

ОБЩЕДОСТУПНАЯ РОССИЙСКАЯ ТЕОЛОГИЧЕСКАЯ АКАДЕМИЯ
(THE OPEN RUSSIAN THEOLOGICAL ACADEMY)

Dear Christian friends, faithful prayer partners and supporters!

It is Easter season for many of you and we send you our greetings and rejoice with you in the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus! In Russia many churches will celebrate Easter a month later this year, please remember the churches in Russia in your prayers because it is traditionally a good time for evangelism and inviting new people to the churches.

We thank you for all your prayers and support for Open Russian Theological Academy (ORTA), which are a tremendous encouragement and help to all our work.

We thank God for the good results achieved by ORTA since it started in January 2004.

We thank Him for the committed tutor-training team who conducted in total 24 seminars and trained over 400 tutors in different cities of the Russian Far-East and Central Siberia

We thank Him for 90 groups and over 600 hundred of registered students and uncounted number of those who did not register.

We thank God for the strong committed team of professional translators with a good knowledge of theology. By now 6 books have been translated or revised and 5 books are in the process of work. We hope to complete the whole series of Life of Christ by the end of this year.

We thank God that ORTA now can print the textbooks. We thank Him for the printing equipment and it was a tremendous help to our work.

We thank God that ORTA now works in prison. Radio versions of SEAN materials in Russian are now used in prisons. However, our dream is to do tutor training in prisons and start groups there. At the moment it seems impossible but we believe it will be done.

We thank God for ORTA's works in other countries. ORTA's vision includes not only Russia but Russian diasporas around the world and also Central Asian countries where Russian is still a commonly used language by many people groups. By now we helped to train Russian tutors in Korea, Kyrgyzstan and China. ORTA's translations of SEAN materials are used in different countries.

We thank God for growing relationship with other TEE organizations in other countries and an opportunity to participate in the 2nd Increase conference in London in February this year. It was a great chance to listen to some pioneers of TEE movement as well as getting more understanding of how TEE is used in many countries now.

Please, pray for ORTA:

1 Pray for a continuing development of ORTA's work that it could continue to spread from the Far East to other parts of Russia. That regional ORTA centers could be established in Ulan Ude (Buryatia in Central Siberia) and other key cities and regions. Pray for the big city Khabarovsk and Khabarovsk region that ORTA could start training tutors there.

2. Pray for our tutor-training team that God will raise up more gifted workers for this ministry. Pray that we would also be able to provide further continuing training to the tutors who are already working with the groups.

3. Pray for our translators and editors that they would be able to work with good speed and quality and that Holy Spirit will guide them in the process of contextualization, that they would be able to avoid any denominational bias in the process of translation.

4. Pray that ORTA could have a full-time Russian director who would supervise all areas of ORTA's work. There is a big need for a Russian Director who would be able to give a full time commitment to ORTA's work and take care of registration, publishing and book sales. ORTA is not a registered organization and now as the work is growing it is important to give the legal status to the work. Getting registration for an educational Christian organization in Russia is a difficult task and we need somebody who is well experienced in such things to take care of it. To have a full-time Director we need financial support of at least 500 -600 USD per month. Please, pray for God's provision.

5. ORTA understands that the financial support that now comes from outside Russia cannot continue for ever and we are looking for the ways how we can become a self-supportive organization. Please, pray that God will show us the ways and will provide His support from inside Russia.

6. Pray for the growth of ORTA's work in prisons and especially that ORTA could train tutors and start groups in prisons. Please, pray for the support for our prison coordinator Sergei who is a very hard working man and does a lot of work for the prisons.

7. Pray for Magadan that God will show the ways to continue working in this key city and for the church leaders to see how their churches can benefit from SEAN materials in Russian.

8. Pray for our international work that it could also grow and God will show where we should move and help to disciple Christians with our materials. Pray that ORTA materials could become well- known among Russian diaspora churches in other countries and be used by them.

9. We thank God for our regional coordinator and main tutor-trainer Maria (Masha) Vdovina-Boyko who had her first baby this month. Please, pray for good health for both mother and baby and that Maria will be able to continue doing her ORTA ministry. She is a key person in tutor-training and editing work.

10. Please, pray for the planned trip to Russia of Michael Huggins and Anneta Vysotskaya that God will show the best dates for the National Committee meeting and that it will bring further development to ORTA's work. Pray for provision of the travel funds for both of them.

May God continue to bless you in all areas of your life, work and ministry.

Christ is Risen!

He is Risen Indeed!

Anneta Vysotskaya
International Director of ORTA



ORTA tutor-training team with a group of new tutors.