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METROPOLITAN JONAH OF UGANDA REPOSES IN THE LORD



The Ugandan Orthodox Church was shaken yesterday to learn that its archpastor, His Eminence Metropolitan Jonah (Lwanga) of Kampala and Uganda, has reposed in the Lord, having suffered a heart attack following a long battle with cancer.

His Eminence reposed in Athens, where he had gone for medical attention and mission work, reports the press service of the Ugandan Church.

The Church's Twitter page writes: "Our spiritual father has gone to meet the Lord!!! The Lion of the Patriarchate of Alexandria!!"

Social media is filled with messages of condolences and of love for Met. Jonah. The People's Human Rights Forum writes that "He was an activist who always advocated for #HumanRights abuse, when the@GovUganda security operatives tortured, abducted, murdered and illegally imprisoned Ugandans. #Rip_BishopLwanga."

A report on the site of the Patriarchate of Alexandria says of the departed hierarch: "The late Metropolitan was a great Hierarch of the Alexandrian Throne, a tireless worker and fighter for the spread of the Gospel in Africa. For 29 consecutive years as Hierarch of the Alexandrian Throne, he served the African Mission, continuing the work of the first Missionaries in Uganda, founding, among others, churches, schools, hospitals and Monasteries."

May His Eminence's memory be eternal!

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The Patriarchate provides a brief bio:

The Late Blessed Elder Metropolitan Jonah of Uganda, Most Honoured and Exarch of Uganda, was born in 1945 in DDEGEYA. He completed his schooling in BULEMEZI and KYADDONDO in Uganda (1952-1964). He studied at the Ecclesiastical School of Crete (1964-1968). He holds a degree from the Theological and Philosophical Faculty of the University of Athens (1968-1978). He was ordained Deacon in 1981 and Priest in 1982. On 27th July 1992 he was consecrated Bishop of Bukoba. On 12th May 1997 he was elected Metropolitan of Kampala and All Uganda.

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