

Communistic Government BCP epoch deliberately tried to destroy the Bulgarian Orthodox Church

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As a Child I've been baptized in the Orthodox Church and since then I've been a complete atheist until the age of 21.

What is the reason to get my faith in God in 21? This is a short post to shed some light on the great efforts of communism to eradicate faith in God in Communistic countries and change faith in God with faith in man and how this kind of approach devastates societies.

During the communism it's a well known fact that communists, all the members in the Bulgarian Communist's Party (BCP), has led an anti Bulgarian Orthodox Church government politics. The fact that Communistic Governments are fighting Churches and faith in God is less known among youngsters and hardly known by people part of western democratic societies.

I did not lived this time myself, but I heard many stories about the stupidities of communism. Many older people say, when communism came to rule the Communist Government did immediately destroy some Orthodox Christian temples, some priests were convinced in crimes they were not responsible for etc...

Other priests were send in the Concentration camps and many of them never returned in the society. "Access" to the Churches was limited and sometimes prohibited to the orthodox layman and often to

clergy.

During these terrible communism era, it was prohibited to everybody who is a member of BPC to attend Orthodox Church services or identify himself as christian in public.

I've heard from my grandma an interesting story she witnessed, while she was working as a cleaner in the militia (police).

Here is the story:

One day my grandma wanted to go to the Church St. George located on the city centre of Dobrich city Bulgaria.

A policeman stopped her when she was entering the temple and since he knew her as an employee in the police called her by name and told her that she is not allowed to enter the church building, because she is working in the police.

My grandma asked the militiaman to let her enter the temple to pray for just few minutes and light up a candle (just for this time) without reporting for that in the police.

The policeman agreed to let us in and keep silent that she entered the Church this time, but warned her that if he sees her another time entering the church he is going to report to the respective authorities.

Another part of the Government active politics against the Bulgarian Orthodox Church was by placing an ex-criminals who were sentenced for thefts, rapings, aggression or other crimes as a priests in the Church.

By this move the supreme counsel of the bulgarian communist party wanted to break the people confidence in the Church as the true holy apostolic Church. The most fierce communists during these days did their best to present the church of God as a corrupted and void institution who only steals from people and exists only to deceive society.

Yet many years after the fall of communism this people distrust in the church that communists sow through the years.

What is pity is even after the communism is gone for a long, time the churches are only full on biggest feasts and no more than 5% of the citizens are regularly going for Church service or have even the basic knowledge on the Church truths and mysteries.

Following the fall of communism the democratic governments who come to power, elected in a citizen democratic elections did not do much to help the church either, some of them does lead politics openly hostile to our Bulgarian Church.

The last government selected, seems to be less hostile to our Church, but people have once been cut away from the Church and now its really hard for our nation to get back to faith.

The severe crisis (a word that means judgement in greek) and the hardships many people experience started to make some people rethink about what is the meaning of life and made them occasionally go back to faith of our fathers orthodoxy.

What will happen further nobody knows, we need to pray and hope God will have mercy and people will repent for their sins and come back to faith again.