



Representatives of the Russian Orthodox Church take part in the celebrations marking the 60th anniversary of the Russia-China Friendship Association

On 9 October 2017, Bishop Gennady of Kaskelen, chancellor of the Synod of the Russian Orthodox Church's metropolitan area in Kazakhstan, vicar of the diocese of Astana, and Mr. Dmitry Petrovsky, member of the central board of the Russia-China Friendship Association, staff member of the Moscow Patriarchate's Department for External Church Relations, attended the celebrations marking the 60th anniversary of the Russia-China Association, held at the Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow.

Mrs. Valentina Matviyenko, chair of the Council of the Federation of the Federal Assembly, read out a message of greetings from the Russian President Vladimir Putin. As Mr. Putin emphasized in his letter, the Association's activities make its contribution to the development of relations between Russia and China in the humanitarian sphere.

Mr. Li Hui, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of China to the Russian Federation, read out a message of greetings from Mr. Xi Jinping, President of the People's Republic of China. The Chinese leader noted in his message the increasing role of people-to-people diplomacy in strengthening friendship and fostering rapprochement between the two peoples at a new historical stage of Russia-China relations.

Among those who addressed the participants in the meeting with greeting speeches were Mr. Chan Yuan, president of the China-Russia Friendship Association, and Mr. Dmitry Mezentsev, president of the Russia-China Friendship Association.

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