

NOVAE EPISTULAE

Save the Wonderful Church in Aleppo

Dear friend and supporter,

Cathedral of Virgin Mary, Greek catholic Church in Aleppo, was built in 1830 and it has been considered a miracle since the beginning.

In fact, its construction began under the domination of the Ottoman Empire that usually didn't allowed the construction of any church. Providence helped and during 8 years of building work Ottoman armies were always rejected and people in Aleppo were able to build the cathedral.

The cathedral rose thanks to donations by many pilgrims who came in Aleppo during centuries asking for Mary's help "in **Our Lady of Aleppo**" church.

The cathedral was named "**Wonderful**" for its beauty, the architectural elegance and many works of art and paintings that decorated it and made it one of the most beautiful church in the whole Syria.

The church opened to Believers on the Palm Sunday in 1842 thanks to donations by believers themselves and the work of the Christian community in the city. Everyone contributed with their respective job and profession. After a fire in 1852, sultan Abdel-Majid Khan ordered to restore the Church.

During first world war Ottoman authorities transformed it into a military hospital.

The church was built according to Byzantine geometry and structure, with eight fourfold columns and two support pillars to the ceiling. There was also a paved floor with internal decorations all around the altar and the Episcopal chair, they are all original and date back to the time of construction.

The **miraculous icon** of Virgin Mary was stored on the right side of the nave . The cathedral was beautiful and embellished with a great number of icons and an iconostasis. There was also a huge mosaic made up of thousands of stones and mother-of-pearsl; it was the representation of Christ, tendrils and ears of wheat. Nowadays has been destroyed but it took 11 years to do it.

Join us and take part in Aleppo Chatedral rebuilding!

**Your commitment is important to rebuild Virgin Mary Cathedral of Greeks
Catholics in Aleppo**

On next November 30th, we will start new initiative, I'm sure we can count on your commitment so important for the future of christians in Aleppo!

Help us today to support persecuted christians!

<https://www.novaeterrae.eu/en/donation.html>

Thank you very much

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