Министерство науки и высшего образования Российской Федерации

Федеральное государственное бюджетное образовательное учреждение высшего образования «Северо-Осетинский государственный университет имени Коста Левановича Хетагурова»

(ФГБОУ ВО «СОГУ»)

Утверждаю
Проректор по научной деятельности
_____ Г.Ш. Гиникашвили
«_4_» ____05_____ 2026 г.

ПРОГРАММА

вступительных испытаний по иностранному языку (английский язык) основной образовательной программы высшего образования - программы подготовки научных и научно-педагогических кадров в аспирантуре

Область науки **5. Социально-гуманитарные науки**

Научные специальности:
5.1.2. Публично-правовые (государственно-правовые) науки
5.1.3. Частно-правовые (цивилистические) науки
5.1.4. Уголовно-правовые науки
5.2.1. Экономическая теория
5.2.3. Региональная и отраслевая экономка
5.2.4. Финансы
5.3.5. Социальная психология, политическая и экономическая психология
5.4.4. Социальная структура, социальные институты и процессы
5.5.2. Политические институты, процессы, технологии
5.6.1. Отечественная история
5.6.2. Всеобщая история
5.8.1. Общая педагогика, история педагогики и образования
5.9.5. Русский язык. Языки народов России
5.9.8. Теоретическая, прикладная и сравнительно-сопоставительная лингвистика
5.9.9. Медиакоммуникации и журналистика

Владикавказ 2026

1. Область применения и нормативные ссылки

Программа вступительного испытания сформирована на основе федеральных государственных образовательных стандартов высшего образования по программам специалитета или магистратуры.

2. Структура вступительного испытания

Форма проведения: вступительные испытания по дисциплине иностранный язык (английский). Экзамен по дисциплине иностранный язык (английский) в устной форме очно или дистанционно.

Возможные формы проведения экзамена:

1. В традиционной форме устно.
2. В дистанционной форме устно с использованием онлайн ресурсов

Экзамен включает в себя три задания:

Изучающее чтение оригинального текста по специальности. Объем 1500–2000 печатных знаков. Время выполнения работы – 45–60 минут. Форма проверки: передача извлеченной информации осуществляется на иностранном языке (гуманитарные специальности) или на языке обучения (естественнонаучные специальности).

Беглое (просмотровое) чтение публицистического текста. Объем – 1000 печатных знаков. Время выполнения – 2–3 минуты. Форма проверки – передача извлеченной информации на иностранном языке (гуманитарные специальности) и на языке обучения (естественнонаучные специальности).

Беседа с экзаменаторами на иностранном языке по вопросам, связанным со специальностью и научной работой поступающего.

Вопросы вступительного экзамена:

Образец билета для экзамена

1. Read, translate and retell the text.
2. Render the article.
3. Speak of your scientific interests.

3. Содержание вступительного экзамена

№ п/п	Наименование раздела (модуля)	Содержание раздела (модуля)
Модуль 1	Изучающее чтение оригинального текста по специальности. **(Приложение 1)**	Изучающее чтение оригинального текста по специальности. Объем 1500–2000 печатных знаков
Модуль 2	Просмотровое чтение текста на иностранном языке. **(Приложение 2)**	Беглое (просмотровое) чтение газетного текста. Объем – 1000 печатных знаков. Время выполнения – 2–3 минуты. Форма проверки – передача извлеченной информации на иностранном языке (гуманитарные специальности).
Модуль 3	Беседа с экзаменаторами на иностранном языке.	Беседа с экзаменаторами на иностранном языке по вопросам, связанным со специальностью и научной работой аспиранта (соискателя).

Литература

№	Название	Автор	Вид издания (монография, диссертация, учебник, учебное пособие и др.)	Место издания, издательство, год издания, кол-во страниц
а) Основная литература				
1.	Professional English in Use.	Gillian D. Brown and Sally Rice.	Учебное пособие	CUP, 2009.
2.	Чтение и перевод научной литературы. Лексико грамматический справочник.	Рубцова М.Г.	Справочник	М.:АСТ, 2010.
3.	Англо-русские обороты научной речи.	Миньяр-Белоручева А.П.	Учебно-методическое пособие	М.: Флинта. Наука, 2010.
4.	Longman Advanced Learners' Grammar.	Mark Foley, Dianne Hall.	Учебное пособие	Pearson Longman, 2010.
б) дополнительная литература				
1.	Learn to Listen, Listen to Learn. Academic Listening and Note-Taking. Books 1 and 2.	Roni S.Lebauer.	Учебное пособие	Pearson Longman, 2010.
2.	Практический курс английского языка.	Камянова Т. Г.	Учебник	М.: Дом Славянской Книги, 2005
3.	Теория и практика перевода с английского языка на русский	Левицкая Т. Р., Фитерман А. М.	Учебное пособие	книга доступна на сайте: translations.web- 3.ru
4.	Основы теории и практики перевода с русского языка на английский	Бреус Е.В.	Учебное пособие	книга доступна на сайте: translations.web-3.ru
в) Словари				
1.	Longman Grammar of Spoken and Written English.	Douglas Biber, Stig Johansson, Geoffrey Leech, Susan Conrad, Edward Finegan	Словарь	Pearson Longman, 1999.
2.	Новый англо-русский словарь.	Мюллер В.К.	Словарь	Изд-во «Русский язык» — М.: Рус.яз., 2000.
3.	Macmillan English Dictionary for advanced Learners.	Michael Rundell	Словарь	Macmillan Publishers Limited, 2007.
4.	Longman Language Activator.	Addison Wesley Longman.	Словарь	Longman Group UK Limited, 2008.

Базы данных, информационно-справочные и поисковые системы

*-	Наименование ЭБС	Принадлежность ЭБС	Адрес сайта	Сведения о правообладателе	Кол-во точек доступа	Характеристика доступа
1	"Университетская библиотека online"	Сторонняя	http://www.biblioclub.ru	ООО «Некс-Медиа»	1000 1000 7000	Безлимитный
2	Электронная библиотека диссертаций РГБ (ЭБД РГБ)	Сторонняя	https://dvs.rsl.ru	ФГБУ "РГБ"	10 точек доступа в читальном зале НБ СОГУ	Безлимитный
3	« Консультант студента»	Сторонняя	http://www.studmedlib.ru/	ООО «Институт проблем управления здравоохранением»	400 карт доступа	Безлимитный
4	Научная электронная библиотека eLibrary.ru	Сторонняя	http://elibrary.ru	ООО "Научная электронная библиотека"	Кол-во доступов не ограничено	Безлимитный
5	Polpred.com Обзор СМИ	Сторонняя	http://polpred.com	ООО «ПОЛПРЕД Справочники	Кол-во доступов не огранич	Безлимитный

Приложение 1

Тексты для изучающего чтения (Вопрос № 1 билета)

№ 1

Most cross-group or cross-organizational research studies rely on random sampling for the collection of data on economic and organizational variables. Such an approach precludes the measurement of the network within each organization as complete or near complete participation rates are needed (Wasserman and Faust, 1994). We offer advances in data collection methods to enable researchers to maintain a random sample framework while also collecting network data on the relationships among the individuals in the organizations under study. Our method begins by randomly sampling a portion of individuals in the network and then estimates the complete network based on the sampled individuals' perceptions of all possible ties, which are referred to as cognitive slices. Thus, rather than collecting data from each actor in the organization to observe the network in full, which is typically costly or impossible in a cross-organizational setting involving multiple networks, we provide a methodology to aggregate sampled individuals' perceptions of the full network. There are two interrelated areas of methodological research on networks associated with our current agenda: network sampling (Butts, 2003; Frank, 2005; Heckathorn, 1997) and network measurement under conditions of missing data (see for instance Butts, 2003; Costenbader and Valente, 2003; Borgatti et al., 2006). This study speaks to these ongoing research areas but addresses them from a distinctly different angle as our goal is to recreate an accurate network representation from a small sample of network members. The following section will offer a brief justification of our methods. Section 3 provides an overview of cognitive social structures and combination methods to deal with three-way data. Section 4 will discuss our estimation and aggregation methods for sampling and combining cognitive

slices to produce accurate representations of the "true" network. Section 5 will introduce the datasets we analyze and provide the results of our analysis involving a comparison of our methodology's performance against the standard roster approach and the ego network approach. Section 6 offers thoughts on implementation and potential limitations. Perhaps the most challenging step for researchers wishing to measure a network is data collection.

Michael D. Siciliano. Estimating network structure via random sampling: Cognitive social structures and the adaptive threshold method. Social Networks 34 (2012) 585– 600.

№ 2

Results point to a multidimensional versus a one-dimensional approach in the ultra-orthodox society regarding treatment. Social workers and rabbis familiar with this profession make various efforts to promote these change processes. Their mutual cooperation enables the described change dynamics, encouraging change processes. Social work professionals in Israel have come to understand that these changes cannot occur by force. Therefore, the current changes taking place and initiated by social workers stem from providing a space where the process can take place and endowing the process with meaning and importance, which has a direct influence on the people involved and the different voices within the community. This is achieved by recognizing the fact that a certain measure of modesty is required when dealing with cultural sensitivity and a multicultural society (Bilu & Goodman, 1997). Professional and ultra-orthodox worlds are widely perceived as contradicting realities. On the other hand, the present research shows that significant values such as solidarity, family and community commitment, and compliance with norms are common to both worlds (Ben-Meir & Levavi, 2010), and may serve to bridge the gap between them. In other words, similar and congruent values prevail in both the ultra-orthodox society as well as in social work; meaning, both worlds can be bridged instead of separated. Social work founded on cultural sensitivity and multicultural awareness enables an encounter where all parties benefit from each other. In summary, far-reaching changes have been taking place in the ultra-orthodox society, in general, and regarding the surrounding environment, in particular. These changes relate to all areas: education, society, marriage and divorce, employment and the military. Thus, a larger openness displayed by some sectors in the ultra-orthodox community toward secular social workers is part of additional larger processes taking place within this society. At the same time, a more practical sense of openness toward the secular society can also be observed, together with the fear of losing control and expropriating too many ultra-orthodox groups to secularism and state institutions. As previously mentioned, this type of dynamic is, in many ways, still in its infancy stage, the beginning of a lengthy and complex process.

№ 3

Lately, as the ultra-orthodox population expands, social and personal conflicts are clearly externalized. Therefore, in spite of its ideology, the public is compelled to constantly interact with the secular environment, due to a lack of professional resources in the ultra-orthodox community. A major characteristic of this dynamic is the increasing demand for professionals, in general, and social workers, in particular (Bilu & Witztum, 1993). The article shows that the closed-mindedness and isolation characterizing the ultra-orthodox sector, and the tendency to view it as a homogenous society provides only a partial picture, which does not reflect the actual current changing reality. In fact, the ultra-orthodox society interacts with the secular, western and modern world, while its level of openness varies among the different factions of this population (Bilu & Witztum, 1993). Change processes are an integral part of the social work professional culture. Change is, indeed, a process and is defined as a transition from one state to

another. It can take place at individual, community, social and professional levels (Boehm, 2004). This process is also relevant when it comes to meeting the ultra-orthodox population for treatment purposes. Since all change is a process, this article stresses the fact that the ultra-orthodox society is currently undergoing a sequence of change processes, in which the secular society plays a part. One polarity of the sequence is represented by conservative groups that reject any interaction with the secular society. Further on along the continuum are those groups that allow professional contact and various combinations of professional relations, while the other polarity is represented by those in favor of modernization, exposure and openness toward treatment, and a general externalization of personal and family conflicts. This sequence indicates that conservative groups are concerned about losing their exclusive culture; therefore, they make great efforts to preserve the exclusiveness of the ultra-orthodox society, as a unique group. This faction invests practical efforts into preventing and delaying such change processes, even if this affects those in actual need of community assistance. These individual members are willing to compromise and secretly use the treatment resources provided by the secular society.

№ 4

The change processes include the consideration and legitimacy granted to the social work profession by prominent Rabbis in the ultra-orthodox society. The social worker–Rabbi relation is important within the therapeutic context. Joint forums of Rabbis and social workers are available in order to serve as a bridge between worlds and lead the way toward the desired changes: People go to the Rabbi for advice and ask questions. . .people feel the need for attachment. . .community is commitment. . .we establish Rabbinical committees or else include Rabbis in our local committees. In other words, the community's prominent personalities serve as a bridge between our world as social workers and their standards as ultra-orthodox. . .For example: regarding the treatment of children, we summon parents to these committees, while Rabbis are involved in the process. They listen to the facts we bring and generally we manage to bridge the gap (Z., 7 years' experience). Social work has become an outstanding profession based on an understanding of the need for multicultural sensitivity. This need is expressed by the fact that clients are required to address the rabbinic authority in order to gain the necessary support, allowing for a therapeutic relationship by preserving the traditional core without losing contact with their community. Such an understanding has led to the foundation of joint forums including rabbis, social workers and clients. This integration allows clients to feel comfortable as they are no longer required to choose – between their community or professionals – when it comes to conflict resolution. This mutual collaboration has strengthened the awareness of the importance of social services, including law enforcement institutions as expressed by the following quotation regarding child abuse: A conspiracy of silence takes place in certain groups only. . . but I believe that most of the ultra-orthodox world is ruled by a totally different approach. Today, we can involve law enforcement institutions, such as the police and other entities that deal with the offender, whether through treatment or punishment (L., 6 years' experience). Despite the fact that a conspiracy of silence still prevails in the ultra-orthodox society, including attempts to avoid disclosure and a tendency to refrain from dealing with child abuse, in general, and sexual harassment, in particular, cracks in the walls of silence are clearly distinguishable.

№ 5

One example is the role of social networks in teacher and school performance. Daly et al. (2010, p. 363) state that "teachers working in collaboration tend to have a wider skill variety, be more informed about their colleagues' work and student performance, report increased instructional efficacy, and are more likely to express higher levels of satisfaction". Schools with higher levels of social capital have been show to have higher performance (Leana and Pil, 2006).

However, the relationship between social capital and school performance has not been rigorously tested using network methods. A comparative study could test the relationship between the actual structure of a social network in a school that gives rise to social capital and the collective performance of the teacher's in the school. Gathering data in the 50–100 schools necessary for statistical analysis may be prove difficult for the researcher using a standard roster approach. With the adaptive threshold method, a small random sample of teachers in each school could provide all of the necessary structural information. In addition, because adaptive threshold uses a random sample, additional information concerning the school climate, organizational commitment, and other important school level factors can be estimated from the participating teachers. When researchers look to employ the adaptive threshold method in a study such as the one described above, two key decisions must be made. One is determining the ˛ rate and the other is determining the sample size needed from each organization or network under study. As noted above, ˛ rates in the 0.08–0.12 range tended to perform the best for our measures and for our networks. Based on the results in Section 5, it appears that sampling percentages as low as 25–40% can produce accurate results and provides the researcher with a large enough sample to deal with several non-respondents. Clearly, in any given instance, the necessary sample size is dependent upon the accuracy of the actors in the network. If individuals in a particular network have higher quality perceptions about the relations around them, then even smaller sample sizes will produce an accurate picture of the network. Cases like the Government Office, where the clustering coefficient and average path length were poorly estimated at low sample sizes, provide a perfect example indicating that our methods are sensitive to the quality of perception slices.

Anat Freund. Between tradition and modernity: Social work-related change processes in the Jewish ultra-orthodox society in Israel. International Journal of Intercultural Relations.

Приложение 2.
Пресса
(тексты для просмотрового чтения – вопрос №2 билета)

№ 1.
Bin Laden son's wife joins British legion

Zaina Bin Laden, 56, has supported the services charity with cash donations for at least five years.

She said last night: "Whoever my father-in-law was, a good cause is a good cause. Charity is a big part of my life."

Zaina — previously known as Jane Felix Browne — married the terror mastermind's son Omar in 2007 a month after she met him on a trip to Egypt's pyramids.

She is due to renew her annual membership of her local Legion branch in Moulton, Cheshire, next week. Zaina said she and Omar, 31 — whose mother is Bin Laden's first wife Najwa — wear poppies on Remembrance Day.

The gran hit back at critics who say she should not be in an organisation that cares for members of the armed forces, veterans and families.

She said: "My family were in the British forces and I still have links.

"My husband believes people who fight for their countries should be respected and I believe that too. This is a cause deep in my heart and it doesn't matter who I am married to."

Zaina converted to Islam before she wed Omar, her sixth husband.

His father was killed by US special forces who raided his compound in Pakistan in 2011.

Omar, whose middle name is Osama, insists he had no contact with his father since before the 9/11 attacks of 2001.

Zaina said she does not visit her local club because she does not drink, but she helps in fund-raising.

The Sun, December 27, 2012. http://openworldnews.com/project/the-sun-bin-laden-sons-wife-joins-british-legion/

№ 2
Now... 6 weeks' rain in 5 days

Landslides are a growing threat and there will be yet more flooding as bands of wet weather sweep across the country for at least the next week.

There is little sign of a New Year let-up with above average rainfall expected over the first weeks of 2013.

Up to **SEVEN INCHES** could fall by this Saturday alone — bringing misery to areas where the land is already saturated.

The Environment Agency had 228 flood alerts and 120 of the more serious flood warnings in place last night.

Almost 500 homes nationwide have been flooded in the last week alone and the agency's Floodline number has taken 18,000 calls.

The South West has been worst hit and **Plymouth** has had 9.4ins of rain in a month — double the average.

In **Devon** and **Cornwall** 245 properties were flooded over the weekend and many families were evacuated.

Officials said the rivers **Thames**, **Severn**, **Trent** and **Avon** are most at risk of flooding.

The Great Ouse broke its banks in **Cambridgeshire** and **Worcester** racecourse was under water. Roads in parts of **Essex** were impassable.

Experts predict that 2012 could be the wettest year on record. The Met Office will release the figures next week.

The Sun UK, December 26, 2012. http://www.allvoices.com/news/13685792-now-6-weeks-rain-in-5-days

№ 3
A merry Taxmas to you

BOOZY Brits will boost Treasury coffers by nearly £200million this Christmas thanks to the hated beer duty escalator, The Sun has learnt

It means drinkers will hand £12 each on average in tax to the Government during the festive period.

UK drinkers are the most heavily-taxed in Europe, accounting for 40 per cent of the Continent's beer duty bill.

An extra 50 million pints of lager and ale are sold every week during December compared with other months, according to the British Beer and Pub Association.

That amounts to an additional £104million in beer duty, plus £82million in VAT.

Campaigners say the findings prove that Chancellor George Osborne must scrap the escalator, which was introduced by Labour and guarantees that beer duty goes up by two per cent above inflation every year.

Brigid Simmonds, chief executive of the British Beer & Pub Association, said: "The Government is out of touch with people on the beer duty escalator.

"It is resented by drinkers and publicans and hits the after-work pint hardest.

"It is also economic madness. Beer duty is so high that demand goes down, hitting Treasury revenues."

The Treasury insists that the escalator plays a vital role in tackling the deficit.

The Sun, 27th December 2012. http://www.thesun.co.uk/sol/homepage/news/politics/4714078/Boozy-Brits-to-boost-Treasury-coffers-by-200m-this-Christmas-thanks-to-hated-beer-duty-escalator.html

№ 4

Parking ticket as we helped disabled son

Karl Wade and Rebecca Harbourne were strapping splints to four-year-old Devon's legs when a warden hit them with a £70 ticket.

The couple said they appealed twice but were turned down by council chiefs as their case lacked "merit".

Rebecca said: "At a time of goodwill to all men, they haven't shown a lot of heart.

"We care for a seriously disabled little boy yet it seems they don't want to help."

The couple were fined as they got Devon, who has cerebral palsy and is paralysed down his left side, ready for school in Erdington, Birmingham.

Their car was outside their home for only 20 minutes but they fell foul of 8am-6pm parking restrictions imposed while the road was being resurfaced.

Dad-of-three Karl claimed he had been given the go-ahead to park by workmen and that other vehicles left on the same road did not get tickets.

He said: "The council don't realise we have no choice. We are law-abiding people but we carry Devon and there was nothing else we could do."

A Birmingham City Council spokesman said all residents had been warned in advance of the road resurfacing.

He added: "The car was obstructing the work. Other cars did not get tickets as they were parked on sections that had already been done."

The Sun, 27th December 2012. http://www.thesun.co.uk/sol/homepage/news/4714047/Couple-got-a-parking-ticket-from-warden-as-they-helped-their-disabled-son-get-ready-for-school.html

№ 5

Legendary Quincy actor Jack Klugman dies aged 90

Klugman, whose gruff-voiced medical examiner became a favourite with millions of TV viewers, passed away aged 90.

Son Adam told how the star died peacefully at his Los Angeles home.

He said: "He went very suddenly and peacefully. He was there one minute and gone the next."

Adam said his dad had "been in convalescent mode for a while", could not walk, and spent a lot of time in bed.

Klugman's wife of 4½ years, Peggy Crosby Klugman — former daughter-in-law of the late singer Bing Crosby — was with him when he died.

The actor is also survived by another son David and two grandchildren.

Philadelphia-born Klugman hit fame as a slovenly sports writer alongside Tony Randall in US TV series The Odd Couple, for which he won two Emmy awards. He went on to star in Quincy M.E. from 1976 to 1983, often uncovering evidence of murder in cases deemed natural deaths.

Born to Russian Jewish immigrants he also starred in several Hollywood films, including 1957's 12 Angry Men. He was the last survivor of the 12 actors who played jurors.

During the 1980s Klugman had throat cancer surgery and lost his voice before training himself to speak again.

The Sun, 26th December 2012.
http://www.thesun.co.uk/sol/homepage/news/4713060/Legendary-Quincy-actor-Jack-Klugman-dies-aged-90.html

№ 6

Bye, Darling

Labour ace set to quit in blow for Miliband

The Scottish MP is considering calling time on his 25-year Parliamentary career despite mounting speculation the Labour leader wants him back on the party's front bench.

Mr Miliband is said to be keen on replacing Shadow Chancellor Ed Balls with Mr Darling before the country goes to the polls again in 2015, as he is seen as more voter-friendly.

But the 59-year-old, known for his white hair and bushy black eyebrows, has told pals he may not stand for re-election, scuppering any chance of a comeback.

Last night a senior Labour source said: "Everyone expected Alistair to become Chancellor again if we win the next election.

"But he's let it be known that he isn't planning on standing at the next election. It's a surprise, but it looks like he may already have made his mind up."

Mr Darling, MP for Edinburgh South West, was Chancellor under PM Gordon Brown between 2007 and 2010.

Although he was in charge of the economy at the time of the financial crash, he emerged from the crisis with his reputation intact. He oversaw the nationalisation of Northern Rock, as well as the bailing out of banking giants RBS and Lloyds — moves credited with preventing a full-scale economic depression.

After Labour's General Election defeat in 2010 he returned to the backbenches, where he is still a highly-respected figure.

The Sun, 27th December 2012.
http://www.thesun.co.uk/sol/homepage/news/politics/4714380/Former-Chancellor-Alistair-Darling-is-planning-to-quit-at-the-next-election.html

№ 7

PM is a 'shambles' on gay wedding

DAVID Cameron's plans to bring in gay marriage have been dismissed as a "shambles" by the leader of the Catholic Church in England and Wales.

A Bill to allow same-sex weddings in religious venues will be introduced by the Government next year.

But Archbishop of Westminster Vincent Nichols said there was no political mandate. He told the BBC: "There was no announcement in any manifesto, no statement in the Queen's Speech.

"From a democratic point of view, it's a shambles." He added: "George Orwell would be proud of that manoeuvre." In his Christmas Eve sermon, the Archbishop also accused the Government of "encouraging" homosexual lifestyles among the young.

He said: "Sometimes sexual expression can be without the public bond of the faithfulness of marriage.

"Even governments mistakenly promote such patterns as objectively to be approved and even encouraged among the young."

The issue of gay marriage also threatens to cause a split among Tories, with backbench MPs and grassroots activists vowing to defy the leadership.

The Sun, 26th December 2012. http://www.thesun.co.uk/sol/homepage/news/politics/4713471/PM-is-a-shambles-on-gay-wedding.html

№ 8

Muslim cleric killed in N.Ossetia

A deputy mufti in North Ossetia was shot dead in an attack that could be linked to his profession, local officials said on Thursday.

Ibragim Dudarov was found dead inside his car on a road near the North Caucasus republic's capital of Vladikavkaz, a spokesman for the local Investigative Committee said.

North Ossetia's mufti Khadzhi-Murat Gatsalov said that the attack took place around 11 p.m. on Wednesday night, as his 34-year-old deputy, Dudarov, was driving home. "He was shot at close range. Five shots were fired."

Investigators said on Thursday that they were currently considering different motives for the crime, from his professional activities to a family dispute. Gatsalov insisted that Dudarov had been attacked for his work as a cleric.

"This man died for his faith. I think it is linked to his work," Gatsalov said. "Someone doesn't want this kind of Islam in North Ossetia," he said, without elaborating on who could be behind the murder. He added that his deputy was "a peaceful man."

Gatsalov said that Dudarov had taken some time off from his work with the Spiritual Board of Muslims in the North Caucasus, the republic's leading Muslim organization promoting moderate Islam, for personal reasons: his mother was ill and his daughter was born under a month ago.

The Moscow News, 27/12/2012. http://themoscownews.com/russia/20121227/191067715.html

№ 9

Pope Benedict XVI delivers Christmas message

Pope Benedict XVI delivered his Christmas message and blessing on Thursday, calling among other things for an end to the violence in Syria.

Addressing the thousands gathered on Saint Peter's Square and millions of Catholics watching and listening to the speech on TV and radio, the 85-year-old Pontiff said people should never give up hope for peace.

"May peace spring up for the people of Syria, deeply wounded and divided by a conflict which does not spare even the defenceless and reaps innocent victims," the Pontiff said in his traditional Urbi et Orbi (to the City of Rome and to the World) speech.

"Once again I appeal for an end to the bloodshed, easier access for the relief of refugees and the displaced, and dialogue in the pursuit of a political solution to the conflict," he said.

The Pope also mentioned the constitutional crisis in Egypt and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. He also condemned terrorist attacks in Mali, Nigeria and Kenya, violence in DR Congo and expressed his support for migrants from Latin American states.

Summing up his speech, he said: "may every land become a good earth which receives and brings forth kindness and truth, justice and peace."

25/12/2012. http://en.rian.ru/world/20121225/178395507.html

№ 10
Russian police break up US adoption ban protest

Police in Moscow detained seven people on Wednesday at a protest outside the upper house of parliament against a proposed ban on US nationals adopting Russian children.

The protesters were detained after holding placards urging Federation Council members not to vote for the bill, which was overwhelmingly approved in its third and final reading by the lower house, the State Duma, last week. Federation Council committees on international affairs and legal issues advised the upper house on Tuesday to give the green light to the controversial bill.

"We need to approve this bill," Federation Council head Valentina Matvinenko told journalists ahead of the vote. "And believe me, no one has pressured me."

President Vladimir Putin earlier this month indicated that he supports the bill, but has not yet decided if he will sign it into law. If he does, the law will come into force from January 1, 2013, halting the adoption of 46 Russian children by US families whose cases are currently being processed, Russia's ombudsman for child rights, Pavel Astakhov, said on Wednesday.

A number of Russian ministers, including Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov, have criticized the bill.

TopNewsToday, 19 December, 2012. http://www.topnewstoday.org/politics/article/4047499/