



THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
Department for External Church Relations

Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk expressed his condolences over the murder of a cleric from the Ethiopian Church



In a letter to His Holiness Patriarch Abune Mathias of Ethiopia, Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk, Chairman of the Department for External Church Relations of the Moscow Patriarchate, expressed his condolences over the murder of Priest Abay Melese, a cleric of the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church. The message reads:

His Holiness ABUNE MATHIAS
Patriarch and Catholicos of Ethiopia

Your Holiness,

Please accept my sincere condolences over the death of Priest Abay Melese, a cleric of the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church who was brutally murdered in Addis Ababa.

Those who commit such atrocities condemn themselves to the wrath of God for, according to the holy apostle, no murderer has eternal life abiding in him (1 Jn 3:15).

I call on the authorities to take urgent measures to ensure that such crimes will not occur again.

May Christ the Chief Shepherd grant repose to the soul of His departed servant and consolation to his relatives and friends.

With love in the Lord,

**+Anthony
Metropolitan of Volokolamsk
Chairman
Department for External Church Relations
Moscow Patriarchate**

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