

MEETING OF THE PRIMATES OF ALEXANDRIA AND RUSSIA

On 5th December 2017, His Beatitude Theodoros II, Pope and Patriarch of Alexandria and All Africa, accompanied by His Eminence Seraphim Metropolitan of Zimbabwe and Angola, His Eminence Athanasios of Cyrene, Exarch of the Patriarchate of Alexandria in Moscow and His Eminence Meletios Metropolitan of Carthage, visited the Holy Monastery of St Daniel in Moscow, to meet with the Most Holy Patriarch Kirill of Russia.

At the entrance to the Monastery they were welcomed by Bishop Sergei of Soltzenogorsky and were then warmly welcomed by the Patriarch of Russia; then a Doxology was sung in the chapel of the Patriarchal Residence.

In the board room the Russian Primate welcomed the Patriarch of Alexandria to Russia, stressing that his presence at the festivities had historical significance, and spoke also of the importance of the festivities and the important person of Patriarch St, Tykhon. Also, during the discussion, various issues were brought forward, with first on the agenda being the Ukrainian issue. In conclusion, the Primate of the Church of Russia issued an invitation for African students to study at the Theological Academies of Moscow.

The Patriarch of Alexandria expressed his gratitude to the Patriarch of Moscow for the hospitality of Abraham, as well as for the love and respect which he shows all the Churches. *"It pleased God that the Primate of the Alexandrian Church would know Russia and its Church well, as for 10 whole years he lived here in Russia. My respect and love are firstly for you"*, said the Alexandrian Primate.

It should be emphasized, that as the Russian Primate affirmed, he will contribute to the building of the first Orthodox Church in the country of Mauritania, due to the presence of Metropolitan Meletios of Carthage and following a request which had been addressed to him.