

# ROYAL JORDANIAN DELEGATION VISITS THE PATRIARCHATE

On Thursday, the 24<sup>th</sup> of April/7 May 2015, a Royal Jordanian Delegation visited the Patriarchate.

The members of the Royal Governmental Delegation were accompanied by Jordan's Ambassador to Israel, Mr Walid Obeidat, and Jordan's representative for Islamic and Christian Holy Sites and WAQF President, Mr Azam Hadib.

The distinguished guests were welcomed by Patriarch Theophilos of Jerusalem in the presence of Archbishop Aristarchos of Constantina and Hierodeacon f. Markos.

Discussed in the context of the visit were the harmonious relations between the Patriarchate of Jerusalem and the Royal Hashemite Family of Jordan, as well as the protection offered to Christian citizens in the state of Jordan.

**From the Secretariat-General**



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**ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE  
"ARCHONS" VISIT THE  
PATRIARCHATE LED BY THE**

# METROPOLITAN OF RETHYMNON

On Saturday the 12<sup>th</sup>/24<sup>th</sup> of April 2015, a group of fifty pilgrims, most of them Cretans, but also Greeks of the American diaspora and “Archons” of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, visited the Patriarchate of Jerusalem, led by Metropolitan Eugenios of Rethymnon and Avlopotamos.

The esteemed pilgrims were welcomed by Patriarch Theophilos in the presence of Hagiotaphite Fathers.

Both Metropolitan Eugenios of Rethymnon and the Head of the Archons, Archon Eutaxias, Mr John Manos, addressed the Patriarch and expressed joy over having fulfilled their wish to visit the Holy Land, especially the Lord’s Life-Giving Holy Sepulcher, and receive blessings. As tokens of their love, appreciation and respect, they offered His Beatitude gifts of Cretan art and a painting of the historical Monastery of Arkadion.

Thanking them, His Beatitude pointed out that pilgrims visiting the Holy Lands are blessed as they receive sanctification through the incarnation, crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ, Whose blood had drenched this land.

Patriarch Theophilos expressed His own joy for the words of the Most Reverend Eugenios, Metropolitan of Rethymnon, and of the “Archons” of the Ecumenical Patriarchate in America, a point of reference for the Greek genus.

**From the Secretariat-General**

<httpv://youtu.be/R3zpoaxW1so>



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# THE PATRIARCHATE PARTICIPATES IN CEREMONY TO COMMEMORATE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

At 4:00 pm of Friday the 11<sup>th</sup>/24<sup>th</sup> of April 2015, the Armenian Patriarchate in Jerusalem held a ceremony on the Holy Sepulcher to commemorate the victims of the 1915 Armenian Genocide committed by Turkey. The ceremony took place with the agreement of the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Jerusalem and the Franciscan Monks in accordance with the pilgrimage status.

The ceremony was led by the Armenian Patriarch in Jerusalem, Mr Nurhan Manoukian. In attendance were Armenian Primates and clerics and other guests, as the Heads of Local Churches in Jerusalem, the Diplomatic Corps, the representative of the Israeli Ministry of Religious Affairs, Mr Cezar Margiye and others.

Before the conclusion of the ceremony, His Beatitude Theophilos, Patriarch of Jerusalem, addressed attendants in English, see link:  
<https://en.jerusalem-patriarchate.info/2015/04/24/13868>

**From the Secretariat-General**

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# **ALIMOS MUSIC SCHOOL VISITS THE PATRIARCHATE**

On Thursday, the 10<sup>th</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup> of April 2015, a group of 22 students from the Alimos Music School, participants in the “In search of sounds on the Holy Land and beyond the Jordan” programme, led by their Music Teacher Ms Ioanna Angelou, visited Patriarch Theophilos, accompanied by their teachers.

In the context of their visit, the Students Choir sang ecclesiastical hymns and His Beatitude’s Polychronism. On His part, the Patriarch wished the students every success with their performance at the Prophet Elias Holy Monastery scheduled for Friday the 9<sup>th</sup>/24<sup>th</sup> of April, at 6:00 pm.

**From the Secretariat-General**

[httpv://youtu.be/Nq7-w4HE6l4](http://youtu.be/Nq7-w4HE6l4)



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# **HIS BEATITUDE THE PATRIARCH OF JERUSALEM WELCOMES DEANS OF ANGLICAN CHURCH**

On the morning of Tuesday the 8<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> of April 2015, Patriarch Theophilos of Jerusalem welcomed a group of fifty Deans of the Anglican Church. The Deans were accompanied by their spouses and Dean Hosam of the Anglican Church in Jerusalem.

The members of the group had visited the Holy Land in order to gain knowledge of the city and work towards improving the position of Christians in the Holy Land.

In the context of this visit, His Beatitude spoke of the Holy Shrines, the Church of the Resurrection, the Basilica of Bethlehem and other shrines as providing an indestructible roof of protection for Christians and a guarantee of their Christian identity and residence in their paternal homes.

The clerics, pastors of the Anglican Church, carefully listened to the Patriarch's words, which they found very useful for their service to the Church.

The visitors extended thanks to His Beatitude, adding that the holiness of Jerusalem is owed to the fact that its land has been drenched with the blood of the prophets and the blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

**From the Secretariat-General**

<http://youtu.be/ChhsFBkMkao>



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# **THE PATRIARCHATE'S PASCHAL VISIT TO THE ARMENIAN PATRIARCHATE**

On Easter Wednesday, the 2<sup>nd</sup>/15<sup>th</sup> of April 2015, the Patriarchate of Jerusalem reciprocated the visit of the Armenian Patriarchate in Jerusalem.

His Beatitude Theophilos, Patriarch of Jerusalem, led a delegation of Hagiotaphite Fathers.

The Patriarchal Hagiotaphites were welcomed by the Armenian Patriarch, Nourhan Manougian, in the presence of Armenian Primate and Priests.

During the visit, Patriarch Theophilos addressed the Armenian Patriarch and His retinue in English, see link: <https://en.jerusalem-patriarchate.info/2015/04/15/13873>

**From the Secretariat-General**

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## **PASCHAL VISITS OF OTHER DENOMINATIONS TO THE PATRIARCHATE**

On Easter Tuesday, the 1<sup>st</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> of April 2015, the visit of the Israeli President to the Patriarchate was followed by the Paschal visits of Western Church delegations.

The first to visit the Patriarchate were the Franciscan monks of the Holy Land.

The Franciscan Brothers were addressed by His Beatitude Theophilos, Patriarch of Jerusalem, in English, see link: <https://en.jerusalem-patriarchate.info/2015/04/14/13865>

The Franciscans were followed by representatives of the Armenian Patriarchate, led by Archbishop Aris Shirvanian.

Likewise, Patriarch Theophilos welcomed the Armenians in English, see link:

<https://en.jerusalem-patriarchate.info/2015/04/14/13870>

**From the Secretariat-General**

<httpv://youtu.be/hQBrMVNoHGY>



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## **PROFESSOR ANTONIA MOROPOULOU DECORATED AT THE PATRIARCHATE**

On Tuesday, the 4<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> of March 2015, Ms Antonia Moropoulou, Seismology Professor at the National Technical University of Greece, and the Studies' Director of the "Materials and Conservation Interventions" Direction, visited the Patriarchate on an invitation to assess the state of preservation of the Aedicula of the Holy Sepulcher, following the recent unauthorized intervention of the Israeli Police and the Israeli Archaeological Service.

After her on-site visit to the Holy Sepulcher, in the presence of the Elder Sacristan, Archbishop Isidoros of Hierapolis, and the Architect of the Church of the Resurrection, Mr Theodosios Mitropoulos, where she appraised the Aedicula's condition for the purpose of conducting a study on the stability of its structure, Ms Moropoulou was welcomed to the Patriarchate by Patriarch Theophilos.

An interesting discussion took place there, during which His Beatitude explained the current state of political affairs in Jerusalem, which includes provocations against the Patriarchate, despite its peacemaking role, evolving around the Church of the Resurrection, the site of Christ's

crucifixion and Resurrection.

On the occasion of this visit, His Beatitude bestowed upon Prof. Moropoulou the honorary distinction of Supreme Taxiarch of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulcher, in recognition of her scientific contribution, both past and present, to the Patriarchate and the Holy Sepulcher.

Moved, Ms Moropoulou thanked His Beatitude and pledged to always support the Patriarchate, a treasure of our faith and nation, with all her scientific capacities and powers.

**From the Secretariat-General**

<http://youtu.be/6aFWSltYWEk>



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## **THE MOST REVEREND METROPOLITAN OF DODONI VISITS THE PATRIARCHATE**

On Monday, the 9<sup>th</sup> of March/24<sup>th</sup> of February, the Most Reverend Chrysostomos, Metropolitan of Dodoni (former Metropolitan of Zakynthos) and Chairman at the Synodical Office of Pilgrimages of the Church of Greece, visited the Patriarchate. He was accompanied by the Office's General Secretary and a group of priests from various Bishoprics across Greece.

They Metropolitan and clerics were welcomed by Patriarch Theophilos, who went on to praise them on organizing such pilgrimage tours which indeed support Christians residing in the Holy Land.



An interesting discussion took place in the context of the meeting on the attitude of the Greek people against Jewish victims of the World War II holocaust, as a result of persecutions by Nazi Germany.

Pilgrims then visited the Holy Shrines as well as the Israeli Ministry of Tourism, upon a suggestion by the Patriarch. There, they were received by Ms Ahuva Zaken, who bestowed upon the Metropolitan the title of 'Pilgrim to Jerusalem' in recognition of the assistance offered to persecuted Jewish during World War II, in Zakynthos and elsewhere.

**From the Secretariat-General**

[httpv://youtu.be/p1tKydMy3tg](http://youtu.be/p1tKydMy3tg)



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## **THE NEW COUNCIL OF THE RUM ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF PKEA VISITS THE PATRIARCHATE**

On Lent Wednesday, the 12<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup> of February 2015, the recently elected Council of the Rum Orthodox Community of the town of Pkea, Northern Israel, of the Bishopric of Acre, visited the Patriarchate led by its President, Mr Shukri Aboud.

The Patriarch welcomed and blessed Council members,

Mr. Michael Haj

Mr. Kamil Khoury

Mr. Khalil Aboud

Mr. Fadeel Sachniny

Mr. Ziad Hardal

and Mr. Bassem Shadad

and provided them with guidelines for dealing with issues pertaining to their Community.

**From the Secretariat-General**