

Manny's Manifesto

*In which the facts were scarce,
and the mendacities many.*



A Response by Hagiographos

Elias Damianakis

Archon Maestor of the Great Church of Christ

“I sound my barbaric yawp *over the rooftops* of the world.”

- Walt Whitman

I will only address a handful of the many errors, distortions, and lies in this highly fictionalized “Manifesto” authored by Emmanuel Hatzidakis. Every paragraph is misleading, every accusation false, and every conclusion schismatic. This manifesto instigates confusion among the faithful.

In the very first sentence, he says “people are not informed by the shepherds” in regards to the Holy and Great Council. This is categorically false. At every level of our church family we have direct communications and in-depth information. From our All Holy Patriarch, from our eminent Archbishop, our Metropolitans, from members who attended the Holy and Great Council, from Archons, and prominent theologians. Information via presentations at the national clergy-laity, local metropolis councils, and regional Archons have presented retreats on the subject. Books have been published, websites produced, online videos uploaded, encyclicals and sermons offered. This has been going on for well over a year and will continue into the foreseen future so we may all be “informed” and learn from the Council’s teaching.



Photos:

(Left) International
Press Conference
Broadcast Live

(Right) Synaxis of
Primates March 2014

He continues his tirade against the Holy and Great Council (June 2016 on the Island of Crete) which was presided over by His All Holiness and organized by all 14 autocephalous Churches, for several years. Yet he refers to it as the “so-called pseudo-Synod of Crete” ...



Photos:

(Left) Hierarchal
Representatives
from America

(Right) Hierarch
Delegations in Crete



His assertion “four Autocephalous Orthodox Churches did not participate in this pseudo-Synod of Crete, while two of these, the Churches of Bulgaria and Georgia, condemned its decisions”, somehow taints the authenticity of the council. This is a distortion.



Here are some facts:

- All 14 autocephalous churches worked on the documents, the council date, its location, and the agenda of the Holy and Great Council.
- In fact, the Antioch Patriarchate ‘boycotted’ the council due to an unresolved dispute with the patriarch of Jerusalem
- Bulgaria a very poor church could not justify the expenditure, initially, yet was later pressured not to attend even after Constantinople offered to underwrite the expenses
- Moscow pulled out two days prior to the convocation due to very petty reasons; literally, how the dais was organized. Even after the dais was fixed, Moscow changed her reason, and said arrangements could not be made in time... the day before. (The idiosyncrasies of Moscow’s stance are the makings of a Dan Brown novel and fodder for another response. In the end, the dignity of the Moscow Patriarch was diminished in my opinion)
- The Church of Georgia, did have an issue with one document and chose to refrain from the council, as opposed to being in attendance and voice their concerns and correct what they saw as error. In fact, some bishops made suggestions to documents that document and the alterations were made.
- All texts are available online: www.holycouncil.org



Photo:

(Left) 14 Autocephalous Church Liturgy at Synaxis in 2014 at the Ecumenical Patriarchate in Constantinople.

During this Synaxis Agreements were sign defining: location, time, agenda, and other vital aspects of Council.

Present are the four (4) Patriarchates: Antioch, Moscow, Georgia, and Bulgaria who later reneged on agreement.

He says unequivocally “The worst is that our Patriarch and all the bishops that follow him want to unite with those other “Churches,” without first being united in the same faith.” This is a pure unadulterated lie. No Patriarch or bishop has ever suggested union until there is a return to Ortho-Doxa. A sober and precise study of the Orthodox position is available at www.assemblyofbishops.org (Click Ministries/Inter-Christian Tab)

In an audacious statement “According to our Patriarch, the differences that exist between us, which the Holy Synods of the Church have condemned, do not prevent us anymore from uniting.” As I indicated earlier this is a complete false accusation. A debased lie which impugns the dignity of the ongoing Orthodox-Catholic dialogue. Accurate information on this subject is available www.patriarchate.org

More of his “manifesto” nonsense;

- They [American Bishops] fiercely hunt down priests who dare to baptize converts.
- They allow marriages with non-Orthodox, without requiring them to become Orthodox.

Its seems elementary that these claims can be explained by the youngest of Sunday School children. In a final spasm of degeneration Fr Emmanuel claims “The faith of our Fathers is not followed by our Patriarch and by all the bishops in America”. I outright condemn this statement and ask you do t the same.

He concludes his ‘manifesto’ with schismatic endorsements and dangerous conclusions and advice which should be plainly rejected and rebuffed:

- Courageously resist our ecumenist Bishops
- Priests who want to remain Orthodox need to stop commemorating them during the Divine Liturgy (Schism)
- Start following an Orthodox Bishop (not a Greek Archdiocese Bishop)

The sheer audacity of Fr Emmanuel Hatzidakis’s self-aggrandizement to have his son distribute this vitriol and manifesto of lies to Orthodox faithful during the Holy Procession of Icons on the Sunday of Orthodoxy this past weekend (March 5, 2017) must be admonished. To cause division and scandal among the faithful is one thing, difficult to comprehend, but to outright lie and distort Truth while doing so deserves a strong rebuke.

Manny’s manifesto is a tawdry tale of fiction and deception. Avoid it and its ilk.

Photo:

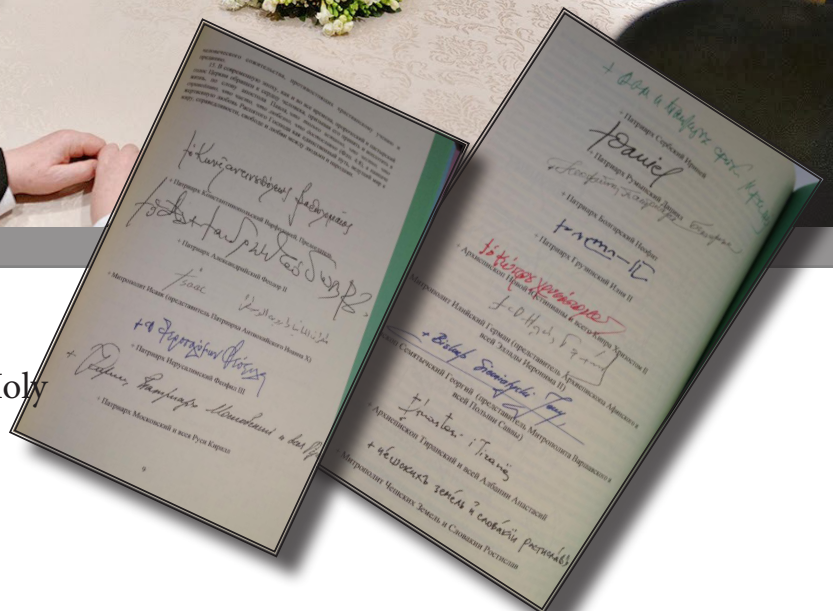
(Right) All fourteen Autocephalous Church Synaxis in 2014 at the Ecumenical Patriarchate in Constantinople.

Present are the four (4) Patriarchates: Antioch, Moscow, Georgia, and Bulgaria who later reneged on agreement.



Communication
Collaboration
Consensus

All 14 Autocephalous Orthodox Churches Agree and sign documents pertain to the Holy and Great Council



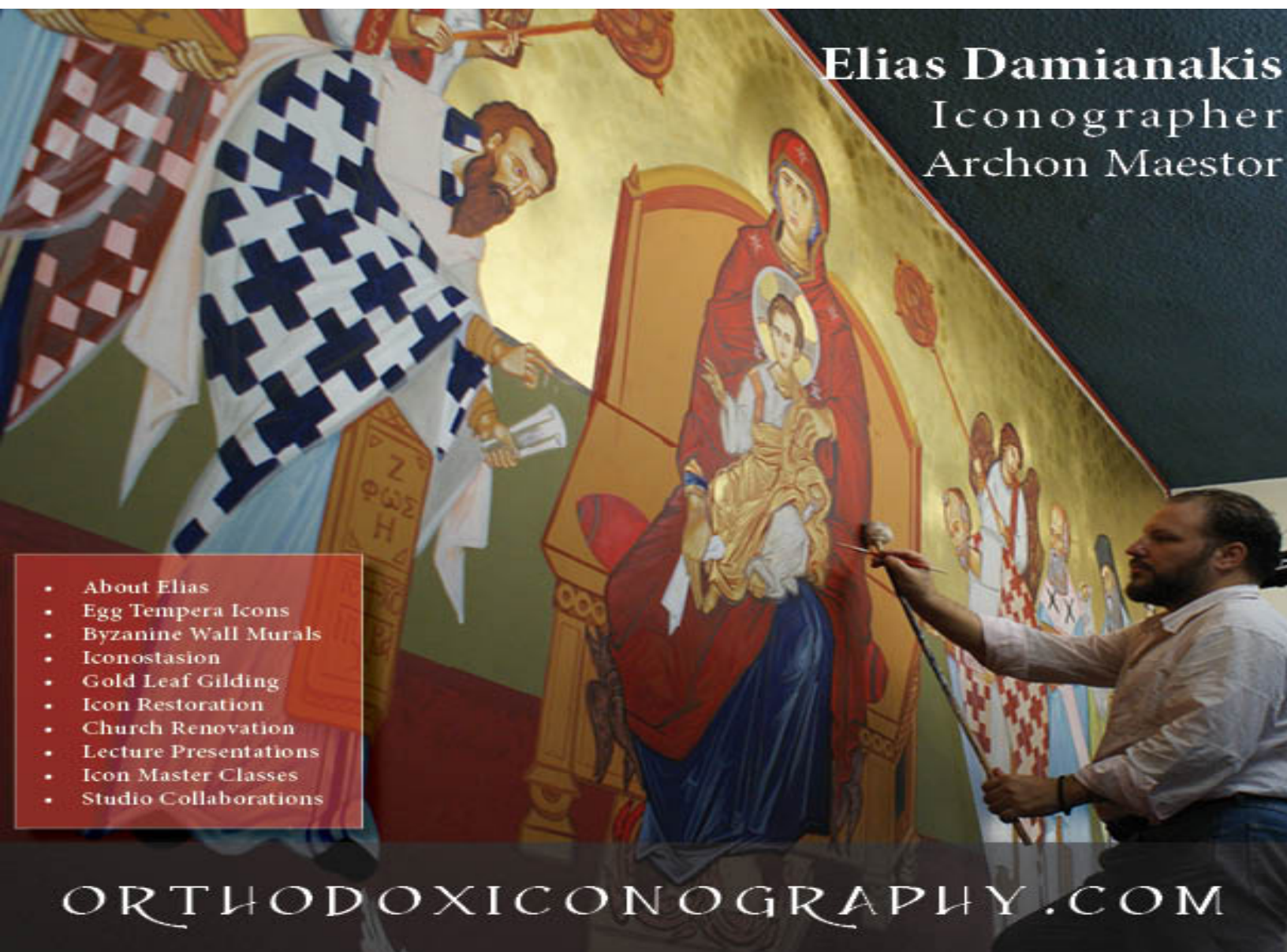
About Archon Elias

By the Grace of God Elias has ministered in the study of Holy Iconography since 1980, in 1991 Elias opened his own studio and has continued his ministry for the Glory of God. In his biography you can read about Elias' life and on his portfolio page you can see where he has rendered some of his hand painted iconography. There is a complete list of featured articles, awards and testimonials which you can visit, as well as a list of notable achievements and many of his writings.

Please contact Elias for more information or suggestions for his websites: OrthodoxIconography.com & ArchonElias.com

EMAIL: archonelias@gmail.com

Thank you and God Bless.



Elias Damianakis
Iconographer
Archon Maestor

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