



## Chaldean Australian Society Inc.

28<sup>th</sup> July 2014

The Hon Scott Morrison MP  
Minister for Immigration and Border Protection  
PO Box 6022  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Honourable Scott Morrison,

You may have heard recently about the humanitarian crisis and the awful situation of Iraqi Christians in Mosul, the second largest city in Iraq, where our fellow Christians were forced to flee the city of Mosul in Iraq following threats from the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIS), a jihadist militant group.

Recently, In Mosul, ISIS fighters have marked homes and businesses owned by Christians with a red, painted ن (pronounced "noon"), the 14th letter of the Arabic alphabet and the equivalent to the Roman letter N. The ن stands for Nasara or Nazarenes, a pejorative Arabic word for Christians. Islamic militants have taken over the Chaldean Catholic and Syriac Orthodox cathedrals in Mosul and destroyed other churches. On Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> July 2014 ISIS issued an ultimatum to Iraqi Christians living in Mosul -- by Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2014 at noon, they must convert to Islam, or leave the city, or face "death by the sword." Most Christians in Mosul left with little more than the clothes they were wearing after stripping them of their money, jewellery and even mobile phones. Christian community in Mosul is almost as old as Christianity itself. For the first time in the history of Iraq, Mosul is now empty of Christians.

We, the Chaldean Australian Society and the Chaldean community in NSW, as Chaldeans, Christians, and indigenous people of Iraq; we have many concerns and we are very worried and sad to the situation of our families, relatives, friends, and fellow Christians in Mosul. We will gather within Iraqi community in Sydney to condemn this crime on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2014 starting from 10 am at Central station ending at Martin place till 1 pm.

The Christians of Mosul have the right to practice their religion and to live in their land and their displacement from Mosul is a humanitarian disaster. This requires standing in solidarity with those displaced Christians and certainly your support is very important.

Thank you for your support.

Kind regards,

Younan Yousif, President

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Chaldean Australian Society Incorporated

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