In memory of Artem Borzov



Artem Borzov, a staff member of the Moscow Patriarchate's department for external church relations, died a tragic death on June 5, 2015.

Artem was born on August 9, 1986 in Kolomna. A graduate of Kolomna Seminary and Moscow Orthodox Theological Academy, he studied in 2012-2013 in the Ecumenical Institute in Bossey, Switzerland.

He was a deep believer and until his death served as reader at the church of the Ascension in Kolomna near Moscow.

Artem joined the DECR in 2011 and worked in its secretariat for inter-Christian relations.

He was a true Christian, a kind man of ready sympathy who won the sympathy and respect of all the department workers. He always sought to work with diligence and responsibility for the tasks given him by the supreme church authorities. He quickly grasped the fine points of western theology and intricacies of international church work. He took part in church conferences in various countries and

represented our Church in a proper manner, thus gaining the recognition and confidence of the Russian Orthodox Church's foreign partners. Among them were representatives of various Christian confessions – German and Finnish Lutherans, American evangelicals, staff members of the World Council of Church, Protestants in Russia.

Modest and restrained, he readily helped his colleagues responding to each request however long it may take and whatever difficulties it may have. Many would turn to Artem for help in their personal affairs, trusting and relying on him. And nobody was ever turned away. He strictly observed the commandment of our Lord Jesus Christ 'to bear one another's burdens' (Gal. 6:2). All who knew him remember him with warmth and sincerely mourn his untimely death.

The leaders and staff of the department extend profound condolences to the relatives and friends of the deceased.

May the Chief Pastor our Lord Jesus Christ grant rest to the soul of the late reader Artem in the mensions of the righteous and eternal memory.

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