



## The Patriarchal exarch for south east Asia visits Myanmar.



### **DECR Communication service, 22.10.2023.**

From 18<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> October, as part of his archpastoral visit to the Thailand diocese, the Patriarchal exarch of south east Asia the metropolitan of Singapore and South East Asia and temporary administrator of the diocese of Thailand Sergei visited the city of Yangon in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

On 19<sup>th</sup> October metropolitan Sergei met with the mayor of Yangon Bo Htay. During the course of a constructive conversation the sides touched upon a wide spectrum of issues, including the prospects of interreligious cooperation and the pastoral care in the exarchate of the Orthodox faithful in Myanmar.

The following day there was held a meeting between the Patriarchal exarch of south east Asia and the

deputy minister for religious affairs and culture in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Ei Toon. They discussed issues affecting the ecclesiastical life of the Orthodox faithful in the country.

On 21<sup>st</sup> October the bishop celebrated the Divine Liturgy on the territory of the Russian embassy in Yangon. Among those gathered for worship was the Russian ambassador to Myanmar Iskander Azizov, the temporary representative of Serbia to Myanmar Gordan Jakšić, colleagues from the Russian embassy and Orthodox compatriots living in Myanmar. At the end of the service metropolitan Sergei delivered a homily to the assembled faithful. He then continued talking with the faithful at coffee hour.

As the exarchate website reports, the metropolitan of Singapore and South East Asia Sergei was accompanied on his visit to Myanmar by the auxiliary bishop of the Singapore diocese the bishop of Jakarta Pitirim and the secretary of the Thailand diocese archimandrite Oleg (Cherepanin).

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