



# Christian Conference of Asia

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His Beatitude Mar Awgin Kuriakose Metropolitan  
Chaldean Syrian Church of the East in India  
Thrissur, Kerala, India

Your Beatitude,

It is with deep sorrow that we learned of the passing of His Beatitude Metropolitan Dr Mar Aprem, the former Primate of the Chaldean Syrian Church of the East in India.

The late lamented Metropolitan Dr. Mar Aprem was an eminent ecclesiastical leader, a distinguished scholar, and a highly respected ecumenist whose life and ministry have left an indelible mark on the history of the Church in India and the wider ecumenical movement in Asia and beyond. Metropolitan Dr. Mar Aprem's decades-long commitment to the spiritual leadership of the Chaldean Syrian Church, his scholarly contributions, and his dedication to fostering inter-church and interfaith relations are deeply appreciated and widely recognised.

His Beatitude's extensive involvement in ecumenical organisations, including the participation in World Council of Churches Assemblies, and participation in the Christian Conference of Asia conferences, as well as his active involvement in the National Council of Churches in India for decades, exemplified his unwavering commitment to the unity of the Church and to promoting mutual understanding and cooperation among Christian traditions. His contributions to theological dialogue, church history, and ecumenical engagement have left a legacy.

We also fondly recall his close engagement with the Christian Conference of Asia over the years. His ecumenical vision and passion were instrumental in fostering stronger bonds between ancient Eastern traditions and the wider Christian family in Asia. I have had numerous opportunities to associate with Metropolitan Dr. Mar Aprem and I recall the privilege I had for working together with him in the NCCI Executive Committee for five years.

On behalf of the member churches and member councils of the Christian Conference of Asia, I offer deepest condolences to the faithful of the Chaldean Syrian Church and assure you of our prayers as you journey through this time of bereavement and remembrance.

May the memory of His Beatitude be eternal, and may his legacy continue to inspire and guide the faithful in years to come.

In God's Service,

Yours along the journey,

Dr Mathews George Chunakara  
General Secretary, CCA