Delegation of Russian Orthodox monastics completes its visit to Egypt



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On May 5, a delegation of monastics of the Russian Orthodox Church led by Metropolitan Dionisiy of Voskresensk, chancellor of the Moscow Patriarchate, completed its pilgrimage to Egypt made with the blessing of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Rus' and at the invitation of I Holiness Coptic Patriarch Tawadros II.

The delegation was seen off at the airport by Bishop Theodosius of Giza, hieromonk Dawood El Antony, representative of the Coptic Church in Russia, Dr. Anton Milad, adviser to the Coptic Patriarch, and other representatives of the Coptic Church.

During the visit, members of the Moscow Patriarchate's delegation had a meeting with the Primate of the Coptic Church, visited the Monastery of St. Anthony the Great and the Monastery of St. Paul of Thebes in the Eastern Desert, the abodes in the Nitrian Desert, as well as the holy sites and historical and cultural places of interest in Cairo.

On May 2, the delegation visited the Coptic cathedral church of the Nativity of Christ in the as-yet-unnamed New Administrative Capital of Egypt. The largest Christian church in the Middle East was opened and consecrated in January 2019 in the presence of the President of Egypt, Abdel el-Sisi.

On May 3, Metropolitan Dionisiy celebrated a prayer service at the church of the Holy Great Martyr Mina in Giza which was handed over for the use of a Russian Orthodox parish with the blessing of Patriarch Tawadros II last year.

At the cathedral church in Giza, a reception in honour of Metropolitan Dionisiy was given by Bishop Theodosius of Giza who is responsible for pastoral care of the Coptic communities on Russia.

On May 5, the last day of the delegation's stay in Egypt, its members were warmly welcomed by the sisters at the convent of St. Philopater Mercurius (Abu Saifain).

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