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National Remembrance Day for Genocide of Asia Minor Greeks



Greek Alternate Foreign Minister Miltiadis Varvitsiotis described Sunday's National Remembrance Day for the Genocide of Asia Minor Greeks as a day for recollection and reflection, while calling on official Turkey not to falsify history, as he said.

The Greek minister added that "…historical memory is helpful not only when it hurts but also when it teaches and guides us, in order not to repeat phenomena of national division in the future."

Varvitsiotis represented the Greek Prime Minister at a memorial service held at the Athens Metropolitan Cathedral for the victims of the Asia Minor Catastrophe.

In a related development, the Church of Crete's Metropolitan of Ierapetra and Sitia, His Eminence Kyrillos, on Sunday officiated at a memorial service at the Cathedral of the Merciful Panaghia in the eastern Crete city of Ierapetra for those who perished during the 1922 Asia Minor Catastrophe, on the dour 99th anniversary of the annihilation of millennia of Hellenism in western Asia Minor.

His Eminence also said the 1.5 million ethnic Greeks forced from their ancestral homes faced a veritable Road to Calvary as refugees.