

# **HIS BEATITUDE THE PATRIARCH OF JERUSALEM THEOPHILOS III VISITS HIS MAJESTY KING ABDULLAH II OF JORDAN**

On Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> October 2017, His Beatitude the Patriarch of Jerusalem Theophilos III visited His Majesty the King of Jordan Abdullah II bin Al-Hussein.

During their meeting, which was also attended by HRH Prince Ghazi bin Muhammad, advisor to the King in religious and cultural affairs, His Beatitude referred to the good historic relations between the Patriarchate of Jerusalem and the Hashemite Kingdom. He also thanked His Majesty for the support given to the Patriarchate and to His Beatitude's efforts in the preservation of the "Status Quo" rules, especially regarding the Old City of Jerusalem. Over centuries, these rules have ensured the peaceful co-existence of the religious communities of the Holy Land.

His Beatitude also outlined his upcoming shuttle tour, backed by all Church leaders of the Holy Land, which aims to mobilize support from Church leaders, governmental and international officials, to stand in the face of a newly proposed law in the Israeli parliament, which threatens the freedom of the Churches to deal with their properties. Additionally, the tour will mobilize the international community's support for overturning the wrongful decision of the Israeli District Court in what is known as the "Jaffa Gate" case, in which it ruled against the Patriarchate in favor of a right-wing settlor group.

His Majesty thanked His Beatitude for his active efforts in the promotion and preservation of peaceful co-existence of all

faiths in the Holy Land. He also reassured His Beatitude of the steadfast mission of the Hashemite Kingdom to protect the Muslim and Christian holy shrines in Jerusalem from any threat of change.

From Secretariat-General

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