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Fr Nawras Sammour SJ

Fr Nawras Sammour is the **Director of Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) for the Middle East and North Africa**. He will be visiting Canada and speaking as a guest of Canadian Jesuits International in cities across the country from **November 15 to 29, 2018**.

Fr Nawras was born in Aleppo, Syria, where he later attended Aleppo University and qualified as a dentist. In 1994, he joined the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits) and subsequently studied philosophy and theology in Paris, sociology in Beirut, and ethical theology at the University of St Paul in Ottawa.



In 2010, Fr Nawras began working with JRS in the Middle East and was appointed National Director of JRS in Syria. Today, as Regional Director for the JRS Middle East and North Africa, he spends much of his time on JRS refugee programs in Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Syria and Iraq.

The conflict in Syria, which began in March 2011, is now in its eighth year. Altogether more than 12 million people have been displaced, including about 5 million to surrounding countries. Over 470,000 Syrians have died as a result of the conflict. Almost 13 million Syrians lack adequate healthcare and 7 million cannot meet their food requirements.

Canadian Jesuits International (CJI) is a partner of JRS and supports projects assisting displaced Syrians both inside Syria and in surrounding countries. CJI has invited Fr Nawras to visit Canada and update us about the situation in Syria and the needs of displaced Syrians. He will be speaking in cities across the country as part of CJI's Tell Ten campaign called **Bridging Borders**.

Fr. Sammour can speak on the current situation of refugees in the Middle East, and the humanitarian impacts of the Syrian conflict and the multiple crises affecting the region.

For more information or to arrange an interview contact:

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