



## **During Bright Week, Christians in Syria receive humanitarian aid from Russia**

During Bright Week, humanitarian aid and gifts came from Russia to people in Maharda, one of the largest Christian cities in Syria and the native city of His Beatitude Patriarch Ignatius IV of Antioch. There are some 23 thousand people living in the city, predominantly Orthodox believers.

The city, located in the Hama province, quite recently has been besieged by militants. At present, battles are being fought in its suburbs. Maharda is being defended by local Christian volunteers. On the day when the Easter gifts from Russia were delivered, over 50 missiles fell on the city. Previously, two churches were destroyed.

Over 3,5 tons of aid including medicines, food stuffs, school stationary and toys, as well as Easter cakes have been brought to Maharda at the request of the Russian Orthodox Church by representatives

Boyevoye Bratstvo, a public organization of veterans, under the auspices of the Russian Center for Reconciling the Warring Parties in Syria.

The aid has been distributed to the needy at the charity center of the church of the Most Holy Mother of God. According to Orthodox Syrians, they hold dear any greetings from Russia and are delighted to share the Paschal joy with Russian brothers.

*DECR Communication Service*

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