

# **SABEEL'S SIXTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE**

Conference Program

November 2-9, 2006

## THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2006

Location: Notre Dame Conference Center, Jerusalem

- 9:00 - 2:00 pm Arrivals and Registration  
(shuttles departing every half hour from Holy Land East and Strand)
- 9:00 - 11:00 am Optional Old City Tour (for those pre-registered, departing from Notre Dame)  
Lunch on your own
- 2:30 - 3:00 pm **Conference Opening and Word of Greeting**  
Jean Zaru, Sabeel Board
- 3:00 - 4:00 pm **Arab Christianity Before Islam**  
Speaker: Dr. Hanna Abu Hanna  
Introduction: Canon Dr. Shehadeh Shehadeh
- 4:00 - 5:00 pm **Spiritual Vocation of Palestinian Christians**  
Speaker: Bishop Kenneth Cragg  
Introduction: Edwin Makue, General Secretary, South Africa Council of Churches
- 5:00 - 7:00 pm Dinner in Hotels (shuttles provided for Holy Land East and Strand)
- 7:30 - 9:00 pm **Celebration of Christianity in the Holy Land**  
Patriarch Theophilos III and the Jerusalem Community
- 9:00 - 10:00 pm Reception with the Jerusalem Community  
(Shuttles will be available to take you back to your hotels after the reception)

## FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2006

Location: Notre Dame Conference Center, Jerusalem

- 8:00 - 9:00 am Registration at Notre Dame  
(shuttles depart at 8:00 and 8:30 am from Holy Land East and Strand)
- 8:30 am **Optional Orientation for First time Visitors**
- 9:00 - 9:30 am **Worship**  
Meditation: Archbishop Paul Sayah, Maronite Church
- 9:30 - 10:30 am **2000 Years of Palestinian Christianity: Factors and Effects**  
Speaker: Rev. Dr. Naim Ateek  
Introduction: Bridget Rees, FOS UK
- 10:30-11:00 am Coffee Break

# SABEEL'S SIXTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

- 11:00-11:15 am **The Magnificat Children's Choir: Yasmin**
- 11:15 -1:00 pm **PANEL: Historic Churches and their Contribution**  
Speaker: Archbishop of Constantina Aristarchos: Orthodox Church  
Speaker: Archbishop Aris Shirvanian: Armenian Church  
Speaker: Archbishop Dr. Anba Abraham: Coptic Church  
Speaker: Archbishop Mar Sewerios Malki Murad: Syrian Church  
Moderator: Bishop Allen Bartlett
- 1:00 - 2:00 pm Lunch
- 2:00-3:00 pm **PANEL: Historic Churches and their Contribution (cont.)**  
Speaker: Father Frans Bouwen: Catholic Church  
Speaker: Dr. Lynn Holmes: Protestant and Evangelical History  
Moderator: Mira Rizek, National General Secretary, YWCA of Palestine
- 3:00 -3:30 pm Coffee Break
- 3:30 - 4:45 pm **PANEL: Christian Pilgrimage**  
Speaker: Dr. Henry Carse: The Pilgrimage Narrative  
Speaker: George Hintlian: Pilgrimage from a Local Perspective  
Moderator: Rev. Jane Barron, Church of Scotland
- 5:00 - 7:00 pm Dinner in Hotels (shuttles provided for Holy Land East and Strand)
- 7:30 - 9:00 pm **Palestinian Christianity: The Challenges and the Vision for the Future**  
Patriarch Michel Sabbah  
Introduction: Wassef Daher, Sabeel Board  
(Shuttles will be available to take you back to your hotels after the lecture)

## SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2006

Location: Bethlehem University, Bethlehem

7:30 a.m. Departure for Bethlehem University

**NOTE:** Please come to the bus with **all of your luggage**. We will not be back in Jerusalem.

8:45 a.m. **Welcome to Bethlehem University**  
Speaker: Vice Chancellor Brother Daniel Casey  
Introduction: George Sahhar, Sabeel Board

9:00 -10:00 am **Bible Study: Jacob and the Prodigal**  
Speaker: Dr. Kenneth Bailey  
Introduction: Rev. Victor Makari, PCUSA

- 10:00-10:30 am **Overview of Survey of the Christian Community**  
 Paper by Dr. Bernard Sabella  
 Read by: Hanadi Soudah Younan, Bethlehem University
- 10:30-11:00 am Coffee Break
- 11:00-1:00 pm **Presentation and Analysis of Survey of the Christian Community**  
 Speaker: Professor Romell Soudah - socio-economic status  
 Speaker: Professor Walid Atallah- political situation  
 Speaker: Father Jamal Khader - relations with the church  
 Moderator: Professor Jeanne Kattan, Bethlehem University
- 1:00 - 2:00 pm Lunch
- 1:00 pm Optional Trip to Church of Nativity (You will be given your boxed lunch on the bus.)
- 2:00-2:15 pm **Song/Prayer**
- 2:15- 3:30 pm **PANEL: The Disappearing Landscape**  
 Speaker: Leila Sansour: Open Bethlehem  
 Speaker: Dr. Jad Isaac: Where are we Headed?  
 Moderator: Dr. Jenny Te Paa, Friends of Sabeel Oceania
- 3:30 - 4:00 pm Coffee Break
- 4:00 - 5:15 pm **The Role of the Church in Peacemaking**  
 Speaker: Bishop Munib Younan  
 Introduction: Propst Uwe Graebe
- 5:15- 5:20 pm **Presentation: Peace Builders Program**
- 5:20 - 6:30 pm **Reception** with Dr. Victor Batarseh, Mayor of Bethlehem and Bethlehem Community  
 Introduction: Zoughbi Zoughbi, Sabeel Board
- 6:30pm Buses depart to Jericho and Jerusalem
- 7:30 pm Dinner in Hotels  
 Free Evening

## SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2006

Location: Christian Villages in the West Bank / Ramallah Cultural Palace

Travel to Bir Zeit; Jifna; Ein Arik; Taybeh; Ramallah and Jericho churches

- 7:30 am Depart for **Ein Arik** and **Ramallah 1** services
- 8:00 am Depart for **Bir Zeit** and **Jifna** (same bus) services
- 8:30 am Depart for **Taybeh** services

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8:45 am Depart for **Ramallah 2** services  
9:00 am Depart for **Jericho** services

Participants will attend service followed by lunch and welcome from community

2:30 pm Arrival from lunches to Ramallah  
3:00 - 4:00 pm **Political Analysis: Vision for Peace**  
Speaker: Ghassan Khatib  
Introduction: Samia Khoury, Sabeel Board

4:00 - 4:15 pm Coffee break

4:15 - 6:00 pm **Welcome and Cultural Performance**  
Ms. Janet Michael, Mayor of Ramallah  
Introduction: Jean Zaru, Sabeel Board  
Performers: Al-Funoun and the Edward Said National Conservatory

6:15 pm Buses leave for Jericho and Jerusalem

7:30 pm Dinner in Hotels  
Free Evening

## MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2006

Location: Ramallah Cultural Palace, Ramallah-Resource Room Day

**NOTE:** Many community organizations will be joining us for a Resource Room today bringing craft items for sale and useful information on the conflict for your advocacy needs. Please come prepared to make purchases if you are interested.

7:30 am Travel to Ramallah  
9:00-9:05 am **Greetings and Introduction of the Speaker:** Bishop Suheil Dawani  
9:05 - 10:00 am **Bible Study: The Parable of the Pounds**  
Speaker: Dr. Kenneth Bailey

10:00-10:40 am Coffee Break

10:40-10:45 pm **Prayer Song:** Rima Tarazi and Tania Nasir

10:45am-12:15 pm **PANEL: Together for Centuries**  
Father Rafik Khoury **Christian Presence within the Palestinian community**  
Dr. Mamdouh Aker **Witness to Life Together**  
Dr. Ali Khashan **Palestinian Constitution and Democracy**  
Moderator: Cedar Duaybis, Sabeel Board

12:15 -1:40 pm Lunch

1:40 - 3:40 pm **PANEL: Strategies to End the Israeli Occupation**

Dr. Yousef Nasser: **Economic Strategies**

Terry Boullata: **Grassroots Strategies**

Dr. Khalil Nakhleh: **Political Strategies**

Moderator: Rima Tarazi, General Union of Palestinian Women

3:40 pm **Book Launch in Honor of Michael Prior**

Speakers: Duncan MacPherson and James Prior

Introduction: Jan Davies, Friends of Sabeel UK

Free Afternoon

4:00 pm Bus departures for optional trip to downtown Ramallah and then to Jericho

4:00 pm Bus departure for Jericho

4:45 pm Last bus departure for Jericho

5:00 pm Bus departure for Jerusalem

7:00 pm **Barbeque at Jericho Resort with Jericho Community**

Welcome: Governor Sami Musallem

Introduction: Douglas Dicks, Regional Liaison, PCUSA

Recognition of DIAKONIA and NORWEGIAN CHURCH AID by Rev. Dr. Naim Ateek

Recognition of FOS Past Coordinators: Ray Barraclough, Jan Davies, and Emanuel

Furbacken from Khalil Doughbaje, Sabeel board; Samia Khoury, Sabeel board; and Janet Lahr Lewis, Sabeel staff

## TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2006

Location: West Bank/Galilee

**NOTE:** Please come to the bus with **all of your luggage**. We will not be back in Jericho.

7:30 am Departure for those going to **Jish, Fasouta or Rameh**

8:30 am Departure for those going to **Ailaboun, Maghar, Makr, or Kufr Yassif**

Overview of history, situation and visit to the churches in the village of Aboud

Lunch and Visits to Upper Galilee villages with community receptions

Travel to Hotel

7:00 pm Dinner in Hotel

Free time / Advocacy planning meetings

8:30 pm Optional Film: *The Iron Wall* (downstairs conference room)

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## WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2006

Location: Mary's Well Conference Room, Nazareth

- Free Morning
- 9:00 am Optional tour of the churches and Basilica-Please meet in lobby
- 11:00-12:00 pm **Bible Study: The New Testament Job**  
Speaker: Dr. Kenneth Bailey  
Introduction: Professor Mary Grey, FOS UK Patron
- 12:00-1:00 pm **PANEL: Those who never forgot**  
The Dynamics of Forgetting: Dr. Ilan Pappé  
Memory against Forgetting: Alain Epp Weaver  
Moderator: Rev. Elaine Murray, FOS Ireland
- 1:00 - 2:30 pm **Regional Advocacy Meetings w/ lunch**  
Moderators: Dick Toll, Jennifer Oldershaw, Emanuel Furbacken, Cathy McLean, Greg Jenks
- 2:30 - 3:00 pm Break
- 3:00 - 4:00 pm **Christian Witness in the Galilee**  
Speaker: Bishop Giacinto-Boulos Marcuzzo  
Introduction: Violette Khoury, Coordinator, Sabeel Nazareth
- 4:00 - 5:00 pm **PANEL: Arab Identity in a Jewish State**  
Speaker: Jafar Farah, director, Mossawa  
Speaker: Suhad Bishara, advocate, Adallah  
Moderator: Radia Kobti, Sabeel Nazareth Committee
- 5:00 - 5:30 pm Coffee Break
- 5:30 - 6:30 pm **Future of Palestinian Christianity**  
Speaker: Rev. Dr. Naim Ateek  
Introduction: Rev. Dick Toll, FOSNA  
Closing Meditation: Jonathan Kuttub, Sabeel Board
- 6:30 -7:30 pm Dinner
- 7:45 - 8:00 pm **Welcome** Mayor Ramiz Jeraisy, Nazareth Mayor  
Introduction: Fuad Farah, Sabeel Nazareth Committee
- 8:00 - 9:30 pm **Nazareth Cultural Event**  
Performers: Muwwal and Katie Jarjoure  
Master of Ceremonies: George Dibbini, Sabeel Nazareth Committee

## THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2006

Location: Sea of Galilee

NOTE: For those leaving to the airport in the afternoon and evening, please come to the bus **with all of your luggage**.

- 9:00 am            Travel to Sea of Galilee
- 10:00 -11:30 am Closing Worship at St. Peter's Primacy  
                      Sermon: Archbishop Elias Chacour  
                      Transfer to Airports for Departing Travelers
  
- 12:30-2:00 pm    Lunch
  
- 2:00 pm            Depart for optional Holy Sites Tour
- 2:00 pm            Depart for free time or shopping in Nazareth
- 2:00 pm            Departure of airport bus
- 2:00 pm            Departure of bus to Jerusalem

# **CONFERENCE SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES**

## CONFERENCE SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

**Dr. Hanna Abu-Hanna** is a poet, writer, and educator. Born in Reineh/Nazareth, he is Former Director of the Arab Orthodox College, Haifa. He was also a lecturer in the Arabic Department of the University of Haifa. He has published more than 20 books of poetry, autobiography, and research on the Palestinian cultural heritage, and has also published a series of stories for children. Dr. Abu-Hanna won the Prize of Palestine for Literature in 1999.

**Dr. Mamdouh Aker** is a consultant urologist at Augusta Victoria Hospital in Jerusalem, St. Luke's Hospital in Nablus and the Arabcare Hospital in Ramallah. Born in Nablus, he was a member of the Palestinian delegation for peace talks in Madrid and for bilateral negotiations in Washington, 1991-1993. He is Commissioner General for the Palestinian Independent Commission for Citizen's Rights.

**Archbishop Dr. Anba Abraham** is the Orthodox Coptic Bishop in Jerusalem and the Near East. Born in Egypt, he graduated from the Egyptian Agricultural College in 1964 and later received his master's and doctoral degrees in Medicine and Aromatic Plants. In 1967, he obtained a B.A. and in 1971 an M.A. degree in theology from Cairo University. Before he became assistant professor in 1981 in the National Research Center in Egypt, he had become a monk.

**Archbishop of Constantina Aristarchos** is a graduate of the Faculty of Philosophy and Theology of the University of Athens. He served as Headmaster of the Seminary of the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate on Mount Zion. Today he is the Chief Secretary and Librarian of the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Jerusalem, and is a member of the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches.

**Mr. Walid Atallah** is a PhD candidate in Modern Middle Eastern History and Modern European Intellectual History and a lecturer at Bethlehem University in History, Political Science, Human Rights, and Democracy and Civil Society. He has worked in TV, producing several documentary films that deal with the Palestinian political and social life. He lectures on the development of the Palestinian national identity and the role of the different social and political groups in Palestine in building their own identity.

**The Rev. Dr. Naim Ateek** is the Founder and Director of Sabeel Ecumenical Liberation Theology Center Jerusalem, which emerged from a Palestinian theology of liberation articulated in his 1989 book *Justice, and only Justice, a Palestinian Theology of Liberation*. The book laid the foundation of a theology that addresses the conflict over Palestine and explores the political as well as the religious, biblical, and theological dimensions. From a position of faith, Naim seeks to find solutions based on the faith principles of justice, peace, and nonviolence. He holds a PhD

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from San Francisco Theological Seminary and is an Episcopal priest who served as Canon of St. George's Cathedral prior to founding Sabeel. Sabeel advocates through International Friends of Sabeel chapters for peace with justice for Palestinians and provides an ecumenical ministry within the local Christian community as well as inter-faith work between Christians and Muslims.

**The Rev. Dr. Kenneth Bailey** is a Presbyterian minister and distinguished New Testament theologian, serving as Canon Theologian of the Episcopal Dioceses of Pittsburgh (USA) and Cyprus. Indicative of the 40 years he spent living and teaching in the Middle East, he specializes in the cultural context of the scriptures and what the Gospels meant to their original audiences. Dr. Bailey was professor of New Testament for 20 years at the Near East School of Theology in Beirut, where he founded the Institute of Middle Eastern New Testament Studies. He taught New Testament at Tantur Ecumenical Institute, Jerusalem, and in Egypt for ten years each. He has produced numerous books, recorded lectures and film scripts, and lectured widely in the Middle East, Europe, and North America. His conference Bible studies will place scripture in the context of the Middle East, the home of the oldest Christian communities in the world.

**Dr. Victor Batarseh, Mayor of Bethlehem**, was born in Bethlehem and completed his secondary studies in Egypt and London. He holds a M.B.B.CH. and a diploma in Otorhinolaryngology from Ein Shams University in Cairo. He has been vice-chairman of the Board of Trustees of Bethlehem University for 22 years and has served as member or chair of many medical and civic organizations. He was elected Mayor of Bethlehem in November 2005.

**Ms. Suhad Bishara**, is an Advocate and Coordinator of the Legal Department of Adalah, the Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel. She received an L.L.M. in Public Service Law from New York University School of Law (USA) in 2001 and an L.L.B. in Law from Hebrew University in 1993. She is a former partner in a private law firm specializing in urban planning, and served as legal consultant to the Association of Forty and the Arab Steering Committee for Urban Planning in the Galilee. She is also former Chairperson of the Committee for Educational Guidance for Arab Students.

**Ms. Terry Boullata** is the Coordinator for the Lobbying and Advocacy Department at the Palestinian Agricultural Relief Committees (PARC) in Palestine. PARC is a leading Palestinian NGO working in the field of rural development, environment protection, and the empowerment of women. She also heads the Board of Directors of the Women's Studies Center and is founder and headmistress of the New Generation Kindergarten and School in Abu Dis. She was a participant in the Geneva Accord initiative for peace, is an activist against the Wall, and is assistant producer for *The Iron Wall*, a film telling the story of the Israeli colonies.

**Father Frans Bouwen** was born in Belgium and arrived in Jerusalem in 1969, after completing his studies in Eastern theology, ecumenical relations and Islam. A Roman Catholic priest and member of the Society of Missionaries of Africa (better known as "White Fathers"), he lives and works at St Anne's Church, in the Old City. He is the editor of the quarterly *Proche-Orient Chrétien* and specializes in history, theology, liturgy and the present life of the churches in the Middle East, with a particular emphasis on inter-religious relations both in Jerusalem and at the international level. Among other activities within the Catholic Church in Jerusalem, he is the president of the Justice and Peace Commission.

**Dr. Henry Ralph Carse** is Director of Special Programs at St. George's College, Jerusalem, and Founder and Director of "Kids4Peace," an interfaith education-for-peace initiative bringing together Israeli and Palestinian youngsters of three faiths for encounter, fun and dialogue across the lines of conflict. He holds a B.A. degree in Bible from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, an M.A. in Theology from The General Theological Seminary in New York, and a PhD in Applied Theology from the University of Kent in Canterbury. Based in Jerusalem for 35 years, Henry organizes and teaches experiential study programs on such diverse subjects as Desert Spirituality, The Art of Pilgrimage, and Interfaith Dialogue.

**Archbishop Dr. Elias Chacour** was elected by the Holy Synod and confirmed by the Holy See in the Vatican as the Archbishop Metropolitan of the Melkite Catholic Diocese of Akka, Haifa, Nazareth, and all of Galilee, Israel. Evicted with his entire family from his village of Kufr-Bir'am in 1948, Dr. Chacour was the first Arab student of Bible at Hebrew University and obtained his Ph.D from the University of Geneva. He is the founder of the Mar Elias Educational Institutions (pre-school through university) in Ibillin, and author of many books, including *Blood Brothers* and *We Belong to the Land* as well as *J'ai foi en nous (I have Faith in Us)*. He has received many honorary degrees, was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize on three occasions, and in 2001 received the Niwano Peace Prize of Japan.

**Bishop Dr. Kenneth Cragg** has had a long and impressive career as one of the world's foremost Christian scholars on Islam, Qur'anic studies, and Muslim-Christian dialogue. He earned his DPhil at Oxford and has held academic posts at universities and seminaries in the Middle East, the United Kingdom, North America and Africa. He is an Anglican Bishop who has served in both England and Jerusalem and has taught at prominent seminaries in England and the United States. He is the author of innumerable articles and books in the field of Islamic and Qur'anic studies, including the seminal volume, *The Call of the Minaret*, and his most recent work, *The Qur'an and the West*, published 2006 by Georgetown University Press.

**Bishop Suheil Dawani** is Bishop Coadjutor of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem. He was born in Nablus, and has a B.A. from Bir Zeit University, a theology degree from the New East School of Theology in Beirut, and an M.A. from the Virginia Theological Seminary. He was ordained priest in 1977, serving parishes in Ramallah

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and Haifa as well as St. George's Cathedral. He is General Secretary of the Diocese and has been active in ecumenical relations in the Dialogue between Faiths, and the Clergy for Peace Group. He was elected Bishop in 2005.

**Mr. Jafar Farah** is the Founder and Director of Mossawa Center: the Advocacy Center for Arab Citizens in Israel. He received his B.A. from Haifa University and served as an investigative journalist for *Ha'aretz* prior to founding Mossawa, which sustains projects against legal and political racism, and supports capacity building for NGO's, conflict prevention, and equal socio-economic status for Arab Israelis. He has written many articles on issues of concern for the Arab minority in Israel in Arabic, Hebrew, and English.

**Mr. Kevork (George) Hintlian** is a local historian specializing in 19th century Jerusalem. He frequently organizes conferences on the Christian heritage of the Holy Land and is author of a number of books and articles on this topic.

**Dr. Y. Lynn Holmes** has a theological degree from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in Ancient History from Brandeis University. He has published articles in the areas of religion, ancient history, and the modern Middle East. He has served as a professor and university administrator.

**Dr. Jad Isaac** is the director general of the Applied Research Institute-Jerusalem (ARIJ), a leading Palestinian institute that conducts research on agriculture, environment, land use and water. He got his B.Sc. degree from Cairo University, his M.Sc. degree from Rutgers University and his PhD degree from the University of East Anglia, United Kingdom. He is the former Dean of Science at Bethlehem University. He has published several articles and books in his field of interest including: *The Environmental Profile for the West Bank* and the *Atlas of Palestine*. He headed the Palestinian delegation for the environmental working group in multilateral talks and is an advisor to the Palestinian negotiating team on final status issues.

**Mr. Ramiz Jaraisy**, Mayor of Nazareth, has served in that capacity since 1994. He graduated in Mechanical Engineering from the Technion, where he was founder and chairman of the Arab Student Association of the Technion and of Israel. He was elected to the Municipal Council in Nazareth representing the Democratic Front for Peace and Equality of Nazareth in his capacity as representative of the Nazareth Academic Association, and he served as Deputy Mayor prior to election as Mayor. He is active in many civic and governmental groups, including the committee charged with comparing the Arab local Council budgets.

**Father Dr. Jamal Khader** is head of the Department of Religion at Bethlehem University and is on the faculty of the Latin Patriarchate Seminary, where he teaches Dogmatic and Fundamental Theology. Born in Zababdeh, he holds B.A. degrees in both philosophy and theology and M.A. and PhD degrees in Dogmatic Theology. He was ordained priest in 1988 and has served a parish in Jordan in addition to his academic appointments.

**Dr. Ali Khashan** is the founder and former Dean of the College of Law at Al Quds University. He is also a member of the Board of Trustees of Hebron University. He was a prominent member as well as secretary of the Constitution Committee for developing the draft of the Palestinian Constitution in 2001.

**Mr. Ghassan Khatib** is co-founder and co-editor of the *bitterlemons* family of internet publications. Born in Nablus, he was a member of the Palestinian delegation to the Madrid Peace Process in 1991 and involved in the Washington negotiations from 1991-93. A long-time advocate of Palestinian-Israeli dialogue, he is Director of the Jerusalem Media and Communications Center. Mr. Khatib is the former Palestinian Authority Minister of Planning and has been a political analyst and media contact for many years. He currently is Lecturer of Cultural Studies and Vice-President for Community Outreach at Birzeit University.

**Ms. Hind Khoury** is General Delegate (Ambassador) of Palestine in Paris and is a member of the Board of Sabeel. She holds a bachelor's degree in economics and a Masters of Science in management. She worked in economic and private sector development as well the development of governance and civil society in international agencies such as UNDP, USAID, UNFPA. She contributed to the planning of and execution of the Bethlehem 2000 project and prepared a study on developing the economy in East Jerusalem. Ms. Khoury was Minister of State for Jerusalem Affairs in the 9th government of the Palestinian National Authority, 2005-2006.

**Father Dr. Rafik Khoury** is a priest in Palestine's Latin Patriarchate and holds a PhD in Theology. He is a member of the Al-Liqa' Center for Religious and Heritage Studies in the Holy Land. Father Rafik serves as the Secretary General of the Pastoral Catholic Committee in the Holy Land. In addition to his pastoral responsibilities, Fr. Rafik has written numerous books in Arabic and is a scholar of the long history of Christians and Muslims living together in the Holy Land.

**Bishop Giacinto-Boulos Marcuzzo** is Auxiliary Bishop and Patriarchal Vicar General for Israel. He was born in San Polo di Piave, Italy. He was ordained priest in 1969, and in 1993 he was ordained Bishop and appointed Titular Bishop of Emmaus. As Vicar of Israel for the Latin Patriarchate, he serves in Haifa, Israel.

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**Ms Janet Michael**, Mayor of Ramallah, was born in Ramallah. She graduated from George Fox College with a bachelor's degree in Chemistry. She started her career as a Chemistry teacher at Ramallah Girls' School and served as the school principal for 30 years. She is an active member of many NGO's, including the First Ramallah Group of which she is Honorary President, the YWCA, and the Al-Quds Society for Legal Aid. She was elected Mayor of Ramallah in 2005.

**Archbishop Mar Sewerios Malki Murad** is Patriarchal Vicar of Jerusalem, Jordan, and the Holy Land in the Syrian Orthodox Patriarchate.

**Dr. Sami Musallam**, Governor of Jericho and al Aghwar (the Jordan River Rift Valley), was born in Jerusalem. He holds B.A. and M.A. degrees in political studies from the American University of Beirut and a PhD from Bonn University in Germany. He has held many positions in the Office of the President of the PLO as well as serving as Director General of the Office of the President and Deputy Minister at the Presidency of the Palestine National Authority. He is active in many citizens' initiatives and author of more than 20 publications.

**Dr. Khalil Nakhleh** is a Palestinian socio-cultural anthropologist who returned home after 30 years abroad. Born in the village of Rameh in Galilee, he did all his academic studies in the U.S. He taught anthropology and sociology at St. John's University (US) and at the University of Haifa. His research focuses on Palestinian society, history and education, its internal transformation and development, as well as interaction with regional and international antagonists. Dr. Nakhleh lectures widely and has published many articles and books, the latest being *In Search of Palestinian Identity: A Personal Odyssey (2005)*. Dr. Nakhleh is Team Leader of Mu'assasat, which is devoted to strengthening human rights and good governance in the Occupied Territories.

**Dr. Yousef Nasser** was born in Palestine and raised in the United States, where he received his bachelor's and master's degrees in Economics and Political Science, later receiving his PhD in Development Studies from the University of Sussex in the UK. He has taught at Birzeit University since 1980 and has served as economic advisor to UNRWA and as senior water economist for UNDP. He serves on the Board of Directors of BISAN Center for Research and Development and has been president of that organization as well as of Nadi Birzeit. Since November of 2005, he has been Mayor of Birzeit.

**Dr. Ilan Pappé**, an Israeli-born professor at Haifa University, is well-known as a revisionist or "post-Zionist" Israeli historian. He has a BA from Hebrew University and a PhD from Oxford. He is a senior lecturer in the department of Political Science at Haifa University and the Chair of the Emil Touma Institute for Palestinian Studies in Haifa. He is also the Academic Director of the Research Institute for Peace at Givat Haviva. Ilan Pappé is the author of many books relating to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, who has been both acclaimed and smeared. Ilan Pappé's most

recent books are *The Modern Middle East* (Routledge, 2005), and *A History of Modern Palestine: One Land, Two Peoples* (Cambridge University Press, 2004), in which he documents the expulsion of Palestinians as an orchestrated crime of ethnic cleansing.

**Patriarch Michel Sabbah** is the Latin Patriarch and Archbishop of Jerusalem. Born in Nazareth, Patriarch Sabbah was ordained a priest for the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem in June 1955 and served as its director of schools until the 1967 war, after which he taught Arabic and Islamic studies in East Africa. In 1987, Pope John Paul II named him the first Palestinian to serve as Patriarch in Jerusalem. Patriarch Sabbah has been a strong spokesman on behalf of Palestinian rights and often serves as the voice of Christians of all denominations in the Holy Land.

**Dr. Bernard Z. Sabella** is Executive Director of the Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees of the Middle East Council of Churches and has served as part-time professor of sociology at Bethlehem University and Jerusalem University College for many years. He holds a PhD in Sociology from The University of Virginia and is author of many publications on sociological topics, especially Palestinian society and the lives of Palestinian Christians. He participates in a wide array of local and international workshops and conferences. In January 2006, he was elected Member of the Palestinian Legislative Council.

**Leila Sansour** is the founder and Chief Executive of Open Bethlehem. She returned to her hometown in 2005 to set up the Bethlehem campaign after a long career in film and TV production abroad. She is the director and producer of the highly acclaimed black comedic documentary "Jeremy Hardy v The Israeli Army" which captured the siege of Bethlehem in 2002.

**Bishop Aris Shirvanian** was born in Haifa and graduated from the Armenian Seminary in Jerusalem. He was ordained celibate priest in 1957. He furthered his theological studies at the University of Durham, England, and Institut Catholique of Paris, France. The Bishop has served in the Armenian communities in Paris, California, Canada and India. Since 1998, he has held the position of Director of Ecumenical and Foreign Relations of the Armenian Patriarchate.

**Dr. Romell Soudah** was born in the village of Zababdeh in the north of Palestine. He completed his graduate studies in economics at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, USA. At present, he is a lecturer in economics in the faculty of Business Administration at Bethlehem University. His previous research includes a number of articles and scholarly papers about the economy of Palestine and Christians in the Holy Land. His current research interests lie in the field of the economics of conflict and development.

## CONFERENCE SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

**Patriarch Theophilos III of Jerusalem and All Palestine** was elected 141<sup>st</sup> primate of the Orthodox church of Jerusalem and enthroned on November 22, 2005. He is originally from Messina, Greece, studied theology at the University of Athens before obtaining an M.A. degree in London. He has served in Cana of Galilee, where he created the society of "Nour al Masih," ("Light of Christ"), and was Archbishop of Tabor prior to his enthronement.

**Mr. Alain Epp Weaver** worked for eleven years in the Occupied Territories and Jordan for the Mennonite Central Committee, most recently as Representative for Palestine, Jordan, and Iraq. He is the editor of the forthcoming book, *Under Vine and Fig Tree: Biblical Theologies of Land and the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict and Borders and Bridges: Mennonite Witness in a Religiously Diverse World*. He has published a wide variety of academic and popular articles in such journals as the *Journal of Religious Ethics* and *The Christian Century*. He is currently a doctoral student in theology at the University of Chicago.

**Bishop Munib A. Younan** was consecrated bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan & the Holy Land (ELCJHL) on 5th January 1998. He holds an M.A. degree in Theology from the University of Helsinki, Finland, with advanced studies in the US. He is President of the Board of Managers of the International Christian Committee of Jerusalem and a leader in many ecumenical and interfaith dialogue groups. He has published several articles on the search for a just peace from the Palestinian perspective and has received many awards for his work on behalf of human rights and justice.

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في بريطانيا: جانيت ديفس، في السويد: ايمانويل فورباكن.  
يقدمها كل من: خليل دغباج وسامية خوري وجانيت لويس  
تكريم للمساهمين في تمويل المؤتمر NORWEGIAN CHURCH AID , DIAKONIA  
القس نعيم عتيق

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# مؤتمر السبيل الدولي السادس

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٢-٩ تشرين الثاني ٢٠٠٦

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مركز السبيل المسكوني للاهوت التحرر

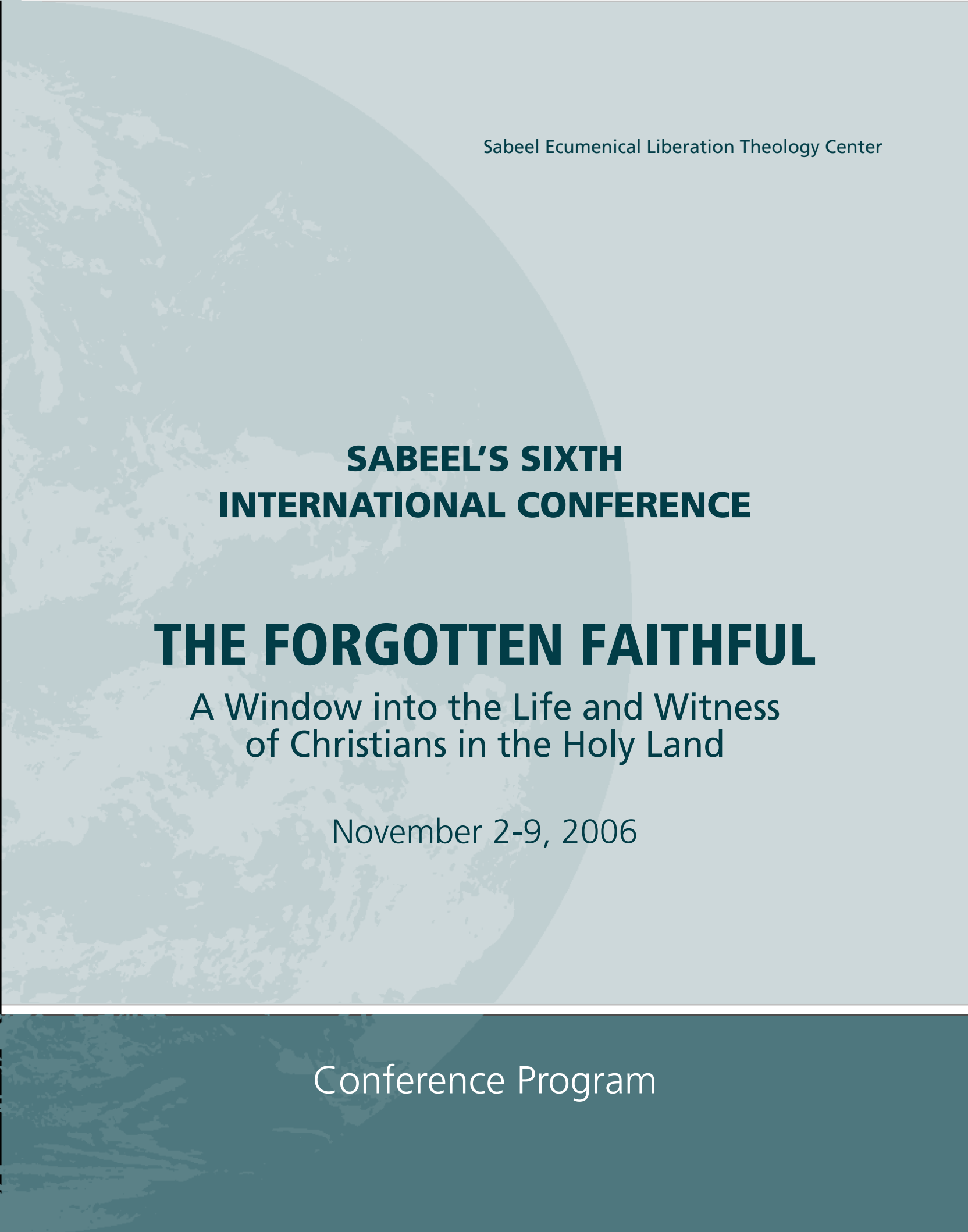
مؤتمر السبيل الدولي السادس

# الحضور المسيحي في الأرض المقدسة

شهادة وفاء - مسيرة ثبات

٩-٢ تشرين الثاني ٢٠٠٦

برنامج المؤتمر



Sabeel Ecumenical Liberation Theology Center

**SABEEL'S SIXTH  
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