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SYRIAC

21 February İnternational Mother Language Day

We learnt the written form of Syriac, known as the mother of the world's all languages, in secret and inofficially at the monastries and the churches.

Yuhanna AKTAŞ

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We learnt the written form of Syriac, known as the mother of the world's all languages, in secret and inofficially at the monastries and the churches. We learnt the speaking language of the Syriac people (turoyoyn) at home from our parents. This ancient language is not among the languages that are at risk of disappearing, yet it is forbidden to be taught. Saint Mor Afrem says that the language is the most essential tool for the maintainance of the society: "One who does not speak(learn) his mother tongue, does not know whose son he is". Another Syriac writer, Abdulmesih Karabasi says, "Each oppressed nation that strives to protect its mother tongue is like the slave who holds the key for his cell and about to set himself free".