THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
Department for External Church Relations

His Holiness Patriarch Kirill sends congratulations to Catholicos-Patriarch Elect of All Georgia



DECR Communication Service, 11/05/2026

His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Rus' congratulated Metropolitan Shio of Senaki and Chkhorotsku on his election as Primate of the Georgian Orthodox Church. The text of the letter is given below.

His Eminence Shio
Metropolitan of Senaki and Chkhorotsku
Catholicos-Patriarch Elect of All Georgia

Your Eminence, dear Vladyka,

CHRIST IS RISEN!

Please accept my heartfelt congratulations on your election as Primate of the Georgian Orthodox Church. The news of this event has heightened the radiant Paschal joy in the hearts of our faithful who sincerely love Iberia – a domain of the Most Holy Theotokos.

By the Divine Providence, our two sisterly Churches have been connected throughout their common history, bearing their zealous witness to the Gospel truth and firmly upholding *the faith which was once delivered unto the saints* (Jude 1:3). When visiting Georgia on many occasions and when welcoming dear guests from the Iberian land, I always felt that there is a deep spiritual affinity between the two peoples of the same faith.

I pray that, with God's help, your Primatial ministry will further contribute to the traditions of fraternal communion established under your esteemed predecessors, especially under the ever-memorable His Holiness and Beatitude Catholicos-Patriarch Ilia II of All Georgia who is revered throughout the Orthodox world.

With all my heart, I wish you good health and unceasing help from above for many and good years of peaceful and blessed Patriarchal service.

With brotherly love in the Lord,

+KIRILL
PATRIARCH OF MOSCOW AND ALL RUS'

Source: https://mospat.ru/en/news/94264/