



THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
Department for External Church Relations

His Holiness Patriarch Kirill sends greetings to participants in the conference of “Russia – Islamic World” Group of Strategic Vision



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*His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Rus' sent **a message of greetings** to the participants in the conference on “Russia – Islamic World: Fair Multipolar World Order and Safe Development.” The meeting, organized by the “Russia-Islamic World” Group of Strategic Vision, was held in Kazan.*

To the participants in the conference of the “Russia - Islamic World” Group of Strategic Vision

Dear participants in the meeting,

I wholeheartedly greet all of you who have gathered today in Kazan to exchange opinions on various

matters pertaining to Russia – Islamic world relations. It is gratifying that these relations have, apart from practical aspects, an important spiritual dimension.

The theme of today's meeting – “Fair Multipolar World Order and Safe Development” – serves as a rather accurate reflection of aspirations and hopes of the majority of people on our planet, who want to live in a just and free society built on the principles of mutual respect, equal rights and trust.

Holding on to the immutable moral values and bearing witness to the importance of faith in the life of people, Russia and Islamic countries together resist the pressure of the secular ideology, the propagation of sin and the moral relativism which is, in fact, nothing but a result of rejecting God and His commandments.

Over a thousand years ago, Russian people chose Orthodoxy as the basis of state-building and cultural development, while a little earlier Bolghar had made a choice in favour of Islam. Here, in the blessed land of Tatarstan, the two spiritual traditions with common foundation of values and moral guidelines intertwined, helping us to see many things the same way and successfully find answers to difficult challenges of our times.

Looking forward to continuing our good cooperation, I wish meaningful and fruitful work to all participants in the conference.

+KIRILL

PATRIARCH OF MOSCOW AND ALL RUS'

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