



**THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH**  
Department for External Church Relations

## **His Holiness Patriarch Kirill's condolences over the murder of two priests of the Armenian Catholic community in Syria**

*His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia expressed condolences over the murder, committed by terrorists, of Rev. Hovsep Bedoyan, rector of the Armenian Catholic community in the city of Qamishli, and of his father, Rev. Hanna Bedoyan.*

**HIS BEATITUDE GREGORY PETER XX**

**CATHOLICOS PATRIARCH OF CILICIA**

**HEAD OF THE ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH**

Your Beatitude:

It was with aching heart that I have received sad news of the recently perpetrated by terrorists cruel murder of the Rev. Hovsep Bedoyan, rector of the Armenian Catholic community in the city of Qamishli, and of his father, the Rev. Hanna Bedoyan.

On behalf of the Russian Orthodox Church I express deep condolences to You and to the near and dear of the victims of this horrible crime. We are mourning the untimely deceased, but we know that 'the face of the Lord is against evildoers... and those who hate the righteous will be condemned' (Ps 34:16, 21).

In my prayers I ask the Merciful God to receive the souls of the newly deceased in the heavenly mansions and grant consolation to all who mourn them.

With love in Christ,

**+ KIRILL**

**PATRIARCH OF MOSCOW AND ALL RUSSIA**