



Patriarchal condolences over the murder of an Ethiopian cleric



His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia sent a message of condolences to His Holiness Abune Mathias, Patriarch and Catholicos of Ethiopia, over with the murder of a cleric of the Ethiopian Church. The message reads:

HIS HOLINESS ABUNE MATHIAS PATRIARCH AND CATHOLICOS OF ETHIOPIA

Your Holiness,

Beloved brother in Christ,

It grieved me deeply to learn of the brutal murder of a cleric of the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church, Priest Abay Melese, in Addis Ababa. On behalf of the Russian Orthodox Church I extend to you my sincere condolences over this tragedy.

Such audacious crime deserves the most resolute condemnation and I hope that all perpetrators will be soon found and brought to justice, for indeed tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth

evil (Rom 2:9).

Deeply empathizing with you and your flock, I ask you to convey my words of consolation and support to the family and friends of the murdered servant of God. May the Merciful Lord give them strength to endure this terrible ordeal.

With love in Christ Jesus,

**+KIRILL
PATRIARCH OF MOSCOW AND ALL RUSSIA**

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