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PRESS RELEASE

REGARDING RECENT EVENTS HAPPENED IN NAGAA HAMMADI

Around midnight the 6th of January, in front of the Coptic-orthodox church in the town of Nagaa Hammadi, 400 km from Cairo, after the Holy Mass of Christmas, Islamic extremists have fired with guns against our brothers while they were coming out of the church. Eight youngsters have died and ten were hurt, some of them in extremely bad conditions. Our Church that is suffering huge vexations, is shaped by the hardship and pain that, constantly, day by day, Christian communities experience. Very few know how much blood and pain meet the followers in Christ, for the only reason that they have decided to follow the word of God. Very few talk about outrages, fanaticism and violence among them who decide to be Christians, excluding any short-cuttings. The martyrdom is the path that our brothers are following, in

several parts of our beloved Egypt. The situation is serious and it deserves attention from everybody. We can't say anymore that what happen is far from Italy. The harsh, cruel and bloody pictures that we receive through internet and TVs; the fear to be Christians that all families now have; the horror of being persecuted; pictures of death taken in the land of Egypt, when one day was “the Cradle Of Humanity”, now is a graveyard for dead Christians; the panic that many of my brothers fear, for the fact that they won't have regular jobs, just because they love Christ, living in absolute poverty as consequence. My brothers are giving out yells of suffering that the Italian state must listen to. Only if we keep devoting to re-declare that the law of Love is the foundation of solidarity, and no one who loves to describe himself as a believer in Christ can back out of offering his respect to the Coptic Christians in Egypt. Herod's hand must be stopped! The blood of victims must no more wet the land of Egypt!