



## **DECR chairman begins his visit to India**



### **DECR Communication Service, 22/02/2024**

On 22<sup>nd</sup> of February, with the blessing of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia and at the invitation of the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church, Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk, chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate's Department for External Church Relations, arrived in India.

Meeting him at the Cochin airport were high-ranking representatives of the Malankara Church, including Metropolitan Abraham Mar Stephanos of the UK, Europe and Africa, and Rev. Aswin Fernandis, executive director of the Department of Ecumenical Relations.

In the course of his visit, Metropolitan Antony will take part in commemorative events marking the 1950<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the martyrdom of the Holy Apostle Thomas.

The DECR chairman will also meet with the Primate of the Malankara Church, His Holiness Catholicos Baselios Marthoma Mathews III, and hierarchs of the Malankara Church, visit the Orthodox Theological Seminary in Kottayam and hold talks on further cooperation between the two Churches.

Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk is accompanied by Hieromonk Stefan (Igumnov), DECR Secretary for Inter-Christian Relations, and Deacon Nikolai Vasin, secretary to the DECR chairman.

---

Source: <https://mospat.ru/en/news/91408/>