



Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev visits Russian Ecclesiastical Mission in Jerusalem

On November 9, 2016, Russia's Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev visited the Church of the Holy Sepulcher as part of his official visit to Israel. He was welcomed at the door by Patriarch Theophilos III of Jerusalem and All Palestine, Archimandrite Alexander (Yelisov), head of the Russian Orthodox mission in Jerusalem, Hieromonk Dometian (Markarian), member of the mission, and others.

On November 10, Mr. Medvedev visited the Russian Ecclesiastical Mission. He was welcomed at the entrance by Archimandrite Alexander (Yelisov) and Hieromonk Dometian (Markarian). Then a solemn prayer service was held at the church of the Holy Martyr Alexandra.

'In this old church today we together with you have united in prayer with many and many generations of pilgrims who walked on this soil, sanctified it by their prayers and sweat because they it took a great

effort for them to reach this land. This sanctity has given today's generations an opportunity to come here again and to come in touch with this shrine again', the head of the mission said welcoming Mr. Medvedev.

Archimandrite Alexander also said that the Russian Ecclesiastical Mission in Jerusalem would mark its 170th anniversary in 2017.

In memory of the visit to the Holy Land and the visit to the mission, Father Alexander presented Mr. Medvedev with an icon of Our Saviour, the press service of the Russian Ecclesiastical Mission reports.

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