

St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church

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*Սուրբ Մեսրոպ Հայաստանեայց Եկեղեցի
Ռէշսին, Ուիսքոնսին*

Reverend Father Garabed Kochakian, Pastor

Տէր Կարապետ Քահանայ Գոչաքեան — Հովիւ

February 10, 1992

His Grace Bishop Khajag Barsamian, Primate
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America
630 Second Avenue
New York, New York 10016

Dear Srpazan Hayr:

Recently we received a mailing from the Armenian Patriarchate of Jerusalem which contained an appeal for financial aid for the on going work and renovation of the Paghchatagh Quarters. In view of the present policy regarding parishes acceding to requests outside the limits of our diocese, we wish to know if solicitations received directly from Jerusalem and not announced or channeled through your presiding primacy are in proper order to respond to. We do not recall a directive allowing diocesan parishes under your immediate authority and jurisdiction to respond to such solicitations from Jerusalem.

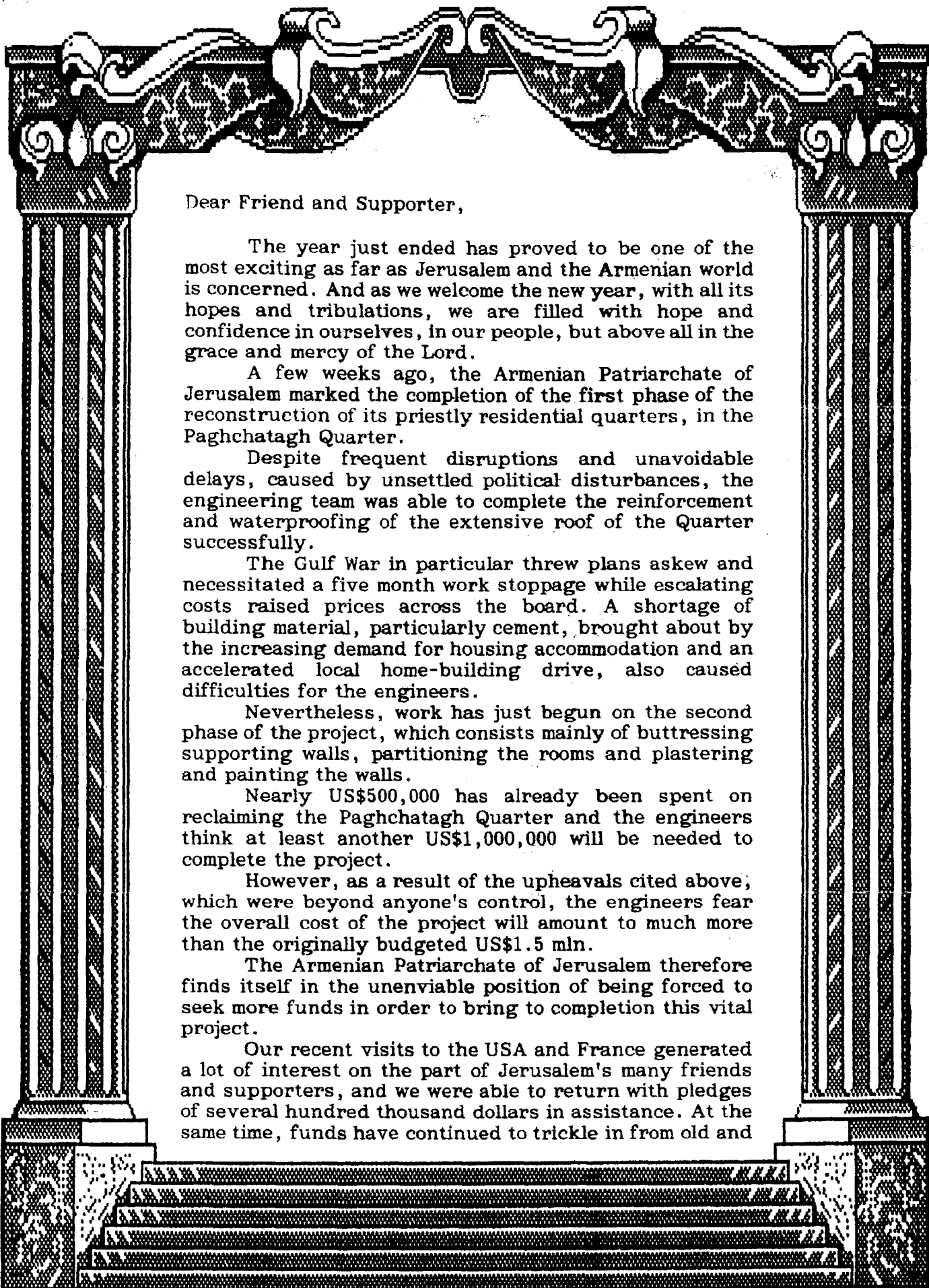
We wish to contribute to the exemplary work of His Beatitude, however, we do not want at the same time to violate diocesan policy in this regard. Please send us a clarification on this matter.

With respect to the right hand of
your authority in guiding Christ's Holy Church.
On behalf of the Parish Council,

Fr. Garabed Kochakian

Fr. Garabed Kochakian





Dear Friend and Supporter,

The year just ended has proved to be one of the most exciting as far as Jerusalem and the Armenian world is concerned. And as we welcome the new year, with all its hopes and tribulations, we are filled with hope and confidence in ourselves, in our people, but above all in the grace and mercy of the Lord.

A few weeks ago, the Armenian Patriarchate of Jerusalem marked the completion of the first phase of the reconstruction of its priestly residential quarters, in the Paghchatagh Quarter.

Despite frequent disruptions and unavoidable delays, caused by unsettled political disturbances, the engineering team was able to complete the reinforcement and waterproofing of the extensive roof of the Quarter successfully.

The Gulf War in particular threw plans askew and necessitated a five month work stoppage while escalating costs raised prices across the board. A shortage of building material, particularly cement, brought about by the increasing demand for housing accommodation and an accelerated local home-building drive, also caused difficulties for the engineers.

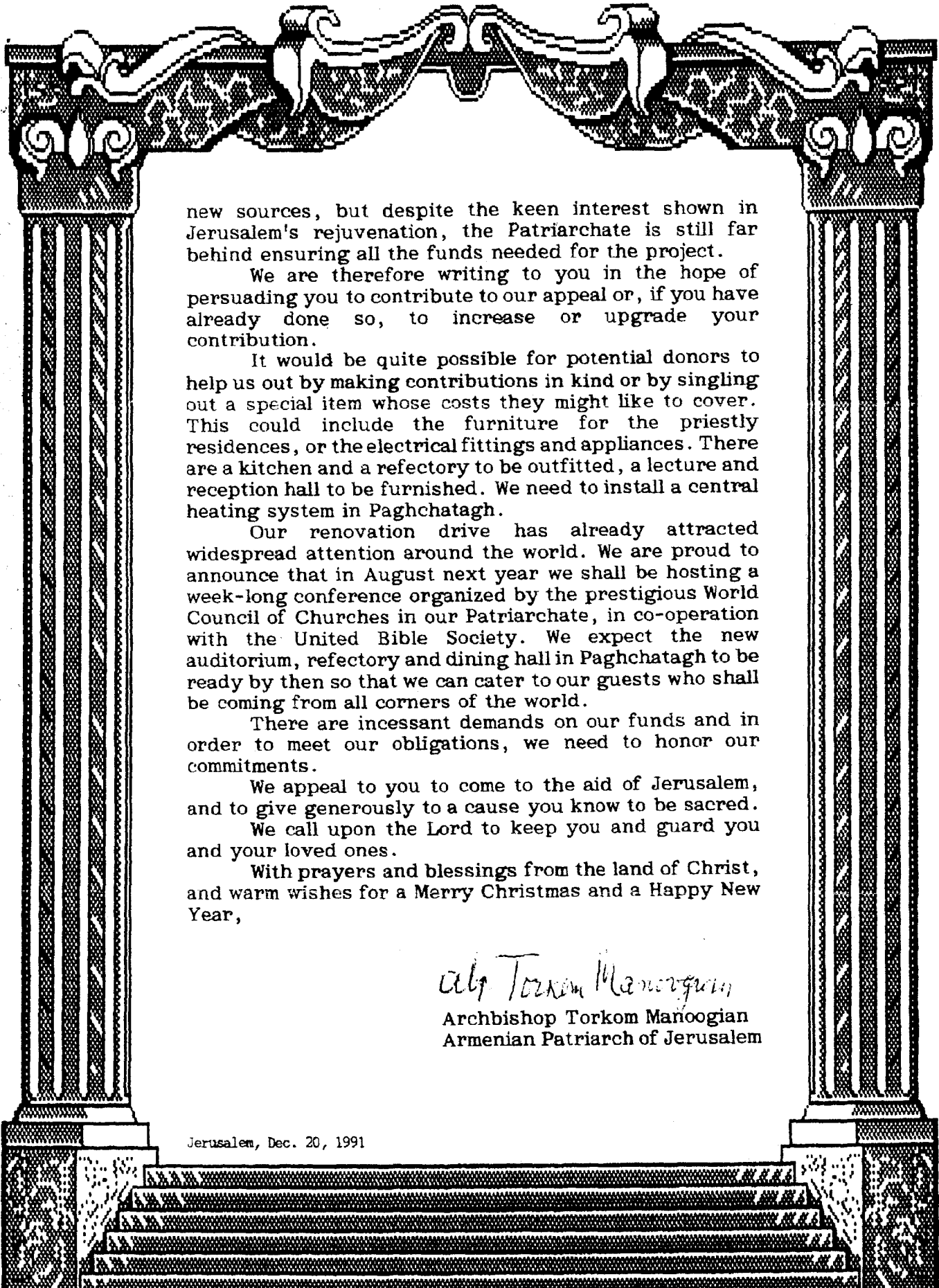
Nevertheless, work has just begun on the second phase of the project, which consists mainly of buttressing supporting walls, partitioning the rooms and plastering and painting the walls.

Nearly US\$500,000 has already been spent on reclaiming the Paghchatagh Quarter and the engineers think at least another US\$1,000,000 will be needed to complete the project.

However, as a result of the upheavals cited above, which were beyond anyone's control, the engineers fear the overall cost of the project will amount to much more than the originally budgeted US\$1.5 mln.

The Armenian Patriarchate of Jerusalem therefore finds itself in the unenviable position of being forced to seek more funds in order to bring to completion this vital project.

Our recent visits to the USA and France generated a lot of interest on the part of Jerusalem's many friends and supporters, and we were able to return with pledges of several hundred thousand dollars in assistance. At the same time, funds have continued to trickle in from old and



new sources, but despite the keen interest shown in Jerusalem's rejuvenation, the Patriarchate is still far behind ensuring all the funds needed for the project.

We are therefore writing to you in the hope of persuading you to contribute to our appeal or, if you have already done so, to increase or upgrade your contribution.

It would be quite possible for potential donors to help us out by making contributions in kind or by singling out a special item whose costs they might like to cover. This could include the furniture for the priestly residences, or the electrical fittings and appliances. There are a kitchen and a refectory to be outfitted, a lecture and reception hall to be furnished. We need to install a central heating system in Paghchatagh.

Our renovation drive has already attracted widespread attention around the world. We are proud to announce that in August next year we shall be hosting a week-long conference organized by the prestigious World Council of Churches in our Patriarchate, in co-operation with the United Bible Society. We expect the new auditorium, refectory and dining hall in Paghchatagh to be ready by then so that we can cater to our guests who shall be coming from all corners of the world.

There are incessant demands on our funds and in order to meet our obligations, we need to honor our commitments.

We appeal to you to come to the aid of Jerusalem, and to give generously to a cause you know to be sacred.

We call upon the Lord to keep you and guard you and your loved ones.

With prayers and blessings from the land of Christ, and warm wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year,

Archbishop Torkom Manoogian
Archbishop Torkom Manoogian
Armenian Patriarch of Jerusalem

Jerusalem, Dec. 20, 1991



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ARMENIAN PATRIARCHATE

NEW SUBSCRIPTIONS TO "SION" OFFICIAL GAZETTE OF PATRIARCHATE

The Armenian Patriarchate of Jerusalem is drawing up a new updated list of subscribers to its official gazette, SION.

In order to ensure that your name is on the list, you are kindly requested to fill in the form below and send it back to us, with your remittance, as soon as possible.

Please write to our new address: POB 14235, Jerusalem, Israel.

We would like to point out that while in previous years it has been the custom to distribute the gazette virtually free of charge to hundreds of subscribers, escalating costs and, particularly, the introduction of colour printing, has imposed upon us the obligation of trying to recover part of these costs.

The Editor

"SION" SUBSCRIPTION FORM

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Please enter my/our subscription for "SION," for a period of ___ year(s). My/our check for _____ covering the cost of subscription and Surface/Airmail charges, made out to the Patriarchate, is enclosed.

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2 years:	US\$200	2 years: US\$ 240

*Or equivalent in your local currency.

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