



Holy Synod of Bishops
of the Serbian Orthodox Church
No.2721/rec.1466
25 November 2003
Belgrade

Your Eminence,

The Holy Assembly of Bishops, at its session 20/7 November 2003 – with SBno. 1 – III/rec.39 and 40, reached this decision:

“The decision of the schismatic Synod in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia about the defrocking of His Eminence, the Metropolitan of Veles and Povardarje, kyr John, handed to him through a Public Prosecutor during the trial against him in the Primary court in Bitola the criminal act of ‘autocracy’, is proclaimed to be invalid.

This decision is annulled not only because the trial was uncanonically conducted, but, before all, because the decisions of the schismatic courts are invalid to the Orthodox Church.

At the same time, we send an energetic protest to the President of the Government and the President of the Court Council of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, on occasion the abovementioned court procedure.”

On the basis of the decision of the Holy Synod of Bishops, under the above-given number and date, it is our honour to inform Your Eminence about the previous, so that you will be informed.

Your Eminence’s brother in Christ,

For the President
of the Holy Synod of Bishops
member, Bishop of Zahum and Herzegovina

+ Gregory

To His Eminence
the Metropolitan of Veles and Povardarje
Kyr John
Bitola