

Newsletter of the Eurasian Missionary College

Preparing national church planters and missionaries for Tatarstan, Russia and Central Asia
September 2005

New Students and Staff

On September 23rd, our student selection committee finished its work. We were greatly surprised at the ratio of brothers to sisters: 8 sisters to 5 brothers! The primary reason we are able to take on such a quantity of girls is because a new mentor named Inna has joined our team, replacing Alexander who served with us last year. We were praying for the capacity to train more women, and God has taken care of our need.



This year's students and staff

Students from Unreached People Groups!

It is very encouraging for us that God continues to gradually open doors to new areas. This year we have students from three new areas in Tajikistan, and a student named Albina from Kabardino-Balkar - a republic with a population of 800,000 in the North Caucasus. Kabardino-Balkar is in the heart of the North Caucasus region which is being pressed to become a single Islamist state. *Operation World* describes North Caucasus people as "some of the least-reached on earth", and calls on its readers to "pray for open doors and favourable conditions for Christians to reside and witness." Albina's presence at the College this year is part of the answer to those prayers! Here is a brief word of testimony from her:



"My name is Albina. I am a native of Kabardino-Balkaria. A year ago I came to faith in Jesus Christ. Before that, I was a Muslim. The most difficult thing after my conversion was (and still is) the persecution I received at the hands of my relatives. They threatened me, trying to make me return to Islam. But God gave me steadfastness, and I

felt his protection. In my heart was peace, because I was aware that He controls everything. In my republic, Islam grows stronger and stronger; becoming more and more aggressive. I am greatly concerned that my native people are perishing without Christ. It was this that prompted me to enrol in EMC. My desire is to return to live among my people and to bring the Gospel to them".

Camp "Ryabinushka"

The day after enrolment, we and the students went out together to a recreation centre, to get to know each other more closely. Compared to previous years, the students this year are very sociable and open, so we didn't need to make any special efforts to create conditions for a convivial atmosphere. In the evening we built a big campfire, and the mentors shared about their own lives, answering questions from the students. Each of the mentors carefully observed the students, to inform their choices in the next few weeks when they choose students for whom they will be personally responsible to mentor for the rest of the year.



Students and staff at camp

Prayer Requests

1. For the College to be granted a teaching license by the Russian government so that the College can be run much more easily.
2. For godly leadership in our mentoring of students.
3. For the provision of our own building or some other accommodation for the College.

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