

## MINISTRY OF JUSTICE EXPERT TURNED OUT TO BE INSANE?

13 May 2014



**The Russian Media **report** about the published documents revealing psychiatric diagnoses of the lead national anti-cultist Alexander Dvorkin who is the Chairman of the State Religious Expert Council of the Ministry of Justice of Russia.**

As **noted** by the Minister of Justice A. Konovalov, the work of the Council under A. Dvorkin's administration has not been particularly efficient. In fact, activities of the anti-cultist started raising concern a while ago due to his groundless criticism of religious movements, which frequently contains blatant lies.

Now it all falls into place, as it was found that for more than four years Alexander Dvorkin was under psychiatric supervision.

The documents published on the website [www.alexanderdvorkin.info](http://www.alexanderdvorkin.info) note other details of the future anti-cultist's life: *"Before the last exam, after his sister assaulted his girlfriend, he started yelling, assaulting his sister, fell on the floor, was sobbing. When his mother reprimanded him, he took luminal, and cut his veins."*

The written evidence is not limited to only suicide attempts: *"Starting then, he started drinking alcohol... Doesn't drink to handle hangover. Started smoking. [...] Was sniffing stain remover. First just from curiosity, then to 'escape from reality.'"*

Upon a psychiatric examination A. Dvorkin was diagnosed with psychophysical infantilism, pathological development of personality and suspected schizophrenia. Perhaps it would not matter so much if it were not for the large scope of A. Dvorkin's work. Since 1992, he has managed to create the Russian Association of Centers for Studies of Religions and Sects (RACIRS), become the vice president of the European Federation of Centres of Research and Information on Cults and Sects (FECRIS) and fill in the list of sects with all religious organizations except for the Russian Orthodox Church.

Dvorkin often appeared in court as an expert on sects, however now this practice will probably be ceased.

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<http://www.islamnews.ru/news-145962.html>

## Expert of the Ministry of Justice turned out to be a psychiatric patient?



15 May 2014, 12:20

A Russian Orthodox anti-cultist and lead expert of the Ministry of Justice Dvorkin caught the media's attention after copies of medical records appeared on line, revealing his psychological disorder.

The website [Alexanderdvorkin.info](http://Alexanderdvorkin.info) published copies of medical records of Alexander Leonidovich Dvorkin, born 1955. The records show that the above patient has been officially diagnosed with psychological disorders.

*Copy of the medical record*

In particular, it is noted that the above person was registered with the Psycho-neurological clinic number 3 for four years, and was institutionalized for inpatient treatment at the Psychiatric hospital number 14.

The doctors revealed cyclotimia (manic-depressive psychosis), pathological development of personality, psychophysical infantilism. It has also been affirmed that the patient was taken away from the psychiatric supervision without appropriate directions from the doctor, due to immigration to the U.S.

Alexander Dvorkin is a well-known public activist, one of the founders of the anti-sectarian movement in Russia. He is a Russian Orthodox theologian who coined the term "totalitarian sect." In 2009, he became the head of the [State Religious Expert Council](#) of the Ministry of Justice of Russia.



Ministry of Justice's expert bothered by prophet Muhammad

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<http://newsbabr.com/?IDE=125755>

### **“Anti-cultist” Alexander Dvorkin turned out to be just a lunatic**

A.L. Dvorkin, well known expert on sects and the founder of “sectology,” was under the supervision of a psychiatric clinic for four years.

As revealed by the published [medical records](#), Dvorkin was under the supervision of a psychiatric clinic for a long time.

The first referrals to a psychiatrists were related to various anxieties, apathy, hatred towards his relatives (after a conflict with whom he attempted suicide). The patient “hears the same melody playing in his head; he feels like someone is standing behind him.”

From the Psycho-neurological Clinic number 3 he was transferred to the Psychiatric Hospital number 14 where he was undergoing examinations and inpatient treatment. The following mental disorders were revealed: cyclothymia (manic-depressive psychosis), pathological development of personality, psycho-physical infantilism.

Based on the Russian and foreign psychiatric practical experience, the above diagnoses cannot be fully cured. Only temporary remission is possible. A patient who has disorders of the manic-depressive kind is supposed to be under the supervision of a psychiatrist, have appointments with him at least once a week and constantly receive supportive treatment in the form of psychotropic medications prescribed by the doctor who is in charge of the case.

The revealed disorders make the patient incapable of scientific, social or political activities of any kind due to extreme subjectivity of perception and inability to adequately evaluate the consequences of his actions or take responsibility for them.

The patient was forcedly taken away from the psychiatric supervision without appropriate directions from the doctor, due to immigration to the U.S.

Alexander Dvorkin started his activities criticizing religious movements in 1992 immediately upon return from a 17-year-long stay in the U.S. Just one year later he opened the first anti-sect center in the country. By 2006, more such centers were opened in other cities in Russia. Individual members of the association are often accused of incitement to hatred between religions.

Dvorkin’s name is closely associated with the spreading of the term “totalitarian sect”, which he introduced and put into use in the 90’s and the definition for which he had personally developed.

A recent statement made by Dvorkin against one religious organization which was broadcast by a central channel, were [recognized by the court](#) as false and defamatory, and the court ordered the channel to publish a retraction.

Earlier Dvorkin [gave a public lecture](#) against Islam which was severely criticized by Muslim religious leaders.

Date: 14 May 2014 - 12:16

## Russian sect expert suspected of schizophrenia



*Alexander Dvorkin invented the term “totalitarian sect” and was the author of the subject of “sectology”*

**MOSCOW**, 14 May, RIA FederalPress. A theologian of the St. Tikhon Humanitarian University, Alexander Dvorkin who is also considered to be an expert in sects and who fights against them is accused of having concealed the fact of prior treatment in a psychiatric hospital.

A website spelled like the expert’s name has published scanned medical records revealing the fact that Dvorkin was kept under observation for four years by the Psychoneurological clinic number 3, and that he was even institutionalized at the Psychiatric Hospital number 14 where he spent a month undergoing check-ups and inpatient treatment. The patient had to be released without an appropriate direction from the doctor, due to immigration to the United States, as the above website states.

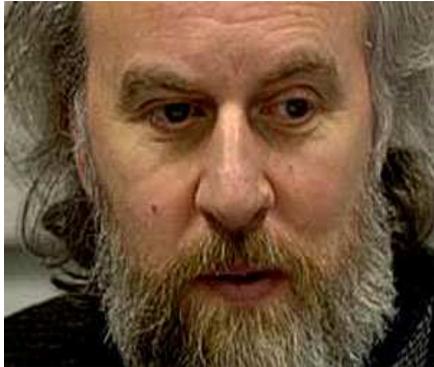
*“The revealed disorders make the patient incapable of scientific, social or political activities of any kind due to extreme subjectivity of perception and inability to adequately evaluate consequences of his actions or taking responsibility for them,” – as emphasized by the authors of the above resource.*

Alexander Dvorkin invented the term “totalitarian sect” and was the author of the subject of “sectology.” The published medical records revealing psychiatric diagnoses of this public activist can explain many of his controversial actions. For example, in the middle of April the theologian was not allowed to enter the Ukraine: he was going to deliver a course of lectures on the subject of Russian Orthodoxy in the city of Donetsk and was going there by invitation from Metropolitan Mitrofan of Lugansk. At the airport he was escorted to a separate room and accused of having been seen with the wife of Pavel Gubarev, the former governor of the area of Donetsk who had been ousted. Dvorkin’s statement that he had never known that family did not help. Based on other versions of the event, Dvorkin’s behavior was aggressive.

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<http://nr2.ru/moskow/497708.html>



## Scandal! Famous Russian anti-cultist turned out to be insane?

*Alexander Dvorkin's medical records from a psychiatric clinic were published on-line*

05.13.14 11:26

Moscow, May 13 (New Region, Ekaterina Popova) – A huge scandal is unfolding in Russia: medical records of a well-known anti-cultist, president of the Russian Association of Centers for Studies of Religions and Sects, **Alexander Dvorkin**, were posted on line, publicly accessible. The **published** medical records reveal that Dvorkin was under supervision by a psychiatric institution for a long time, with diagnoses of “cyclothymia” (a form of a manic-depressive psychosis), “pathological development of personality” and “psychophysical infantilism.” Psychiatric experts state that such disorders normally are addressed by prescription of psychotropic drugs, but not in all cases would a full recovery be possible.

Dvorkin himself was not available to provide any comments.

Nevertheless, if the new information about the well-known anti-cultist gets official confirmation, it might become a reason for a reassessment of his activities, and the entire knowledge system founded by him and known as “sectology” would be in question. Expert psychiatrists still should study the documents.

Alexander Dvorkin began his activities of criticizing religious movements in 1992, immediately upon his return from a 17-year-long stay in the U.S. Just one year later, he opened the first anti-sect center in the country. By 2006, more such centers were opened in other cities in Russia, and then the Russian Association of Centers for Studies of Religions and Sects was founded (Russian acronym – RACIRS) which currently has about 25 branch offices in Russia, Belarus, Ukraine and Kazakhstan. Individual members of the association are often accused of incitement to hatred between religions.

At the same time Dvorkin is the Vice-president of the European Federation of Centres of Research and Information on Cults and Sects (FECRIS) which has the status of a consultant with the Council of Europe and the UN. In 2009, Dvorkin was elected as the Chair of the State Religious Expert Council of the Ministry of Justice of Russia, which caused a wave of protest among professional religious scholars. As **noted** by the Minister of Justice Alexander Kononov, the work of the Council under Dvorkin's administration has been ineffective.

Dvorkin's name is closely associated with the spreading of the term “totalitarian sect,” which he coined in the 90's and the definition for which he had personally developed. The list of sects created by Dvorkin has been growing more and more – not only religious organizations are added to the list now, but also commercial and political ones.

A recent statement made by Dvorkin against one religious organization which was broadcast by a central channel, were [recognized by the court](#) as false and defamatory, and the court ordered the channel to publish a retraction. Earlier Dvorkin [gave a public lecture](#) against Islam which was severely criticized by Muslim religious leaders.

Observers note that the published medical records revealing psychological disorders of Dvorkin could explain many inconsistencies in his work in the sphere of his Sect Studies. For instance, his [statements](#) as part of his official testimony before the prosecutors, or the fact that any religious organization falls under the “totalitarian sect” category the way it is defined. However, this stigma was only used against a few of them. “Sectology” has gradually become a political instrument used to discredit opponents, and due to Dvorkin’s efforts the word “sect” has long ceased to be a term used purely in the sphere of religious studies.

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