



**THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH**

Department for External Church Relations

## **Advanced courses for bishops in Kazakhstan, Central Asia and Azerbaijan**



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February 19, 2013 – With the blessing of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia, a field course of advanced studies has been opened at the Sts Cyril and Methodius Religious and Cultural Center in Astana, Kazakhstan. It is intended for bishops in the Russian Orthodox Church's Metropolitan Regions of Kazakhstan, Central Asia and Azerbaijan.

Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk, who came for the occasion in his capacity as rector of the Sts Cyril and Methodius School for Post-Graduate Studies and chairman of the Synodal Biblical-Theological Commission, delivered a lecture on Mechanisms for Ensuring the Unity of the Church. His audience consisted of the bishops of major dioceses in the region and representatives of the local diocesan administrations.

The course has been organized by the ROC's School for Post-Graduate and Doctoral Studies and the ROC's Metropolitan Region in Kazakhstan. The course will last till February 24, 2013.

*DECR Communication Service*

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