

INFORMATION AGENCY “FOR HUMAN RIGHTS”

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CHRONICLE OF POLITICAL PERSECUTION IN PRESENT DAY RUSSIA

News, statements, appeals, analysis, commentaries

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New about Michael Trepashkin's persecution

The prison administration has deceived human rights defenders

The political prisoner M.I. Trepashkin's lawyer L.B. Kosik and the chairman S.A. Ermilova (The Human Rights Centre of the city of Nizhniy Tagil) have acted with the open address to the Representative for Human Rights of the Sverdlovsk Oblast T.G. Merzljakova and to the Union of human rights organizations of Sverdlovsk Oblast in connection with the fact that the administration of the colony IK-13 broke the promises given to Trepashkin and to the human rights defenders visited him on April, 5 that he will immediately pass medical survey. Under these promises the prisoners Trepashkin and Naugol'nykh stopped dry hunger-strike.

On April, 5, the Experts of the Representative for human rights in the Russian Federation V.V. Borschuyev (the Chairman of Public Council at the Ministry of Justice of RF) and L.A.Ponomarev (The Executive Director of All-Russian Nongovernmental Movement "For Human Rights"), together with the Representative for Human Rights of the Sverdlovsk Oblast T.G. Merzlyakova met Mikhail Ivanovich Trepashkin and Sergey Sergeevich Naugol'nikh in the colony. The promises that next day Trepashkin would be taken on consultation to the doctor given by the colony administration have not been kept. The administration realizing that Trepashkin's hospitalization is inevitable, thought up the artful plan: as soon as the court (on provoked pretexts) makes the decision on transferring the political prisoner on the common routine, he will be immediately hospitalized but in prison hospital.

We offer the text of the appeal of the Ural human rights defenders and the text of Valery Borshchuyev and Lev Ponomarev's statement on results of the meeting with Trepashkin.

To the Representative for Human Rights of the
Sverdlovsk Oblast
T.G. Merzljakova
In the Union of Human Rights Organizations
Of the Sverdlovsk Oblast
V.I. Popov

Appeal

On April 07, 2006 from 11.00 till 13.00, I was in a colony - settlement at the correctional facility IK No.13 where I met my client M.I. Trepashkin. I know from him that he was taken out of the colony neither on April, 06, nor on April, 07 and he saw no doctor. As far as I know, the administration of IK No.13 did not and does not plan any trips to doctors with Trepashkin. I think, there is the connection with the fact that court hearing of the case under the motion of the administration for his translation in a zone of the minimum-security routine of the same colony is to be on April, 10 since he has been recognized the malicious infringer of the established order by the administration.

They do not doubt that there will be a positive decision. Trepashkin was told by one of the hospital doctors of IK No.13, examining him on April, 06, that after moving there will, probably, be solved the question of his sending to the regional hospital situated on the territory of minimum-security correctional labor facility IK No. 2. According to the doctor, it was the decision of the administration.

I do not understand what the grounds of the administration's confidence that the court will satisfy their motion are and why Trepashkin's treatment during all time of his stay is put depending on the next court decisions. Trepashkin requires treatment concerning a bronchial asthma (the condition is mid-heavy). Moreover, he was examined by a doctor of the colony concerning complaints of pain in legs which appeared after being put in a punishment isolator ShIZO. The doctor diagnosed irreversible expansion of veins and operative treatment. In his opinion, the operation is urgently necessary; it must be carried out in a hospital with modern

equipment. There is not such equipment in the hospital of the colony No2, therefore the legs will be spoiled with scars after their operations and there is no guarantee against the further varicose veins.

I ask help to convince the administration of IK No13 of necessity to place Trepashkin in municipal hospital. In case of delay, the further treatment can appear inefficient.

*L.B. Kosik,
a lawyer;
S.A. Yermilov,
The Centre for Human Rights,
a chairman».*

Statement

«We, Valery Borshchev and Lev Ponomarev, consider requirements of starving prisoners Trepashkin and Naugol'nykh valid. First of all, we are extremely worried about the Trepashkin's destiny as the political underlying reason of incessant Trepashkin's prosecutions on the part of authorities on the part of the authorities.

With the purpose to transfer in minimum-security colony where the conditions will be even worse and where there are more opportunities for persecutions unreasonable penalties were imposed on Trepashkin. The ground for penalties were denunciations of the criminals transferred «for good behaviour» (for participation in notorious «section of discipline and order» - SDO) from the minimum-security colony to the colony-settlement. Here is the list of "claims" to Trepashkin for which he was put in ShIZO three times and is under almost inevitable threat of transferring into minimum-security mode (under the initiative of the disciplinary commission from February, 6). He bought a sampler of cologne in town (he had not even brought it in the hostel). «He shouted and swung hands» talking with the doctor. He swore dirty about the Procurator (Trepashkin does not curse at all). After his complaints had ceased to pass through the special department, he delivered a copy of the complaint to the lawyer.

Trepashkin is ill with the heavy form of asthma; the town doctor prescribed him the obligatory treatment in hospital. Besides, it is necessary for him to treat teeth. But the administration of the colony refuses him in treatment. Trepashkin has to buy medicines himself, and, he is short of many of them. He was put a dropper in conditions of the colony - without any supervision of an allergist. Trepashkin is doomed for self-treatment.

Under the prisoners' indications, in the colony - settlement there are the roughest infringements of prisoners' rights:

- Complaints to the Procurator's Office, to the Representative for Human Rights and other instances are not sent;

- Authors of complaints are threatened regularly by the head of the group Alexander Yuryevich Golovin, and the most persistent complainants have already been moved to the minimum-security mode;

- The mode of the maintenance does not correspond to the mode of a colony - settlement.

The administration's spreading of hearings that deterioration of the mode is caused by Trepashkin's presence in colony constantly provokes threats to address of the political prisoner on the part of criminals.

The principle of the separate maintenance of the prisoners, required by the law is broken in the colony-settlement. The condemned under articles of «small and moderate severe seriousness» serving term in the colony - settlement appear together with the criminals condemned under "grave" articles, but «followed the road of correction», i.e. enrolled in SDO and easily controllable by the operative department.

».

We demand the immediate granting an opportunity for Trepashkin to be hospitalized in town hospital.

We demand an immediate conclusion of the colony - settlement from the territory of the minimum-security colony IK-13.

We demand an investigation of all cases of fabricating accusations of Mikhail Trepashkin in disciplinary infringements.

We demand an investigation of all illegal actions of colony administration and Procurator Office.

We demand the political prisoner, a lawyer Mikhail Trepashkin's releasing, who is exposed to continuous and severe prosecutions in connection with his civic position and the conducting his professional activity of a lawyer.

V.V. Borshcheyev, L.A. Ponomarev»

An action against reprisals took place at the Byelorussian Embassy in Moscow

March, 27, 2006 at the Byelorussian Embassy in Moscow there was a protest action against reprisals concerning the participants of protest meetings in Minsk, informs the digest of MASS-MEDIA "Obschaya Gazeta" (Common Newspaper) <<http://og.ru>>.

Students, musicians, ecologists, anarchists and other people which had not designated their profession took part in the action.

About 30 young people approached the building of Byelorussian Embassy in Moscow, located in Maroseyka street at 4.30 p.m. The fourteen were in white vests with letters. Participants of the action had run out on the traffic way for a minute and then they silently stood opposite the Embassy having generated the slogan «No to reprisals!»

Other active workers distributed leaflets and operatively took photos and video of all events. Employees of militia on duty at the Embassy had tried to destroy the chain but failed.

A militiaman tried to drag away a correspondent IA "Prima-news" <<http://www.prima-news.ru>>, but the journalist managed to be liberated having cried out, that he was a correspondent.

The militiamen and the FSO (Federal Guard Service of Russia) employees started to find out if the action was an authorized one.

Two active workers appeared to be arrested. The militiamen also tried "to call to account the correspondent of "Prima-news", an operator of "Individeo" as well as a human rights defender Valentine Gefter. But all arrested persons were released after familiarization with documents and "altercations with references to the legislation".

Portal «Human Rights in Russia»

Human Rights Defenders Lev Ponomarev and Eugeny Ikhlov detained

In Moscow, during protest action against absence of support to the Russian citizens arrested in Minsk, human rights defenders Lev Ponomarev and Eugeny Ikhlov were detained. They were conveyed to the Department of Internal Affairs "Arbat".

Ponomarev and Ikhlov faced to the building of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation with a poster accusing the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in inactivity on protection of the Russian citizens arrested and being in detention in Byelorussia on political accusations.

At detention employees of the militia orally referred that they did it on the demand of the Procurator Office.

The action took place on April, 3, from 1p.m. at the building of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of Russia on the Smolenskaya Ploschad (Square). According to the inform center of the

Movement “For human rights”, actually, it was an action against the support of repressive policy of the Byelorussian authorities, the arbitrariness of law-enforcement and power structures, arrests and beatings of participants of peace protest actions in Minsk.

The action passes in the form of individual picketing in a watching way. The Movement “For human rights” (Lev Ponomarev) began the watch at 1p.m. Then representatives of youth human rights associations and initiative groups take up the human rights watch at the walls of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The slogans of the action are:

Freedom to Alexander Podrabinek, Oleg Kozlovsky, Eduard Glezin, Sergey Baranov, Alexander Stepanov and other citizens of Russia!

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, we demand to protect compatriots!

In Allied Byelorussia there are reprisals, punishments, the Russians are arrested

Freedom to prisoners of conscience in Byelorussia!

Portal « Human rights in Russia »

To get out the Russian citizens!

April, 6 is the fourth day of picketing of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs with the requirement to condemn Lukashenko's regime and to get out the Russian citizens (including journalists), arrested during the peace demonstration in Minsk, informs IA (*Information Agency “For human rights”* <<http://zaprava.ru/>>).

In the morning the militia arrested the active worker “We” Roman Dobrokhotov again without an explanation of the reasons in spite of the fact that he had at him the Law on Meetings, Processions and Demonstrations”, where the article 7 precisely specifies that picket consisting of a single person does not demand authorization.

However after having brought Dobrokhotov in the Police station “Arbat” there happened unexpected: the militia let off the active worker having referred to the Procurator Office’s instruction. Earlier, at the arrest the representatives of the Ministry of Internal Affairs also referred to the Procurator’s order.

However as soon as Roman Dobrokhotov had returned to the building of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, a person in civilian clothes approached him, snatched out the poster and tore it in militia’s sight, not saying a word. The person in civilian clothes slowly started to leave and a militiaman went behind him, ostensibly, to detain him, however he went deliberately slowly and even did not call him. The active worker followed the person in civilian clothes and took his photographs several times in spite of the fact that he tried to hide his face. Then this citizen has snatched out the camera and broke it against the asphalt, and then rushed to run.

Earlier in the morning, Roman Dobrokhotov visited the Sretensky District Court of the City of Moscow where there was to have been examined the case of his detention on Tuesday at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. However the Court Office declared that they did not know anything about any case and did not want to know.

Human Rights Defenders Pickets at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs are to proceed until Friday.

Portal « Human rights in Russia »

Police station “Arbat” surrendered, the guard of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs demands to stop picket, human rights watch proceeds

On April, 7, 2006, there came a message about the requirement of militiamen guiding the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to *Pavel Evgen'evich Bashkirov* (the chairman of “Inter-regional Initiative Group of Invalids, Socially Unprotected Layers of the Population and Persons with the Limited Abilities “Podderzhka” (“Support”)) to stop an individual picket at the building of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia on the Smolenskaya Ploschad (Square) (with the requirement to the Russian diplomacy to achieve discharge of the Russian citizens arrested in Minsk).

The human rights defender Bashkirov kept watch at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs until 10 p.m. on April 6.

The employees of the guard of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs all time demand Bashkirov to leave and police station to make him answerable. But the employees of the police station “Arbat”, having already, willy-nilly, learnt the Federal Law No.54 “On Assemblies, Meetings, Demonstrations, Processions and Picketing”, refuse to detain the human rights defender.

IA «For Human Rights»

Police Station “Arbat” do not know not only the law, but also the place of peace justice

On April, 7, 2006, L.A. Ponomarev and E.V. Ikhlov (Movement “For Human Rights”) were to have been up Peace Justice of the Presnenskiy District Court of the City of Moscow at 11 a.m. It was to have been the first trial over the participants of the watch of individual pickets at the building of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia at the Smolenskaya Ploschad with the requirement to the Russian diplomacy to achieve liberation of the Russian citizens arrested in Minsk. The militia did not demand all the other detained to be up the court, having not gone beyond holding in the station for several hours.

However, Ponomarev and Ikhlov having lawfully coming to the court, felt “disappointed”, as the Peace Justice No.375 has not worked in the building of the Court for a long time and, accordingly, their materials had not come in the Office on Administrative Cases. Probably the Police Station “Arbat” badly know not only the Federal Law No.54 On Assemblies, Meetings, Demonstrations, Processions and Picketing” but also the place of the Peace Justice on the their subordinated territory.

As the human rights defenders had given to militia the written obligation to be in the Presnenskiy District Court (20, Zoologicheskaya Ulitsa), they did not start to run looking for their judge in the outskirts, and, having waited for about an hour, drew up a statement about their non-finding the Peace Justice in the specified place and about the absence of their materials in the Court Office on Administrative Cases. This paper was handed for the Chairman of the Presnenskiy District Court of the City of Moscow and picketers took away a copy marked with the seal of the dispatch with themselves.

Let us remind that on April 3, Ponomarev and Ikhlov were brought an accusation against fulfillment of an administrative offence under the Article No.20.2, Paragraph1 “Infringement of the established order *of the organization* of an assembly, meeting, demonstration, procession or picketing entails imposing the administrative penalty on organizers at the rate of from ten up to twenty minimal monthly wages”. <<http://zakon.kuban.ru/nd/mrot.htm>>

IA «For Human Rights»

The three Russians detained for participation in meeting of opposition in Minsk have been released

Three Russians arrested for the participation in the non-authorized actions of opposition have been released from an investigation isolator of Minsk. As the Russian Embassy in Minsk had already informed active workers of the Movement "Oborona" ("Defense") Oleg Kozlovsky and Eduard Glezin, as well as the journalist of "Novaya Gazeta" ("New newspaper") Alexander Podrabinek were released exactly after 15 days after detention.

According to «Gazeta.Ru» referring to the coordinator of the Movement "Oborona" Yulia Malyisheva, Podrabinek has already been going by train to Moscow.

As Kozlovsky has phoned, now he, along with Glezin, has been sent to the Moscovskoye Police station of Minsk where they are to be given passports then they will be conveyed to the station and put in the train. According to him, the employees of law enforcement bodies name it "voluntary expulsion", the conveyance to station will pass, most likely, under an escort for suppression of an opportunity of their dialogue with journalists.

The entrance on the territory of Byelorussia is forbidden to the released Russians for a year.

The Centre of Extreme Journalism

Source:

<http://www.polit.ru/news/2006/04/08/russians_free.html>

Alexander Podrabinek is forbidden to enter the territory of Byelorussia for 5 years

The Editor - in - chief of News Agency "PRIMA-News" Alexander Podrabinek condemned in Byelorussia for 15 days arrest for the participation in opposition protest action, has already returned to Moscow. Alexander Podrabinek himself told about it to the radio station "Ekho Moskyi" ("Echo of Moscow"), having noted, that now the entrance on the territory of Byelorussia is forbidden to him for 5 years.

According to the Editor - in - chief "Prima-News", the deportation was carried out on Friday evening when the Decision about his expulsion was made official. A. Podrabinek said that the Byelorussian militia, as against Group of Special Police Force, dispersing protest action of opposition in Minsk on March, 25, "was rather tolerant concerned to prisoners, as well as the attitude to prisoners in the reception center where the arrested were kept was even-tempted."

The Centre of Extreme Journalism

Source:

<http://www.belaruspartisan.org/forte/2406.html>

In Tomsk Special Police Force (OMON) broke up the rally against the Housing Utility Complex (HUC) reforms

In Tomsk OMON dispersed an authorized meeting against HUC reform.

On the Ploschad Lenina (Lenin Square) opposite to the building of the Regional Administration there gathered one and a half hundred protesting, basically members of NBP (National Bolscevistskaya Party) and the Communist Party of the Russian Federation. The situation gradually heated with performances of orators. After the floor was given to local nazional-bolsheviks, the militia made an attempt of their detention. However, the participants of the action, basically elderly people, surrounded nazbols (members of NBP) with a live ring, and managed to hinder employees of the Ministry of Internal Affairs. A bit later the OMON dropped

in to the square and began to disperse the meeting. Both youth and grandmothers got blows on the heads with batons. A journalist of “*Echo of Moscow*” suffered too. Several people were detained.

Press-service of the NBP

Legal process under the suit of the NBP about the refusal to register the party is to proceed on April, 13

A preliminary session of the trial under the suit of the NBP about the refusal to register the party was held in the Tagansky District Court of the City of Moscow. The sides refused to make peace. The process is to proceed on April, 13 at 11.30 a.m. in the hall No.304.

Let us remind that the Nazional Bolshevistskaya Party appealed in the Tagansky District Court against the January Decision of the Federal Registration Service (FSR) of the Ministry of Justice to refuse in the registration of the party.

In November, 2004 there was carried out the Congress of the NBP where there was adopted the Decision on preparation of the documents for official registration. In December, 2005, after engaging the necessary number of members (according to last amendments to the Federal Law “On Political Parties” there must be more than 50 thousand people) there were 55,569 people, the documents were directed to the FRS to register the NBP . However the Federal Registration Service refused registration to the NBP. It has already been the fifth refusal since 1998.

Press-service of the NBP

Nazbols, having protected Baikal, have been set free

All three active workers of the NBP Konstantin Pavlovets, Maxim Kalashnikov and Anton Morozov, detained in the town of Angarsk, have set free. The court returned them guilty of realization of the non-authorized meeting and sentenced to the penalty of 500 rubles.

In the morning of April, 6, fifteen nazional-bolsheviks from the town of Irkutsk, demanding to cancel a lining of an oil pipeline along the coast of Lake Baikal, grasped the office of the company “Transneft” in the town of Angarsk. The door of the building was blocked with a chain, a transparency “Baikal is more expensive than petroleum” was hung out above the porch of the entrance. Three nazbols were detained, the rest managed to escape.

The very office of the “Transneft” in Angarsk is the central headquarters of the oil pipeline “Eastern Siberia - Pacific Ocean” which threatens with huge ecological catastrophe to Baikal. The Management of the “Transneft” is going to lay an oil pipeline not far than 800 meters from the lake, in earthquake zone. Originally the commission of experts forbade this route; however after the leading in the structure of the commission experts from “Transneft”, the decision was changed in favour of the route ruining Baikal. The NBP declares: “Baikal is more expensive than petroleum!”

Comments in Irkutsk: (3952) 53-23-65, 8-914-887-79-58, Maxim Vorontsov

Press-service of the NBP

Nazi terror proceeds?

In the morning of April, 7, 2006, in Saint Petersburg there were fired a group of foreign students who were coming back from a club where they had been celebrating the Day of the Faculty, informs “Polit.ru” <<http://www.polit.ru>> referring to BBC <<http://news8.thdo.bbc.co.uk>>.

As a result of firing Lamzar Samba was killed. He was a student of Institute of Communication, a citizen of Senegal, a member of public human rights organization “The African Unity”, assisting to natives of Africa and living on the territory of the Russian Federation.

The bullet got in his neck and he died on the spot, informs “*Interfax*” <<http://www.interfax.ru>>.

The operative employees of the Ministry of Internal Affairs who arrived on the scene of the crime *found pump shotgun with the swastika drawn on it* in the next court yard, whence, apparently, the shooting must have been conducted.

The circumstances of the murder allow to assume with the great degree of certainty that the murderers had been waiting for the African students intentionally. After the fulfillment of the murder the instrument of the crime, *i.e.* the gun, “was dumped” the murderers committing “custom-made” crimes usually act in such a way.

To tell the truth, killers do not draw swastikas on the weapon...

On the fact of the murder legal proceedings on the Article 105 Paragraph 2 (the murder accomplished on motives of racial or national hatred) has been instituted, informs *Newsru* < <http://newsru.com> >.

Portal « Human Rights in Russia »

The joint statement of youth movements

“Rossiya Molodaya” (Young Russia) (Moscow), “Nasha Strana” (“Our Country”) (Vladivostok, Khabarovsk, Sakhalin, Magadan, Petropavlovsk - Kamchatky), “Noviye Lyudi” (“New people”) (Volgograd), “Perviy Rubezh” (the First Line”) (Pskov), “Mestnyiyе” (“Locals”) (the Moscow Oblast) have addressed to the Minister of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation R. Nurgaliev and the Governor of Saint Petersburg V. Matvienko with the Application bout an intolerant situation of connivance to fascism in Saint Petersburg

“Valentina Ivanovna! Rashid Gumerovich!

Our movements repeatedly expressed concern by “leading” positions of Saint Petersburg on number of crimes on motives of national, racial and religious hatred.

We regard the today’s murder of an activist of human rights movement of foreign students “The African Unity” Lanza Samba as an open call which was provoked by a languid activity of the Municipal Department of Internal Affairs of Saint Petersburg on counteraction to extremism and by the known Decision of the jury concerning accused in murder 9-years Khursheda Sultonova.

On our supervision, the additional factor complicating the whole situation (characteristic, truly, not only for Saint Petersburg) is ideological sympathies of ordinary local structure of militia to national hatred and xenophobia. In such situation qualitative preventive maintenance of crimes is impossible, and the investigation can not be effective.

We declare that we render any support to bodies of the government and the Ministry of Internal Affairs in business of counteraction to extremism and we ask to involve us in possible explaining actions among the staff of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation.

However we count inactivity intolerable. In case of absence of due attention to the investigation of this crime we reserve our right to the beginning of petition for resignation of the leaders of Saint Petersburg law enforcement bodies. Joint number of our members is 300,000 people.

There is no place to fascists on the Russian ground!

*The Leader of the Movement “Rossiya Molodaya” M. Mishchenko;
The Leader of the Movement “Nasha Strana” N. Dyimov;*

*The Leader of the Movement "Noviye Lyudi" M. Mincheva;
The Leader of the Movement "Perviy Rubezh" O. Mikhailov;
The Leader of the Movement "Mestnyiye" S. Fateev ».*

The Press Centre of the Youth Movement "Rossiya Molodaya"

Human rights defenders and democratic parties will struggle with neo-fascism in common?

On April, 6, 2006, at the head office of the Union of the Right Forces (SPS) there was a discussion of some antifascist projects, informs SPS <<http://www.sps.ru>>. Representatives of the human rights defending center "Memorial", the Fund "Holocaust", the Moscow Bureau for Human Rights, the Informational-analytical centre "Sova" ("Owl"), the Moscow Antifascist Centre, "The Moscow Tribune", the Inter-regional network "Migratsia i Pravo" ("Migration and Right", the Union of Writers of Moscow, political parties SPS and "Yabloko" ("Apple"), the Youth Movement "Da!" ("Yes!") participated in the meeting.

During the meeting there was adopted the decision to carry out an antifascist conference with participation of known politicians, public figures, experts in the middle of May. The organizing Committee of conference which first session is planned the next week was created.

One of the basic purposes of the given project is the uniting of efforts of the democratic public and opposition to resist in an organized way to neo-fascists whose energization is objectively favourable to the present authority.

The participants of the meeting believe that the Kremlin has started to implement the script under the conditional name "Yedinaya Rossiya" ("Uniform Russia") against fascist threat" a year and a half before the parliamentary elections. The purpose is to create for the ruling party an image of "the only fighter with the fascist threat", using the device of so-called "controlled conflict" having declared all opposition forces "helpers of fascists".

Participants of a yesterday's meeting stated confidence, that "in Russia where there have already been a number of conditions for gradual fascization of the country, such policy is extremely dangerous". The democrats are going to oppose "real struggle with fascist threat" to it.

Except for the conference, there has been planned the issue of a newsletter for informing authorities, the organizations of the civil society, mass media and the international public about fascist displays in the country and coordination of actions of the antifascist organizations on the opposition to these phenomena.

Portal "Human Rights in Russia"

April, 10 representatives of a Muslim community and human rights defenders from Astrakhan picket the building of the Russian Government

April, 10, opposite to the House of the Government, at the Gorbaty Most (Humpbacked Bridge) (2, Krasnopresnenskaya quay) is held an authorized picket against destroying a mosque in Astrakhan. The beginning is at 11.00.

The organizer of the picket is the initiative group of Moslems of Astrakhan and Moscow. The action is supported by human rights defenders. The slogans are: "Shame on Islamophobs in Astrakhan", "Stop to destroy mosques", "Stop persecuting Moslems".

On January, 18, 2006, the Sovietsky District court of the city of Astrakhan adopted a Decision about destroying of the mosque located at the city entrance in the address: 40, Aeroportovskay Ulitsa (Airport Street) in spite of the fact that the sanction to construct a Muslim

temple was given by the mayoralty of the city in 1998 under the order of then mayor Igor Bezrukavnikov.

According to the Decision of the Court the Parish Council of the mosque No.34 of the city of Astrakhan should demolish the constructed temple until May, 1. The administration of the city will destroy it due to the Muslim community in case of failure to execute the given requirement.

IA "For Human Rights"

The lawyer has been made accused

The Executive Vice-president of Yukos Vasily Alexsanyan was detained in Moscow. As his lawyer Gevorg Davgujan informed RIA "Novosti", "Vasily Alexanyan was detained; now he is in the Procuracy General where he is being interrogated". The employees of Procuracy General conducted a search in the apartment and country house of the top-manager.

A former Mikhail Khodorkovsky and Vasily Shakhnovsky's lawyer, Vasily Alexanyan was appointed to the post of the Executive Vice-president of the petroleum company Yukos last Friday. On Monday it became known that the Procuracy General has quite concrete claims to him. According to the investigation, the chief of the legal management of «NK Yukos» using his official position had stolen the property of OAO "Tomskneft VNK" (shares of some oil-extracting and oil refining enterprises belonging to OAO VNK). Then, in opinion of the investigation, Alexanyan legalized the stolen shares by various bargains. The damage is estimated 12.7 billion rubles totally.

On Wednesday Alexanyan let know that he would do everything possible not to allow the bankruptcy of the company in a judicial proceeding. Next day Simonovsky District Court of the City of Moscow gave the sanction to his having up as accused on the case about theft and laundering money resources (Art.160 para3 "a", "b" and Art.174-1 para4 of the CC of the Russian Federation). Thus, the judge Irina Oreshkina satisfied the Procuracy General representation which could not carry out itself investigatory actions with the Vice-president further as he kept the lawyer status.

Source: Business

Reprisals against Alexanyan is the proof of the police character of the regime

Lev Alexandrovich Ponomarev, the Executive Director of the All-Russian Nongovernmental Movement "For Human Rights" considers that the arrest of the Executive Vice-president of Yukos V.G. Alexanyan is the proof of the police character of the existing regime. In his application it is said:

"The police regime is such a regime which solves the political, economic, ideological and other problems with police methods. At full submission of justice sanctioning arrests and reprisals [*sic*].

The actions of the authorities concerning the Executive Vice-president of Yukos Vasily Georgievich Alexanyan are one more powerful proof that the regime having established in our country has a police character. The activity of the lawyer Alexanyan became an obstacle for any financial-legal combinations with the distressful company Yukos. And at once, the Decision of the Simonovsky District Court of the City of Moscow puts him on trial as an embezzler and in a day Alexanyan, an extremely respectable person (the best corporate lawyer of Russia in 2001), is grabbed as a dangerous criminal. And the Basmany District Court of the City of Moscow, as it should be, duly gives out the sanction on arrest. The machine of reprisals works without failures,

without pity, without shame. The redistribution of properties for the benefit of the state monopolies is carried out by methods of general custom-made reprisals.

I express the solidarity with Vasily Georgievich Alexanyan who has declared hunger-strike and completely support the requirement about his discharge. I think very important the principal position of RSPP (Russian Union of Industrialists and Businessmen), demanded from the authorities to refuse arrests on economic accusations.

*Lev Ponomarev,
Executive Director RNGM "For Human Rights"*

Alexander Shokhin comments Vasily Alexanyan's arrest

The program is held by Andrei Shariy. The correspondent of Radio Freedom Danila Gal'perovich takes part.

Andrei Sharyj: Today was held a session of the Council of the Public Chamber. Our correspondent Danila Gal'perovich worked in the lobby of the Council and he managed to get comments of high-ranking members of the Public Chamber on the Yukos case. Danila is now on the air of our program.

Danila Gal'perovich: Really, it is the serious comment of the serious player on the Russian political-economical stage. Alexander Shokhin, the President of the Russian Union of Industrialists and Businessmen has decided very unexpectedly for many to comment on Vasily Alexanyan's arrest. Also it is necessary to tell that it is one of rare comments in general in Yukos case now, an open one...

Alexander Shokhin: I, in general, am an opponent of people to be arrested on such questions instead of using a written undertaking not to leave a place or other preventive punishment which has no connection to arrest. As the speech goes again about criminal aspects, but, nevertheless, there are economic crimes in sphere of economic activities in their basis, therefore, these people cannot represent the same threat to the society, as robbers, murderers and so on.

Danila Gal'perovich: Also it is necessary to say that this comment breaks a belief distributed enough now in Russia that the Yukos case with its next arrests has already meant a little the Russian business elite, that with the next arrest the elite thinks that all this concerns the only one company, the only one representative. By the way, in due time Khodorkovsky was a member of the Russian Union of Industrialists and Businessmen, its president now is Shokhin. It is obvious that it is not so, and it is obvious that the Russian business elite pays attention to each arrest.

Alexander Shokhin also said that it is necessary to do something most likely through a civil society, through the legislation so that people who are targeted in investigations on criminal cases connected to economic matters, in general may escape such serious measures, that they should not fall under such serious measures as arrest that there were such a change as a written undertaking not to leave a place, and that, basically, it is necessary to struggle for it within the framework of the Public Chamber.

Radio Svoboda

"Probably, bright minds are necessary in all the colonies"

Mikhail Khodorkovsky was deported to the Chita Oblast because of bright mind

Mikhail Khodorkovsky sits in the city of Chita on the lawful bases

The Zamoskvoretsky District Court of the City of Moscow rejected to satisfy the Mikhail Khodorkovsky's complaint about his deporting to the colony of the town of Krasnokamensk of

the Chita Oblast. The court agreed with the position of the Federal Service for Execution of Punishments of Russia (FSIN) and Moscow Department of the FSIN (UFSIN) having asserted that everything met the law.

In Mikhail Khodorkovsky's complaint submitted in the court by his defender Yuri Schmidt there initially sounded the request to declare the actions of Federal Service for Execution of Punishments of Russia (FSIN) and UFSIN of Moscow illegal: they had adopted the decision to send him in the Chita Oblast. The position of the defense is based on the fact that condemned should serve his sentence in a nearby region. But, as the lawyer Schmidt explained in the court yesterday, after the same court refused to satisfy the Platon Lebedev's similar complaint (deported in a polar settlement Kharp) on February, 16, claim requirements were specified. Now the lawyer will appeal not against actions but inactivity of bodies of the FSIN. "FSIN let matters drift, therefore this is inactivity", declared the lawyer. Mister Schmidt reminded once again that there were 149 thousand vacant places in the colonies at the moment of Mikhail Khodorkovsky's deporting.

"But for Khodorkovsky they had for some reason found a place just near Chita", the defender said, having noted thus that the colony IK-2 of the Kaluga Oblast had answered him there were two vacant places there at that moment.

At Mister Schmidt's request, yesterday, a presenter of the radio station "Echo of Moscow" Natella Baltyanskaya was examined as a witness. She told about her trip to Krasnokamensk in this March together with Mikhail Khodorkovsky's relatives. According to the journalist, he is the only Muscovite in the colony. The way there from Moscow is so difficult that either children of the condemned, or his aged father, who the doctors have forbidden long flights, cannot visit him.

The representatives of the FSIN and UFSIN declared in response that the witness's evidence had no connection to the case. They denied claims in "inactivity" having stated that all procedure of Mikhail Khodorkovsky's deporting was made according to the legislation. To tell the truth, his opponents answered Yuri Schmidt's many questions with difficulty, preferring a phrase "I refuse to reply". They could not explain who exactly had sent Mikhail Khodorkovsky and what the grounds were to send him by Chita ...

As a result the court refused to satisfy the complaint. As mister Schmidt told "*Kommersant*", it is most likely that after discussion of the situation with Mikhail Khodorkovsky the Decision of court will be appealed. Besides, the complaint will be attached to the package of the documents already sent by the defense in the Strasbourg Court.

*The author: Marina Lepina,
Source: Kommersant*

"Neglectedness"

The refusals of the court to Lebedev's and Khodorkovsky's lawyers have been made in the same formulations

The Moscow City Court refused to satisfy the supervising complaint of lawyers of the MFO Menatep head Platon Lebedev on his verdict of guilty. "A Judge of the Moscow City Court refused to institute supervising proceedings under our complaint, having specified that the punishment to Lebedev has been set according to the law", a Lebedev's defender Eugeny Rivkin informed a correspondent of "NG" ("*Nezavisimaya Gazeta*" = *Independent Newspaper*). As he explained, the lawyers asked to declare illegal a Verdict of the Meschansky District Court of the City of Moscow and the Decision of the Cassation Board of the Moscow City Court, sentenced Platon Lebedev to eight years of imprisonment.

"The Judge considered that there are no grounds to institute supervising proceedings, though we had given them in huge amount - we had written on 180 sheets a detailed enough criticism on the verdict and cassation definition", told Rivkin. As he said, "in Cassational Ruling

there are completely paradoxical statements”. “For example, the Court of Cassation Instance, as a matter of fact having justified our clients in the organization of tax evasion by bills, declared that, nevertheless, it does not influence the size of the civil suit. From the point of view of bases of the law within the framework of a criminal case the question about a material damage caused by a crime is examined.

If there is no crime and people are innocent, about what liability there can be a speech,” the lawyer is perplexed, “Besides the Decision of the Constitutional Court held not so long ago completely precisely told that searches in lawyers’ formations (searches on the case were carried out at a lawyer’s Drel, and a number of documents was withdrawn which were put in the basis of accusation on a number of episodes) can be carried out only under the decision of a court. We have referred to this decision, but we have not heard the official answer” ...

According to the lawyer, the decision under the complaint of Lebedev’s defenders was taken out by the same judge that answered the supervising complaint of former head of Yukos Mikhail Khodorkovsky. “The Judge wrote in the answer to our complaint all the same that had been written in the answer to the lawyer Genrikh Padva”, said Rivkin.

He emphasized that Lebedev’s defense is going to address with the complaint to the Chairperson of the Moscow City Court and later to the Supreme Court. “Such mechanism is stipulated by the CCP of the Russian Federation (the Code of Criminal Procedure). Not having passed the instance of the Chairperson of the court, we have no right to file the complaint in the Supreme Court”, explained Rivkin.

*The author: Sergey Minenko,
Source: Nezavisimaya Gazeta*

Members of the Petersburg Civil Resistance set free birds as a token of solidarity with political prisoners

On April, 7, on the Lady Day, the Petersburg Civil Resistance (PGS) carried out the action of solidarity with political prisoners, it set free birds.

The action according to the application of its organizers passed to remind nationals about the existence of people who томятся in captivity for their convictions. “Businessmen Mikhail Khodorkovsky, Platon Lebedev and Svetlana Bakhmina, active workers of the Nazional-bolshevistskaya party, participants of “captures” of the Ministry of Health and the reception of the President Administration, former officer of the FSB Mikhail Trepashkin, journalist Paul Lyuzakov and many others, they are all very different people. But they are united by one: they are political prisoners in opinion of international human rights organizations”, it is said in the PGS members’ appeal ...

Zaks.ru

In Yekaterinburg, the legal advice center financed by the Fund “Otkryitaya Rossiya” (“Open Russia”) has suspended its work

In Yekaterinburg the Centre of Development of Local Communities and Voluntary Initiatives “Pomoghi Sovetom” (“Help with advice”) has suspended its work. The termination of organization activity is connected to the arrest of all the accounts of the Mikhail Khodorkovsky’s Inter-regional Non-governmental Organization “ Otkryitaya Rossiya”, *informs “Noviy Region” (“New region”)*.

The arrest was imposed on accounts of this humanitarian organization in March by the Basmanny District Court of the City of Moscow. In Yekaterinburg besides “Pomoghi Sovetom”

there appears under the threat of closing another project of the “Otkryitaya Rossiya” School of a Public Policy. Because of shortage of means the Centre does not have any opportunity to pay the rent of a premise. The employees of the Centre hope that they nevertheless will succeed renewing their work if they manage to find some sponsor's support.

As they said, addresses from the townspeople with the request for legal advice come even now, after the suspension of the organization work. For 13 months of work the lawyers of the Centre “Pomoghi Sovetom” have consulted more than 3 thousand people. Daily 17-20 inhabitants addressed for free-of-charge legal aid and supplemental information in the Public Reception.

The centre “Pomoghi Sovetom” has been operating in Yekaterinburg since February, 14, 2005. During this time it has carried out 9 hot lines and 14 social actions.

Newsru.com

The State Drugs Control Committee “has run into” human rights defenders guided by an anonymous letter

On April, 7, 2006, the representative of the Movement “For Human Rights” Boris Panteleev informed that the employees of the State Drugs Control Committee (UFSKN), operating on the basis of an anonymous signal, detained a motor vehicle, by which human rights defenders had come to the colony YaK 7/5 (Penza, Ul. Pushanina, H. 4 (area Ternovka, the chief is Valery Nikitin), numerous complaints of rough infringements of rights of the condemned had come from that place.

After a long and difficult conversation with the administration of the colony, Boris Panteleev and a driver Yuri Vasilevsky came to the automobile. At this moment the employees of the State Drugs Control Committee said that there were data that in their car there could be drugs. After a telephone conversation with the Executive Director of the All-Russian Non-governmental Movement “For Human Rights” Lev Ponomarev an employee of the UFSKN said that nobody detained Panteleev and Vasilevsky, and the survey of the car was not made, because they were waiting for an expert.

Thus the employees of the State Drugs Control Committee roughly broke the Art.157 (urgent investigatory actions).

IA “For Human Rights”

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