
Five suspects in murder of Anna Politkovskaya to stand trial



Main Investigations Directorate of the Russia's Investigative Committee has finished investigating a criminal case against 5 suspects in the murder of Anna Politkovskaya: Lom-Ali Gaytukayev, his nephews – brothers Rustam, Ibragim and Dzhabrail Makhmudov and Sergey Khadzhikurbanov. They are charged with crimes under paragraphs “b, g, h” of part 2 of article 105 of the RF Criminal Code (murder), part 3 of article 222 (illegal handling of firearms), part 2 of article 125.1 and part 3 of article 148 of the RSFSR Criminal Code (abduction of a person and extortion).

According to investigators, Gaytukayev organized the crime. It was him, who in 2006 set up an organized group composed of other defendants and a policeman Dmitry Pavlyuchenkov. Gaytukayev led the group until he was arrested for organization of an attempted murder of Ukrainian businessman Gennady Korban, of which he was convicted and is serving his time in prison. Later Gaytukayev controlled the activity of the group from prison by phone. Sergey Khadzhikurbanov was the one to organize the crime in Moscow. The defendants carefully planned the murder, purchased firearms, reconciled their actions with each other. Having got from Pavlyuchenkov the information

about Politkovskaya's place of residence, Makhmudov Brothers settled themselves on her way home. When they saw their victim driving a car, Ibragim Makhmudov reported that to his brother Dzhabrail and he in his turn to Rustam, who entered the house and started waiting when the woman arrived. When the journalist got into the elevator, Rustam Makhmudov shot her several times from a pistol. He left the gun on the murder scene. After that the defendants sped away.

Investigators have collected enough evidence, therefore, the criminal case with the approved indictment has been sent to court to be tried on the merits.

The criminal Case against Dmitry Pavlyuchenkov, who had concluded a pre-trial cooperation agreement, was severed into a separate lawsuit. The court sentenced Pavlyuchenkov to 11 years in high-security prison.

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