



Natural desire to do good
‘For Spiritual Revival’ awards and those for figures of culture and arts are Christmas tradition **Page 10**



Winter magical night when wonders happen
‘Kalyady Tsars’ ancient custom recognised by UNESCO as cultural treasure of all humankind **Page 11**



Star parade at Minsk’s ice arenas
International Amateur Ice Hockey Tournament to become official world championship for veterans **Page 12**



Behind the scenes of one conspiracy

Some declassified documents on the events of December 19

The attack of the Government Residence caused indignation in Belarusian society.

The hidden motives of these events are known: foreign analytical centres formed and financed certain pro-radical structures. They made an attempt to overthrow the legal authorities and impose their understanding of “democracy” on society. At the moment these events are being interpreted in different ways.

An absurd notion is being obtruded upon public opinion. It is strenuously hammered in that there was an orderly crowd at the Square, people who only came to “learn the results of the voting”. It is said that there was no organised leadership whatsoever, that everything happened accidentally.

Those, who are interpreting the events that took place this way, also remind about the visits to Minsk of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Poland and Germany, and their offers to “pay well” for the “correctly conducted voting”. There are also loud appeals to be heard of such aggressive politicians as Frau Beck, Mr Buzek, who are fiercely demanding all possible kinds of punishment for Belarus.

It is widely known that the foreign policy, pursued by Belarusian top leadership, is of exceptionally amicable character, it is aimed only at the development of good-neighbourly relations with all countries; and the country’s domestic policy provides steady and progressive advance of Belarusian society. Even the most vehement opponents of the Belarusian authorities, both inside and outside

Belarus, have to admit the unique nature and the effectiveness of the Belarusian model of development.

However, the very fact of existence of such an independent state building its policy based on its national interests, causes harsh irritation on the part of some foreign political forces willing to subdue to their interests those post-Soviet states that are not yet under their influence, to which the Republic of Belarus belongs in the current conditions. The reason for such close attention to and interest in our state on the part of foreign political consultants is obvious.

It is, for the most part, conditioned not by the problems of “democracy”, but by the exceptional geopolitical importance of our country in the Eurasian area. → 2

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Positive example for other states to follow

Poland to abolish consular fees for its national visas for Belarusian citizens → 10

Why do we need to reinterpret classical stories from years ago?

Contemplation over film which angled itself as global cinematic event → 11

Team spirit brings deserved medal

Fourth round of the IBU Biathlon World Cup, held in German Oberhof in tough weather, sees Belarusian national squad win one medal → 12

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