LETTER FROM THE GENERAL EDITOR: ONE YEAR ON-LINE

[1] This issue marks the first anniversary of *Hugoye* on-line (or as the Syriac Fathers would have said *'al surgodo!*). I would like to take this opportunity to share with *Hugoye's* readership some of our plans for the future.

Hugoye In Print

- I am pleased to announce that in addition to its availability on-line, *Hugoye* will be published in print as well. The publisher is DEO Publishing, based in The Netherlands. In my opening letter in the first issue, I touched upon the importance of archiving *Hugoye* in print. The printed edition will not only provide longevity for the Journal, but will also bring *Hugoye* to the bookshelves of our readers, especially in the Eastern hemisphere where access to the Internet is not yet ubiquitous.
- I would like to stress that *Hugoye's* commitment to free on-line publishing remains. The Journal will continue to appear on-line in its entirety. The printed edition will be available upon subscription. Our current plan is to publish previous issues in 1999. We hope that by the year 2000, the on-line and printed editions will be published simultaneously.

Email Discussion Group

[4] A new email discussion group, hugoye-list, with archives accessible on the web, was created to be a forum for scholarly discussions on Syriac studies, including discussions on papers published in *Hugoye*. To ensure academic quality, the list is semi-moderated and is open to Syriac Studies scholars in academia. Currently, there are about 70 subscribers to the list.

Coalition of Electronic Journals

In cooperation with five other electronic journals in the field of religion, *Hugoye* has become a founding member of the Association of Peer-Reviewed Electronic Journals in Religion. The Association has been established to promote the development of electronic journals, share ideas and solutions to technical problems, and set high standards for academic quality and longevity that all of the journals in the Association would uphold.

Mirror Site

With the help of Dr. Konrad Jenner and Dr. Lucas Van Rompay, Hugoye has established a new mirror site in Leiden, The Netherlands, courtesy of the Peshitta Institute of Leiden University. While European readers will get faster access from Leiden, readers in some Middle and Far Eastern countries (where the local networks link to the Internet backbone in North America) may find accessing the home site at the Catholic University of America, Washington D.C., faster than the mirror site in neighboring Europe!

Staff Members

I would like to welcome on board two new members to our editorial team. Dr. Tawny Holm has assumed the position of Printed Edition Editor and will be responsible for the printed edition of the Journal. Douglas Salmon has assumed the new position of Assistant Technical Editor and will be working closely with Dr. Thomas Joseph, our Technical Editor, on the on-line edition. I would like to thank both of them for their interest in *Huggye* and for their voluntary services.

This Issue

[8] This is the second special issue dedicated to St. Ephrem the Syrian. I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to Dr. Andrew Palmer for his assiduous efforts in editing the papers of this issue and the previous one.

George Anton Kiraz, Ph.D. General Editor