

The Development of the Institution of Ecclesiastical Province in Church History. Canonical and historical aspect

Summary

The development of the institution of ecclesiastical province has been gradual and unequal in the Christian world. Ecclesiastical provinces played a major role in relations between bishops and civil authorities. They also helped to coordinate cooperation in pastoral field among neighboring dioceses. All these processes were taking place under the vigilance and power of the metropolitans and also through the summoning of provincial councils.

The article presents some contexts of origin and development of the institution of ecclesiastical province in social and state circumstances. It also shows the way in which the institution in question was developed in the Church law.

It can be said that the arguments for creating ecclesiastical provinces today are the same as they were in the past years and that they will very likely be the same in the future.