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Tyre, June 10, 2026

**Urgent Open Appeal from the Archbishop of Tyre for the Melkite Greek Catholics
For the Protection of Civilians and the Safeguarding of the Old Quarter of Tyre, Southern Lebanon, including its Historic Christian Quarter**

At this grave and critical moment for the city of Tyre in Southern Lebanon, I raise this urgent open appeal to all those who are able to intervene, assist, advocate, or act through moral, humanitarian, diplomatic, ecclesial, political, or international channels.

The security situation affecting our region has become increasingly fragile, and the residents of the Old Quarter of Tyre, which includes the historic Christian quarter of the city, are living under growing fear for their lives, their homes, their churches, their heritage, and their future.

Tyre is a city blessed by the presence of Our Lord Jesus Christ and enriched by an apostolic Christian heritage dating back to the earliest centuries of the Church. Its Old Quarter is not merely a historic area; it is a living place of faith, memory, family life, coexistence, and continuous Christian witness. It is home to civilians, elderly people, children, and families who have remained attached to their ancestral land despite immense suffering, uncertainty, and danger.

For this reason, I urgently appeal to all ecclesial, humanitarian, diplomatic, political, and international authorities, as well as to all people of goodwill, to do everything possible to prevent any military action, attack, or destruction affecting the Old Quarter of Tyre and its civilian population.

Any assault on this historic quarter would place innocent lives at immediate risk and could lead to widespread destruction, further displacement, and an irreparable wound to the historic Christian presence and to the human fabric of Southern Lebanon.

At this critical hour, we ask for a clear and urgent moral voice, immediate diplomatic concern, humanitarian attention, and every possible initiative capable of helping to protect civilians, preserve the Old Quarter of Tyre, and prevent a tragedy before it occurs.



We seek no special privilege and no political favor. We appeal only for the protection of innocent civilians, the defense of human dignity, and the safeguarding of a historic quarter where Christians and others have lived for generations, and where the Christian witness has remained alive since apostolic times.

The people of Tyre ask to live in safety, dignity, and peace on their ancestral land. They look with hope to all those who can help ensure that civilians are protected, homes are spared, churches are preserved, and the historic identity of the city is not lost to violence and destruction.

I therefore call upon every responsible authority, institution, and person of goodwill to act urgently, through all appropriate channels, to support the protection of the Old Quarter of Tyre, the safety of its inhabitants, and the preservation of its historic Christian presence.

May God preserve Lebanon, protect the city of Tyre, and grant peace and security to all its inhabitants.

**Archbishop of Tyre for the Melkite Greek Catholics
+ Metropolitan Georges Iskandar B.S**

