



**International Conference on Religious Tourism:  
*Fostering sustainable socio-economic development in host communities***

**Bethlehem, State of Palestine, 15-16 June 2015**

**Session 4: Inclusive socio-economic development of local communities –  
promoting partnerships that work**

**Archbishop Theodosios Atallah Hanna, Archbishop of Sebastia, Palestine**

**Bio:**

Theodosios (Hanna) of Sebastia (born 1965) is the Archbishop of Sebastia from the Orthodox Patriarchate of Jerusalem. Ordained on the 24 December 2005 at the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, he is the second Palestinian to hold the position of Archbishop in the history of the diocese.

Born Atallah Hanna in Rameh to Eastern Orthodox parents in the Upper Galilee, Archbishop Theodosios studied Greek in Jerusalem, continuing his studies in Greece where he earned his Master of Theology from University of Thessalonica School of Theology in 1991. Active in public life, he has served as the spokesperson and Director of the Patriarchate's Arab Department, has taught in local schools, and lectured on Christianity at the Haifa Arab Teachers' College. For his devotion to ministry in the Holy Land, Theodosios was granted an honorary Doctor of Theology degree from the Sofia Theological Institute in Bulgaria and the title of Archimandrite.

Theodosios gained renown for his high-profile political activism, his outspoken denunciation of the occupation, and his stress upon the importance of Palestinian identity.

Theodosios also served as a member of the Constitutional Consultative Committee that worked on the third draft of the Palestinian constitution of March 2003 and was awarded the Jerusalem Prize by the Palestinian National Authority's Ministry of Culture in 2004. He is also one of the authors of Kairos Palestine together with Patriarch Michel Sabah, Naim Ateeq, Rifat Odeh Kassis, Nora Qort and others.