



## Ethiopian Church's spokesman on the seizure of UOC cathedral in Cherkassy: We want to convey our solidarity and deepest sympathy to the Ukrainian Orthodox Church



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On October the 20<sup>th</sup>, Rev. Daniel Sayfemichael, a priest of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church, secretary of the Commission for Dialogue between the Russian Orthodox Church and the Ethiopian Orthodox Church, appeared live on RT news channel to comment on behalf of the Ethiopian Church on **the seizure of the Archangel Michael Cathedral** of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church that had taken place in Cherkassy on October the 17<sup>th</sup>.

According to Rev. Daniel Sayfemichael, the Ethiopian Church was grieved to learn the news of the seizure. "Churches have to be considered the most peaceful places, and believers should be treated

without any political intentions,” he said, “So we are very sorry for what happened and want to convey our solidarity with the Orthodox Christians in Ukraine.” The Ethiopian Church’s spokesman emphasized that churches should be places “of peace, of worship, and religious freedom and believers should be respected.” As he also pointed out, “such kind of violence in the churches should be avoided, and states and legal systems should protect the right to believe of any believer; and politicization of religion should be avoided.” On behalf of the Ethiopian Church, Fr. Daniel conveyed solidarity and deepest sympathy to the Ukrainian Orthodox Church.

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