



## **Representative of Russian Orthodox Church attends naval parade in Syrian city of Tartus**

On 28<sup>th</sup> July 2019, the Day of the Baptism of Russia, Hegumen Arseniy (Sokolov), representative of the Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia to the Patriarch of Antioch and All the East, visited the Russian naval base in the Syrian city of Tartus at the invitation of Colonel General Andrei Serdyukov, commander of the group of Russian forces in Syria.

In the water area of Tartus port, a naval parade took place to mark Russia's Navy Day, coinciding this year with the Day of the Baptism of Russia. Colonel General Andrei Serdyukov, accompanied by Hegumen Arseniy, H.E. Alexander Yefimov, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Russian Federation to the Syrian Arab Republic, and representatives of Russia's and Syria's naval command, as well as governors of the Syrian provinces of Tartus and Latakia, boarded the Novorossiysk combatant craft to pass along the Russian warships anchored in the roadstead in order of battle and then came on board the Admiral Grigorovich frigate and inspected its rigging.

That same day at noon, to mark the feast, the Russian warships and crafts demonstrated some manoeuvres, assisted by military aircrafts and shipborne helicopters.

*DECR Communication Service*