
A verdict passed in the criminal case of the murder of former serviceman Nikita Belyankin



The evidence gathered by the Main Investigative Directorate of the Investigative Committee of Russia was found sufficient by the court to convict nine accomplices in the criminal case of murder of former serviceman Nikita Belyankin, attempted murder and hooliganism. Three of them were found guilty of murder, attempted murder and hooliganism (par. B, G of Part 2 of Art. 105, par. A, G, I pf Part 2 pf Article 105 of the Criminal Code of Russia), and six were found guilty of hooliganism.

As established by the investigation and the court, on June 1, 2019 in the village of Putilkovo, Krasnogorsk, Moscow region, the director of the cafe Gurgun Aghayan unreasonably demanded from two visitors - resuscitation doctors - to leave the institution. Nine other people, who came to the cafe in a state of alcohol intoxication, came into the conflict and started fighting. One of the men lost consciousness and fell down, after receiving a strong blow to the head, the second man tried to

resist, but was stabbed in the stomach area and was bleeding, while four people continued to stab him, and seven people surrounded them and did not let them leave the place of the incident. The fight was noticed by a passing by Nikita Belyankin, a former member of a special unit of GRU, who, seeing the unequal forces of his enemies, shouted at the hooligans and fired a shot in the air from his traumatic pistol, demanding them to stop unlawful acts. Several participants in the conflict ran up to Belyankin and began striking him multiple times, but he resisted them vigorously. His brothers Gamlet, Grant and Oganeg Hayrapetyan started to detain Belyankin, stabbing him in the heart area more than once, while Sergei Khodzhayan stabbed him with a knife. The rest of the men surrounded the victims and prevented them from leaving the scene.

The defendants did not plead guilty to the alleged crimes and all the materials of the criminal case were translated into Armenian, as the defendants refused to communicate with the investigation in Russian one month later and demanded an interpreter.

As part of the investigation, the investigators identified all participants of the events without exception and provided legal assessment of the actions of each of them. More than 50 complex examinations were conducted, more than 100 witnesses were questioned, a significant number of confrontations were held and it was established that if Belyankin had not stopped the illegal actions of the group, the resuscitator would have died from the stab wound he received.

The court sentenced Hojoyan to 20 years' imprisonment, and the Ayrapetyan brothers to 17 and 18 years' imprisonment in a strict regime penal colony. Hakobyan, Yeghiazaryan, Markosyan, Manukyan, Sahakyan and Stepanyan were sentenced to 5 to 5.5 years of imprisonment to be served in a general regime penal colony.

At present, Gurgen Aghayan, accused of hooliganism, and Oganeg Hayrapetyan, accused of murder and hooliganism, are internationally wanted and are being remanded to custody in absentia.

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