Ladies and Gentlemen:

May Peace be Upon You All

When an innocent person's life is taken without cause or fault; when the land is usurped by force; and when people are displaced coercively, the injustice is unspeakable. Our country is witnessing the most ferocious, insolent, aggressive and barbaric attack in centuries against members of the minorities in particular, and against our country in general. All of this has been perpetrated by a terrorist, Takfirist group. Since the tenth of June, the City of Mosul (the Mother of Two Springs) was stormed by terrorists and fell under their control. Afterwards, the areas administratively affiliated with Mosul were also brought under terrorist control. The Takfirist groups spared no old man, child or woman.

The Izidis were the group most affected, suffering mass murder, slaughter of the young, and the kidnapping and detention of women. After these families fled, filled with fear and horror because of the brutality of these groups, more than fifty thousand (50,000) of them, mostly women and children, were put under siege on Mount Sinjar. These families lived on the top of the mountain without food or water for ten days. Then, humanitarian aid was dropped to them by planes. Although appeals and calls for relief were officially sent to the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) and to the American and British embassies, the response was neither commensurate with the need, nor with the demand.

The evacuation of the families besieged on the top of the mountain began in small numbers by the efforts of the brave Iraqi Air Force. Simultaneously, other families started down the other side of the mountain, taking rugged paths and rough roads. They had to travel on foot for more than 70 kilometers (43.5 miles). Many old men and children died from exhaustion during the tiring
journey. Almost three hundred fifty (350) families were killed, and five hundred women and girls were abducted and taken to an unknown destination for human trafficking.

In the village of Kojo alone, which is located in Sinjar County, more than one hundred fifty people were killed. After the terrorists announced a four day grace-period for the Izidis to enter Islam or they would be killed without mercy, more than five hundred women and girls were abducted and taken to an unknown destination. The terrorists are abusing religion for their own aggressive intentions. That incident took place on the 15th of August.

More than 300,000 thousand Izidis were forced out of Sinjar and its surrounding housing complexes and into the Province of Dohuk and its suburbs. Not a single Izidi remained in Sinjar, its boroughs, or villages.

Our land was seized, our women were raped and our dead have not been buried. More than 150,000 Izidis left Ba'shiqa, Bakhzaani, Shiekhan and other Izidi villages in the Alqosh District fleeing from the horror of the terrorists into the Provinces of Erbil and Dohuk.

The collective duty of all religions is to have faith in the soul of each person as an entity in every human being since all humans must have the same degree of dignity. It is also a duty to mandate that freedom of religion must be respected and stipulated as a right belonging to all, so that all members of the community can contribute to the building of one society that provides for the welfare of all its members.

We appeal to you, our respected audience, to support our government and to enhance its ability to repulse these terrorist groups, who started [their terror] on our land today and probably may move tomorrow to another land outside ours. We should unite in condemning the acts of terrorists and denounce their crimes against the Izidis, and against the Iraqis at large, as crimes of genocide. All members of these groups must be brought to justice in international courts and be charged and tried as war criminals.

May Allah Almighty, All Praise be to Him, help us to follow the example of our Master Abraham, Peace be Upon Him. We also hope to work together to support peace and freedom for all. [We pray that] the whole world may live in the security and peace that is the gift of our Creator, and to enjoy its bounties rather than to destroy them in spite.

May Allah grant us success!

Allah's Peace, Blessings and Mercy Be Upon You!