

**EMBASSY OF THE
STATE OF PALESTINE
to the Holy See**



سفارة
دولة فلسطين
لدى الكرسي الرسولي

Kassissieh expresses appreciation, on behalf of Palestine, to his Holiness' effort to set the foundations for a comprehensive humanitarian brotherhood

Issa Kassissieh, Palestinian Ambassador to the Holy See, expressed the appreciation of the State of Palestine to H.H. Pope Francis for his successive efforts to connect with the countries of the Arab and Muslim worlds, carried out to set the foundations of a comprehensive humanitarian brotherhood.

The Ambassador, in a letter to His Holiness, stated that “we are confident the message you carry to our countries would reap the desired fruit for the West and East”.

He also added: “On this occasion, I would like to reiterate, that I am well aware that Your Holiness is carrying the same attention to Palestine and Jerusalem and its peoples (in their great plight) who are and have been suffering for over 70 years. In this context, I would like to emphasize that the stability of the Arab world and the East-West relations depend to a large extent on the stability of Palestine and the future of Jerusalem, on the level of all the Arab people, even if the stance of some governments in the region differ, due to international political pressure.

He also added: “We, in our great plight, place special confidence in Your Holiness, and in the Holy See, because, contrary to those in power worldwide, you see justice, and strive to walk in this path to plant it in the spirits but also in reality”.

He added: “The Palestinian people lives today and has been living for tens of years under significant oppression imposed by the State of Israel, the only reason being Palestinians, and we exist, and are still in our country, on our land and in our homes. Being Palestinian is the sole and primary reason for which Israel deprives us from our freedom and independence. As for the international community, it stands helpless, unable to apply the international legitimacy on Israel, and unable to even implement the resolutions adopted by the United Nations regarding the Palestinian-Israeli conflict”.

“All we desire, as a people and as a State, is to be allowed to exist, and to live in freedom and independence similar to the world’s peoples”.

Kassissieh reiterated his greetings and appreciations to Pope Francis for his noble efforts vis-à-vis the entire humanity, hoping that these efforts would continue “so that the Holy City changes from a city of war and death, as it stands today, to one of reconciliation and humanitarian brotherhood”.

He also added: “As Palestinian Ambassador to the Holy See, and as a Christian from Jerusalem, I pass Your Holiness, my best wishes, standing with the small minority here, determined not to leave the land of Jesus Christ, whatever the price may be, whether we are oppressed or enjoy the freedom and dignity and the Lord has bestowed upon on all”.

Rome, 03rd February 2019