



## **Patriarch of Antioch thanks the Primate of the Russian Church for words of support amid escalation of conflict in Lebanon**



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On October 11, His Beatitude Patriarch John X of Great Antioch and All the East sent a letter to the Primate of the Russian Orthodox Church, thanking him for his expression of fraternal support in connection with the tragic events occurring in the pastoral responsibility of the Antiochian Orthodox Church. “With deep gratitude, I received your message of October 4, 2024, in which you expressed words of heartfelt support and sincere sympathy following the escalation of conflict in the Middle East, particularly in Lebanon,” the letter states.

Noting the sincere feelings expressed in the message from His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Rus', His Beatitude wrote: “I raise my prayers together with you to the Lord, the Father of Light, that He may strengthen His peace in our hearts, comfort all those who suffer, and grant rest to the souls of

the deceased.”

Continuing the thought on the importance of joint prayers for peace, the Primate of the Antiochian Orthodox Church emphasized: “I also raise prayers for peace in your land, asking the Lord of Peace to extinguish the fire of war, of which man, called to be a reflection of meekness like his Creator, has become a victim.”

In conclusion, His Beatitude wished, in particular, that “the Lord may preserve the Russian people and the Russian Church.”

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