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Archbishopric of Ohrid provides clarifications over Tomos of Autocephaly request



The Archbishopric of Ohrid this week provided clarifications over the volition and right of the Serbian Orthodox Church to extend the Tomos – or Patriarchal charter – of Autocephaly.

In an announcement after a third archieratical Divine Liturgy celebrated on Sunday, in Belgrade, by the Patriarch of Serbia, His Holiness Porfirije, and the Archbishop of Ohrid, His Beatitude Stefan, the Archbishopric denied that the actual Tomos was granted, as this can only be bestowed by the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople.

At the same time, the document presented to the Archdiocese of Ohrid by the Serbian Patriarchate essentially serves as a recommendation, certifying that the former appears ready and worthy of an autocephalous status.

The now canonical Orthodox Church in the Republic of North Macedonia, which lies north of the province of Macedonia in Greece, refers to a coming archieratical

service on the Sunday of Pentecost at the Ecumenical Patriarchate’s Fanar see, with the Ecumenical Patriarch, His All Holiness Bartholomew I, co-officiating with Archbishop Stefan.