



# St. Mehrael

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**G**od promised that if anyone requests or speaks through this saint's name, he or she will be rewarded and blessed.

Her name was mentioned in all Coptic manuscripts as "Mohra'yl" which was abbreviated to "Mohra'y" or "Mohraty." Her name means "God's Power"

(Patriarchal Manuscripts # 950/70 Liturgy at Klout Bey & Manuscript # 18 Liturgy at St. Cosman & Demian Monastery).

St. Mehrael was the daughter of a priest, Fr. Yuanis. His wife, Ilaria, was barren. St. Ibsady Bishop of Menf, in the late 3rd Century prophesied that Fr. Yuanis and Ilaria would have two children who would both be martyrs for the Lord Jesus Christ. The prophesy was fulfilled in Temwah in Giza, close to Menf, where Mehrael was born. Her brother is St. Abahor El Saryaqousy whose feast is the 12<sup>th</sup> of Abib. Mehrael was granted many gifts such as healing the sick at the age of 12. She lived her life ascetically in her father's house.

St. Mary and St. Elizabeth appeared to Fr. Yuanis asking for Mehrael's martyrdom for Our Lord Jesus Christ in the 4th Century AD during the time of Emperor Dekladanos (between 284 & 305 AD). This twelve year old saint was filling her jug with water when she saw a boat filled with Christians who refused to deny the Lord Jesus Christ. This boat was on its way to torture these saints. Mehrael left her

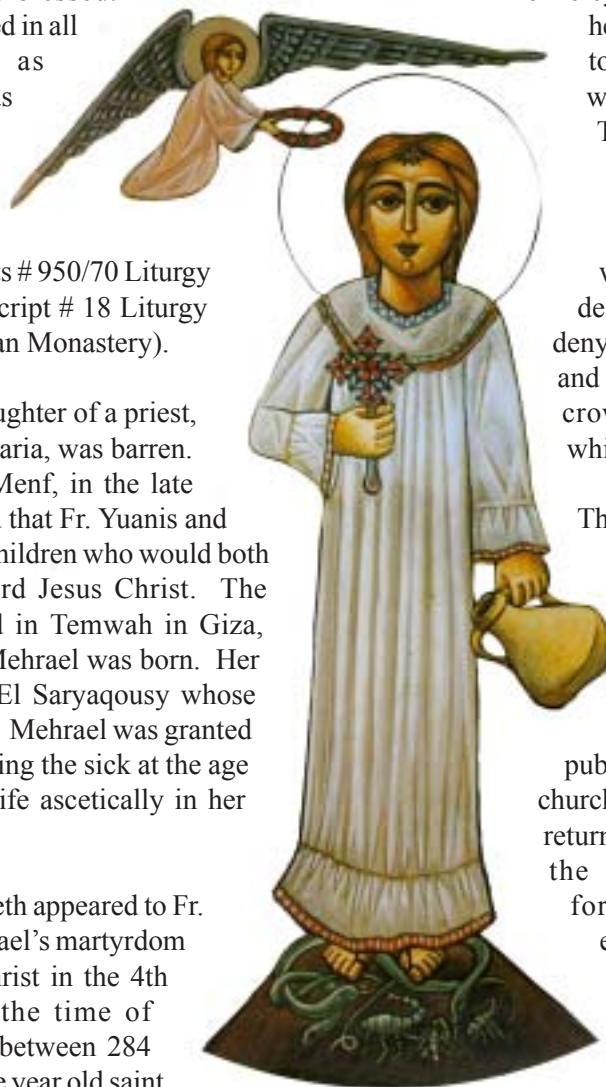
jug and joined the boat. On the boat, a pregnant lady was giving birth. The soldiers on the boat would have no mercy and continued to torture her despite

her medical situation. Mehrael prayed to the Lord asking Him to relieve the woman from such unbearable pain. The Lord answered her request.

When the boat arrived to Ensana, east of Mallawi in Minia, the King torturing the Christians fell in love with Mehrael. The King of Ensana desired her as a wife and begged her to deny the Lord Jesus Christ. She refused and he tortured her until she gained the crown of martyrdom on January 22 which is the 14<sup>th</sup> of Tubah.

The consecration of her first church is recognized on August 28, the 22 of Misra, by Bishop Philopus, who wrote her biography, as mentioned in the history of Abul Makarem in 1209 AD (History of Abul Makarem - Paper no. 67b - published in Oxford in 1894 AD). This church was built upon her body which was returned to her hometown. However, by the 13<sup>th</sup> century, St. Mehrael was forgotten as her churches became extinct. In the 20<sup>th</sup> century, her icon was found in the church of St. Cosman and Demian Monastery in Giza and she performed many miracles and appearances. Bishop Sawires Ben Al Moqafa' mentioned in *The History of Popes* that her body

was returned to Ancient Egypt, together with that of her brother's, St. Abahor Al Saryaqousy, to a church





on the bank of Lake Abi Qoudamah, which was converted by Minister Al Afdal to a mosque that still stands (*History of Popes* - GII - C2 - Page 227). Her relics are still undiscovered today.

In 1984, her biography was published from the above-mentioned manuscripts, and was re-published in 1995. Bishop Mina mentioned her in Boustan Al Qiddisat. She was mentioned in the Synaxarium Manuscript # 220/155 Liturgy at the Coptic Museum and in the Synaxarium of René Passier that was published by Bishop Samuel under the 14th of Tuba. In El Keraza magazine - Issue dated 1/30/1998, His Holiness Pope Shenouda III published the news of an extensive meeting that was held, concerning this Saint, mentioning that she is a martyr and that she had a

church in her name. His Holiness gave permission that anniversaries are to be held for her and nuns are to be ordained in her name in several convents.

Today, there is a church for her at St. Cosman & Demian Monastery at Manial Sheeha in Giza (Hawamdeya Road), which was consecrated by Bishop Domadius of Giza on 8/18/1996 AD. The Monastery is close to the town of her birthplace.

Through her prayers, may we live in peace and achieve the eternal life as she has. Amen. ✙

Sources:

<http://www.mohraeel.org>

## “Self-Sacrifice is the Key”

»»»—Written by a Mighty Arrow —>

*God tells us that wisdom found in Him is greater than the wisdom found in the world. Let's take a deeper look at how life unfolds:*

*In order for the Lord Jesus Christ to teach us humility He had to be poor.*

*In order for the Lord Jesus Christ to teach us giving He had to be selfless.*

*In order for the Lord Jesus Christ to teach us True Love He had to die for us.*

*In order for me to develop a relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ I must sacrifice my time.*

*In order for me to obey the Lord Jesus Christ I must sacrifice my will.*

*In order for me to be a true servant of the Lord Jesus Christ I must endure trials.*

*In order for me to find pleasure in my relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ, I must sacrifice the pleasures of this world. ✙*