

Patriarchs of Syria condemn escalating violence, call for peace and national reconciliation

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The heads of Syria's Christian Churches have issued **a joint statement** condemning the recent wave of violence that has gripped the country, calling for an immediate end to the bloodshed and urging national reconciliation.

The statement, signed by Greek Orthodox Patriarch John X of Antioch, Syriac Orthodox Patriarch Mor Ignatius Aphrem II, and Melkite Greek Catholic Patriarch Youssef Absi, decries the escalating brutality that has resulted in attacks on innocent civilians, including women and children.

The Joint Statement

In recent days, Syria has witnessed a dangerous escalation of violence, brutality, and killings, resulting in attacks on innocent civilians, including women and children. Homes have been violated, their sanctity disregarded, and properties looted—scenes that starkly reflect the immense suffering endured by the Syrian people.

The Christian Churches while strongly condemning any act that threatens civil peace, denounce and condemn the massacres targeting innocent civilians, and call for an immediate end to these horrific acts, which stand in stark opposition to all human and moral values.

The Churches also call for the swift creation of conditions conducive to achieving national reconciliation among the Syrian people. They urge efforts to establish an environment that facilitates the transition to a state that respects all its citizens and lays the foundation for a society based on equal citizenship and genuine partnership, free from the logic of vengeance and exclusion. At the same time, they reaffirm the unity of Syrian territory and reject any attempts to divide it.

The Churches call on all concerned parties within Syria to assume their responsibilities, put an end to the violence, and seek peaceful solutions that uphold human dignity and preserve national unity. We pray that God may protect Syria and its people and that peace may prevail throughout the land.

JOHN X

Greek Orthodox Patriarch of Antioch and All the East

MOR IGNATIUS APHREM II

Syriac Patriarch of Antioch and All the East, and Supreme Head of the Universal Syriac Orthodox Church

YOUSSEF ABSI

Melkite Greek Catholic Patriarch of Antioch and All the East