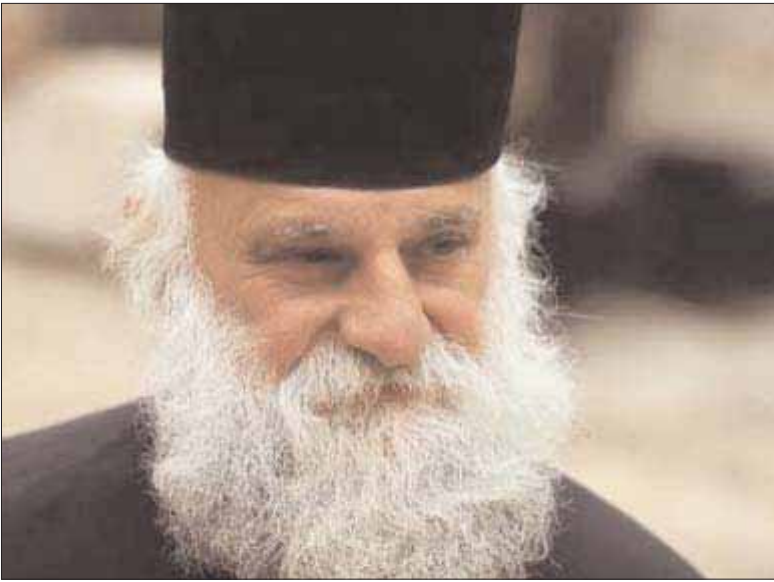


# Cremation OK despite resurrection fears



GREECE'S highest court has approved a government move to legalise cremation, brushing aside complaints from the powerful Orthodox church that it was un-Greek and could hamper the resurrection of the dead.

The court ruling opened the way for municipal authorities to build crematoriums, but also specified that ashes could not be scattered in urban areas or, if at sea, within 1.5 miles of the shore.

A doctor will also have to provide a certificate stating that is no further need to

examine the body.

The dogma of the Greek Orthodox church, which covers more than 90 per cent of Greece's 11 million population, strongly opposes cremation.

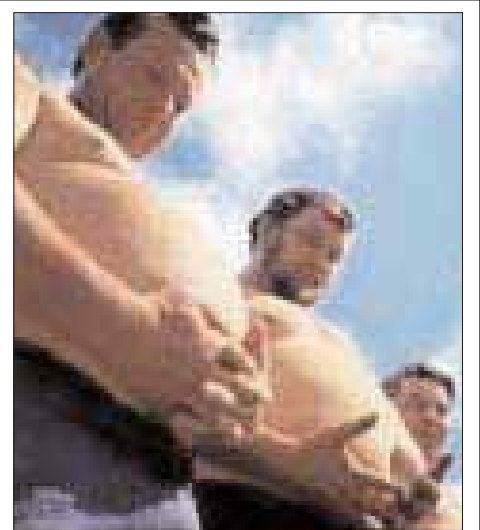
Its says bodies which God created should not be burned as this will prevent their resurrection on Judgement Day.

The constitution states that Greece is a secular democracy but recognises the Greek Orthodox church as the prevailing faith.

Article from news.com.au

# Olga Bakalopoulos Is 'The Greek Sensation'

Meet Olga Bakalopoulos, a mixed martial arts fighter from Canada. She is also known as 'The Greek Sensation' after she lived in Greece for almost three years. Olga was regarded as one of the best MMA instructors in the world before she retired in 2005 and stopped her private coaching. Her career record of 14-5 is also enviable.



Half of Greeks smoke, 1/3 suffer from obesity, 10% from diabetes

Athens. 45%-50% of Greece's population smoke, 1/3 suffer from obesity or high blood pressure, while 10% have diabetes, the Greek Makedonia daily writes.

Experts raise the alarm because they think Greeks face most increased danger of heart diseases in the Mediterranean region.

The data shows that 20,000 heart attacks are registered each year.

### Olga Bakalopoulos Biography

As a biography, Olga Bakalopoulos was born on January 20, 1978 in Toronto, Canada so her age is 30. She has always been interested in the strength and stamina sports and took inspiration from noted body-builder Nikki Fuller when she was 17.

Olga was earlier trained for Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu by 4th degree black belt Marcus Vinicius at the Beverly Hills Jiu Jitsu Club but later on moved to MMA in 2000. In the same year she won the Cobra Challenge and the Underground in Killen, TX. She was also the Overall Winner of the U.S. Open in Brazilian Jiu Jitsu in November, 2005. The next year Olga won the California International.

During an interview, when asked about women in fight-sports, she says:

"In every other sport you see women having a place. Women have as much right to be in this as the guys do. In the beginning, it wasn't all that great but now you have women like Lucia Rijker and Laila Ali, they're just phenomenal fighters. Every year the sport gets bigger, more women get into it, and they're saying 'hey, I can do this.' It's going to be awesome."

Bakalopoulos retired in 2005 with 3-0-0 (wins-losses-draws) MMA record.

## Greek pupils charged with raping Bulgarian girl appear in court

Athens. Greek pupils charged with raping a Bulgarian girl appear in court, the Greek Espresso newspaper writes. The incident occurred two years ago on October 25th. During a strike in the school in Amarintos, Euboea island, a Bulgarian girl, then aged 16, accused three of her classmates of raping her in the school toilet. The paper reminds that the news shocked the country. Even the Bulgarian embassy in Athens and Greek government institutions interfered. President Karolos Papoulias took a stand as well. On October 30th 2008 two of the defendants will appear in the minors court in Chalkis. Since the start of the scandal they have been claiming they are innocent. Three girls will also appear in court. They have been charged with complicity as they observed the violent scenes and recorded them with their mobile phones.