

# Saint Luke Metropolitan of Simferopol as physician, surgeon and academic professor

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## Abstract

"A King's secret ought to be kept, but the works of God should be acknowledged publicly".

*Saint Luke (Valentine Felixovich Voino-Yassenetski) Metropolitan of Simferopol and Crimea was surgeon, academic professor, author, theologian, philosopher, confessor, martyr and bishop. St. Luke was born in Kertz in 1877. He studied Medicine at Kiev's University and graduated in 1903, at the age of 26 years. Vladimir Felixovich worked initially as a local district physician. He offered his medical service, as member of the Kiev Medical Hospital of the Red Cross, during the Russian-Japanese war in 1904-1905 in the city of Chita. In 1915 Valentin Felixovich published his first important scientific contribution, entitled «Regional anesthesia», as Thesis. For this contribution he was awarded Chojnacki prize by the Warsaw University. In 1917 Valentin Felixovich went to Tashkent, in order to be in charge of the Department of Surgery, as the head surgeon of the Tashkent Municipal Hospital. In 1919 his wife Anna, who suffered from pulmonary tuberculosis, died in Tashkent, leaving four orphans. In 1921, Valentin Felixovich was ordained a deacon and priest and in 1923 he was consecrated as a bishop. He was also appointed full professor of Topographic Anatomy and Surgery at Tashkent's University. His lectures at the University attracted large number of medical students and surgeons as well as students of various faculties and disciplines. In 1923, Bishop Luke arrested and sentenced to imprisonment and exile to Siberia. That was the first of three times that the bishop Luke was arrested, without any reason and sent into exile, which he endured for 11 years. In 1924, at the hospital of Yeniseisk, Bishop Luke performed successfully the world's first kidney trans-*

*plantation from animal (calf) to man. During the Great Patriotic War, Bishop Luke was called to serve as chief surgeon at the army hospital, in Krasnoyarsk. Bishop Luke developed successfully "the battlefield surgery" and saved the life of numerous soldiers, who were transferred to hospital from the various battlefields. For his medical services during the war, he was awarded a medal "For valiant effort in the Great Patriotic War of 1941-1945". After the war he finished a book with the title "Late Resection of Infected Wounds of the Large Joints", which was submitted together with his large memorable handbook entitled "Notes on the Surgical Treatment of Purulent Wounds" to be considered for the Stalin's Prize. Thus, Bishop Luke was awarded a Stalin's prize in the first order in 1946, for that substantial scientific contribution. In May 1946, the Holy Synod, elevated Bishop Luke to the rank of Archbishop and he was elected Archbishop of Simferopol and Crimea. At the same time, St. Luke continued to practice surgery and give consultations in the Army Hospital and Hospital of the Veterans of the Great Patriotic War, in Simferopol. He proceeded to the most serious surgical operations, on severe and unusual cases. He released also lectures on surgery and scientific research at Crimea's Medical Institute. On June 11, 1961 Saint Luke passed to eternity. The extensive scientific knowledge, the desire for research, the endeavor to open new horizons in surgery, the unique surgical capacity, the courage, the perseverance, the continuous hard work, the desire to teach, instruct and proceed to didactic task constantly, in order to transmit knowledge, ethical principles and values, and mostly the genuine and pure Christocentric life, which was irradiated in his beneficial contribution to suffering people, plotted Saint's Luke unique academic profile. Saint Luke strongly believed that the academic communication and the transmission of the knowledge is the superb duty for an academic professor. This duty is not limited in the amphitheater, the teaching hall and the wards, but it should be exercised constantly by the side of the patients at any place, any time and*

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*any condition. St. Luke used to say that healing means an essential existential restoration of the person who suffers and a radical amelioration of his quality of life. The doctor must communicate with the patient in order to enter in the altar of his soul and treat the interior dimension of the pain, which is usually more severe than the physical pain. The physician must sacrifice himself for the benefit of the patients. He must have sacrificial love and compassion and his Being should illuminate as symbol of knowledge, mercy and benefaction. In the last years of his life the harmonization of the Medicine and Surgery with his pastoral work of charity and mercy was a special gift. Saint's Luke scientific contribution in the field of medicine includes hundreds of papers. His publications cover a long period of time, from 1908 to 1956. The publications are referred on new surgical methods, unusual cases, regional anesthesia, the treatment of pyogenic infections, surgical treatment of infected and septic wounds, treatment of osteomyelitis, on hematogenous osteomyelitis, surgical treatment of the diseases of the spinal cord, excision of the tumors of the central nervous system, surgical treatment of the disorders of the cranial and spinal nerves. Saint's Luke texts are very clear, precise, analytical, instructive, written with eloquence and linguistic perfection, enriched with hand drawings by the author and based on extensive references.*

**Key Words:** Saint Luke of Simferopol, surgery, science and religion, pyogenic infections, spirit soul and body, orthodox spirituality.

## Introduction

“You people, who may not have much of a relationship with science and do not know much about philosophy, remember always the most basic beginning, which was well known by the early Christians. They considered poor, the person who knew all the sciences yet he knew not God. On the other hand, they considered blessed the person who knew God, even if he knew absolutely nothing about the worldly things. Guard this truth like the best treasure of the heart, walk straight without looking right or left“

With this simple, profound, instructive, moving and magnificent proclamation of existential importance Metropolitan Luc summarizes his philosophy, his principles and the spiritual axis of his life. He has

been physician, surgeon, academic professor, author of textbooks of surgery, medical dissertations, research's articles, priest, theologian, philosopher, confessor, martyr of the truth, author of many books of theology, catechism and philosophy, the Metropolitan of Simferopol Luke, whose full name was Valentine Felixovich Voyno-Yassenetski (Войно-Ясенецкий Валентин Феликсович).

The truth was the center of his life, the axis of his medical practice, science, thought, medical research, teaching activities, social life, the axis of his communication with people and the interior light in any aspect of his personal life. St. Luke was born in Kertz (Керчи), on April 27th 1877. He was the third son of his parents<sup>1</sup>, who were descendants of princely Russian family. His mother was Orthodox and his father was a pious practicing Catholic.

During his childhood he was spiritually influenced by the orthodox monastery of the Holy Lavra of the Kiev Caves (Киево-Печерская Лавра)<sup>2</sup> and the Holy Bible, a copy of which he received as the most valuable gift upon graduating from High School.

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1. Felix Stanislavovitch Voyno Yassenesco (Феликс Станиславович Войно-Ясенецко) a pharmacist was his father and Mariya Dmitriyevna was his mother (Мария Дмитриевна). His family included five siblings Pavel (Павел), Olga (Ольга), Valentin (Валентин), Vladimir (Владимир) and Victoriya (Виктория).

2. According to the Primary Chronicle (Nestor's Chronicle or Nestor's manuscript), the monastery was founded by an orthodox monk called Anthony, from Esphigmenon's monastery on Mount Athos, in the early 11th century. Antony was settled in Kiev in a cave at the Berestov Mount, called the Cave of Theodosius and gradually organized a monastic community under the protection of Prince Iziaslav I of Kiev, who ceded the whole mount to the monks. In 1051 Antony called architects from Constantinople in order to build a monastery, based on byzantine architectural style. Among the first disciples were Theodosius and Barlaam. Theodosius was elected abbot (1062-1074) and decided to base the rules of the monastic community on the statute of the Studion Monastery in Constantinople. Gradually Lavra of the Kiev Caves (Киево-Печерская Лавра) became the spiritual center of Kiev's Russians. During the invasions by the hordes of Tatars, led by Baty-Khan in 13th century and the subsequent Kiev's occupation, Pertseskaya Lavra was destroyed and evacuated. The majority of monks rescued in small caves and in catacombs. In the 16th century the monastery was reconstructed and was granted stavropegial status by the Patriarch of Constantinople. In the following years, the monastery flourished greatly and acquired much wealth. Before the Bolsheviks' assumption of power in 1917, the brotherhood of monastery consisted of over thousand monks and exercised strong spiritual influence on Russian people. During the Great Patriotic War (World War II) the Russian army decided to mine the Holy Dormition Cathedral, before the advancing German army. In 1961 the monastery repopulated and functioning again including only hundred monks. The reconstruction and

He had been a very gifted person with an inclination to the arts<sup>3</sup>, however he decided to study Medicine attending the Great Prince St. Vladimir Medical School at the University of Kiev<sup>4</sup>, which was famous for its excellent educational level. He graduated as extraordinary student with high achievements and awarded medical degree “cum laude” in 1903, at the age of 26 years.

### Saint Luke as Physician

Vladimir Felixovitch worked initially as a local district physician after his graduation “healing the ailments of peasants and workers and finding deep satisfaction in this and”<sup>5</sup>. Then he proceeded on to qualification in surgery and ophthalmology at Kiev University.

In 1904 the Russian-Japanese war declared<sup>6</sup>. Valentine Felixovitch offered his medical service, as

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restoration of the monastery, based on the previous shape and embellishment, started in 1988 and was accomplished during the years 1998-2000. The Lavra is also the site of the Kiev Theological Academy and Seminary. See also Chadwick, Nora Kershaw (1946). *The Beginnings of Russian History: An Enquiry into Sources*. Cambridge University Press. ISBN 0-404-14651-1

3. He wrote in his Spiritual Will in 1956: “The Lord God has blessed me with different talents. In high school, I finished my studies in the School of Fine Arts in Kiev. I was very talented in arts and I decided to enter the Academy of Fine Arts in Leningrad. But in the middle of exams I abandoned this effort because I thought that I should serve God and His people, in work that is more beneficial than art”.

4. In 1898 Valentin was enrolled in the Medical School of Kiev's University. He was an excellent student, much enthusiastic, from the very beginning of his studies. He was distinguished with excellence in anatomy and surgery. His classmates, who adored and respected him greatly, had been foreseeing with certitude, that he would become professor of Anatomy after graduation shortly. His personality was decorated by an exceptional kindness, genuine politeness and high moral standards. He was characterized by profound orthodox spirit, which motivated his medical ethics, the collaboration with his tutors and classmates and the relationship with people, was based always on respect, veneration, compassion, and pure help to every human being, without any social, ethnic, religious or political discrimination.

5. He wrote in his Spiritual Will: “As a rural doctor, I worked for thirteen years twelve to fourteen hours a day. I was thinking seriously of abandoning the rural hospital in order travel to distant villages where the people were poor and dying because of the lack of medical help”.

6. The Russo-Japanese War was the final result of a long rivalry between Russia and Japan for the dominance in Far East and particularly in Korea and Manchuria. Japan in a previous war with China in 1894–1895, succeeded to grand Korea's independence.

member of the Kiev Medical Hospital of the Red Cross. He went to Red Cross Hospital in the city of Chita (Чита)<sup>7</sup>, where he obtained a considerable surgical experience, proceeding to major surgery on the skeletal system and the skull. At the same time he worked continuously on the treatment of pyogenic infections, which was a very serious problem of the quotidian medical and surgical practice. He worked extensively on that field even as provincial doctor in Siberia and other areas (Simbirsk, Kursk, Saratov), for thirteen years, where he faced every day the death, caused by bacterial and fungal infections especially in children, elderly people and traumatic conditions, due to inexistent hygienic measures.

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In addition, the Treaty of Shimonoseki, between Japan and China, ceded the Liaodong Peninsula and the island of Taiwan to Japan. In 1898, China after long negotiations leased to Russia Port Arthur (Lóshun), a seaport of strategic value. On 8 February 1904, Japanese Imperial Navy, under Admiral Togo Heihachiro, attacked the Russian Fleet at Port Arthur, without any formal war declaration, which was only issued three hours later. Numerous sea and land battles occurred between Russian and Japanese forces from February 1904 to late May 1905, the majority of them resulted in Japanese victory (Port Arthur, 1904, Chemulpo Bay, 1904, Yalu River, 1904, Nanshan, 1904, Telissu, 1904, Motien Pass, 1904, Tashih-chiao, 1904, Hsimucheng 1904, Yellow Sea, 1904, Ulsan 1904, Port Arthur 1905, Liaoyang 1904, Shaho 1904, Sandepu 1905, Mukden 1905, Tsushima 1905). During the war Russians were suffering disproportionate casualties by the continuous Japanese attacks. The naval Battle in the Tsushima Strait on May 27–29, 1905 gave to Japan the final decisive victory and brought the Russian government to peace negotiations.. In the peace conference at Portsmouth NH, USA (Aug. 9–Sept. 5, 1905), President Roosevelt served as mediator and earned the Nobel Peace Prize for his effort. In the resulting Treaty signed on 5 September 1905, at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Kittery, Maine, Japan gained control of the Liaotung Peninsula and Port Arthur of the South Manchurian railroad, of half of Sakhalin Island and Russia recognized Korea as part of the Japanese sphere of influence. Estimates of Russian Army dead range from around 40,000 to around 70,000 men. The financial and political consequences for Russia were really tragic. See also Cox GP. (2006). *Review of the Russo-Japanese War in Global Perspective: World War Zero*. *Journal of Military History* 70 (1): 250–251. See also *Text of the Treaty; Signed by the Emperor of Japan and Czar of Russia*. *New York Times*. Oct. 17, 1905.

7. The city of Chita (Чита) is the administrative center of Zabaykalsky Krai, located at the confluence of the Chita and Ingoda Rivers and on the Trans-Siberian Railway, 900 kilometers east of Irkutsk. Today Chita has a population of 324,444 inhabitants mostly of Chinese, Mongolian and Turkic origin. At the time, that Valentin offered his medical service the city used to have a population of 11.000 inhabitants and was a remote place of exile. Chita was occupied by the Japanese between 1918 and 1920. In 1945, Puyi, the last Emperor of China, and some of his associates were held prisoner in the city. The Red Cross Hospital in 1904

In 1910, working in the city of Pereslav Zalesky (Переславль-Залесский)<sup>8</sup>, where he spent six and a half years, he started writing the initial chapter of his textbook on surgical treatment of pyogenic (purulent) infections under the light of a petrol lamp.

Valentine married Anna Vasilevna Lanskaya (Анна Васильевна Ланская), a sister of mercy who had previously worked in the Kiev Military Hospital, serving then in Russian-Japanese war, characterized by exceptional kindness, gentleness, high morality and virtue, so that everyone called her 'holy sister'. They were blessed with four children<sup>9</sup>.

Anna who suffered from pulmonary tuberculosis<sup>10</sup> died from cold and hunger prematurely in 1919, leaving four orphans. Valentine grieved profoundly after the death of his beloved wife, however he submitted himself peacefully to will of God, and he devoted totally to the science, the medical and surgical practice and the education of his children, finding real consolation only in the Faith. The family was under the spiritual beneficial contribution of abbess Yevyeniya of the Holy convent of Theodorofski (Феодоровской монастырь).

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included two departments of Surgery, one of them was under Valentin's direction, who exercised emergent surgery and at the same time he operated also chronic surgical cases. Following his service in Chita, Valentin worked in various provincial hospitals in Siberia under difficult conditions without any laboratory diagnostic support, from 1905 to 1910. It is really amazing the fact that Saint Luke exercised the most elegant medical practice in those remote areas of Siberia, using the most updated textbooks of Medicine and Surgery and applying his original therapeutic methods and innovative surgical techniques. He performed many surgical operations on the brain, eyes, heart, gastrointestinal system, bile ducts, kidneys, spinal vertebrae, joints and bones very efficiently. His contribution as physician and surgeon was recognized extensively. Hundreds of patients every day from any region of Russia use to go to him, imploring for his medical help and therapeutic contribution in chronic and incurable diseases. Saint Luke was very successful on ophthalmological operations. Many blind people regained their vision after surgical intervention by Saint Luke, a fact which increased his reputation and propagated his fame all over Siberia.

8. Pereslavl-Zalesky is a city located in south of Yaroslavl Oblast, 140 km northeast of Moscow at the mouth of the Trubezh River. Today it has a population 41,925 inhabitants. In the city operates an Institute for Program Systems of the Russian Academy of Sciences and the University of Pereslav. In the past the city has been devastated numerous times by the Mongols between the mid-13th century and the early 15th century. At the time that Saint Luke worked as surgeon the working conditions were incredible. The operational equipment of the hospital was primitive. No electricity, no running water, no X-ray machine.

9. The first child of the family Michael was born in 1907, the second one Helen was born on year later.

10. Anna passed away at the age of 38 years in October of 1919,

Valentin Felixovich was continuously working scientifically. He performed numerous surgical procedures, after a fervent long prayer inside the operation room in front of the icon of the All Holy Theotokos, making also each surgical procedure with shaping the Sign of the Cross on the body of the patient at the site of the surgical incision. At that time he published his first couple of case reports entitled 'Elephantiasis of the face, due to plexiform neurinoma' and 'Retrograde strangulated inguinal hernia.'

In 1915 Valentin Felixovich published his first important scientific contribution entitled «Regional anesthesia» (Регионарная анестезия), in the form of a dissertation<sup>11</sup>. For this contribution he was awarded Chojnacki prize by the Warsaw University, raised in 900 gold rubles, granted to the best original scientific research "blazing new trails in the field of medicine". Valentin Felixovich worked for many years on the field of regional anesthesia and he was

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when the family lived in Tasked. She left four orphans, the elder at the age of 12 and the younger at the age of 6 years. She was buried in Tashkent's cemetery. On her grave her husband wrote "Anna Vasilevna, 38 years old. A pure heart, which passionately sought truth." Valentine chose Sophia Sergejevna, one of the faithful nurses, who had been widowed and was without children, to help in raising his children. She treated the children with paradigmatic affection, love, respect and responsibility, offering them an excellent education in the spirit of Orthodoxy. All of them studied at the University. Michel and Valentine studied Medicine with MD and PhD degrees. Alexios studied biological sciences, with postdoctoral qualifications and PhD. Helen studied Medicine and Epidemiology. Saint Luke wrote on Sophia Sergejevna to his children in 1956: "With a great deal of self-sacrifice and love, she lifted the heavy cross for your care, during those years of the plague. She raised you successfully and gave you a good education".

11. Saint Luke wrote the dissertation during his stay in Moscow, when he worked under the supervision of professors Dyakonov and Rain, as an external surgeon in the clinic of Professor Dyakonov. The dissertation was published in 1915 in Petrograd entitled «Regional Anesthesia» (Регионарная анестезия), in which Valentin Felixovich Yasenetsky summarized the results of his extensive surgical experience. He described also the technique of the first regional anesthesia in the lower limbs, performed in Russia, by infiltration of the sciatic nerve by local anesthetic, interrupting therefore the nerve conduction. In the upper limbs he applied regional anesthesia by infiltration of the medial nerve by local anesthetic. A year later, in 1916, he defended his thesis and received his medical degree. His knowledge on the anatomy of the nervous system and particularly on the course of peripheral nerves and the distribution of sensation on the human body enabled him to apply regional anesthesia very accurately and successfully. When he gave lectures on the regional anesthesia, in the Surgical Association of Moscow, his colleagues were very much impressed. Martynov a famous surgeon said: «When I read your book, I got the impression of singing birds, which can't help but sing, and I was very impressed".

the first who attempted to treat the trigeminal nerve neuralgia by injecting local anesthetic into second branch of the nerve at the place where it exits from the foramen rotundum<sup>12</sup>.

In 1917 Valentin Felixovich went to Tashkent<sup>13</sup>, in order to be in charge of the Department of Surgery, as the head surgeon of the Tashkent Municipal Hospital, among many other candidates in an atmosphere of stiff competition, in a period of economic and social crisis, just before the war between the garrison of the city and the Turkic inhabitants, which have had tragic consequences on the quality of life of the citizens.

At the same time he appointed as a professor in the college of Medicine and played a key role in the opening of the University in Tashkent.

In the middle of the troubles, the atrocities, the revolts and the campaign against Orthodox faith Valentin Felixovich was arrested under the pretense of a personal contradiction with one of the members of the hospital's personnel<sup>14</sup>. He was released by a miraculous way at the time that his wife was at the end of her life.

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12. He explained that he has studied more than three hundred skulls in order to find the most efficient way of injecting the local anesthetic into foramen rotundum in the base of the skull.

13. Tashkent (Ташкент, stone city) is the capital of Uzbekistan in Central Asia located on the Great Silk Road from China to Europe. The officially registered poly-ethnic population of the city is about 2, 5 million inhabitants, the majority being Uzbeks. The name of the city comes from Kara-Khanid rule in the 10th century. According to an ancient tradition the city was founded by Alexander the Great (Iskander Bicorn in the Koran) after his victorious expedition against Scythians in 328 B.C. In the 9th century Tashkent was a part of the Samanid state. In the 10th -13th centuries it was under the rule of the Kara-Khanids and the Kara-Khitans. In 1219 Tashkent was captured and destroyed by Genghis Khan and in the 14th century the city was conquered by Amir Temur (Tamerlane). In the second half of the 16th century Tashkent was a part of the Bukhara Khanate, and in 1809 it was annexed to the Khanate of Kokand. In 1865 Tashkent was taken by Russian troops led by Chernyayev and annexed to Russia, under the crown of Tsar Alexander the II. In April 1918 Tashkent was declared the capital of the Turkestan Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic. During the Great Patriotic War Tashkent became one of the evacuation centers. The Soviet government relocated factories from western Russia and Ukraine to Tashkent, a fact which led to great increase in industry. During the war the city attracted hundreds of thousands of people, providing them with food and work, been called therefore "City of Bread". After gaining independence in 1991 Tashkent remained the capital of the Republic of Uzbekistan and in 2007 she gained the title of "Cultural capital of the Islamic world".

14. The member of the personnel was a certain Andrey, a hospital morgue attendant who had a personal grudge against Valentine.

### Saint Luke as doctor and priest.

"I see clearly how from my earliest years the Lord - unknown to me -was leading me to the priesthood, which I myself had never even contemplated, for I greatly loved surgery and was wholly: devoted to it".

On February 7, 1921, Valentin Felixovich Voino-Yasenetsky was ordained a deacon and the following week he was ordained to the priesthood by Diocesan Bishop Innokenty (Pustynsky) of Tashkent, in a period that the persecution upon the Russian Orthodox Church went at the top of the climax.

The Fr. Valentin took up daily duties in Tashkent's cathedral<sup>15</sup> and preached God's word very frequently on every possible occasion, exercising strong criticism on materialism and coming in vertical confrontation with the priest Lopakin, who denied Orthodoxy and undertook the anti-Christian atheist campaign in Central Asia. In addition he confronted peacefully the ironical comments and the tough mockery of his colleagues and students, being a clergyman.

However Fr. Valentine continued to perform surgical operations on an everyday basis, heading also the Department of Surgery in Tashkent's main Hospital. He was also elected full professor of Topographic Anatomy and Surgery at Tashkent's University. He worked very hard with exceptional responsibility in order to achieve a substantial upgrading of the University and the best organization of the department of Anatomy and Surgery, emphasizing also the importance of his didactic activities<sup>16</sup>.

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15. Holy Assumption Cathedral Church (Uspensky Cathedral) of Tashkent was built in 1871 and is the first Orthodox Church in Central Asia. During the early Soviet period, the cathedral was closed and used as a storehouse and garage. After World War II, in December 1945, the church was returned to believers. Although 87% of Uzbekistan's citizens follow the Sunni Islamic tradition, Tashkent has four Orthodox Churches (Saint-Uspensky Sobor (Assumption Cathedral), Cathedral of Saint Blessed Prince Aleksandr Nevsky, The cathedral of Equal-to-the-Apostles Great Prince Vladimir; Holy Martyr Patriarch Ermogen Cathedral) given that 5% of the total population are Orthodox. The Orthodox Church of Tashkent has been established in 1871 and with Dushanbe (2011) and Bishkek (2011) belong today to Central Asian metropolitan district of the Russian Orthodox Church.

16. The history of Surgery in Russia has a parallel way with that of the other European Countries. The first Hospital in Moscow was founded in 1682 and was affiliated with the School of Medicine in 1706. Medical and surgical schools were founded also in St. Petersburg in 1798, in Kharkov, in Kazan in 1804 and in

His lectures at the University attracted large number of medical students and surgeons as well as students of various faculties and disciplines. He used to teach topographic anatomy on the corps<sup>17</sup>, making also valuable observations on the pyogenic inflammations, which incorporated in his textbook entitled "Notes on the Surgical Treatment of Purulent Wounds", which was published in 60.000 copies. Fr Valentine was awarded for his scientific work by First Order Stalin Prize<sup>18</sup>.

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Kiev in 1841. The first Russian professor of surgery is considered I. F. Bush, who wrote the first textbook of Surgery in Russian in 1807. The most famous Russian professor of Surgery was N. I. Pirogov (1810-1881), who separated chairs of topographical anatomy, histology and surgery. He applied Ether anesthesia for the first time in 1847 and introduced antiseptics in Russia. He was also inventing the plaster cast, thus saving thousands of soldiers from amputation during the Crimean war. Pirogov honored the principle of "living on Earth not just for yourself but also for others". In addition he was the father of osteoplastic and plastic surgery in Russia. The Moscow surgical society was created in 1873. During the Great Paatriotic War (1941-1945) Russian surgeons contributed greatly in operating soldiers at the battlefields and treating millions of wounded people. In the field of Neurosurgery Burdenko, Graschenko Lena Stern are very famous for their pioneer research and diagnostic methods.

17. The corps were brought to Tashkent's University in decades every day from the district of Volga due to numerous deaths caused by inflammations, bacterial infections and starvation, factors which decapitated the local population practically.

18. The State Stalin Prize (Государственная Сталинская премия), called Stalin Prize, existed from 1941 to 1954, when it changed to that of USSR State Prize. Stalin's Prize was distinguished in to 1st, 2nd and 3rd orders, awarded annually to distinguished authors in the fields of science, mathematics, literature, arts and architecture, to honor the most prominent achievements, which advanced the civilization and honored the Soviet Union. The award ceremonies for Stalin Prize were held twice per year in January and June. By Stalin's Prize were awarded also the Neurosurgeon Nikolai Bourdenko (Николай Нилович Бурденко), the Neurosurgeon Alexandr Vishnyevski (Вишневский), and the Neurophysiologist Nikolai Bernshteyn (Николай Александрович Бернштейн). Bishop Luke was awarded with Stalin's prize in the first order in 1946, for his scientific contribution entitled «Notes on the Surgical Treatment of Purulent Wounds» and «Sketches on the Contaminated Surgery». In 1946 Stalin himself ordered the publication of the second edition of his book. On 27th of January 1946, "Pravda" published the names of the scientists who were awarded with Stalin's Prize, which were included in an article entitled «Glory to those who are awarded with Stalin's Prize, the pioneers of the popular soviet doctrines». The sum of the prize raised to 200,000 rubles. In a telegram to Stalin, Bishop Luke asked that 130,000 rubles should be offered to orphans, victims of Nazi invasion. Stalin accepted the proposals and extended all his gratitude to Bishop Luke for his benefaction and solidarity to orphans. Bishop Luke received the Prize, when he was in Crimea in December 1946, eventually.

During the tragic period of Fr. Valentin's life in Tashkent, a schism occurred in the Russian Orthodox Church<sup>19</sup>, which caused great turbulence in the religious cycles of the country in that critic period of rapid propagation of the dialectic materialism.

During the time of the merciless persecution of Orthodoxy, when numerous clerics and monks were executed in Russia, Bishop Innocent of Tashkent was exiled. Fr. Valentin elected to be the new bishop. He accepted God's Will, knowing clearly all the terrible dangers that he would face shortly. Initially he was tonsured a monk in secret, in his children's bedroom, with the name Luke, "the beloved physician" and then he was consecrated as a bishop, by two exiled bishops, in Penjikent, in the Saint Nikolai's Church on May 31, 1923<sup>20</sup>.

### The way to martyrdom

"I loved Martyrdom, which so Strangely Cleanses the Soul"

Next month on Saturday June 9, 1923 bishop Luke was arrested by ГПУ (Государственное Политическое Управление) and led to Tashkent's prison. where he remained for two months and then he was sent to Moscow<sup>21</sup>.

A week later St. Luke was taken to Lubianca, where he was interrogated in the most merciless way and sentenced to imprisonment and exile to Siberia.

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19. The schism of Renovations, started when priests from Moscow and Petrograd led by archpriest Alexander Vedensky rose up against Patriarch Tikhon. Then the clergy in Russia was divided into two parties, to those who were faithful to the Orthodox Church and Patriarch Tikhon, and those who became part of the 'living' church, led by Vedensky. Archbishop Innocent, insisted fervently that it was essential to remain faithful to the Orthodox Church and Patriarch Tikhon. Bishop Luke remained always faithful and devoted to Patriarch Tikhon and Russian Orthodox Church.

20. The city of Panjakent, is close to Samarkand. In the consecration of Archbishop Luke, with the title Bishop of Barnaul, participated two bishops of the Russian Orthodox Church, Bishop Daniel Troitsky of Volkovo, and the Bishop of Suzdal. Patriarch Tikhon declared the consecration valid immediately.

21. In Moscow Bishop Luke visited Patriarch Tikhon, who suggested him to continue his medical mission and to help the suffering people in those dark days of persecution, prophesizing that "The night will be very long and very dark". Patriarch Tikhon passed to eternity on May 25, 1925.

Initially he was transported as detainee to Moscow's worst prison, Butyrka and from there two months later to the prison of Taganka. Bishop Luke endured diseases, incredible ceaseless humiliation, repeated interrogations, extreme hunger, innumerable tortures for the Glory of God peacefully.

In December of 1923, he was sent into exile. This was the first of three times that the bishop Luke was arrested, without any reason and sent into exile, which he endured for 11 years. The first place of exile was Omsk, then Novosibirsk and the town of Krasnoyarsk in the center of Siberia. Later he was transferred 430 kilometers northwards to the city of Yeniseisk<sup>22</sup>.

His prison became a chapel and an outpatients clinic. Very soon he was asked to operate at the hospital of Yeniseisk, where in 1924 he performed successfully the world's first kidney transplantation from animal (calf) to man. In addition he performed ophthalmological surgical operations, gynecological, child- surgical and neurosurgical ones, while at the same time he examined and treated large number of outpatients at the hospital and at his prison, endlessly.

At the same time he used to teach new surgical techniques to his colleagues and young doctors, who accepted him with great respect, veneration and gratitude for his precious contribution to their medical and surgical qualification. The inhabitants loved and adored him exceedingly.

Later on, he was transported to the remote village of Khaya on the river Chunya, a tributary of the Angara<sup>23</sup>, which was the final destination of his exile, where he continued to exercise surgical practice, despite the inexistent medical and surgical equipment, performing among others ophthalmological operations<sup>24</sup>. However, in the summer, he was taken back to Yeniseisk where he was able to operate at the hospital and to serve the liturgy in an old monastery.

22. Yeniseysk (Енисейск) is a small city in Krasnoyarsk Krai, in the Central Siberia on the Yenisei River with a population of 19,000 inhabitants. Yeniseyk, founded in 1619, and played an important role in Russian colonization of Siberia. The climate of the city is subarctic, with very long and extremely cold winters.

23. The Angara River (Ангара) is the river that drains Lake Baikal. The length of the river is 1,779 km. Angara passing the cities of Irkutsk, Angarsk, Bratsk, enters the Krasnoyarsk Krai and falls into the Yenisei river.

24. In Khaya Bishop Luke carried out successfully an operation on an old man with a cataract, in an abandoned hut, on a narrow bench under the window.

The authorities due to his ecclesiastical activities decided to transfer him northern than Yeniseisk in the city of Turukhansk<sup>25</sup> under unbearable conditions. Bishop Luke continued to practice surgery at the small local hospital, without any instrument, apart from a small pocket knife. Patients gathered at Turukhansk, from every district of Siberia, looking for the physician of the soul and body, the good shepherd, the real bishop in type of Christ.

His preaching activities, as well as his spiritual and moral support to the patients pushed again the local political authorities to transport him even northern in the frozen village of Plahin. In Turukhansk the people demanded unanimously, that their shepherd and doctor should come back. Thus the authorities were obliged under the public pressure to bring him back in the hospital of Turukhansk, where he worked with all his heart for eight months, treating Russians and Tungusic patients<sup>26</sup>.

Finally he was allowed to establish himself in Krasnoyarsk<sup>27</sup>. In the hospital of the city, Bishop Luke started, from the first day to proceed in surgical operations and to treat people from various diseases and casualties. He performed iridectomy, he removed lacrimal sac, by local anesthesia, he proceeded to resection of the upper jaw, he performed large laparotomies, gynecological operations and many other surgical procedures, within the spectrum of the general surgery.

25. Turukhansk (Туруханск) is a small city in Turukhansky District of Krasnoyarsk Krai, with a population of 4,700 inhabitants, located 1,474 km north of Krasnoyarsk, at the confluence of the Yenisey and Nizhnyaya Tunguska Rivers. The town was founded in 1607 by Cossacks. In tsarist Russia as well as in Soviet period Turukhansk was recognized as a destination for political exile.

26. Tungusic peoples, Evenks (Эвенки) or Tungus are inhabitants of Eastern Siberia speaking Tungusic languages and leading a nomadic style of life. They are distinct from Mongols and Turkic peoples. The largest group of Tungusic peoples are the Manchu people, originated from Manchuria. Evenks live mostly in Russia in the Baikal region. 2–3% of Tungusic people have Mitochondrial DNA of Y origin. See also Wood A, French RA. Development of Siberia: People and Resources. New York: St. Martin's, 1989.

27. The city of Krasnoyarsk (Красноярск) is the administrative center of Krasnoyarsk Krai, on the Yenisei River. The population today is more than one million. According to Anton Chekhov Krasnoyarsk, the third large city in Siberia is the most beautiful city. The city was founded in 1628 by Russians as a fortress. In the 19th century, Krasnoyarsk was the center of the Siberian Cossack movement. In the Tsarist Russia the city was a place of political exile. Krasnoyarsk has the fifth largest hydroelectric power station in the world and the second in Russia. Today the city is a prominent scientific and educational center of Siberia.

Since his sentence was at the end he was allowed to return to Tashkent by train. He was undertaking his duties as bishop of the Orthodox Church, under incredible difficulties, ironies and functional problems, caused by the authorities. He continued to treat patients in his episcopal residency, since he was not given a position in the university of Tashkent at that time.

In April 1930 Bishop Luke was arrested again on an alleged charge of incitement to murder and following a long and very tough interrogation seeking from him a full renunciation of his priestly orders, he was transferred to Samara<sup>28</sup>, to Moscow, to Kotlas<sup>29</sup> on the Northern Dvina, in a camp that had acquired the name 'Makarikha'. Then he was transferred to the city hospital to serve as surgeon and later on he was transported to Archangel<sup>30</sup> by steamer.

Upon arriving in Archangel he realized that he had to live practically homeless. However he performed surgical operations at the local hospital in a large out-patients' clinic. He operated breast cancer, undertaking a very radical operation, despite the serious hesitations of the other doctors.

Bishop Luke gradually started having serious health problems, due to unbearable conditions of his life in exile. He suffered from myoskeletal disorders and developed myocarditis, causing heart insufficiency. In addition, he developed a benign tumor, which was excised by professor Petrov in Leningrad.

Later bishop Luke had a retinal detachment in his left eye<sup>31</sup>.

He went once more in his place of exile in Archangel and refused to accept a professional chair in Moscow, since he wouldn't decide to resign from clergy<sup>32</sup>. In Archangel remained for six more months, treating patients and proceeding to very serious surgical operations. He was released in the end of 1933, eventually.

Bishop Luke spent some years looking for appropriate places for scientific work and beneficial surgical practice for the suffering people of Russia. Finally he established himself in Tashkent, where he was working with much enthusiasm, writing his textbook entitled "Notes on the Surgical Treatment of Purulent Wounds".

In 1937, a terrible persecution started against the Orthodox Church by Yezhov<sup>33</sup> who was appointed as head of the Moscow GPU. Bishop Luke was arrested once more and subjected to undescribed humiliation and tortures for 13 days. Among the tortures the 'conveyer belt' was considered, as potent method of efficient interrogation. He went on a hunger strike for many days and he has had the experience of multiple tactile and visual hallucinations. Although the bishop was drained of all strength by the hunger strike and the conveyer belt, he continued to resist and to honor his faith and his principles with strength, courage and perseverance. It seems to be incredible, but he continued also to treat patients and to help people physically and psychologically, having unextinguished mercy of them.

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The climate is continental with long and very cold winters. See also Anton Chekhov, "The Crooked Mirror" and Other Stories, Zebra Book, 1995, p.200.

28. Samara (Самара), the previous Kuybyshev (Куйбышев), is the administrative, social, political, economic, industrial and cultural center of Samara Oblast. It is situated at the confluence of the Volga and Samara Rivers on the east bank of the Volga. Samara is the sixth largest city in Russia, with a total population of 1,165,000 inhabitants.

29. Kotlas (Котлас) is a town in Arkhangelsk Oblast, situated at the confluence of the Northern Dvina and Vychegda Rivers. The population of the town is 60,500 inhabitants. From 1930 to 1953 Kotlas was among the places of exile with labor camps for criminals and political detainees.

30. Archangel (Архангельск), is the administrative center of Arkhangelsk Oblast, in the north of European Russia, situated on both banks of the Northern Dvina River near the White Sea. The population of the city is 350,000 inhabitants. For years the area of Arkhangelsk has been the subject of rivalry between Norwegian and Russian interests in the northern seas. The city resisted Bolshevik rule from 1918 to 1920. Arkhangelsk has a typical sub-arctic climate.

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31. For the retinal detachment bishop Luke was operated by professor Odintsov in Moscow. Odintsov at that time applied the surgical method of the Swiss ophthalmologist Prof. Gopen.

32. He wrote: "They demand that I remove my ryassa. I will never do so. It, my ryassa, will be with me to my very death. I help people as a physician, and I help them as a servant of the Church.."

33. Bishop Luke wrote "...The Yezhov regime was truly horrifying. At the interrogations, those under arrest were even subjected to torture. They invented something they called "conveyor interrogation," which I had to endure twice... The Cheka interrogators took turns [working in shifts], and the person being interrogated was not allowed to sleep, day or night..." Nikolai Yezhov or Ezhov (Николай Иванович Ежов, 1895 – 1940) was a secret police official during the most severe period of Stalin's Great Purge. He was very powerful but gradually he plunged into alcoholism and was replaced from his post by Beria. On February 2, 1940, Yezhov was tried by the Military Collegium as being spy, terrorist and conspirator and he had been condemned to death. He was shot on 4th of February 1940.

In 1939, they charged him again with another three years of exile to town of Great Murta. After the invasion of Nazi German troops in Russia in 1941 Bishop Luke sent a telegram to Kalinin, Director of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR writing: "I, Bishop Luke, Professor Voino-Yasenetsky, am serving an exile under article such-and-such in the settlement of Bolshaya Murta in the area of Krasnoyarsk. As a specialist in purulent surgery, I could be of use to the troops at the front or in the rear, wherever I am entrusted to serve. I ask that my exile be interrupted and I be sent to a hospital. At the end of the war, I will be ready to return to exile. Bishop Luke." His request was granted. Bishop Luke was called to serve as chief surgeon at the army hospital 1515<sup>34</sup>, in Krasnoyarsk, 5,000 km from Moscow, which included ten surgical departments and he appointed advisor of all military hospitals of the area.

St. Luke offered his services in that hospital for two years. He used to perform about five or six major operations a day, the most serious ones, undertaking the most severely wounded patients<sup>35</sup> and teaching continuously young doctors. Today, the city's general hospital bears his name.

Bishop Luke developed successfully "the battlefield surgery" and saved the life of numerous soldiers, who were transferred to hospital from various battlefields. After the war he finished a book with the

title "Late Resection of Infected Wounds of the Large Joints", which was submitted together with the large memorable work "Notes on the Surgical Treatment of Purulent Wounds" to be considered for the Stalin's Prize.

In January 1944, Bishop Luke was appointed Archbishop of Tambov and Michurinsk. He continued his medical practice in the hospitals and completed his essay on the memorable work "The spirit, soul and body".

The Holy Synod, under the Patriarchal Locum Tenens Metropolitan Sergius, elevated Bishop Luke to the rank of Archbishop and in May 1946 he was elected Archbishop of Simferopol<sup>36</sup> and Crimea.

At the same time St. Luke continued to practice surgery and give consultations in the Army Hospital and Hospital of the Veterans of the Great Patriotic War. He proceeded to the most serious surgical operations, on severe and unusual cases. He released also lectures on surgery and scientific research at Crimea's Medical Institute. Unfortunate in 1956, St. Luke lost his sight, however he worked continuously preaching and serving the Liturgy.

In Chrchuchschow's merciless persecution of the Orthodox Church. St. Luke had a very painful time. He wrote: "It's a martyrdom. I cannot bear it at my age of 80. But with the Lord's help I will continue my difficult work."

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34. The hospital, which previously was constructed and aimed at being school, occupied three floors of a large building. The hospital included 1000 beds and many departments under the services of 20 doctors. Bishop Luke organized a new department of 100 beds for traumatic surgery and orthopedics.

35. After the war, he was awarded a medal "For valiant effort in the Great Patriotic War of 1941-1945 "За доблестный труд в Великой Отечественной войне 1941-1945 гг.) The bishop, upon receiving the medal, in his response speech, underlined: "I brought back to life and health hundreds, perhaps thousands injured men. I would have helped many more, if you had not grabbed me for no reason at all, and not dragged to eleven years of prison. How much time has been lost and how many people are not saved. But that is not my fault" (Я вернул жизнь и здоровье сотням, а может, и тысячам раненых и наверняка помог бы еще многим, ес ли бы вы не схватили меня ни за что ни про что и не таскали бы одиннадцать лет по острогам и ссылкам. Вот сколько времени потеряно и сколько людей не спасено отнюдь не по моей вине). The Bishop used to teach his colleagues that for a surgeon, there is not an 'instance' but only a living, suffering person. To patients was saying after a successful treatment: "It was God Who healed you through my hands. Pray to Him."

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36. Simferopol and Crimea (Taurida) Eparchy was founded in 1859. For Russians Crimea is the cradle of the Orthodoxy, since in Crimea Apostle Andrew used to preach the Gospel and in Crimea also in 988 Equal-to-the-Apostles Grand Prince Vladimir accepted holy baptism. Simferopol (Симферополь) is the capital of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea. Simferopol, located in the south-central portion of the Crimean Peninsula. It is an important political, economic, and cultural center, with a population of 340,000 inhabitants. It is raised on an ancient Scythian city, at the Scythian Neapolis, that was under continuous Greek cultural influence. After the annexation of the Crimean Khanate to the Russian Empire, the city's name was changed from the tatarian Aqmescit to Simferopol. The hospital of the city was founded during the Crimean war (Восточная война, 1854-1856). During World War II, Simferopol was occupied by Nazi Germans (November 1941 to April 1944). Germans in that period killed in Simferopol over 22,000 locals (Jews, Russians, Krymchaks, and Gypsies). On March 16, 2014 Crimea peninsula was annexed to Russia. Simferopol is the seat of the largest university in Simferopol and Crimea, the Taurida V. Vernadsky National University, founded in 1917, Crimea State Medical University named after S. I. Georgievsky is also one of the most prominent medical schools of Ukraine.

At the end of his earthly life St. Luke gave his last sermon on Lent Sunday. He was very bright, clear and plenty of wisdom and grace.

In the morning, on Sunday of All Saints, on June 11, 1961 Saint Luke passed to eternity. He was buried in the All Saints cemetery. On the white marble cross of his grave is simply written: 'Archbishop Luka Voyno-Yasenetsky, Doctor of Medical Science, Professor of Surgery'<sup>37</sup>.

By a decision of the Holy Synod of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in 1995, Archbishop Luke was glorified as a locally-venerated Saint. In 1996, St. Luke's relics were transferred to the Holy Trinity Cathedral. In 2000, the Holy Synod of the Russian Orthodox Church canonized St. Luke as a Saint throughout the Church. He is commemorated on the June 11.

### **St. Luke as Professor of Medicine and Surgery**

The profound scientific knowledge, the desire for scientific research, the endeavor to open new horizons in surgery, the special surgical capacity, the courage, the perseverance, the continuous hard work, the desire to teach and to proceed to continuous didactic contribution in order to transmit knowledge, ethical principles and values, and mostly the profound love to our Lord, irradiated in his beneficial contribution to suffering people, plotted Saint's Luke unique academic profile.

The saint was the subject of sincere respect and genuine veneration by his medical students, who based on his excellent paradigm were oriented towards a medical practice, plenty of sacrificial love to suffering human being. The genuine participation of Saint Luke in the pain, the anxiety, the agony, the troubles, the poverty, the sadness and the social rejection of the patients was a source of spiritual power for his students, who realized that the sacred task of medicine consists in the treatment of the body and soul and the restoration of the homeostasis of the patient<sup>38</sup>.

Saint Luke has been an exceptional hard worker, who inspired his students and showed the worth of continuous effort and the value of the valorization and exploitation of every moment for the knowledge and the beneficial contribution to suffering people, to students, to young scientists, and generally speaking to human society. The medical students as well as the surgeons used to watch him, with great attention and very respectfully, operating large number of serious surgical cases, for many hours, endeavoring to achieve perfect surgical results.

During 11 years in exile, Saint Luke used to teach all the doctors perpetually, focusing his lessons on the theory and practice of the surgery as well as on medical ethics. He used to instruct them practically in the operation room, examining patients and performing surgical operations.

Saint Luke strongly believed that the academic communication and the transmission of the knowledge is the supreme duty for an academic professor, which is not limited in the amphitheaters, the teaching halls and the wards, but it should be exercised constantly by the side of the patients at any place and under any conditions.

St. Luke spiritual and scientific influence on students and doctors, who attended his lectures or studied his textbooks and scientific works, was instrumental for their way of life and scientific course. The doctors realized the holiness of the human personhood, the solid and compact psychosomatic entity of the human being, who suffers always physically and mentally. For this reason it is essential for the doctor to heal the patient as soul and body, with much compassion and respect.

St. Luke used to say that healing means an essential existential restoration of the person who suffers and a radical amelioration of the quality of life of the patient<sup>39</sup>.

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39. Elisabeth Vladimirov (Елизавета ВЛАДИМИРОВА) wrote in July 2011 "Archbishop Luke was not for me just an outstanding surgeon, but he was also an outstanding personality, an example of how the physician professionalism, combined with unprecedented human and spiritual qualities is much beneficial to patients. His modus operandi is well known to patients, he formulated his "shining one, burning myself." Patients really stood for him in the first place among all - family, friends ... and it defines it all. Why did he leave a deep mark in the history of surgery? Because he pursued a gradual path of development. He started from the position of an ordinary Zemsky doctor. For many hours he operated

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37. АРХИЕПИСКОП ЛУКА ВОЙНО-ЯСЕНЕЦКИЙ 27/IV 1877 — 11/VI 1961 Доктор медицинских наук, профессор хирургии

38. Stavros J. Baloyannis Human Enhancement from the Orthodox point of view In: Scientific, Ethical and Theological Aspects from a European Perspective Theo Boer and Richard Fischer (Eds) CEC ISBN:2-88970-132-5

Medicine is the science and the discipline, which is applied and practiced on the basis of the knowledge, the wisdom, the experience, the erudition and the spiritual background of the physician, that are much more important than the laboratory investigation and the technological equipment<sup>40</sup>.

He used to teach that the doctor must participate in the pain of the patients with much compassion. The doctor must communicate with the patient in order to insert in the altar of his soul and treat the interior dimension of the pain, which is usually more severe than the physical pain<sup>41</sup>.

He used to teach his disciples that the doctor must sacrifice himself for the benefit of the patients. He must have sacrificial love and compassion and he should illuminate as symbol of knowledge, mercy and benefaction. He must trace new original ways in order to proceed to a successful treatment of the patient and he has to ignore the criticism and the irony of the environment. He use to teach, by his own

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patients. A parallel pursuit was engaged in science -he studied anatomy, physiology, pain management issues. And when a person studies all those fields and has a real scientific background he plots an ideal profile of physician. I am convinced that this is Medicine primarily...And in addition to scientific background there is another face of his personality - the Orthodox faith...And faith allowed him to look at the patient much broader... One of his books is called "Spirit, soul, body." He was actually the first scientist and physician who wrote in terms of Medicine, that the spirit of man is his life giving force... and that this spirit must not be ignored by a doctor, when he is dealing with patients...Behind these beautiful words is one simple thing - we should not treat the disease, but the patient...The older generation of doctors are accustomed to communicate with patients. We have sensory perception of the patient. It is impossible to work without compassion and without attempts to cure, but also to understand the patient. Is it possible today to live and work according to St. Luke paradigm? ...St Luke wrote that faith helped him to overcome all the difficulties... He lived in a crude hut, where it was so cold that froze the water in the bucket. He writes that he constantly prayed, "If it were not for the prayer – I would not have survived" See also Елизавета ВЛАДИМИРОВА, ведущий научный сотрудник отделения торако-абдоминальной хирургии НИИ скорой помощи им. Н. В. Склифосовского: УРОКИ СВЯТИТЕЛЯ ЛУКИ Архив статей журнала ФОМА №7(99), июль2011.

40. Saint Luke, in the age of eighty being totally blind could still diagnose the cause of the continuous deterioration of the physical condition of a child only by listening the case history, treating him subsequently with great success.

41. He wrote to his children in 1956: "In your scientific endeavors and in your efforts to study the mysteries of nature, you should not look for your own glory but only to lessen the pain of your sick and helpless fellow human beings".

behavior and attitude, the value of dignity, self-control and self-knowledge, gratitude, remorse, interior peace, truth, mental strength, kindness, politeness, the spirit of Christian love and the superb value of the orthodox spirituality at any aspect of the life and at any place, in the hospital, the amphitheater, the interrogation's offices, the tortures, the tribunals, the prison, the exile, the martyrdom.

Saint's Luke beneficial contribution was acknowledged widely. In the last years of his life the harmonization of the Medicine and Surgery with his pastoral work of charity and mercy was a special gift, granted by Lord. A special gift was also the love of martyrdom, the spiritual transfiguration and the capacity of healing the psychosomatic entity of the patients.

Saint Luke as Metropolitan of Simferopol received thousands of letters of appreciation and profound gratitude from the patients, the citizens of Simferopol, the clergy, the medical students, professionals, lay people extending their respect, gratitude and veneration for his medical and pastoral contribution. The Archbishop has been the real healer of body and soul for all of them.

### **Saint Luke as author**

Saint Luke, in the field of medical sciences, is author of textbooks, dissertations, scientific papers on research, original papers on new surgical techniques, reports of unusual cases and large number of commentaries. His scientific contribution is very important and precious up to our era. In the field of Theology he has a unique contribution by his harmonization of the biological background with biblical and patristic theology.

### **Medical works**

Saint's Luke scientific contribution in the field of medicine includes hundreds of papers. He start publishing articles in Russian Medical Journals and abroad from the very beginning of his career. His publications cover a long period of time from 1908 to 1956.

The majority of the publications are referred on new surgical methods, unusual cases, on regional anesthesia, on the treatment of pyogenic infections, on the surgical treatment of infected and septic

wounds, on the treatment of osteomyelitis, on the hematogenous osteomyelitis, on the surgical treatment of the diseases of the spinal cord, on the excision of the tumors of the central nervous system, on the surgical treatment of the disorders of the cranial and spinal nerves.

Saint's Luke texts are very clear, precise, analytical, instructive, written with eloquence and linguistic perfection, enriched with hand drawings by the author and extensive references. In his writings the wisdom, intelligence, knowledge, methodic and systematic mind of the author as well as his high moral principles are clearly obvious.

Saint's Luke textbook on Pyogenic infections was first published in 1934, and the author was awarded a Stalin's Prize in 1946. Then it was published three more times. The last publication appeared in 1956, five years prior to his death <sup>42</sup>.

In a period that antibiosis either didn't exist or its application was very difficult and rare in Russia, the proper surgical treatment of the pyogenic infections has been the unique therapeutic method, which could help the patients, who suffered from purulent collections, focal infections and septic wounds, to survive.

The unique value of the Textbook on pyogenic infections was proved during the Great Patriotic War in Russia, by the applications of the surgical methods, which were clearly, detailed and instructively described by the author, enabled the treatment and the survival of thousands of the wounded soldiers, who were admitted every day at the army hospitals or were operated in the battlefields, during the continuous bloody battles against the German aggressors.

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42. Among the many scientific publications very important are the following ones (i) "Elephantiasis of the face to neurofibromatosis", published in Surgery in 1908 (Невроматозный элифантиаз лица, плексиформная неврома. Хирургия, 1908), (ii) «The proper methods of anesthesia for the surgical operations in rural areas» medical Journal 1908 (О способах анестезии, наиболее удобных в земской практике. Врачебная газета, 1908), (iii) «The application of regional anesthesia in the cervical, mandibular and tongue's surgical operations». Proceedings of Moscow's Surgical Association, 1909 (Регионарная анестезия при операциях шеи, языка и верхней челюсти. Труды Московского хирургического общества 1909), (iv) «Regional anesthesia», Proceedings of Tabov's Society of Medical Physiology 1909, (Регионарная анестезия. Труды Тамбовского физиологического медицинского общества 1909), (v) «Hematogenous pleural sarcoma». Surgery 1910 (Кровяная саркома ребра. Хирургия, 1910), (vi) «On surgical operation of the fractures of the spinal column». Surgery 1910 (Об оперативном лечении переломов позвоночника. "Хирургия 1910), (vii) «A review of the surgical contribution in the Hospital of the district Romanov during 1909-1910», (Отчет о хирургической работе Романовской земской больницы за 1909-1910), (viii) «On the primary osteomyelitis of the spinal column». Surgery 1911 (О первом остром остеомиелите позвоночника. Хирургия, 1911), (ix) «Bilateral lesion of Vagus nerve», Surgery 1911 (Двустороннее повреждение блуждающего нерва. Хирургия, 1911), (x) «Zweiter Fall von vorubergehender Erblindung nach Novocain Adrenalininjektion in Augenhohle», Zentralblatt fur Chirurgie 1911, (xi) «A review of the surgical contribution in the Hospital of the Pereyaslavl district», 1911 (Отчет о хирургической работе Переяславльской земской больницы. 1911), (xii) «Litungsanasthesie des nervus ischiaticus», Zentralblatt fur Chirurgie 1912, (xiii) «A review of the surgical contribution in the Hospital of the Pereyaslavl district during the years 1912-1913»

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(Отчет о хирургической работе Переяславльской земской больницы". 1912-1913гг), (xiv) «Regional anaesthesia of the sciatic and medial nerves», Proceedings of the XIIth Congress of Russian Surgeons, in 1912, (Регионарная анестезия седалищного и срединного нервов. Труды XII съезда русских хирургов 1912 г.), (xv) «A review of the surgical contribution in the Hospital of the Pereyaslavl district in 1914» (Отчет о хирургической работе Переяславльской земской больницы 1914), (xvi) «O surgical excision of brain tumors» Proceedings of Kiev's Surgical Society in 1914 (К казуистике оперативного лечения опухолей мозга. Труды Киевского хирургического общества, 1914 г.), (xvii) «Regional anesthesia in the surgical treatment of hand's cysts». Medical Journal 1915 (Регионарная анестезия кисти руки. Врачебная газета, 1915), (xviii) Regional anesthesia. Thesis, (Регионарная анестезия. Докторская диссертация), (xix) «Treatment of the alteration of the pleural cartilages» Surgical Messenger 1923 (Кариозные процессы в реберных хрящах и их оперативное лечение. "Вестник хирургии" за 1923 г. (xx) "Uber das Unterbinden der Gefae bei Extirpation der Milz", Zeitschrift fur Chirurgie 1923, (xxi) «Surgical treatment of the pyogenic infections of the large joints» Surgical Messenger, 1924, (Артритомии при гнойных воспалениях больших суставов. "Вестник хирургии, 1924) (xxii) «Topographic anatomy of inguinal and exterior loin lymph nodes and the method of their surgical excision» Tourkmenic Medical Journal, Volume I, (2) (Топография паховых и наружных подвздошных лимфатических желез и техника оперативного удаления их. Туркмен. медицин. журнал т. I, № 2 (xxiii) «The dangers of Mamburg's method», Tourkmenic Medical Journal, Volume I (7). (Опасности способа Мамбурга". Туркмен. медицин. журнал т. I, № 7, (xxiv) "The treatment of purulent collections by Balnev's cataplasms", Surgery 1957: 127-135, (Лечение гнойных воспалений катаплазмами Вальневой. Хирургия, 1957, № 8, с. 127-135, (xxv) «Essays on the surgery of purulent collections» 1st Edition 1934, 2nd Edition 1943 (Черки

Today, in a time that the overuse of antibiotics raised very resistant microbial and fungal branches in the intensive care units, the patients' words and even in the operation theaters, the value of Saint's Luke textbook on the surgery of the pyogenic infection is of profound importance, a fact which is underlined and particularly emphasized by the many current translations and editions in various languages and by the current application of his medical methods in many surgical departments in East and West.

### Works on Theology

His work as theologian, includes his memorable book entitled "Дух, душа, тело" (The Spirit, the Soul and the Body), which might be characterized as his supreme achievement in science, theology and philosophy.

Saint Luke began to write that unique work in 1946, when he was already famous<sup>43</sup> and he finished it in 1947. The Archbishop tried to prove in this

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гноной хирургии". 1-е издание, 1934, 2-е издание, 1943), (xxvii) « Our experience on the treatment of osteomyelitis, due to wounds from guns, in the advanced army hospitals» 1943, (Наш опыт лечения огнестрельного остеомиелита в госпиталях глубокого тыла. 1943), (xxviii) "Late excisions of the joints in cases of purulent wounds from guns», Moscow 1944 (Поздние резекции при инфицированных огнестрельных ранениях суставов. Москва, 1944), (xxix) «On the septic wounds» Proceedings of the Voronez' army hospital 1945 (О раневом сепсисе. Сборник трудов Воронежского военного округа, 1945, (xxx) «On hematogenous osteomyelitis» 1946-1947 (О гематогенном остеомиелите. 1946-1947), (xxxi) " On the treatment of chronic purulent collections caused by guns", 1947 (О лечении хронических эмпием плевры после огнестрельных ранений. 1947), (xxxii) "On pathogenesis and treatment of callus", Soviet Medicine 1953,1(Патогенез и терапия мозолей. Советская медицина 1953, № 1, (xxxiii) Essays on surgery of pyogenic infections". 3rd Edition 1956 (Очерки гнойной хирургии". 3-е издание, 1956). Воронежского военного округа, 1945, (xxx) «On hematogenous osteomyelitis» 1946-1947 (О гематогенном остеомиелите. 1946-1947), (xxxi) " On the treatment of chronic purulent collections caused by guns", 1947 (О лечении хронических эмпием плевры после огнестрельных ранений. 1947), (xxxii) "On pathogenesis and treatment of callus", Soviet Medicine 1953,1(Патогенез и терапия мозолей. Советская медицина 1953, № 1, (xxxiii) Essays on surgery of pyogenic infections". 3rd Edition 1956 (Очерки гнойной хирургии". 3-е издание, 1956).

43. At that time his bust stood in the Tretyakov Gallery in Moscow, and the New York Times published his exceptional outstanding biography.

great contribution that the human being consists of non-material spirit and soul as well as of body. Soul motivates and controls the behavior and the activities of the human person. His statements were based on detailed extensive literature on physics, chemistry, biology, psychology, psychiatry, philosophy, biblical and patristic theology. The work reveals Bishop's Luke extensive scientific knowledge, his philosophical mind, wisdom and deep orthodox spiritual background.

In Russia, in the beginning of the 20th century, following the ideological crisis from 1905 to 1917, and the influx of numerous materialistic doctrines from Western Europe and after the massive attempt for imposing the dialectic materialism, in 1917 and the continuous merciless persecution of religion, the young generation felt that he lost his spiritual background and the existential supports.

Saint Luke suffered profoundly from the ideological crisis of his country and the political authority's tendencies to suppress all the spiritual values and principles in the society. He claimed that the spiritual world cannot be investigated using the same methods as the material world. There are phenomena that science will never be able to explain because it does not use the appropriate methods.

His work entitled "Science and Religion" is of unique validity and importance for the confrontation of the atheist and materialistic philosophy<sup>44</sup>, written

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44. Saint Luke decided to write a book with the crucial subject "Science and Religion" during his studies at the University of Kiev. He accomplished his task later in his life, as priest and bishop. As medical student he noticed the long contradictions among students on the relation and interaction between religion and scientific knowledge. He knew also the fervent search for the truth by the students who were confused by all new concepts nourished by the works of Darwin, Haeckel, His, Mendeleev, the theory of relativity by Einstein as well as the recent technological achievements. Haeckel (1834-1919), whose ideas exercised a strong influence on young scientists in Russia, wrote "When we examine contemporary science as it was developed by scientists such as Lamark and Darwin, we realize the existent antithesis or rather the complete disagreement between science and religion, on topics concerning the more basic questions of existence and knowledge. For this reason, an enlightened mind cannot accept in association both of them and must make his choice between religion and science». Saint Luke accepted the validity of the science and insisted that there is no contradiction between science and religion. Many very famous scientist were at the same time great believers, such as Copernicus, Newton, Pasteur, Pavlov and others. He wrote «We cannot pose limitation of the human mind in searching the nature. But we know, that today science knows only a small part of the phenomena of the nature. We also understand the great

in ab elegant language, very clear, perfectly expressing the precious ideas ant the scientific arguments.

Saint's Luke scientific and theological work on Science and Religion is the fruit of the harmonious amalgamation of the profound and concrete scientific knowledge with the life in Christ and the purity of the heart, in the context of the experience of the martyrdom.

Saint Luke is a unique paradigm of scientist, doctor, surgeon, academic professor, mentor, multi-dimensional thinker, intellectual, author, theologian, clergyman, archbishop, man of continuous spiritual elevation, man of compassion and genuine sacrificial love for the others, a martyr who has incorporated all the spiritual beauty of the Orthodox faith, a man of truth and infinitive interior light <sup>45</sup>.

Toward the end of his painful and glorious life, on February 15, 1954, remembering the 30th anniversary of his ordination to diaconate, St. Luke wrote

"My thirty-year long journey was difficult and thorny, but at the same time it was also a remarkably blessed one. God's grace was with me along the way, and my path was illumined by the light of Christ. And it is a joy for me, a very great joy, to have traveled that path. It was a great act of kindness done by God for me. I consider the difficult years of priesthood, soon followed by my service as a bishop, not as burdensome, but as the most blessed, best, happiest, years of my life.

..I could tell you more still of the wonderful guidance of God's hand in my life, but' I think I have said enough for you to cry out' with me "Glory to our God for ever and ever. Amen".

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potentiality of science" However, Saint Luke underlined that apart from the nature and the material world there is an infinite superior spiritual world and above the spiritual world there is the Great and Almighty God. The spiritual world cannot be investigated with the methodology of research for the material world. Such methods are totally inappropriate to approach and analyse the spiritual world. In the spiritual world only the faith can understand the many miraculous phenomena. For a further understanding of the spiritual phenomena the human mind and the heart has to be enlighten by grace in a plenty of faith, light and mental purity way of life. Otherwise, outside the faith the thinker cannot understand anything. Saint Luke emphasized "Don't become scandalized when you hear what some scientist say about religion, since they themselves cannot understand its essence... Guard this truth like the best treasure of the heart, walk straight without looking right or left".

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45.. He wrote in 1956: "The nine volumes of my sermons have been recognized by the Spiritual Academy of Moscow as unique in contemporary ecclesiastical theology and a treasure of commentary on the Holy Bible".

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