

## **Investigation of a probe into eight participants of a terrorist community finished**



The Main Investigative Department over North Caucasian Federal District of the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation in cooperation with the Central Office of the Federal Security Service, Kalmykia Republican Department of the Federal Security Service, Main Directorate for Combating Extremism of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia and Federal Penitentiary Service of Russia finished investigation of a probe into Kuraban Medjidov, Magomedali Ramazanov, Dmitry Fedchenko, Gimbat Gimbatov, Ainutdin Aliboriev, Gasan Gasuev, Maromed Bagandov and Muslim Mejidov. Depending on the role of each they are accused of committing offenses under Part 2 of Article 205.4 of the Criminal Code of Russia (participation in a terrorist community), Part 4 of Article 33, Part 2 of Article 205.4 of the Criminal Code of Russia (incitement to participation in a terrorist community), Part 1 of Article 205.1 of the Criminal Code of Russia (persuading to participation in a terrorist community), Part 1 of Article 205.2 of the Criminal Code of Russia (public calls for terrorist activities and public justification of terrorism).

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Investigation established that in the middle of 2013, Shahban Gasanov, born in the Republic of Dagestan, serving a sentence for illegal traffic of firearms in the Penal Colony No. 2 of the Kalmykia Department of the Federal Penitentiary Service of Russia, had created a terrorist community in the said colony in order to promote, justify, and support terrorism. After being released from the Federal Penal Colony No. 2 in 2015, residing in the Republic of Dagestan, Gasanov declared himself as an amir, that is, a leader of an illegal armed formation "Kizlyarsky district" operating in the Republic of Dagestan. He was subsequently eliminated on March 31, 2015 at encroachment on life of law enforcement officers in Khasavurt.

From the middle of 2013 to December 16, 2019 over 100 convicted persons from the penal colony, including Kurban Medjidov, Ramazanov, Fedchenko, Gimbatov, Aliboriev, Gasuev, Borganov and Muslim Medjidov, became members of the criminal community supporting its aims and goals. While serving their sentences in the Penal Colony No. 2 of the Kalmykia Department of the Federal Penitentiary Service of Russia they were engaged in distribution of ideology of radical Islam among the convicts, public justification of terrorism and terrorist community activities, distributed extremist and terrorist materials including banned extremist literature and audio and video materials containing calls for extremist and terrorist activities and also invited new members to the terrorist community in order to recruit them and teach religious standards to increase the number of members of the terrorist community or ensure future assistance of these persons in activities of the community and of illegal armed formations and international terrorist organizations operating outside the colony.

The investigation gathered enough evidence; therefore, the criminal case with the approved indictment has been sent to the court to be tried on the merits.

Previously the Southern District Military Court sentenced Said Suleimanov, Mikhail Zhigunov and Alexander Travinov to long-term sentences for participation in the criminal community in the Penal Colony No. 2 of the Kalmykia Department of the Federal Penitentiary Service of Russia.

The investigation into other participants is ongoing.

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