

## A word from a Syrian to the Syrians in diaspora

My beloved,  
Thank God,  
And thank God,  
And then again, thank God!  
I write to you, whoever you are, and wherever you are.  
I write to you away from everything political!  
Yes, away from everything political,  
past, present, and Future!  
I write to you—as is my usual habit—from a pure self-initiative,  
Perchance, I could save the human within me, first,  
And within every single one of you!

There is a fact that I must mention to you, if you don't already know it...  
And remind you of it if there is anyone among you who pretend to forget it!  
Here it is in all its rawness:  
Ninety percent of your people, and our people, in Syria  
are suffering from real hunger,  
from varied and exacerbating poverty,  
But with legendary determination to sustain a free and dignified life  
for themselves, and for others!  
Winter is at the gates...  
While the American, Western, and Arabic punitive measures...  
Are forever imposed...  
In the name of "Democracy, Freedom, and Human Rights"!  
And all churches, East and West,  
at whose head is the Vatican,  
Are silent the silence of sepulchres!  
...  
What are you going to do?  
A lot... a lot... and a lot...  
If you wish to save the human...  
within you, and within us!  
And thank God!  
Then, thank God!  
And then again, thank God!

Damascus, September 5, 2022  
Fr Elias Zahlaoui