Primate of the Russian Orthodox Church sends his condolences over the demise of His Holiness Patriarch Pavle of Serbia

His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia expressed his condolences over the demise of His Holiness Patriarch Pavle of Serbia. Patriarch Kirill's message to Archbishop of Tsetin and Metropolitan of Montenegro and the Coastlands Amfilohije, who was elected Locum Tenens of the Patriarchal Throne of the Serbian Church, reads:

Your Eminence:

It was with grief that I learned of the demise of His Holiness Patriarch Pavle of Serbia.

One of the oldest Primates of the worldwide Orthodox family passed away in the Lord. For millions of believers in the entire world he had been a symbol of unity of the Holy Serbian Orthodox Church and her steadfast stand against trials.

The late Primate was a man of prayer and a strict ascetic, a gracious father of the people of God humbly bearing their burdens. He has brought together the separated human hearts by his meekness and love and won profound respect of the entire nation through the feat of his sacrificial Patriarchal ministry. He enjoyed great authority with the Russian Orthodox Church, and her believers are offering up zealous prayers for the repose of the newly deceased God's servant together with their Serbian brothers and sisters.

Your Eminence! While sharing the bitter and grievous loss of the orphaned sister Church, I join you in your prayers for the deceased. Memory eternal to him!

Please convey my condolences to the members of the Holy Synod, archpastors and pastors of the Serbian Church, and to the entire Serbian people.

With love in the Lord,

+KIRILL,

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