

PHENOMENON OF SPIRIT POSSESSION IN THE CONTEXT OF ORTHODOX CULTURE AND METHODS OF SPIRITUAL ASSISTANCE

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Keywords: epilepsy, xenoglossia, glossolalia, mental disorder, hysteria, psychosis, schizophrenia, monomania, demonomania, obsession, insanity, demons, exorcism of evil spirits, hiccups, cliquishness, meryachit, to cast a bad spell, evil spirits; exorcism, exorcist, otchitka, Russian Orthodox Church, spiritual help

Abstract: In the interview (recorded in Moscow, in 2013), a clergyman of the Russian Orthodox Church who has been practicing exorcism for more than ten years talks about the phenomenon of evil spirit possession in the context of Orthodox culture. The interviewee characterizes manifestations of possession based on observations from personal practice, and describes methods of spiritual help to people suffering from this "sickness".

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