



Chaldean Australian Society Inc.

18th August 2014

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

Dear Honourable Scott Morrison,

The Chaldeans are Iraqi people and form the major part of Iraqi Christians. In the last ten years after the 2003 events the Chaldeans and Christians suffered and they are still suffering from persecution in their home country Iraq because of their Christianity. A number of Chaldeans were accepted as refugees in Australia and most of them reside in Sydney and Melbourne. As Australians, Iraqis, and Chaldeans we appreciate this and we are very grateful to Australian government for resettling in Australia Iraqi refugees over the previous years.

The situation in Iraq is still critical and still there is persecution against the Christians. Many Chaldeans are targeted, threatened, tortured, and even killed by terrorist organisations groups and members who are in Iraq and many Chaldeans fled Iraq for their safety to seek asylum in countries like Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, and Turkey. Recently many Christians were forced to flee from Mosul city to the Kurdistan region or to the neighbouring countries to Iraq following threats from the Islamic State, a jihadist militant group.

Our society (Chaldean Australian Society) serves and supports Chaldean people in Sydney and there are many concerns from our Chaldean members to the situation of their families, relatives and friends in Iraq and in the neighbouring countries. We hope the Australian government will continue providing resettlement in Australia to Iraqi Christian asylum seekers in Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, and Turkey and those who are displaced recently from Mosul city.

We have heard news that the Australian Government will increase the intake of Iraqi Christian refugees for resettlement in Australia this financial year. This is very good news reflecting the compassion and generosity of the Australian government and the Australians to the humanitarian disasters. Our Chaldean community is very happy to hear that and hopes more places to be secured for Iraqi Christian refugees.

We are looking forward to hearing from your department more details about this matter to enable us answering any queries that we may face.

Thank you for your time.
Kind regards,

Petros Mansoor
Vice President

Chaldean Australian Society Incorporated

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