

Friday November 25, 16:00-19:00 Jerusalem Time Saturday November 26, 9:00-19:00 Jerusalem Time

Place: The Convention Palace - Bethlehem

REGISTER HERE:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_I4_m-15pQjWBHYO52HZN2w



Dr. Yousef Zaknoun



Bishop Rafic Nahra



Dr. Thomas G. Walsh



Mr. Ziad El Sayegh



His Beatitude Pierre Battista Pizzaballa



Msgr. Renzo Pegoraro



Dr. Maha Karkabi Sabbah



Dr. Vera Baboun



Bishop Youssef Matta



Bishop Munib Younan



Dr. Qustandi Shomali



Dr. Bernard Sabella



Mr. Ziad Shlewet



Dr. Charlie Haddad

Friday, November 25 [Times listed are based on Jerusalem Time]

16:00 PM Session One (8:00 AM New York Time)

Opening: Dr. Yousef Zaknoun, Director of Al-Liqa' Centre of Religious, Heritage & Cultural Studies

16:30 PM Session Two (8:30 AM New York Time)

Moderator: Ms. Suad Younan

Panelists: Bishop Rafic Nahra, Latin Patriarchal Vicar of Galilee – Nazareth

"Conscience and Responsibility in the Church"

17:00 PM **Dr. Thomas Walsh,** Chairman, Universal Peace Federation-International, New York

"The Position of the Church on Human Rights"

17:30 PM Break

18:00 PM Mr. Ziad El Sayegh, CEO, The Civic Influence Hub, Beirut

"The Influence of Social Media on Christian Character"

18:30 PM **Discussion – Q & A**

19:00 PM Day One Closing

Saturday, November 26 [Times listed are based on Jerusalem Time]

9:00 AM Session One (2:15 AM New York Time)

Moderators: Dr. Yousef Zaknoun & Ms. Miriam Awad

Panelist: His Beatitude Pierre Battista Pizzaballa, Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem

"The message of the Patriarch of Jerusalem"

9:15 AM Msgr. Renzo Pegoraro, the scientific director of the Lanza Foundation, Chancellor of the

Pontifical Academy for Life, Rome

"Ethical Challenges and Scientific Development Vis-à-vis the Christian Family"

9:45 AM **Dr. Maha Karkabi Sabbah,** Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Director of the

Interdisciplinary Centre for Family Studies, Shefaram

"Impact of Demographic Transformations on the Palestinian Family"

10:15 AM **Discussion – Q & A**

10:45 AM Break

11:15 AM **Dr. Vera Baboun,** Member in the Palestinian National Council (PNC) and General Union of

Palestinian Women, Bethlehem

"Women in Church: Challenges and Future Prospects"

11:45 AM **Discussion – Q & A**

12:30 PM Intermission

14:00 PM Session Two (7:00 AM New York Time)

Moderator: Dr. Raed Abdel Massih

Panelists: Bishop Youssef Matta, Archbishop of Acre, Haifa, Nazareth and all Galilee of the Melkite

Greek Catholics – Haifa

"The Mission of the Church in Galilee - A future vision"

14:30 PM **Bishop Munib Younan,** Palestinian Emeritus Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in

Jordan and the Holy Land – Jerusalem

"The Church's Mission in Palestine - A future vision"

15:00 PM **Discussion – Q & A**

15:30 AM Break

16:00 PM Session Three (9:00 AM New York Time)

Moderator: Dr. Waleed Shomali

Panelists: Dr. Qustandi Shomali, Professor of Palestinian Literature, Journalism and Translation,

Bethlehem University, Beit-Sahour

"Christians in the East: Reality and Challenges"

16:30 PM **Dr. Bernard Sabella,** Director of Department of Services to Palestinian Refugees (DSPR),

Jerusalem

"Relation of the Political Regime with Christians in the East"

17:00 PM **<u>Discussion – Q & A</u>**

17:15 PM Session Four (10:15 AM New York Time)

Moderator: Ms. Ibtisam Muallem

Panelists: Mr. Ziad Shlewet, journalist, writer and editor in Sunnara paper, Shefaram

"Identity and Ethnicity: Manifestations of Christian Fragmentation"

17:45 PM **Dr. Charlie Haddad,** Director General of the Evangelical Lutheran Schools in Palestine,

Jerusalem

"Changing the Christian Reality for the Better: Role of Educational Institutions"

18:15 PM **Discussion – Q & A**

18:30 PM Closing Statements and Recommendations