

"For the Edification of the Church"

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Informatory Synaxis Period 8, 2024 - 2025

First and Second Lectures "The Turkish Invasion of Cyprus of 1974: Facts and Lessons Learned" "Miraculous Events and Divine Presence" Resolution

November 11 and December 9, 2024 (Old Style)



On Sunday, November 11 and Sunday, December 9, 2024 (Old Style), with the blessing and participation of His Eminence, Metropolitan Cyprian, the first and second of the six Informative Synaxies, which are jointly organized by the Holy Metropolis of Oropos

and Phyle and the Municipality of Phyle for the 2024-2025 period, were held at the Nikolaos Liakos Municipal Hall. The general theme of the period is "Historical Forms and Events of our Nation from 330 AD to the Present."

The two lectures were delivered by Vasileios Meichanesidis, a postdoctoral researcher and lecturer at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens. In attendance were Metropolitan Cyprian of Oropos and Phyle, Archimandrite Father Theodosios (Abbot of the Monastery of Sts. Cyprian and Justina), and clergy belonging to our Holy Metropolis. Members of the St. Philaret the Merciful Orthodox Women's Guild were responsible for preparing and organizing these events.

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In his first lecture, entitled "The Turkish Invasion of Cyprus in 1974: Facts and Lessons Learned," Mr. Meichanesidis described and analyzed the historical and geopolitical developments that culminated in the Turkish invasion of Cy-



prus in 1974. In particular, he highlighted the actions of England and Turkey against Hellenism (Cypriot and Greek), as well as the role of divisions in both Cyprus and Greece.

In his second lecutre, entitled: "Cyprus 1974: Miraculous Events and Divine Presence," Mr. Meichanesidis spoke about some of the many miraculous events that took place in Cyprus, which manifested Divine Providence to the faithful servants of God, either collectively or individually.

As Mr. Meihanetsidis noted, it is not difficult for the experienced historian to verify the authenticity of the collected testimonies, which are "related"—*mutatis mutandis*—to other testimonies, such as from the Fall of Constantinople and the Asia Minor Catastrophe of 1922, among others.

In these two lectures, the distinguished speaker provided a comprehensive overview of the Cyprus problem, the history of which, as he pointed out, has a horizontal dimension, which encompasses geopolitical interests and strategies, and a vertical dimension, which encompasses providential Divine interventions.

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At the end of the second Synaxis, following the lecture and the discussion that ensued, Metropolitan Cyprian proposed to those present that a <u>Resolution of Support and Protest</u> regarding the Cyprus Problem be adopted by a show of hands. The resolution was adopted unanimously.

