

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION OF SERBIA VISITS THE PATRIARCHATE

On Thursday morning, April 13/26, 2018, the Minister of Education of Serbia Mr. Miladen Sārcevic visited the Patriarchate, escorted by the Most Reverend Bishop John of Slavonia, the Ambassador of Serbia in Tel-Aviv and his associates, the Minister of Foreign Affairs Mrs. Anna Longinovic and the Secretary-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Veljko Odalovic.

The Minister of Education and his associates were received by H.H.B. our Father and Patriarch of Jerusalem Theophilos and Hagiotaphite Fathers.

At this visit, the Minister thanked His Beatitude for allowing their visit to the All-holy Shrines and to Himself.

In reply, His Beatitude said that the Patriarchate gladly receives Church leaders and countries' representatives, as well as numerous pilgrims, and this is considered His duty, a blessing and ministry of the Holy Land, which has been sanctified by the incarnate presence of Jesus Christ; especially Jerusalem, which has been watered by His redeeming blood. Serbian Priests and monks also ministered here in the past. Members of the delegation expressed their joy, as the next year mark the completion of eight hundred years since the arrival of St. Savvas of Serbia in the Holy Land.

His Beatitude stressed especially the fact that the Patriarchate works painstakingly to preserve the Holy Land as a place of worship and not as a museum.

On this occasion, His Beatitude offered the members of the delegation gifts of His love, and wished them the blessing of

the Holy Tomb to the Orthodox Serbian Church and asked them to convey His Brotherly love to His Beatitude the Patriarch of Serbia Eirinaios. The members of the delegation offered His Beatitude an artistic volume of the Serbian Church treasures as a souvenir.

From Secretariat-General

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