

The official periodical of the Sovereign Imperial & Royal House of Ghassan

YEAR ONE - NUMBER 0 JANUARY 2016 www.royalherald.com

2015: A MAJOR SUCCESS!!!





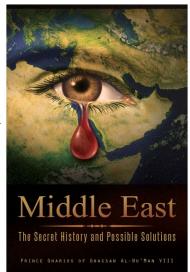
Two of the many highlights of 2015: the first of two encounters with Pope Francis (left) and the recognition from the Royal Family of Dubai

There's no way of being less excited about the achievements of 2015. After a very successful year of 2014, the House of Ghassan definitely reached a level of recognition and influence without parallel since the XVIII Century when last ruled in today's Lebanon. The year of 2015 started with the establishment of the official residence in Amman, Jordan. The reason of this step was to not only stay in the region for a good part of the year but also to have easier mobility to Europe and the other countries of the Middle East. Being in Jordan, without a doubt the safest and most stable country in the Levant, the House of Ghassan is on past Ghassanid territory – our ancestors changed the name of the city of Philadelphia to Amman - and serving all the neighboring countries. After being invested as a knight of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulcher of Jerusalem in November 2014, HIRH Prince Gharios finally received his certificate after around six months of thorough investigation by the Vatican Secretary of State regarding his titles. The Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulcher of Jerusalem, is one of the oldest, most recognized and respected Orders of Chivalry in the world. The Order is under protection of His Holiness Pope Francis as its Sovereign. This honor of knighthood is conferred by the Holy See through the Secretariat of State, who in the name of and by the authority of the Pope, approves each knighthood. Each diploma of appointment once approved is sealed and signed by officials of the Vatican Secretariat of State and the Cardinal Grand Master of the Order in Rome. HH Pope Benedict XIV (reigned 1740-1758) stated that the Order should enjoy precedence over all Orders except over the Order of the Golden Fleece. Prince Gharios was invested in Amman, Jordan and had the privilege of being dubbed alone directly by the Order's Grand Prior, His Beatitude Monsignor Fouad Twal, the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem. (Continues page 3)

Did you know about the existence of an ancient cover-up trying to stifle several facts of the Middle Eastern history?

Did you know that all the conflicts in the Middle East have possible solutions?

Most people don't realize the widely documented fact that an orchestrated cover-up started in the third century CE,

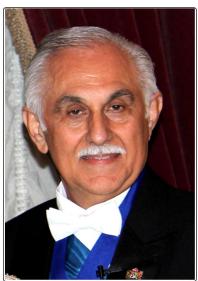


strongly echoing in our days, with the objective of underestimate and overlook the role of Christians in (and from) the Middle East. That's culminating with the frightening prediction of their complete extermination in the area for the next couple of decades.

This awarded book not only diagnose the problems but also suggests several viable solutions, not only for the Christians but to all of the current conflicts in the Middle East, introducing the principle of the social consensualism or consensus for coexistence

Order your copy at

http://princegharios.tateauthor.com/



From the Grand Chancellor's desk

It's no exaggeration to say that time flies.

We just blink and suddenly it's Christmas again and a new year is knocking on our door.

This impermanence was the reason why we have created the Royal Herald.

Thanks to the Divine Providence, the Royal House of Ghassan is progressing so quickly that it's hard for us to efficiently report on the achievements to our collaborators and the members of the Order of Saint Michael. Therefore, now we have our own virtual newspaper. It will be delivered by email on a .PDF file and also will be accessible online at www.royalherald.com

It's also important to point that the Royal Herald is not a one-way street. You can and should collaborate with short articles and opinions. Please, do not hesitate in sending us your contribution or comment to gc@kingdomofghassan.net

I'm currently in the middle of my first year serving as the Grand Chancellor of the Royal House of Ghassan. I have the hard task of "filling very special shoes". Hence, I'd like also to make a fair tribute to our Grand Chancellor Emeritus HSH Duke Hans of Lassa and his almost six years of valuable service.

Without further ado, please enjoy our number zero of the Royal Herald!

Cheers!

HSH Duke John of Ferhet Grand Chancellor of the Sovereign Imperial & Royal House of Ghassan



Sovereign Imperial & Royal House of Ghassan Grand Chancellery

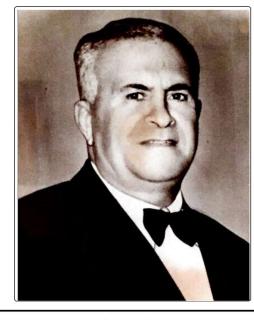
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In Memoriam

By HIRH Prince Gharios El Chemor of Ghassan Al-Numan VIII

In the words of Sir Isaac Newton: "if I've seen further was by standing upon the shoulders of giants." I'd like to dedicate all of our achievements so far to this giant, my cousin HIRH Prince and Sheikh Tannious El Chemor. I didn't have the privilege of meeting him because he left us prematurely two years before I was born. This man not only started the work I've the honor to continue but he also, amongst other deeds, gave free drinking water to 48 villages in Lebanon and was directly responsible (buying all the machines and convincing the late president Chehab) for the decree giving free dialysis to all Lebanese citizens. Both actions, done in the 60's are still in force today. If I ever become half of what this man was, I'll die happy.

Your Highness, Thank you for paving the way I walk now and may God Bless your soul!







1948's Book about the last Ghassanid ruling princes

The Royal House of Ghassan is currently translating the book "Al-Sheikh Al-Chemor Al-Hakam Al-Akoura (1211-1633) Al-Hakam Zawie (1641-1747)" in English "The Sheikhs Chemor rulers of Akoura (1211-1633 CE) and rulers of Zawie (1641-1747 CE)" Beirut, Lebanon, 1948, by the famous Lebanese historian and Maronite monk Ignatious Tannos Khoury, where several scientific and academic evidence, corroborated by several other scholars, link beyond a single solitary doubt, the Al-Chemor Sheikhs as direct descendants to the Ghassanid King Abu Chemor Jablah (reigned 518-528 CE) and the Gharios Family as a direct continuation of the El-Chemor Family. Two chapters are already available at www.princegharios.com/chemorbook/

Thank you for the hard work Reham Makhlouf!



Certificate issued by the Vatican Secretary of State recognizing Prince Gharios as as a Knight of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem



HIRH receiving the "Pilgrim's Shell" as a Knight of the Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem from Msgr William Shomali Bishop and Vicar for Jerusalem acting on behalf of the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem

His Eminence was able to contact Monsignor Guilhermo Karcher, one of the closest persons of Pope Francis, and get Prince Gharios his first encounter with the Holy Father. The prince has gifted the Pope with his book "Middle East the secret history and possible solutions", a painting of the Virgin Mary holding baby Jesus (painted personally by Prince Gharios especially to the Holy Father) and the insignia of the Sacred Order of Saint Michael Archangel, which was accepted and blessed by the Holy Father. Back to the Amman's residence, Prince Gharios attended a vernissage of Arabic calligraphy invited by Her Royal Highness Princess Wijdan Ali of Jordan and Her Excellency Shariffa Hind Bint Nasser. The event was at Artisana Gallery 14, a traditional Jordanian gallery owned by Shariffa Hind.

(Continued from page 1)

Prince Gharios visited the headquarters of the Latin patriarchate in Jerusalem in March 2015 when he has received the decoration known as "the pilgrim's shell", dedicated to all the knights and dames of the Order of the Holy Sepulcher that make the pilgrimage to the Holy sites. Prince Gharios made the pilgrimage before becoming a knight, therefore, he had to do it again to receive the honor. The shell was given by His Excellency Monsignor William Shomali, the auxiliary bishop on behalf of the Patriarch that was in Europe. The certificate in Latin was personally signed by His Beatitude. After the successful visit to Jerusalem, Prince Gharios has received a very gracious letter from His Beatitude the Patriarch inviting him for the upcoming canonization of two Palestinian saints in Rome on May 17th: Saint Mariam Bawardy and Saint Marie Alphonsine Ghattas.

Before Rome, Prince Gharios was honored in Amman, Jordan by Her Excellency Shariffa Bodur Bint Abdallah Al R'Bee'an, from the Hashemite Royal Family of Jordan (the Shariffa is cousin of His Majesty King Abdullah II) as "Honorary Member" of the Childcare & Family Charity Society, one of the Royal Jordanian Charities presided by Her Royal Highness Princess Sana Asem and under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Rania of Jordan.

On his way to Rome, Prince Gharios has stopped in Athens, Greece and visited the Byzantine Imperial Museum. The canonization ceremony was presided by His Holiness Pope Francis and was a colossal event with thousands of people from all over the world at Saint Peter's square. After the event, the Prince had an audience with His Eminence Cardinal Leonardo Sandri, the Prefect of the Congregation of the Oriental churches, the Holy See dicastery responsible for all of the twenty-two Catholic denominations in the Middle East. The jurisdiction is by rite, not geographical. Therefore, the dicastery is responsible not only, for example, for all the Maronite churches in the Middle East, but all over the world.



Certificate for the "Pilgrim's Shell" of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem signed by the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem and Grand Prior of the Order, Msgr Fouad Twal



HIRH Prince Gharios receiving a recognition from HE Sharifa Bdour from the Hashemite Royal Family of Jordan. He was made an "Honorary Member" of the Childcare & Family Charity Society, one of the charities runned by the Jordanian Royal Family. The President of Honor of the organization is HRH Princess Sana Asem of Jordan (April 2015)



The Holy Father blessing the insignia of the Sacred Order of Saint Michael Archangel that was given to him in his first encounter with Prince Gharios (May 2015)



Prince Gharios with His Eminence Cardinal Sandri in Rome (May 2015)



HIRH Prince Gharios with Her Royal Highness Princess Wijdan Al Hashimi of Jordan (May 2015)

But the first semester was not over yet. Prince Gharios has received an invitation to return to Rome and meet with His Eminence Cardinal Kurt Koch, the President of the Pontifical Council for Christian Unity, in charge of the Ecumenical dialog all over the world. The whole agenda for the second official trip to Rome was organized by His Excellency Michael Hesemann President of the Prince Gharios of Ghassan Foundation in Germany and official delegate to the Holy See for the Royal House of Ghassan. In Rome, Prince Gharios had the privilege of meeting and spending time with His Grace David the Coptic Archbishop of New York, a holy man. Prince Gharios also met with His Grace Francesco Maria Mariano, Duke of Otranto and president of the Italian Heraldic Council who honored Prince Gharios as a knight of the "Serenissimus Ordo Equitum Platti Aurei" or "The Most Serene Order of the knights of the golden plate". The Order was founded in 1672 CE. His Eminence Cardinal Koch was very supportive about Price Gharios' ideas for saving the Christians in the Middle East. After a very successful meeting the cardinal received the Order of Saint Michael Archangel. Prince Gharios then had a meeting at the Vatican Secretariat of State with Father Livio Poloniato,

OFM who was also very impressed. The Prince was then taken to a tour around the Secretariat of State and went to a more private encounter with Pope Francis, the second in less than two weeks. On his way back to the US, Prince Gharios went to Istanbul, Turkey where he was able to visit the beloved Constantinople of his ancestors, the Byzantine emperors. The arrival in Los Angeles was not only rest after an agitated first semester but also had several meetings with leaders of the local Lebanese colony. The prince had an official visit to the Lebanese Consulate General in Los Angeles being received by the Consul General, the Honorable Johnny Ibrahim. But the great surprises of the months of June and July were letters from ruling monarchs: Her Majesty the Queen of Denmark and a very special letter signed in person by His Majesty the King of Cambodia. Usually, the ruling monarchs use their private secretaries to sign the letters on their behalf but His Majesty Nordom Sihamoni of Cambodia honored the Royal House of Ghassan signing it personally. Those letters joined the ones received in the beginning of the year from: His Majesty the King of the Netherlands, Her Majesty the Queen of England and His Majesty the King of Spain. All the letters can be seen at www.princegharios.com



His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneath NORODOM SIHAMONI KING of CAMBODIA

To His Imperial and Royal Highness Prince Gharios of Ghassan Al-Numan VIII 312 S. Beverly Dr., # 6403 Beverly Hills, CA 90212 United States of America

Your Imperial and Royal Highness,

I have received a signed copy of your interesting book titled "Middle East. The Secret History and Possible Solutions", you had the kindness to present to me.

Please accept, Your Imperial and Royal Highness, with my sincere thanks and best wishes for every success of your noble endeavour, the assurances of my cordial consideration.

Wrodrudshammy

Phnom Penh, 🕻 July 2015



Prince Gharios meets the Holy Father for the second time in less than two weeks



Mme. Zuhria A-Soub and Prince Gharios with the little Ghassanid girl Rama, being sponsored by the Royal House of Ghassan



Meeting at the Vatican Secretariat of State

Back to Jordan, Prince Gharios had a very special visit to make. Since 2014, the Royal House of Ghassan is sponsoring the special education of the little Ghassanid girl named Rama from Karak. The city of Karak is the center of the Ghassanid presence in Jordan. Currently, eight Ghassanid clans inhabit the city since the Islamic conquest. Rama is from one of those families. Unfortunately, her family cannot afford her special needs. We're proud to announce that the little Rama, now eleven years-old, passed from the first grade to the sixth in only one year. Although she has earing and walking challenges she's extremely smart. Prince Gharios received a beautiful award from the Basma School of Special Education, one of the first in Jordan, for his work promoting education for women in the Middle East. The trip was hosted by a proud Ghassanid Madam Zuhria Al-Soub, the president of the Association of the Ghassanid Women. She was honored with the Order of Saint Michael Archangel for her contributions to the House of Ghassan. After the special visit, Prince Gharios visit famous Ghassanid historical sites like the place of the battle of Mutah in 629 CE, a famous Ghassanid victory.



His Eminence Cardinal Koch holding the brevet of the Order of Saint Michael Archangel

It was time to return to the "Eternal City". A very busy schedule in Rome. Prince Gharios met with several high Catholic authorities: His Beatitude Gregorios III the

Melkite Patriarch, His Beatitude & Eminence Cardinal Bechara Boutros Rai the Maronite Patriarch, His Beatitude Msgr. Fouad Twal the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem, His Eminence Cardinal Kurt Koch, His Eminence Cardinal Leonardo Sandri, His Eminence Cardinal Velasio di Paolis, His Eminence Cardinal Raymond Burke the Patron of the Order of Malta, His Excellency the Apostolic Nunzio in Romania, Archbishop Francisco Javier Lozano, Dean of the Diplomatic Corps of the Holy See, His Excellency Monsignor Guilhermo Karcher at the Vatican Secretariat of State, Father Livio Poloniato, OFM, etc. Also an important visit to the Armenian Embassy being received by the attaché His Excellency Vartan Karapetian representing the ambassador and a special meeting with Sir Gary Krupp the president of the Pave the way Foundation, a very important organization for the interreligious dialog. Sir Krupp was knighted by both Saint Pope John Paul II and His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI.



(Above) with Cardinal Leonardo Sandri at Santa Maria Maggiore, (right) at the VIP seat at the Saint Peter's Basilica with Michael Hasemann at Papal mass (images from Vatican TV), (down) with the Maronite Patriarch, Cardinal Bechara Boutros Rai











(Above) with the Latin
Patriarch of Jerusalem
Fouad Twal at Casa Santa
Marta (where Pope Francis
lives), (left) having a
meeting at Cardinal
Burke's home, the
cardinal is the patron of
the Order of Malta, (right)
with Msgr Guilhermo
Karcher at the Vatican
Secretariat of State, one
of the closest people to
the Holy Father



Being received at the Armenian Embassy



With the Dean of the Vatican Nuncios



With Cardinal Velasio di Paolis





In November, Prince Gharios was invited to speak at the Congress for Persecuted Christians in Germany. There, Prince Gharios met Mr. Volker Kauder, Member of Parliament and the Chairman of CDU (Christian Democratic Union), the political party of Mme. Angela Merkel, Germany's chancellor. Also, had a chance of expending time with Professor Thomas Schirrmacher, PhD., notorious author and Christian leader in Germany. The European newspapers call Professor Schirrmacher as "The Pope's favorite protestant". Prince Gharios also met again His Eminence Cardinal Kurt Koch.

The Prince was part of a panel about the situation in the Middle East with other Christian leaders and also had a speech, which was very well evaluated by the audience and organization. During the event, Prince Gharios was able to interact with several leaders from Syria, Iraq, Palestine and Lebanon, to be further updated about the current situation of the Christians in the region. He was also invited to be the patron of several organizations for persecuted Christians in the Middle East and Europe. Also in Germany, the prince has participated of the inaugural meeting for the creation of the "Prince Gharios of Ghassan Foundation" to be headquartered in Germany but with reach to all Europe. The aim of the organization will be to help the Christians in the Middle East, to promote education in the region and raise awareness about the sectarian religious clashes between Islam and the West. At the meeting were present: The Foundation's president Mr. Michael Hesemann, the vice-president Mr. Martin Lohmann, KHS and the directors Mr. Rüdiger von Stengel and Mr. Georg Dietlein.

Prince Gharios also had a very special meeting with the Egyptian billionaire Naguib Sawiris in Dusseldorf. The prince and the business mogul agreed in cooperate in order to save the Christians in the Middle East.

Back to the residence in Amman, the prince traveled twice to Lebanon to meet His Beatitude Gregorios III Laham, the Patriarch of Antioch and All the East, and Alexandria and Jerusalem and the spiritual leader of the Melkite Greek Catholic Church. The Patriarch is one of the most important Christian figures in the Middle East and is originally based in Syria but, due to the conflict, had changed his residence to Lebanon going periodically to Damascus. He gave public support and Blessings to Prince Gharios and his cause. After that, Prince Gharios visited his family in Lebanon, being hosted by Sheikh Dr. Elie Gharios. They travelled to Kfar Hata in



Prince Gharios speaking at the panel at the Congress in Germany



With German MP Volker Kauder (left) and Prof. Schirrmacher, PhD (middle)

northern Lebanon where the family is originally from. The last name "Gharios" (or "Guerios" in Portuguese) was created from the original "El Chemor" when part of the family had to move from Kfar Hata to Jbeil and Chiyah (near Beirut). The Sheikhs El Chemor (Prince Gharios' direct ancestors) were the last Ghassanid sovereign rulers, ruling in Akoura and Zgharta-Zawiye (Mount Lebanon) from 1211 to 1747 CE.

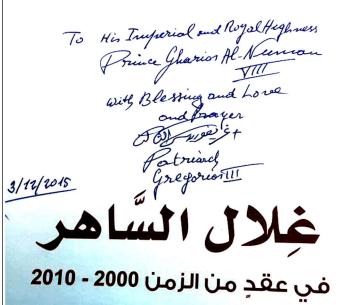
Prince Gharios and Sheikh Dr. Elie, a renown plastic surgeon in the whole Middle East, visited the El Chemor palace in Kfar Hata. There, they've met their cousin Her Royal Highness Princess Lodi Chehab Al-Chemor descendant from HRH Prince Bashir Chehab II "the Great", the Emir (or Prince) of Mount Lebanon from 1788 till 1840 CE. She also descends from the Quraysh, hence, from Prophet Mohammad.



With Egyptian billionaire Naguib Sawiris



With His Beatitude the Melkite Patriarch Gregorios III Laham



Dedication and Blessings from the Melkite Patriarch



With the Prince Gharios of Ghassan Foundation's board, the president Michael Hesemann (left) and the directors Rüdiger Von Stengel and Georg Dietlein

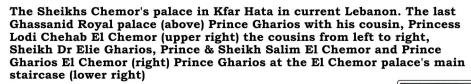


With the Foundation's vice-president Martin Lohmann

The princess was married to the late HIRH Prince & Sheikh Tannios El Chemor, considered by Prince Gharios as the honorary founder of the modern Royal House of Ghassan. The Chehab (or Shihab) family was originally Sunni Muslim but converted to Christianity in the XVIII century. Amongst several illustrious people, the family had Lebanon's third president, Prince Fouad Chehab (1902-1973 CE).

They also met HIRH Prince & Sheikh Salim El Chemor, Prince Tannios and Princess Lodi's eldest son and the current head of the El Chemor family who gave Prince Gharios full support and blessings.





Prince Gharios and Sheikh Dr Elie also visited the Church of Mar Mama in Kfar Hata. The church is ancient and its actual date of foundation is unknown. Its first renovation was made in 1633 CE. The Mar Mama church is very important for the El Chemor family since it's crossing the street from the family's palace. Once more back to Amman, Prince Gharios prepared to his trip to Dubai. He was invited as an honor guest and keynote speaker at the SAMEAWS 2015 - (South America - Africa - Middle East - Asia Women Summit) at the Shangri-la Hotel in Dubai (UAE) under the Patronage of His Highness Sheikh Juma bin Maktoum Al Maktoum (Royal Family of Dubai) organized by CELD and CEO Club. Also, to receive the award "Middle East Peace Crusader man of the year". Prince Gharios has dedicated the award to his late cousin HIRH Prince & Sheikh Tannios El Chemor. His participation received enthusiastic ovations being interrupted by applauses many times during the keynote speech. He met the Sheikh receiving the awards from his hands. Also, met Her Excellency Dr Lalla Malika Mahamadou, the First Lady of the Niger Republic and the Georgia's State Senator the Honorable Dee Dawkins-Haigler from whom he received a special Commendation from the State of Georgia (USA) House of Representatives Black Caucus. Prince Gharios was also invited by His Highness Sheikh Juma bin Maktoum to be one of the honor guests at the grand opening of a new section of the Rashid Pediatric Therapy Centre, which the Sheikh presides. According to Prince Gharios it was a very

emotional but happy moment to see all the children being so well taken care of. The Center is a state-of the-art complex in Dubai. The trip to Dubai wouldn't be possible without the help of Mme. Lamis Al Kaati Fairweather, from the Woman News Agency. On his way back to the United States, Prince Gharios has stopped in Paris to pray for the victims of the terrorist attacks of last November. After the tribute to the victims, he visited the Musee De l'Armee (Army museum) at l'Invalides where the remains of His Imperial Majesty Napoleon I, the Emperor of the French has his last rest. Also, several personal items of His Majesty and other French rulers are available at the museum.

It was the closing of a year of major success!













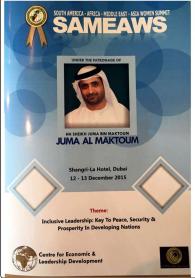
(Above left) Prince Gharios receiving the award from His Highness Sheikh Juma Bin Maktoum Al-Maktoum (Above right) with Her Excellency the First Lady of the Niger Republic Dr Lalla Malika Mahamadou

اتيجياً في قضايا الأمن والسلام

قال الأمير غاربوس غسان التعمان مؤسس ورئيس منظمــة «البيت المُسكي الغساني» إن القيــادة ورئيــة دولة الإمارات تمتلك المُستقدة، من خــلال ما تم روئيــة ثاقبة، معنها في مدارة العليم والصحة، بما يضع المكان بارزأ في مصاف دول المحاقة تعلن ما على التحديات تعليه والصحة تعلن ما على التحديات التي كانت تعيق وصــول المرأة التيادي المحاتجة، حتى غــدت اليــوم مؤهــة للمنافـــة على المناصب القيادية، حتى غــدت اليــوم مؤهــة للمنافـــة على المناصب القيادية، حتى غــدت اليــوم مؤهــة للمنافـــة على المناصب تمثيــد ولتها في جمعــة المحافل المراقبة من عمل المحافل المراقبة من مختلف ومن العالم. تمثيــد ولتها في جمعــة المحافل الرسمية في مختلف دول العالم.



(Above) Prince Gharios on the Al-Bayan newspaper, owned by the Royal Family of Dubai and it's one of the main newspapers of the UAE, (left) Prince Gharios addressing the public as the keynote speaker of the event







(Above) with the Georgia's State Senator the Honorable Dee Dawkins-Haigler (left) the event's program



Prince Gharios praying for the victims of the Paris' terrorist attack of November 2015 in front of the Bataclan





Thank you very much to our sponsors

None of the achievements of the Royal House of Ghassan cited here would be possible without the precious support of the following people that **made more than a minimum donation of \$500 USD** in 2015 to maintain our activities. Thank you very much from the bottom of our hearts!

John Domonkos
Kenneth Bordewick
Vladimir Zah
Dr Elie Gharios
Munther Kawar
Stephan Breu

The new year has just begun and there's still a lot to be accomplished in 2016 and we need your support. We remind you that **all donations made from United States residents are 100% tax deductible** since the Royal House of Ghassan is a recognized charity under the IRS - Internal Revenue Code 26 U.S.C. § 501(c) If you want to make a donation, please contact the Grand Chancellery at **gc@kingdomofghassan.net**



THE SACRED ORDER OF SAINT MICHAEL ARCHANGEL

The Order is a non-religious and temporal Order of Chivalry and Knighthood. It is sovereign in the conduct of its affairs; subjected only to the Sovereign Imperial and Royal House of Ghassan. It isn't subjected to any religious affiliation, hierarchy or denomination, while maintaining its not-for-profit educational corporate status. Our mission is:

- * To perpetuate the legacy of the Royal Ghassanids, historically the very first Christian knights and Defenders of the Holy Land, even several centuries before the first Crusade
- * To provide financial support to the Royal House of Ghassan for its charitable and cultural projects

For more information www.ordersaintmichael.org