



Delegation of scholars from the Serbian Orthodox Church visits Russia.



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As per the decision of the Holy Synod of the Serbian Orthodox Church, a delegation visited Russia from 22nd November to 2nd December 2023. The delegation was made up of the dean of the faculty of Orthodox theology of Belgrade University protopresbyter Zoran Ranković, the director of the Library of the Serbian Patriarchate Z. Nedelković and colleague of the Library of the Serbian Patriarchate E. Slavković.

From 22nd to 27th November the delegation of the Serbian Orthodox Church visited Saint Petersburg, where on 24th November an agreement was signed on cooperation between the Russian National Library and the Library of the Serbian patriarchate. During their stay in the northern capital of Russia the

guests from Serbia visited the Cathedral of Our Lady of Kazan, the Saint Alexander Nevsky Monastery and the Saint Alexander of Svir Monastery, as well as the chapel of the Blessed Xenia of Saint Petersburg and the grave of Saint John of Kronstadt in the stauropegic Convent of Saint John of Rila on Karpovka River.

On 27th November the delegation arrived in Moscow, where they were met and accompanied by staff member of the secretariat for inter-Orthodox ties of the Department for External Church Relations A. Yu. Khoshev. At the Convent of the Intercession the guests venerated the relics of Blessed Matrona of Moscow and at the Saint Daniel's Monastery of Moscow they venerated the relics of the holy and right-believing prince Daniel of Moscow and other holy objects of the monastic house.

On 29th November an agreement was signed on cooperation between the Russian State Library and the Library of the Serbian Patriarchate. On the same day the delegation visited the Saint Andrew's Stauropegic Monastery, where there was a meeting between the director of the Synodal Library of the Russian Orthodox Church archpriest Alexander Troitsky and the vicar abbot of the monastery and director of post-graduate studies at the Moscow Theological Academy Father Dionysius (Shlenov), who acquainted the guests from the Serbian Orthodox Church with the contemporary life of Saint Andrew's Monastery, the Synodal Library and the post-graduate studies department of the Moscow Theological Academy. They discussed the possibilities of cooperation with the faculty of Orthodox theology at Belgrade University and the Library of the Serbian Patriarchate.

On 30th November the guests of the delegation of scholars from the Serbian Orthodox Church visited the Russian State Archive of Ancient Documents (RSAAD), where they met with the director of the RSAAD V. A. Arakcheyev and his deputies Yu. M. Eskin and A. A. Golubinsky. On the same day at Saint Tikhon's Orthodox Humanitarian University there was a conversation between the scholars from Serbia with the university rector archpriest Vladimir Vorobyov, the deputy rector for studies and international ties archpriest Konstantin Polskov and the dean of the faculty of theology archpriest Pavel Khodzinsky.

At the conclusion of their visit to Moscow the delegation from the Serbian Orthodox Church visited the Christ the Saviour Cathedral, Saint Basil's Cathedral on Red Square and the museums of the Moscow Kremlin, including the Dormition, Saint Michael's and Annunciation Cathedrals. On 2nd December the delegation returned home to Serbia.