Representative of the Russian Orthodox Church Received by Metropolitan Elias of Beirut



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On December 26, the Representative of the Patriarch of Moscow and All Rus' to the Patriarchal Throne of Antioch, Archimandrite Philip (Vasiltsev), who is also the rector of the Representation of the Russian Orthodox Church in Beirut, was received by Metropolitan Elias of Beirut at his residence in Ashrafieh.

The meeting was attended by the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Russian Federation to Lebanon, A.N. Rudakov, the Third Secretary of the Russian Embassy in Lebanon, P.S. Prokopyev, and the senior warden of the Representation of the Russian Orthodox Church in Beirut, D.A. Zelenin, as reported by the Representation's website.

Archimandrite Philip congratulated Metropolitan Elias on the great feast of the Nativity of Christ, which the Antiochian Orthodox Church celebrates on December 25 (according to the Revised Julian Calendar), and presented him with commemorative gifts.

During the extended discussion, various pressing issues were addressed. Archimandrite Philip emphasized that His Holiness Patriarch Kirill is deeply concerned about the trials faced by the sacred lands of Lebanon and Syria and prays for the Primate of the Antiochian Orthodox Church and its faithful.

Metropolitan Elias, in turn, praised the work of the Russian Embassy in Lebanon and, in particular, the efforts of Ambassador A.N. Rudakov.

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