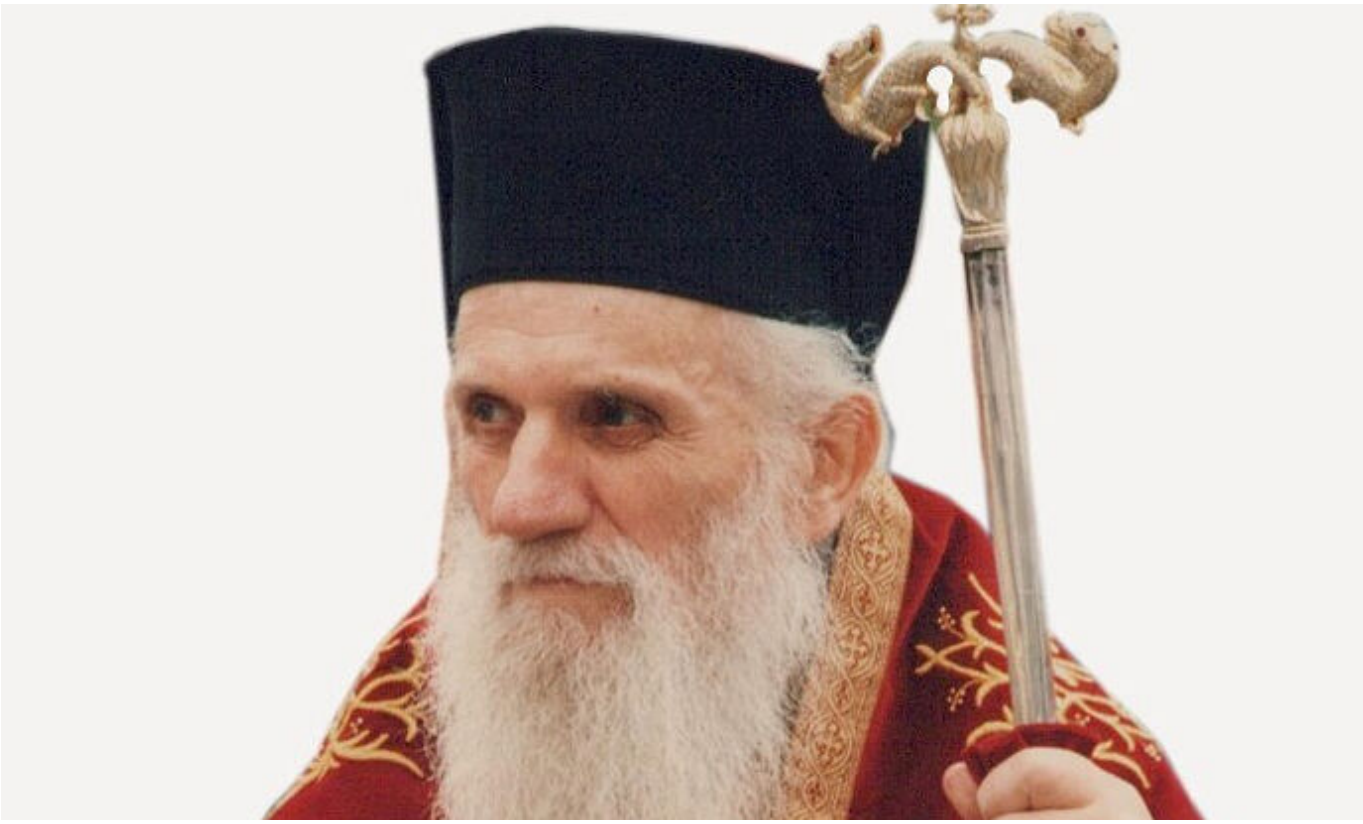
06/10/2021

CHURCH OF GREECE CONSIDERING CANONIZATION OF UNJUSTLY DEPOSED METROPOLITAN THEOLOGOS OF LARISSA



According to a statement from the Metropolis of Larissa, the Church of Greece is considering the canonization of one of his former hierarchs, Metropolitan Theologos, who was unjustly deposed in 1974 together with a number of other hierarchs.

The statement from the Metropolis reads:

His Eminence Metropolitan Ieronymos of Larissa and Tyrnavos feels the need to thank his beloved brother and concelebrant, His Eminence Metropolitan Pavlos of Drama for his publicly expressed intention that the Church of Greece should study the issue of the canonization of his renowned predecessor, the late Theologos, a man of known virtue and peace.

Concrete steps have already been taken towards this, despite the existing obstacles.

We all desire the success of this project, to recognize that despite the mistakes and dysfunction of that time, in every period of time there are people of God who bear witness to the faith.

Mystagogy notes that Metropolitan Theologos was elected in 1968, when a military dictatorship controlled the Holy Synod. Thus, after the fall of the dictatorship in 1974, his consecration was declared uncanonical and he was deposed, together with several other bishops.

According to Mystagogy, “His life, complete poverty and spirit of forgiveness have been compared to that of St. Nektarios.”

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Met. Theologos (Paschalides) was born in 1918 in Nisyros of the Dodecanese. He studied Law and Theology at the University of Athens. In 1950 he was ordained a deacon, and in 1952 a priest. He served and was renowned as a preacher and catechist in the Metropolises of Lemnos and Trikki.

In 1968 he was elected Metropolitan of Larissa, where he served until 1974, when he was deposed. Many believers remained faithful to him and protested the elections of the next several Metropolitans of Larissa.

He reposed in the Lord on July 31, 1996 at the age of 78 and was buried in the Sacred Monastery of Komnenion in Stomio, Larissa.

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