

Μέσα από το μουσουλμανικό
τέμενος του Αγίου Μάμα,

Πάνω από τα ερειπωμένα
μνήματα των προγόνων μας,

Αντικρύζοντας το σταύλο
της Παναγίας του Τοχνιού, τη
μάντρα του Μιχαήλ Αρχάγγελου και
τα συντρίμια της Παναγίας της
Γαλακτοτροφούσας,

Είμαι σήμερα κοντά σας
αγαπητοί συγχωριανοί και
συmpατριώτες, όχι για να
θρηνηήσουμε μαζί τη μοίρα μας,
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αλλά για να σας μεταφέρω
τον αγωνιστικό χαιρετισμό του

Προσφυγικού Σωματείου

"Ο ΑΓΙΟΣ ΜΑΜΑΣ ΜΑΝΔΡΩΝ ΑΜΜΟΧΩΣΤΟΥ"

και όλου του ξεριζωμένου κόσμου,
και όλοι μαζί, να υψώσουμε βρο-
ντερή τη φωνή μας και να
διαλαλήσουμε απερίφραστα, πως
θα αγωνισθούμε ψυχή με ψυχή,
χέρι με χέρι, μέχρις ότου
στο καμpanαριό της Τουρκο-
κρατούμενης και βεβηλωμένης
εκκλησίας του Αγίου Μάμα

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στο χωριό μας, κτυπήσει
χαρμόσυνα η καμπάνα και σ' όλη
τη σκλαβωμένη πατρίδα μας
κυματίζει θριαμβευτικά
το λάβαρο της ελευθερίας,

*είσοδη
μαρτύριον
Αιφασία*

Distinguished guests,
Fellow ^{Cypriots} Cypriots,
Fellow Mandrites.

I am deeply honoured and
extremely happy for the
invitation to be amongst you
today and for affording me
the opportunity to address to you
a few words about Cyprus
and the tragedy that has befallen
its people.

All of you are no doubt
familiar with the facts of the
situation, how Turkey, with an
army that is larger than the
population of Cyprus, has been
occupying almost 40% of Cyprus

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with 85000 troops, for the past 15 years.

Please allow me to remind you that Cyprus is a member of the British Commonwealth, of the Council of Europe and of the United Nations. In addition, it is a signatory to the 1975 Helsinki Final Act about the inviolability of the European borders, and has recently entered into a customs union agreement with the European Community.

Turkey, is also a member of the Council of Europe and of the United Nations, and a signatory to the 1975 Helsinki Final Act. Turkey also aspires

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to becoming a member of the European Community and has recently made a request for membership into that most civilized group of Western European Nations.

Yet, this same country, over the past 15 years, has shown total disrespect of all the values, norms and modes of behaviour that are the characteristics of our civilized western way of life. By maintaining, through military force, the forceful partition of Cyprus, it has been denying the people of Cyprus their most basic human right, that is, to live and move freely throughout their country of birth.

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By colonizing the area under its occupation with Anatolian Turks, Kurds, Lazes and others, Turkey has forcefully changed the demography of our island.

Turkey is exhibiting one of the worst aspects of colonial imperialism in the whole world by the continuing occupation of an independent country, a member of the U.N.

By refusing to give an account of the hundreds of Cypriots who its forces have been holding prisoners since the 1974

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massacre against Cyprus, Turkey is displaying a callous disregard towards human suffering and misery.

By deliberately destroying the cultural heritage of Cyprus, Turkey forfeits any claim to membership into the Community of Nations, let alone membership into the European Community .

As far as the issue of missing persons and the cultural destruction of Cyprus heritage, is concerned, allow me to give you some very specific examples drawn from the fate of our village, Mandress.

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Five peaceful villagers who had nothing to do with the hostilities, after having been recorded by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) as alive prisoners of the Turkish troops in our village Mandress, and after been removed to another village and seen and recorded once again by the Red Cross (ICRC), two months after the invasion and being together with many other prisoners and their families, were taken away somewhere and have not been heard of since.

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Where were they taken?
 Why were they arrested?
 Whatever happened to them?
 Where are they today?
 Are they dead or alive?
 And if dead, where are they buried?

We demand answers to all these questions.

The church and chapels of Mandress have had a similar fate as the similar rest of many other sacred sites all over occupied Cyprus.

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The main village church, that of Ayios Mamas, has been turned into a mosque and is used by Lazes.

The well known historic chapel of Panayia tou Tohniou, that contained Byzantin frescoes, has been turned into a stable and the frescoes destroyed. Similarly, two other small chapels have been turned into stables.

Why such destruction?

How do the Turkish Cypriots benefit?

How do the actions of the occupying forces contribute to their well being of the Turkish Cypriots?

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I appeal to those of you in position of power, and who are honouring us with your presence today, and to all of you with roots in Cyprus, to use your influence and all means at your disposal, to make public opinion understand the reality of the Turkish invasion and occupation of Cyprus, the reality of the refugees, the reality of the missing persons, the reality of the deliberate destruction of Cyprus cultural heritage.

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We strongly request all of
you that you do your best so that a
just and viable solution for
Cyprus can be found. Cyprus, a
small and peace-loving country,
deserves that. Its people deserve
to live with dignity in peace
and security.

Αγαπητοί συγχωριανοί,
σας αφήνω με τα συγκινητικά
λόγια της Χριστίνας του
Καραγιάννη, αδελφής και θείας
των αγνοούμενων Φοίβου
Καραγιάννη και Γιαννάκη
Καραγιάννη, βγαλμένα από
τη ψυχή της, βγαλμένα από τη
ψυχή όλων των ξεριζωμένων.

Θεέ μου τζιαι βοήθα μας
στα σπίνια μας να πάμεν,
τζιαι τρώμεν χώμαν που τη γή
αν μεν έσειει να φάμεν.

Θέλω να πάω έσσω μου
τζιαι πουν το ριζικό μου,
ν'ανοίξω τζιαι το σπίνι μου
να πιώ που το νερό μου,
μιαν καλημέρα να τους πω
τζιαι των γείτόνισσων μου
τζιαι ν'αναείρω το χωρκόν
περκ'εύρω τον αρφό μου, →

να ξανακουβεντιάσουμεν
να σβύσει το λαμπρόν μου.
Ως τώρα Αη Μάμα μου
για πες μου πως βαστάγνεις
μεσ'την τουρκοπεριοχήν
Αγιε πως τζιαι κάμνεις;
Τόσα χρόνι'αλειτούρητος
πως τζιαι βαστάς ακόμα
ξα έφυες που το χωρκό
τζι'επήες σ'άλλη χώρα;

Να γίνηνι 'αρκοπέζουνο
ψηλά για να πετήσω
να πα να δώ το σπίτι μου
τζιύστερα ασ ξεψυσιήσω.

I thank you all