

# MAALOULA CHURCHES BURNED AND VANDALIZED

The following photos were taken mostly by “opposition” military groups who assaulted Maaloula Village on the 4<sup>th</sup> of December 2013 and are until date April 2014 controlling it. All signs of Christian Faith were disgraced, looted, broken and burned. Despite all that, Christians of Maaloula vowed to restore it to its original state as soon as they get the chance.

For That , they need YOUr Solidarity and HELP

# St Takla Monastery Church Dome and Jesus Statue Maaloula - Syria



**Before the Jihadists  
Assault**



**After The Jihadists  
Assault**



# St Takla Monastery Jesus' White statue in Maaloula - Syria



Before



After

# St Serjius and Bakhus Convent Maaloula - Syria



The 2000 + years convent with its  
Reining Crosses. Symbols of faith and  
Peace on Earth



Then, the Crosses were broken  
and convent is ruined when  
Occupied by Al Nusra and co.



# The Byzantine Church of St Elias.

Maaloula - Syria



Full of mosaic artifacts  
and Christian Symbols



It was broken and burned not  
once , but twice. Thanks to Al  
Nusra and Co.

# The new Cathedral of St Georges Maaloula - Syria



**With Crosses on top !!  
during "Regime" days**



**No Crosses on top !!  
Courtesy of Al Nusra**



# Another angle of St Takla Church

showing the Cross broken off the Dome and the Bronze statue of Jesus dismantled and moved to an unknown source.



# Mar Sarkis = St Serjius



before



after



# Statue of St Marie



before



After

# St Barbara Church Maaloula - Syria



Before



After



# St Lawadius = Mar Lawandios church. Aged more than 1000 years Maaloula - Syria



before



After

# The lovely (red bricks) dome of St Thomas Church was put on Fire. Maaloula - Syria



Before



After



# St Takla Monastery was looted and vandalized by Al Nusra and co Maaloula - Syria



Inner court of the monastery  
during peaceful days

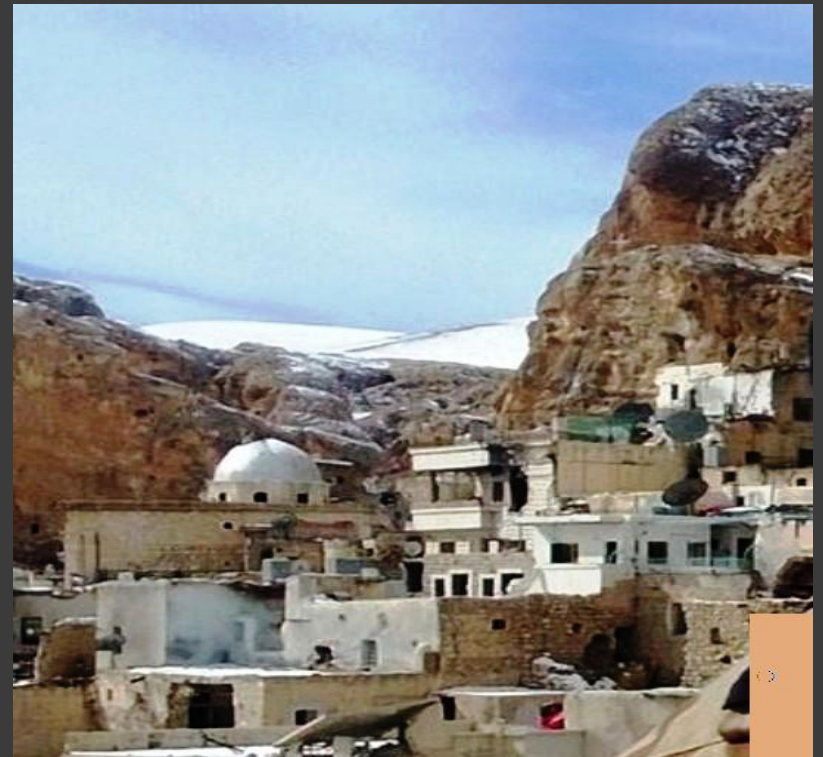


After Al Nusra took  
control

# Another Angle of St Lawandius Church showing the destruction of the crosses Maaloula - Syria



Before



After



# St Techla Holy Shrine Maaloula -Syria



The place witnesses thousands of visitors a year , seeking spiritual and physical healing...

Does shooting Mary and baby Jesus in the head help in bringing freedom and justice ?!!

# St Serjius

## Maaloula - Syria



**With the cross- 2010 - under  
Secular and Pagan regime**



**Without the Cross-2014  
Under Islamic freedom**



# St Takla church's altar Maaloula - Syria



During peace days under  
the “Regime” Rule



Looted and sabotaged  
after Al Nusra reforms

# Western Mountain top, with crosses dominating Maaloula



**As people who loved  
Maaloula still remember it**



**As Al Nusra and company  
want it to be !!**



# St Thomas Church Maaloula - Syria



**Being the subject of artistic  
inspiration in the near past**



**Becoming the Subject of  
Islamic Hatred and intolerance  
nowadays**

# Altar of St Takla Maaloula - Sria



**Place of peace and  
forgiveness**



**Witnesses to Al Nusra  
reforms**



# Altar of St Serjus church in Maaloula. Displaying some of the oldest paintings in Christian History.



The Human Culture of  
Maaloula



The cultural cleansing of  
Al Nusra

# St Takla – MAALOULA - Syria



**A place of Divine peace**

**Taken by the Devils'  
Brothers**



# Maaloula - Syria, the grace of some and disgrace of others



**Vibrant and Full of life**



**Sad and full of Al Nusra**

# St Serjius Altar in Maaloula - Syria



Once upon a time in  
Maaloula Syria



does shooting Mary and Jesus  
in the face makes you a  
winner?



# MAALOULA - Syria



It is only a matter of time before the righteous sons and daughters of Maaloula return to their Motherland.

The return will not be easy nor the reconstruction on both physical and spiritual sides. Hard days and nights awaits us and our belief will carry us through the rough times. This belief has carried us through 2000 years of persecution and threats and will carry us through this battle also.

The battle of Maaloula is in our minds and only with pure determination, we will be able to conquer fear and hatred.

Nevertheless, cheer WILL is not enough to overcome the tragedy in a short period of time. But with the help of enlightened people, who wish to rewrite history, it will be possible in record time.