



## **Primate of the Orthodox Church of Alexandria completes his pilgrimage to the Russian Orthodox Church**



August 29, 2015 – His Beatitude Theodore II, Pope and Patriarch of Alexandria, completed his pilgrimage to the Russian Orthodox Church.

At Vnukovo-3 airport, the Primate of the Orthodox Church of Alexandria was seen off by Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk, head of the Moscow Patriarchate department for external church relations (DECR), Metropolitan Athanasios of Kyrene, representative of the Patriarch of Alexandria to the Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia, Bishop Savva of Voskresensk, first deputy chancellor of the Moscow Patriarchate, Archpriest Nikolay Balashov, DECR vice-chairman, and Archpriest Igor Yakimchuk, DECR secretary for inter-Orthodox relations.

During his pilgrimage, His Beatitude visited the old Solovki Monastery of the Transfiguration and came to Baikal Lake and Irkutsk to venerate the relics of St. Innocent, the first Bishop of Irkutsk. Among the holy places that His Beatitude visited during his stay in the Urals were the Monastery of the Royal Passion-Bearers at Ganina Yama and the St Alexander Nevsky Monastery of Our Lady of Tikhvin.

Upon his arrival in Moscow, the Primate of the Orthodox Church of Alexandria, together with Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia, celebrated the Divine Liturgy at the Cathedral of the Assumption in the Moscow Kremlin on the Assumption Day.

Later that day, the Primates of the Churches of Alexandria and Russia held a brotherly conversation.

*DECR Communication Service*

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