

## **MONKS FROM THE COPTIC CHURCH LEARNING GREEK**

On 5th February 2018, His Beatitude Theodoros II, Pope and Patriarch of Alexandria and All Africa visited the old Averof Girls School adjacent to the Patriarchal Mansion, in which the Hellenic Culture Foundation of Alexandria is housed temporarily.

Here, apart from its other activities, Greek language is taught to both locals and others who wish to be a part of it. In this place, the Alexandrian Primate had the pleasure of chatting with the monks of the Coptic Church, who zealously study the ancient Greek language, obeying the exhortation of the Coptic Patriarch, Tawadros II, to learn Greek culture and the language of the Gospel and the Fathers in the original, by visiting Greece.

It is touching that people who grew up in a different cultural and religious environment become sharers of the meanings of the sacred texts of their Church through study, research and the teaching of language, using it as a tool. Let us note that the Coptic Church uses, in much of its worship, hymns and texts in Greek.