

ASSYRIAN FOOD FESTIVAL

27th Edition
2019



AUGUST 2019
27TH EDITION

OUR MISSION ... UNCOMPROMISING QUALITY



LILIAN SOLEIMANI

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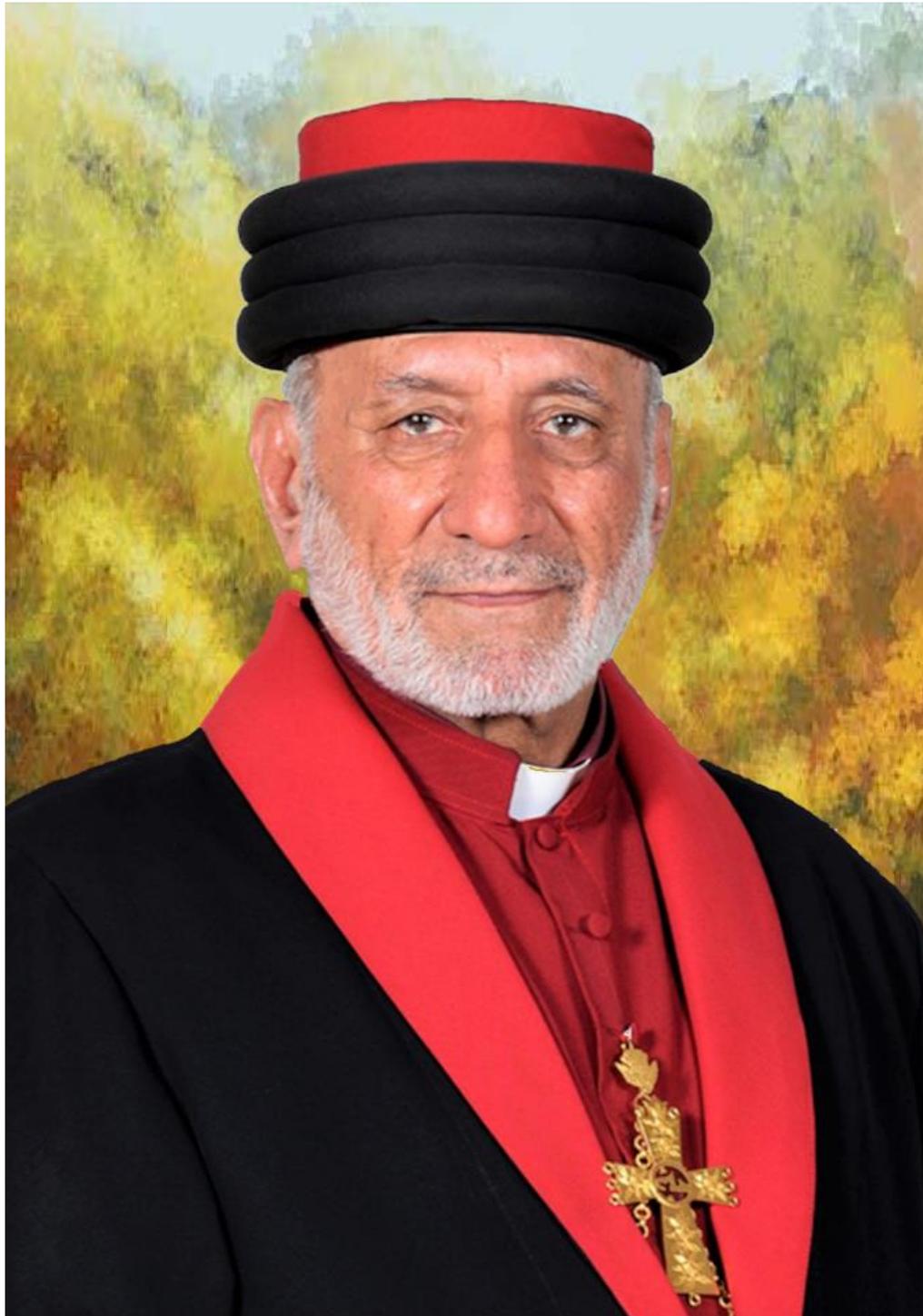
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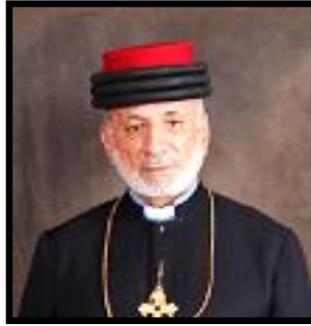
His Holiness Mar Gewargis III Silwa



Catholic Patriarch of the Assyrian Church of the East

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The Holy Synod



Mar Gewargis III Silwa

Catholicos Patriarch of the Assyrian Church of the East



Mar Aprem Mookan
Metropolitan of India

Mar Meelis Zaia
*Metropolitan of Australia,
New Zealand & Lebanon*

Mar Yosip Sargis
Bishop Emeritus of Baghdad

Mar Aprim Khams
Bishop of Western USA



Mar Emmanuel Yosip
Metropolitan of Canada

Mar Odisho Oraham
Bishop of Europe

Mar Aprem Nathniel
Bishop of Syria

Mar Ishaq Yousip
*Bishop of Dohuk, Erbil &
Russia*



Mar Awa Royel
Bishop of California

Mar Yohanna Yoseph
Bishop of India

Mar Awgin Kurikose
Bishop of India

Mar Paulus Benyamin
Bishop of Eastern USA



Mar Narsai Benyamin
Bishop of Iran

Mar Abris Youkhana
*Bishop of Erbil &
Patriarchal Vicar*

Mar Benyamin Elya
*Bishop of Victoria &
New Zealand*

Mar Awraham Youkhanis
*Bishop of
Western Europe*

Patriarchal Insignia



The Catholicos-Patriarch of Seleucia-Ctesiphon is the supreme and universal head of the Holy Apostolic Catholic Assyrian Church of the East, also known down thru history as the 'Church of the East', the 'Nestorian Church' and the 'Church of Persia'. The primatial see of this most ancient Church is the twin-city Persian royal capital Seleucia-Ctesiphon, modern-day Salman Pak near Baghdad.

The Patriarch of the Assyrian Church is the successor of the blessed apostles St. Peter, who wrote his epistle from Babylon (cf. I Peter 5:13). St. Thomas, who traveled as far as India through Persia, and Ss. Addai and Mari who disciples the ancient Assyrian vassal kingdom of Edessa. It was St. Mari who arrived at Seleucia-Ctesiphon around the year 80 A.D. and founded some 300 convents and churches, and who was later laid to rest at the church he founded in Deir Qoni.

The patriarchal insignia is laid against the background of the rising sun, which denotes the East – the birthplace of Christianity. The mountains and two rivers indicate the remains of the ancient Assyria and the rivers, Tigris and Euphrates, which watered the Garden of Eden. The open book is the Gospel which the missionaries of this most ancient Church preached as far as China in 635 A.D.

The ancient Aramaic inscription translates 'Our Lord is Risen', which embodies the summary of the whole of the Gospel message. The pastoral staff symbolizes the fact that the Catholicos-Patriarch is the supreme pastor of the Church of the East, and the two keys surmounting the Cross recall the spiritual authority of binding and loosing given by Our Lord to St. Peter (cf. Matthew 16:19).

The distinctive Cross on the patriarchal insignia is a replica of the Cross incised on the 'Nestorian Monument of China', fashioned in the year 781 A.D., which commemorated the centenary of the mission of the Church of the East to that country. The triple-pointed crown at the very top of the Cross denotes the three *Qnome* of the Blessed Trinity. The nine circles represent the nine orders of the priesthood: reader, sub-deacon, deacon, priest, cor-bishop, archdeacon, bishop, metropolitan and patriarch. The Aramaic inscription in the middle of the Cross is the 'Yod-Heh', which is the biblical representation of the unpronounceable name of God.

In Aramaic – The Language of Jesus Christ



ܐܘܢ ܕܘܘܫܡܝܐ: ܢܝܬ ܩܕܕܫܗ ܫܡܟܗ: ܬܬܐ ܡܠܟܘܬܟܗ:
ܢܗܗܘܐ ܫܘܘܝܢܟܗ: ܐܝܟܢܐ ܕܘܘܫܡܝܐ ܐܦ ܒܥܪܘܗ: ܗܘܠܐܢ
ܠܟܗܡܐ ܕܥܫܘܢܩܢܐܢ ܝܘܡܢܐ: ܘܘܫܘܘܩܩܠܢ ܟܗܘܒܝܢ ܐܝܟܢܐ
ܕܦܩܗܢܐܢ ܫܘܘܩܝܢ ܠܟܗܝܘܘܝܢ: ܠܐ ܬܥܠܢ ܠܢܝܫܘܢܐ: ܝܠܐ ܦܥܥܢ
ܡܝܢ ܒܥܫܐ: ܡܝܠܥܘܠ ܕܕܝܠܟܗ- ܗܐ ܡܠܟܘܘܬܗ ܘܟܗܝܠܐ ܘܥܬܝܫܘܬܗ:
ܠܐܠܡܝܢ ܐܡܝܢ ❖

Awon dwash'maya: nith qad'dash sh'makh: tete mal'kuthakh:
neh'hwe sew'yanakh: ay'kana dwash'maya ap b'a'arah: haw'lan
lakh'ma d'soon'qanan yaw'mana: wash'woq'qlan khawbain ay'kana
dap'pkhnan shwaq'in lkhay'yawain: la ta'alan l'nis'yona: ila pas'an
min beesa: mil'tol d'di'lakh- he mal'kootha okhai'la o'tish'bukhta:
l'alam a'almen: Amen.

Our Father in Heaven, hallowed by thy name. Thy Kingdom come.
Thy will be done, as in Heaven, so on earth. Give us the bread of our
need this day, and forgive us our offences, as we have also forgiven
those who have offended us. And bring us not to trial, but deliver us
from the Evil One. For thine is the Kingdom and the power and the
glory for ever: Amen.

Parish Priest



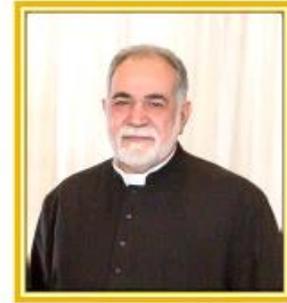
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HOLY APOSTOLIC CATHOLIC ASSYRIAN CHURCH OF THE EAST

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DIOCESE OF CALIFORNIA

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MAR YOSIP PARISH

July 25, 2019

*My Beloved faithful of Mar Yosip Parish,
Our fellow Assyrians and festival guests,
Greetings in the name of Christ our Lord and God,*



As the parish priest of Mar Yosip Parish of the Assyrian Church of the East, it is my pleasure to extend greetings and a warm welcome to everyone attending the 27th Annual Assyrian Food Festival.

This festival is a unique event focusing on community and families. You will have an opportunity to experience the best of Assyria with its natives, your friends and neighbor. We invite you to celebrate with us our culture which goes back over 7,000 years, and enjoy the melodies of traditional and modern Assyrian music, witness traditional folk dancing, and shop the marketplace for souvenirs, jewelry, and Assyrian Art. Learn about Assyrian traditions, eat authentic homemade Assyrian foods and delicious pastries, and walk away with a clear "history lesson" and understanding of how the Assyrians have played a significant role in the expansion of Christianity and in the development of societies around the globe.

This 27th anniversary of the Assyrian Festival is a cause for celebration, time to reflect on many accomplishments, and an opportunity to look to the future with hope.

Very warm congratulations to the Festival Organizing Committee under Mrs. Elizabeth Zia Estensen and Mr. Michael Zaia, and to all whom contributed to the success of this festival. In particular, I thank the Parish Motwa, our Youth Association, the Daughters of the Church, and all the volunteers. May the Lord richly bless you and abundantly reward you. Amen.

Blessings,

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*Fr. Lawrence Namato
Parish Priest*

Festival Chairwoman



ܩܘܪܝܢܘܨܐ ܕܩܘܪܝܢܘܨܐ ܕܩܘܪܝܢܘܨܐ ܕܩܘܪܝܢܘܨܐ ܕܩܘܪܝܢܘܨܐ
HOLY APOSTOLIC CATHOLIC ASSYRIAN CHURCH OF THE EAST

ܩܘܪܝܢܘܨܐ ܕܩܘܪܝܢܘܨܐ
DIOCESE OF CALIFORNIA

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MAR YOSIP PARISH

July 25, 2019

Greetings and welcome to the **27th Annual Assyrian Food Festival!**

As I write this, I think back to our early days of festival which was run by the generation before us. How they took pride in introducing the neighbors to our Assyrian culture and cuisine. Where a small gathering would bring us much joy, fast-forward 27 years to the great excitement of greeting thousands of visitors! We are so grateful for this great country that we live in that welcomes our ability to continue our culture and traditions as well as this neighborhood who has supported us all these years. We welcome each and every one of you for two fun filled days of entertainment, food, drinks, history and friendship. Our ongoing success is because of all of you!



I would like to take this opportunity to give a heartfelt thanks to our beloved Bishop His Grace Mar Awa Royel and Father Lawrence Namato for once again bestowing me this opportunity. An amazing thanks to the Festival Committee members who spent many weeks of planning and organizing, to our Ladies Auxiliary, their sub-committees, to our brothers who entice our senses with the smell of kabobs and the parish members who handled so many of the details necessary to make this event possible. A special thanks goes out to all our sponsors whose support is crucial to our success and our families who have stood by while we engulf ourselves in the operations of this event, thank you.

We hope that you will make your own lasting memories and enjoy the traditions of the ancient civilization that has withstood the test of time.

May the Lord keep you in His loving care,

Elizabeth Zia Estensen
Chair - 27th Annual Assyrian Food Festival

"From the Cradle of Civilization to the Cradle of Silicon Valley"

Relief Organization

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Every day, thousands of Assyrians struggle to survive. The world's first Christian nation faces yet another genocide. They have been forced to flee from their homes for fear of mass executions, bombings, Crucifixions, rapes, beheadings, and theft. They were given the ultimatum to Convert to Islam, pay an exorbitant tax (Jizya), or die "by the sword". They have no "safe haven" to turn to.

The Assyrian Church of the East Relief Organization (ACERO) is a non-profit organization, EIN: 45-3121920, which donates **100% of all funds** raised directly towards helping needy Christians in their desperate time of need. The world has turned their backs on them. However, it is our duty to bring this tragedy into the light, and let the world know of their suffering. We must support these brothers and sisters in Christ, and assist them as much as possible. We must not let their sacrifices and suffering to be in vain.

How Can You Help?

Your generous support will help ACERO to continue providing direct aid and relief to displaced residents of Mosul and the surrounding Nineveh region. Every dollar will go directly towards helping needy refugee Assyrians and assisting them to simply survive.

Now more than ever, show your support and concern by making an urgent contribution securely in your preferred currency via our website.



www.theACERO.org

"Blessed be Assyria – the Work of My Hands."

Isaiah 19:25

Introducing the Assyrians

By Gareth Brereton, Curator: Ancient Mesopotamia | PUBLISHED BY THE BRITISH MUSEUM, JUNE 19, 2018

Where and when was 'Assyria'?

The mighty Assyrian empire began as the small city-state of Ashur in what is now the north-eastern region of Iraq. It first asserted control over a large area in the 14th century BC, but by the 12th century BC it had collapsed.

During the 10th and 9th centuries BC, Assyria gradually recovered, reclaiming lost lands, and campaigning in new ones. By the 7th century BC, the last great Assyrian king, Ashurbanipal, ruled over a geographically and culturally diverse empire, shaping the lives of peoples from the eastern Mediterranean to western Iran. When people talk of 'Assyria', it generally means the time of its great flourishing between the 9th and 7th centuries BC, sometimes referred to today as the 'Neo-Assyrian empire'.

Living in luxury

The kings of the Neo-Assyrian empire built on a lavish scale. They ruled from their capital cities at Ashur, Nimrud, Khorsabad and Nineveh. When a king decided to move his capital or to simply rebuild it, they made sure it was bigger and better than what came before.

Nineveh was transformed by King Sennacherib (reigned 705–681 BC) into a metropolis whose size and splendour would astonish the ancient world. It covered 7 square kilometres and its palaces and temples were adorned with colossal sculptures and brilliantly carved reliefs. An intricate system of canals and aqueducts watered the king's pleasure gardens and game parks. Sennacherib's grand residence, the 'Palace Without Rival', was built 'to be an object of wonder for all the people'. Visitors entered the palace through massive gateways flanked by colossal human-headed winged bulls (called lamassu) that protected the king from dangerous supernatural forces. Sennacherib's grandson Ashurbanipal ruled from this palace for most of his reign (668–631 BC), before moving to a new royal residence at Nineveh. His 'North Palace' was decorated with reliefs painted in vivid colors that glorified his rule and achievements.

Supreme power

The king's power was absolute, assigned through the divine will of the Assyrian deity Ashur. For the Assyrians, the heartland of the empire, with its magnificent cities, was the perfect vision of civilized order. Foreign lands were thought



Map of the Assyrian empire at its greatest extent during the reign of Ashurbanipal (668 BC to c. 627 BC)



Sculpture of a winged bull (*lamassu*) from the Assyrian city of Nimrud, 865–860 BC. Similar sculptures would have flanked the entrance to King Sennacherib's palace in Nineveh.



Relief depicting Ashurbanipal hunting a lion. 645–635 BC.

to be full of chaos and disorder. As the earthly representative of the gods, it was the king's duty to create order in the world by conquering foreign lands and absorbing them into Assyria. As the shepherd of his people, the king also protected Assyria from foreign enemies or wild animals. The most dangerous animal in Assyria was the lion, which came to symbolize all that was wild and chaotic in the world. Assyrian kings proved they were worthy by hunting these fearsome beasts. The royal hunt was a drama-filled public spectacle staged at game parks near the cities. Lion hunting was represented in Assyrian art, most famously in the reliefs from king Ashurbanipal's palace.

Introducing the Assyrians

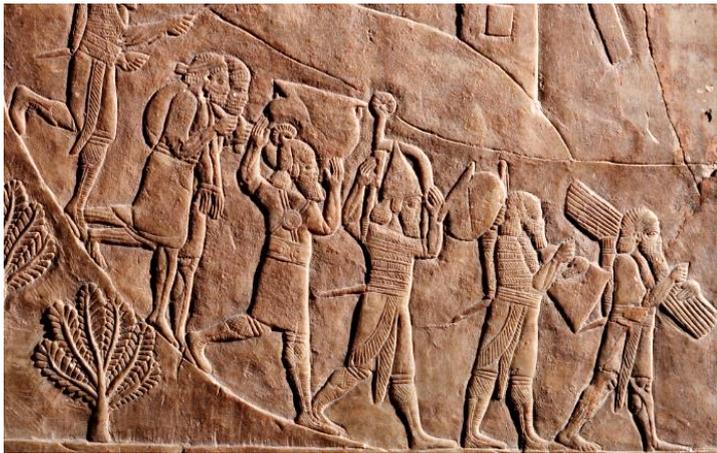
Military might

Assyria's rapid expansion was achieved through force. By the mid-8th century BC, Assyrian kings commanded a professional standing army with chariots, cavalry and infantry. This massive army was supplemented by the king's personal bodyguard of elite troops. The army grew as it absorbed members of defeated enemy armies, which gave rise to a multicultural military force drawn from all corners of the empire.

The Assyrians preferred to mount surprise attacks against an inferior force to guarantee an easy victory. Large fortified cities with multiple moats, walls and towers could take years to capture. A city's fortifications could be breached using siege engines, battering rams and sappers. To avoid heavy casualties, the Assyrian army would blockade a city with siege forts to cut off its supplies, reinforcements, and any means of escape.



Relief depicting the siege of an Egyptian fort. 645 – 635 BC



Relief showing the looting of the Elamite city of Hamanu. c. 645 – 635 BC.

Military conquest was followed by the extraction of wealth through plunder, tribute payments, taxation – and even people. Entire populations from defeated kingdoms were forcibly deported and resettled elsewhere within the empire. Deportees could be exploited – conscripted into the army, made to populate newly established cities, and resettled in underdeveloped provinces to work the land. The most valued – elite families, specialist craftsmen and scholars – were settled and put to work in the major cities. Here they could support public works, produce luxury goods, and generate knowledge for the benefit of the empire.

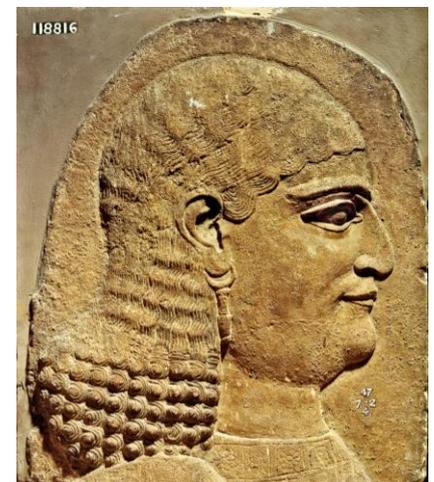
Divine punishment

As the earthly representative of the gods, it was the king's duty to punish Assyria's enemies. Captured enemy leaders and rebels were displayed alongside the spoils of war and publicly humiliated in triumphal parades. Some were forced to wear the heads of their accomplices around their necks, others were chained to the gates of the city like dogs, or hitched up to the king's chariot like horses. The message was simple – mess with Assyria and you will face the consequences. This kind of violence was thought to be a form of divine justice against those who had opposed the king and the gods.

Trusted eunuchs

Assyrian kings liked to present themselves as the sole protectors of the empire. In reality, the empire was organized into a patchwork of provinces, each supervised by a governor appointed by the king. The governors made up a group of officials called the 'Great Ones', which formed the king's cabinet. The 'Great Ones' held considerable power, so much so that they could even threaten the king's rule.

Initially, these state positions were inherited, but their considerable wealth and influence posed a threat to the king. To counter this, the Assyrians devised an innovative scheme to ensure that positions of power were awarded on merit and not through family ties. They appointed eunuchs to positions of power because they could not father children and therefore could not build dynasties of their own. Only the king could pass power down family lines.



Relief depicting a eunuch. 710 – 705 BC.

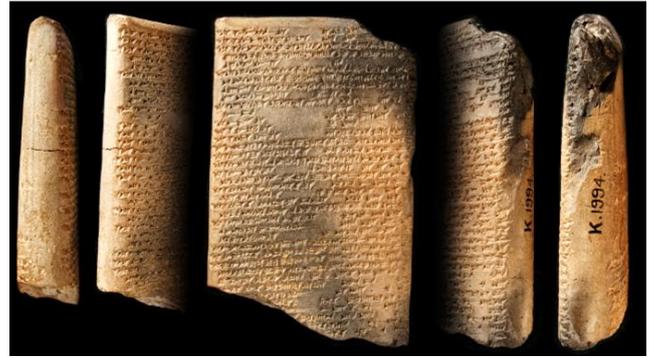
Introducing the Assyrians

A library fit for a king

Much of what we know about Assyrian history and culture is from written records. Assyrians used the ancient writing technique of cuneiform, which was first developed by the Sumerians around 3000 BC. Texts were written by pressing a reed pen into soft clay. The characteristic wedge-shaped strokes give the writing its modern name (cuneiform means simply 'wedge-shaped'). Cuneiform tablets were used to record everything from day-to-day administration to science and literature.

King Ashurbanipal seems to have wanted a copy of every book worth having. His interest in books was not for entertainment.

They helped him communicate with the gods and learn what the future held. There were books about omens from sacrifices, the heavens, and the earthly world. Alongside them were rituals and calendars, hymns and prayers, and magic and medicine.



Fragment of a clay tablet with inscription in cuneiform, written for the library of Ashurbanipal. 7th century BC.



Clay letter and envelope. 8th century BC.

Royal mail

The empire's unity depended on a reliable and efficient communications network. To speed up the transfer of information, the empire was connected by an innovative system of royal roads, along which express mail could travel. It only took a few days for news to travel between the capital and the furthest reaches of the empire. If a message was particularly sensitive, state letters would travel with a trusted envoy across the entire distance to hand deliver the message.

Access to the royal mail service was only granted to the king's most trusted officials. Each wore a golden signet ring engraved with an image of the royal seal – the Assyrian king slaying a ferocious lion. Letters sealed by these rings carried royal authority and any instructions had to be obeyed. By delegating royal power, the king could be in many places at once.

The end of an empire

Following the death of Ashurbanipal around 631 BC, it took just under 20 years for the empire to crumble. The Babylonians, under their leader Nabopolassar, rebelled against Assyrian rule, causing chaos throughout the land. Conditions under siege were dire, the populace stricken by disease and famine. Parents were forced to sell their children to buy food. Gradually, Nabopolassar won the upper hand and advanced into Assyria. A war of independence became a fight for Assyria's survival.

Assyria was doomed when the Medes from western Iran, led by Cyaxares, joined the assault by sacking the holy city of Ashur. Nabopolassar and Cyaxares swore an alliance that was to seal Assyria's fate. In 612 BC the two armies converged on Nineveh. The greatest city in existence fell, its palaces and temples burnt to the ground, and the last Assyrian king to reign from Nineveh, Sin-shar-ishkun, perished in the flames.



Clay seal showing an Assyrian king in combat with a lion. 715 BC.



John Martin, *The Fall of Nineveh*. Print, 1829

Assyria into legend

The fall of Assyria was an iconic event that was recorded in passages of the Bible and by Greek and Roman writers. Accounts describe how Assyria was punished for the moral depravity of its rulers, who surrounded themselves with great riches and luxury. According to classical sources, Assyria's last king was so debauched that he caused the empire's complete destruction. Realizing that Nineveh was lost, he erected an enormous pyre in the palace and consigned himself to the flames along with his vast wealth, concubines and eunuchs.

Introducing the Assyrians

The negative image of Assyria was challenged by archaeological discoveries of the mid-nineteenth century, which established Assyria as one of the great civilizations of the ancient world.

Assyria rediscovered

Although a number of travelers and explorers had visited the Assyrian sites of Nimrud and Nineveh, they weren't excavated until the mid-19th century, when a young British diplomat, Austen Henry Layard, started work at Nimrud. Layard's remarkable discoveries at Nimrud included colossal winged bulls and carved stone reliefs from the Assyrian palaces, which attracted sponsorship from the British Museum. Layard moved his team to the main mound at Nineveh in 1847, where he discovered the 'Palace Without Rival', king Sennacherib's great royal residence.

Arrangements were made with the Ottoman government to have the Assyrian sculptures shipped to Britain. Due to the size of the sculptures, this proved to be some task. Firstly, the sculptures were transported to the river Tigris, where they were loaded on rafts that sailed to the city of Basra in southern Iraq. From here they were placed on a steamship and taken to Bombay in India, before sailing around Africa to England, where they were finally transported to the British Museum.

Layard's discoveries caused a media sensation and captured the public imagination. This had a major impact on painting and applied arts, in the UK and beyond, during the second half of the nineteenth century, which led to a brief phase of 'Assyrian revival'. The Assyrian sculptures at the British Museum largely remain today where they were first installed over 160 years ago.



Frederick Charles Cooper. Drawing showing the winged bulls found by Layard at Nimrud. Watercolour on paper, mid-19th century.



Artist's impression of a hall in an Assyrian palace from *The Monuments of Nineveh* by Sir Austen Henry Layard, 1853.

Assyrian Flag



The Assyrian flag is designed with a white background on which three waving stripes emerge from each corner of a center design, in the shape of a four headed star. At its center, the star encompasses a golden circle representing Shamash the Assyrian sun-god who was believed to give life to all things on earth. The four wedges of the star are a bright blue color and represent happiness and tranquility.

The waving stripes emerge from the four joints of the star and stretch to the four corners of the flag. The Stripes symbolize the three major rivers flowing through the land of Assyria. The mighty Euphrates, represented in blue, denotes abundance. The great Zab, in white, portrays peace, and in red, the mighty Tigris represents the Assyrian national pride. Symbolizing the dispersion of the Assyrian people to the four corners of the world, the way these stripes emerge from the star also symbolically portrays the eventual return of the Assyrians to their ancestral homeland which is represented by the center of the star.

Hovering over the star and the emblem of Shamash, there is a representation of the image of God Ashur, the ancient Assyrian supreme deity. The emblem of Ashur features the deity standing in a circle with two eagle wings spanning and over stretching its length on two sides. Ashur has drawn a bow and his arrow is ready to fly. This emblem is in the same shape and color scheme of the original ceramic work preserved in the British Museum in London.

In 1968, a serious effort was undertaken to address the need for the Assyrian nation to have its own official national flag. To realize this dream, it was decided to appeal to various Assyrian artists and knowledgeable people, for the purpose of soliciting ideas and layouts on this important national task. Layouts and suggestions were collected from across the world in order to be presented for approval.

This worldwide effort netted many designs which were duly received and noted. Following meticulous consideration, a decision was reached in favor of one design which best captured the Assyrian essence from the past and the present. The design was created by a well-known Assyrian artist, Mr. George Bit Atanus of Tehran, Iran and was approved in the year 1974.

The main reason for the approval of this flag was that the artist had not merely presented his own views. Rather, he had brilliantly blended ancient Assyrian designs representing the former glory of the Assyrian empire, to create an attractive fusion between the past and the present. In this way, the artist had succeeded to bridge the gap between a glorious Assyrian past and the present-day struggles and ambitions of the Assyrian nation.

Assyrian Alphabet

			
DALLAT	GAMMAL	BEET	ALLAP
			
KHEIT	ZEIN	WAW	HEE
			
LAMMAD	CAP	YOOD	TEIT
			
EI	SIMKAT	NOON	MEEM
			
REISH	QOPE	SADI	PEH
<p>Assyrian is written from right to left. It is a cursive script where some, but not all, letters connect within a word. The alphabet consists of 22 letters, all of which are consonants. The vowel sounds are supplied either by the reader's memory or by optional diacritic marks.</p>			
		TAV	SHEEN

Parish Priest & Deacons



Center:

Fr. Lawrence Namato

From Left to Right:

Deacon Allen Youssefi

Deacon Obalit Tomeh

Deacon Athnaiel AlBazi

Deacon Yousif Joseph

Deacon Aprim Anoya

Deacon Danny Khano

Deacon Yosip Abraham

Deacon Ashur Kanoon

Deacon Lawrence Younan

Parish Committees



Parish Committee



Ladies Auxiliary



Ushers



Choir



Gift Shop



Mar Narsai Malphana



Sunday School

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Raman Beitsayad, Youth | Tami Kivakiyour, Ushers |
| Bronsin Benyamin, Ushers & Youth | Rommel Khoshabian, Festival |
| Broneil Betoushana, Youth | Danny Sada, Youth |
| Eilo Betoushana, Sunday School | Ben Toma, Festival |
| Hanan Debaz, Festival | Mari Toma, Youth |
| Leilani Gabriel, Sunday School | Sargon Youkhana, Festival |
| Michelle Gabriel, Sunday School | Arbella Yousif, Youth |
| Kimona Hacoubi, Ushers & Youth | Alex Zaia, Youth |
| Nico Hammond, Youth | |

Missing in Pictures

Parish Annual Events



27th Annual Assyrain Food Festival Committee



12th Annual Ladies Tea Time



32nd Annual Youth Conference

Domarina Beitpoulice – 35th Anniversary



Domarina Beitpoulice was born on July 13, 1957 to General Phillip and Tamara Betoushana in Tehran, Iran. Domarina began Assyrian folk dancing at the age of four. At the age of 13, Domarina taught a group of fellow Girl Scouts several Assyrian dances. They performed under the guidance of instructor Madame Lily Tamraz. Domarina performed Assyrian Dance in Shiraz, Iran at the celebration of 2500 years of Iranian history, with the late Shah of Iran in attendance. She was also part of the Nineveh Choir, under the instruction of Maestro Nebu Issabey, performing for the late Shah of Iran several times throughout the 1970s.

Domarina and her family moved to San Jose, California in 1981. In 1983 and 1984, her dance group performed at the International Fair Dance competition in San Jose, winning 1st place both years. Since then she has taught Assyrian folk dances to hundreds of youth in the Assyrian community in San Jose and has spent countless hours designing Assyrian folklore costumes.

In addition to her passion for dance, Domarina is also an accomplished painter and a Real Estate Agent by trade. She currently serves as the President of the Ladies Axillary of the Assyrian Church of the East Mar Yosip Parish in San Jose. Domarina's next big project is a documentary on Assyrian Folklore Dances.

Domara Dance Group

Domara Dance Group was founded by Domarina Beitpoulice in 1994 in San Jose, California. Since its establishment, the group has performed at Assyrian American National Federation's Conventions, Assyrian Food Festival's in San Jose and Los Angeles, flag raising events at City Halls, and Assyrian New Year celebrations among other locations and events.



Some other highlights of Domara Dance Group performances are:

- 1998: Performance at the Palestinian Orthodox Church Festival in Los Altos
- 2005: Performance at Narsai's Taste of a Mediterranean at the Ritz Carlton in San Francisco
- 2017: Performance at the Assyrian National Convention in Phoenix, Arizona
- 2018: Performance at UNESCO's opening ceremony in Athens, Greece
- 2019: Performance at Assyrian Association of Southern California's Kha B'Nissan celebration
- 2019: Performance at the 11th Annual Mesopotamian Night at the California Theater in San Jose

Domara Dance Group – Over the Years



Cover Art – “Lamassu”

By Rabel BetShmuel

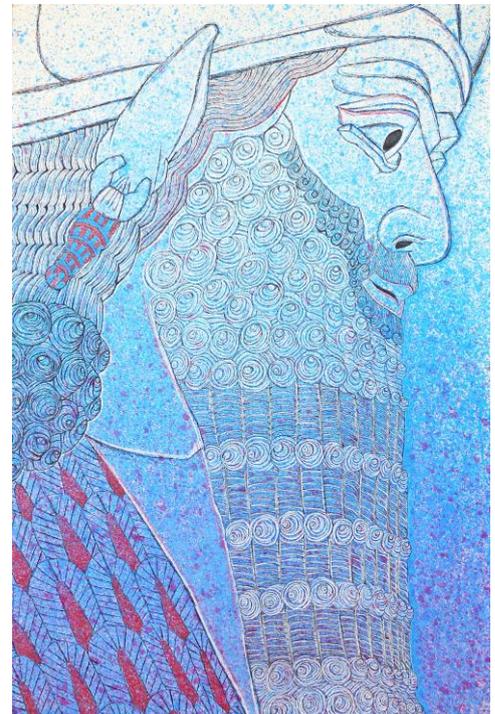
Struggling from a creative block brought on by a long Chicago winter, Rabel created this drawing titled "Lamassu" in 2009 using acrylic paint, ink and color pencil. The paint is applied using an ordinary spray bottle and the detail work is drawn using ink and color pencil. The piece pushes the imagination to reconsider Assyrian art in a more contemporary view.

Rabel’s deep love for his Assyrian heritage provides the foundation for his artistic curiosity and expression. The reality of Assyrian existence – suffused as it has been with pain making way for celebration and suffering ultimately inspiring achievement – provides the lens through which he creates his work. He seeks a universal language with which his culture can speak, transcending the narrow boundaries often associated with nationalistic art.

His work draws on a cultural history that does not have a prominent place in art history or contemporary art. Inspired to elevate Assyrian art, developing something fresh from the fertile ground of millennia, Rabel utilizes reverse assimilation to infuse ordinary modern objects with ancient Assyrian motifs.

He works across a range of media, including painting, drawing, sculpture, digital creation, and assemblage. Experimentation is at the heart of his creative process, having taught him the value of embracing mistakes and welcoming unexpected outcomes.

By creating Assyrian art in a modern image, Rabel introduces it to an audience that often only has a rudimentary knowledge of it. His objective is to extend Assyrian culture's frontiers while placing it on the same level as other living, ancient cultures: those of Native Americans, Aztecs, Mayans, Incas, and so on. Rabel’s life in Chicago is inspired by a continuing sense of discovery and a search for newness and renewal within his heritage. As a result, his art modernizes Assyrian culture while holding on to its ancient charm.



Shlama Magazine Credits

Special thanks to **Medius Corporation** for printing the Shlama Magazine.

Sherbi Daniel-Badal created and designed the Shlama Magazine.

Sherbi Daniel-Badal with the assistance of **Roumel BetVarda** gained business advertisements and personal dedication pages.

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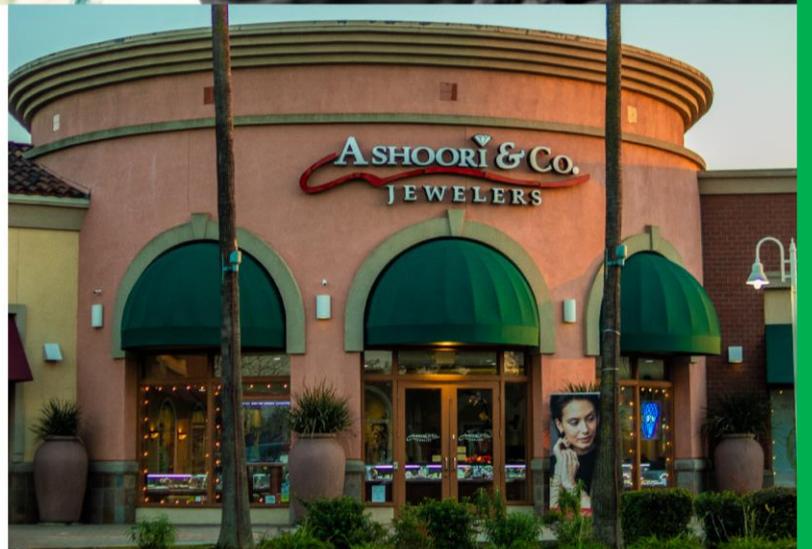
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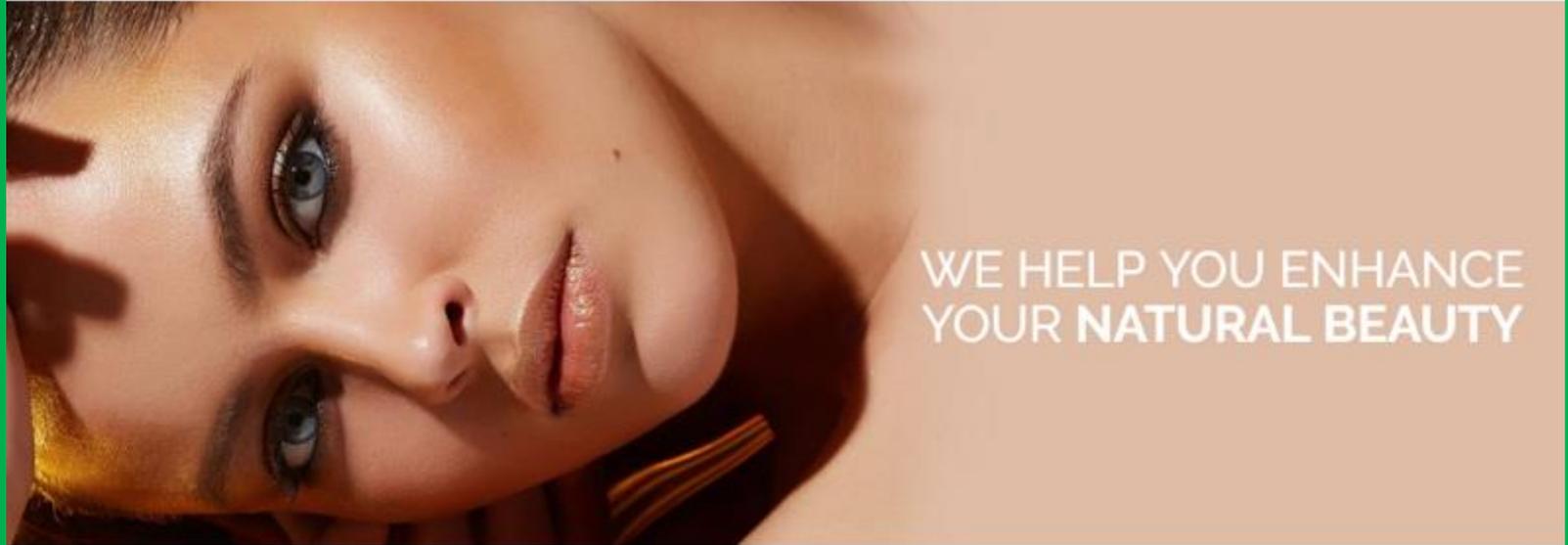


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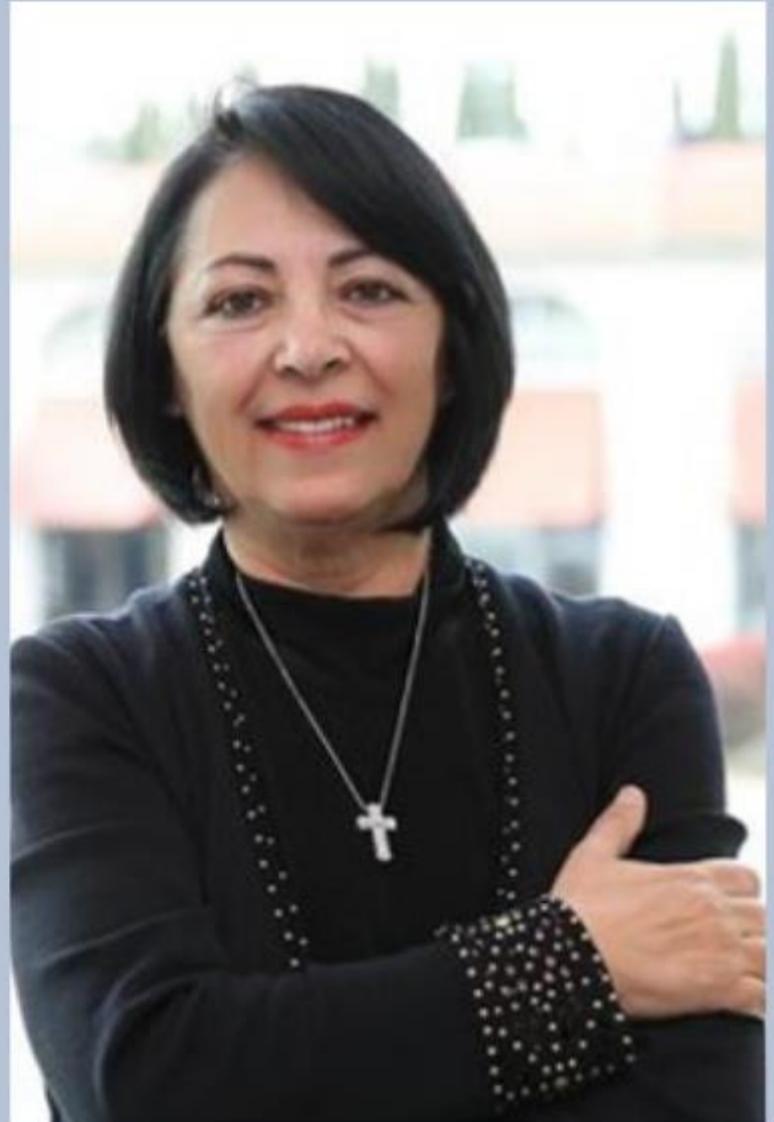
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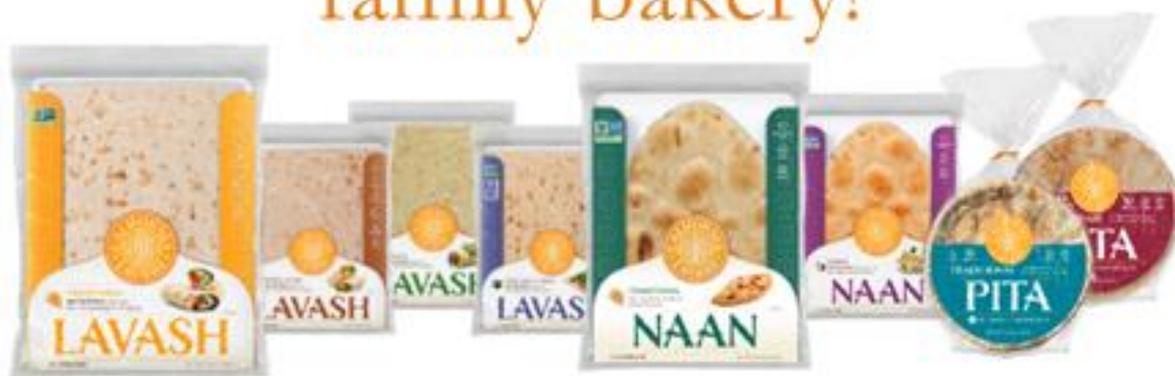




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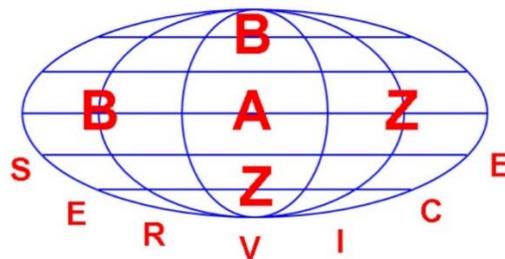
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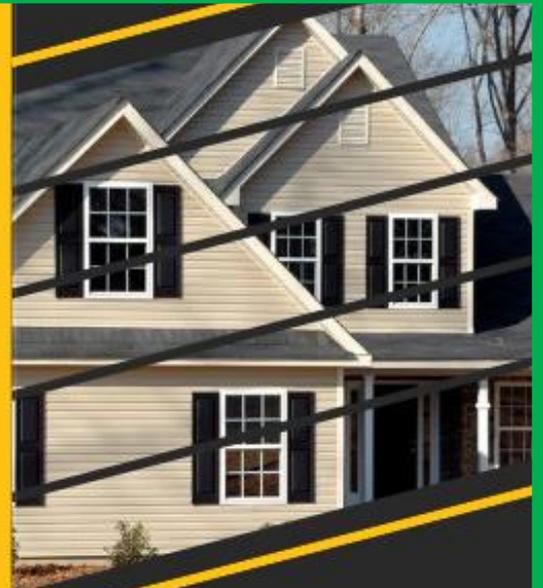
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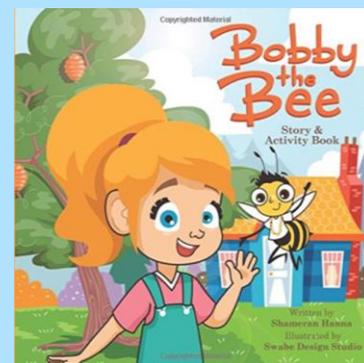
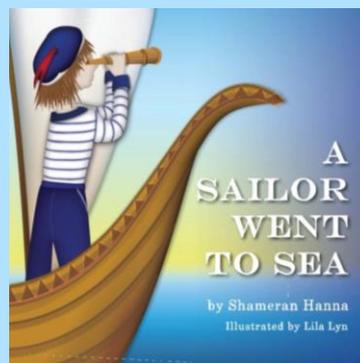
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CONGRATULATIONS

Beneel Babaei

Juris Doctor

We are so proud of your superior academic achievements.

Love,
Mom & Dad



Lawrence and Larsin

"Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail." - Ralph Waldo Emerson

from your loving family,
Roumel, Hariet, Demsin & Ninveh BetVarda



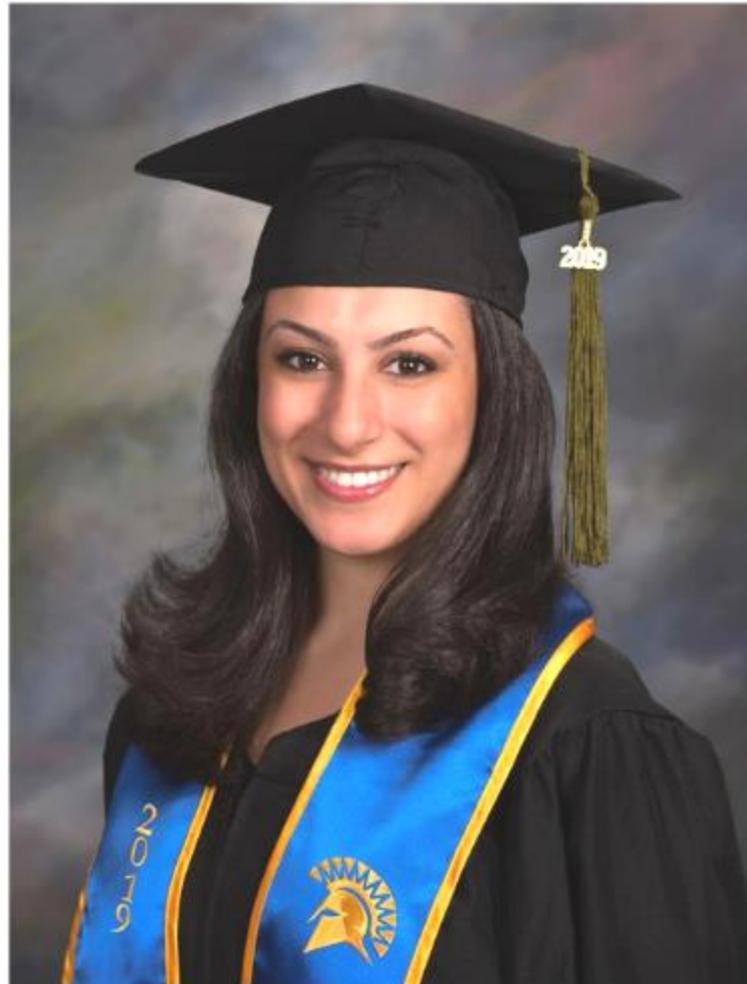
CONGRATULATIONS

Rachel Penna Estensen

Willow Glen High School
High School Diploma with Honors

We are so proud of all your achievements!
May God continue to bless you in all that you do.

We love you,
Dad (Marc), Mom (Elizabeth) and Natasha



CONGRATULATIONS

Eden Koryakos

San Jose State University
Bachelors of Science in Public Health

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."
- Psalm

We love you,
Sh. Peter, Sharokina, Adessa, Ashor & David

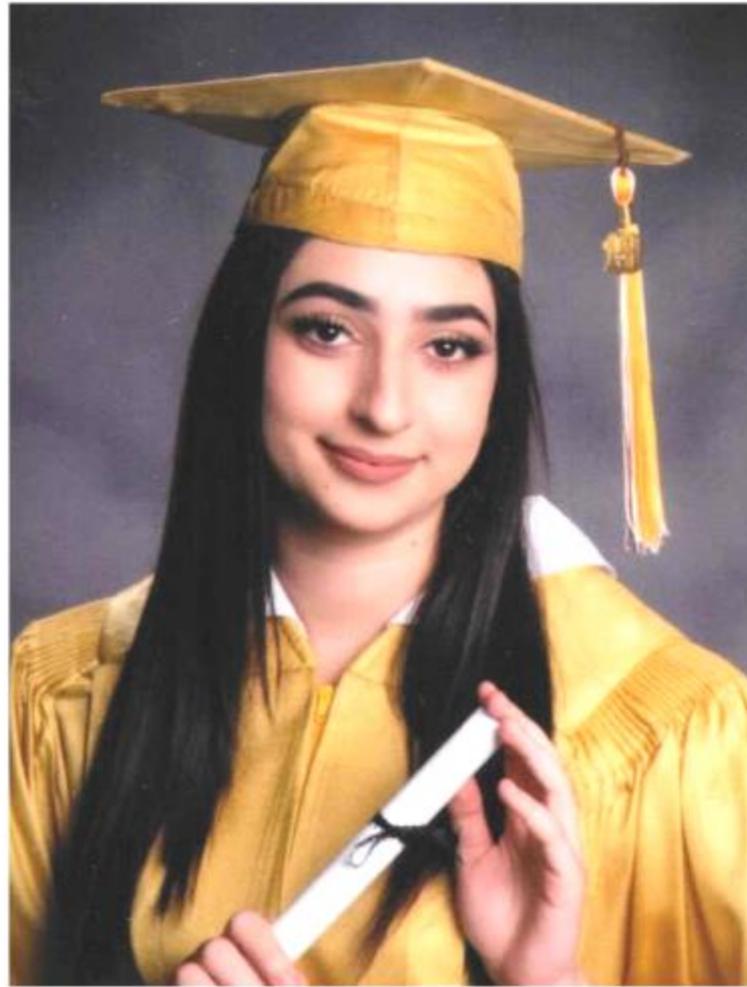


CONGRATULATIONS

Ramsin Nissan

San Jose State University
Bachelors of Science in Business Administration
Management Informations Systems

Love,
Dad



CONGRATULATIONS

Yasmine Seryani

Gunderson High School
Academic Achievement Honors

Congratulations to our pride and joy Yasmine! You did it with honors! So proud of your success! May the Lord bless you and guide your future. Keep reaching for the stars!

Love Always,
Joseph, Atorena, Nicolas, Nana and little Max.



CONGRATULATIONS

Andrew Sabour

Keck Medical School, USC
Medical Doctor

Andrew, we wish you all the best things life can offer.
You make us proud.

Love,
Dad, Mom, John, Ryan & Emily



CONGRATULATIONS

Ryan Sabour

UC Santa Barbara
Bachelor of Science, Microbiology

Ryan, Congratulations and BRAVO!

Love,
Dad, Mom, John, Andrew & Emily



CONGRATULATIONS

Naramsin Joseph Toma

Adrian C. Wilcox
High School Diploma

We are so proud of the young man you have become, the achievements you've accomplished and the ones you will achieve in the future. May God continue to guide you on your path and bless you.

We love you so much,
Benjamin, Najat, Sargon, Mari & Nohara Toma



CONGRATULATIONS

Darius Yohannan

Notre Dame Indiana
Bachelors of Science in Chemistry

My love Darius, you are such an invaluable gift from God. We watch you change and grow as season come and quickly go. Today we are so grateful and proud of all the best things you have accomplished. We pray to God for giving you the ability to do more in life and reach the apex of success.

We love you,
Mom and Dad



CONGRATULATIONS

Michael Zia

University of Chicago
Master of Science in Analytics

My dearest son, continue to believe in yourself, push your limits, enjoy life, conquer your goals, and be happy!
So proud of your accomplishments.

Love you always,
Zia Zia



Elijah Ashur Benjamin

Congratulations to Shamasha Raumin and Eva
on the baptism of their son!

May God bless him always!

Love,
Pierre, Carmen & Roxanna Benjamin



Breteil Nineveh Gevargiz

"She is more precious than jewels, and nothing you desire can compare with her." - Proverbs 3:15

Join us in celebrating the birth of Breteil and watching her grow into a strong Assyrian woman and a faithful Christian.

With Love,
Banipal Gevargiz, Eilona Betkolia-Gevargiz & Shareil Ashur Gevargiz



Brayden Albert Lazary

"Children are a gift from the LORD; they are a reward from him." - Psalm 127.3

May God bless him now and always.

Love,
The Hacoubi Family



Family is where life begins and love never ends.

The Betoushana Family
Demiel, Shamiram, Ashur, Ashurina and Ashuraya



MY BEAUTIFUL GRANDDAUGHTERS

Nienebra, Eatana and Akadina

Granddaughters grow a bond with their grandmothers. A bond that cannot be torn apart by anything. A grandmother will walk along them through it all. Help them from the highest points in their lives to their weakest. Teach them about their culture and their religion. Making memories that will last a lifetime.

Love you very much,
Ashourbella Lazar



God Bless our Eta and Omtan Ashoureta.

Pazand Family



Blessings from our family to yours.

God Bless H.H. Mar Gewargis and H.G. Mar Awa Royel.
Wishing for a successful 27th Annual Assyrian Food Festival.

The Youkhanna Family
Sargon, Caroline, Joseph, Daniel & Mariam



Spread love everywhere you go. Let no one ever come to you without leaving happier. - Mother Teresa

Here's to a successful 27th Annual Assyrian Food Festival.

The Zaia Family
Michael, Linda, Alexander, Christian & George



IN LOVING MEMORY OF
OUR BELOVED

His Holiness Mar Dinkha IV

You will always be in our hearts.
We will miss you and love you forever.

George & Daisy Zaia

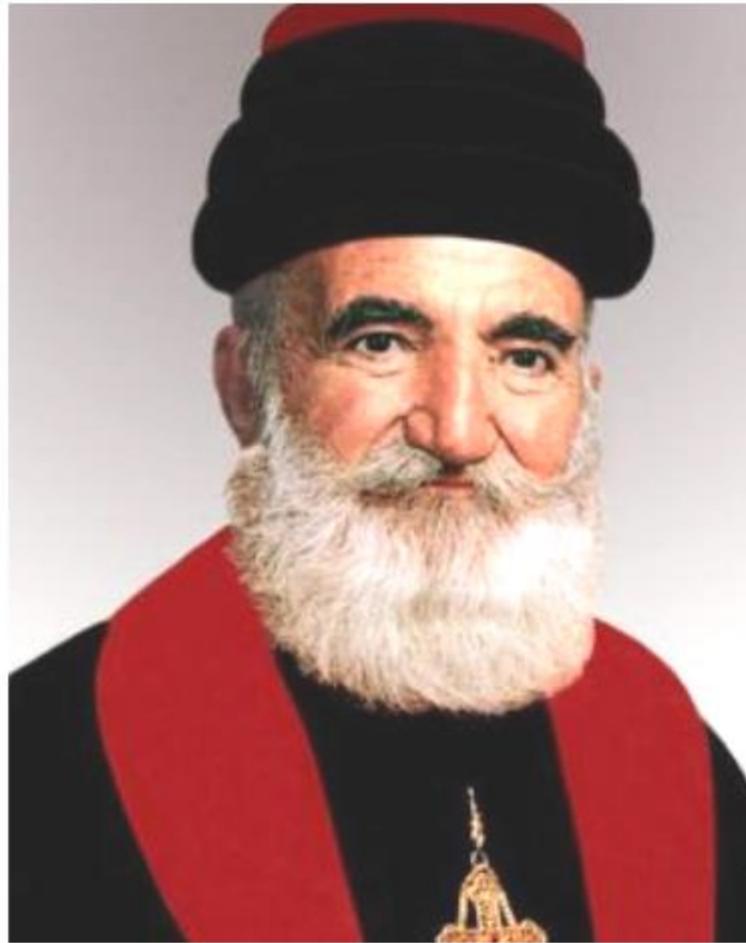


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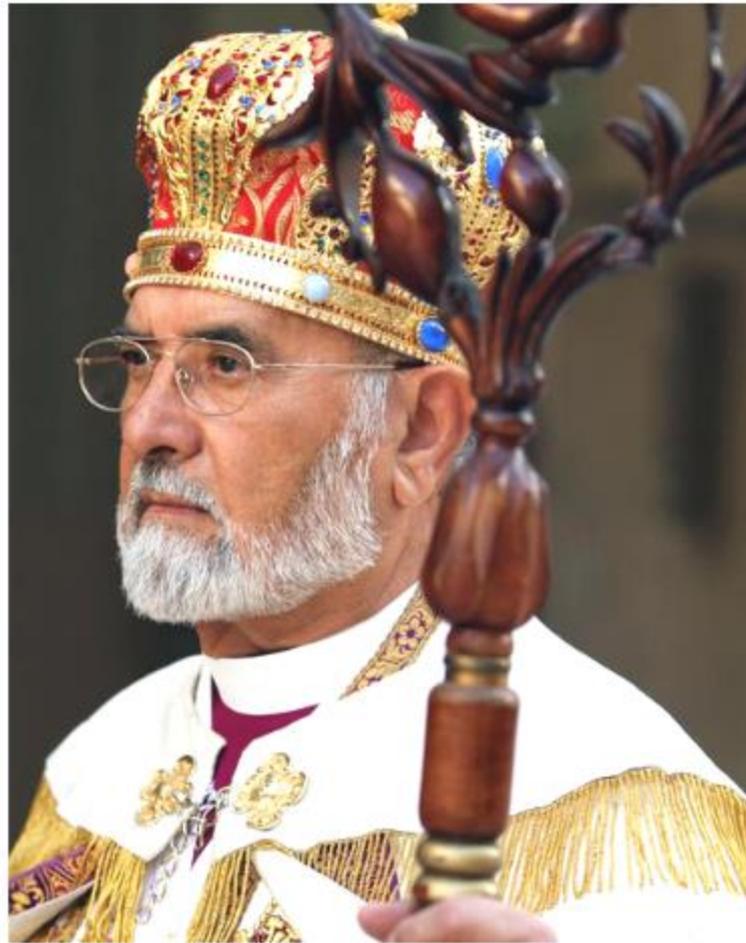
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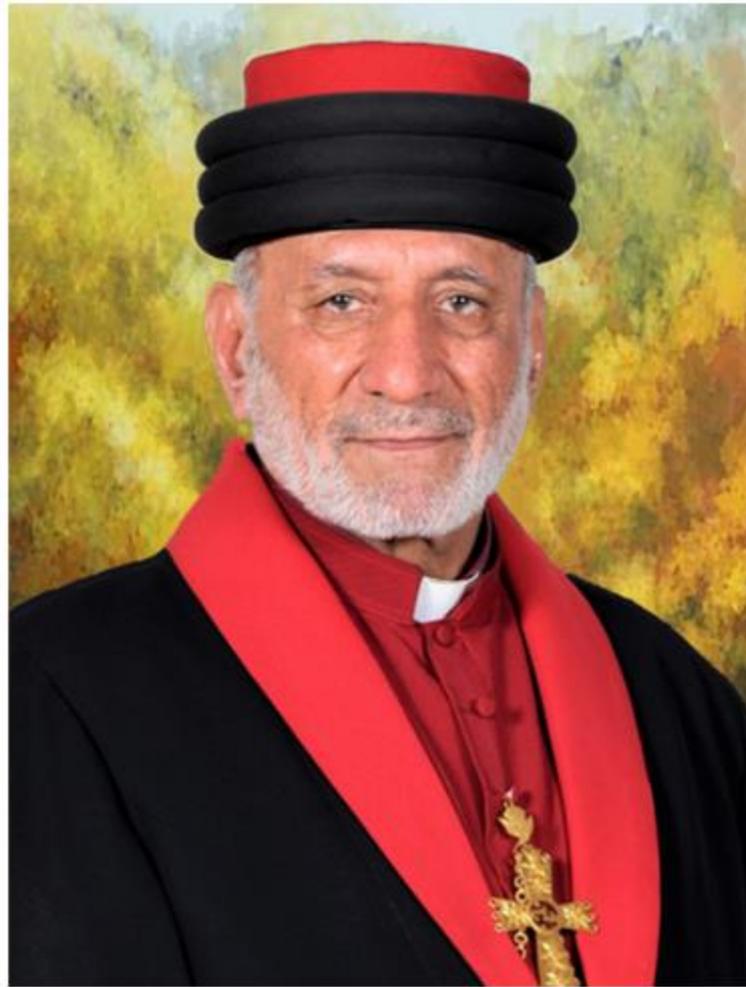
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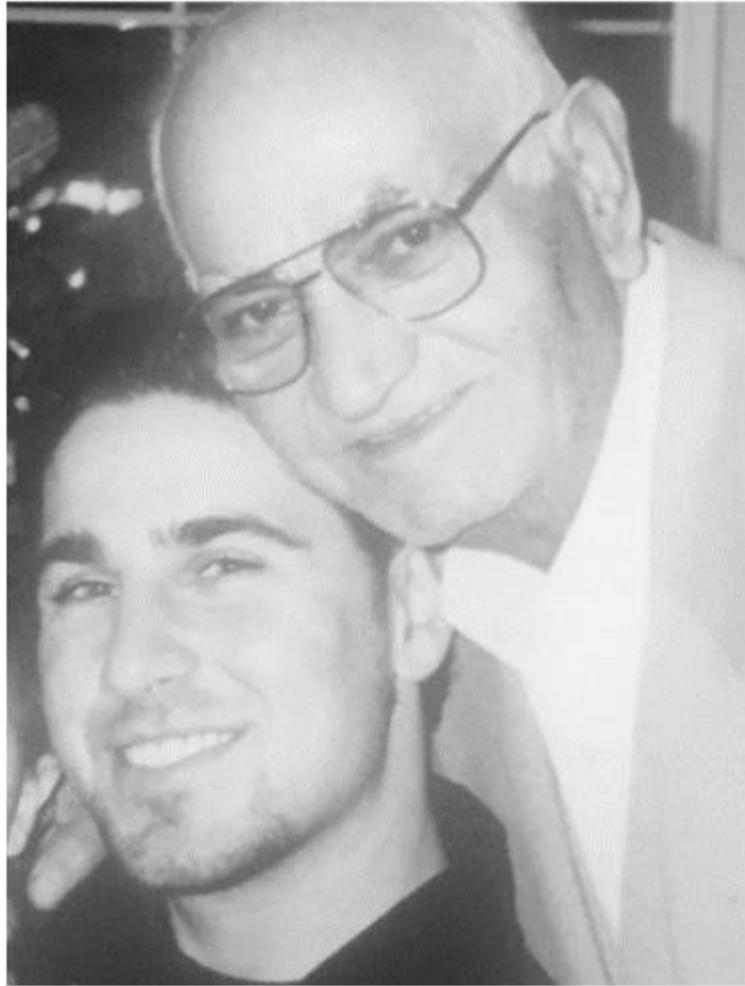


IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Sleva Toma Yousif

July 1, 1928 - July 17, 2019

Love,
Benjamin, Najat, Sargon, Mari, Nohara & Naramsin Toma

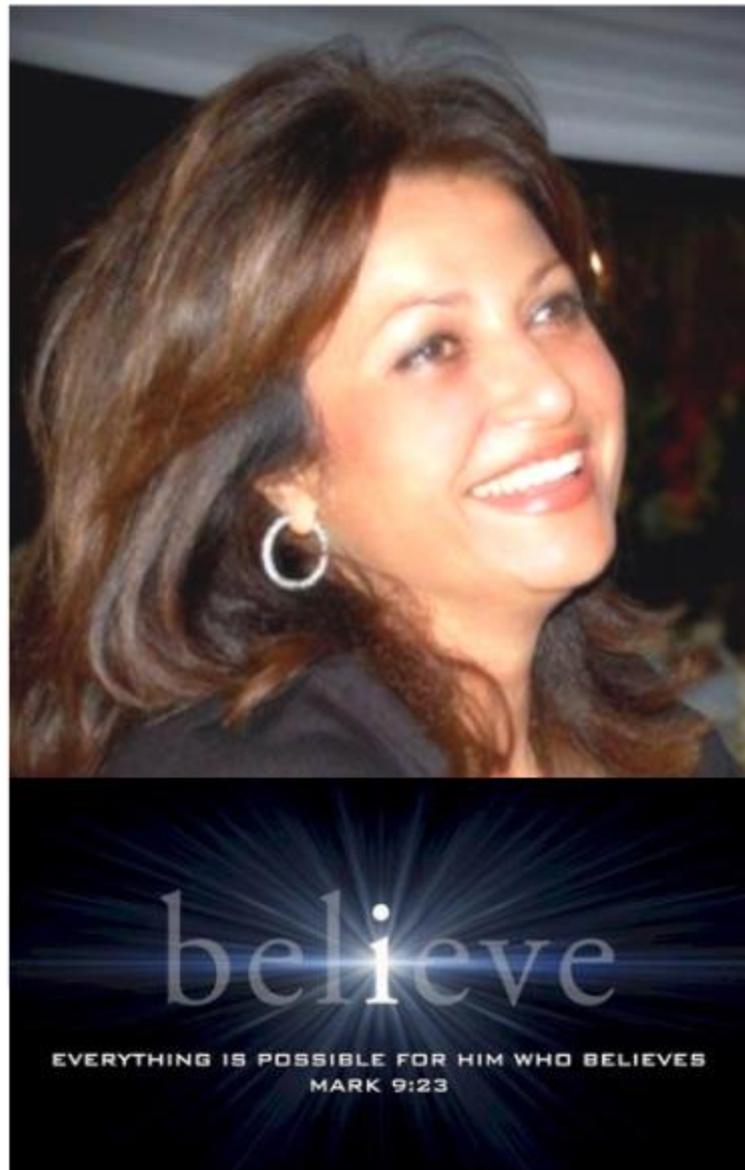


**IN LOVING MEMORY OF
MY FATHER**

Victor Badal

An amazing father, grandfather, brother, friend and crusader for everything Assyrian. You are truly missed by those in your life and those that did not have the honor to meet you.

Sargon Badal



**IN LOVING MEMORY OF
OUR BELOVED MOTHER & WIFE**

Romina Benjamin

Good Friday 2013 - San Jose, CA
Believing in her faith, she is resting in peace.

From her immediate family,
Andrew, Allen & Homer Benjamin



**IN LOVING MEMORY OF MY
PARENTS, BROTHER & SISTERS**

*Eshoo & Zaripha Badoo
Polis Badoo
Nazloo Lazarian
Sofia Davido*

The Church of Mar Bisho
Village of Ghala, Urmia - Iran

Souria



لكه شونڊا دنڊا دنڊا دنڊا، كه شونڊا موچن موچنڊا

لكه شونڊا دهه لوكا،

تعب لبقو هيمب نئيپ موچوڪو

لكه شونڊا دنڊا دنڊا دنڊا،

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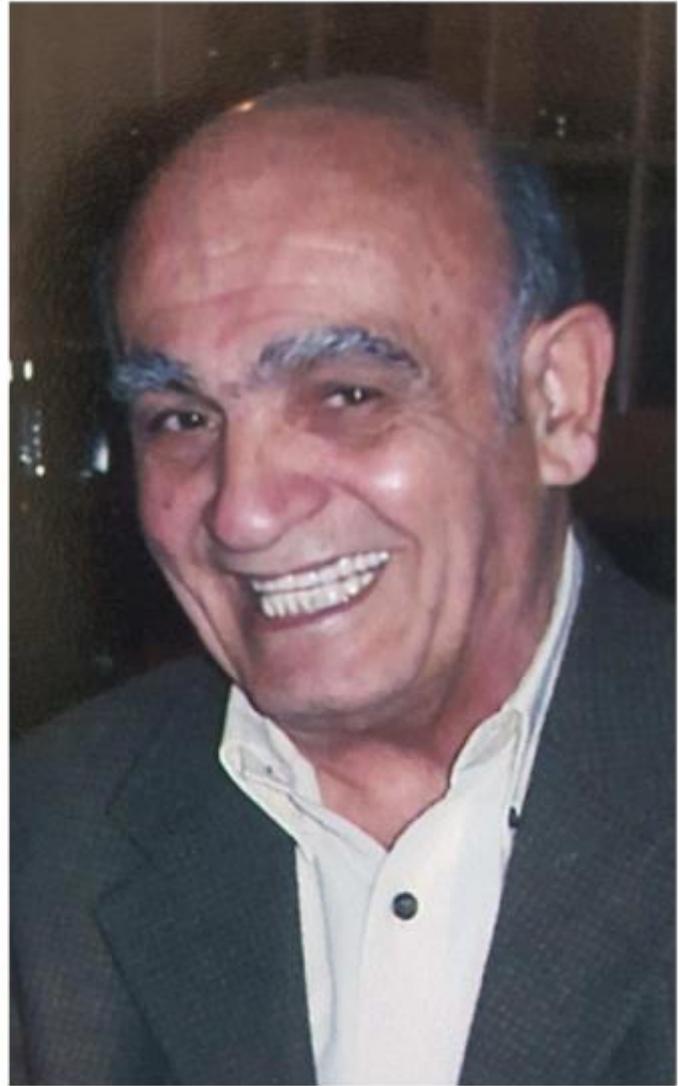
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**IN LOVING MEMORY OF OUR BELOVED
MOTHER, GRANDMOTHER AND
GREAT GRANDMOTHER**

Landa Badalov

Love,
The Betoushana Family



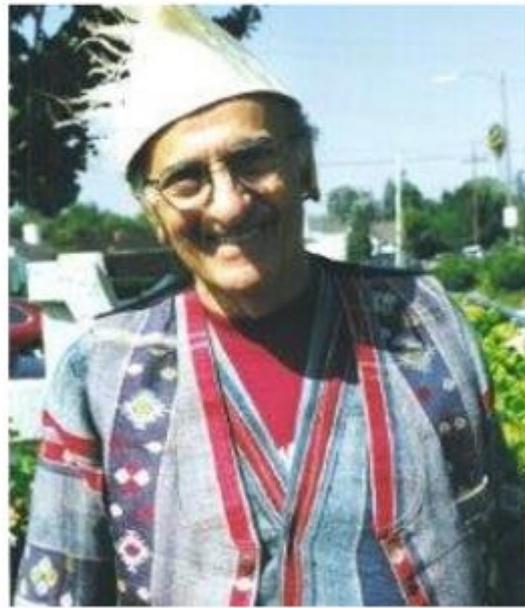
**IN LOVING MEMORY OF A
HUSBAND, FATHER AND GRANDFATHER**

William Azizians

1932 - 2017

You will always be with us.

Helin, Saret, Hariet, Roumel
Lawrence, Larsin, Demsin, and Ninveh



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Jack & Mary Bookie

Marilynn, Evy, Kathy & Renee



**IN LOVING MEMORY OF OUR BELOVED
MOTHER, GRANDMOTHER AND
GREAT GRANDMOTHER**

Lily Khoshabeh

Alice Haghazari & Family
Louise Khooshabeh & Family
Diana Oshkou & Family



IN LOVING MEMORY OF A
HUSBAND, FATHER & GRANDPA

Danyal Reyhaneh Sangar

دنیال ریہانہ سگار

مڈلنگ فلنگ دپب ایس: جی ٹیب جی ٹیپ
مڈلنگ ٹیس ڈب ایس ہکودٹیب: جی ٹیب جی ڈیپ:
مڈلنگ ڈی حو:

It's not a day we don't remember your laughs, warm comments and lovely gestures. You're still present in our homes. People at the church still remember your hard work and dedication during the food festivals. You'll always be in our hearts and minds. Love you forever, Dad!



IN LOVING MEMORY OF
MY FATHER & MOTHER

Ashot & Elina Nazari

Praying for the cure for cancer, as it has taken away precious lives of both my mom and dad.

The Rayhaun Family
Linda, Abe, Briana & Brandon



IN LOVING MEMORY OF
OUR AUNT

Raya Oushana

Always in our hearts.

Danis, Mimi & Akadina Yadegar
Paul & Vivian Gabriel



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Shakar Youkhana

You left us peaceful memories. Your love is still our guide.
Although we cannot see you, you are always at our side.

George Zaia & Family
Anna Peera & Family



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Robert Oushalem

Attorney at Law



Wills and Estates

Our office drafts wills and other estate planning documents for clients in the Santa Clara County and neighboring communities. We also represent people who have been named the administrator or executor of a deceased person's estate in probate proceedings.

Probate is the process of paying creditors and distributing the balance of a deceased person's estate to beneficiaries in accordance with the decedent's will — or in accordance with California law if there was no will. The person responsible for the probate process is called an executor if there is a will or an administrator if there was no will.

We often represent children following the death of their parents. While people can probate a parent's estate without a lawyer, it is difficult to do so in California because the rules of our probate courts are both complex and arcane.

Will and Testament

While everyone should have a will, most married couples as well as single individuals find that a living trust is usually the best estate vehicle for them. The trust enables you to designate your beneficiaries, your trustee, and transfer your assets to the trust while you are alive. In most instances the trust is revocable which means you can amend or change it at any time while you are alive. You can modify or even change your beneficiaries and/or your trustees at any time. The benefit of a living trust is that it avoids probate where your estate would be public record and open to anyone willing to go to the courthouse and examine your personal assets.

In addition to the trust, our office provides a Will, a Durable Power of Attorney, and an Advanced Healthcare Directive. Our goal is to provide a comprehensive estate plan for each and every client irrespective of their financial situation.

The Advanced Healthcare Directive provides for your wishes as to whether or not you want to remain alive by artificial means, such as a respirator or other medical advances that may keep one alive in a vegetative state. This is a decision you should make and not leave it up to your family members. This document enables you to instruct family members and medical providers to either remove or maintain artificial life support and feeding tubes if you are in a coma with no hope of recovery.

The Durable Power of Attorney will provide for your agent to handle all of your personal affairs in the event you become incapacitated, whether permanently or temporarily. Such power of attorney avoids your family members having to file for a conservatorship which is intrusive, timely, and expensive.

If you believe a living trust or even a simple will is in your best interest, please feel free to contact this office. I can guide you through the process of the will and trust and let you determine which avenue is right for you. Our fees are reasonable and my office tailors each and every estate plan to suit the particular needs of my clients.

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