



## Humanitarian aid supplied to Syrian Bosra with assistance of the Russian Orthodox Church



Hegumen Arseny (Sokolov), representative of the Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia to the Patriarchal See of Antioch, took part in the humanitarian action held jointly by the Damascus Representation of the Russian Orthodox Church, the Center for Reconciliation of Opposing Sides and the Russian National Veteran Organization 'Combat Brotherhood'. School rucksacks with stationary, drinking water and medicines were brought to the ancient city of Bosra (Bosor in the Russian Synodal Bible) mentioned more than once in the Bible. Wheelchairs purchased with the funds donated by Canadian Orthodox benefactor of Russian origin Alexy Fiset were brought for those who were wounded during the conflict.

'Thanks to the logistic assistance of the Russian military serving in Syria, we have been able not only to get to this turbulent region in which hostilities are still continued but also to help children in dire need as well as the local hospital', Hegumen Arseny said. He underlined that the Russian Orthodox Church gives humanitarian aid to Syrians regardless of their religious affiliation.

Dmitry Sablin, first vice-chairman of the Combat Brotherhood, in his turn, expressed a hope that the

supplied humanitarian aid will become a contribution to the stabilization of the situation in the region.

While in Bosra, participants in the action visited the ancient Roman theatre. Restorer Surur, a parishioner of the Orthodox Church of Antioch, told them about the restoration work carried out in it. Father Arseny presented him with a copy of the Arabic version of the book 'Freedom and Responsibility' written by Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia.

*DECR Communication Service*

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