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Metropolitan of Korçë on Archbishop of Albania: He shone light where there was darkness



As per his final wish, Archbishop Anastasios of Albania was laid to rest in a special crypt beneath the Cathedral of the Resurrection in Tirana. The revered hierarch passed away last Saturday at the age of 95.

The Funeral Service took place yesterday, 30 January 2025, in an atmosphere of deep emotion, presided over by His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew. The service was attended by His Beatitude Archbishop Ieronymos of Athens, Orthodox primates, church delegations, a representative of the World Council of Churches, representatives of the Vatican, and the leaders of Albania's religious communities.

During his eulogy, Metropolitan Ioannis of Korçë, Locum Tenens of the Church of Albania, highlighted Archbishop Anastasios' immense humanitarian work and his unwavering dedication to education. "He tirelessly shone light where there was darkness," he emphasised.

Metropolitan Ioannis underlined the Archbishop’s deep love and respect for every human being, noting that “this is what the country needed. He fostered dialogue among all people.”

Referring to Archbishop Anastasios’ steadfast faith, he stated: “The word of God builds bridges. He was a living example of unwavering faith in God. He never retreated in times of hardship. He stood firm like a rock. God will not abandon us.”

Concluding his address, Metropolitan Ioannis honoured the spiritual wisdom, prudence, and knowledge that Archbishop Anastasios imparted to the Church, describing him as “a great spiritual shepherd who leaves behind a profound spiritual legacy.”

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