President of Russia visits Patriarchal Cathedral of Our Lady of the Dormition in Damascus



On 7 January 2020, President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin, during his visit to Syria, visited the Patriarchal Cathedral of the Dormition in Damascus.

At the cathedral church, the head of the Russian State, Syria's President Bashar al-Assad and the officials who accompanied them were welcomed by His Beatitude John X, Patriarch of Great Antioch and All the East, an assembly of archpastors and pastors of the Orthodox Church of Antioch, as well as Hegumen Arseniy (Sokolov), representative of the Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia to the Patriarch of Antioch.

After a short prayer at the cathedral, Patriarch John X and Vladimir Putin exchanged Christmas presents: the President of Russian gave His Beatitude an icon of the Most Holy Mother of God painted in Russia, while Patriarch John gave President Putin an icon of the Holy First-Hierarchal Apostles Peter and Paul, the founders of the Church of Antioch.

DECR Communication Service

Photos by the Patriarchate of Antioch press service

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