



OPERA PER LE CHIESE EVANGELICHE METODISTE IN ITALIA

VIA FIRENZE 38 - 00184 ROMA - TEL 06 4743695 – FAX 06 47885308 - E-mail: metodismo@chiesavaldese.org

LA PRESIDENTE

Pastora Mirella Manocchio

Prot. n. 10271/rb/2017

Rome, the 18th of December 2017

The Most Revd. Samuel Robert Azariah
Church of Pakistan

Via e-mail

*“For we were so utterly, unbearably crushed that we despaired of life itself. Indeed, we felt that we had received the sentence of death so that we would rely not open ourselves but on God who raised the dead.”
(II Corinthians I, 8b-9)*

Dear Revd. Azariah,
Dear brothers in Christ,

I am writing you, personally, and on behalf of all the members of OPCEMI Executive Committee and all the brothers and sisters of the Methodist Churches in Italy to express our deepest sympathy and condolences for the merciless suicide bombing that hit the sister Methodist Church in Quetta, Pakistan, during the Sunday worship.

We are shocked and want to send our mourning, silence, prayers and closeness in our common faith to all the Pakistan brothers and sisters.

We strongly condemn this base attempt, even more so when a Church is striking and hit during the Sunday worship, the highest moment of its faith expression: this is an attack against every believer, against all religions. Every man and woman believer, all over the world, is now struck, wounded and killed together with the victims in Quetta.

The hand, the heart and the faith that arms and strikes in the name of a Religion is the real evil of our world. The faith in God nothing shares with hatred and death. Believers of all faiths do not share anything with those who praise violence and death and use weapons against their brothers and sisters. Today against the men and the women in Quetta as well as in the past against other believers, other churches, temples, mosques and synagogues.

As believers, as Italian Methodist sisters and brothers, in these days of waiting the birth of our Saviour, as a poor child among the humbly oh Bethlehem, we strongly pray our Lord for the gift of peace. Peace, love and mercy to all the humanity in the certainty that the death is not the end.

Next Sunday during the worship we ask to all our churches to pray for peace against all violence performed in the name of God and to remember those

who were killed or injured and their families, your Country, all the citizen of Quetta, your rulers and all the members of your Church.

Our hope is solid upon our mercy Lord *“who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God.” (II Corinthian 1,4)*

With the warmest greetings

Rev. Mrs Mirella Manocchio
President of the Methodist Church of Italy

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Mirella Manocchio". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'M'.