



**THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH**  
Department for External Church Relations

## **DECR Chairman expressed condolences over the murder of the monks of the Ziquala Abo Monastery in Ethiopia**



*DECR Communication service, 25.02.2024.*

*The Chairman of the Department for External Church Relations of the Moscow Patriarchate, Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk, has expressed condolences to Patriarch Abune Mathias of Ethiopia in connection with the murder of the monks of the monastery of St Abo the Great in the village of Ziquala in Ethiopia. The message reads:*

Your Holiness,

Please accept my deepest condolences over the brutal murder of the brethren of the Ziquala Abo Monastery – one of the oldest monasteries of the Ethiopian Church.

Each of those who committed that crime in flagrant violation of the Divine and human law must receive punishment for, as the Holy Scripture says, *if favor is shown to the wicked, he does not learn righteousness* (Is 26:10).

May Christ the Giver of Life grant repose to the innocent victims in the dwellings of the righteous and give the soonest recovery to the injured.

With love in the Lord,

**+ANTHONY**

**Metropolitan of Volokolamsk**

**Chairman**

**Department for External Church Relations**

**Moscow Patriarchate**