

# Moscow Couple Pay HTM Visit to Kalmykia

*Alexey Saveliev - May 15, 2019*



From May 11 to 15, Alexey and Olga Saveliev made a second trip to Kalmykia, a republic of Russia located in the Southern Federal District.

The uniqueness of this republic is that in the early 1990s, the character education program developed by Unificationists, My World and I, was adopted on the republic level and taught in every school!

Kalmyks are western Mongols who moved to southwestern Russia a long time ago and have been protecting Russia from the raids of belligerent neighbors. Now Kalmykia is home to only 278,000 people, and an additional 50,000 Kalmyks live in Moscow.

Kalmykia is a Buddhist republic. Through two lamas, Sanal and Zehren, we got a chance for a new beginning in the Kalmykia providence based on the mission of Heaven Tribal Messiahs.

During this visit, the main goal was to conduct a local FFWPU conference in one of the districts of Kalmykia. On May 14, a one-day conference titled "Universal Values and Healthy Families as a Basis for Peace and Development" was held in the village of Troitskoye of Tselinny district (which literally means "Trinity village of Virgin district"). The program was supported by the head of the village, the director of the House of Culture and Youth Department.

The conference was attended by social workers of the district, representatives of the women's union of Kalmykia and staff members of the Troitskoye administration. Among the participants was a representative of the Federal State Statistics Service of Kalmykia, who showed that especially in recent years divorce has become one of the most difficult social problems of Kalmykia. For example, in 2019 the divorce rate has become greater than 100 percent, with people divorcing more than once.

Alexey Saveliev presented FFWPU pilot programs to strengthen the family and educate youth. As a result, it was agreed to hold a Family Festival on July 8, the Day of Family, Love and Fidelity (a Russian national holiday), in the House of Culture. In the autumn a master class will be held on the moral education of young people, as well as a youth festival for the youth and students of Kalmykia.

At the conference, FFWPU representatives awarded an honored family of Kalmykia with a diploma for being a "Model Family." This family also participated in the program.

As a result of the trip, 17 couples received the Blessing.

