



## Rector of Damascus Representation of Russian Church greets Russian servicemen on Pascha



The representation of the Russian Orthodox Church in Damascus began to celebrate the Radiant Resurrection of Christ with a procession with the cross on May 2, 2021. The Paschal liturgy was celebrated by Hegumen Arseny (Sokolov), representative of the Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia to the Patriarchal See of Antioch.

The procession with the cross, the Paschal matins and the Divine Liturgy were attended by Mr. E. Kurbanov, the envoy of the Russian embassy in Syria, and other members of the Russian diplomatic mission, representatives of the Center for Reconciliation of Opposing Sides headed by Rear-Admiral A. B. Karpov, Mr. N.V. Sykhov, head of the Rossotrudnichestvo Syrian branch, Ms. Hanna Houli, Syrian

icon-painter, and the faithful of the Russian Orthodox Church residing in Damascus.

The Gospel at the Liturgy was read in Greek, Arabic, Russian and Church Slavonic. After the reading of the Gospel, Father Arseny read out the Paschal message from His Holiness Kirill, Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia.

After the liturgy, the blessing of Paschal cakes, eggs and other festive food followed by the breaking of the fast took place at the Representation's lounge.

In the morning of May 2, Father Arseny visited the unit of the Russian military police deployed near the Kudasaya village, Damascus Province, where he greeted the military on Pascha of Christ and blessed Paschal cakes and eggs.

Then, in the field mess-room, Father Arseny had a talk with service members about the death and resurrection of the Saviour.

Participating in the trip was Syrian Army General Samir Zahlav.

*DECR Communication Service  
With reference to the Damascus Representation of the Russian Orthodox Church*

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Source: <https://mospat.ru/en/news/87153/>