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Ecumenical Patriarchate's Holy & Sacred Synod extends full support to Patriarchate of Alexandria over Russian Church 'intrusion' in Africa



The Holy and Sacred Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople on Tuesday declared its full support for the venerable Patriarchate of Alexandria and All Africa and its Primate, the His Beatitude Pope and Patriarch Theodoros II. A statement referred to the Alexandria Patriarchate's "... just struggle for canonical order".

The decision is directly related to what the Patriarchate of Alexandria has vociferously condemned as an "intrusion" by the Patriarchate of Moscow into its ecclesiastical jurisdiction on the African continent.

Additionally, members of the Holy and Sacred Synod announced the registration of newly enthroned Archbishop of Nova Justiniana and All Cyprus, His Beatitude

Georgios III, in the diptychs, or antique writing tablets, of the Mother Church. In another joyous announcement, hierarchs of the Holy and Sacred Synod canonized 16th century Ecumenical Patriarch Jeremiah I and the monk Gerasimos Mikragiannanitis, an eminent Mount Athos hymnographer.

The Elder Gerasimos was a native of the Delvino district of northern Epirus, who reposed in the Lord in December 1991.

In a related development, His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America was welcomed this week at the Phanar-district Ecumenical Patriarchate by His All-Holiness Bartholomew.

Archbishop Elpidophoros presented the Ecumenical Patriarch with hierarchal pendant, or engolpion, which featured the icon of the Apokathelosis, where the All-Holy Virgin Mary beheld the body of Christ as He was taken off of the Cross.