



We invite you to help the  
**MOUNT ATHOS**  
**FOUNDATION OF AMERICA**  
in its efforts.

You can share in this effort in two ways:

- 1. DONATE** As a 501(c)(3), MAFA enables American taxpayers to make tax-deductible gifts and bequests that will help build an endowment to support the Holy Mountain.
- 2. PARTICIPATE** Become part of our larger community of patrons, donors, and volunteers.

**Become a Patron,  
Donor, or Volunteer!**  
[www.mountathosfoundation.org](http://www.mountathosfoundation.org)

**DONATIONS BY MAIL OR ONLINE**

*Please make checks payable to:  
Mount Athos Foundation of America*

*Mail to:* Merrill Lynch  
800 E. Colorado, 4th Floor • Pasadena, CA 91101  
ATTN:  
Deposit for Mount Athos Foundation of America

[www.mountathosfoundation.org/giving](http://www.mountathosfoundation.org/giving)

Questions contact us at  
[info@mountathosfoundation.org](mailto:info@mountathosfoundation.org)



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Preserving & Promoting  
Understanding of the  
Monastic Communities  
of Mount Athos



OUR MISSION

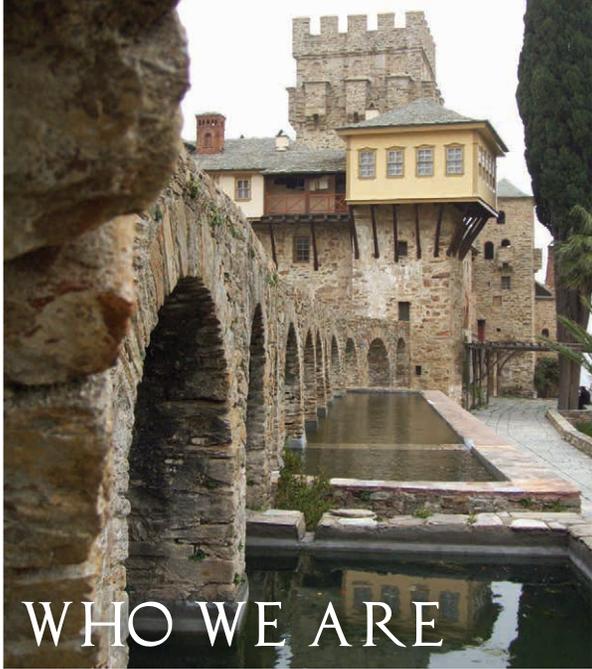
MAFA aims to advance an understanding of, and provide benefit to, the monastic community of Mount Athos, located in northeastern Greece, in a variety of ways:

- **RESTORATION** and **PRESERVATION** of historic monuments and artifacts
- **FOSTERING** knowledge and study of the monastic communities
- **SUPPORTING** the operations of the 20 monasteries and their dependencies in times of need

To carry out this mission, MAFA works cooperatively with the Athonite Community as well as with organizations and foundations in the United States and abroad.

**To succeed in our mission,  
we depend on our patrons,  
donors, and volunteers.**





## WHO WE ARE

The Mount Athos Foundation of America (MAFA) was founded by a group of American members of The Friends of Mount Athos (FoMA) who wanted to establish a US non-profit, public benefit corporation to support the monastic community of Mount Athos, the Holy Mountain.

Many of our volunteers come from the American membership of FoMA. Our patrons and donors come from all over the United States. Working together, we strive to:

- **PROTECT** this monastic holy land as a pilgrimage site for all branches of Eastern Orthodox Christianity and all people seeking the spiritual renewal to be found there
- **SUSTAIN** everything that makes this UNESCO World Heritage Site unique
- **FOSTER** study, understanding, and appreciation of the history, religious culture, arts, architecture, natural history, and literature of the monasteries and monastic dependencies



## THE HOLY MOUNTAIN

For more than 1,000 years, Mount Athos has existed as the principal pan-Orthodox, multinational center of monasticism. Athos is unique within contemporary Europe as a self-governing region claiming the world's oldest continuously existing democracy and entirely devoted to monastic life.

The Holy Mountain has a total population of some 2,200 monks, most of whom follow the coenobitic (“community life”) tradition, which brings monks into communities for living, working, and worshipping together. Others follow the eremitical tradition, living as hermits. They all share a dedication to unceasing prayer and an abiding love and concern for their fellow human beings.



## RESULTS

Your support will help in our efforts to:

- **PRESERVE** Mount Athos as a place of pilgrimage, an oasis of peace and spirituality in an increasingly chaotic world
- **SAFEGUARD** the unique architectural heritage from wear and natural disaster
- **CONSERVE** the libraries, treasures, and archives for the next millennium of monastics, pilgrims, theologians, and scholars
- **MAINTAIN** the ancient pathways, bridges, forests, and farms so that Mount Athos will truly remain the “Garden of the Panagia”

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