

# Bibliography

This section of the journal lists (a) significant Romanian press articles on religion and atheism, (b) selected articles from official Romanian religious publications, (c) Romanian unofficial religious documentation, (d) Czechoslovak religious *samizdat*, (e) significant Soviet press articles on religion and atheism, (f) selected articles from official Soviet religious publications and (g) *samizdat* (self-published material) from or about religious groups in the USSR.

*RCL* lists all religious *samizdat* from the beginning of 1972 as well as important documents of an earlier date which have only recently reached the West. Where no published source is given, a Russian (or other original language) text is available from CSRC unless otherwise stated. Researchers who wish to order copies of these documents are invited to do so, but are asked to observe the following conditions. Where a published source is given, texts should be ordered directly. Texts ordered from CSRC cost 9p per page (plus 8% VAT, UK only); postage will be added to the bill.

CSRC requires full texts of all documents in readers' possession but not yet received at its office. Please check on the relevant period as it is covered in the Bibliography.

*RCL* No. 1, 1978 covered significant Romanian press articles on religion and atheism for the period August 1977 to October 1977. The present issue deals with the period November 1977 to January 1978.

*RCL* No. 1, 1978 covered selected articles from official Romanian religious publications from January 1975 to June 1975. The present issue deals with the period July 1975 to December 1975.

*RCL* No. 1, 1978 covered Soviet press articles from August 1977 to October 1977. The present issue deals with the period November 1977 to January 1978.

*RCL* No. 1, 1978 covered articles from official Soviet religious publications from January 1977 to April 1977. The present issue deals with the period May 1977 to August 1977.

Please note that the transliteration system used in the Bibliography is based on the Russian spelling of names and places, except in cases where the original language uses the Roman alphabet.

This issue of *RCL* introduces a new category within the *samizdat* section of the Bibliography – Czechoslovak religious *samizdat*. In accordance with the new system of classification outlined in the preceding issue of *RCL*, this new category will be designated *CZ*, e.g. *CZ/1977/*.

## Romanian Press Articles

Date

November 1977

- 3 *Flacara*. "Reason unburdened by prejudice". For centuries man's ignorance has been exploited by those seeking to dominate him by resorting to supernatural powers and fears. Such a form of alienation persists even after the liquidation of the social and economic causes of alienation. There must be a struggle to create the "new man" who refuses to accept superstitious fatalism and works with the assistance of the sciences to rid himself of ignorance, heresies and prejudices.
- 11 *Contemporanul*. "In Vrancea: with atheists on religion". Despite the official claims in Vrancea that there exists a diverse and active atheist programme, the reporter discovers an embarrassing number of believers within the ranks of the Party and Young Communist League. Some of the Young Communist League members have recently taken the admission examination for the Orthodox Theological Seminary in Buzau. In certain villages several religious sects, some illegal, are strongly based. Adventists pose a problem for the Party leader in Bordesti village. Another Party secretary attended a church wedding of a young couple from his village. In a survey of attitudes towards religion, 42 per cent said that they believed in the efficacious nature of baptism in bringing about the new birth, and 87 per cent respected the religious traditions of their parents. In one interview a young man was asked if he was an atheist or a believer; he replied, "How do you mean an atheist?" Clearly therefore atheist activity in Vrancea, though diverse, needs to be deepened and carried out with more urgency.
- 17 *Tribuna*. "Lucian Blaga". A preview of an appraisal of the Romanian philosopher, Lucian Blaga, by Mircea Vaida which was to appear in *Almanahul Tribuna* 1978. Blaga, recently rehabilitated posthumously, interprets and expresses Romanian spirituality. Blaga's poetry reflects his philosophy.

Date

December 1977

- 16 *Contemporanul*. "Civilization and atheism", Academician Nicolae Teodorescu. Man's desire to understand the world led him to fantasize about things he could not understand or which disturbed him. Religion provides ways of explaining phenomena and laws. Science has advanced and civilization has developed, thus making the religious attitude incompatible with a modern view of life. Atheism is a logical result of scientific advance.

Date

January 1978

- 6 *Romania Libera*. "125 years since the appearance of the *Romanian Telegraph*". *Telegraf Roman*, a newspaper founded in Sibiu by Bishop Andrei Saguna of the Romanian Orthodox Church, has reached its 125th anniversary. The paper is appreciated for its promotion of the Romanian national cause. The paper, which appears fortnightly and is still published by the Romanian Orthodox Church in Ardeal, will continue to portray the patriotic ideals of the Romanians

## Romanian Religious Press Articles

*Theological Studies (Studii Teologice)*

7-8/75 pp. 626-628. Dr Oscar Cullmann visited the Orthodox Theological Institute in Sibiu on 8-11 June 1975. He lectured on the aim and historical value of St John's Gospel, on the place of St John's Gospel in the surrounding world and in the first Christian community. Dr Cullmann met Bishop Klein of the Lutheran Church and Metropolitan Nicolae Mladin of The Romanian Orthodox Church.

*Orthodoxy (Ortodoxia)*

3/74 pp. 405-414. "The cross in Orthodox theology and in Orthodox worship", Prof. Fr Dumitru Staniloae. The cross and resurrection are not two separate concepts. In the cross is the power which produces resurrection, and in the resurrection the cross is present in a special sense. (This article has been published in English translation by The Sisters of the Love of God, Fairacres, Oxford.)

4/75 pp. 560-585. "Relations of the Romanian Orthodox Church with other denominations in the past 50 years", Prof. Fr Isidor Tudoran. The article considers progress in ecumenical relations with other Orthodox Churches, Old Catholics, Roman Catholics, Lutheran, Anglicans and the Reformed and Unitarians. Much of the data concerns the last 15 years and gives a report on the more significant visits exchanged by both sides.

Ditto pp. 586-598. "The Holy Fathers and Romanian Orthodox Spirituality", Prof. Fr Ioan G. Coman. Orthodox spirituality seeks to transfigure the world into the Kingdom of God. Ethnic and national characteristics influence a people's spirituality. Romanians, of Latin origin and of the Orthodox faith, express a spiritual life with a unique character. Today's Church in Romania is developing a new phase of this spirituality which began to take shape at the time of the early Fathers.

Ditto pp. 599-613. "Apostolic exhortation - rejoice in the Lord - a new ecumenical gesture from the Vatican?", Fr Constantin Galeriu. A critique of the address by Pope Paul on the occasion of the Holy Year of Jubilee.

Ditto pp. 686-694. "The Church and the fight of peoples for independence", Fr Dumitru Popescu. The struggle for independence in Africa and Asia and the fight for economic independence should be seen in the light of the struggles of past centuries in which the Churches have played their part. The Romanian Orthodox Church has a history of such involvement, though at that time no theology of liberation or of revolution existed. Orthodoxy understands modern church revolutionaries.

*The Romanian Orthodox Church (Biserica Ortodoxa Romana)*

11-12/75. pp. 1222-1324. Reports of the celebrations on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Patriarchate of the Romanian Orthodox Church and the 90th anniversary of the autocephaly of the Romanian Orthodox Church.

Ditto pp. 1325-1472. A series of articles on the autocephaly of the Romanian Orthodox Church and the creation of the Patriarchate. Subjects covered include the canonization of Romanian Orthodox saints, printing in the Church, church administration and the concern taken for the upkeep of places of worship over the past 50 years. As well as more historical articles there is an assessment of Romanian Orthodox communities abroad.

Ditto pp. 1482-1512. Report on the raising of the See of Lower Danube to the rank of Archbishopric of Tomis and Lower Danube.

Ditto pp. 1513-1514. The restoration of the Bishopric of Alba Iulia reported.

Ditto pp. 1515-1523. The election and installation of Gherasim Pitesteanul as Episcopal Vicar of Rimnicu-Vilcea.

Ditto pp. 1524-2540. The election of Archimandrite Veniamin Nicolae as Episcopal Vicar of Buzau.

Ditto pp. 1541-1546. Dr Itzak Raphael, Minister of Cults for Israel, visits Patriarch Justinian. Photograph.

Ditto pp. 1547-1550. Obituary of Bishop Chesarie Paunescu who died 30 October 1975. He was formerly Bishop of Lower Danube from 1950-1973. He was 77.

Ditto pp. 1551-1561. Summary report on the proceedings of the 5th General Assembly of the World Council of Churches, Nairobi. The Romanian delegation

consisted of 12 persons led by Metropolitan Justin. Those of the Reformed and Lutheran Churches also attended from Romania. Bishop Antonie, Metropolitan Justin and Bishop Klein of the Lutheran Church were elected to the new WCC Central Committee for 1975-1982.

Ditto pp. 1566-1576. Report on the proceedings of the Holy Synod of the Romanian Orthodox Church which met on 15 December 1975. Accounts of visits abroad by delegations and of visits to Romania by leading churchmen, followed by reports from the hierarchs on their pastoral visits within the country. Episcopal elections of Emilian Birdas and Timotei Sevcicu for the Bishopric of Alba Iulia and the Episcopal Vicariate of Timisoara respectively, were approved as too were the nominations of monks Pimen Zainea, Mihai Goia and Efrem Chesarie to the rank of Archimandrite. Gheorghe Gusa, Vasile Chiritoiu, Ioan Ioanichie Iftode and Gheorghe Juravie were recommended for the monastic order. Maria Nicora, Ioana Flutura and Florea A. Popa were also recommended for the convent of Dealu. Other subjects: the financial affairs of the Church and the raising of the maximum age for employment in the Patriarchate from 40 to 45 years for men and to 40 for women.

## Romanian Unofficial Religious Documents

### ROMANIAN BAPTIST CHURCH

RO/1974/BAF/

7. *How the Stones will Cry Out*. A book by Ioan Moisescu on the relation between the pyramids and the Bible. Interpreting the Bible by designating numbers for each of its letters, the Bible contains the key to understanding history through the dimensions of the pyramids. The study combines linguistics, mathematics and biblical exegesis. Romanian: 130 pp. Carbon copy.
8. *Cybernetics in Genetics, the Bible and the Great Pyramid*. A study by Ioan Moisescu on how the problems of modern science can be solved by examining the Bible and the Great Pyramid. Romanian: 54 pp. Carbon copy.
9. *Eminescu as a Prophet*. An essay by Ioan Moisescu suggesting that the line between prophetic inspiration and that of the poets is very thin. The theory is proved by assessing Eminescu's poetry in the light of the numbers of letters, syllables and words used which have special significance in theology. Romanian: 8 pp. Carbon copy.
10. *Thoughts on Love*. Essay by Ioan Moisescu on the Christian concept of love based on an exegetical study of 1 Corinthians 13. Romanian: 21 pp. Carbon copy.
11. *The Joy of Heaven*. Exegetical study of Acts of the Apostles chapter 2:24-28. A study of the Christian meaning of heavenly joy in the light of Scripture. Romanian: 4 pp. Carbon copy.
12. *The Covenant of Grace*. Exegesis of 2 Samuel 23:4-7 by Ioan Moisescu. Numerical significance of the passage and of related biblical passages are examined. Romanian: 18 pp. Carbon copy.
13. *Stages of the Kingdom of God*. A study of Matthew chapter 13 and the seven parables on the Kingdom of God by Ioan Moisescu. Romanian: 30 pp. Carbon copy.
14. *Poetry* by Ioan Moisescu. Romanian: 69 pp. Carbon copy.
15. *The Ages of Man*. Essay by Ioan Moisescu on the seven stages of man's life and their sub-divisions of sevens. Romanian: 5 pp. Carbon copy.
16. *Spiritual Verticality*. Essay by Ioan Moisescu on the Great Pyramids and its relation to spiritual ascension. Romanian: 5 pp. Carbon copy.

RO/1977/BAF/

1. *Neo-Protestant Denominations and the Rights of Man in Romania*. 14 March. Interdenominational appeal signed by six. Bases its case on the International

- accords on human rights signed by Romania and lists three areas of discrimination against neo-Protestant believers. Cases are cited of groups and individuals fined for holding worship meetings in their private homes or at unauthorized times. Often they are charged under a law governing infringements by hooligans. Examples too are given of those who have lost their jobs because of their religious affiliation. Several cases of school children and students harassed at school or dismissed from university are added. Romanian: 22 pp. Carbon copy. English translation available at Keston College.
2. *Call for Truth*. 14 March. An appeal signed by six neo-Protestants asking the Romanian government to maintain at home the promises for human rights which it makes abroad. Romanian: 4 pp. Carbon copy. English translation available at Keston College.
  3. *The Scandal of Pastor Talos*. 20 March. Appeal by Josif Ton on behalf of Pastor Talos who was not recognized as Assistant Secretary General of the Baptist Union, although he was democratically elected to that office in the Congress of the Romanian Baptist Church, held 4-5 February 1977. He had already been recognized by the Department of Cults in that they had allowed his nomination for election to stand. The Department have gone back on that recognition. Romanian: 3 pp. Carbon copy. English translation available at Keston College.

## RO/1977/ROM/

1. *Letter* from an anonymous source in Romanian Moldova. November. Roman Catholics in Moldova have suffered gross persecution since the communist take-over. Recently their bishop died and no successor has been recognized by the State. The document gives a full description of the trials and troubles of the Church since 1948. Romanian: 67 pp. Photocopy. English translation available at Keston College.

## RO/1977/UNI/

1. *Letter* from the Committee for the Restoration of the Romanian Uniate Church of Blaj to the Romanian delegate to the United Nations Committee on Human Rights, Dr Henges. August. Written from Bucharest. Romanian: 1 p. Photocopy. English translation available at Keston College.
2. *Appeal* to President Ceausescu. August. The Committee for the Restoration of the Romanian Uniate Church of Blaj appeal to President Ceausescu for the reinstatement of their Church. The Slavophiles bear the guilt for the destruction of their Church. Ceausescu's nationalism should lead him to restore it. Romanian: 4 pp. Photocopy. English translation available at Keston College.

## Czechoslovak Religious Samizdat

## EVANGELICAL CHURCH OF CZECH BRETHERN

## CZ/1977/CZB/

1. *Letter* to Dr Karel Hruza, head of the Church Secretariat, from Miloš Rejchrt. 8 March. The letter throws light on some of the paradoxes of the Czechoslovak legal system and criticizes Dr Hruza's article, "Socialist state and religion", published in *Rudé Právo* on 12 February. In this article Dr Hruza alleges that any campaign on behalf of human rights and religious rights in Czechoslovakia is "anti-communist" propaganda, and he gives a number of details on how fortunate the Church in Czechoslovakia is. Miloš Rejchrt gives details on discrimination against Christians in Czechoslovakia. Czech: 3 pp. Carbon copy.
2. *Letter* to Federal Assembly from 31 Czech Brethren believers. 7 May. Comprehensive analysis of the position of the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren, covering restrictions on activities of the Church councils, on ecumenical activities, on fulfilling pastoral duties, on religious education, on employment of believers, on publication of church literature, and it deals with state interference in church conventions and synods. Czech: 11 pp. Carbon copy.

3. *Letter to the Synod Council of the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren from 7 clergymen.* 25 July. They respond to the letter sent to all congregations on 3 June and based on the resolution of the Synod Council (passed 28 March). The resolution singled out Dr Jakub Trojan as being solely responsible for the 7 May letter of 31 Czech Brethren to the Federal Assembly. This letter to the Synod Council suggests that to have singled out Dr Trojan endangered him and oversimplified the motives behind the letter to the Federal Assembly. Czech: 1 p. Retyped in the West.
4. *Extracts from filmscript* of interview with Dr Jakub Trojan. Dr Trojan describes the difficulties and problems facing Christians in Czechoslovakia today, and explains why he lost his clerical position. English summaries: 3 pp. Photocopy.

## ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

CZ/1975/ROM/

1. *Letter to Bishop Jozef Feranec from Václav Fabrici.* 6 March. This teacher was dismissed from his teaching post for being a believer. He further informs the bishop that a Roman Catholic church was pulled down in the village of Lorinčík, near Košice, in Slovakia. He asks the bishop to intervene on his behalf. Slovak: 1 p. in *Hlasy z Ríma*, No. 5, May 1976, p. 22.
2. *Letter to Peter Colotka, Slovak Prime Minister, from Viktor Trstensky.* This forcibly retired priest complains about the pressure imposed on pupils when they register for religious instruction in Slovakia. He complains about the limits on the numbers of people allowed to train for the priesthood. He criticizes the state-supported Catholic organization, *Pacem in terris*, for claiming that the situation of the Churches is satisfactory. Slovak: 2 pp. in *Hlasy z Ríma*, No. 7, July 1976, pp. 22, 23.

CZ/1976/ROM/

1. *Letter to Bishop Jozef Feranec from Pavol Čarnogursky.* 29 August. This 70-year-old journalist in Slovakia writes to Bishop Feranec about the future of the Church in Slovakia. He complains that mass atheist propaganda has been carried out by some church representatives. Slovak: 2 pp. in *Hlasy z Ríma*, No. 2, February 1977, pp. 21, 22. Available in English (see RCL Vol. 5, No. 3, pp. 157-8).

CZ/1977/ROM/

1. *Letter to Bishop František Tomášek from Doc. Dr Josef Zverina.* 24 January. Zverina criticizes the stand taken by the Czech Roman Catholic Ordinaries, published in *Katolícké noviny*, No. 7, 1977, in which they condemn *Charter 77*. Czech: 2 pp. Retyped in the West.
2. *Letter to Bishop František Tomášek from Doc. Dr Josef Zverina.* 11 February. Reply to Bishop Tomášek's response to Zverina's letter of 24 January. Zverina divides his letter into three sections and claims that the Christian must act according to the Gospel and not according to the politics of the day. Czech: 2 pp. Retyped in the West.
3. *Letter to Bishop František Tomášek from Tomáš Vlasák, Václav Diviš, František Vlasák.* 15 February. Criticizes the Roman Catholic Church's attitude to *Charter 77*. Czech: 1 p. Retyped in the West.
4. *Open letter to Bishop František Tomášek and other Roman Catholic clergy in Czechoslovakia from Karel Soukup.* 30 January. Criticizes the Roman Catholic Church for its attitude to *Charter 77*. Czech: 1 p. Retyped in the West. English translation available (see RCL Vol. 5, No. 3, p. 163).
5. *Letter to Peter Colotka, Slovak Prime Minister, from Viktor Trstensky.* 10 June. Fr Trstensky complains about the position of believers and the general religious situation in Slovakia. He mentions individual cases of persecution, refers to the law and to articles published in the official press. Slovak: 8 pp. Retyped in the West.
6. *Memorandum to the bishop from the superiors of the monastic orders in Czechoslovakia.* They protest against the threat of the virtual liquidation of monastic life in Czechoslovakia. This began in the '50s and continues to this

- day. They appeal to the bishop for support. Czech: 4 pp. in *Studie*, No. 54, VI/1977. pp. 485-488.
7. Letter to Cardinal František Tomášek and to President Dr Gustav Husák and the Czechoslovak Federal Assembly from 55 members of the Roman Catholic Church. 1 October. The signatories point out that in Czechoslovakia, despite the ratification of international agreements, believers do not enjoy full freedoms and equal rights. They feel compelled to take a stand against unlawfulness, whether victims are believers or not. They ask Cardinal Tomášek for support. Czech: 2 pp. Retyped in the West.
  8. Letter to President Dr Gustav Husák and the Presidium of the Federal Assembly of Czechoslovakia from Roman Catholic believers. 28 October. These believers suggest solutions to the problems of believers in Czechoslovakia based on international agreements ratified by the Czechoslovak government. They ask Cardinal Tomášek to pass these suggestions to the President and to accept the response on their behalf. They attach a detailed document analysing the Czechoslovak Constitution and other laws relating to believers. Czech: 21 pp. Photocopy.

#### OLD CATHOLIC CHURCH

*cz/1972/OLC/*

1. Letter to President Nixon from Old Catholic Bishop Dr Augustin Podolák. 15 April. Asks President Nixon to join in preparations for European Peace Conference and informs him of the difficulties which his Church faces. 1 p. in English in *Religion in Communist Dominated Areas*, Vol. XI, Nos. 4, 5, 6, April-June 1972, p. 56.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

*cz/1977/M/*

1. *Charter 77* – Document No. 9 signed by Prof. Dr Jirí Hájek, Dr Sc. 22 April. "Document No. 9" is concerned with religious freedom in Czechoslovakia and was handed to the Czechoslovak government on 25 April. It appeals to the government to adhere to the Constitution and other laws and agreements on religious freedom, and gives examples showing how the State has consistently contravened these laws. Czech: 4 pp. Retyped in the West. English translation available (see RCL Vol. 5, No. 3, pp. 158-61).
2. Open letter, "Our attitude to the statements of *Charter 77*" signed by seven clergymen. January. The signatories explain why they signed *Charter 77*: the *Charter* defends religious freedom and thus serves God's purposes. Czech: 1 p. Retyped in the West. English translation available (see RCL Vol. 5, No. 3, pp. 161-2).

### Soviet Press Articles

*Date*

*November 1977*

- 2 *Turkmenskaya Iskra*. "On the precipice", V. Antonenko. An account of Nary Karaevaya, chairman of the Ashkabad collective farm. Even in her youth she fought against *kalym* (bride money) and other religious customs. Now, she actively combats religious traditions at the collective farm, arranging for the older women to tell the girls about the harm done by *kalym* and urging them to wear modern clothes.
- 12, 15, 16 *Freundschaft* (published in German in Tselinograd). "The wind of doubt," Richard Wanderer. The origin of the schism in the Baptist Church is analysed in terms of a conflict between attempts to modernize the attitudes of the Baptist Church and the resistance to this trend by the traditionalists. The former sacrifice some things of "secondary importance" in order to preserve the "social progress" part of their beliefs, whereas the latter have sought to isolate themselves from the rest of the world by clinging to their traditions.

- 13 *Sovetskaya Belorussiya*. "Researcher, humanist, patriot," M. Botvinnik. An article written for the 100th anniversary of the birth of Academician Nikolai Mikhailovich Nikolsky, a leading historian. He was the author of numerous important works on the history of religion and the Church, and the founder of the first atheist centre in the USSR (*kabinet ateizma*) at the Byelorussian State University.
- 17 *Sovetskaya Belorussiya*. "The birth of a museum," V. Kushner. A new museum of atheism and church history is being created in Grodno in a former monastery and adjoining church to help unmask religious dogmas and legends.
- 29 *Komsomolskaya Pravda*. "A crafty screen?," L. Korneshov. A review of a TV film based on Alexei Tolstoy's book, *The Road to Calvary*. The author criticizes the careful way of presenting church rituals and the lengthy excerpt from "God Save the Tsar". The effect achieved is beautiful, but not in keeping with socialist realism.
- 30 *Pravda Ukrainy*. "'The holy family' of Mazepa Street," K. Zakulyuk and A. Fedritsky. An attack on the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church for alleged collaboration with the Germans during World War II. Mentioned by name are Archbishop Polikarp of Lutsk and Kovel, Bishop Mstislav, Pyotr Grushetsky and Fr Vasili Varvariv. Their so-called activities in helping and praying for Hitler and "his Christ-loving armies" are condemned. (Also in *Izvestiya*, 29 December 1977, p. 6, under the title "Judas's pieces of silver")
- *Lyudyna i svit* 11/77, pp. 30–32. "Earned respect," A. Bodryk. A former monk, sent to the monastery because his family was too poor to keep him, left the monastery and became an atheist propagandist.
- *Ditto* 11/77, pp. 48–50. "The great task," A. Artikov. The transformation of Central Asia. The influence of religion in Uzbekistan has been diminished, but several dozen religious congregations still exist.
- *Nauka i religia* 11/77, pp. 22–34. "Tale of Zlatoust," G. Ivanova and V. Zybkovets. Long article on this town in the Urals, includes a passage on local Baptist activist, his personal history.

## Date

December 1977

- 4 *Pravda*. "It concerns everyone," O. Kovalchuk. The author is concerned that atheist propaganda does not receive the necessary attention and underlines that there is no room for neutrality. The case is cited of a candidate for Party membership who had a church wedding; this case is not unique.
- 11 *Czerwony sztandar* (published in Polish in Vilnius). "A propagandist of the materialist world-view," B. Jauniszki. An article about a leading atheist, Stasys Markonis, a Catholic priest who renounced his faith in 1937 and then led atheist work throughout his district. He published several books, including an autobiography called *The Great Illusion* and the reminiscences of former monks, *Behind Monastery Walls*.
- 15 *Pravda Ukrainy*. "The Ivan Fyodorov Museum," G. Matsenko. A museum in honour of the first printer, Ivan Fyodorov, has been opened in Lvov, site of the first Ukrainian printing press. *The Books of the Apostles* (the first printed edition in Ukraine) and the *Ostrozhsky Bible* (a masterpiece of the art of printing) are on display in the museum.
- 16 *Izvestiya*. "Pronouncement by religious leaders". On 14 December, at the invitation of Patriarch Pimen, representatives of churches and religious groups gathered at Troitse-Sergieva Lavra (St. Sergius-Holy Trinity Monastery) in Zagorsk to protest against the production of the neutron bomb and to call religious leaders outside the Soviet Union to join in their protest.
- 20 *Pravda Vostoka*. "Argument with time," K. Tsikanov. An article about the restoration of "historic" monuments and the use to which they can be put. The *medresseh* of Muhammed-Amin-Khan in Khiva is specifically discussed; it is being used as an hotel.
- 21 *Freundschaft* (published in German in Tselinograd). "Atheist seminar," J. Fischer. An atheist seminar sponsored by the Komsomol and the *Znanie* society of



- Kazakhstan discussed new methods of atheist propaganda and took up the motto "Atheists do not fight against believers, but for them".
- 27 *Zarya vostoka*. "In the Supreme Soviet of the Georgian SSR". On 26 December the new Catholicos-Patriarch Iliya of All-Georgia met with P. Gilashvili, Chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Georgian SSR. Patriarch Pimen of the Russian Orthodox Church and Patriarch-Catholicos Vazgen I of the Armenian Apostolic Church were also there.
- 28 *Literaturnaya gazeta*. "Blackmail in an anti-Soviet campaign," V. Valentinov and B. Roshchin. In this article dealing with the Shcharansky case, a group of "speculators" from the Krasnodar region is mentioned. After their "speculation" was discovered, they pretended that they were being persecuted for religious reasons and sent a threatening letter to *Literaturnaya gazeta* asking the authorities to "stop the persecution of believers".
- Lyudyna i svit* 12/77, pp. 24-25. "Liquidation or self-dissolution?", M. Boldyzhlar. Documents are cited to refute suggestions that the Uniate Church in Transcarpathia was liquidated; in the author's view all the evidence points to the Uniate Church having dissolved itself.
- Nauka i religia* 12/77, pp. 38-41. "Life versus formulae," I. Ballod. About marriage problems of a young woman who was brought up in a Baptist family, but rebelled against religion.
- Ditto* 12/77, pp. 59-65. "Tales of the evangelists," Z. Kosidowski. Final excerpt from this new book by a Polish writer, followed by a commentary by I. Svenitskaya on the question of the historicity of Christ (as dealt with in that excerpt).

## Date

January 1978

- 3 *Sovetskaya Litva*. "An important part of ideological work". In Kaunas there was a meeting of the soviet for the coordination of scientific-atheist propaganda. The historical museum is very helpful in this work; excursions are arranged and even meetings with former members of cults. New ways to fight religious prejudices and more suggestions from the *Znanie* society are always needed.
- 7 *Izvestiya*. "The failure of the slanderous sensation," V. Aparin, T. Redkin. A criticism of the organizations operating in the West, which are "allegedly" working for human rights and freedoms and are concerned with what goes on in the Soviet Union. Russia Christiana, Radio Liberty, Radio Free Europe and various Jewish organizations are mentioned. Bibles are printed in pocket-size editions specially for smuggling into the Soviet Union. A tourist claims to have given one to Sakharov, who greeted it with indescribable joy.
- 11 *Kazakhstanskaya Pravda*. "Decree of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR". The *mufti* of Central Asia and Kazakhstan, Babakhanov Ziyavutdina, is awarded the Order of the Friendship of Nations for his patriotic activities in defence of peace and in conjunction with his 70th birthday.
- 12 *Molodyozh Moldavii*. "... it pays to extend a helping hand," M. Meleshenko. A young man, member of a religious sect to which his family also belonged, left the sect with the assistance of one of his school teachers. A young girl also received help from an atheist in shedding her religious beliefs. Thanks to the efforts of other atheists, 16 young people at Lazovak left their sects in 1977 and joined the Komsomol. Many young people under 30 are members of sects (Baptist and Adventist) in the Lazovak district.
- 22 *Kazakhstanskaya Pravda*. "Turkish notebook," Amanzhol Shamkenov. A collection of five of his poems, translated into Russian. Two of them, "Stambul Bazar" and "Altyntau" mock religious feelings, pointing out the foolishness of praying and believing in God.
- 22 *Zarya vostoka*. "Ideologically guaranteeing the implementation of the Party's plans". The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Georgia held a meeting of ideological workers; the secretary's speech is the text of the article. He encourages the strengthening of the fight against harmful traditions and customs, expressing concern for the victims of ideological subversion and

- bourgeois propaganda such as the "so-called dissidents Zviad Gamsakhurdia and Merab Kostava".
- 24 *Kazakhstanskaya Pravda*. "Excursion to an ancient city". The first visitors have been to the ancient city of Kolkhida. It is 5,000 years old and contains five huge temples and statues of local gods. In Georgia the preservation and restoration of architectural and historical monuments can be traced to the first years after the Revolution. In the sixth-century monastery of Dzhvari there are many concerts of chamber and choral music.
- 28 *Izvestiya*. "Freedom of Conscience – real and imaginary," V. Kuroedov. An article by V. Kuroedov, Chairman of the Council for Religious Affairs, interpreting the new Constitution in the light of western criticism. He points out that it is entirely false for the West to claim that there is compulsory atheism in the Soviet Union. There are 20,000 religious organizations; religious literature is published (such as the Bible, Koran, prayer-books, calendars – 50 publications in all); candles, matzoh and other such items necessary for the activities of the cult are also available. The CPC enjoys the active support of Soviet religious groups. Kuroedov then compares this freedom of conscience with the deceptive type found in the USA, where atheists are persecuted.
- 31 *Komsomolskaya Pravda*. "Taking more efficient measures," I. Bodyul. A report by the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Moldavia. There exists in Moldavia a certain number of young people who participate in religious rites. According to sociological surveys they do so mainly to be in step with others and because they lack proper advice. The Komsomol is slack in its approach to religion.
- *Lyudyna i svit* 1/78, pp. 21–24. "Real and false values," Yu. Tereshchenko. Comparison of Christian – Baptist and Orthodox – morality with communist morality.

## Soviet Religious Press Articles

### *Fraternal Messenger (Bratsky Vestnik)*

3/77 pp. 19–22. "Two Weeks in England." 13 April–27 April 1977. A. M. Bychkov, G. I. Pavlenko, N. N. Zverev, S. I. Nikolaev and Ya. E. Tervits. Bychkov gave an interview for the BBC. They visited churches in Bristol and London, attended the Baptist Assembly in Nottingham, and then split into two groups to visit Wales and Scotland, where they met Mr W. Barclay.

Ditto pp. 69–71. "A visit to the Churches of the Far East." M. P. Chernopyatov and P. K. Shatrov. 21 March–5 April 1977. In Khabarovsk they said they would listen to everybody and answered questions submitted in advance at the general church meeting. Then to Vladivostok and Nakhodka. They took part in the CEF church service at S.Ya. Belko's church, though Chernopyatov left before the end of the service to go to the ECB church. While Chernopyatov toured the district Shatrov stayed in Nakhodka meeting individual Pentecostals. They reunited in Vladivostok.

Ditto pp. 72–80. "From the Life of the Local Churches." A new church was opened in Novgorod on 13 March 1977. The congregation was only recently established.

4/77 pp. 39–40. "A Trip to Cuba", I. S. Gnida, N. A. Kolesnikov, N. Z. Kvirikashvili, V. K. Ryndina. 6–17 May. They were guests of the two Baptist conventions. They took part in 20 services and visited other pastors and church leaders. The services were attended by Pentecostals, Sabbatarians, Methodists and Catholics as well as Baptists.

Ditto pp. 79–80. "The 90th Anniversary of the Pskov Church." At one time the church had no building. In 1945 they were given the building of a former Lutheran church, which they are still using.

*Journal of the Moscow Patriarchate (Zhurnal Moskovskoi Patriarkhii)*

5/77 pp. 7-9. "Metropolitan Alexi of Tallinn and Estonia, Member of the Holy Synod, Chancellor of the Moscow Patriarchate, interviewed by an All-Union Radio Correspondent on 26 February 1977." In answering a question on church-state relations, he said that "until the October Revolution the Church had been fully dependent on the State, and was to all intents and purposes a state department. Through its decree of 1918 the State declined any further interference in internal church affairs." When asked about church membership, he asserted that there are "millions of people, convinced, sincere and conscientious believers, which could not be said of the Church in the days of Imperial Russia." He also denied the allegations of religious persecution made by the western press.

Ditto pp. 13-16. "In memory of Church Composer Alexander Dimitrievich Kastalsky", Fr Valentin Starina. A church composer is remembered on the 50th anniversary of his death. Prayers were said for the soul of Alexander Dimitrievich Kastalsky during the liturgy and afterwards in a *panikhida* (requiem) at St Sergius-Holy Trinity Monastery in Zagorsk. He is remembered as an "outstanding composer of church music"; during his lifetime (1856-1926) he developed a new style for Russian choral music.

6/77 p. 3. "Chronicle." BBC correspondent visits the Soviet Union. On his visit to the Soviet Union, Janis Sapiets of the BBC and his wife spent Easter in Tula. They then visited St Sergius-Holy Trinity Monastery. From 12-17 April they were in Leningrad and Riga, becoming acquainted with the religious and cultural life in these cities. They met Metropolitan Nikodim of Leningrad and Novgorod, Bishop Kirill of Vyborg, and Archbishop Leonid of Riga and Latvia. From 18-22 April, the guests were in Moscow where they were received by Metropolitan Yuvenali.

Ditto pp. 17-18. "News from the dioceses." In the Transcarpathian village of Velyatino, Orthodox Christians celebrated the centenary of their church which was built in 1876. It was consecrated in honour of St Paraskeva of Serbia. In 1969, the church underwent extensive repairs. With the blessing of Archbishop Grigori of Mukachevo and Uzhgorod, the celebrations were led by Archpriest Vasili Pop, former *nastoyatel* (head priest) of the church, who was, in turn, assisted by the present *nastoyatel*, Archpriest Andrei Danish, and another priest.

7/77 p. 40. "Contributions to peacemaking by the USSR Religious Organizations." A booklet entitled *Contributions to Peacemaking by the USSR Religious Organizations* has been published by the Moscow Patriarchate. Its English-Russian edition is presented in parallel texts and contains 120 photographs. Editions without photos have also appeared in Arabic, Spanish and German. The booklet contains 12 essays describing the peacemaking activities of the major religious bodies in the Soviet Union.

Ditto pp. 44-46. "Celebration of the Jubilee", Archpriest Georgi Telpis. Bishop Kirill of Vyborg visits Finland, where he met numerous leaders of the Evangelical Lutheran Church and the Autonomous Orthodox Church of Finland. The significance of a good relationship between the Russian Orthodox Church and the Finnish Orthodox Church was stressed when Bishop Kirill gave Archbishop Paul some tokens of friendship and unity - an altar cross, a Bible, a New Testament and a hymnbook published by the Moscow Patriarchate - for a newly erected church at New Valaam.

8/77 pp. 8-9. "The sixth anniversary of the enthronement of the Primate of the Russian Orthodox Church," Ye. Karmanov. On 3 June 1977 the sixth anniversary of the enthronement of Patriarch Pimen was celebrated by services at the Patriarchal Cathedral of the Epiphany. On the eve of the anniversary there was an All-Night Vigil conducted by Patriarch Pimen with the assistance of Metropolitans Alexi of Tallinn and Estonia and Antoni of Minsk and six other bishops.

Ditto pp. 10–11. "Archbishop Flavian of Gorki and Arzamas – In Memoriam", Archbishop Vladimir Romanov. Archbishop Flavian died on 3 March 1977 at the age of 81. He was born into a psalm-reader's family in 1895 in Kievets (Poland). He was ordained priest in 1915 and went to serve in Moscow and Leningrad. In 1938 he was stripped of his Polish citizenship because of his pro-Russian sentiments. During the Second World War his wife and most of his family were shot dead. He was consecrated bishop in 1958 and given the Gorki Diocese in 1966. He died on his name-day.

## Soviet Religious Samizdat

### COUNCIL OF CHURCHES OF EVANGELICAL CHRISTIANS AND BAPTISTS (INITSIATIVNIKI)

SU/1977/INI/

35. *Bulletin of the Council of Prisoners' Relatives No. 46*. December. Covers individual cases of persecution, with background information on believers involved. Council notes growing media campaign to turn public opinion against believers, and points out that such activity violates Article 52 of the new Constitution. Letter to Brezhnev signed by 320 ECB believers from Kharkov protesting against the sentencing of Vitali Pidchenko, and pointing out that underground publications would be unnecessary if the Soviet authorities did not restrict religious literature. Letter from Stepan Germanyuk, who is in exile in Khabarovsk region after serving a 4½ year sentence in labour camps. Russian: 36 pp. Photocopy.

SU/1978/INI/

1. *Bulletin of the Council of Prisoners' Relatives No. 47*. Undated but after 1 January. Details on continuing repression of believers. According to Council, at the end of 1977 there were still 47 ECB believers in Soviet prisons and camps. Lists the sentences at the trial of the Ivangorod printers. Contains a number of protests addressed to the Soviet authorities. Letter from a prisoner of conscience in the Amur region, but his name is not given. Russian: 26 pp. Photocopy.

### RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

SU/1977/ORT/

37. *Open letter to the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR* from Fr Vasili Romanyuk. 8 February. Fr Romanyuk rejects a new edict which permits the release of especially dangerous criminals on condition they admit their guilt. Calling this a device to make innocent people declare themselves guilty, he refuses to be involved in this new deception of international public opinion. He rejects the anti-Soviet activity charge brought against him. His father's death in labour camp and the murder of his 13-year-old brother reported. Russian: 2 pp. Photocopy.
38. *Plea to Patriarch Pimen from the Christian Committee for the Defence of Believers' Rights in the USSR*. 11 June. The Committee protests about the provocative activity of Alexander Shushpanov, a translator who works for the KGB and the OVTsS. This activity has been directed against the Committee and against Alexander Ogorodnikov and his friends. Russian. 1 p. Photocopy.
39. *Letter to the Belgrade Conference reviewing the observance of the Helsinki Agreements*, from Oksana Meshko. 13 December. A report on the arrest of Lev Lukyanenko, member of the Ukrainian Helsinki Monitoring Group, and a brief biographical note. The reasons for Lukyanenko's arrest are examined, and an appeal is made for help and world-wide concern. Russian: 2 pp. Photocopy.
40. *Letter to A. D. Shilkin from Georgi Fedotov and Gennadi Kurganov*. Undated, after 10 March. There is a great revival of interest in Christianity among young people who have been persecuted in a wave of violence directed by A. D. Shilkin and KGB head, Andropov. The signatories urge Shilkin to repent as

other KGB officers have done. On 8 March, the militia raided the young Orthodox "club" (seminar) at 25 Prospekt Mira, confiscating letters to the West, including letters addressed to the BBC and Voice of America. The next day all power supplies to the flat were cut off, locks were smashed etc. Russian : 2 pp. Photocopy.

#### PENTECOSTALS

SU/1977/PEN/

*Declaration* to the Press from a senior bishop of the Pentecostal Christians, N. P. Goretoi. 23 March. See SU/1977/M/24.

*Appeal* to the UN Commission on Human Rights from the Society of Christians of Evangelical Faith-Pentecostals, who wish to emigrate from the USSR. Undated, after 21 March. See SU/1977/M/24.

#### ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

SU/1977/ROM/

9. *Letter* to Pope Paul VI from the Catholics of the Moldavian SSR. Undated. There are 15,000 Catholics in the Moldavian SSR, but all Catholic churches have been closed except for one chapel in Kishinev, and there is only one registered priest, Fr Zavalnyuk. The authorities try to prevent him from holding services outside Kishinev and from administering the Last Rites to the sick and old. The authorities destroyed and desecrated a church built by believers in Rashkovo. Signatories appeal to the Pope for help. Russian : 4 pp. Carbon copy.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

SU/1977/M/

24. *Document* No. 20 on violations of citizens' rights to emigrate, from the Public Group to Promote Observance of the Helsinki Agreements in the USSR, signed by M. Landa, Ye. Bonner, N. Meiman and V. Slepak. March-April. Motive for emigration can be social, religious, political or economic. The desire to emigrate was expressed by thousands of Germans, ex-POWs who, as a rule, were not granted visas. Those applying to emigrate are persecuted. In order to emigrate one has to receive an invitation from relatives living in the West, but the authorities decide whether such an invitation is accepted or not. In March 1977, 200 families (about 1,000 people) sent applications for emigration to the Supreme Soviet of the USSR. They wished to emigrate for religious reasons. Russian : 4 pp. Photocopy. 6 appendices.  
Appendix 1: *Appeal* to UN Commission on Human Rights from the Society of Christians of Evangelical Faith-Pentecostals who wish to emigrate from the USSR (6 signatories). Undated (SU/1977/PEN).  
Appendix 2: *Declaration* to the press from a senior bishop of the Pentecostal Christians, N. P. Goretoi. 23 March. (SU/1977/PEN).
25. *Letter* to Belgrade Conference reviewing the observance of the Helsinki Agreements in the USSR. 21 November. A review of the continuing violations of the Final Act. Priority is given to the violation of believers' rights, the rights of nationalities such as Crimean Tatars and Jews, forced labour and the right to emigrate. Western participants should take a firm stand on important issues. Signed by six members of the Helsinki Monitoring Group, Christian Committee for the Defence of Believers' Rights in USSR, Working Commission to Investigate the Use of Psychiatry for Political Purposes, A. D. Sakharov et al. Russian : 8 pp. Photocopy.

#### ORGANIZATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS QUOTED AS SOURCES

*Studie*, Academia Cristiana, Via Concordia 1, 00183 Rome, Italy.

*Hlasy z Rima*, Istituto Slovacco dei SS, Cirillo e Metodio, Casella postale 6175, 00100 Rome, Italy.

*Religion in Communist Dominated Areas*, 475 Riverside Drive, New York NY 10027, USA.