

## A Government of Moscow delegation visits Representation of the Russian Orthodox Church in Damascus



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On October 17, the eve of the commemoration day of the Synaxis of the Holy Hierarchs of Moscow, a water blessing prayer service was celebrated at the church of St. Ignatius the God-Bearer at the Representation of the Russian Orthodox Church in Damascus by Archimandrite Philipp (Vasiltsev), representative of the Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia to the Patriarch of Antioch and All the East.

Attending the service were Igor P. Tkach, deputy head, Moscow Department for Foreign Economic Activity and International Relations; G.Yakovlev, deputy head, and A.Sulema, consulting expert, Directorate for the Work with Compatriots; Leonid V. Kondrashov, first deputy head, Moscow

Department for Cultural Heritage; Yuri S. Nosov, director general, Boris Yeltsyn Presidential Library; Pavel G. Khutorenko, adviser to the director, Federal Bailiff Service; Dmitry I. Goncharov, director general, MTA-Travel company; and other officials.

Archimandrite Philipp delivered a sermon on the feast, website of the ROC representation in Damascus reports

Afterwards, there took place a delivery ceremony of an electric generator purchased by the Moscow Department for Foreign Economic Activity and International Relations. The new generator was put into operation.

Members of the delegation of the Government of Moscow visited the Centre for Pediatric Prosthetics and Rehabilitation established at the ROC Representation in 2021 with the blessing of His Beatitude Patriarch John X of Antioch and All the East and His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Rus' and with the assistance of the Foundation for the Support of Christian Culture and Heritage.

During a tea party at the reception hall, Archimandrite Philipp cordially thanked the guests for visiting the ROC Representation in Damascus and for common prayers.

While addressing Mr. Tkach, he expressed sincere gratitude to the Department for this remarkable and well-timed gift of the generator and necessary oil fuel as this will help the Representation to work efficiently during cold winter.

On behalf of Dmitry V. Aristov, director of the Federal Bailiff Service, Mr. Khutorenko presented the Representation with an icon of the Great Martyr Theodore Stratelates, a heavenly patron of the FBS.

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