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## **Continuing effort to erase all vestiges of Christianity in Turkish-occupied part of Cyprus**



Orthodox churches and chapels in the occupied parts of the east Mediterranean island of Cyprus continue to fall prey to Muslim settlers imported from the Anatolia hinterland by the Turkish military and other extremists.

Christian places of worship are in disrepair, while often-times illegal settlers and the occupation forces have transformed them into garbage dumps and animal pens.

Days after Islamist Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said he “dreams” of re-converting more former churches into mosques, occupation forces continue rejecting requests by Metropolises of the Church of Cyprus to conduct services in cathedrals and chapels in the occupied territories.

Specifically, the Holy Metropolis of ConstanTla and Ammohostos said its request, conveyed through the United Nations, to celebrate a Divine Liturgy in the Church of the Apostle Paul, at the Spathariko site, was rejected by occupation authorities.