

[TRANSLATION]

[SEAL]

The High Ecclesiastical Court
Serbian Orthodox Church
Bp. 29
28 December 2007
Belgrade

The High Ecclesiastical Court of the Serbian Orthodox Church consisting of the following members: the President of the High Ecclesiastical Court, His Grace Amfilohije Metropolitan of Montenegro and of the Coastal Lands, and the following members of this Court: His Grace Hrizostom, Bishop of Zica, and His Grace Hrizostom, Bishop of Bihac-Petrovac, and the following honorary members: Very Reverend Dr. Radomir Popovic, and Reverend Dr. Dragomir Sando, both of them priests laymen and also professors at the Theological Faculty of the Serbian Orthodox Church, and: Reverend Dr. Luka Novakovic, the Clerk of the High Ecclesiastical Court, and also the Director of the Patriarchates Office, have convened in Belgrade on 27 December 2007, and as per their official duties and in accordance with Article 79 of the Constitution of the Serbian Orthodox Church have made the following:

VERDICT

This Court hereby confirms the Verdict made by the Ecclesiastical Court of the Eastern American Diocese ИСБр.7, of 7 September 2007, which quashes the punishment of excommunication from the Church community for the following members of the ИИИО from Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada: Mr. Dushan Kolundzic, Mr. Aleksandar Pantelic, Mr. Zivorad Zico Jovanovic, Ms. Milena Dancuo, Mr. Simo Bijelich, and Mr. Mihajlo Savic.

His Grace Georgije, Bishop of Canada is hereby instructed to do the following: immediately upon receipt of this Verdict to revoke his banishment of Liturgical practice in the Church of the Holy & Great Martyr St. George in Niagara Falls, in order to improve the very unpleasant atmosphere, and to overcome the problems that have arisen in the Church School Congregation, so that Church and Community life can normalize.

The ИИИО in Niagara Falls and its membership is hereby ordered to regulate their status and registration in accordance with the Constitution of the Serbian Orthodox Church in the United States of America and Canada.

EXPLANATION

At the request of the Ecclesiastical Court of the Diocese of Canada Бр.344 of 19 July 2006, and in accordance with Article 80 of the Constitution of the Serbian Orthodox Church, this High Ecclesiastical court in its Act Бр.8 of 20 May 2007, had delegated this case for deliberation to the Ecclesiastical Court of the Eastern American Diocese, as a neutral Court in this case, and a Court of the first degree. The Ecclesiastical Court of the Eastern American Diocese has studied the case, examined the accused, and in the allotted time delivered a judgement, which was forwarded on 9 November 2007 to the High Ecclesiastical Court in Belgrade for their deliberation and final verdict.

After carefully examining this case, including all relevant documentation submitted, as well as the judgement of the Ecclesiastical Court of the Eastern American Diocese ИЦБр.7 of 8 September 2007, which quashed the punishment of excommunication from the Church of the above named persons, and revoked the suspension of Liturgical practice within the Church of the Holy & Great Martyr St. George in Niagara Falls, this Court confirms this judgement.

On the basis of Article 79 of the Constitution of the Serbian Orthodox Church, as well as Article 77 of the Penal Code for the Ecclesiastical Court of the Serbian Orthodox Church, and having in mind the well being of the Church, the High Ecclesiastical Court puts this Verdict into force.

In accordance with Article 87 of the Penal Code for the Ecclesiastical Court of the Serbian Orthodox Church, the decision of the High Ecclesiastical Court is final and must be executed, without the possibility of appeal.

From the meeting of the High Ecclesiastical Court held in Belgrade on 28 December 2007, БиЦ Бр.29/07.

[SEAL] President of the High Ecclesiastical Court
Archbishop of Cetinje & Metropolitan
of Montenegro & the Coastal Lands

Amfilohije [signature]

Court Clerk

[signature]

Bishops Dean Reverend Dr. Luka Novakovic