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Metropolitan of Drama Pavlos renews demand for return of WWI-era looted ecclesiastical treasures from Monastery of Eikosiphoinissa



The Metropolitan of Drama, His Eminence Pavlos, this week spoke to the Orthodoxia news agency regarding the thorny issue of a return, by the Bulgarian state, of looted cultural items taken during WWI (1917) from the Holy Monastery of Eikosiphoinissa.

His Eminence revisited the standing demand by the local Metropolis and the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople on the occasion of renewed efforts to repatriate the Parthenon Marbles from the British Museum back to Athens.

Hundreds of priceless liturgical objects and objects of worship, handwritten codices and incunabula were looted by Bulgarian troops, who fought for the Central Powers in the Great War.

“If you consider that our region is part of Greece, then, of course, proper attention should be given to this issue… Yet no, necessary gravity has not been allocated (to this issue); rather, I would say, an intentional whitewash of this issue has occurred,” His Eminence Pavlos underlined.