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OFICINA DE PRENSA DE LA SANTA SEDE



BUREAU DE PRESSE DU SAINT-SIEGE  
PRESSEAMT DES HEILIGEN STUHLS

# BOLLETTINO

SALA STAMPA DELLA SANTA SEDE

N. 0412

Sabato 19.08.2006

## APPELLO DEL SANTO PADRE PER LA LIBERAZIONE DEL SACERDOTE CATTOLICO RAPITO IN IRAQ

APPELLO DEL SANTO PADRE PER LA LIBERAZIONE DEL SACERDOTE CATTOLICO RAPITO IN IRAQ

Con un telegramma a firma del Cardinale Angelo Sodano, Segretario di Stato, il Santo Padre Benedetto XVI esprime la Sua vicinanza alla Chiesa cattolica caldea e chiede la liberazione del sacerdote P. Saad Syrop Hanna, rapito a Baghdad lo scorso 15 agosto, subito dopo la celebrazione per la solennità dell'Assunta. Questo il testo del telegramma inviato a Sua Beatitudine Emmanuel III Delly, Patriarca di Babilonia dei Caldei:

### • TELEGRAMMA DEL SANTO PADRE

HIS BEATITUDE EMMANUEL III DELLY  
PATRIARCH OF BABYLON OF THE CHALDEANS  
BAGHDAD

DEEPLY SADDENED BY NEWS OF THE ABDUCTION OF FATHER SAAD SYROP HANNA, THE HOLY FATHER WISHES ME TO ASSURE YOUR BEATITUDE AND ALL THE PASTORS AND FAITHFUL OF THE BELOVED CHALDEAN CHURCH OF HIS SPIRITUAL CLOSENESS AND PRAYERFUL SOLIDARITY. HIS HOLINESS MAKES A HEARTFELT APPEAL TO THE ABDUCTORS TO RELEASE THE YOUNG PRIEST AT ONCE, SO THAT HE CAN RETURN TO THE SERVICE OF GOD, THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY AND HIS COUNTRYMEN. THE HOLY FATHER'S THOUGHTS ALSO GO TO ALL THE VICTIMS OF ABDUCTION IN YOUR COUNTRY AND HE PRAYS THAT THIS DREADFUL SCOURGE, AS WELL AS THE "TERRIBLE DAILY BLOODSHED WHICH DELAYS THE DAWN OF RECONCILIATION AND REBUILDING" (*ANGELUS* OF 15 AUGUST 2006) WILL FINALLY COME TO AN END. HIS HOLINESS ENCOURAGES THE MEMBERS OF THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY TO CONTINUE TO WORK TOGETHER WITH ALL RELIGIOUS BELIEVERS AND PEOPLE OF GOOD WILL TOWARDS A FUTURE OF HARMONIOUS AND RESPECTFUL COEXISTENCE FOR THE BELOVED NATION OF IRAQ.

CARDINAL ANGELO SODANO  
SECRETARY OF STATE

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