



## **Patriarch Kirill congratulates Mr. Naftali Bennett on his election as head of the Government of the State of Israel**



*His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia has congratulated Mr. Naftali Bennett on his election to the post of Prime Minister of the State of Israel.*

**His Excellency Naftali Bennett**  
**Prime Minister**  
**State of Israel**

Your Excellency,  
Dear Mr. Prime Minister!

Please, accept my congratulations on your election as head of the Government of the State of Israel.

A great responsibility is placed on your for the further development of the country, for building peace, accord and stability.

Our nations have been historically tied by friendly relationships, and a special contribution to their development has been made by fraternal contacts between the Patriarchates of Jerusalem and

Moscow.

As the center of the main Christian holy places, Israel is a place of pilgrimages for many faithful of the Russian Orthodox Church. The pastoral care of them is taken by the Russian Ecclesiastical Mission in Jerusalem, whose work is invariably accompanied with good interaction with the Israeli authorities.

I wish you good health and successes in your work ahead and to all the Israeli people I wish peace and prosperity.

Respectfully,

**+Kirill**  
**Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia**

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