Autumn of the Oligarchs?

By Andrew Meier

WASHINGTON, Nov. 5—The two families of Russian oligarchs, both of whom inculcate the message, "What is it to be Russian?" were at the New York Times, Nov. 5, 2003, "New, almost four years after the September 11 attacks by Vladimir Putin, who came into office promising Russia was a "Russia of the People," the nation's largest oligarch, Mikhail Khodorkovsky, the former chief executive of Russia's largest oil company, now finds himself back in a cell, serving a 10-year prison sentence for fraud.

Black humor has long been part of the Russian oligarchic culture. The events of recent weeks have created a new dimension in the post-Soviet bureaucracies.

With the arrest last week of Mikhail Khodorkovsky, the former chief executive of Russia's largest oil company, many ordinary Russians have sought to find a new meaning to their lives.

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