

NO TO PHOBIA!

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF MEDIA DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION AND GEORGIAN DEMOCRACY INITIATIVE

OBSERVATIONS OF THE MONITORING

The following observations have been made during the period between 31 March and 6 April:

- Hate speech was directed against the writer Zurab Karumidze (by Elizbar Javelidze, People's Assembly; Asaval-Dasavali newspaper), the National Movement (by Robert Sturua, theater director; Geworld.ge) and Republican Party (by Asaval-Dasavali); calls for violence were made by Asaval-Dasavali newspaper;
- Together with instances of xenophobia (Asaval-Dasavali newspaper; Vazha Otarashvili, Patriots Alliance; Alexander Abdaladze, Armenologist) there were unfounded statements about ethnic identity in the negative context (Asaval-Dasavali, Pirveli news agency, Alexander Abdaladze, Armenologist);

Continued on p.2

7, 31 March - 6 April



REACTION

COMPLAINT OF MDF AND TDI VS. REZONANSI NEWSPAPER

15 April, 2014

On 5 April Media Development Foundation, MDF, and Tolerance and Diversity Institute, TDI, lodged a complaint to the Georgian Charter of Journalistic Ethics against the article headlined "The Hollywood stars who hate homosexuals" published by *Rezonansi* newspaper on 12 March.

MDF and TDI argue that the headline promotes hatred towards the LGBT persons and breaches Article 7 of the Charter of Journalistic Ethics, on unacceptability



discrimination. According to the complaint, the newspaper also violated Article 1 (Accuracy) of the Charter since the headline does not fully correspond to the content of the article which provides opinions of those who defend LGBT rights or whose attitudes towards LGBT groups could not be regarded as the expression of hate.

On 11 April the Charter of Journalistic Ethics accepted the complaint for consideration.

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WWW.MDFGEORGIA.GE

WWW.GDI.GE



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OBSERVATIONS OF THE MONITORING

Beginning from p. 1

- Anti-Western sentiments were expressed by officials (Dima Jaiani, Minister of Education and Culture of Abkhazia), clergy (Bishop Ioane of Rustavi), and media (Asaval-Dasavali, Saqinform, geworld.ge, Pirveli). Saqinform purposely spread false news about economic aspects of integration with EU;
- Internet portal Saqinform was spreading false information about EU building a concentration camp in Ukraine;
- A story in Post Scriptum program on Rustavi 2 TV about mosque construction in Batumi unfoundedly connects realization of the right of Muslim citizens of Georgia to have freedom of prayer with obligations imposed by Turkey;
- Religious discrimination was again related to the award given by the State Department to the Bishop of Evangelical-Baptist Church Rusudan Gotsiridze (Elizbar Diakonidze, dean). This respondent also claimed necessity of keeping religious proselytism in the kindergarten and discriminated against children of different religions;
- Discrimination by sexual orientation was noted in the context of the anti-discrimination law (Guram Palavandishvili), also in relation to the Prime Minister's constitutional initiative about defining family as a union of woman and man

(Asaval-Dasavali, Elizbar Javelidze, People's Assembly). Chairman of the parliamentary European Integration Committee (Viktor Dolidze) spoke about LGBT individuals as "people who went against nature and chose such way of life";

- Compared to the previous period there was considerably more sexist language and gender discrimination.

Examples of positive reporting:

- Interpressnews and Netgazeti reported on the congratulation by the Public Defender to the Assyrians of Georgia (1 April);
- Panorama show of Imedi TV aired a story about life of the Dukhobors (6 April);
- Netgazeti reported about difficulties that exist in Georgia in relation to International Transgender Day (1 April);
- Netgazeti published the address by 10 NGOs to the Georgian parliamentary delegation about European Council draft resolution incompatible with religious freedom (5 April).

HATE SPEECH

ASAVAL-DASAVALI, 31 MARCH – 6 APRIL

ELIZBAR JAVELIDZE, People's Assembly: "If they still appoint this sick Karumidze ambassador, it means that Republicans prevailed over Garibashvili!.. And I don't believe that Irakli Garibashvili – this truly Georgian man, will agree that this nonentity is going to be ambassador of Georgia!"

GIORGI GIGAURI, journalist: "This shameful behavior is that of the Georgian Dream

as a whole, but in this case the role of the Georgians-hating Republicans is especially notable!"

GEWORLD.GE, 1 APRIL ROBERT STURUA, director:

„What pedigree of people defends our beloved Saaka? The murderer, uneducated, corrupt, liar, stupid, thief... if you cut him you will see nothing but worms of ambition inside his

purulent body!“...

<http://www.geworld.ge/ViewGE.php?G=9815>

GEWORLD.GE, 2 APRIL DAVID MINDIASHVILI, journalist:

„As to electroshock, find a pig of your [Nigzar Tsiklauri, UNM MP] weight (it should not be hard), touch it with electroshock once and see what happens to it. If you cannot find a pig, you can experiment on Givi Targamadze [UNM MP]“...

<http://geworld.ge/View.php?ArtId=5773>



CALLS FOR VIOLENCE

ASAVAL-DASAVALI, 31 MARCH – 6 APRIL

"Kill him before he burns us [Mikheil Saakashvili]!"

SPECULATION ABOUT WORKS OF LITERATURE

Speculations of Asaval-Dasavali related to the literary work by Zurab Karumidze "Fox-Trot" touched both Zurab Karumidze and all writers or public figures who expressed ideas deemed unacceptable by this newspaper's editorial policy (Rati Amaglobeli, Lasha Bugadze; "all liberasts and Sorosian witches have climbed out from their holes"; self-proclaimed „writer” pederasts, hermaphrodite frogs learned in self-fertilizing in the swamp of Soros and their "Mishavizions"!"; "Nationals and Nationa;-oriented liberasts"; "liberasts sect"). Among them were representatives of the pen-center, which filed a complaint on this topic to the Media Ethics Charter, and Republican Party ("Georgians-hating Republicans").

SOSO JACHVLIANIJ, Georgian Dream: "This nonentity who is enemy of holiness [Lasha Bugadze] calls me an odious person?!..."

You know where these Bugadzes, Karumidzes, Burchuladzes feed? These rascals get money for fighting against Georgian holy things, spirituality, Orthodox religion, mother-Church! They are ideological bastards of Allen Dulles and executors of his dirty doctrine!"

SOSO JACHVLIANIJ, Georgian

Dream: "This nonentity who is enemy of holiness [Lasha Bugadze] calls me an odious person?!..."

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XENOPHOBIA

ASAVAL-DASAVALI, 31 MARCH – 6 APRIL

GIORGI GIGAURI, journalist: "In Georgia of Zviad [Gamsakurdia, former President] Indians, Chinese, Pakistanis would not make Georgians work as slaves on the Georgian land!"

REZONANSI, 4 APRIL

VAZHA OTARASHVILI, Patriots Alliance: „I don't remember that during history of Georgia any of our neighboring countries sent us an army of help... So we must be ready for everything – we are threatened from Russia, Armenia, as well as from Turkey and Azerbaijan.“

UNFOUNDED IDENTIFICATION OF ETHNICITY

ASAVAL-DASAVALI, 31 MARCH – 6 APRIL

GIORGI GIGAURI, journalist: "All this finalized on 25 March Mikheil Ter-Saakiant's sitting in Kiev... Maia Ter-Oganova (Orjonikidze) temporarily used by the Nationals!"

ALEXSANDER ABDALADZE, Armenianologist: " Mikheil Ter-Saakiant's would not be Ter-Saakiant's if he did not feel the dream of Alexander Khatsov and Aghas Khanjian! That's why he wanted to move capital to Ktasisi!... Thankfully, Armenian dream of Ter-Saa-

kiant's was opposed by the Georgian Dream and we stopped this disaster in time!"

PIRVELI, 5 APRIL

The agency published Facebook comments about TV show of an actor Duta Skhirtladze and used one of discriminatory comments – “Duta, don't talk about Georgians, you one with an earring” – as their material's headline, which expresses the editorial policy. „Skhirtladze is his mother's surname, and he is Valitsky, so what Georgianness or loss of it does he talk about?!”

http://pia.ge/show_news.php?id=10180&lang=geo

TURKOPHOBIA

KAVKASIA, BARIERI, 1 APRIL

SOSO MANJAVIDZE: “It is Turkey here, which is also dangerous.“

http://www.myvideo.ge/?video_id=2302394

ASAVAL-DASAVALI, 31 MARCH – 6 APRIL

GIORGI GIGAURI, journalist: "In Georgia of Zviad Turks would not think of themselves as masters of Adjara!"

ANTI-WESTERN SENTIMENTS

PRIME TIME, 31 MARCH

DIMA JAIANI, Minister of Education and Culture of Abkhazia: "When they tell me Zhvania was a pederast, let them prove this... I have said and say it again – if pederasty is needed for Georgia to join EU and NATO, then I, Dima Jaiani, will never want to join NATO. I am a son of Vazha-Pshavela's country. If we have to step on the road to degradation then I don't want either NATO or EU".

BISHOP IOANE of RUSTAVI: "Like we suffered because of globalization, so did the Serbs. We proclaimed solidarity with Serbs there and Russians had nothing to do with that. The film concerned bombardment of Serbian cities by NATO forces, killings of civilians in Belgrad and other places."

OBIEKTIVI, NIGHT STUDIO, 1 APRIL

VIEWER [phoning in]: "What this God-hating, Muslim and homosexualist Obama deserved, that he got, so why are we surprised. These Bush and Fule and Ashton who looks like a man, gathered what they planted."

SOSO ZAALISHVILI, anchor: „Georgia was always about European values, but Europe itself began to lose those values. This ultra-liberal thinking in Europe destroyed traditional European values, and what is happening in the world politics today is the result of this.“

<http://obieqtivi.net/tv1.php?id=16406>

ASAVAL-DASAVALI, 31 MARCH – 6 APRIL

DITO CHUBINIDZE, journalist: "Yes, my country is dead today and it does not matter where they put it – into Putin's Eurasian net or Euro-American gay club!

GEWORLD.GE, 2 APRIL

DIMITRY MONIAVA, journalist: "We cannot exclude the possibility that because of fear of angering EU officials a part of the Parliament members will try to block this initiative [to constitutionally define marriage as a union of man and woman]"

<http://geworld.ge/View.php?ArtId=5777>

GEWORLD.GE, 3 APRIL

GURAM PALAVANDISHVILI: "Mr. Stephan

Fule, it is a myth that EU will not make us accept the homosexual doctrine in return for signing Association Agreement".

<http://www.geworld.ge/View.php?ArtId=5787>

GEWORLD.GE, 3 APRIL

DIMITRI LORTKIPANIDZE, mayoral candidate from Democratic Movement: „This rubbish claim that our main goal today is Euro-Atlantic structures must end once and for all.“

GIORGI GERMANIDZE, Global Tendencies Research Institute : „We must not sign economic part of the Association Agreement with EU. This means unconditional joining this organization which is going to destroy our economy.“



DIMA JAIANI, Minister of Education and Culture of Abkhazia: *“If pederasty is needed for Georgia to join EU and NATO, then I, Dima Jaiani, will never want to join NATO. I am a son of Vazha-Pshavela's country. If we have to step on the road to degradation then I don't want either NATO or EU”.*

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ANTI-WESTERN SENTIMENTS

Beginning from p. 5

“...It is not by chance that so many NGOs, separate individuals fight against the Church, clergy, national mentality and values!.. The closer we get to Europe, the stronger will get these attacks on Church, spirituality, mentality and everything that defines our national identity.“

LEVAN CHACHUA, person freed from prison with the status of political prisoner:

“This European integration process in Georgia is going on as a silent sabotage... The government is signing it while avoiding society. Therefore, I say it directly: this agreement is illegitimate“.

<http://geworld.ge/View.php?ArtId=5784>

PIRVELI, 2 APRIL

SERGEI GLAZOV, Advisor to the President of Russia on the issues of regional integration:

„Association with EU means that economy of Georgia will be left in a very difficult situation without perspectives: EU only needs political obedience from Georgia. EU views Georgia as a position from which to fight against Russia, and US, and other NATO members think the same thing. US policy of control over Georgia was expressed by the fact that they gave a great lot of money to the Georgian law enforcement agencies, but did not do anything to develop economy.“

http://pia.ge/show_news.php?id=9726&lang=geo

SAQINFORM, 1 APRIL

The law about gay marriage has come into force in England and Wales! Georgia – forward towards Europe!

http://saqinform.ge/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=18356:2014-04-01-11-21-31&catid=100:sazogadoeba&Itemid=396#ixzz2ynzD36IW

SAQINFORM, 1 APRIL

It is not enough for Norwegian gays, lesbians and transgenders to propagate their untraditional values on numerous gay parades, which regularly occur in the largest cities of Europe. So the grown up activists of the gay movement decided to involve... their own children in these events!

Residents of the city of Bergen saw that recently, when a truck with children drove on the streets. They held posters with the propaganda of the homosexual values of same-sex marriage.

http://saqinform.ge/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=18348:2014-04-01-07-26-17&catid=100:sazogadoeba&Itemid=396#ixzz2xiTr8bhl

SAQINFORM, 4 APRIL

SPECIALLY FOR THE EURO_GEORGIANS:

„Results of integration of the Baltic countries in EU“. Read this before you enter EU!

After gaining independence and entering EU Baltic states lost their economic potential and got to the last places among EU countries by the level of development..Baltic countries became EU leaders in inflation and shadow economy...Agriculture degraded, food products, goods of daily use and medicines got more expensive..Unemployment, budget deficit and national debt grew rapidly... Baltic countries quietly but steadily are dissolving among the EU countries... Entering EU causes closure of enterprises, killing livestock, cutting down of gardens and vineyards – EU turns its new members into export markets, decreasing industry and agriculture there!”

ANTI-WESTERN SENTIMENTS

In accordance with EU demands, cotton growing and shipbuilding almost do not exist in Greece any more, while peasants have cut down the vineyards and signed a promise to abandon growing grapes and olives forever!.. By EU demand, all sugar factories in Latvia closed down...By EU demand, they closed plants in Estonia, decreased electricity production, and foreign debt is 17 billion Euros; in Poland coal production is destroyed... "

http://saqinform.ge/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=18402:2014-04-04-08-03-25&catid=109:arno&Itemid=538#ixzz2yBx9s2QG

UKRAINIAN EVENTS

Internet portal Saqinform, based on Russian sources, published several materials from Soviet archives, according to which Ukrainians are called fascists. It also published, without identifying any source, the information that EU is building concentration camps for political prisoners in Ukraine, with participation of a Turkish company. The material is illustrated by a photo of a Nazi concentration camp.

http://saqinform.ge/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=18407:2014-04-04-09-55-59&catid=102:samartali&Itemid=473#ixzz2yBw0ebNd

RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION

RUSTAVI 2, POST SCRIPTUM, 6 APRIL

The story about construction of a mosque in Batumi misinterprets facts and misleads the viewers.

While in the beginning of the story the Chairman of the Georgian Muslims Union Kemal Tsetskhladze speaks about the problems the Muslims have in Batumi because of the fact that there is not enough room for prayers, which is farther confirmed by the scene of Friday prayers being held in the street, in the second part of the story the journalist presents the idea that construction of a mosque is not just a need of the Muslim citizens of Georgia but an obligation imposed by a neighboring state – Turkey.

The journalists misleadingly connects the problem caused by the lack of enough room for prayers in Batumi to an empty mosque in one of the villages in mountainous Adjara, which is followed by manipulation with footage and sound bite. Specifically:

The journalist's (Tea Adeishvili) unfounded generalization that "in the villages, where Islam is stronger than in the city, people are upset that old unique mosques disintegrate, while Georgian Muslims want construction of a new one because of the interests of Turkey" is based not on the sound bite of the locals, but on a comment of an academic:

RAMAZ SURMANIDZE, historian, professor: "Why a neighboring country [Turkey] should demand construction of mosques from us? If we need a mosque, we have people, society here, if they need it, they will build it and there will be a mosque".

The story violates several articles of the Code of Conduct. See detailed statement on this story in the next issue of "No Phobia!".

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DISCRIMINATION ON RELIGIOUS GROUNDS

GEWORLD.GE, 2 APRIL

ELIZBAR DIAKONIDZE, dean: „This fact [award given by the State Department to the Bishop of Evangelical-Baptist Church Rusudan Gotsiridze] is both dangerous and ironic. Obama thinks that giving award for abusing our soul is a recognition?..

I have seen a Muslim in the Georgian army, but never an Evangelist-Baptist, Jehovah's Witness, because their faith prohibits this to them. This fact gives me the right not to recognize them as a church. Where will the country go if those who think like Jehovah's Witnesses will become even a quarter of population?“

<http://geworld.ge/View.php?ArtId=5775>

PROSELYTISM AND RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION IN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

KVIRIS CHRONIKA AND GE-WORLD.GE, 31 APRIL

Kviris Chronika newspaper and internet portal geworld.ge published a material about decision to abolish icons corners in kindergartens.

GIA BURJANADZE, Anti-Corruption Union: "...the parents confirm that children of different religions are very rare in the Georgian kindergartens... Maybe this decision is a purposely planted seed, which unavoidably will give us bad fruit in the future. We have informed the Patriarchy about this matter... Claims by the agency employees about existence of the icons corners oppressing someone are wrong.

ELIZBAR DIAKONIDZE, dean: "They understood that Janus the follower of Satan cannot do it in the grown up and older generation... There may be one or two Jehovah's Witnesses, Catholics or Muslims in a group, but why do they violate the rights of other Orthodox children? I remember when I taught the class

"Religion and Culture" in a high school. I had twins Ibragimovs in my class. You know, how eagerly they were studying? They were interested in this class."

„Georgian Orthodox thought has brilliant methods of understanding freedom, much better, believe me, than tying to a chair and then explaining. Tell others that they will make me very happy if inventors of that system tied themselves to a chair, so that they could not ever free themselves.“

<http://www.geworld.ge/ViewGE.php?G=9807>

PUBLIC BROADCASTER, MOABME, 31 MARCH

On the basis of the Public Defender report Moambe prepared a story about verbal and physical abuse of a student because of his religion in the high school at village Chumlaki, Gurjaani district. In the story neither school administration nor Inspection of the Education Ministry corroborate this fact.

<http://1tv.ge/news-view/66464>

SPECULATION ON RELIGIOUS TOPICS

KVIRIS CHRONICA, 31 MARCH

KHATUNA ELBAKIDZE, journalist:

The Nationals and their supporters often claim that there was persecution of the Muslims in Georgia. They are trying to generalize several incidents, but they cannot. In fact, it is Orthodox people who are persecuted in Georgia...

Everyone knows about cases of violence by the National Movement leaders against the Patriarchy, high level clergy and the Patriarch himself.

REPORTIORI, 4 APRIL

This agency disseminates information from the founder of the media union Obiektivi that on 17 May it is planned to stage provocations against the Georgian Orthodox Church and its supporters, and to organize Georgian Maidan.

<http://www.reportiori.ge/?menuid=3&id=22254>

REPORTIORI, 31 MARCH

ELIZBAR JAVELIDZE, People's Assembly:

"As soon as the investigation provides confirmed materials about murders or stealing billions, Saakashvili won't be saved by America or Jehovah himself!"

<http://www.reportiori.ge/?menuid=2&id=21735>

DISCRIMINATION ON SEXUAL ORIENTATION GROUNDS

GEWORLD.GE, 2 APRIL

ELIZBAR DIAKONIDZE, dean: "... Ilia II said that the Church won't hinder the country's progress. This means healthy progress, not drowning in a swamp, which is what our government suggests to us by holding parades of sexually perverted people, and presenting them as a privileged class."

<http://geworld.ge/View.php?ArtId=5775>

GEWORLD.GE, 3 APRIL

GURAM PALAVANDISHVILI (The person who was administratively fined for tearing down a poster and damaging the tribune during the Hanukah holiday on 4 December 2013): "It is also obvious for you that the foreign value which we are afraid to adopt is homosexuality..."

It is misleading that, in the anti-discriminatory list not discrimination by the color of skin, or ethnicity and race is what is interesting, but putting homosexuality into this list with equal rights, as a natural norm... When you look into the law and read it, you will see that they are talking about defending homosexuality not in this context, but it is proclaimed as a natural norm already and their discrimination is viewed as equal with the rights of other natural minorities (race, sex, ethnicity)."

...The doctrine of proclaiming homosexuality a natural thing is in the anti-discriminatory legislation, not in the same-sex marriages. While, for instance, in Austria, since they don't allow marriages, this problem is solved by the registration of cohabitation agreement."

<http://www.geworld.ge/View.php?ArtId=5787>

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VIKTOR DLIDZE,
Chairman of Eupean

Integration Commit-

tee: *"Nobody has a right to use violence because of person's private views, even if a person goes against nature and chooses such way of life, any violence against this person must be prevented".*

DISCRIMINATION ON SEXUAL ORIENTATION GROUNDS

KVIRIS CHRONICA, 31 MARCH

KHATUNA ELBAKIDZE, journalist:

"They united all human rights in just one – sexual minorities rights, and were hysterically defending the rights of gays and lesbians, as if there is nothing and no one else in this country."

ASAVAL-DASAVALI, 31 MARCH – 6 APRIL

GIORGI GIGAURI, journalist: " I consider it a success of 'Asaval-Dasavalization' that Prime Minister Garibashvili stated at the government meeting on 28 March they would make changes in the Constitution of Georgia, according to which the state recognizes as a family only that of a man and a woman!... So this means that soon same-sex marriage will be constitutionally prohibited in Georgia!..

Asaval-Dasavali protects the motherland, mother-Church and the people from the pink and gay troubles... I consider it a success of "Asaval-Dasavalization" that there will be

no LGBT gay rally on Rustaveli on 17 May!"

JABA KHUBUA, journalist: "Large part of our society will be calmed once and for all, which for all this years has been fearing that same-sex marriage would be legalized in Georgia and the country of the holy virgin would become a polygon for sodomy!"

NETGAZETI, 6 APRIL

VIKTOR DOLIDZE, Chairman of European Integration Committee: "Had any citizen ever caused any problems for the national or sexual minorities in Georgia? I honestly cannot remember many such cases, I cannot even remember few.

Nobody has a right to use violence because of person's private views, even if a person goes against nature and chooses such way of life, any violence against this person must be prevented".

<http://www.netgazeti.ge/GE/105/News/30076/htm>

SEXISM AND GENDER DISCRIMINATION

ASAVAL-DASAVALI, 31 MARCH – 6 APRIL

GIORGI SIKHARULIDZE, actor:

"Where is Georgian woman, Georgian girl? All TVs propagate women to be whores and men to be pederasts. If a person wants to be a real Georgian woman, she must be a whore, and a real man – a pederast, this is the modern view."

GIORGI MAKHARASHVILI, singer:

Unfortunately I often meet such girls [Tina Makharadze, actresses]. They may not know history or geography, but I don't get why

are they proud that they don't know how to cook borsch."

TEMUR TSIKLARI, singer: "This girl, Tina Makharadze, is sick and that society is talking so much about this topic [oral sex] is tragic".

GIORGI GIGAURI, journalist:

"Mishavizations that are just like whores – Rustavi 2, Rustavi 3, Rustavi 4"...

Continued on p.11

SEXISM AND GENDER DISCRIMINATION

GEWORLD.GE, 1 APRIL

ROBERT STURUA, director: "This one thing the spouse could not solve – unfortunately he placed his beloved wife [Sandra Roelofs], who eagerly studied Megrelian language in the intelligence, to Parisian attic. An attic near Madlen church."

<http://www.geworld.ge/ViewGE.php?G=9815>

GEWORLD.GE, 2 APRIL

DAVID MINDIASHVILI, journalist:

„If you are not Chuck Norris or Bruce Lee, you can do nothing in such a case, and not just men but 8 women can beat you to a pulp “.

<http://geworld.ge/View.php?ArtId=5773>

**GEWORLD.GE,
2 APRIL**

**ELIZBAR DIA-
KONIDZE,**

dean: „God gave women the best



place. In our country women also pursue spiritual road, but they stay nuns, they are not tasked with saving other people's souls. When a woman must become a mother, this is the best blessing. You really think Eva bit at an apple? Maybe that was the poison, which

strengthened by Michelle Obama's award?

Let's think about it. If real apple was meant there, it would not be considered a lenten product.“

<http://geworld.ge/View.php?ArtId=5775>

PIRVELI, 1 APRIL

According to the head of the territorial administration of Bredza, Atotsi and Tchvrinisi Mariam Gulisashvili, the minister [of Health] advises her to avoid employing unmarried women in the village ambulatories.

http://pia.ge/show_news.php?id=9631&lang=geo
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tOEF53um_Ik

PIRVELI, 2 APRIL

NIKOLOZ MZHAVANADZE:

„This person (Tea Tutberidze) seems unsatisfied and there is no one to satisfy her“.

**ASAVAL-DASAVALI, 31 MARCH
– 6 APRIL**

GIA KHUKHASHVILI, expert:

"Badri had his wife and another wife in Russia. I remember, at one meeting even Saakashvili started to gossip about this like a woman."

Continued on p.12

EARLY MARRIAGE

RUSTAVI 2,
KURIERI,
5 APRIL



The TV company, based on the Public Defender's report, touched an important issue concerning early marriages, and prepared a story about village Karajali populated by Azeri citizens of Georgia. The fact of media being interested in this problem is positive, but the journalist in his comments supports ethnic stereotypes and negative generalizations based on a comment of a single respondent, without bringing any facts or statistics.

SOPHO VARDIASHVILI, journalist: "The school principal believes that educating children is not priority for the parents. Especially for those, who earn money by trading. While giving a daughter for marriage the fiancé's good economic situations is important for them. They don't confirm the information in the Azeri villages that they give girls for marriage in return for money or livestock. According to the locals this already an old tradition."

<http://www.myvideo.ge/?>

DISCUSSION RELIGION AND HUMAN RIGHTS

On 5 April students of the Diversity School met an expert of human rights law, member of the Board of the Georgian Democratic Initiative Giorgi Mshvenieradze, who gave a lecture about religion and human rights. Discussion was held at the end of the meeting.

