



Newsletter №13

Review of the Week

The following trends were identified in the period of July 1-7:

- The traditional Muslim prayer in the village of Samtatskaro remained the main topic of the week. Media has offered the better coverage of the issue than in previous periods, however certain inaccuracies and xenophobic expressions (Public Broadcaster, *Moambe*; Rustavi 2, *Kurieri*) were identified. In this regard, *Asaval-Dasavali* newspaper was an exclusion by developing political speculations on the issue of Samtatskaro;
- Hate speech was used with regards to America, the west, as well as the United National Movement, UNM;
- Reproduction of superstitions on the part of journalists (magazine *Qvakutxedi*, newspaper *Asaval-Dasavali*) was topical in the reporting period. On the other hand, various phobias based on religious motives related to certain actions were revealed (teacher leaving the certification exam room because of the number 666, and gathering of signatures to demand alternative ID cards);
- Notably, newspaper 24 Hours published the academic analytical article concerning the church in the context of May 17 events;
- The issue of sexual minorities was topical in the context of May 17 events, statements of the NATO Secretary General, and anti-Western attitudes (newspapers *Asaval-Dasavali*, *Alia*).

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MONITORING

Muslim Prayer in Samtatskaro



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Muslim Prayer in the Village of Samtatskaro

Rustavi 2, Kurieri, July 5

Kurieri accentuated the fact that the key reason of the absence of Samtatskaro residents at the Muslim prayer was the threat against them. Comment of the Deputy Mufti of Muslims, Adam Shantadze concerning the threats against Khoja and his family is included in the story. Besides, the journalist notes in the backgrounder of the story that a week earlier, about 200 local residents broke into Khozrevanidze's house and physically assaulted his wife. Emzar Khozrevanidze, Khoja's son says that his father did not come to the prayer house because of a promise given to the residents of the village. The Minister for Reintegration Paata Zakareishvili on his part states that the main problem is the lack of motivation among believers.

Paata Zakareishvili, Minister for Reintegration: *"To what extent the local parish is motivated to participate regularly in Friday prayers – this is the problem... So far, I have not seen that many people."*

Only *Kurieri* offered the viewers the comment of Malkhaz Songulashvili, Bishop of the Evangelical - Baptist church, who expressing solidarity took part in the Muslim prayer and this could be perceived as positive on the part of media. However, comment of one of the residents of the village on the construction of a Mosque is totally out of place, since the issue concerned is related to the dispute over the functioning of a prayer house in a private property rather than to the construction of a Mosque – issue that it is not even being discussed.

The TV story also contains the interview with the counselor of the US Embassy in Georgia, concerning the importance for the US and the Embassy of guaranteeing the freedom of expression for the people of different religions.

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2088720

Maestro, News at 9, July 5

Maestro accentuated the circumstance that local

Muslims did not come to the prayer on July 5 to avoid incidents and only Muslims visiting the village performed the prayer. The story offers comment of the State Minister for Reintegration Paata Zakareishvili speaking of certain quotas for Muslims coming to the village to pray, which is a pretty vague term.

Paata Zakareishvili: *"It is not necessary for about 4-5 people to come to the village to perform the prayer. Believers do not need to travel, since there are no holy sites here... Plus, of course, we are interested in how many locals are going to participate in this prayer."*

The story also lists the reasons of the absence of the Khoja of the village and local Muslims at the prayer (in an incident a week earlier, local residents threatened and attacked Suliko Khozrevanidze's family). At the same time, there is a position of the village Governor Irakli Shiolashvili in the story referring to the interests of the majority which is a discriminatory approach. He also states that there are only 4 Muslim families living in the village and nobody interferes with their prayer in their own houses. Position of wife of the former Governor of the village Tsiuri Takidze accusing the Governor of Dedoplistskaro is also presented in the story. She claims that her husband has been fired from the job because of his religion. The Governor's response is also offered.

Only *Maestro* TV in the backgrounder of the story, brought up the July 3 address by Prime Minister Ivanishvili to the population of Samtatskaro, calling upon them to respect the law and allow minorities to perform prayer.

Bidzina Ivanishvili, Prime-MInister: *"According to our Constitution, all religious minorities have the right to practice religion and pray as they want. I would like to ensure our society and address the residents of Samtatskaro in Dedoplistskaro region: they should comply with the law. Through negotiations which are the best way, we are trying to persuade both si-*

Muslim Prayer in the Village of Samtatskaro

des to allow minority practice their religion. But if we cannot do it through negotiation, we will employ the full force of the law.”

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2088175

Imedi, Oronika, July 5

Imedi focuses on the fact that the Friday prayer has been conducted without any incidents and



Village Samtatskaro, July 5

that the representatives of the government, diplomatic corps, and human rights defenders were in Samtatskaro. It is also noted that the local Muslims failed to attend the prayer most probably because of the fear, that Khoja did not take part in the prayer because of the promise given to the residents of the village, and that about 200 villagers threatened Khoja's family a week earlier.

Journalist in the story paraphrases the position of Dedoplistskaro Governor Irakli Shiolashvili stating that speculations with religious issues have become frequent in the village

lately. Following this assessment concerning speculations, there is a comment by Tsiuri Takidze accusing Irakli Shiolashvili in firing her husband on religious grounds. Such order of the sound-bites in the story and the entire context create perception that Takidze's accusations in certain ways are also speculative.

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2087819

Public Broadcaster, Moambe, July 5

Moambe accurately describes July 5 events related to the Friday prayer in the village of Samtatskaro. However, there is an irrelevant generalization on the part of the journalist interpreting one of the comments of the village resident as the position of the entire population of the village. Namely, as an evidence of the fact that the population of the village firmly retains its position, the journalist brings the sound-bite of Samtatskaro resident who, on his part, speaks about the compromise, which makes the journalist's assessment irrelevant.

Resident of Samtatskaro, no title: *“One cannot prevent this. However, it is better for all sides to negotiate, and for all forces to back down. We should do whatever is necessary for the village.”*

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2088101

Rustavi 2, P.S. July 7

Post-Scriptum focuses on the need of legal action as well as on the controversies identified in the assessments of the local government representatives. For instance, the journalist says that the criminal investigation has been launched on the fact of threat and interference with the religious practice, while the Governor of Dedoplistskaro Irakli Shiolashvili says that there is no confrontation on religious grounds in the village. The second example of inconsistency is the statement of the Governor concerning the lack of motivation among the members of the parish.

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Muslim Prayer in the Village of Samtatskaro

Irakli Shiolashvili, Governor of Dedoplistskaro: *“Today, I was ensured that there is no perish of the size adequate to the number of gathered signatures, while there were all conditions for perish to be here. They could have come and pray, if they wanted.”*

In response, Khoja’s son Edner Khozrevanidze states that they were safe only while the visiting representatives of the central government were in the village, rather than after their departure, and that’s why Khozrevanidzes did not take part in the prayer. According to his information, about 20 people used to gather for prayer in another flat before, rather than 4, as the Governor stated.

The story also tells the history of the prayer house that started functioning according to the demand of the Muslims, and that the private house has nothing to do with the Mosque.

Comment of the Bishop of the Evangelical - Baptist church Malkhaz Songulashvili is included. He suggests that it is a duty of a Christian to be in the places where citizens of the state are deprived of the right to perform prayer according to their beliefs as well as the Public Defender’s comment concerning the insufficient legal reaction to the issue.

Ucha Nanuashvili, Public Defender: *“The fact that nobody was made accountable for such violations stimulates the same violations in the future, allows the repetition of the disruption of the prayer and this is very important. So, our recommendation that we sent recently to the Ministry of Internal Affairs touches upon the need of punishing a concrete person, in order to prevent such crime in the future.”*

Generally, the story is positive, however there is a xenophobic quote of one of the residents in the end of the story inclusion of which was not necessary at all.

Resident of Samtatskaro (no title): *“Wouldn’t they tell to my grandson, fuck your Tatar mother [when they learn that he is from Samtatskaro]? That’s what we are trying to avoid, that’s why we do not want this.”*

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2089113

Rustavi 2, Imedi, Kavkasia, July 3

Stories by *Kurieri* and *Qronika* cover not only Bidzina Ivanishvili’s address to the residents of Samtatskaro calling upon them to respect the law, but also his assessment that the events in the village are related to the policy of the previous government and are intentionally aggravated.

Bidzina Ivanishvili, Prime-Minister: *“This is the heritage of the 9 years’ rule, very often artificially aggravated.”* [Rustavi 2]

“The fact that this issue was hidden from an eye and thrown into the corner now revealed itself.” [Rustavi 2, Imedi]

TV Company *Kavkasia* aired the part of the Prime -Minister’s address in which he underlines the constitutional guarantees of religious freedom and calls on everybody to respect the law.

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2085995

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2114903

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2114911

Asaval - Dasavali, July 1-7

“The noticeable escalation of confrontation on religious grounds shows that Saakashvili who turned into a political corpse recently, is a true destroyer of Georgia. Saakashvili and his gang organize this sabotage!” [headline]

Giorgi Gigauri, journalist: *“These people do not want to turn their villages into mini-Meccas and mini-Medinas, and why is that so surprising?! However, the devil is not in Muslim rituals, but in the anti-state minded heads of Saakashvili and his gang! These provocative movements started after the disastrous defeat of Saakashvili in October elections, when “rose men” started thinking about perverse plans aimed at discrediting the new government of Georgia and destabilizing the country! Yes, the acts of sabotage of confrontation on religious grounds among the population of Tsintskaro, Nigvziani, and Samtatskaro are planned by Saakashvili, Bokeria and their gang! It is not a mere coincidence that notorious jackals of the Liberty Institute such as Beka Mindiashvili and their brothers were snooping around there at the time of the incidents!”* Continued on p. 12

Hate Speech

Asaval – Dasavali, July 1-7

Poet Rezo Amashukeli not only uses the hate speech, but basing on wrong assumptions, facts, and generalization promotes anti-American and anti-western attitudes.

Rezo Amashukeli, poet: *“I am saying directly and loudly: I hate America! I hate it so much that I might stop listening to and playing Jazz! These Nazis and their protectors made me hate US! Yes, I hate America and I am its bitter rival. These Mankurts seeded such hatred in me.*

...this interview might be fatal for me. I am sure that Americans have their hand in the murder of Guram Sharadze and killing me won't be hard for them, but I don't care!

...ok, let's join NATO, but why would you – either America or the west – wish to cripple my soul and then turn me into a part of your dirty life? I will say directly, Americans should take care of their own stinky mentality and stop lecturing us! Let Americans first manage to stop maniacs killing 20-25 people every other day, school children planting bombs in the classrooms and killing their classmates, sons cutting their fathers throats and only then talk to us. Why such things happen in the US, because they have perverse, damaged psychics.

Americans want to spoil, degenerate Georgians. That's why with the support of Russians they brought to power Saakashvili and his Mankurts stating openly that they are going to remake the nation and produce a new breed of Georgian.

...and these people should change us? This hermaphrodite, ugly with body and soul, Akaki Minashvili should change me?”

Father Elizbar Diakonidze: *“The only proper punishment for them [UNM] is to make them rot in jail till the end of days!”*

Dima Jaiani, actor: *“National Movement will face the lynch trial.”*
<http://www.asavali.ge/archive/asdas/2013/976/976.pdf>

Kviris Palitra, July 1-7



Jansugh Charkviani, poet: *“Now I think that those who are guilty – the President and his men – should not be imprisoned but subjected to the same things as in torture videos. This would be the best for them to see how it feels... one should not be shy to have a broom shoved in...”*

<http://www.kvirispalitra.ge/public/17686-jansugh-charkviani-qar-unda-ivo-morckhvi-rom-gagirtcon-cockhi-prezidents-da-mis-damqashebs-igive-unda-gauketho-rac-im-kadrebzeaq.html>



Rezo Amashukeli, poet: *“I am saying directly and loudly: I hate America! I hate it so much that I might stop listening to and playing Jazz!*

...and these people should change us? This hermaphrodite, ugly with body and soul, Akaki Minashvili should change me?”

Religion

Alia, July 4

Interview with the Head of the National Religious Institute Zviad Tomaradze touches upon the legal initiative of the organization according to which the insult of religious feelings is criminalized and punishable. The respondent also recalls the Samtatskaro incident stating that punishment of those interfering with religious practice becomes possible if the law is adopted.

Public Broadcaster, Moambe, July 2

The story is dedicated to the Church as to the institution with the highest public trust. The article by BBC is included that focuses on the statements of the church against yoga, May 17 events, and campaign against ID cards.

The story opens up with an interview with journalist Magda Kalandadze stating that following May 17 events her attitudes towards church became more negative. Basing on the recent studies conducted by the American Republican Institute (IRI), journalist states that the majority thinks differently from Magda Kalandadze and 93% trust the Church. Notably, journalist fails to identify when the study has been conducted, which is essential to identify whether there are any changes of civil attitudes towards the church as in case of Magda Kalandadze following the May 17 events. Last survey by IRI was conducted in the period of May 17 – June 2 and published on August 6. Therefore, the journalist could not have known whether May 17 events affected citizens' attitudes. It is important, that journalist identifies exactly all necessary data including the timing of the study when covering public opinion surveys.

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2084993

<http://www.iri.org/news-events-press-center/news/iri-georgian-poll-shows-improvement-some-sectors-continued-concern-ove>

24 Hours, July 3

The newspaper publishes analytical article by the professors of the Tbilisi State University Vakhtang Tsagareishvili and Tengiz Kikacheishvili concerning the crisis of the Georgian Or-

thodox Church according the authors, in the context of May 17 events.

Authors focus on the thought that whatever was happening in the name of Christianity has nothing to do with the Christian values and that majority of believers have not even read the Bible. The key problem, according to the authors, is the intolerance of the church towards any critical thought.

Vakhtang Tsagareishvili, Tengiz Kikacheishvili: *“What does it mean if a believer defends his religion and saints with a stone and stick? This means that these believers do not believe in the existence of the God.”*

Article also touches upon the issue of prejudices recalling the statement of the Minister of Justice Tea Tsulukiani concerning the three numbers 6 in the ID cards.

<http://24saati.ge/index.php/category/opinion/2013-07-03/39169.html>

Public Broadcaster, Moambe, July 2

The story concerning the migration of Copts to Georgia identifies the religion of Arabs from Egypt because the main reason of the migration is the confrontation between the local Christians and Muslims. Journalist notes that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as well as the Georgian Consulate in Egypt decline to comment while providing the information on the numbers of those willing to migrate basing on foreign media.

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2084977

Funding of Religious Congregations

The study conducted by Transparency International - Georgia concerning the funding of religious congregations was covered by the Public Broadcaster (July 4, 5), prime-time news on Imedi TV, and newspaper 24 Hours (July 5).

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2087534; http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2088094; http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2088092; http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2087531

<http://24saati.ge/index.php/category/news/politics/2013-07-05/39216>

Prejudices

Obiektivi, Night Studio, July 2

In a program concerning the Presidential election, the viewer in a phone call promotes prejudices and incorrect interpretation of the Bible while talking about one of the voting procedures – inking of the fingers to mark the voter. The host fails to respond.

Viewer: *“Nobody takes into account that people are very religious... for instance, concerning the marking procedure. There was a big stir over the inking of the right hand. People were saying that according to the Bible it could be a mark of the Satan and many voters refuse to participate in election because they do not want such stamp on their right hands. They did not change the rule, what difference does it make whether it’s the right hand or...”*

Nino Ratishvili, anchor: *“Yes, couldn’t have they marked the left hand?”*

Viewer: *“But they did not. You know what is the rule? They can mark the left hand if a person does not have a single finger on the right one. This amendment should be adopted, shouldn’t it?”*

<http://obiektivi.net/tv1.php?id=12675>

Imedi, Qronika, July 3

Journalist of *Qvakutkhedi* magazine raises the question according to her own religious beliefs at the press-conference with the Prime-Minister. She is interested in the solution of the ID cards’ issue which, due to the religious superstitions, is problematic for the part of believers.

Khatuna Saginasjvili, journalist of Qvakutkhedi: *“I represent hundreds of thousands of believers. I am not here in a capacity of a journalist only. I would like to ask you, whether we are going to have a concrete decision on notorious ID cards during your government?”*

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2085995



Khatuna Saginasjvili, journalist of Qvakutkhedi: *“I represent hundreds of thousands of believers. I am not here in a capacity of a journalist only. I would like to ask you, whether we are going to have a concrete decision on notorious ID cards during your government?”*

666 - Mark of the Beast

Public Broadcaster, Moambe, July 5

Public Broadcaster aired an extensive story concerning the three the number 666 i.e. “mark of the beast” linking two stories: protest of the teacher in Kutaisi who left the certification exam room because she had a seat #6 in the sector 6, and had to sign the form where her name was listed 6th. According to the teacher’s assessment, she as a religious person identified three numbers 6 as a “mark of the beast”. The *Moambe* report also reflects on the position of Orthodox Christians’ Assembly, video prepared by the Ministry of Justice, and the decision by the Synod denying the existence of the “mark of the beast” in electronic ID cards.



http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2088164&rc=1

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Prejudices

[Maestro, News at 9, July 5](#)

TV *Maestro* also covered the gathering of signatures by the Orthodox Citizens' Assembly. Representative of the Assembly incorrectly refers to the position of the Patriarchy stating that electronic ID cards are unacceptable for the Holy Synod as well. In difference with the GPB, *Maestro* did not quote the official position of the Church stated in a special decision adopted by the Synod, denying the presence of a mark of the beast in ID cards. Thus, the journalist promotes the spread of inaccurate information as well as helps deepening the existing prejudices. At the same time, the video provided by Zaza Nanobashvili (Orthodox Christians' Assembly) in which he, showing the French ID card, states that electronic IDs are unacceptable in France as well. Basing on the abovementioned video, the journalist makes incorrect generalization and states that the representative of the organization "provides the documentary material reflecting the rule of the release of personal identification documents in the EU countries". It should be noted that EU member states have different approaches to the issue concerned but due to the motivation of protecting private information

rather than due to the religious superstitions. It would have been more appropriate if the journalist gathered more information independently or contacted a qualified expert.

Along with the video of the Ministry of Justice, the story offers the comment of the Prime Minister concerning the issue, stating that he is not well aware of the case.

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2088184

[24 Hours, July 6](#)

Basing on the information of the *Interpressnews* agency, 24 Hours as well covered the incident of a teacher leaving the certification exam room because of the number 666.

<http://24saati.ge/index.php/category/news/2013-07-06/39245>

[Asaval – Dasavali, July 1-7](#)

Journalist Giorgi Gigauri dedicates an extensive article to superstitions, namely to the number of the beast on the US one dollar bills and other symbols, presence of the Satanist and Masonic symbols in the logo of the kids' network Nickelodeon, statues and photos of the US presidents.

<http://www.asavali.ge/archive/asdas/2013/976/976.pdf>

Ethnic Minorities

[Maestro, News at 9, July 7](#)

It might be considered as positive that the TV Company *Maestro* news service prepared story about the teaching process at public schools of ethnic minorities and the issue of a translation of the textbooks. However, the position of the Ministry of Education is presented disproportionately, with the brief sound-bite of the Deputy Minister. At the same time, journalist in the editorial comment states that representatives of ethnic minorities are unable to pass the national exams to higher education institutions due to a lack of knowledge of state language. Interview with one of the students of the Ivane Javakishvili State university stating that being a graduate of the Azeri school she was able to pass the Exam in General Skills in Azeri language. Despite such inconsistency demonstrating that ethnic minorities can pass the unified national exams in their native languages, attention paid to the issues and problems of ethnic minorities by

by the news service is very important, since media generally pays less attention to the interests of different minority groups, with the exception of separate negative incidents.

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2088550

[Obiektivi, Night Studio, July 4](#)

Viewer: *"I want neither Armenian nor Azerbaijani if Georgian does not feel well, man. I do not care either about the US or Russia... but if you kill everybody, if Georgians seize existing, then hell with this land, hell with those Chinese and Arabs arriving here..."*

<http://obiektivi.net/tv1.php?id=12710>

Sexual Minorities

Obiektivi, Night Studio, July 3

Bondo Mdzinarishvili, host: *“What an irony, Hitler used to execute drug addicts, homosexuals and people of different category, used to exile them and sent to the concentration camps, and finally Germans came to the point at the end of the 20th century and beginning of the 21st century that in Berlin – the city where Hitler has been bitterly fighting this – they elected homosexual to the position of a Mayor.”*

<http://obiektivi.net/tv1.php?id=12693>

Alia, July 4

Gela Zedelashvili, Journalist: *“Majority of journalists dislike such provoked issues [journalist Ninia Kakabadze’s question to the Prime Minister concerning May 17 events], they started shouting, becomes quite noisy... Ninia continues: “there are religious and sexual extremists in the country!” Guram Shamanidy is outraged, what pederasts, what extremists?! I can feel it... they will run over Ninia and several other women.”*

Channel 1, Rustavi 2, Imedi, Channel 9, July 3

All channels covered the reaction of Ninia Kakabadze’s colleagues in response to the question raised by her concerning May 17 events at the press conference of the Prime-Minister. The news story by *Moambe* offers Ninia Kakabadze’s comment in which she states that journalists themselves are religious extremists, while the author of the *Qronika* report in editorial states that because of the question on the rights of minorities some of the colleagues called Ninia Kakabadze “Soroseli” [derived from the last name of George Soros]

Moambe brings up the Prime-Minister’s accusations against the previous government, in the context of May 17 events.

Bidzina Ivanishvili, Prime-Minister: *“The falsity of the previous government, artificial public order was also a result of what happened on May 17.”*

Kurieri and *Qronika* offer the response of the Prime-Minister to the question of *Netgazeti*, concerning the homophobic statements of the majority leader David Saganelidze.

Bidzina Ivanishvili: *“I personally made a remark for his attention at the council meeting... and in one of his public appearances he made a correction.”*

Maia Metskhvarishvili, Netgazeti journalist: *“We have not heard his apology.”*

Bidzina Ivanishvili: *“He has not said anything to apologize for. He just clarified his earlier expression.”*

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2086033; http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2085995

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2114903; <http://www.tv9.ge/?l=G&m=1&sid=0&id=4194>

24 Hours, July 5

The leader of the Majority David Saganelidze made clarification of his homophobic statement on May 17 events in 24 Hours newspaper.

David Saganelidze, leader of the Parliamentary majority: *“Of course, people should have the right to express their opinion. They may do whatever they want, but they should not interfere with my way of life, should not influence my children. I do not want anybody else to influence my kids, except myself. I have nothing to apologize for, what should I apologize for?”*

<http://24saati.ge/index.php/category/news/2013-07-05/39223>

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Sexual Minorities

Asaval-Dasavali, July 1-7

Rezo Amashukeli, poet: *“Recently, one human rights’ defender lady [Lela Gaprindashvili] made a TV appearance, she looks like some Mexican bird and called the whole nation ignorant, because according to her, we are confronting LGBT! Let this lady come out and talk to me with her beak...”*

Kviris Oronika, July 1-7

Lali Moroshkina, Department of Penitentiary: *“By the way, now people of non-traditional orientation say that the street rally was not their idea and they did not want it either. We saw the results recently when Rasmussen accused us in being undemocratic. All of these were directed against Bidzina Ivanishvili and the new government.”*

Anti-Western Attitudes

Anti-western attitudes were mostly related to the statements of the NATO Secretary General Rasmussen with regards to May 17 events and concerning the unacceptability of violence in a democratic society.

Asaval - Dasavali, July 1-7

Dima Jaiani, actor: *“Should a nation with thousand years’ culture dance to their butt’s tune? Are their behinds our ticket to NATO? I don’t want it, bro! Should I be damned if I tolerate this and spit into my ancestors’ graves! If these pederasts are so dear for Rasmussen, let him gather them and take to Afghanistan to fight – we’ll see what use he makes of them! Should we allow massacring our boys in Afghanistan so the pederasts may have a parade here? Would they dare to tell Israel to allow pederasts to run joyfully in the streets? Let them dare to tell this to Armenia or Turkey.”*

<http://www.asavali.ge/archive/asdas/2013/976/976.pdf>

Alia, July 5

Nino Samkharadze, journalist: *“Taking some iodine would not be bad for the NATO secretary General Rasmussen... For Rasmussen protecting the butts of LGBT persons turned out to be more important than the army of victims of the violent government. When in a 21st century you show the facts of torture of people, rape and murder to the Secretary General and he continues referring to chief Jako as a democrat, then you are a cretin or simply, bribed!”*

Asaval - Dasavali, July 1-7

Kakha Kukava, Free Georgia: *“Rasmussen visiting Tbilisi directly insulted Georgians, while calling Saakashvili a “beacon of Democracy” and recommending Ivanishvili’s government to better protect the rights of sexual minorities!”*

Sexual Minorities

...It is a very simple thing: American empire only defends its own interests in Georgia, and whoever was tortured, beaten up and raped in our country is beyond its interests...

Georgia will never become a member of NATO!"

<http://www.asavali.ge/archive/asdas/2013/976/976.pdf>

Giorgi Gigauri, journalist: *"It seems that for the representatives of Appathurai's country rape of men and kids does not count as a crime!"*

Now, dear reader, tell me what is the difference between being raped and being "Appathuraid?" Yes, rape of people, with arms and legs tied, by the Saakashvili regime is equal to being "Appathuraid!"

<http://www.asavali.ge/archive/asdas/2013/976/976.pdf>

Rezo Amashukeli, poet: *"His Excellency Rasmussen talked about May 17, but why not about May 26? This is not violence and May 17 was violence? That's why I am saying that they want to spoil and degenerate Georgians... they were surprised and outraged that Georgians were against the parade of the pederasts and their rights' defenders. They have been lecturing us, and do you know what does that mean? This is a direct call and directive that we should reject our Georgian identity."*

<http://www.asavali.ge/archive/asdas/2013/976/976.pdf>

Father Elizbar Diakonidze:

"Remind me a single NATO member country being demanded permanently to protect the rights of sexual minorities, or any other minorities, including religious minorities. There is not a single NATO country they can criticize for this, they dare to lecture and teach only us."

<http://www.asavali.ge/archive/asdas/2013/976/976.pdf>

Gia Burjanadze, People's As-

semble: *"Anders Fogh Rasmussen has seriously insulted Georgia! NATO Secretary general did not say a single word about the most cruel crimes committed by these cannibals, instead, he eagerly defended the rights of LGBT stating that there should be no more May 17s as this is the democracy!"*

<http://www.asavali.ge/archive/asdas/2013/976/976.pdf>

Kviris Palitra, July 1-7

Soso Tsiskarishvili, expert:

"Rasmussen, so deeply concerned with May 17 events, maintains silence on May 26 developments. This causes immense disappointment towards NATO within the society. That's why I would like to ensure the reader that NATO and Rasmussen are not synonyms, however, for him Saakashvili and Georgia are identical terms."

<http://www.kvirispalitra.ge/kviris-tema/17737-qrasmusenisthvis-saakashvili-da-saqarthveli-identuricnebebiaq.html>



Dima Jaiani, actor:

"Should a nation with thousand years' culture dance to their butt's tune? Are their behinds our ticket to NATO? I don't want it, bro! Should I be damned if I tolerate this and spit into my ancestors' graves! If these pederasts are so dear for Rasmussen, let him gather them and take to Afghanistan to fight – we'll see what use he makes of them! Should we allow massacring our boys in Afghanistan so the pederasts may have a parade here? Would they dare to tell Israel to allow pederasts to run joyfully in the streets? Let them dare to tell this to Armenia or Turkey."



Al. Chavchavadze №54,
Entrance 5, Floor 4.
Tbilisi, Georgia 0179

Tel/Fax: (+99532) 2 22 00 16

E-mail: info@mdfgeorgia.ge
mdfgeo@gmail.com

WWW.MDFGEORGIA.GE



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Public Defender Demands the Investigation of Samtatskaro Incidents

Public Defender of Georgia recommended the Ministry of Internal Affairs to launch the investigation of events in the village of Samtatskaro on May 24, May 31, June 7, and June 28 of 2013, and to undertake appropriate measures aimed at provision of the rights and security of the Muslim residents of Samtatskaro village.

<http://ombudsman.ge/index.php?page=1001&lang=0&id=1744>

Muslim Prayer in the Village of Samtatskaro

Continued from p. 2-4

This is the same gang that equaled the rights of Georgian Orthodox Church of thousand years with the sects of various kinds."

<http://www.asavali.ge/archive/asdas/2013/976/976.pdf>

24 Hours and Rezonansi

Newspapers *Rezonansi* and 24 Hours covered the Muslim prayer in Samtatskaro on July 5. *Rezonansi* also touched upon the address of the Public Defender to the Ministry of Internal Affairs, and the information by the *Interpressnews* agency in which Khodzrevanidze states that Muslims were not oppressed since June 28.

<http://24saati.ge/index.php/category/news/2013-07-06/39243>

http://resonancedaily.com/index.php?id_rub=7&id_artc=16202

http://resonancedaily.com/index.php?id_rub=7&id_artc=16251

http://resonancedaily.com/index.php?id_rub=7&id_artc=16295

Public Broadcaster, *Aqcentebi*, July 2

Nino Danelia, media expert: *"When Mr. Tariel Nakaidze the leader of Georgian Muslims arrived in the village, police called him a provocateur forced him back into the car he arrived by, and told him to never dare coming back to the village... Can you imagine anyone prohibiting you to come and pray to the Trinity Church of Gergeti just because you live in Tbilisi?!"*

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2084712

