



SAINT BISADI

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During the Coptic Month of Kiahk, (Coptic Synaxarium, Volume II) the great saint Bisadi is commemorated. He was a true example of **the cross one must carry** to evangelize the Word of God and the great rewards that are received as a result of such diligent and noble labor. He lived during the reign of the infamous Emperor Dioceltian. Despite the merciless Emperor's persecution of the Christians, St. Bisadi was zealous to evangelize and spread the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ to non-believers. As a result of his efforts many converted to the faith and the worship of idols slowly disappeared.

When Emperor Dicoletian heard of the work that St. Bisadi was performing, he sent a messenger to bring the saint to the emperor. St. Bisadi requested of the messenger that he be allowed to celebrate the Divine Liturgy with his congregation and partake of the Holy Mysteries. Anba Bisadi commanded the people to remain strong in the Orthodox faith; He bade them farewell and humbly submitted himself into the hands of the Lord.

He went with the messenger to Arianus, the governor of Ansenia. When the governor saw him, Anba Bisadi's face was illuminated and his countenance full of reverence. The governor had compassion on him and wished his life to be spared. He told the great saint, "You are a man of great dignity and you should have pity upon yourself and obey the command of the emperor". Anba Bisadi bravely responded by saying, "It is impossible for me to replace the Kingdom of Heaven with this temporal life." After a lengthy attempt at negotiation, the Governor then ordered that the brave saint first be tortured and then be placed into a bath of

boiling hot water. But the Lord had compassion on His servant and kept his body from being harmed or experiencing any pain. In seeing this, the frustrated governor ordered that the pure saint be beheaded. He thus received the crown of life and the Kingdom of Heaven.

May his prayers be with us all. Amen.

"Be strong and of good courage, do not fear nor be afraid of them; for the Lord your God, He is the One who goes with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you" (Deut. 31:6)



St. Bisada (also known as St. Psote). Coptic Monastery of St. Psote. Al Meinshah near Akhmim.