

News Update from Richard and Rosalind Meryon – 14th August 2010

Friends of the Garden Tomb

Ramadan has started, and don't we know it! As we dined with friends on the roof on Thursday, the huge canon in the cemetery behind us announced sunset – like a starting gun. It now fires daily at 0415, seemingly just outside our window, and at sunset, for ~29 days. Yesterday the street beside us teemed as tens of thousands were bussed in from the villages for Friday prayers on the Temple Mount.

Progress on the wall has been frozen. I have not heard again from the Waqf who wanted a meeting with me. I met the Municipality in the Mayor's office on Monday, and the British Consul General too. So long as no more building occurs for now, we can then negotiate with the Waqf as to what it will all look like in say a year's time when it is all completed. I want the lowest wall possible to maximise safety of our visitors; they want the highest so that, I guess, the graves can see the Temple Mount.

For those in the UK, I have just received the attached flyer lest you be interested in what looks like presenting a balanced view, with a rabbi and a Islamic reader in law. We find very few people who are unbiased – and I don't mean 'who see things as we do'; few visitors and the press are not polarised in their views. You might like to attend.

Today the Garden throbs with visitors – the fullest day this month. Our David and I have just been guiding 160 Chinese/Taiwanese, also in the Garden.....Germans.....Dutch.....South Africans.....Finnish.....Scottish.....Americans.....Brazilians, and just today so far, and they all hear the Gospel. Spot 'Who's Who' in today's six Guides below.

Unless something staggering changes, I won't write 'a special' again, but thank you for your huge support and interest, however you have expressed it.

In Christ alone we trust

Richard Meryon