



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