



DECR chairman completes his visit to Thailand



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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, led a delegation of the Russian Orthodox Church that visited the Kingdom of Thailand from 25th to 29th November 2024. The delegation included Archpriest Nikolai Lishchenyuk, DECR deputy chairman; Archpriest Sergy Zvonarev, DECR secretary for far abroad countries; Hieromonk Kirill (Peregudin), staff member of the DECR Secretariat for Far Abroad Countries; and Priest Nikolai Vasin, secretary to the DECR chairman.

On 26th November, Metropolitan Anthony led the celebrations that marked the 25th anniversary of the presence of the Russian Orthodox Church in the Kingdom of Thailand and celebrated **the Divine Liturgy** in St. Nicholas Cathedral in Bangkok.

On 26th – 27th November, the DECR chairman **presided at a round table meeting on the Russian Orthodox Church and Compatriots: Experience of Cooperation in Asian countries and Australia**. Taking part in the meeting were hierarchs, clergymen and laypeople of the Russian Orthodox

Church, as well as representatives of the organizations of Russian compatriots from Asia and Australia, delegates of non-governmental associations of compatriots and Russian diplomats.

On 28th November, in St. Nicholas Cathedral in Bangkok, Metropolitan Anthony had a **working meeting** with the hierarchs serving in the Patriarchal Exarchate of South-East Asia. As a guest of honour, the DECR chairman attended a regular session of the Synod of the Patriarchal Exarchate of South-East Asia.

During his visit, Metropolitan Anthony met with **the Buddhist Supreme Patriarch of Thailand, Somdet Phra Ariyavongsagatayana IX**.

Having completed the visit to Thailand, the delegation of the Russian Orthodox Church returned to Moscow.

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