

Chechen Journalist Beats Kadyrov Critic in Germany – Reports

April 30, 2018



Minkail Malizaev Vkontakte

A vocal critic of strongman Chechen leader Ramzan Kadyrov has reportedly been hospitalized after being beaten and having his family threatened by a Chechen state television journalist.

Minkail Malizayev's wife and children were deported from Germany last week after their asylum application was rejected, the Kavkaz.Realii news website <u>reported</u>.

In a YouTube video published Sunday, Malizayev said he refused to record a video apology to Kadyrov after sending an <u>audio</u> apology to a man who introduced himself as state Chechen television correspondent Beslan <u>Dadayev</u>.

<u>Televised apologies</u> by ordinary Chechens who criticize the Russian North Caucasus republic's leader occur regularly in Chechnya.

According to Malizayev, Dadayev said he was sent by his boss Akhmed <u>Dudayev</u> and Kadyrov with a <u>warning</u> that "your wife will be raped and we will kill all your children if you don't

record a video address."

The fate of Malizayev's family in Russia remains unclear, Kavkaz.Realii said.

"They beat me severely [...] They broke my hand, my foot, and injured my head," Malizayev said, naming Dadayev and a Berlin-based Chechen he called Mayirbek as his attackers.

Kavkaz.Realii reported that a "group of anonymous avengers" tracked down and beat Dadayev and his partner later on Sunday, citing an uncorroborated <u>video</u> that claimed to show the act of revenge.

"If I get deported, death awaits me in Russia," Malizayev said in closing.

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