

From Aleppo, 15.03.22

Dear friends of Aleppo,
Peace and love

Today we remember the beginning of the Syrian crisis. Eleven years have now passed as we continue to hope for a day where peace will enlighten our wounded country.

All the terrible scenarios of this war and its results come to mind, especially the stage of Covid and the embargo that began in 2019 and which continues today and manifests itself through a severe deterioration in living conditions, continuing to leave its shadows on the life of every person living in Aleppo.

A cold that "bites" with no chance to warm up, a hunger due to inflation and rising prices, especially food. Ours is a life in the dark where we have two hours of electricity in the city that are not enough to bring water to the houses ...

For us it was almost impossible for days and days to shower, clean clothes and rinse them and iron clothes ...

A harsh reality, I said, which continues to this day.

With the war in Ukraine, our wounds open again ... and tears come back to our eyes, because in Ukraine the drama of evil in the world is repeated, a new outbreak is created, as in us, for suffering and death...

We painfully follow the black process of war while we are living our process of slow death ... very slow ... In prayer for Ukraine, we pray for a disordered world that loses its compass and moves towards its self-destruction.

Among so many results, the war in Ukraine has many on human life all over the world, so imagine what its repercussions could be on the life of the man who lives in Syria, especially in Aleppo.

A few days before the war, the flour disappeared from the Aleppo market. With its beginning, a severe and sudden jump in food prices, launched the man already beaten on the path of death, for another deterioration, with which we can no longer speak of a life worthy of the human person.

In this situation, here is a brown "apron" that has the smell of sanctity of St. Francis, which they continue to hope against all hope ... continues to wash the feet of the fellow citizens who have all become poor ...

Faced with the worsening of the situation from all points of view, if the light does not arrive, our knees bent in prayer implore it and with humble, creative and selfless service, they make it present in the life of every Aleppo.

The light is coming, dear friends, because Christ is risen;

it comes because charity is present and is very strong and effective;

The Morning is there because the Church's journey is a "walking together" and because we are all together to pray for each other and because we help each other to continue this mission in Aleppo ...

Good continuation on the Lent journey,

good continuation in the path of total self-giving to God and to the brothers wounded by the war;

good continuation on the path of charity, manifested in prayer and generous donations ...

Please, do not forget Syria, please, in the midst of so many worries, do not forget the man left behind on the existential periphery of the world, here in Aleppo ...

I wish you well in the Lord
fr. Ibrahim