

# **HIS BEATITUDE MEETS WITH THE PRESIDENT OF MADAGASCAR**

Compiled by Archimandrite Markos Theodosi

The most significant part of the trip to the Holy Metropolis of Madagascar made by His Beatitude Theodoros II, Pope and Patriarch of Alexandria and All Africa, was his meeting with His Excellency the President of the Republic of Madagascar, Mr. Hery Rajaonarimampianina, on 3rd June 2015. His Beatitude was accompanied to the Presidential Palace by the local Metropolitan Ignatios, His Excellency the Ambassador of the republic of Egypt to Madagascar Mr. Cherif Abbas, the Honorable Consul of Greece and Cyprus in Madagascar Mr. Panagiotis Taloumis, Archimandrite Markos Theodosi and the African Priest Fr. Stefanos.

The Primate of the Alexandrian Church awarded the President the Great Cross of St Mark with a Star. His Beatitude briefed His Excellency on the two-thousand year history of the Alexandrian Church on the African Continent and on the pastoral, missionary and humanistic work of the Patriarchate, with the aim of building schools, hospitals, churches and other institutions for the needs of the Africans and Greeks in Africa.

The President spoke particularly of the enormous work of the Orthodox Church in Madagascar, the fifty churches, 35 schools and 22 medical centres, 4 orphanages and 2 old age homes, and especially about the new University in the city of Manakara. His Beatitude gave a press interview and wished all the people of Madagascar prosperity, as well as peace and strength to the President and all Authorities.