# Agreement permitting a parish of the Patriarchal Exarchate of South-East Asia to carry out its religious activity in Myanmar was signed in the country's capital




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On February 18th, in the city of Nay Pyi Taw, capital of Myanmar, an agreement was signed between the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the country's Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture, the Department of Religious Affairs, and the parish of the Patriarchal Exarchate of South-East Asia, which granted permission to the Exarchate's parish to carry out religious activity in the country.

Taking part in the ceremony were Mr U Tin Oo Lwin, Minister of Religious Affairs and Culture of Myanmar; Mr Iskander Azizov, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Russian Federation to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar; Metropolitan Sergiy of Singapore and South-East

Asia, Patriarchal Exarch of South-East Asia; as well as staff members of the Department of Religious Affairs and representatives of the Russian diplomatic corps in the country.

The Minister of Religious Affairs and Culture emphasized the importance of the decision made by the Myanmar authorities to authorize the religious activities of the Russian Orthodox Church in Myanmar and noted that the matter had been initiated by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, Mr Sergei Lavrov, website of the Patriarchal Exarchate of South-East Asia **reports**.

Metropolitan Sergiy of Singapore and South-East Asia expressed gratitude to the Myanmar authorities and pointed out that the agreement was signed in the year marking the 77th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

The Patriarchal Exarch assured Minister U Tin Oo Lwin and all those present that the future Orthodox church in Yangon, the largest city in Myanmar, would be another of its architectural gems and that the church's golden domes would be a visible symbol of spiritual affinity and mutual understanding of the peoples of Russia and Myanmar.

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