Letter of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill to His Beatitude Patriarch John X of Antioch regarding the attack by extremists on Orthodox Christians in the Syrian city of Sqalbiya



His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Rus' sent a letter to His Beatitude Patriarch John X of Great Antioch and All the East, in which he expressed his sympathy and fraternal support in connection with the attack by armed extremists on Orthodox Christians in Sqalbiya (Syria). The letter reads as follows:

HIS BEATITUDE JOHN X

PATRIARCH OF THE GREAT ANTIOCH AND ALL THE EAST

Your Beatitude,

Beloved in the Lord Brother and Concelebrant at God's Altar,

Please accept my heartfelt greetings and wishes of peace, good health and almighty help from God in your arduous Patriarchal service.

Having learned of the attack by armed extremists on Orthodox Christians in Al-Suqaylabiyah, of the pogroms and acts of vandalism they committed, I extend my sincere sympathy and brotherly support to Your beloved Beatitude and your flock which bears the name of Christ. I fully support the **statement** issued by the Holy Church of Antioch after the attack, and together with you call on the authorities to carry out a thorough investigation into the incident, bring to justice the perpetrators and make everything possible in order to ensure safety for Christians in Syria.

I assure you of my prayers for you, dear brother, and for the Apostolic Church of the Great Antioch, whose children, while preparing for the upcoming Holy Week, have once again suffered bitter affliction.

Asking our Risen Saviour to grant lasting peace and welfare to your God-loving flock and all Syrian people, I remain with brotherly love in Christ Jesus.

+KIRILL
PATRIARCH OF MOSCOW AND ALL RUS'

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