

SU "St. Kliment Ohridski"

Faculty of Theology

Department of "Practical Theology"

OPINION

by Prof. Dr. Ludmil Martinov Malev

member of a scientific jury, according to order RD 38-51/27.01.2023

of a dissertation on:

"Pastoral care for families in psycho-social addiction therapy"

author: **Krasimir Nikolov Ivanov**

for awarding the scientific and educational degree "doctor"

by field of higher education 2. Humanities, professional direction 2.4, scientific specialty Religion and Theology (Pastoral Psychology)

Sofia

2023

Data for the Ph.D

Doctoral student Krasimir Ivanov obtained the educational degree "bachelor" in Psychology at NBU and after a decade of participation in training and practical programs in the field of psychology, he also obtained the degree "master" at the Faculty of Theology at SU "St. Kliment Ohridski". He was enrolled as a doctoral student in the same faculty in 2019. He was dismissed with the right to defense by rector's order from 10.01.2022. All preparation, including the writing of the dissertation, was carried out in the Department of "Practical Theology" in the Faculty of Arts of SU. His scientific supervisor is Assoc. Dr. Ivo Yanev.

His theological and psychological education, long-term practice, combined with the constant improvement of his qualifications, as well as the opportunity to work with a scientific supervisor who is a leading scholar in the field of pastoral theology, are important prerequisites for the positive end result achieved.

In my opinion, Krasimir Ivanov meets the requirements and meets the criteria of the RSARB and the Regulations for its implementation.

What has been pointed out so far gives me reason to accept. that all procedural rules have been followed and no violations have been committed.

The first meeting of the Scientific Jury approved by order of the rector of SU and according to the decision of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Theology was held on 09.02.2023 and is reflected in the protocol attached to the documents.

Dissertation data

The thesis of Krasimir Ivanov, proposed for defense, is 179 pages long and is structured in the following parts: Preface, List of Abbreviations, Introduction, Three

Chapters, Conclusion, Appendices, and References. Each of the chapters is composed of parts with its own internal structure.

In the Preface, the author motivates his choice to focus on doctoral studies and shares the reason why he chose and formulated the topic for development, in the light of an ecclesiastical-pastoral aspect.

The introduction contains the important attributes characteristic of this part, formulated with the necessary precision. The goals and tasks that the author sets for their achievement are highlighted. The methodology is indicated. It stands out with the necessary complexity and comprehensiveness.

The content of individual chapters corresponds to their wording. The part indicating the sources and the literature used is particularly impressive. An impressive number of titles in different languages are indicated, which testifies to a deep interest and diligent work.

Placed applications are strictly tailored to the topic and contribute to its visualization.

The abstract presented by Krasimir Ivanov meets the requirements and provides an opportunity for a clear and accurate introduction to the text of the dissertation in a synthesized form.

The dissertation's publications are sufficient in number and depth and have been published in recognized scientific journals.

Scientific contributions

The dissertation work has a marked contribution character. The PhD student has highlighted his contributions and I take them for granted.

Remarks

Along with the undoubted qualities of this work, in my opinion, there are also some weaknesses:

1. In the review of the more important titles on the subject (incorrectly, in my opinion, entitled "A Brief Review"), not only information about the authors and their works should be given, but also a critical analysis should be made. For example, the doctoral student's contributions would stand out even better, with which he supplements some of them or dwells on moments unexplored until his work.
2. It would be good to clarify some wording (eg the title of the first chapter and its parts 1. and 1.3). In my opinion, it is better to replace "in the context of the Orthodox Church" with "in the spirit (in the tradition) of church ministry" or "in the context of Orthodox theology". And Parts 1 and 1.3 - respectively "Essence of pastoral ministry..." and "Temptations before (and not ON) the shepherd".

Conclusion

I declare that I do not in any way fall under the hypotheses of the law and other normative acts regarding conflict of interests! The qualities of the current dissertation give me full reason to vote positively with "FOR" Krasimir Nikolov Ivanov to be awarded the educational and scientific degree "doctor" in the field of higher education 2. Humanities, professional direction 2.4, scientific specialty Religion and Theology.

Veliko Tarnovo 2023