

New Metropolitan Consecrated For The Spiritual Organizations Of Malankara

Puthencuriz, Kerala, India, February 1, 2009: The Malankara Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church today consecrated one new Bishop at a pious but auspicious ceremony held at the St. Athanasius Cathedral in the Malankara Syrian Church Headquarters, Puthencuriz. The newly ordained Metropolitan is Mor BARNABAS Geevarghese Thengumtharayil, for the spiritual organizations of Malankara Jacobite Syrian Christian Church. Faithful from the respective organizations and well-wishers, had thronged the church premises to witness the auspicious ceremonies.

The day started at the St. Athanasius Cathedral with the morning worship commencing at 7.30 am. The Catholicos of the East and Metropolitan Trustee, Aboon Mor Baselios Thomas-I, was the chief celebrant at the consecration ceremony which began with Holy Qurbano at 8.30 a.m. Many Metropolitans were present on the occasion assisting His Beatitude the Catholicos during the consecration ceremony.

Earlier the four-hour-long ordination process got under way with the ceremonial procession carrying the bishops designate to the *Madbho*. This was followed by the reading of the Patriarchal Bull, declaring the elevation of Bishop-designate, for the spiritual organisations.



The '*Ramban*', Rev. Geevarghese Thengumtharayil, passed through the consecration process which came to a formal conclusion with the Priests chanting '*oxios*,' holding the Bishop high in their chairs by around 12 pm. Following the age-old traditions of the Syrian Church, the new metropolitan was named Mor Barnabas Geevarghese by the

chief celebrant Catholicos Aboon Mor Baselios Thomas-I. Holy Synod Secretary Joseph Mor Gregorios; metropolitans Mathews Mor Ivanios; Mathews Mor Aphrem; Kuriakose Mor Cleemis; Elias Mor Athanasios; Mathews Mor Thevedesios and Abraham Mor Severios were among those who participated in the consecration ceremonies.



The religious ceremonies were followed by a public reception for the new Bishop. Dominic Presentation, MLA, inaugurated the meeting. K. P. Dhanapalan, MP and MLAs K. Babu; Saju Paul; M. M. Monaye; M. J. Jacob and T. U. Kuruvilla; UDF Convener P. P. Thankachan and former MLA T. H. Mushtaffa were also present at the felicitation.



