

Sunday, April 24, 2016

Discussion on Unifying The Dates of the Feasts (7)

- Can you now tell me exactly what is the right information that needs to be known by the general public on this subject?

+ Sure, There are four facts about that:

1. Unification of the Christmas date celebration is possible, and the best way to achieve it is to adjust the Coptic calendar, so that Christmas on 29th of Kiahk will go back automatically to correspond with December 25 as it was before 1582 AD.

2. Adjusting the Coptic calendar has nothing to do with the Orthodox faith, and will not change any of the church Rites or books.

3. It's better for the Coptic Orthodox Church and all of its Dioceses all over the world to be committed to celebrate the feasts and fasts at standardized dates, because changing the date of the celebration between the Churches in Egypt and outside of Egypt will be the beginning of the division of the church.

4. Coptic calendar is an Old great Calendar, but it needs to be adjusted a little bit. This is proved scientifically. Calendar adjustment is possible if we have the will, it only needs an organized mechanism for its implementation.

- In your opinion: how long will it take for the calendar adjustment process?

+ If we work seriously, I think it can take less than five years from the beginning of the debate in the Holy Synod till decision-making and implementation. But we should start now!

- I have another question: I heard that the Coptic calendar is most accurate calendar because it is a stellar calendar, is the Coptic Calendar a stellar or solar calendar? What is the difference?

+ That's an important question, I will try to explain the answer to simplify the facts without losing the meaning behind it as possible, but first I would like to draw your attention to the fact that there are some statements that some people keep repeating as parrots and think these are facts although they are not, one of these statement is "The Coptic calendar is the most accurate among calendars" and this argument is scientifically not correct and, unfortunately, some people repeat it without thinking or understanding or study them. Generally it's useful for a person to review his/her information and correct them first hand, also develop them with sincere knowledge as far as is available to him/her. Now let's talk if the calendar is solar or lunar or stellar.

1- Generally speaking, a calendar is the calculation of days, months and years. There is the lunar calendar, interstellar and solar calendar.

* **Lunar calendar** is a calculation method that is linked to the rotation of the moon around the earth and how it looks daily during its rotation.

* **Stellar Calendar** is a method of calculating the year by seeing very distant star to the east of Earth. It appears in a certain period of the year, looks very shiny and disappears with sunrise.

* The **Solar calendar** is a method of calculating the year associated with the rotation of Earth in a fixed orbit around the sun.



(To be continued)

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