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## **Criminal investigation against instigator of murder of deputy mufti of Karachay-Cherkessia and Stavropol Territory finished**

The investigating bodies of the Russia's Investigative Committee for the Republic of Karachay-Cherkessia have finished investigating a criminal case against resident of the village of Uchkekek, Malokarachay District, 43-year-old Nazbi Adzhiyev, who instigated the murder of deputy mufti of spiritual office of Muslims Ismail Bastanov (part 4 of article 33, paragraph "b" of part 2 of article 105 of the RF Penal Code).

Investigators have found that on 20 September 2009, at around 9 AM, Salavat Gandayev gunned down a car of deputy mufti 50-year-old Ismail Bastanov in the town of Cherkessk near a trolleybus office in the south of the town. The deputy mufti died at the scene of the wounds before an ambulance arrived. There also was his 14-year-old Bastanov's son Makhammad in the car. He was seriously injured and left disabled.

Adzhiyev played a role in preparing the murder. He misinformed Gandayev about negative activity of Bastanov when he had served as the deputy mufti, discrediting him as one of religious leaders of Muslims and convinced him that it had been necessary to kill him.

The investigators have gathered enough evidence, so the criminal case against Adzhiyev with the approved indictment has been sent to court to be tried on the merits.

In August 2012, Salavat Gandayev was sentenced to 19 years to be served in a maximum-security penal colony.

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