THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
Department for External Church Relations

Congratulations of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill to Raul Castro Rus on his 90th birthday



His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Rus' congratulated Raul Castro Rus on his 90th birthday.

Comandante Raúl CASTRO RUZ

Dear Comandante,

Please accept my heartfelt greetings on this momentous occasion – your 90th birthday.

Your life is a vivid example of selfless service to the homeland. Having taken up the reins of government from your elder brother, Comandante Fidel, you successfully governed the country for fifteen years. Your labours and efforts aimed at promoting growth in various spheres on the Island of Freedom, defending Cuba’s sovereignty and raising living standards of your fellow citizens enjoyed the nation-wide support.

With particular warmth I recall our meetings and conversations both in the Cuban and the Russian land, which enabled me to learn more about you and the life of the Cuban people.

Availing myself of this opportunity, I would like to express my appreciation for your personal assistance in arranging my meeting with Pope Francis in Havana in February 2016.

I wish you spiritual and bodily strength, fortitude and God’s help in your further work and I wish peace and welfare to the people of Cuba.

With deep respect,

+KIRILL
PATRIARCH OF MOSCOW AND ALL RUSSIA

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