



DECR chairman sends greetings to His Beatitude Patriarch Theodore II of Alexandria and All Africa on the anniversary of his election to the Patriarchal throne

Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk, chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate's Department for External Church Relations, sent a message to the Primate of the Orthodox Church of Alexandria, in which he congratulated him on the anniversary of his election to the Patriarchal throne. The text of the message is given below.

Your Beatitude,

I respectfully extend to you my cordial greetings with the anniversary of your election to the ancient See of Primates of the Most Holy Church of Alexandria.

More than ten years ago you ascended to the See of the Holy Apostle and Evangelist Mark in order to preach *the gospel of the kingdom of God* (Mk 1:14) in the African land. Carrying out your lofty Patriarchal ministry, you continue with zeal the apostolic labours of your predecessors on this spacious continent, showing to archpastors and pastors an example of selfless service to the Holy Church of Christ and taking tireless care for the spiritual needs of the flock entrusted to you.

On this memorable day I rejoice together with the entire Most Holy Orthodox Church of Antioch and prayerfully wish to Your Beatitude peace, spiritual joy and blessed success in your Primatial ministry.

With respect and love in the Lord,