

The Christian Minority in Syria and the Impact of War on Their **Communities**

Since the coup d'Etat of Hafez al-Assad (1970) Christians (at least their clerical leaders) generally support the Regime, which claims to be secular, but which actually shows a combination of terror and of know-how for dealing with different "minorities". Christians generally share the official vision of the events since 2011, considering that the Syrian legitimate State of Bashar Al-Assad fights against a plot of "Islamic terrorists", driven by foreign powers. Nevertheless, a large part of Christians who remained in Syria since 2011 and a high number of churches have been killed or destroyed. This lecture addresses the historical development of Christian minorities in Syria to reconsider the impact of Syria's conflict on religious minorities.

Lecturer:

Prof. Bernard André Heyberger

Directeur d'études, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales

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同志社大学グローバル・スタディーズ研究科

Tel.075-251-3930

E-mail: ji-gs@mail.doshisha.ac.jp

