

To the esteemed members of the Judging Committee of  
The Zayed Award for Human Fraternity

Gentlemen,

Mrs Magda Gobran is an Egyptian woman known as "Mama Maggie" also called "The Mother Teresa of Cairo" for the work she had been doing with the neediest children in the slum areas.

More than 30 years ago she followed the challenging call to leave all the comforts she had, in order to help those who were called "the least", the poorest of the poor children, giving them real hope for a better future. She made it her life's mission to love young children and mothers who felt worthless till they regained their self-esteem.

Her strong belief that every human being was created for a purpose was transferred to her team she had trained and who shared her mission. Following her example in saving lives, together they reached more suffering areas lacking even shelter food and water.

The work of Mama Maggie and those who followed her example has changed the lives of hundreds of thousands of children, who not only have been fed and sheltered, but have received education and real care so that they have grown to respect themselves and the others. Many of them, after completing their education decided to join Mama Maggie's team to help other children in areas of extreme poverty as they were helped.

Mama Maggie always says: "We don't choose where to be born, but we choose to be sinners or saints".

Her work has spread human brotherhood and hope for a better world.

Mama Maggie has gained national and international recognition and appreciation. She is the first Egyptian woman nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize, the first to receive the International Women Of Courage award (IWOC) by the US Department of State (delivered in March 2019 by First Lady Melania Trump and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo) as well as the City of Los Angeles Award and the Arab Hope Makers Award. In 2020 the BBC included her in the "100 Inspirational and Influential Women of the year". In May 2019 she Received the William Wilberforce Award.

I met Mama Maggie last year and I was impressed by her strength and her humility.

For all these reasons I recommend Mrs Magda Gobran for the Zayed Award for Human Fraternity.

Sincerely yours

Sen. Lucio Malan



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