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Meeting of the Patriarch of Alexandria with the Prime Minister of Greece



A pleasant surprise awaited the congregation gathered at the Church of Saint George in Old Cairo to attend the ordination of Bishop Damaskinos of Mareotis. Following the ceremony, His Beatitude Pope and Patriarch Theodoros II of Alexandria and All Africa, standing smiling in the courtyard before the staircase leading to the patriarchal reception hall, awaited the Prime Minister of Greece, Kyriakos Mitsotakis, whose arrival was expected at any moment.

The Greek Prime Minister, accompanied by his wife Mareva Mitsotaki, was making a private visit to the historic monastery to pray, light a candle, and of course meet personally with His Beatitude, with whom he shares a long-standing friendship.

Upon Prime Minister Mitsotakis’s arrival, the Ambassador of Greece to Egypt, His Excellency Mr Nikolaos Papageorgiou, warmly welcomed him and accompanied him to the Patriarch of Alexandria, where the two men embraced with joy, delighted to meet again after many years of acquaintance. The Patriarch led the Prime Minister

and his wife to the Throne Room, where the three engaged in a friendly and cordial conversation, exchanging good wishes and discussing pleasant matters appropriate to the celebratory day in the friendly country of Egypt.

A few hours later, Mr Mitsotakis and his wife were due to attend the spectacular cultural event at the Grand Egyptian Museum, which captivated the world for its historical importance and flawless execution.

The three friends also conversed privately, and following their discussion, the Prime Minister met with Mr Andreas Vafeiadis, President of the Greek Community of Alexandria, and Mr Christos Kavalis, President of the Greek Community of Cairo. Prime Minister Mitsotakis was especially pleased to see these two old acquaintances again from previous visits to the Land of the Nile, both of whom represent the historic Greek communities of Alexandria and Cairo.

With courtesy and a smile, the Prime Minister asked how they were, expressed his joy at meeting them again, and they all posed for commemorative photographs. Joining them in the next photo was Mrs Chrysanthi Skoufaridou, Vice President of the Greek Community of Cairo, and all extended to the Prime Minister their wishes for a pleasant stay in Egypt and a safe return to Greece.



Afterwards, everyone ascended the broad steps leading to the Church of Saint George, where the Prime Minister and his wife prayed, lit candles, and congratulated Bishop Damaskinos, who had just been ordained, wishing him

strength and success in the demanding mission he has undertaken.

It is worth noting that, during the arrival and departure of Prime Minister Mitsotakis, the Scout Band of Cairo played cheerful tunes as a mark of honour to the distinguished guest. Before leaving, Mr Mitsotakis posed for photos with many of the faithful, offering them a pleasant memory of that special day.

The Ambassador, Mr Nikolaos Papageorgiou, had made excellent arrangements for the visit and accompanied the Prime Minister and Mrs Mitsotaki throughout their time at Saint George’s Church in Old Cairo.

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