More than 50 believers from a non-canonical community in Congo are received into the Russian Orthodox Church

DECR Communication Service, 31.10.2022.

 On October 27th, a non-canonical community of the "Byzantine Orthodox Church" was received into the Russian Orthodox Church in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Priest Georgy Maximov, chairman of the missionary department of the Moscow Patriarchate's African Patriarchal Exarchate, officiated the reception, states Exarchate's website.

 The Congolese community, following the non-canonical "Byzantine Orthodox Church" from the Central African Republic admitted to the Patriarchal Exarchate of Africa on July 3, 2022, has petitioned His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Rus' for admission.

 On October 27th, more than fifty people were taken under the omophorion of the Moscow Patriarchate. Another hundred are preparing for the sacrament of Baptism as catechumens.

 The leader of the community, "bishop" Kleonikos Madudu, and its "clergy" have been received into the Russian Orthodox Church as laity.

 On October 28th, Father Georgy celebrated the Divine Liturgy at the Cultural Center in Kinshasa, the capital of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. At the end of the service two more priests of the Patriarchal Exarchate in the Democratic Republic of Congo were handed antimins and liturgical

vessels.

At the end of the visit, with the assistance of the Ambassador of the Russian Federation in Congo A. L. Sentebov, Priest Georgy Maximov, chairman of the missionary department of the Moscow Patriarchate's African Patriarchal Exarchate, and Sergei A. Belyaev, head of the legal service of the Exarchate, spoke with the Ambassador of the Democratic Republic of Congo to Russia, Denis Kalume Numbi, who is currently present in Kinshasa.

On the same day, representatives of the Patriarchal Exarchate met with the director of the cultural center in Kinshasa, Louis Onema.

Areas of further cooperation were outlined during the meetings.