



## Metropolitan Hilarion concludes his trip to Tatarstan with visit to Kazan Seminary

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On November 5, 2011, Metropolitan Hilarion, head of the Moscow Patriarchate's department for external church relations, visited the Kazan Theological Seminary at the invitation of Archbishop Anastasy of Kazan and Tatarstan. He inspected the Church Art Room with its collection of unique icons, canvasses, sculptures, books, gravures and other pieces of art. He also saw the library, which has in its funds some books which belonged to the Kazan Theological Academy before the 1917 and which have been returned to the seminary from Kazan University.

Metropolitan Hilarion also saw the seminary's chapel dedicated to St. John of Kronstadt and venerated the parts of the relics of St. Nicholas of Myra in Lycia and the relics of St. Gabriel of Seven Lakes there.

In the seminary's assembly hall, Metropolitan Hilarion opened the 11<sup>th</sup> annual conference on 'Theology and Secular Sciences: Traditional and New Relations'. It was attended not only by Kazan Seminary's professors and students but also scholars from Moscow, among them Drs G. Prokhorov and M. Gromov. Metropolitan Hilarion presented a comprehensive paper on 'Theology and Secular Sciences'.

Then he answered questions from professors and students. After that the metropolitan and his delegation proceeded to the airport. He was seen off by Archbishop Anastasy, Mr. Yu. Kamaltynov, head of the Tatarstan Presidential Staff, Mr. M. Gatin, head of the Presidential Office for Cooperation with Religious Organizations, and his deputy, Mr. V. Kozlov.

*DECR Communication Service*