

Grand Cross of the Order of Makarios III

Prelims: Current events of National and International importance | International Relations

Why in News?

Cyprus recently awarded Prime Minister Narendra Modi the Grand Cross of the Order of Makarios III, the country's highest honour.

- The Order of Makarios III is the ***senior order of knighthood*** awarded by the country.
- It is named after the first President of Cyprus, Archbishop Makarios III.
- **Established in** - 1991.
- **Recipients** - It is conferred upon heads of state and other people of significant status in recognition of meritorious service to the nation.
- **Other Orders of Cyprus** - The President of the Republic always awards the distinctions. They are the following
 - Grand Collar of the Order of Makarios III
 - Grand Cross of the Order of Makarios III
 - Grand Commander of the Order of Makarios III
 - Commander of the Order of Makarios III
 - Officer of the Order of Makarios III
 - Knight of the Order of Makarios III

Geography of Cyprus

- Cyprus officially the Republic of Cyprus, is an island country in the eastern Mediterranean Sea.
- It is the third-largest Mediterranean island after Sicily and Sardinia.
- **Capital** - Nicosia.
- Cyprus lies south of Turkey, west of Syria, and southeast of mainland Greece.
- Mount Olympus (also called Mount Troodos) is the island's highest point.
- **Rivers**
 - The Pedieos flows toward Famagusta Bay
 - The Serakhis and Karyotis flows to Morphou Bay
 - The Kouris flows southward to Episkopi Bay.
- **Ethnic groups** - The people of Cyprus represent two main ethnic groups, Greek and Turkish.
- **Religion** - The Greek Cypriots are primarily Eastern Orthodox Christians.
- **Economy** - Cyprus is considered a developed country.
- Cyprus is a member of the European Union.

Reference

[Times of India | Grand Cross of the Order of Makarios III](#)

