

THE BA'UTHA OF THE NINEVITES



CHRISTIAN
MUSICOLOGICAL
SOCIETY OF INDIA

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WHICH OCCURS EACH YEAR, THREE WEEKS BEFORE LENT



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THE ORIGINS OF BA'UTHA

The first reason our church of God celebrates this Ba'utha is that it is of the Ninevites, which occurred by means of the preaching of Jonah the prophet. In it, they ordered a fast and wore sackcloth as it was written. When God saw their sorrows, he withdrew the intensity of his anger and did not destroy them.

Another reason we celebrate Ba'utha in our region until these days is that there was once a plague of boils. These happened during the days of the Persian Empire because of the many sins of the people in this region of ours. At that time, in a very short period, the people of Beth Garmay (present day Kirkuk), Ator and Nineveh were completely swept by this. While they were praying to God on account of the rod of his anger which was destroying their community, the voice of an angel was heard saying: Decree a fast and make a Ba'utha and the plague will be halted. Immediately they ordered that all ranks of the people of the lord gather in the house of the Lord. On Monday, the first day of Ba'utha, the angel removed his hand that was destroying them and no one was affected by the plague and very few from those who had already been struck were dying. When they came to Friday, the sixth day of the week, during the Sacrifice of the living body and holy blood of Christ, the people gathered and were forgiven and sanctified. From those who had been affected by the disease in their bodies, not even one died. When the church (the bishops of the dioceses) had seen the mercy of God that was upon them because of the Ba'utha which they had celebrated, they arranged that it be performed in this week of each year. And it was continued and celebrated diligently and was handed down since then until our present time and among our people.

MONDAY OF BA'UTHA



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Right Wall

HYMN OF GLORY

Left Wall

¹In pain and tears and fervent prayer,
we cry to you, good Lord above!

³We have no right to plead to you:
our faults abound, our malice soars.

⁵In our own time, as Scripture says,
the end of days has come on us.

⁷O Good Shepherd, come tend your flock,
for whose sake you endured the cross.

⁹May we be yours, as is your will:
Father, and Son, and Holy Ghost.

²Be our healer and our wise guide:
deep are our wounds, bitter our pain.

⁴The earth and sea, and all they bear
have quaked and raged due to our sin.

⁶In mercy, save us from distress,
for height has been confused with depth.

⁸Make peace for us in church and world,
that we may live a restful life.

¹⁰Who shall be praised, now and as then;
From age to age: amen, amen

PETITIONS

(stand)

Server: Let us stand well, in sorrow and tears, beg and say: Lord, have mercy on us.

People: **Lord, have mercy on us.**

Eternal God, who from the beginning is good, and whose goodness never changes, we beg of you: **Lord, have mercy on us.**

He who has shown the wisdom of his power and revealed his blessedness in the creatures which he mysteriously fashioned, we beg of you: **Lord, have mercy on us.**

He who made known his great love, and separated our nature from other creatures and made us in his own image, we beg of you: **Lord, have mercy on us.**

He who has shown the greatness of his overflowing mercy, which does not end for our progress and help, we beg of you: **Lord, have mercy on us.**

He who floods the greatness of his goodness in the end times in the glorious appearance of his Son to redeem our nature and to renew all creation, we beg of you: **Lord, have mercy on us.**

He who sanctified our nature by the holy body which he took from us and which he united to himself through the person of his Son, our Lord, we beg of you: **Lord, have mercy on us.**

He who tied our lost image and delighted in our return, like the prodigal son who was given life, we beg of you: **Lord, have mercy on us.**



C H R I S T I A N
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He who illumined the lamp of his humanity in the glorious rays of the person of his Divinity, who searched for our lost image in the mud of creation like the lost coin, and made joyful all angels when he found us, we beg of you: **Lord, have mercy on us.**

He who calls us in his goodness and gave us the courage to offer him our needs at any time with hope in his reply, according to his goodness to which nothing can compare, we beg of you: **Lord, have mercy on us.**

He who lets us call him without end, and continually responds, most especially in the time of our needs, we beg of you: **Lord, have mercy on us.**

Server: Listen to our prayer, and have mercy on us
People: (kneel) **Listen to our prayer, and have mercy on us**

| | |
|---|---|
| Eternally Good, have mercy on us: | (stand) Listen to our prayer, and have mercy on us |
| Forever Glorious, have mercy on us: | (kneel) Listen to our prayer, and have mercy on us |
| Maker of Creation, have mercy on us: | (stand) Listen to our prayer, and have mercy on us |
| Holy in his Nature, have mercy on us: | (kneel) Listen to our prayer, and have mercy on us |
| He who orders all, have mercy on us: | (stand) Listen to our prayer, and have mercy on us |
| He who raised our race, have mercy on us: | (kneel) Listen to our prayer, and have mercy on us |
| He who loves our lives, have mercy on us: | (stand) Listen to our prayer, and have mercy on us |
| You are our helper, have mercy on us: | (kneel) Listen to our prayer, and have mercy on us |
| You are our guide, have mercy on us: | (stand) Listen to our prayer, and have mercy on us |
| You are merciful, have mercy on us: | (kneel) Listen to our prayer, and have mercy on us |
| Turn toward us, have mercy on us: | (stand) Listen to our prayer, and have mercy on us |
| You are our comfort, have mercy on us: | (kneel) Listen to our prayer, and have mercy on us |
| Help us and come, have mercy on us: | (stand) Listen to our prayer, and have mercy on us |

Hear our cry and have mercy on us:
Lord, have mercy on us.

For the peace and harmony of the whole world and of all churches, we beg of you: **Lord, have mercy on us.**

For our country and for all countries, and all the faithful who live there, we beg of you: **Lord, have mercy on us.**

For the good health of our spiritual fathers... and for all our priests and deacons and all those who serve with them, we beg of you: **Lord, have mercy on us.**

Merciful God, who in his mercy provides for all, we beg of you: **Lord, have mercy on us.**

He who is glorified in heaven and adored on earth, we beg of you: **Lord, have mercy on us.**

Save us all, Christ our Lord, in your grace, give us your peace and harmony and have mercy on us: **Lord, have mercy on us.**

Server: Let us pray, peace be with us, and let us bend our knee.
(kneel on one knee)

Server: Arise in the power of God
(stand)

People: **Glory to the power of God.**



does it for our goodness. Give him glory even though he is slow to respond, for he desires us much more than we ask. Give him glory even in suffering, for he wants to make us suffer. Give him glory even though he punishes us, for he is saddened when we sin against him. Give him glory because how much he desires to give us happiness. Give glory to him who is not like us, but in all things is like his Father. Blessed is he who is not like us, but merciful like his Father. Give glory to him who heard us and did not ignore our Ba'utha.

From the angels to the earthly: GLORY TO HIM FOREVER AND EVER!

MEDITATION OF THE BLESSINGS

(stand)

ANTIPHON

Priest then People: **We beg of you, O Lord, Lord of All.
We beg of you, O Lord: Have mercy.**
(kneel)

Priest:

He placed his harmony on earth, Lord of all;
And peace until the **end** of earth, Peace of all.
Remove conflicts **and** trouble - from the world,
That we may live in **peace** and calm, O Kind One.
May you bless the **holy** Church- in your grace,
Which was bought **by** your blood, Lord of all.
Guard her sons **by** your cross, Guard of all,
From the tricks **of** Satan, - and have mercy:

People: **Repeat Antiphon** (stand)

Long live the **Patriarch**, Lord of all;
that from him we **learn** your will, O Kind One.
Make our shepherd **triumphant**, in your grace;
That he may **forgive** your flock, O Shepherd.
Bless our **Pious** Father, *Patriarch*;
deliver him from **all** trouble, by your grace.
Give to him **length** of life, Lord of all;
Glorify the **pious** priesthood, which he gained;
That he may work **for** your name, in your joy,
And wear a cloak of **righteousness**, in his deeds.
Bless the priests **and** deacons, Adorable;
That we learn from them **purity**, O Kind One.
Bless those who **offer** their pray'rs, Most Holy;
Through their prayers do **you** forgive, and have mercy:

People: **Repeat Antiphon** (kneel)

Bless the kings and **our** leaders, Lord of all,
Secure them in their **leadership**, O Father,
Let there be peace **among** them, Peace of all,

That they give you from **their** riches, O Rich One,
Bless all judges **in** your grace, Judge of all,
That by your will they **make** judgment, and have mercy:

People: Repeat Antiphon (stand)

Bless the young **and** the old, Guard of all,
That from them we learn **modesty**, O Kind One,
Bless, my Lord, **all** virgins, Most Blessed,
Who guard their **bodies** for you, Most Holy,
Heal those who have **fallen** ill, Divine Doctor,
Comfort those who are **in** distress, Redeemer,
Keep those who are **still** healthy, Guardian,
By their alms they **give** you thanks, and have mercy:

People: Repeat Antiphon (kneel)

Bless our resolutions **for** the year, in your grace,
Prepare the fruits **of** our fields, in your care,
Find the people **who** are lost, Great Seer,
Forgive, Lord, **the** sinners, Forgiver of all,
Lift your anger, which **we** appease, from our lives,
Bless our church **and** our homes, in your grace,
Which you guard for **your** servants, and have mercy:

People: Repeat Antiphon (stand)

Receive our Prayer, O Lord, Caretaker,
May our Ba'utha **reach** your ears, O Hearer,
May our conversion **appease** your love, O our Love,
As a good **sacrifice** of peace, at all times.
Accept the prayers of **your** servants, in your grace,
And the Ba'utha **of** our praise, O Hearer.
From your rich treasures **give** to us, O Kind One,
The things we ask **for** our needs, and have mercy:

People: Repeat Antiphon (kneel)

Bless our assembly in **your** kindness, Most Blessed,
Flood on us your **assistance**, O our Help,
Let us do your will **at** all times, Lord of all,
All the days **of** our lives, Life of all,
Bless the mouths that **sing** to you, Most Blessed.
Bless the mouths **of** your flock, Lord of all,
which glorify your **name** amen, and have mercy:

People: Repeat Antiphon (stand)



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BLESSINGS



*Priest: By your prayers, may the Lord grant-in every corner,
Priest: tranquility, peace and harmony, by your prayers.*

*By your prayers, may the leaders of all nations
live in your love and serenity, by your prayers.*

*By your prayers, may the Church saved by the living Blood,
raise her head high above all dread, by your prayers.*

*By your prayers, may the Patriarch, the high shepherd,
tend well his flock with all diligence, by your prayers.*

*By your prayers, may the Lord guard with a mighty staff,
Mar Ibrahim, splendid father, by your prayers.*

*By your prayers, may the shepherds-in every land
May they be filled with all charisms, by your prayers.*

*By your prayers, may the priests who serve the Mysteries
have your blessing come upon them, by your prayers.*

*By your prayers, may the deacons-who serve the altar
have every aid granted to them, by your prayers.*

*By your prayers, may the monks learn from our Lord,
by their study of the Scriptures, by your prayers.*

*By your prayers, may this parish be protected
from the ill will of the Evil One, by your prayers.*

*By your prayers, may the Lord help all our leaders:
All our pastors and our clergy, by your prayers.*

*By your prayers, may the Lord help all the faithful,
may they nurture – righteous children, by your prayers.*

*By your prayers, may the Lord, Jesus, bless all husbands,
and all their wives beyond measure, by your prayers.*

*By your prayers, care for orphans and the widows:
Fill the hungry and enrich them, by your prayers.*

*By your prayers, may the Lord take-away all suffering,
heal all the sick, console the needy, by your prayers.*

People: Yes, Lord (stand)

People: Amen (stand)

Yes, Lord (kneel)

Amen (stand)

Yes, Lord (kneel)

Amen (stand)

Yes, Lord (kneel)

Amen (stand)

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Amen (stand)

Yes, Lord (kneel)

Amen (stand)



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*By your prayers, may the Lord give life instructions
to the young ones for salvation, by your prayers.*

Yes, Lord (kneel)
Amen (stand)

*By your prayers, may the Lord save all the tempted,
and free them all from the yoke of sin, by your prayers.*

Yes, Lord (kneel)
Amen (stand)

*By your prayers, for all captives who need rescue,
Grant them freedom from imprisonment, by your prayers.*

Yes, Lord (kneel)
Amen (stand)

*By your prayers, those who struggle in their agony:
be healed by God and find solace, by your prayers.*

Yes, Lord (kneel)
Amen (stand)

*By your prayers, those who travel by road and sea
May they be led to the path of peace, by your prayers.*

Yes, Lord (kneel)
Amen (stand)

*By your prayers, may the Lord's hand rest upon you,
Through the mercy of Christ Jesus, by your prayers.*

Yes, Lord (kneel)
Amen (stand)

*By your prayers, praise the Lord who guards his servants,
and thank the Might who gives us strength, by your prayers.*

Yes, Lord (kneel)
Amen (stand)

*By your prayers, may the one who says these blessings,
and its author be grace-worthy, by your prayers.*

Yes, Lord (kneel)
Amen (stand)

*By your prayers, may the Lord make his blessings overflow;
and on our souls, cast his mercy, by your prayers.*

Yes, Lord (kneel)
Amen (stand)

*By your prayers, let us convert and sing praises,
to the Father, Son and Spirit, ever, amen.*

Yes, Lord (kneel)

People:
Maran ith ra hem 'al layn
Maran qa bel ba'uth an
Maran ith ra' el 'aw dayk



THE ORDER OF THE BA'UTHA IS ENDED

GLORY TO GOD FOREVER

AMEN