



## **Primate of the Albanian Orthodox Church sends a letter of support to Metropolitan Jonathan of Tulchin and Bratslav**



**DECR Communication Service, 11.08.2023.**

*On August 11.2023, His Beatitude Anastasios, Archbishop of Tirana and All Albania sent to Metropolitan Jonathan of Tulchin and Bratslav, a hierarch of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church, a letter expressing support for him during today's severe trials.*

*As was reported earlier, on August 7, the Vinnitsa City Court brought in the guilty verdict to His Eminence Jonathan. On the far-fetched accusations, he was sentenced to five years in prison. On August 9, His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia addressed himself to religious leaders and representatives of international organizations with messages informing them about the persecution against this archpastor.*

*The letter to the Primate of the Albanian Orthodox Church reads:*

Your Eminence brother in Christ,

With the deepest sorrow we follow the painful trials our Your beloved Eminence and your chosen flock.

We participate in your suffering, and, to the extend of our capabilities, we share, where appropriate, our testimony about the atrocities against the pious Orthodox holy clergy, the devout people, as well as the renowned sacred places in Ukraine. Fraternally, we pray that God strengthen You to “commend yourself as minister of God: in much patience, in tribulation, in needs, in distresses, in striped, in imprisonments” (2 Cor. 6:4-5).

Our thoughts and supplications unceasingly are with You, so that, aligning Yourself with the chorus of the new martyrs, you also may face the present absurd persecution by Orthodox “by the Holy Spirit, by the word of truth, by the power of God... as unknown yet well known,. As dying and behold we live, as chastened, and yet killed” (2 Cor. 6:6-9).

With high esteem and sincere love of Christ,

Tirana, August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**Archbishop of Tirana, Durres and All Albania**

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