

# Eurasian Missionary College

Preparing national church planters and missionaries for Russia and Central Asia  
June 2006

## Defending the Gospel



The last two months of the College academic year required much hard work by the students as they prepared thesis work on topics of their choosing. Typically these related to issues they would be facing when they enter the mission field, such as “Presenting the Gospel effectively in a Muslim context”, “The place of music in the corporate worship of the church”, and “Translating the Bible into the Tatar language”. The students then had to present and defend their theses before all the students and staff. This context is made deliberately adversarial to sharpen their skills in presenting in a hostile environment. The students were glad when their “vivas” were over, but also grateful for this last test before being thrust into the mission field.

## Time for Rejoicing

The last few weeks of term are not all hard work. The students and their mentors had a delightful day in the countryside with a real spiritual highlight – the baptism of Lena in the lake! Lena had not been baptised before coming to College, so this was a special day for her.



## Graduation day

Graduation Day is always a high point in College life, as students receive recognition for their hard work over the past ten months, and are commissioned for their future ministries. It was particularly special this year as it was the first year graduation was held in our own building. The students invited along their friends, and one student’s Mum travelled for many days all the way from the Caucasases to share in her daughter’s special day. It was a very joyous time; everybody had a part to play – students,



teachers and visitors.

## Staff visit the Caucasases

After the students left, Dennis and Vasily went to their second trip to Caucasases. They took part in the conference on Christian education in Muslim regions. It was a very beneficial trip as they made many good contacts with the local ministers and presented to them the work of the College. Thank you for your prayers for this important trip.

## Staff Trip to Tajikistan

Denis, Khadijat and Vasily are planning to visit Tajikistan in the beginning of July. They are planning to visit several towns – Dushanbe, Kolhozabad and Kulyab – the places where our graduates work. Their first goal is the continuation of mentoring of the students, providing fellowship and support in their ministry. The second goal is meeting with the local pastors and recruiting new students for the coming academic year.



## Prayer needs

- *Pray for the staff’s upcoming visit to Tajikistan, that the graduate church-planters in the field will be greatly encouraged by the visit from their mentors, and encouraged to persevere with joy in their missionary service.*
- *Pray for a good intake of students with the right aptitude for missionary training in the next academic year*
- *Pray that the EMC staff team will recharge their batteries well before the start of the new academic year.*

