



## **The Catholicos of the Malankara Church issued a statement in support of Metropolitan Jonathan of Tulchin and Bratslav**



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*On the 31st of August 2023, the Primate of the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church, His Holiness Moran Mar Baselios Marthoma Mathews III, issued a statement in support of His Eminence Metropolitan Jonathan of Tulchin and Bratslav.*

*The full text of the statement is reproduced below:*

It is with a heavy heart and deep concern that I address the recent verdict against Metropolitan Jonathan of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church. As a fellow alumnus of the Leningrad Theological Academy, I am acutely aware of the spiritual commitment, dedication, and integrity that he brings to his pastoral duties. My heart goes out to Metropolitan Jonathan who has served his flock with unwareing devotion and has been an exemplar of faith, compassion and humility. In these trying times, I wish to express my unwareing support and solidarity with His Holiness Patriarch Kirill and the Russian Orthodox

Church. Our faith teaches us to stand united in times of adversity and to extend our hands in support to our brethren facing unjust challenges.

The recent verdict not only affects him personally but also sends ripples through the global Orthodox community. I call upon all humanitarian international organizations to be mindful of this situation and to raise their voices against this unjust verdict that seeks to undermine the Church and its faithful. In these turbulent times, let us remember the words of Christ that call us to stand up for righteousness and justice.

May we all draw strength from our shared faith, and may the prayers of the faithful around the world uplift Metropolitan Jonathan and his congregation. Let us unite in our efforts to uphold the principles of justice, compassion, and religious freedom that are fundamental to our beliefs. With prayers and hope for a just resolution,

**+Baselios Marthoma Mathews III**

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