

# **HIS BEATITUDE AT THE LAUNCH OF HIS NEW BOOK BY MR N. NIKITARIDES**

On the afternoon of Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2007, His Beatitude Theodoros II, Pope and Patriarch of Alexandria and All Africa, honoured with his presence, the function for the launch of the new book by the author Nicholas Nikitarides. His Beatitude was accompanied by His Eminence Petros of Aksum, his representative in Athens , Archimandrite Vasilios Varvelis, Secretary of the Athens Office of the Patriarchate.

His Beatitude congratulated the author, Mr. N. Nikitarides, on his elegant work, which is full of memories of the Egypt of yesterday and the important successes of the Hellenes of Egypt at the time when Hellenes flourished in the hospitable country and also mentioned their spiritual father, the late Patriarch Parthenios, Patriarch of Alexandria and the close ties that they both had with the "Patriarch of Love".

His Beatitude also mentioned that the auditorium was filled with Hellenes from Egypt, who had come to hear about the multifaceted work being done in the blessed Land of the Nile, regarding the renovation and restoration of the Churches, which give witness to the eternal presence and heyday of the Hellenes of Egypt, and to the missionary progress of the Patriarchate, and asked for the prayers of all so that this work would bear fruit for the presence, maintenance and spreading of the Word of the Gospel on the African Continent.

At the end of his speech, His Beatitude awarded the author, Mr N. Nikitarides, the Cross of St Mark, for his multifaceted contribution to the Hellenes of Egypt.

A dinner was then hosted in honour of His Beatitude, by the

Chairman of the Association of Hellenes from Egypt , Mr Philip Kossenias .