



DECR chairman concludes his visit to India



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From 31st October to 3rd November 2024, with the blessing of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Rus', Metropolitan Anthony of Volokolamsk, chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate's Department for External Church Relations, visited India.

On 1st November, the DECR chairman **met** with the Primate of the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church, His Holiness Catholicos Baselios Marthoma Mathews III.

Later that day, Metropolitan Anthony took part as a speaker in a special ceremony that marked the commemoration day of St. Gregorios of Parumala venerated by Indian Christians.

On 2nd November, the DECR chairman **handed over** the Order of Glory and Honour, 1st Class, to His Holiness Catholicos Baselios Marthoma Mathews III. The award had been presented to the Primate of

the Malankara Church in consideration to his contribution to promoting friendly relations between the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church and the Russian Orthodox Church and on the occasion of his 75th birthday.

On the same day, His Eminence **met** with local young Christians within the framework of the Mar Gregorious Student Movement conference organized by the Malankara Church.

Metropolitan Anthony also had meetings with Metropolitan Yuhanon Mar Chrisostomos of the Niranam Diocese, secretary of the Holy Synod of the Malankara Church; Metropolitan Yuhanon Mar Diascoros of the Kottayam Diocese; and Metropolitan Geevarghese Mar Yulios of the Kunnankulam Diocese.

On his visit, Metropolitan Anthony was accompanied by Hieromonk Stefan (Igumnov), DECR secretary for inter-Christian relations; Rev. Ashwin Fernandez, executive secretary of the Department of Ecumenical Relations of the Malankara Church; and Hieromonk Gio Joseph, a staff member of the Ecumenical Relations Department.

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