



Romanov News Новости Романовых

By Ludmila & Paul Kulikovsky

№112

July 2017



The monument to Saint Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna, unveiled in Alapaevsk on June 29, 2017

Posters with the words "Forgive us" appeared in many Russian cities



The first poster appeared already on July 4th in Yekaterinburg, with the classical photo of Emperor Nicholas II and family, with the word "Forgive!". On July 7th, in the next poster, with the inscription: "Forgive us, Sovereign!" appeared in Omsk. In the corner of the poster in small font is written: "July 12-18 - Tsar days in Russia. All-Russian Society for the Protection of Monuments of History and Culture".



Above, the posters in Omsk and in Penza. Below, posters in Sevastopol and Novosibirsk

As late, as July 20th, a poster with the image of the imperial family appeared, this time in Novosibirsk. The text says "Holy Royal Martyrs, pray to God for us." The community noted that 124 years ago the city was named Novo-Nikolaevsk - in honour of its founder, Emperor Nicholas II. The Orthodox activist Ivan Kvasnitsky said he paid about 16 thousand roubles, for placing it for one month.

Posters appeared also in Ukraine and in Moldova.



Commemorations on the 99th year anniversary of the great tragedy

In St. Petersburg

On July 17, in Sts. Peter and Paul Cathedral, in the Fortress in St. Petersburg, Father Michael led the memorial service for Emperor Nicholas II, his family and servants, and all those who were killed July 17th, 1918.

Prince Michael Pavlovich Romanoff-Ilyinsky, a grandson of Grand Duke Dimitri Pavlovich, acting President of the Romanov Family Association, and Paul Edward Kulikovsky, great-grandson of Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna, with his spouse Ludmila attended the service.

Cadets from the Shakhhtinsky Ya.P. Baklanov Cossack Cadet Corps (from the city Shakhty, near Rostov-on-Don), Cossacks from the St. Petersburg "Cossacks Guard" and a few others also prayed in the Sts. Peter and Paul cathedral.



After the service Prince Michael Pavlovich Romanoff-Ilyinsky, Ludmila and Paul Edward Kulikovsky, went to the St. Catherine Chapel and laid flower at the tomb of the Imperial Family and most loyal servants. Then they went to the Grand Ducal wing and prayed at the memorial plaque to the four Grand Dukes killed in the Fortress in January 1919, among them was Prince Michael Pavlovich Romanoff-Ilyinsky's great-grandfather Grand Duke Paul Alexandrovich.





Prince Michael Pavlovich Romanoff-Ilyinsky, Ludmila and Paul Edward Kulikovsky, with the officers and cadets from the Shakhtinsky Ya.P. Baklanov Cossack Cadet Corps.

In Feodorovsky Cathedral, (at the Moscow train station) Archpriest Alexander Sorokin celebrated the Divine Liturgy on the night of the killing of the Royal Passion-Bearers.

Video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xBhWXP78VUM>

In Feodorovsky Sovereign Cathedral, Tsarskoye Selo, on the night of July 17, Divine Liturgy was celebrated.

Video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g8VqORWIWnE>

The Holy Royal Passion-Bearers were honoured in the Novospassky Monastery in Moscow

The Royal Martyrs were remembered in Novospassky Monastery especially because the monastery is closely connected with the ruling Dynasty of the Romanovs.

On the day of memory of the martyrdom of the Russian Emperor Nicholas II and his family, July 17, the governor of New Savior Monastery Bishop Savva celebrated the Divine Liturgy in the church of St. Romanos the Melodist. The men's choir of the Novospassky Monastery sang under S. Popov's direction. Numerous parishioners prayed at the service.



Bishop Savva addressed the audience with an archpastoral word: "For us, this day is mournful, because we lost the Tsar - the Anointed One of God, who kept the people from the sin of departing from the Church." Nevertheless, we acquired a prayer book for the Holy Russia, for our Orthodox Fatherland. Today we have the opportunity to offer our tearful prayers to the Tsar-Martyr Nicholas with the Tsarina Alexandra and their holy children, so that the Lord will guide our Fatherland in Christ's Truth, so that the atrocity that we remember in this lesson never repeats. This year, when the 100th anniversary of the Revolution of 1917 is celebrated, May God grant that we have learned these lessons and never repeat them again.

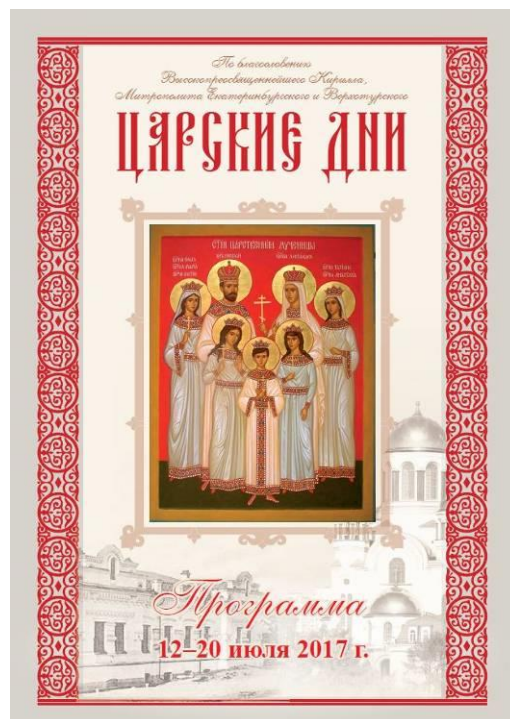
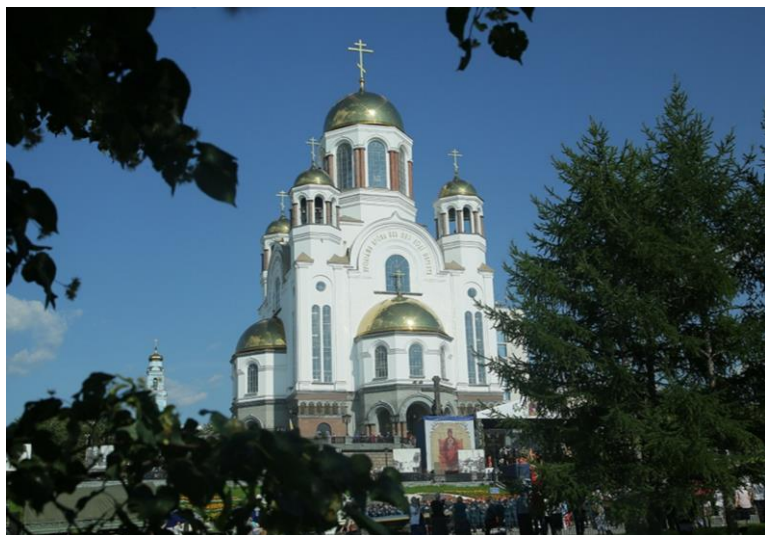
Every time you remember the memory of the Royal Martyrs, rejoice at the piety of our people. This day in Yekaterinburg many thousands are going in processions from the Ipatiev House and the Church-on-Blood in honour of the Royal Martyrs to Ganina Yama. The people go, regardless of any weather conditions and obstacles. The people go to cleanse their sin of retreat. But it is important to take care not only of external piety. Much more important is the inner filling, especially in the period until the next Royal procession. Together with our penitential mood, loyalty and prayer to the Royal Martyrs, we must be true followers of Christ our God - not to condemn our neighbours, but to love each other."



In Yekaterinburg, more than 60 000 people took part in the Tsar's Cross procession

"Tsar Days" are annual events dedicated to the anniversary of the murder of the holy royal family in July 1918 in Yekaterinburg. As part of the Tsar's days the Yekaterinburg diocese host a series of cultural, historical, musical and sporting events, as well as special liturgy in memory of the Holy Royal Martyrs.

In 2017, "Tsar Days" is marked by the 100th anniversary of the abdication of the Emperor from the throne and the 99th anniversary of the martyrdom of Emperor Nicholas II, Empress Alexandra, Tsarevich Alexei, Grand Duchesses Olga, Tatiana, Maria and Anastasia.



The central event of the Tsar's days is the procession on the night of 16/17 July, from the place of the murder of the Emperor's family (Now Church on Spilled Blood) to the first place of hiding the sacred remains, in Ganina Yama (the abode of the Holy Royal Martyrs) which gather pilgrims from around the world.

Already on July 16, 2017, on the eve of the commemoration day of the Royal Martyrs, Metropolitan Kirill of Yekaterinburg and Verhoturskiy in concelebration with Bishop Veniamina of Rybinsk and Danilovsky celebrated the Divine Liturgy at the Memorial Church on the Spilled Blood.

After the service, Metropolitan Kirill addressed the audience with a short sermon and pastoral blessing:
- "May this our Christian feeling today in the silence of the heart and in this pacifying spirit of love and mercy win over this godless noise and terrible slander and hatred that do not abate as a hundred years ago, and in today's time neither in relation to the Church, nor in relation to holy and right people; And despite the centenary of the terrible slaughter of the Holy Royal Passion-Bearers, this holy family is still being poured with lies and anger," said Metropolitan Kirill.



The main events of the Tsar's days began on the cathedral square in front of the Memorial Church on Blood in Honour of All Saints, Resplendent in the Russian land, in Yekaterinburg, erected on the site of the execution of the Imperial family.

On this day, clergy from different dioceses arrived to the Urals land: Metropolitan Alexander of Astana and Kazakhstan, Metropolitan Vikenti of Tashkent and Uzbekistan, Bishop Veniamin of Rybinsk and Danilovsky, Bishop of Isilkul and Russian-Polyanskiy Theodosius. Together with the archpastors of the Ekaterinburg metropolis: Metropolitan of Ekaterinburg and Verkhoturys Kirill, bishop of Nizhny Tagil and Serov Innocent, Bishop Kamensky and Alapaevsky Methodius, they performed an all night vigil. The divine service was headed by the Metropolitan of Astana and Kazakhstan Alexander.

In addition, guests of the diocese prayed during the services: Olga N. Kulikovskaya-Romanova, the historian Peter Multatuli (great-grandson of Ivan Kharitonov, the senior cook in the Imperial kitchen, killed together with the imperial family in Ipatiev House), Russian State Duma member Natalia Poklonskaya, Protopriest Vladimir Boykov, cleric of the New Zealand and Australian diocese, and others.





During the Liturgy, purely prayers were ascended for the repose of the ever-memorable pious Russian tsars and tsarinas, the murdered members of the Imperial House of Romanov, doctor Eugene Botkin, the murdered servants of the Imperial family - cook Ivan Kharitonov, maid Anna Demidova, valet Alexei Troupe and all the Orthodox Christians" who in the hour of fierce persecution of atheists was martyred and slain, from hunger, cold, wounds, disease and overwork in the camps and in prisons.."

At the end of the Liturgy, Archimandrite Hermogenes (Eremeev), rector of St. Seraphim of Sarov of Yekaterinburg, read the ode of his own dedicated to the Royal Passion-Bearers - "House of special purpose", after which the clergy and choirs sang the national anthem of the Russian Empire, "God Save the Tsar", joined by all the pilgrims.



About 03:00 in the morning, the penitential procession started along the 21 km route - the same way the murdered members of the Imperial Family were carried in 1918- through the centre of the city, to Ganina Yama (a monastery in honour of the holy Royal Passion-Bearers.) The procession was headed by bishops. According to preliminary estimates, more than 60,000 people participated in the procession, which is at the level of the previous year.

The procession was accompanied by 25 mobile groups of the Orthodox Service of Mercy, rendering a wide range of assistance to the pilgrims. Volunteers from the charity fund "Nika" gave all thirsty a bottle of drinking water.



About 07:00 o'clock in the morning the column of the procession, headed by the clergy, reached the monastery in the name of the holy Royal Passion-Bearers on Ganina Yama. Pilgrims and the clergy was met with bell ringing by monastery's brothers.

Upon arrival to the mine number 7, in which the killers tried to hide the evidence of their atrocity, a prayer service was held. The believers was addressed by Metropolitan Kirill of Yekaterinburg and Verkhoturye:

- "The procession passed not only through the streets of the city, through fields and forests. It mainly touched our souls. It is unlikely that now there will be at least one person who would remain indifferent to the present day, to the service and the procession, which is the image of our repentance and our love for the Tsar and for our Motherland, Holy Russia. We thank you all, dear brothers and sisters, and we hope that every year, when the Lord will give us mercy, we will continue to pass the sacred procession to this holy place in the future."



The arrived pilgrims did not hurry to leave the monastery after the prayer procession. Many of them found the strength to take part in the Divine Liturgy, which took place at 9 o'clock in the Church of the Assumption.

And then the exhausted could relaxed in pavilions, on benches and lawns. Problems with health helped solve the doctor and paramedic of the monastery. Fortunately, there were no extraordinary incidents.

However, there was one unfortunate incident. Some pilgrims on their way to Ganina Yama, when they passed the road sign showing the way to the Porosenkov Log, they could not resist to act like vandals and painted on the signed "deceiving", so that the full text would be read like "memorial deceiving".



Video - 1) http://www.1tv.ru/news/2017-07-17/328953-cherez_99_let_posle_rasstrela_imperatora_nikolaya_ii_i_ego_semi_v_ekaterinburge_proshel_krestnyy_hod

2) <http://www.ntv.ru/novosti/1854039/>

3) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bzG-gt3pWRA>

4) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M0OS9tp9my8>

A monument to Nicholas II opened in Novosibirsk

16 July - on the eve of the 99th anniversary of the execution of the Romanov family opened a monument to canonized Emperor Nicholas II and Tsarevich Alexei in Novosibirsk, on the territory of the Alexander Nevsky Cathedral, in front of the South Gate.

Veil from the monument was removed under the National Anthem of the Russian Empire "God Save the Tsar!"

The monument was consecrated by Metropolitan of Novosibirsk and Berdsk Tikhon. Bishop Pavel Kolyvanskiy, dean of churches in the city of Novosibirsk, Mitred Archpriest Alexander Novopashin, clergy from the Alexander Nevsky Cathedral, and the Orthodox churches in Novosibirsk attended the consecration ceremony.



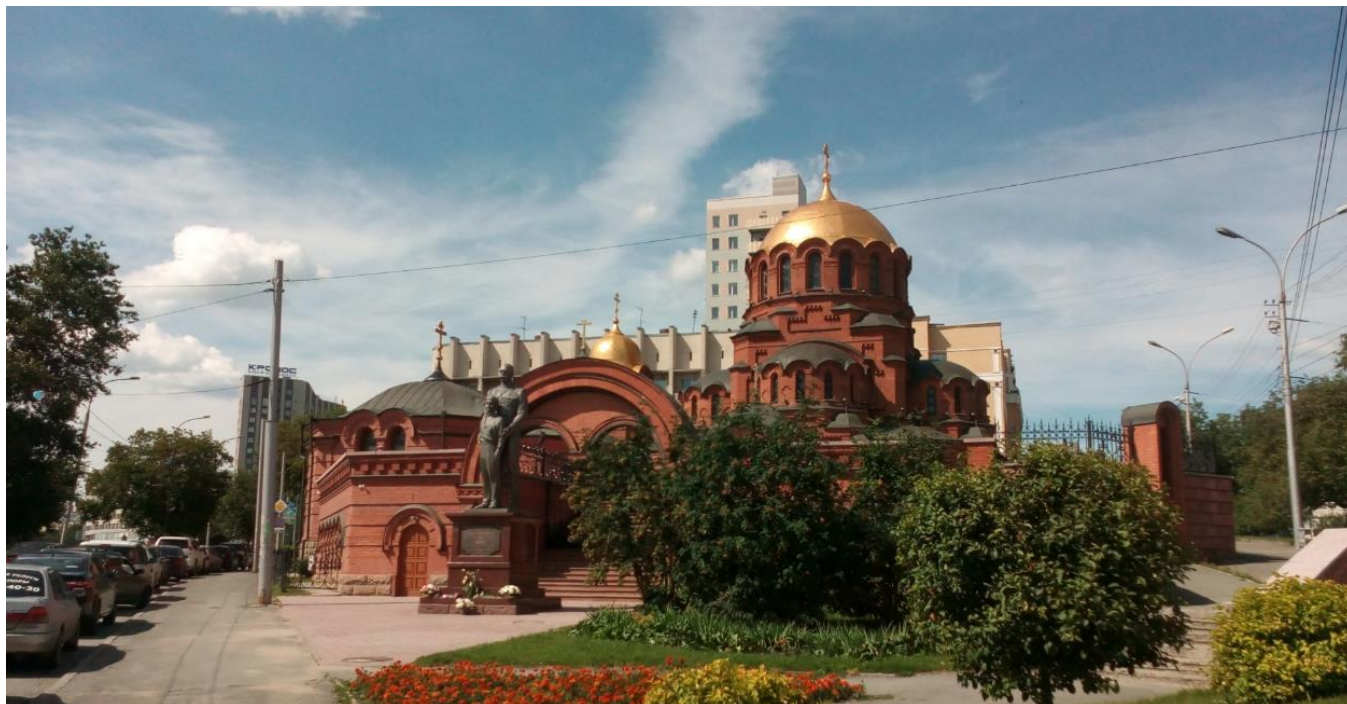
Metropolitan Tikhon appealed with a pastoral word to the people from Novosibirsk, in which he noted that the Holy Tsar Nicholas II abdicated, but he was executed because he remained a central figure of Russian autocracy and Orthodoxy.

The Metropolitan said that on the anniversary of the Russian Orthodox Church, the Emperor and all his family members have been glorified among the saints as martyrs. The Holy Synod of the Russian Orthodox Church appealed to all Orthodox Christians with a request to perpetuate the memory of the martyrs and confessors of the Russian Church. The country began to build churches and chapels in honour of the victims for Christ in the persecution.

- "We would like to immortalized the memory of those who innocently suffered hard times. Historical justice says that there should not only be monuments of revolutionary figures, but also of those people who innocently suffered in those difficult years" - said Metropolitan Tikhon.

"And now, when we celebrate a small Easter the Emperor stands before us, resurrected from historical oblivion, with his hand on the shoulder of the Heir. It is a symbol of power and the transmission of faith to the new generation of Russian. He is saying to those gathered today - "Go ahead, God is with us!"

The Metropolitan cordially thanked the donors, the sculptor Oleg Vladimirovich Pesotsky and everyone who worked hard to create the wonderful monument.



"The choice of location for the monument is not accidental, - told the rector of St. Alexander Nevsky Cathedral, Archpriest Alexander Novopashin. - The cathedral was built at the expense of the Cabinet of His Majesty as a church-monument to Emperor Alexander III the Peacemaker - father of Emperor Nicholas II. Emperor Nicholas II personally donated 7500 roubles to the cathedral iconostasis. The wife of Emperor Alexander III the Peacemaker Maria Feodorovna was also a benefactor of the church. She sent to the Cathedral priestly vestments, sewn from brocade that covered the hearse of the early deceased younger brother of St Nicholas II, Grand Duke George Alexandrovich. Finally, you can see: behind the Emperor Nicholas Alexandrovich stands an arch with a cross. It is a symbol of Calvary! " The priest also said that the city Novosibirsk used to be called Novo-Nicholas in honour of St. Nicholas the Wondermaker - the patron Saint of St. Tsar Nicholas II.

Archpriest Alexander Novopashin openly professed monarchist views. He is familiar with the last Orthodox Tsar - the King of Bulgaria, Simeon II, with him he has warm relationship. Father Alexander said - "Emperor Nicholas II is no stranger to His Majesty's family. After all, the father of King Simeon of Bulgaria II - Tsar Boris III is a godson of St. Tsar Nicholas II".

Immediately after the opening of the monument started a youth procession - the only one in Russia. This year 6000 believers took part in it. The religious procession is timed to celebrate the Day of Family, Love and Fidelity. In the Russian Orthodox tradition it is Peter and Feronia Day - spouses who remained faithful to each other, despite the hardships. It is medieval history, but still relevant today.

Video - 1) http://www.nsktv.ru/news/city/pamyatnik_nikolayu_ii_otkryli_v_novosibirske_170720171503/
2) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cv_GlfsBUPA

"Tsar days" were celebrated in Kaluga region

Events dedicated to the day of the tragic death of the Imperial family, was held in the region from 15 to 18 July.

On the first day of the events there was a pilgrimage to the ancestral estates Meshchovsk of two tsarinas of the Romanov dynasty.

The second day included a memorial service and a tour of diorama "Brusilov breakthrough" made by the artist Paul Rizhenko - famous for his Romanov paintings.

On the third day, 17 July, a traditional cross procession took place from Optina monastery to Kozelsk city.

The fourth day was dedicated to the memory of St. Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna, who was killed the day after the Imperial Family in Alapaevsk. The procession was "following in the footsteps of the Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna on the Kaluga land." A musical and poetic evening in memory of the Imperial Family completed the "Tsar days" in Kaluga region.

ПО БЛАГОСЛАВЕНИЮ МИТРОПОЛИТА КАЛУЖСКОГО И БОРОВСКОГО КЛИМЕНТА

Царские дни на Калужской Земле

В 90-летие чудотворной иконы Царской семьи
В 100-летие февральского и октябрьского переворотов
К 105-летию Императорского Православного Палестинского Общества
К 110-летию Сергия святого Калужского отца ИППО и папши В.К. Сергея Александровича

15-18 июля 2017г. Мещовск - Козельск - Калуга

15 ИЮЛЯ (Суббота) г. Калуга - г. Мещовск Паломнический Царский маршрут
«К ПРАРОДИТЕЛИНИЦЕ СВЯТОГО ЦАРИ НИКОЛАЯ II»
Царский молебен | Монастырская трапеза
ЦАРСКАЯ ЭКСКУРСИОННАЯ ПРОГРАММА
Занес по т. 8 920 872 28 66 ВКалина; 910 788 17 22 Наталья

16 ИЮЛЯ (Воскресенье) г. Калуга - Козельск
День памяти Царского художника Павла Рыженко
Павел Рыженко почил 16 июля 2014 года накануне Царского дня - 17 июля

9:00 - Литургия в монастыре Калужской иконы Божией Матери (г. Калуга, ул. Покровская, д. 10)
11:00 - Панихида на могиле Павла Рыженко
12:30 - Освещение источников на месте явления Калужской иконы Божией Матери (д.р. Тиньково)
16:00 - Экскурсия по Дворцу Павла Рыженко
«Брусиловский прорыв» (г. Козельск ул. Большая Советская 75 Краеведческий музей Дом Цыпковского)
17:30 - Вечер памяти Павла Рыженко

17 ИЮЛЯ (Понедельник) г. Козельск
Царский Крестный ход в день памяти мученической кончины Царской семьи
Традиционный Крестный ход Оптиной Пустыни - Козельск - Оптина Пустынь

7:30 - Отправление автобуса из Калуги в Козельск (от Драмтеатра. Предварительная запись по т. 8 920 872 28 66)
8:30 - Встреча иконы - Елизавета Феодоровна и благословенная Калужская земля - и ковчега с ее частной мошей
9:00 - Начало Крестного хода от Оптиной пустыни и обход с Крестным ходом вокруг Козельска с заходом в храмы
18:00 - Отправление в Калугу от Оптиной Пустыни

18 ИЮЛЯ (Вторник) г. Калуга - Тихоновая Пустынь - Сергиев Свят
Крестный ход: По стопам Святой прмц. Елизаветы на Калужской земле

18 июля - день мученической кончины Великой Княгини
9:15 - Молебен с акафистом Царственному мученику у памятника Николаю II (Центральный Городской Парк)
9:45-10:45 - Пеший Крестный ход от памятника в Калужский девичий монастырь. Молебен прмц. Елизавете Феодоровне (Монастырский пер. 1) Освещение мемориальной доски в память о посещении Монастыря прмц. Елизаветой
11:30 - Молебен новоученикам и исповедникам российским в Свято-Парфентьевском монастыре. (ул. Широкая д. 49)
12:40 - Молебен в храме в честь Елизаветы Феодоровны. (Станция Калуга II)
13:45 - Молебен прмц. Сергию Радонежскому в Тихоновой Пустыни
15:00 - Молебен всем новоученикам и исповедникам (Сергиев Свят)
18:00 - ВЕЧЕР ПАМЯТИ ЦАРСКОЙ СЕМЬИ (Инновационный Культурный Центр ул. Октябрьская д. 17) ВХОД СВОБОДНЫЙ

Контактная информация: 8 920-611-56-63 vk.com/tzarskoe_nasledie



Memorial plaque to Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna opened in Kaluga

A plaque in memory of Elizabeth Feodorovna's was opened and blessed in Kazan convent.

- "Approaching the century of the death of the Imperial Family, and come to such a barrier, where it is important to understand our past. In the Orthodox culture rethinking, reappraisal is called repentance. Therefore, these dates would lead us to think seriously about Russian history. Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin, opening worship the cross on the site of the death of Sergei Alexandrovich in the Kremlin, noted that "this crime was one of the precursors of the dramatic events, unrest, civil strife that plagued Russia." We all need to repent, and the promise of the first persons of the state already provides the direction vector" - said chairman of the Kaluga branch of the Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society Vitaly Gorokhovatsky.

A procession went to the Holy Laurentian monastery, where a prayer service was held for the New Martyrs and Confessors Russian. Believers visited Tikhonov Monastery and at the station "Kaluga - 2".

- "For me it is important to attend the procession, which takes place in the footsteps of the Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna. This is the way she went to the monasteries in 1915. I looked through a lot of archive materials, read a lot of books and documentaries and imagine very clearly these days 17 - July 18, 1918, when these people were killed. Really I appreciate the event, which takes place today in memory of their death. It not only collects kaluzhan, but also unites, and this is very important. You have to understand, interpret our past and internally feel this tragedy" - shared his impressions of that day Valentine Fridgelm.



Krasnodar hosted a concert in memory of the Royal Martyrs

July 15, a concert named "Royal Martyrs, we beg pray for us!" was held in the hall of the Kuban Cossack Choir.

The concert program was dedicated to the memory of the Imperial Family, and included solo and ensembles performing spiritual songs and national classical music - of Peter Chaykovsky, Sergey Rahmaninova and Alexander Glazunov, and Russian romances, works of archdeacon Mihaila Okolot, composer Olga Masich, composer and singer-songwriter Anatoly Lukashevich, Deacon Nicholas Chervon and others. The evening was organized by the Kuban Nobility Assembly, with the blessing of Metropolitan Ekaterinodar and Kuban Isidore.



July 17, in Krasnodar, a procession from the Alexander Nevsky Cathedral went to the Alexander Nevsky chapel, in which the lower church has received the name of the Holy Martyrs.

The memory of the last Russian Emperor was honoured in Shakhty

18 July. 33TV - In 1918 died the last Russian Emperor Nicholas Romanov. On the night of 16-17th July members of the Imperial Family were shot, and even their servants. In memory of this event Shakhtinsky Cossacks and parishioners of local churches performed a procession.

They pray for Russia, for peace on Earth. Continuously, with each step. All 12 kilometres from St. Nicholas church in Ayuta village - to the Church of Virgin Mary. The participants in the procession were more than 200 parishioners, representatives of the Cossack "The Don" youth organization, as well as residents of neighbouring Ust-Donetsk region.

The religious procession in memory of the murdered Romanov family have been organized in Shakhty for more than 10 consecutive years.

Kursk

July 17. Takt-TV - Orthodox believers remember the family of the last Russian Emperor Nicholas Romanov. On the night of July 17, 1918, they were brutally murdered by the Bolsheviks. In Kursk, in the Church of the Holy Royal Martyrs, a solemn service was conducted by Metropolitan Herman of Kursk and Rylsk.

The solemn ringing of bells resounded in the whole district. Dozens of believers came to the Church of the Holy Royal Martyrs to honour the memory of the family of the last Russian Emperor Nicholas II. A real carpet of flowers was placed in front of the church entrance. Daisies and lilies were out as symbols of purity and goodness.

Metropolitan Herman of Kursk and Rylsk:

"We remember the confessors and New Martyrs Russian. Almost all the bishops, many priests, religious laity were repressed, millions of people have suffered, but chief among them are the Royal Martyrs. They showed in life that in every human being are positive and negative sides, during their suffering, they showed the greatest example of Christian patience, love, humility, prayer for Russia."

The imperial Family became an example of this loving Orthodox family and upbringing of children.

"I greatly admire silent saints, who created a family pattern. I would like to see my children were raised by their children. We read a lot of literature about this family and are very fond of these saints. So we come here to pray, to raise out own children to strengthen our family." - said a believer.

Maria Pisarchik: "I'm from Belarus, here are also people from Russia, Ukraine, Australia, Israel and Poland."

Marina Rykov: "For us it is very important to keep Orthodox faith abroad, to attract people living abroad to the Russian culture, the Orthodox traditions. There are many people who come here, they are in Russia for the first time, but they grew up in an Orthodox church. When they come here, they see the commemoration as all powerful and widely used in these churches, cathedrals, monasteries."

Festive service ended with traditional cross procession around the church.

Video - <http://takt-tv.ru/takt-novosti/7721-17-iyulya-pravoslavnye-veruyushchie-vspominayut-semyu-poslednego-rossijskogo-imperatora-nikolaya-romanova>

A chapel in honour of the Royal Martyrs in Bender, Moldova

In the night from 16 to 17 July in the Church of Alexander Nevsky at the Bendery fortress a stone in the foundation of the future chapel in honor of the martyrs of Nicholas II and family was laid. Date and time are not chosen by chance - it was on this night the Romanov family was shot in 1918.

Video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WyHLkmQfgU0>

Prayer for the Romanov family in Feodosia

July 17 in Feodosia, Crimea was held worship dedicated to the last Russian Emperor, Nicholas II and family.

The prayer service was held in front of the Royal Martyr icon located at the intersection of Sovetskaya and Victory, established October 25, 1994 on the initiative Stepana Trachuka, born in Theodosia. The author of the icon is artist Aleksey Apostolov.

Video - http://news.sevas.com/crimea/moleben_po_seme_romanovyh_v_feodosii_video

Omsk and Nicholas II: little-known facts about the fate of the last Emperor of Russia

A service and a procession were held in Lyubin. The last stop of Nicholas II and his family members on their way to Ekaterinburg was at this station.

This square is a favorite place for walking by Omsk citizens and guests of the city. In the shade of the trees, a stone column - evidence of a visit to the city of Nicholas Alexandrovich Romanov. Then 23-year-old heir to the throne, was returning from a journey to the East.

- Especially for the arrival of the future emperor, in this square, was built a royal summerhouse, however, it was then quickly disassembled. The ship of the heir moored to the city on July 14, 1891. Nicholas was met by the governor and the mayor. The high guest passed through the Tsar's Gate, tasted bread and salt, and went to service in the Church of Elijah. There is a wooden carved arch with the inscription "God save Tsesarevich", which became a real tourist attraction of Omsk at that time. It stood until the summer of 1917.

The program of his stay in Omsk was extensive. He visits the cadet corps, the Cossack Cathedral, but the most significant event, - and this Omsk citizens are telling with pride to the guests of the city - it was the future Emperor who laid the first stone in the foundation of the Assumption Cathedral.

Omsk will again appear in the life of Nicholas Alexandrovich, but under other, tragic circumstances. First world, abdication, revolution. When the Bolsheviks came to power, the question arose what to do with the Imperial Family, who at that time had been living in Tobolsk for almost a year. From Moscow was sent Commissioner Vasily Yakovlev, he was instructed to take out "the cargo". So began they to call the last emperor and his family, because there were fears that the Romanovs would be saved. The family was separated, and in Tyumen on the train they put Nicholas, his wife and one of the daughters. But instead of going to Yekaterinburg, Yakovlev directs them towards Omsk. They stopped 50 km from the city at the station Lubinskaya. Here is how Nicholas II described the events in his diary: "It turned out that we were not allowed to go to Omsk, but we were free, even walked twice, for the first time along the train, and the second - quite far in the field with Yakovlev himself. Cheerful mood."

At the station Lubinskaya members of the Imperial Family spent almost a day. Why Yakovlev changed the route historians are still arguing. Most likely, says Alexander Losunov, the commissioner, whom by that time had already been declared a traitor, realized that they were waiting for the Romanovs in Yekaterinburg and he tried to take them to Moscow.

- Commissar Yakovlev unhooked the train, went to Omsk, negotiated with Kosarev, with whom he was in exile and personally with Sverdlov through telegraph. Moreover, according to the researches of the local historian Bukreev, witnesses were alive. They saw Nicholas II, he stood in a window, - commented the historian-local historian Alexander Losunov.

He could not reach an agreement. Yakovlev had to obey and together with the Imperial Family, he went to the Urals. And Omsk station, thus, was the last stop on the way to Yekaterinburg before the tragic death. The memory of those events in Lubinsky district is carefully preserved. In 2012, in honor of the Royal Martyrs was erected a chapel. Live flowers are constantly brought here.

Video - <http://gtrk-omsk.ru/news/236705/>

In Alapaevsk

July 18, 2017 in the monastery in the name of the Church of the New Martyrs and Confessors Russian was celebrated the Divine Liturgy on the feast day holy Martyr Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna. The divine service was headed by the metropolitan Alexander of Astana and Kazakhstan, concelebrated by His Eminence Metropolitan Kirill of Yekaterinburg and Verkhoturye, Bishop Feodosy of Isilkulskom and Russian-Polyanskiy, Bishop Methodius of Alapaevsk and Kamensk, Bishop Eugene of Sredneuralsky, Vicar of the Yekaterinburg diocese, and the clergy of the Yekaterinburg diocese and Kamenka.



After the service, they went in procession to the mine, where in 1918, during the night of 17 July to 18 July, the Alapayevsk martyrs - Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna, the nun Varvara (Yakovlev), Grand Duke Sergei Mikhailovich, Princes of the imperial blood Konstantin Konstantinovich, John Konstantinovich, Igor Konstantinovich, and Prince Vladimir Paley, as well as the secretary of the Grand Duke Feodor Remez - were thrown alive.

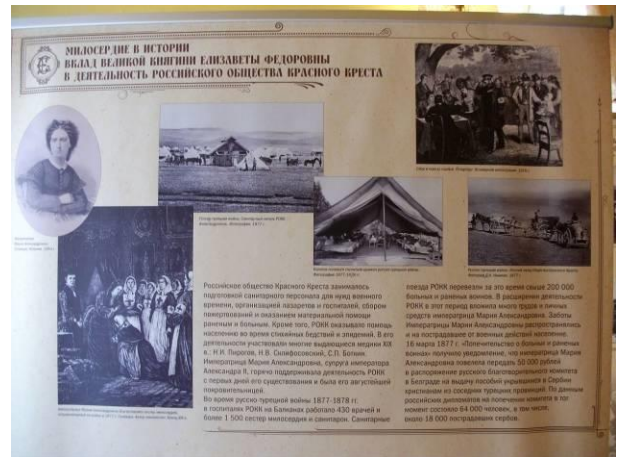
At the mine was made prayer, as well as performed Cherubic Hymn. The clergy and the faithful knelt in front of the memorial cross and put at its foot white flowers - a symbol of purity of the Alapayevsk martyrs.



Later in the day, in the building of the Alapaevsk Palace of Culture, the visitors were acquainted with the mobile banner exhibition "Mercy in history. Contribution of Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna to the activities of the Russian Red Cross Society".

"The exhibition is devoted to the activities of Elizabeth Feodorovna in the Russian Red Cross Society. Elizabeth Feodorovna headed the Moscow branch of the Red Cross", - says the executive director of fund "Elizabeth-Sergei educational society" Tatyana Alexandrovna Romanova.

"Before, here were not many pilgrims, everything happened, rather, contrary to, than thanks to. But now there is a feeling that society is changing. And thanks to the fact that from 2015, with the assistance of the Elizabeth-Sergei Educational Society, Basil the Great Foundation and the Yekaterinburg Metropolia, here, in Alapaevsk, we managed to organize the days of charity and charity "White Flower", which, more than 100 years ago, warm the hearts of all comers and take part in the noble cause. Miraculously the situation is changing - the residents of Alapaevsk are increasingly responding and joining the charity and memory of the great saint" said Tatyana A. Romanova.



Video - 1) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hpm_yPrCr7E
2) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EG1uK_8EX0o (An old reconstruction of the killing of the Alapaevsk Martyrs)

Moscow

July 18, in the Protection Church of the Martha and Mary Convent of Mercy, the Divine Liturgy was celebrated by Bishop Panteleimon of Orekhovo-Zuevo, chairman of the Synodal Department for Church Charity and Social Service.



After the service in the garden of the Abode refreshments were arranged to all guests and during the day, and for children was organized a festive program including pony rides.

In the evening, a musical concert with soloists of the Bolshoi Theater of Russia and the Opera Center Galina Vishnevskaya was held in the Blue room of the administrative building. In the program - songs, excerpts from letters of the Grand Duchess and musical pieces of her favorite composers.

In Jerusalem

On Tuesday, July 18, 2017, the feast day of Holy Martyrs Grand Duchess Elizabeth and Nun Varvara and the other Martyrs of Alapaevsk, Archimandrite Roman (Krassovsky), Chief of the Russian Ecclesiastical Mission in Jerusalem, celebrated Divine Liturgy at the Cathedral of St Mary Magdalene in Gethsemane Convent, Jerusalem. Fr Roman was joined by representatives of both Missions in Jerusalem, pilgrims and other visiting clergymen.

Abbess Elizabeth, head of the convent, prayed at the service with her nuns, along with Acting Abbess Varvara of Ascension of the Lord Convent on the Mt of Olives; the President of the Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society, Sergei Stepashin, and a multitude of worshipers from all over the world.

After Liturgy, a moleben was performed at the reliquary of St Elizabeth, located inside the church. At the luncheon that followed the clerics and guests congratulated Mother Elizabeth on her names day.





Memorial service and a more in St. Petersburg

July 15 to 20, Prince Michael Pavlovich Romanov-Ilyinsky, and Ludmila and Paul Kulikovskiy, visited St. Petersburg, to participate in the memorial service on July 17th in Sts. Peter and Paul Cathedral, but also to have meetings with people from the museums, church and public organisations, and to be further educated in Russian and Romanov history.

Beautiful Tsarskoye Selo

Tsarskoye Selo is always a highlight. So many things are happening there. The deputy director Irida Bott and Alex Dmitriev from the international department received the guests. During the meeting the guests were told about the progress on the reconstruction of the Alexander Palace, the Arsenal, the new exhibition "Tsarskoye Selo 1917. On the Eve", what is happening in the Martial chambers, and about some exciting new Romanov related material.

The Arsenal

August 24th, 2016 the restored pavilion "Arsenal" opened - for more than seventy years it was in a dilapidated state. There is now the exposition "Tsarskoye Selo Arsenal. Imperial collection of weapons", created in conjunction with the State Hermitage.

The museum's special pride is a collection of eastern weapons of Russian emperors. As before, the exposition is presented in the octagonal hall on the second floor in the Hall of the Knights.

Among the exhibited items (more than 400) is the famous painting by Horace Vernet - "Tsarskoselskaya carousel", showing Emperor Nicholas I and his family in knight's armour on horses. There are a bladed weapons collection, firearms of XVIII-XIX centuries, and items of harness. The State Hermitage has provided from its collection for temporary storage a few rare exhibits, including an armour of the XVI century from the collection of Nicholas I, that once was in the Arsenal.





See the video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oy0CBLuEU5I>

"Tsarskoye Selo 1917. On the Eve"

June 29th, 2017, in the Cameron Gallery opened, the exhibition about the Imperial residence and its owners in the borderline period between the two revolutions - February and October 1917 - when the epoch of the monarchy ceded to a new one that finally erupted with the October revolt.

Deprived of its Imperial status, during that period Tsarskoye Selo was still the residence of Nicholas, who lived with his family in the Alexander Palace as Citizen Romanov arrested by the Russian Provisional Government.

In the spring of 1917, the Petrograd Art and History Commission examining the palaces and mansions of St Petersburg aristocracy was sent to Tsarskoye Selo to make an inventory of all property and establish a museum at the former Imperial residence. Materials of the Commission, as well as photographs, artworks, palace furnishings and memorial belongings of the Imperial family that

witnessed the revolutionary turmoil, are presented on the exhibition display. Nearly 150 objects are displayed, some from the State Archive of the Russian Federation, in a long hall with one side showing it when the family was living there and the other side without them. In an almost empty room next door, on the end wall newsreel from the period is running, including many showing the Romanov family and then the first visitors entering the "new museum" in 1918.





Emperor Nicholas II and Tsarevich Alexei's cherkeska (Cossack uniform) from His Imperial Majesty's Own Convoy.

Emperor Nicholas II's is from 1900s (122 cm long), while Tsarevich Alexei is from 1910s (105 cm long).

There is a 128 pages catalogue for the exhibition.



The Martial chambers

August 2nd 2017, the First World War museum at the Martial Chamber will re-open with the third stage of its permanent display, which includes new sections - the Caucasus Front, the Battle of Galicia and the Defence of the Osowiec Fortress. The air force and navy sections will be renovated and cuirassiers will have a separate showcase. A whole new display room will tell about the events of 1917 and Russia's withdrawal from the First World War.

A tour of museum was given by Georgie Vedensky, who told about the changes and the new objects that would come on display.



*Top left, the flag of the 112 Uralsky regiment, that was completely eliminated in the battle at Gumbinsk in 1915.
Top right, a cherkeska that belonged to Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich in the "Wild Division".
Below, a view of the fighter plane.*



Prince Oleg at the Sophia Cathedral in Pushkin

Prince Michael Pavlovich Romanoff-Ilyinsky, and Ludmila and Paul Kulikovsky visited the Ascension Cathedral, also called the Sophia Cathedral, and saw the monument to Prince of Imperial Blood Oleg Konstantinovich.

Oleg Konstantinovich, the son of Grand Duke Konstantin Konstantinovich, participated in the First World War and was mortally wounded during a battle. He died a few days later, the only Romanov who died in the war. He gave his life for the Faith, Tsar and Fatherland.

The monument was unveiled September 29th, 2015, and was made on the initiative of the Fund Ludvig Nobel.





Prince Michael Pavlovich Romanoff-Ilyinsky, and Ludmila and Paul Kulikovsky in the nearby Church of St. Sergius of Radonezh attended the service, and visited afterwards the museum on the second floor in honour of the Life Guards 2nd Tsarskoye Selo Rifle Regiment.

The Church of St Sergius of Radonezh was built in 1904 for the soldiers of the Life Guards 2nd Tsarskoye Selo Rifle Regiment on the initiative of Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich. It was closed down in 1921. In 2012, the church was officially returned to the Russian Orthodox Church and restoration was carried out until 2014.

Amazing Hermitage

In the Hermitage, now including both the Winter Palace and the General Staff building, are so much to see, from the most ancient to contemporary art. Prince Michael Pavlovich Romanoff-Ilyinsky, and Ludmila and Paul Kulikovsky got a taste of both, starting with the new temporary exhibition of "Nefertari and the Valley of the Queens. From the collection of the Egyptian Museum in Turin". It was opened in a restored room (the Arena) of the Small Hermitage. The Egyptian Museum in Turin is known as one of the most important collections outside of Egypt and to the Hermitage was brought 255 monuments and field photographs, which give an opportunity to present the opening of the tomb of Queen Nefertari.

The exhibition "Anselm Kiefer - Velimir Khlebnikov" is the first in Russia of the German artist Anselm Kiefer, which is the dedication of the contemporary artist to the great Russian poet Velimir Khlebnikov.

Anselm Kiefer is an artist inclined to a profound and multifaceted intellectual reflection. In his work, he addresses the themes of history, religion, literature, philosophy, images of memory and heritage. The source of inspiration for Kiefer is the world culture in its widest section: German history, religious mysticism, ancient poetry, and Mesopotamian myths.

His paintings - large-scale, multilayered, three-dimensional - signify the revival of the genre of historical painting with key issues of memory and cultural myth. In a bold Vangogian manner, the colours on Kiefer's canvases are mixed with dust, earth, clay, rusty metal, straw, dried flowers - and submarines.



"Vladimir Kanevsky. Porcelain flowers" in the Arapsky Hall and the Rotunda of the Winter Palace, tells about the work of the contemporary artist and sculptor Vladimir Kanevsky, in fifty works of porcelain

flowers. Born in Kharkov in 1951, for now over thirty years, Vladimir Kanevsky lives and works in New Jersey, USA.

His porcelain flowers are made in full size in compliance with natural proportions. Especially interesting are those that have traces of insects and caterpillars.

During a meeting with Mikhael B. Piotrovsky, Director of the Hermitage Museum, Prince Michael Pavlovich informed him about the latest developments in the Romanov Family Association. Paul Kulikovsky presented Piotrovsky a copy of the Russian version of the book by Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna - "25 Chapter of my life", and then the guests' tour moved on to the General staff building.



The exhibition "Manolo Blahnik. Shoes as art", shows the work of an outstanding shoe designer. 45 years of designs are grouped in six thematic sections - "Nature", "Gala", "Art and Architecture", "Heart", "Geography", and "Materials", and gives an insight into the changing tastes of society.

Example, the section "Geographic influences" shows shoes inspired by Blahnik's travels around the world and his impressions of England, Italy, Japan, Africa, Spain, and Russia, as well as his special love for the personality of Catherine the Great.

In total, the exhibition presents more than 200 shoes and 30 author drawings from the archive of Manolo Blahnik.

The tour ended with a return to history, with a visit to the halls of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Imperial Russia, the service rooms and private apartments of the Minister and his spouse, which were decorated according to K.I. Rossi's drawings.

The first owner of these apartments was Count K.V. Nesselrode (1780-1862), who served as Vice Chancellor from 1828 and Chancellor of the Russian Empire from 1845 to 1856. Nesselrode was in fact the first Russian Foreign Minister (the first that had this title). In these rooms are restored the historical interiors.



After the memorial service in Sts. Peter and Paul Cathedral on July 17th, Prince Michael Pavlovich Romanoff-Ilyinsky and Paul Kulikovsky gave an interview to TASS in front of the Russian Museum, with Ludmila Kulikovskaya interpreting.

Romanov dynasty descendants to gather in Russia for centenary of Nicholas II's death

July 18. /TASS/ - Great-grandson of Emperor Alexander III told that one of the issues the Romanovs were considering at present was a possible visit to Yekaterinburg in July 2018.

Descendants of the Romanov dynasty currently live in different countries of the world may hold a major meeting in Russia in 2018 on the centenary anniversary since the tragic death of Emperor Nicholas II and his family, Paul Edward Kulikovsky, the great-grandson of Emperor Alexander III told TASS on Monday.

He is a descendant of Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna (b. 1882, d. 1960), Emperor Alexander III's youngest daughter.



Kulikovsky said one of the issues the Romanovs were considering at present was a possible visit to Yekaterinburg, a city in the Urals where the last Russian Emperor's family was executed on the night from July 16 to July 17, 1917. The members of the Imperial Family could gather there on the 'Tsar's days' in 2018.

Also, they might have a pilgrimage to the places linked to the tragic chapter in the history of the Imperial Family.

Kulikovsky said he did not rule out a possible general meeting of the dynasty members in Moscow or in St Petersburg. He added that it would be nice if the reconstruction of the Alexander Palace in Tsarskoye Selo near St Petersburg was over by that time and the descendants of the Imperial Family could either take part in its opening or simply visit it.

The Alexander Palace was Nicholas II's most favourite residence and he lived there for many years after accession to the throne, as well as after his abdication in February 1917 and through to the tragic interning in the West-Siberian city in Tobolsk on August 1 of the same year.

The Tsar's days have turned into an annual event in Yekaterinburg. They are held in July to mark a yet another anniversary since the extermination of the family and closest servants in the basement of the former house of mining engineer Nikolai Ipatyev.

During the Tsar's days, the Yekaterinburg diocese of the Russian Orthodox Church holds a range of cultural, musical and sports events, as well as special services devoted to the 'new regal martyrs' - the status in which the Church canonized Nicholas II, Empress Alexandra, Tsarevich Alexei, and Grand Duchesses Olga, Tatiana, Maria, and Anastasia in 2000.

On Monday, Paul Edward Kulikovsky attended a commemorative service in the St Peter and Paul's Cathedral in St Petersburg marking the anniversary since Nicholas II's death. Accompanying him was Prince Mikhail Pavlovich Romanoff-Ilyinsky, a descendant of Grand Duke Dmitry Pavlovich and a member of the Romanov Family Association.

Kulikovsky and Romanoff-Ilyinsky also visited Tsarskoye Selo and the Winter Palace, formerly the official residence of the Russian Emperors and now part of the world-famous Hermitage Museum.

"Tsarskoye Selo is a special place for me, a place where I proposed to my wife," Romanoff-Ilyinsky said. "And the Hermitage Museum is a family place where we go to pay respect to our ancestors."

Visiting Yekaterinburg

From 25 to 29 of June, Ludmila and Paul Kulikovsky visited Yekaterinburg on the invitation of three organisations: the Historical Community City of Yekaterinburg, represented by Vitaly Shitov; the Public Fund "Discovery", represented by Victor Grebenuk; and the Initiative Group "Memorial of the Romanovs", represented by Ilya Korovin.



Novo-Tikhvinsky monastery and Alexander Nevsky Cathedral

The monastery is closely related to the Romanov family, from its approval and first gift from Emperor Alexander I, who visited it in 1824 and the future Alexander II who visited in 1837, to the stay of Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna in 1918, just before her martyrdom in Alapaevsk.

It was from here food was brought to Ipatiev house, while the Imperial Family was kept in captivity. Still, every day the nuns are praying for the members of the Romanov family.

The Alexander Nevsky Church was laid 26 June 1838. It is built in the style of classicism by architect M. Malakhov and was consecrated 21 September 1852. After the consecration, by a decree of the Synod it received the status of a cathedral.

In 1992 the cathedral was returned to the Church and the parish community initiated worship.

The cathedral was re-consecrated by the head of the Russian Orthodox Church Patriarch Kirill on 19 of May 2013.

Together with Vitaly Shitov and Ilya Korovin, Ludmila and Paul Kulikovsky were received by the Abbess and had a tour of the area and the cathedral.



The Royal Martyrs in the Alexander Nevsky Cathedral in Yekaterinburg

On a sightseeing tour of the city they were shown the house where lived Yakov Yurovsky, the building that housed the American hotel, the still preserved pharmaceutical warehouse, in which Voikov got sulphuric acid.... graves of some of the killers and monuments that included some of them as repressed people.

Then the house, in which was originally planned to place Nicholas Alexandrovich and his family. It was located on the outskirts of the city and was found to be too easy to attack for anyone who wanted to liberate the prisoners, so they were instead put to the Ipatiev house.

Where the Imperial Family actually arrived in Yekaterinburg is still a question, due to several source with different information. They came by train from Tyumen and stopped at some distance from the main passenger train station, in the area known as the freight terminal - "Ekaterinburg 3", where Nicholas, Alexandra and Maria were transferred to the Ural Soviet and taken to the Ipatiev house by cars. But did they get out on the left or the right side of the tracks? The church consider that it happened on one side, while local historian says it happened on the other side where the old station house were. Ludmila and Paul Kulikovsky visited both sides.



Top, a painting of the Ural Soviet receiving Nicholas, Alexandra and Maria in Yekaterinburg. In the middle, the area where the station building was (shown in the painting to the left), and a cross marking the place. Below the plaque and cross on the other side.

The Ural Geological Museum

In the 17th century rich and high-quality mineral deposits were discovered in the Ural region. While Western countries went to foreign lands (ex. colonies in Africa), Russia found its riches inside the Empire. First iron and copper smelters were founded by the mid-17th century. The area was recognized by the Russian government as a strategic source of raw materials. More than 60 factories were built in the first half of the 18th century. In the middle of Yekaterinburg, at the banks of the river Iset gold was found and mines existed until recently.



A painting of Tsarevich and Grand Duke Alexander Nikolaevich (later Emperor Alexander II) in a mine where a huge piece of malachite was found

Much of the precious stones used for decorations in the imperial palaces comes from Ural. The famous Faberge and other jewellers got their stones from Ural. And still today there is mined gold, platinum, amethysts, emeralds, topazes, rhodonite, etc, only malachite is now a rare find.

The Ural Geological Museum is a part of the Ural Mining University, which contains a rich collection of geological samples of the Ural region. There are more than 40 thousand exhibits.



Ludmila and Paul Kulikovsky looked at the expositions of raw stones, quarts, and minerals, and works of art made of the same. In the "Treasures hall" there are the main valuables, with platinum, gold and historical pieces.



His Royal Highness Prince Joachim of Denmark on a photo in the museum from his visit there. Ludmila and Paul Kulikovsky with the same emerald piece.

Church on the Blood

The full name is The Church on Blood in Honour of All Saints Resplendent in the Russian Land.

It is built on the site of the Ipatiev House in Yekaterinburg, where Emperor Nicholas II, his family, and faithful servants were shot by the Bolsheviks.

On September 20, 1990, the plot was handed over to the Russian Orthodox Church for construction of a memorial chapel. After the Emperor and his family's canonization as Passion Bearers, the Church planned to build an impressive memorial complex dedicated to the Romanov family and construction began in 2000.

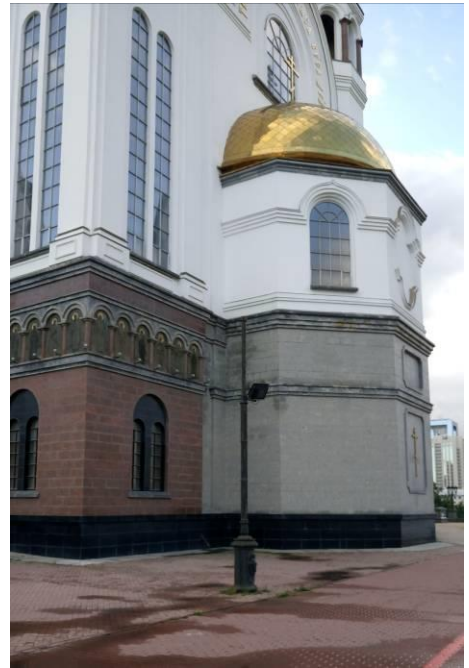
The completed complex comprises two churches, a belfry, a patriarchal annex, and a museum dedicated to the former imperial family.

On June 16, 2003, 85 years after the execution of the Imperial Family, the main church was consecrated by Metropolitan Yuvenaly, delegated by Patriarch Alexy II who was too ill at the time to travel to Yekaterinburg.



The location of the room of the killing of the Imperial Family and servants is on the outside of the church marked in red bricks and inside is established a chapel. But the correct locations of the "Execution room" is questioned by historians, who says the outline of the room is actually outside the church. Comparing old maps to modern maps, the location of Ipatiev house is different to the location of the church on blood, resulting in the room being outside the wall of the church, under the sidewalk next to it.

In the church Ludmila and Paul Kulikovskiy prayed at the main icons and then had a look at the exhibition about the Romanovs in a room next door, where well known photos were mixed with children drawings.



At Porosenkov Log (Pig's Meadow)

On June 26, the birthday of Grand Duchess Maria Nicholaevna, Ludmila and Paul Kulikovskiy visited the Porosenkov Log, the place where the remains of the Imperial Family and their loyal servants were found



Left stone - "Here remains of the Imperial Family and their loyal servants killed 17.07.18 in Yekaterinburg were hidden from the people. Remains were found in 1978 by A. N. Avdonin and M. S. Kochurov. Taken out in 1991 with support of governor E. E. Rossel. Buried in St.-Petersburg in 1998 in the presence of President B. N. Eltsin.

Right stone - "This earth contains ashes of Emperor Nicholas II born 1868, Empress Alexandra Feodorovna 1872, Their daughters Olga Nikolaevna born 1895, Tatiana Nikolaevna born 1897, Anastasia Nikolaevna born 1901. Their entourage Botkin Eugene Sergeevich 1865, Demidova Anna Stepanovna 1878, Kharitonov Ivan Mikhailovich 1870, Trupp Aloisy Egorovich 1865. Eternal Memory!

After the execution the remains of Emperor Nicholas II, his family and loyal servants were taken from Ipatiev House to the mine called the Four Brothers located 20 km from Yekaterinburg. The bodies were dumped into the mineshaft.

Yurovsky then decided that the mine was too shallow, and returned to the mineshaft at about 4:00am on the morning of 18 July. The sodden corpses were hauled out one by one. The bodies were again loaded onto a truck. During transportation to the deeper copper mines on the early morning of 19 July, the truck carrying the bodies got stuck in mud near Porosenkov Log (Pig's Meadow). With the men

exhausted and most refusing to obey orders, Yurovsky decided to bury them under the road where the truck had stalled. They dug a grave that was 6 × 8 ft in size and barely 60 centimeters (2 ft) deep.

Railroad ties were placed over the grave to disguise it, with the truck being driven back and forth over the ties to press them into the earth. The burial was completed at 6:00am on 19 of July.

Yurovsky separated the remains of Tsarevich Alexei and one of his sisters to be buried about 15 meters (50 ft) away. Alexei and his sister were burned, their remaining charred bones thoroughly smashed with spades and then tossed into a smaller pit. Only 44 partial bone fragments from both corpses remained, which were not found until August 2007.



Ludmila and Paul Kulikovsky first went to the grave where the remains of 9 people were found in 1979, and exhumed in 1991. An orthodox priest made short memorial service.

After visiting the first grave, they went to the second grave, the remains of Tsarevich Alexei and Grand Duchess Maria Nicholaevna were found in 2007. Then Leonid Vokhmyakov told about how he found the remains and Nikolai Neuimin showed the area, including the old Koptiyaki road.



Great-grandson of Emperor Alexander III: I almost was laughing at the "Matilda" trailer

June 28. Komsomolskaya Pravda - During a visit to the Urals Pavel Eduardovich Kulikovsky told "KP" reporters, why the investigation of the death Tsesarevich Alexei lasts for 2 years, and what is his attitude to the scandalous movie of Uchitel.

Paul Kulikovsky elusively looks like his great-great-grandfather Emperor Alexander III. If you look, you can find a lot of similarities. It seems that for a complete image only lacks a beard, which can be seen in old pictures depicting the monarch. Dressed in a blue suit, holding a bouquet of white roses, which soon he will put at the base of the cross, put to a place where the Bolsheviks buried the remains of the children of Nicholas II. Just he doesn't have proper Russian. He talked to us in English. His spouse translated our questions.



- *Pavel Eduardovich why you came to Ekaterinburg?*

- I want to get acquainted with the history of Yekaterinburg and the family of Nicholas II, as well as support the people who keep the legacy of the Imperial Family and their memory here. I believe that it is very important for all members of the Romanov - to come here and see the place, where the last Emperor's Family was buried. I know there is still a public debate, whether it is the true remains. But our position is that we believe that these are the remains of the Emperor and his family.

- *Do you think it was necessary for the Bolsheviks to execute the Imperial Family?*

- I don't think so! It is unfortunate that during so many years Russia has denied its own history. Nicholas II abdicated voluntarily. And when he abdicated, then he handed power back to the people. Therefore, for us it remains unclear why it was necessary to shoot him. Nicholas Alexandrovich didn't not represent a political threat to anyone. He did not work against the Provisional Government and later he was under arrest and could not do anything.

- *The investigation of the criminal case of the remains of the Imperial Family was started again on September 23, 2015. What do you think, why the investigation has been already going on for two years?*

- We have asked the government and the Russian Orthodox Church for reburial of Tsarevich Alexei and Grand Duchess Maria, discovered in the Urals in 2007. The government agreed to it in the summer of 2015. The reburial was scheduled for October 2015. But representatives of the Russian Orthodox Church, said: "There should be no doubt that these are the remains of the Imperial Family." And for us it is important that the Church, too, recognize the remains as holy relics. If the investigation will be able to facilitate it, then we will be very happy. And we hope that they will do it, and we will be able to reunite the Imperial Family with the remains of Alexei and Maria in the Peter and Paul Cathedral. All that we now can do - is to wait. We are not interfere in the investigation in any way.



It is the first time Paul Kulikovsky visit Porosenkov Log, where the Bolsheviks buried the bodies of the Imperial Family. He laid flowers at the base of the cross erected on the place of the remains' discovery.

- *There are historians who claim that someone from the Imperial Family could survive ...*

- It's not even funny. All those who know the story of the murder of the Imperial Family, understand that it is absolutely impossible. Even the church said that they all died. The most respected historians also say that no one survived. Only people who want to attract attention, support this myth.

- *What's the House of Romanov now?*

- It is a bit complicated to explain. There are several groups of people who are descendants of the Romanovs. There is a large group of descendants united in the "Romanov Family Association", where about 20 people have the surname Romanov and a few other persons like me, who do not have this name, but who are descendants of the Romanov dynasty.

There are two people who call themselves the "Imperial House". These are Princess Maria Vladimirovna and her son George. There are also some people, like Prince George Yurievsky, a descendant of Emperor Alexander II, who does not belong to any group, but works on their own. Therefore, there are up to 70 people who can call themselves descendants of the Romanov family today.

- *The Aleksey Uchitel film "Matilda," about the relationship of Nicholas II and the ballerina Mathilde Kshesinskaia will be released soon. How do you feel about it?*

- When I saw the first trailer, I laughed. So many historical errors and mistakes that it is unacceptable to call this film historical. This is a free interpretation on top of a few facts that really happened. The fact that Nicholas II had a flirt with a dancer - a historical fact. But it was only a brief summer romance. I do not think that this relationship grew into something more, which they trying to tell in the film. I think it is necessary to consider this film as a work of art, just a movie.

But another question is - why to release this a particular film about the fate of Nicholas II just to the 100th anniversary of the revolution?

I have not seen the movie, but what I saw in the trailer, I did not like!

Forensic examinations

In the Ural forensic office Ludmila and Paul Kulikovsky were greeted by director D.L.Kondrashev, PhD (Medicine). He had invited two experts of the team who participated in making the forensic examinations of the remains exhumed in 1991 and 2007. They told about their work and the results of these historic examinations and it was clear that they were not in doubt about the remains examined are those of the Imperial Family and the servants.



As a very pleasant surprise they had the brought a photo album from the time of the examination and the final days in July 1998, where the remains were taken from the building in the presence of Prince Dimitri Romanovich, for a memorial service in the Church of Ascension, before being transported to St. Petersburg.



Left - 3 photos from the transfer of the remains to the coffins. Prince Dimitri Romanovich can be seen in the lower photo, as number 3 from the right. In the middle - the coffins ready for the transportation to St. Petersburg, with a guard of honour standing by. Right - the coffins leaving the building of the Forensic office of Yekaterinburg.

The Church of Ascension

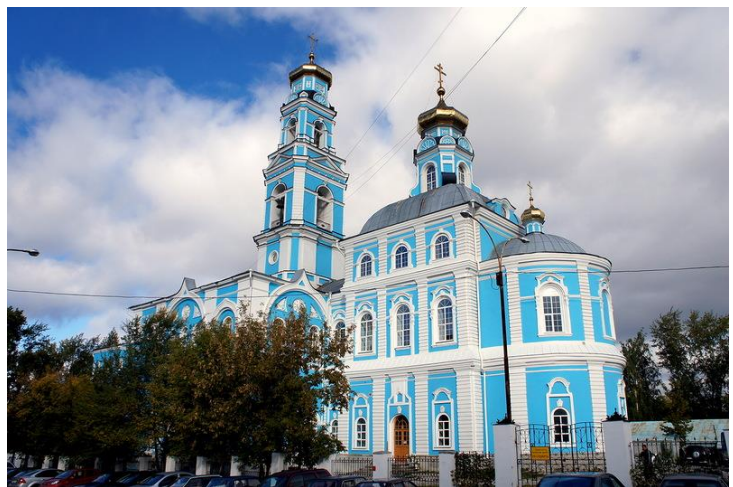
The church was laid in May 1770 , and was consecrated on September 19 the same year. At first it was a very small wooden structure.

By 1789 the building of the church had become unusable and it was decided to build a two-storey stone church. The ground floor was in honour of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin, and the upper one - in honour of the Ascension of the Lord.

During the XIX century, the church was repeatedly completed and expanded.

In 1834 it was decided to attach two side-chapels on the south side, two side-chapels on the north side and a new porch. It is the only church building in the city, built in the late Baroque style.

The church is effectively placed on the highest point of the city - Voznesensky Hill (290 m), next to the classical ensemble of the estate Rastorguev-Kharitonov and overlooking the new Church on Blood.



In 1926 the church was closed. Subsequently, it housed first a school, and then a historical-revolutionary museum. On February 15, 1991, on the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, the first liturgy was served in the church after many years.

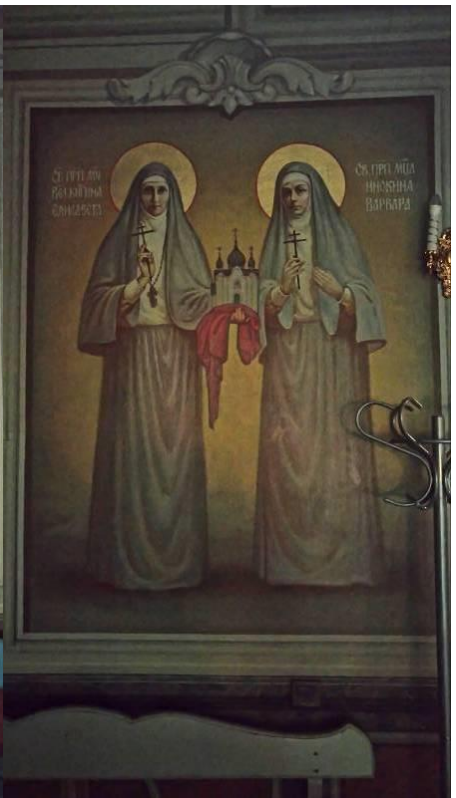
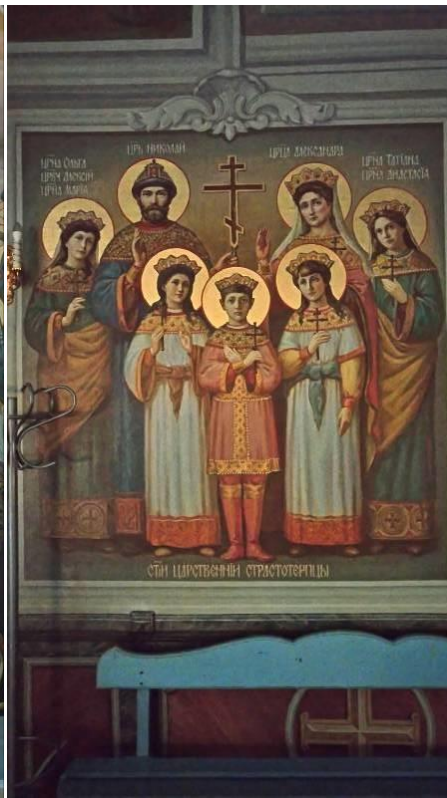
On April 17, 1918, within the walls of the Ascension Church, was watched how a car drove up to the house on opposite side of the road, to Ipatiev house. The former Russian Emperor Nicholas II described that day in his diary: ".. We went on the deserted streets to the house of Ipatiev prepared for us. The house is nice, clean. We were given four large rooms."

On Holy Thursday, on the Holy Week of 1918, the bells of the Ascension Church rang. Residents of the "house of special purpose" heard them. Nicholas II noted: "With the sound of bells, it becomes sad at the thought that it is now Passion Week, and we are deprived of the opportunity to attend these wonderful services."

Finally, at night from 16 to 17 July the old church witnessed an unusual bustle near the Ipatiev House. People run in and out, something was taken away by trucks, then everything died down, the house was completely empty.

July 16th, 1998, it was in this church the coffins with the remains of the Imperial family were for panikhida, before taken to the airport and then sent to St. Petersburg.

In the church there are several big icon with the Royal Martyrs and with Saints Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna and nun Varvara.



"Carl Faberge and Alexey Denisov-Uralsky"

Ludmila and Paul Kulikovskiy visited the exhibition "Carl Faberge and Alexey Denisov-Uralsky" at the Museum of the history of stone-cutting and jewellery. The exhibition presents masterpieces of jewellery and lapidary art, a collection of Ural gems, paintings and drawings.

The cigarette case carved out of rhodonite and cufflinks with the monogram of Alexander III, and the Constellation Egg were of particular interest. Constellation Egg supposed to be ready for Easter 1917, and being a reminder of Tsarevich Alexei Nicholaevich.

Carl Faberge is well known, but the contemporary genius jeweller Alexei Kozmich Denisov -Uralsky (1864-1926) is less known. His name has in the last decade been reborn from the ashes of oblivion by the efforts of art dealers, critics and journalists, including research in the work of Faberge. Alexey Denisov-Uralsky can be described as a man possessed by the Ural Mountains in the best sense of the word, a researcher and expert in the Ural mountain range and Ural stone, supervisory artist, a dreamer, a talented organizer of its own exhibitions, a businessman, a passionate stonecutter.



Lyudmila Babushkina met the great-great-grandson of Emperor Alexander III Paul Kulikovsky



June 26. Official site of the Duma of Sverdlovsk region - Today the chairman of the Legislative Assembly of Sverdlovsk region Lyudmila Babushkina met the great-great grandson of Emperor Alexander III, great-grandson of Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna, honorary member of the Romanov Family Association Paul Kulikovsky and his wife Lyudmila Kulikovsky.

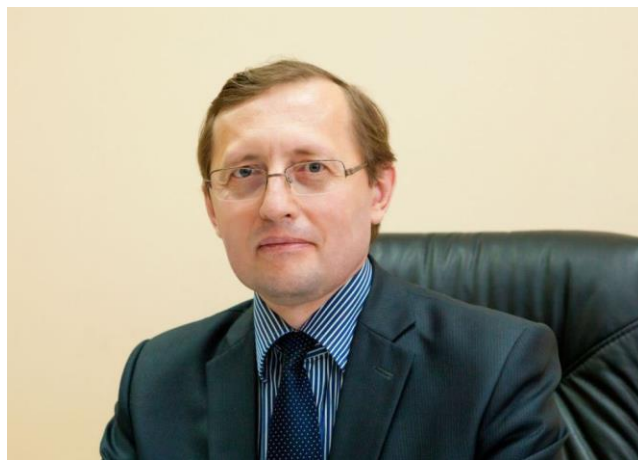
Paul Kulikovsky presented Lyudmila Babushkina the memoirs of Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna "25 chapters of my life" in Russian. The guest of honour said that the meeting with the chairman of the Legislative Assembly in Yekaterinburg became a good tradition.

"For us it is very valuable to have a special relationship to the Sverdlovsk region said Paul Eduardovich Kulikovsky. Paul Eduardovich does a lot of educational work to preserve historical heritage.

In the Governor's office

At the meeting with the deputy Governor Pavel V. Krekov and the deputy Minister of culture Galina Y. Golovina, several issues and one proposal were discussed, including the planned events in July 2018, in that connection the participation of the Romanov Family in the commemoration, the present status and future of the area at Porosenkov Log, and in that connection was presented a vision for development of the area.

In addition Paul Kulikovsky suggested to create a museum called "Ural and the Romanovs" in Yekaterinburg, the capital of the Urals. The idea being that all the other cities related to the 1918 tragedy will soon have a "Romanov-museum", like the Governor house in Tobolsk, the Fieldschool in Alapaevsk and the "Korolovsky hotel" in Perm, and then what about Yekaterinburg? There is now only the church organised exhibition in the "Patriarchal Farmstead" at the Church on Blood, mainly related to the royal Martyrs. A new museum could collect all the objects presently in several other Yekaterinburg museum's storage, and be not just related to the execution of the members of the Romanov family, but the entire history of the achievement in Ural during the time of the Romanovs.



Meeting in the Diocese house in Yekaterinburg

Bishop Eugeny (Kulberg) of Sredneuralsky, the vicar of Metropolitan Kirill, received Ludmila and Paul Kulikovsky in the Diocese house in Yekaterinburg.

During the meeting many issues were discussed, including the Romanov family's position on the remains found at Porosenkov Log, the program for the "Tsar's Days" in 2018, which he said will be based on the program for 2017 and then expanded, and the new project initiated in Yekaterinburg on finding and transfer to Russia the remains of the Alapaevsk martyrs (excluding the Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna and Nun Varvara). Paul Kulikovsky announced his readiness to help with this project.

Bishop Eugeny mentioned the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will participate in the search for the remains of the Alapaevsk Martyrs and he expects that it will move the project forward quickly.



Mayor of Yekaterinburg Yevgeny Roizman met with Paul Kulikovsky

June 28, 2017. Official site of the Yekaterinburg city Duma - The Head of Yekaterinburg, Chairman of the Yekaterinburg City Duma Evgenii Roizman on Wednesday, June 28, met with Paul Kulikovsky, a descendant of the Romanov dynasty, the great-great-grandson of Alexander III.

Kulikovsky's visit to Yekaterinburg is devoted to preparations for the 100th anniversary of the execution of the last Russian Emperor Nicholas II and his family in the basement of the Ipatiev house, so the conversation began with a discussion of the causes and consequences of the October Revolution in Russia that led to these tragic events. Evgenii Roizman told the guest about the memories of one of the participants in the shooting, which were recorded by Yekaterinburg artists Misha Brusilovsky and Gennady Mosiny. It was they who were the emotional impetus for making Brusilovsky's portrait of the last Russian Emperor's Family.



The participants discussed the historical studies and publications on the last days of the life of the Romanovs in the Urals, published in our city at different times and agreed that the remains of the Imperial Family, found in Porosenkov Log near Yekaterinburg, can be considered authentic.

"I thank you for the invitation to the British Royal family, which you passed through the British Ambassador last week. - said Paul Kulikovsky, and asked if he intended to invite the Romanov family also, to which the Mayor Evgenii Roizman laughed and confessed the invitation had brought him into troubles.

The mayor explained, it was just an idea that had come to his mind and not really a formal invitation. He was now concerned about the consequences, with regard to cost for accommodation and security, if they want to come. The Russian Foreign Ministry is now also on "his neck", having informed him he has no authority to invite heads of states without prior consultation with them.

With regard to an invitation to the Romanov family, he said he was not in charge of the arrangements, but could facilitate the family's wish to the right person in the Governor's office.





The exhibition "The Urals. Revolution. Fates"

The centennial of the 1917 revolution can be viewed from many positions. Following the heroes - eyewitnesses and participants in the events, based on the surviving diaries and memoirs, artefacts, historical documents, can be seen the dramatic events of those years and imagined how their fates developed during the years of the revolution.

The exhibition shows how Ural looked like the day before and during the great upheavals, you will hear voices and see everything with the eyes of the direct bearers of the "Red" and "White" ideas. There is the Chairman of the Ural Council Alexander Beloborodov, who on July 12, 1918 signed the decision of the Ural Soviet on the execution of Emperor Nicholas II and his family.

There is a collection of Civil War weapons and museum items related to the execution of the Imperial Family, unique documents

from the State Archives of the Sverdlovsk Region and the Documentation Centre of Social Organizations of the Sverdlovsk Region, on the activities of the Provisional Government of the Urals, and the miraculously preserved things of the officers of the White Army.



Left - a poster telling about the killings of the Imperial Family. Middle - building parts from the Ipatiev house. Right - A local bolshevik A.I.Paramonov in 1960 showing in Porosenov Log where the Imperial Family was buried - It was not a secret for the locals!

After a tour of the exhibition, Ludmila and Paul Kulikovskiy met with the director of the museum Natalia K. Vetrova in her office. There they presented impressions of the exhibition and ideas for future cooperation, including the idea of the museum "Ural and the Romanovs" as a branch of the Sverdlovsk Regional Museum.

The present permanent "Romanov" exposition is small and they have plenty of other important objects that should be on display, in addition to the practical issue of the poor access to the exhibition, which is on 6th floor of the Museum with no lift going there.

Press conference

In the restaurant "Troekurov" - which reminds of "Cafe Pushkin" in Moscow - representatives of the Yekaterinburg media were invited for a press-conference with Paul Kulikovsky, Nikolai Neuimin from the Sverdlovsk Regional Museum and Vitaly Shitov from the Historical Community City of Yekaterinburg.

Paul Kulikovsky made an introduction about his family history, and then gave the words to the Neuimin and Shitov. After their statements about the discoveries at Porosenkov Log, it was time for questions.

In the following there are some of the media reports.



Representatives of the Romanov family hope for the repose of the remains of the Emperor's children in July 2018

Yekaterinburg, June 28. / TASS /. Representatives of the Romanov family are hoping that repose of the remains of Emperor Nicholas' II children - Tsarevich Alexei and Grand Duchess Maria - will be held in July 2018, the 100th anniversary of the Royal Family memory. Told on Wednesday at a press conference the great-great-grandson of Emperor Alexander III, Paul Kulikovsky.

"The members of the Romanov family are praying and waiting for the results (of the investigation into the execution of the last Russian Emperor Nicholas II and his family- Tass.) will be announced at the end of this year. We hope and expect that the Church will say that the so-called "Yekaterinburg "remains is the true remains of the Royal Martyrs and their faithful servants" - he said.

The representative of the Romanov also expressed hope that "finally, after the announcement, the remains of the children (Tsarevich Alexei and Grand Duchess Maria - Tass.) will be reunited and shall rest with their parents in the Peter and Paul Cathedral in St. Petersburg."

However, he noted that the most important thing for the descendants of the Romanov family is that the repose will be "with the participation of the church, according to tradition."

"Porosenkov Log should be a reserve": the great-great-grandson of Alexander III

June 28. 66.ru - Paul Kulikovsky is a great-great-grandson of Emperor Alexander III and Empress Maria Feodorovna. According to him, he was the first of the descendants of the Romanovs, who came to live in Russia. The other members of the Imperial Family are scattered around the world, but they keep in touch, organize charity events and are going to come to St. Petersburg to the ceremony of the burial of the remains of Tsarevich Alexei and Grand Duchess Maria when it happens. It will happen only if the Russian Orthodox Church recognizes the remains. When this happens - it is unknown, but the descendants of the Romanovs hope that the examination results will be announced in the autumn of 2017.

- My family has lived in Denmark for a long time, and then went to Canada, where I was born. As an infant, I was taken to Denmark, where I studied and worked, and in 2008 I came to live and work in Russia. So my way of life follows the path of the Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna, but in reverse order.

Since 2008 I travel a lot for Russia. I visited the places connected with the Romanov family including: Tobolsk, Tyumen, Alapaevsk, Verkhoturys, Perm, and Novosibirsk. In Yekaterinburg it was not easy to come, as this place was tragically associated with my family. Last year, we came here on a pilgrimage, and it facilitated the first visit. We were at Ganina Yama, but we did not have time to visit Porosenkov Log, so it became clear that we have to come back.

A huge infrastructure is created at Ganina Yama, and from what I hear, the road leading to the monastery will be expanded. The situation there causes no concerns, unlike at Porosenkov Log. We have already met with officials and representatives of the church, and talked about what should be there.

I would like to see Porosenkov Log remains as a Romanov memorial, so that this place is not turned into a Ganina Yama №2. I do not see the Porosenkov Log as another museum. This place should be preserved as a nature reserve, so that people can come there, to think, to reflect on what happened there. The main thing that there is silence, as the penitential feelings can arise only in the right atmosphere. It is necessary that this atmosphere is being preserved, and the memory is not erased.

If we talk about the remains found in Porosenkov Log, the Romanov Family Association (it includes most of the living descendants) already in late 90's has recognized that this is true remains of the Imperial Family and their faithful servants.

When in 2007 the remains of Tsarevich Alexei and Grand Duchess Maria Nicholaevna were found, it turned into a big debate. Many genetic, historical, anthropological examinations were carried out to prove that they were the members of the Imperial Family. When the results of these examinations were announced, the family was happy - we are now 200 percent sure that these remains are true. For us, it is impossible to imagine that the remains found in Porosenkov Log belong to someone other than the Imperial Family.

In August 2015 the government announced that the children's remains will be put to rest in the Peter and Paul Cathedral. This announcement we have been waiting for during many years. Many descendants were invited to the ceremony, but it was followed by a statement from the ROC to conduct further investigation. We responded to it with some unease, but accepted it, because the remains should be buried in accordance with relevant traditions and with the participation of the Church. We are waiting for the results of the investigation, we pray that the Patriarch will announce positive results, and the ROC will come to an understanding and acceptance of what happened in 1918.

Great-great-grandson of Alexander III compared the film "Matilda" with the animation "Anastasia"

YEKATERINBURG, June 28. / TASS /. Great-great-grandson of Emperor Alexander III compared the film of Alexei Uchitel "Matilda" with the animated film "Anastasia" and said that the director made the mistake of calling the movie historical. This Kulikovsky said Wednesday at a press conference in Yekaterinburg.

"We know many movies have been made about the Romanov family, and many of them about Anastasia (daughter of Emperor Nicholas II - Tass.) I like the animation "Anastasia", it looks professional and awakens children's interest in history, but when you look it's clear this is fiction. But with "Matilda" the situation is different. The trailer has two advertising statements, one saying the "secret of the Romanovs" ... and another "historical drama" - Kulikovsky said.

He explained that for a historical film, then the "Matilda" movie has too many deviations from history. "It is claimed that this is a historical drama, but in my view, there are too many errors and fictional scenes, which is a problem. I do not like it ... I thought that we are in 2017 and that we had seen enough lies about my family, but here again there is a film with a claim to historical authenticity" - Kulikovsky said, adding that he made such conclusions after watching the 3 trailers.

"We (the representatives of the Romanov dynasty - Tass.) are used to it, because many films falsify the history of my family. The film is made, it will be shown, and then we see what will be the reaction of people. I do not think it will be a great success" - Kulikovsky added.

He was also outraged that the premiere is scheduled for the autumn. "The question arises: why the premiere of this film, which covers in detail a flirt between the Tsarevich and a ballerina, is timed to the anniversary of the October Revolution - a tragic event in Russian history ... this is totally unacceptable to me, and I think that it is for my family too", - he said.

"I do not think that the descendants of the Romanovs, who live abroad, so closely are watching the debate on the "Matilda" film, which goes on in Russia. But sooner or later they will see this film, and I think it is unlikely that they will like it", - he added.

Representatives of the Romanov family plan to visit the "Tsar days" in the Urals in July 2018

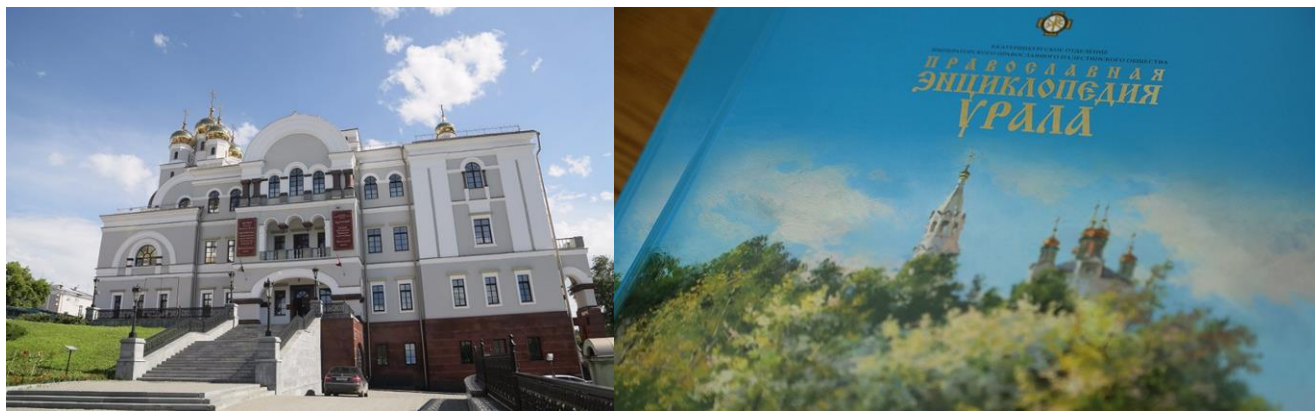
June 28. / TASS - Representatives of the Romanov Family Association, including the great-great-grandson of Emperor Alexander III Paul Kulikovsky, plan to visit the Sverdlovsk Region in July 2018, to take part in the events dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the memory of Emperor Nicholas II and his family.

"Yes, we are considering this possibility - to come to Yekaterinburg in July 2018. I and some other family members have already announced that we are ready to come and I informed local authorities and representatives of the church during my visit to Yekaterinburg." - Kulikovsky said .

As reported earlier the Sverdlovsk region has begun preparations for events to mark the 100th anniversary of the memory of Emperor Nicholas II and his family in July 2018, their plans includes a visit by the Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia Kirill. In the Urals, there are plans to hold a public forum, to establish a memorial sign and Sverdlovsk region also will be a part of the all-Russian interregional pilgrimage route "In Memory of the Imperial family."

The presentation of "Orthodox Encyclopedia of the Urals"

July 28, the Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society presented the book publication "Orthodox Encyclopaedia of the Urals" in the "Patriarchal Farmstead" in Yekaterinburg. the encyclopaedia tells about the cathedral, churches and monasteries in Ural, and is made by the ethnographer Nikolai Rundquist. He collected information on more than two hundred objects, each of which has its own unique history.



Sergey Stepashin, Chairman of the Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society; Eugene Kuyvashev, Acting Governor of the Sverdlovsk region; Metropolitan Kirill of Yekaterinburg and Verkhoturye; Anna V. Gromova; Luidmila Babuskina participated in the presentation. Among the guests were Ludmila and Paul Kulikovsky.



After the presentation of the book, Metropolitan Kirill of Yekaterinburg and Verkhoturye invited Ludmila and Paul Kulikovsky to a meeting. Attending it were also Bishop Eugeny of Sredneuralsky.

A new monument in Alapaevsk

June 29, 2017, Metropolitan Kirill celebrated the Divine Liturgy at the monastery in the name of the Church of the New Martyrs and Confessors Russian near the city Alapaevsk in Kamenka diocese. Ludmila and Paul Kulikovsky attended the service.



After the Liturgy the Chairman of the Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society, Sergey Stepashin, the deputy of the State Duma of Russia, Pavel Krashennnikov, head of the region Evgeny Kuyvashev, Metropolitan Kirill, Bishop Mephodius, Bishop Eugeny, Ludmila and Paul Kulikovsky all went to the mine where on July 18th were thrown alive Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna, Grand Duke Sergei Mikhailovich, Prince of imperial blood John Konstantinovich, Prince of imperial blood Konstantin Konstantinovich (Jr.), Prince of imperial blood Igor Konstantinovich, Prince Vladimir Pavlovich Paley (son of Grand Duke Paul Alexandrovich), Feodor Semenovich (M.) Remez, assistant of Grand Duke Sergei Mikhailovich, sister of Martha and Mary Monastery Varvara (Yakovlev) - the Alapaevsk Martyrs.

A moment in silence was held after a prayer at the mine.



Moment of silence: Bishop Eugeny, Metropolitan Kirill, Bishop Mephodius, Evgeny Kuyvashev, Paul Kulikovsky, Sergey Stepashin and Ludmila Kulikovskaya

Then everybody went to the city Alapaevsk, for the opening of the monument to Saint Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna.

In the Cathedral square next to the Holy Trinity Cathedral the monument to Saint Grand the Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna was covered in white cloth and the square itself filled with people.



The monument is made by Ural sculptor Alexander Kokoteev and more than 7 meters high, shows a full figure image of Saint Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna holding a cross and a lily flower as a symbol of purity and faith in God.

Sergey Stepashin, Chairman of the Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society said - "Today we pay tribute to Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna, which on July 18, 1918 here in Alapaevsk ascended to her Calvary. At the time, she led the Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society, became a nun, and all that she had, she gave for the construction of schools and monasteries. She was very fond of Russian land and therefore, despite the fact she had the opportunity during the revolution to leave the country, she chose to stay here. 2018 should be the year in memory of the innocent victims, murdered, like here, in the Urals. Now we are preparing a program, and it must be simple, unobtrusive, quiet."

"Today is truly a landmark event in the history of the Urals and Alapaevsk. We can not change history, we can not change the tragic events that took place almost 100 years ago, but we can store it in our memory as a lesson to ensure that it is not repeated ever" - said head of the region Evgeny Kuyvashev.



Metropolitan Kirill of Yekaterinburg and Verkhoturye: "We are all here came to this sacred place to pay homage to the person who in fact is a symbol of the Russian land, a symbol of a real Russian woman. She was not Russian by birth, but she was absolutely Russian in spirit."

Anna Gromova, Chairman of the Supervisory Board Elisabeth Sergius educational society: "We know that St. Grand Duchess Elisabeth made 36 pilgrimages to holy places in Russia, to Valaam, Karelia, and the Urals. This is an interesting topic, and it has not yet been studied." She then noted that only with the full support of the regional government and the residents themselves can you succeed in implementing such a serious and important project to perpetuate the memory of Elisabeth Feodorovna."

Alexander Kokoteev, sculptor: "She went to a higher light when her husband died, and the rest of her life, the last 12 years she dedicated herself to help people in need: the disadvantaged, the poor, orphans, children, the wounded soldiers."



Then finally the ribbons on the white cloth were pulled, and to a loud fanfare the cloth went down unveiling the tall figure of the Grand Duchess.

Metropolitan Kirill then consecrated the statue. Sergey Stepashin, Chairman of the Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society, awarded those involved in the creation of the monument, and then the guests and city residents laid flowers at the monument.





Museum in the Field school

The guests visited the Field school in the city, where Sergey Stepashin presented a portrait of the Grand Duchess to the future museum in honour of Elizabeth Feodorovna. The museum will be located in the Field School as a branch of the Sverdlovsk regional museum. It will include a thematic exhibition and a memorial area, an Information and Library block, a lecture hall and a cinema.



Video - 1) <http://www.ntv.ru/novosti/1829159/>

2) <https://otr-online.ru/news/v-sverdlovskoi-oblasti-85244.html>

3) <http://www.obltv.ru/news/culture/v-alapaevske-ustanovyat-pamyatnik-velikoy-knyagine-elizavete-romanovoy-/>

Later in the day, several of the guests had the same idea, to re-visit the monument and to have a closer look in peace and quite.





The Tsarevich Alexei and Grand Duchess Maria burial-case continues

ROC recognizes the authenticity of the remains of the Imperial Family only if there is strong evidence

Russian Orthodox Church (ROC) will recognize the authenticity of the remains of Emperor Nicholas II and his family only if all examinations will be open and honest. This opinion was expressed by the head of the Synodal Department for External Church Relations, Metropolitan Volokolamskiy Ilarion (Alpheus) in a program aired by "Church and Peace" on TV channel "Russia-24".

"At the right moment, when they published the results of all examinations, the church will have to restate its position in relation to the authenticity of the Ekaterinburg remains. I cannot exclude that the Church recognizes these remains true, but it will happen only in the case if they found compelling proof of their authenticity, if the examination will be open and honest," - he said.

Video - <http://www.vesti.ru/doc.html?id=2907756>

The Russian Orthodox Church have started to publish investigation material

On the web site "Orthodoxy" have been published several articles under the headline; The Church Commission for the Study of the "Ekaterinburg Remains". July 3rd it began publication of interviews of experts, as well as articles prepared by experts and expert groups. They will provide answers to questions posed during the new investigation in 2015-2017.

Until now have been published the following:

July 3, "Questions posed to the investigation and expert groups by the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation, experts and representatives of the Orthodox community".

July 3, "Anatoly Stepanov's interview with the criminalist and forensic physician Professor Vyacheslav Leonidovich Popov."

- July 8, "Questions to questions. Concerning the comments of Yu.A. Grigoriev and AA Manovtsev".
- July 11: "Yekaterinburg remains: the answer to the remarks of Anatoly Stepanov."
- July 14, "The mystery of the Tsar's relics in the Russian emigration"
- July 22, To expose Yurovsky is easy. Or comment to the exclamation."
- July 22, My position on the "Yekaterinburg remains" remains the same."



The second publication, the interview with forensic professor V. L. Popov, formerly in opposition and now convinced it is the Imperial family's remains, let many to believe the Russian Orthodox Church is ready to accept the "Yekaterinburg remains" as those of the Holy Royal Martyrs, even if it was not said so by the church. In the following articles the opposition to the recognition of the "Yekaterinburg remains" mercilessly attacked the first article and repeated their arguments. In reality not much new information have been added. It appears it is no more than a confirmation of the previous investigation's results.

Announced the first results of the forensic examinations of the investigation into the death of the Romanov family

4 July, NTV - It was learned that the killers of Nicholas II, his wife, children and servants, tried to get rid of their bodies by using sulfuric acid. But, apparently, they did not have enough knowledge in the field of chemical sciences. Experts say: performers of the execution had with them they only had a few jars of solution, but to reach their goal would need hundreds of liters.

Experts believe: to understand that the substance is not enough participants of the firing squad have decided to disfigure the face of the deceased. Nevertheless, the skull appeared to be suitable for multislice computed tomography. On one of them there were two longitudinal recesses. And now, historians have no doubt: this is undoubtedly the skull of the Emperor. They now compare the facts and understand: it's the same injury that Nicholas II got in 1891 in Japan, where he was attacked by a police officer with a saber.

Moreover, criminologists held a special dental examination. Based on the results it turned out that another skull belongs to the wife of Nicholas II, Alexandra Feodorovna. It appears to be the first in the Russian Empire of porcelain teeth - prototypes of modern veneers.

Doctors say that at that time it was exclusive and literally a unique piece of work. Inside the tooth found gold and platinum mounting. And, judging by the fact that the crown remained in perfect condition, orthodontist of the Imperial Family was a very experienced physician.

Video - <http://www.ntv.ru/novosti/1832861/>

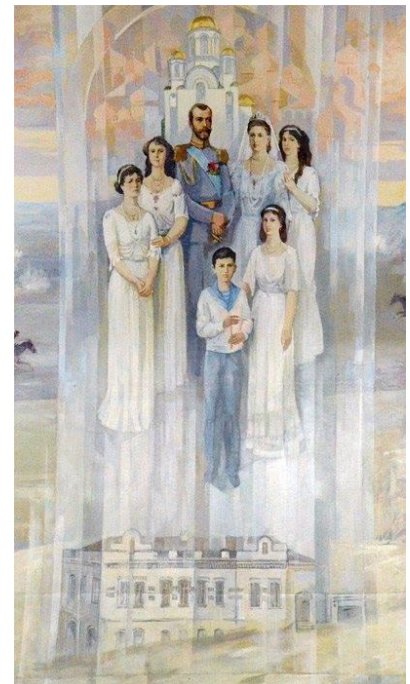
"Ekaterinburg remains": where is the truth, and where is the fiction?

Speech of the Senior Investigator-Criminalist of the Criminalistics Department of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation V.N. Solovyov at the conference "Yekaterinburg remains" on June 18, 2017.

Dear participants of the conference! I thank the organizing committee that they he gave the chance to talk. Many questions, voiced in the speeches of the participants, largely dealt with and my work. The theme of the death of the Imperial Family for the Orthodox people is very important. Invited scholars, clerics and public figures have different approaches to the tragedy. Sincere heartache participants of today's meeting suggest an idea that the truth in the matter of "Yekaterinburg remains" bound to be achieved.

Frankly, a series of speeches with scathing criticism directed at me reminded of a court, where I was the defendant. However, even scary criminals receive the word in the court and I ask you calmly and impartially to listen to me. With some interruptions, from 1991 to 2015 I as an official was investigating the events related to the death of members of the Russian Imperial House in the Urals and in Petrograd, and I think I can answer the many questions raised.

As I recall, a conference to consider such questions, was held November 16, 2015 at the Exhibition-Forum "Orthodox Russia", in the centre of Moscow, near the Kremlin. At the conference, if I remember correctly, it was stated that all the arguments and evidence refuted Solovyov investigation and proved the truth of the investigator Sokolov version. Since October 2015, I was removed from the conduct of criminal proceedings in connection with the appeal of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill, as part of the request for an independent and open investigation. Immediately I must stress that I will not reveal any mysteries of investigation since October 2015 till present day, because



they are unknown to me. I can only say that the current investigation are done by the best Russian investigators, who are attracted to the work as independent experts, including the doctor of medical sciences Vyacheslav Leonidovich Popov, known to you by his speech at the last conference. Since all conclusions made before 2015 were questioned, the current investigation started "from scratch" and investigators are trying to pay attention to all the doubts of the Orthodox community.

Since the conclusions made the investigation headed by me, concerning the fate of the bodies of members of the Emperor's family and his faithful servants is fundamentally at odds with the findings of Kolchak investigator Sokolov, I should explain the reasons for these differences. First of all, I would like to express my opinion about the people, who expressed and spread out in the world the belief that the Imperial family were dismembering and burned. These people were the investigator Nikolay Alexeevich Sokolov, General Mihail Konstantinovich Diterichs and correspondent of the newspaper "The Times" Robert Wilton. They were perfectly honest, loyal to monarchist idea, who have made everything possible to clarify the circumstances of the death of the Imperial Family, but came to the wrong conclusions.

For us today, the most important question is whether the investigator Sokolov found hacked human bones and fat mass or these biological objects did not belong to man. Let me remind you, in the area of the Four Brothers mine near the mine no.7 - during inspections in 1918 and 1919 were found severed finger and upper dentures of adult, dog corpse, some "greasy masses", fragments chopped and burnt bones, jewellery, many pieces of clothing, footwear and personal items belonging to the Imperial Family and the people of the suite. Found along with other investigative materials gave Sokolov grounds for the assertion that the body after the shooting was brought to the area Ganina Yama. This finding of the Kolchak investigation is fully consistent with the findings of modern investigation. At the same time the Sokolov investigation did not have any data about what actually was done in the area of the mine, from 17 to 19 July 1918. I quote from the book of General M.K. Diterichs, it is long, but provides a good explanation to many facts. Diterichs wrote: "We could not count on the fact by questioning witnesses we will be able to get closer to the truth, the number of participants was too small, and grab any of them - the chance is small. According to expectations, participants were silent; they all went to Soviet Russia, and to reach them for questioning could be done only by means of secret agents. In general, this part of the investigation can only give hints.

If we analyze the investigative materials of Sokolov, it turns out that from the testimony of witnesses and participants in the events he could not learn anything about what was happening in the neighborhood of Ganina Yama, from 17 to 19 July 1918. Maybe Sokolov determined the origin of the bone fragments and "greasy" soil near Ganina Yama through expert studies? The answer is - by any expert the research was never done. The only "expert" was the sanitary doctor Belogradsky who said that the fragments belong to large mammals, possible to a man. Thus Belogradsky honestly confessed that he is not a specialist and the right conclusion on the bones in his opinion, only a professor of comparative anatomy could make. Definitive conclusions on the "chopping and burning of" human remains cannot be done based on the data obtained by N.A. Sokolov. The same can be said regarding the assumptions of Kolchak investigation about cutting off heads. You could find nothing except unconfirmed rumours in investigation materials, or in the memories of participants in the events. The same applies to the use of sulfuric acid. Sokolov didn't find any traces of sulfuric acid used in Ganina Yama except one wooden tablet possibly bathed in acid. At the same time, multiple fragments of Japanese ceramics from the sulfuric acid and clear signs of its impact on the bodies were detected in Porosonkov Log.

Sokolov could not finish the examination of the scene, as the Red Army approached. He could not even wash until the end sludge extracted from the mine number 7. Sokolov realized the incompleteness of the investigation action and recorded in the protocol of scene inspection: "To determine possible location of the bodies of August Family during external examination of the area, or parts of bodies if bodies were dismembered and destroyed, it is not possible now. There are too many such places in the area and the proper solution of this task requires the systematic work on the old pits, mines and other places, inspiring suspicion in this regard."

What Nikolay Alexeevich Sokolov did not have time to do, was done today. In 1998-2000 expedition of A.N. Avdonin involving chief archaeologist of Moscow Kremlin, T.D. Panov made archaeological excavations in the area of Ganina Yama. In September 1998, around the shaft number 7 participant of the expedition, a highly qualified expert, forensic expert of the highest category Sergey Alexeevich Nikitin made major discovery. He found in an overgrown hill, away from the clay courts, a bronze ring of a female corset. I recall that Sergey Alexeevich Nikitin - as the first person identified the Emperor in 1991. Let us return to Ganina Yama. It turned out that the mound found by Nikitin, this is sludge from the shaft number 7, which investigator Sokolov did not wash out in 1919 due to the lack of time. Sergey Alexeevich Nikitin is now in this room. A variety of subjects related to the death of the Imperial Family was found during excavations at Ganina Yama. These are bullets, cartridges, emerald, pieces of corsets, and most importantly, more than 60 chopped and burnt bone fragments, look very reminiscent to the ones found by Sokolov. Alas, these bones have never belonged to man. As experts established, these are bones of goat, cow and poultry, most likely chicken. The most important piece of evidence was a bullet found at the same time at Ganina Yama. According to experts, it was released from the same particular instance of Browning pistol of 1900 sample that the bullet found in the burial of nine people, opened in 1991 near the old Koptyakovskaya road at the crossing number 184. Let me remind you that the place, where Aleksander Nikolaevich Avdonin and Hely Trofimovich Ryabov found burial of nine people, was described and photographed by Sokolov. It is a pity that he did not make any excavations at this point.

If I am not mistaken, the investigator Sokolov had no data to draw conclusions about an accessory of bone fragments and fat mass to man, I hope that gentlemen Multatuli and Bolotin who deeply studied this problem, prompt me historical sources missed by the investigation.

I do not want to touch reasons of Peter Valentinovich Multatuli on the so-called "ritual" murder. All these arguments are not based on the materials of Sokolov's investigation and are the fruit of the imagination, as well as any special actions to "prolonged dying" victims in the basement of the Ipatiev house, as well as some artfully organized dramatization. Please tell me, if the "dark forces" were so strong in the Urals, why they did not take any part in the murder of Grand Duke Mikhail Alexandrovich or Alapayevsk martyrs? If you follow Multatuli, logic why not suggest that the near Ganina Yama Sokolov found traces of a kind of "black mass", which consists in the ritual slaughter and burning of the goat, the calf and the rooster? Maybe Yurovsky specifically left the bones in place, for naive orthodox people like Multatuli and Bolotin to worship them like holy relics?

Another argument of opponents - no trace of a cut in the skull number 4, which allegedly should have been left after injury received by Tsarevich Nicholas Alexandrovich in the Japanese city Otsy in 1891. Original documents of life-medics provided first aid after the injury to the future Emperor, Tsarevich' headdress and his shirt are preserved. Sergey Alexeevich Nikitin used this shirt and restored the whole course of events and the severity of injuries. If you are interested, he will tell in detail about the examination.

One of the main arguments used against the finding of the remains of the Imperial Family, is the assertion that the investigation used forged documents. Doctor of Historical Sciences Y.A.Buranov studying the so-called "Yurovsky note," suddenly came to the conclusion that it was faked somewhere in the late 1920s. Tell me, please, on what basis? Where are the arguments? It does not exist. I do not know who of the high party and government leaders in the Kremlin around 1920 needed unreliable data on the execution of the Imperial Family. Who at that moment knew better everything related to the last days of the Tsar? Soviet historians' leader Mikhail Nikolayevich Pokrovsky, reviewed papers brought from Yekaterinburg immediately after the execution of the Imperial Family. Quite naturally, Pokrovsky, an educated man, asked Yurovsky and recorded his story. Handwritten copy of Yurovsky story was



reprinted without change, and then Yurovsky read it and made amendments. After that the document put to the folder that used to be in the Y.M. Sverdlov office, and then, after his death passed to his successor. To the beginning of the 1990s "Yurovsky's note" was never published and never been used, being classified as a secret document. Its handwriting examination was conducted which confirmed that the typewritten version has the inclusion of handwriting performed by Yurovsky and Pokrovsky. Handwritten corrections made by Yurovsky, are in the typewritten text of his speech in front of the old Bolsheviks in the Urals in 1934. Yurovsky signature found on the text of his memoirs in 1921, kept in the Presidential Archive. Examination confirmed his authorship. If the "Yurovsky's note" was forged by Academician Pokrovsky after books of Wilton, Diterichs and Sokolova were published, but at least there was no confusion in the names and surnames of the victims. The data presented in the "Yurovsky note" confirmed not only by his later memoirs, but Medvedev-Kudrin's and Rodzinsky's memories, as well as those who after the events of 1918 no longer met Yurovsky, such as G.I. Sukhorukov. Perhaps the best proof of the data presented by Yurovsky - is the discovery of the remains of Tsarevich Alexei Nicholaevich and Grand Duchess Maria Nikolaevna. Even when you interrogated bona fide witnesses immediately after the crime, they often have serious contradictions associated with the perception of features. It is not surprising that there are such contradictions of participants in the 1918 events. In addition, none of the killers of the Imperial Family did not consider himself a criminal, but rather, a hero and "pulling the blanket over himself." All participants in the events related to the manipulation of corpses unanimously say that after the execution the bodies were taken to the area of the Four Brothers mine and thrown into the pit number 7. Clothing of killed people was burned here. On the night of 18-19 of July 19, 1918 the bodies were taken out of the mine environs, and after the car with the dead bodies stuck in the swampy stretch of road near the railway crossing number 184 two bodies - the Tsarevich and one of the women was burned, while the remaining nine bodies were buried in the middle of the road, disguised grave by rotten sleepers. Place indicated by the participants of the events - the Bolsheviks, including Peter Ermakov, fully supported by the testimony of witnesses of "Kolchak" investigation and inspection "of the bridge sleepers", conducted by investigator Sokolov in 1919. Lack of time does not give me the opportunity to elaborate on the forensic, anthropological and genetic studies, so I will mention only the most important points.

Since 1991, studies are constructed in such a way. The groups of experts were set up, whose work was duplicated. As usually a few groups working completely independently on the same theme. These were forensic doctors, anthropologists, dentists, by gunshot trauma specialists and others. At the same time leading experts, historians and archivists were involved in the work. Chief forensic expert of Ministry of Health of the USSR, corresponding member of the Academy of Medical Sciences of the USSR A.P. Gromov, chief forensic experts of Russia V.O. Plaksin, V.V. Tomilin, Y.I. Pigolkin, V.V. Kolkutin and A.V. Kovalev participated in expert studies. Conclusions of expert studies were made only after the elimination of all contradictions. During the examination, S.A. Nikitin conducted sculptural shape recovery of the victims. The question of possible division of heads was specifically studied. Experts have come to a definitive conclusion that the cervical vertebrae of members of the Imperial Family have been preserved, and there was no sign of division (with the exception due to natural causes of Tsarevich Alexei and Grand Duchess Maria remains). Gunshot wounds were consistent with the circumstances of the shooting of the Imperial Family. Doctor of Medical Sciences A.V. Kovalev made situational expertise. The remains were exposed to massive influence of sulfuric acid, as evidenced by the damage to them, the increased acidity of the soil. Together with the remains of both the first and second burial fragments of Japanese vessels from the sulfuric acid were found. Anthropological studies have confirmed that the body found in the burial could belong to members of the Imperial Family and the people of the suite. Remains of cook Ivan Mikhailovich Kharitonov obtained the greatest damage due to exposure to sulfuric acid. His body was at the bottom of the grave where the sulfuric acid went and accumulated.

In the early 1990s, forensic genetics was in its infancy. There was not extensive experience of work with "ancient" DNA, but it was impossible not to take advantage of these promising research method. The winner of the State Prize Pavel Leonidovich Ivanov went to the best world laboratory. Samples were taken from blood relatives of Nicholas II and Empress Alexandra Feodorovna. Even the husband of Queen Elizabeth II Prince Philip handed over to the experts his

blood samples. The examination was conducted in the laboratory of the British Home Office by the famous expert Peter Gill. P.L.Ivanov delivered him samples of bone tissue of nine people.

Oddly enough, public was bothered mostly by the fact that Pavel Leonidovich Ivanov brought bone fragments of the members of the Imperial Family in a sports bag to expert studies in the UK. Unfortunately, in 1992, no one has given the armadillo, and a division of riot police to escort the remains of the investigation. In accordance with the law the same fragments of bone were removed from the Yekaterinburg morgue with the participation of witnesses, packaged, sealed, equipped with signatures of witnesses and experts and were not opened before the study. Their genetic characteristics were not changed for travel time.

At that time the DNA study could be held only in the female line - on mitochondrial DNA. The result was - with a probability of 99.9% - Romanov. Critics considered the probability is too small, in addition, the Emperor Nicholas II had a rare genetic mutation. The investigation turned first to Tikhon Kulikovsky-Romanov - the closest relatives of the Emperor, the son of his sister Olga. Tikhon Kulikovsky-Romanov, and later his widow Olga Nikolaevna Romanova-Kulikovskaya, categorically refused to cooperate with the investigation. It was necessary to open the tomb of the Emperor's brother - Grand Duke George Alexandrovich. DNA of the Emperor and his brother, coincided, including genetic mutation. Then Olga Nikolaevna Romanova-Kulikovsky intervened. She stated categorically that a genetic examination of her husband's blood made on her order did not coincide completely with the results of the investigation. It was a blatant lie, but Olga Nikolaevna lied to the President, the Government, Patriarch Alexy II and Kirill, lied not by mistake, but quite deliberately. I understand that this is a serious accusation. It is easy to prove my words - to make public the conclusions of the findings made in 1994-95 by the order of Kulikovsky-Romanova by geneticists E.I. Rogaev and Tatsuo Nagai. Olga is not doing it only because she did not want to confess she has been lying. Olga Nikolaevna statement made in 1995 to the Government Commission, had serious consequences and disrupted the burial of the remains scheduled for 1996. Maybe Leonid Evgenevich Bolotin, who accompanied Kulikovsky-Romanova to the White House, will explain us this situation?



In 2007, in Yekaterinburg the remains of Tsarevich Alexei Nikolaevich and Grand Duchess Maria Nikolaevna were found. Taking into account that genetics science have qualitatively changed by this time, it was decided to study the results, not only the remains of Alexei Nikolaevich and Maria Nikolaevna, but also of the nine people, found in 1991. A study conducted by a team of geneticists of DNA Identification Laboratory's of the US armed forces chief Dr. Michael Cobble, laureate of the State Prize of the Russian Federation E.I. Rogaev and geneticists of Forensic Medical Bureau of Sverdlovsk region led by T.N. Tsitovich.

At this time, we applied the latest research methods and the probability of belonging remains to the Imperial Family was not 99.99%, but 99 with 27 nines after the decimal point.

Results of examinations are published in major scientific journals of the world. Definitive conclusions of geneticists have been recognized by all the leading scientists of the world, including the pioneer of genetic identification Watson James Dew - the first winner of 1962 Nobel Prize in the field of genetics and other unquestioned authority - American biochemist, winner of 1968 Nobel Prize Marshall Warren Nirenberg.

It seems it is possible to put an end, but here's the problem - Peter Valentinovich Multatuli does not believe in genetics.

I will try to clarify some of the legends, replicated by not quite competent people. The genetic research method, including the field of jurisprudence, is established worldwide. The possibility of studying the DNA depends on its preservation. There are cases when an hour later after the death of a man is not possible to set his genotype, and in some cases DNA is preserved for hundreds of thousands of years. For example, researchers reconstructed the complete genotype of mammoth and proved that Neanderthals' DNA are useful for identifying. The fact that some maniac, says he does not believe in DNA research, I think, will not save him from a long imprisonment, and even from the electric chair.

More often they are talking about the possibility of substitution. Say, Soloviev took some bone and gave it to the experts as the remains of the imperial Family. Whose bones can be used as a substitute? In the first period of research maternal line was used - the line of children of Nicholas' II mother, Empress Maria Feodorovna, that is the Emperor's brothers. Exclude Michael, his remains have not yet been found. Another brother of the Emperor Alexander Alexandrovich, died in infancy. There was only Grand Duke George Alexandrovich. There is not any else "suitable" burial in Russia. The bones of other Romanovs from the Novospassky Monastery and the Peter and Paul Cathedral, including the Emperor Alexander III did not fit, because there was no "Danish" genes in them. We did not have the possibility to perform an examination of the remains of Maria Feodorovna and Elizabeth Feodorovna. Research of the male line began in the criminal case only in 2007, when to "replace" the results of previous studies published around the world. It was not possible. Peter Multatuli complains that in 1990s, studies of his ancestor, cook Kharitonov were not made. We could not do it then, but now we have learned. Who prevents Peter Valentinovich to order independent genetic research and to prove to everyone how irresponsible he was to the remains of his ancestor, who is recognized as a Saint by the Russian Orthodox Church abroad.

Legends haunting that the opening of the tomb of George Alexandrovich was not coordinated with Patriarch Alexy II and Metropolitan of St. Petersburg and Ladoga John. Wrong. I personally met with them. His Holiness Patriarch gave authority to archaeologist Sergey A. Belyaev and sent him to the exhumation, and Metropolitan John expressed his agreement in a letter sent to the prosecutor of St. Petersburg.

For a long time public's concern was a statement of mathematician Leo Zhivotovsky that a finger study, allegedly belonging to the Empress's sister Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna showed complete mismatch of genetic characteristics and the remains of the Empress Alexandra Feodorovna. The answer is simple. DNA of the Empress and her daughters fully consistent with the DNA of descendants of Queen Victoria, and DNA of finger, explored by Zhivotovsky and Peter Gill does not fully comply. It was not the right finger!

Another argument of opponents. Japanese geneticist Tatsuo Nagai said that he investigated the biological preparations of Nicholas II and his brother George and the results did not match with the investigation data. It remains to ask the unfortunate genetics two questions. Firstly, from where came the biological samples of the Emperor and his brother, and secondly, with the DNA, supposedly isolated from remains of George Alexandrovich, people simply can not exist in this world. There are no people of this genotype! And, third, if the samples are true, why they were not returned to Russia? I must also disprove the legend that Tatsuo Nagai examined blood on the towel, which was tied to the head of the Tsarevich in 1891. He did not investigate!

Member of the Government Commission church archaeologist Sergey A. Belyaev many times publicly stated that in various archives there is a lot of material of the Life of physicians, where the anthropological data of members of the Royal Family are described in detail. When you ask him to bring at least one document, in response - some obscure excuses. We checked named file - there is no such data in the documents! The same church archaeologist in the report to His Holiness Patriarch Alexy II pointed out that there are memories of a well-informed chairman of the Yekaterinburg Regional Council A.I Paramonov that a certain merchant family of Ural is buried instead of the Imperial Family in Porosonkov Log. Conscious lie. No such memories!

In 2007, in Yekaterinburg found the remains of Tsarevicha Alexei Nikolaevich and Grand Duchess Maria Nikolaevna. Given that science genetics by this time has qualitatively changed, it was decided to study the decision is not only the remains of Alexei Nikolaevich and Maria Nikolaevna, but nine people, found in 1991. A study conducted by a team of geneticists chief DNA Identification Laboratory of the US armed forces Dr. Michael Cobble, laureate of the State Prize of the Russian Federation E.I. Rogaev and geneticists Forensic Medical Bureau of Sverdlovsk region led by T.N. Tsitovich.

Following the discovery of the remains of Tsarevich Alexei and Grand Duchess Maria a lie was widely replicated that bullets were from a TT pistol, produced from the 30s of the 20th century, and the coins of same time were discovered in their burial. TT pistol bullets are of 7.62 mm calibre and bullets found in the burial – of calibre 9 mm and they are released from the gun system Browning of 1903 sample. With all your desire you cannot put such bullets to cartridge of TT pistol even by hammer. As for coins, the coins were actually found, but in entirely different cultural layers and at a considerable distance from the burial. Again, a conscious lie!

Opponents argue constantly that the historical part of the events are not worked out. February 8, 1994 the Government Commission set up an expert group of historians and archivists headed by the famous historian Academician I.D. Koval'chenko. The group included: Chief State Archivist - Head of the State Archival Service of Russia, Doctor of Historical Sciences, R.G. Pihoya, deputy head of the State Archival Service of Doctor of Historical Sciences, R.G. Kozlov, director of the State Archive of the Russian Federation, Doctor of Historical Sciences S.V. Mironenko, director of Russian President's Archives A.V. Korotkov, deputy chief of the Office of Registration and Archive of the Federal Counterintelligence Service V.K. Vinogradov, Doctor of Historical Sciences Yu.A. Buranov, leading archivist of the State Archive of the Russian Federation, PhD (history) V.M. Khrustalev, doctor of historical sciences, L.A. Lykova, playwright E.S. Radzinsky. Then historian Academician V.V. Alekseev was in the Government Commission. All Russian state and departmental archives were examined. Great job with the use of capacity of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs was conducted abroad. Perhaps historians present here call me what the important documents relating to the killing of the Imperial Family have been discovered and put into scientific circulation after 1998, i.e. after the end of the work of historians as part of the investigation? Let me remind you that personally I have found and handed over to archivists 4 volumes of Sokolov' investigation file, including so-called "Paris" volume. I participated in returning to Russia the original documents of Sokolov, from the UK, and more than 50 original negatives from the same investigation file.

It is always without question that all materials received by the preliminary investigation should be submitted to the court for consideration in an open trial. Now there is an investigation. If I once did something wrong, please contact the Investigative Committee and the Prosecutor's Office. They will give you a motivated answer, based on the law.

A few words about the work of the Government Commission of Inquiry into the death and burial of the remains of Emperor Nicholas II and his family. Somehow, all the activities of the Commission linked only with the name of only the first deputy chairman of the Government Boris Yefimovich Nemtsov. Meanwhile, prior to Nemtsov the Commission was consistently headed by Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers - the Government of the Russian Federation Y.F. Yarov, V.N. Ignatenko and O.N. Sysuev. Conclusions of the investigation on the identification of the Imperial Family, promulgated in 1995, fully coincide with the findings, announced in 1998. Another thing is that during the last year of the commission's work, largely thanks to the care and assistance of Viktor Nikolaevich Aksyuchits, Boris Nemtsov's advisor, commission activity intensified considerably. The question of burial was decided not by Nemtsov and not by the Government Commission, but unanimously by the Council of Ministers of the Russian Federation; February 27, 1998 Metropolitan Krutitsy and Kolomna, Juvenal spoke at the Commission meeting, and future Patriarch Kirill was in presence.

I was surprised by the statement that I allegedly exerted pressure on the church hierarchs of the Russian Orthodox Church and the Orthodox community for the early recognition of the "Yekaterinburg remains" as Imperial. Since 1990 I have been working in the same, not leadership positions and,

frankly, never, was encouraged in any form for the conduct of "Tsar's case." I do not have possibilities and authority to put pressure on the "serious" people

You can often hear about a certain mystery that accompanied the investigation of the circumstances of the Imperial Family from 1991 to 2015. There was no any mystery. During the work of the Government Commission representatives of the public and the Russian Orthodox Church were constantly receiving the necessary investigative materials. In 2007-2008, I regularly informed about the investigation to Metropolitan Juvenal. The final documents of the investigation in its entirety, many years ago I presented Patriarch Kirill. Investigation tactics could be different and I am not authorized to comment on the current investigation. However, absolutely sure, that the Orthodox people will be fully informed about its results after the end of the investigation.

I emphasize again that, in this case I am not an official representative of the Investigative Committee of Russia and came to the conference to hear the views of scientists on the topic of my interest. I am happy to answer all of your most difficult questions.

Before I answer them, I want to clarify one issue. In November 2015 an appeal to the President of Russia V.V. Putin and Patriarch Kirill was published; where Alexei Averyanov, archpriest and the abbot of the first Russian church in honour of the Holy Royal Martyrs proudly cried: "Anathema to investigator Vladimir Solovyov!" Taking this opportunity, I would like to clarify whether it was true that Alexei Averyanov is not a priest of the Russian Orthodox Church of the Moscow Patriarchate? I want to complain to church authorities about the Archpriest Alexei Averyanov, and I would like to know if he is an orthodox, and to what confession belongs the dear father now? Whether he had the authority of his church leadership to put anathema on me?

The ROC are ready to engage in dialogue on the restoration of monarchy in Russia

July 1, RIA Novosti - Monarchical model of political system has many supporters among the Orthodox believers and the Russian Orthodox Church can participate in the discussion of the restoration of the monarchy in the country, when it will begin, said on Saturday the head of the Department for External Church Relations (DECR) of the Moscow Patriarchate Metropolitan Volokolamsky Hilarion.

"Inside of the Church there are people, there are groups of people who advocate the restoration of the monarchy, and I think that if our society is ever ripe for discussion of this issue, the Church will take an active part this discussion", - said Metropolitan Hilarion during the program "Church and peace" on TV channel "Russia 24" , answering the question of the moderator, to the statement of the Georgian Patriarch Ilia II about the possibility of the restoration of monarchy in Georgia.

The head of the DECR noted that in this case, expresses his personal opinion, and recalled that the monarchical form of government, "the man anointed to the kingdom by priests" and "does not get a mandate from the voters to the board at any particular time, but receives a sanction from God through the Church to his rule, "which" is a life as long as a life if he does not hand over power to his heir." "This, of course, is the form of government, which is itself in the history is positively established, and which has many advantages compared to any elective forms of government", - said Metropolitan Hilarion.

He reminded that the Church is neutral with respect to any chosen people of government forms. "The Church refers to any government loyally as long as the power does not begin to call for actions that are contrary to Christian morality," - said the hierarch.



Sergey House in Jerusalem was opened after a long restoration

After more than a hundred years the old Sergey House in Jerusalem has reopened its doors to pilgrims. This historic building was built in the late XIX century at the expense of the Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich and the Russian Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society.

"Amazing, beautiful place, a historic place where back in the XIX century, pilgrims come from Russia to the Holy Land, where they could relax, freshen up and go to holy places", - said the head of Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society, former Prime Minister of Russia Sergei Stepashin.



"It is ready for the first pilgrims. There will be a museum, a wonderful library, archive, which has been preserved since the XIX century, Sunday school place where you can be just in the evening, to come and relax in this wonderful oasis in the centre of Jerusalem" - he promised, cutting symbolic red ribbon at the front of the east entrance to the complex.

Sergey House was built in 1886-1889 years by the Jerusalem architect Georgiya Frangia the means of IOPS and Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich. In contrast to many other objects of Russian property in the Holy Land, the USSR did not get it after the formation of Israel, and being under the control of the guardianship, escaped the sell-off in the time of Nikita Khrushchev - the infamous "orange deal" of 1964, when the Soviet Union traded in Israel on citrus and textiles for more than two dozen pre-revolutionary buildings and land holdings.



The Russian Compound property was returned back to Russia in December 2008. Directly involved in the issue of restitution took Russian President Vladimir Putin, who visited the building, badly damaged by time and the fire, and asked the Israeli authorities to return it. Two more years were spent on the resettlement of many tenants, and then began repairs and restoration, to which Russia allocated \$ 10 million.

The IOPS say that the choice of the date for the opening was not accidental. "On this day the Russian Orthodox Church commemorates St.

Sergius of Radonezh. The heavenly patron of Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich, the first chairman of the IOPS, July eighteenth is also a memory day for his wife Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna, a martyr who died 99 years ago".

The Israeli Minister for Jerusalem Affairs, Zeev Elkin, Vice President of "Transneft", the ex-senator Mikhail Margelov, the Russian ambassador in Israel Alexander Shein, representatives of political, business and religious circles of both countries attended the opening.

Bazarsky, a guide: "This is a very special place. History takes us to the end of the XIX century. In those years, the Russian Empire came to the Holy Land, to buy the land. And one of the places acquired became this beautiful area - Mission Sergei Alexandrovich. All this was created for Russian pilgrims."



Bazarsky, guide: "In 1890 the building of the Russian Empire was a guest house for pilgrims. In 2017 it is also a hotel for pilgrims, but luxurious. It is located in the centre of Jerusalem, near the main street and the old town."

Previously people of all classes stayed at the house. The poor lived in the yard. Guests with average incomes rented a small room on the ground floor. A wealthy guests have rented a luxury apartment on the floor above.

Elena Agapova, Deputy Chairman of the IOPS:

"This is not only a bed and a room for me. This is a historical place. On the road, which is in front of the building, there passed thousands of Russian pilgrims, some very, very poor. All of them came to the Sergey House."

Russian tourists are still one of the largest groups of visitors to religious sites in Jerusalem.

Despite the modern look of the hotel rooms, everything in this building breathes history.

Video - 1) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yDY3wlshTNo>

2) <http://ntdrtv.ru/61756-sergievskoe-podvorie-v-ierusalime-otkrylos-posle-dolgoi-restavratsii>

The museum of Tsarevich Nicholas was inaugurated in Tomsk district

On July 22nd, the Museum "Road Pavilion of the Tsesarevitch" was inaugurated, where the future Emperor Nicholas II once stayed in Semiluzhki, Tomsk District. It was a part of the "Festival of the Blacksmith".



The Tsesarevitch's house museum is a restored road pavilion, which was built especially for the meeting of Nicholas II in Semiluzhki in 1891, he was making his famous trip from the Far East to St. Petersburg. Work on its construction was planned to be completed in the summer of 2016, but the timing shifted to 2017 due to the change in the administration of the Tomsk region contractor. Construction of the facility was completed by LLC SDM-M.

The grand opening of the house museum in Semiluzhki was held today, July 22. The head of Tomsk district Vladimir Lukyanov noted that this pavilion has a special value - "This is a museum in the memory of a Saint, the future emperor was here," he said.

The head of the regional department for culture and tourism Pavel Volk stressed that this object will serve as a serious point of growth for both the city and the region as a whole.

A new cultural and historical object will enter the ensemble of the cultural-historical Semiluzhensky complex, to which the local Cossack prison, pond and house of culture already belong.

The pavilion consists of two sections. The first is dedicated directly to the Romanovs' house, and the second - to the arrival of the Tsarevich in Tomsk province. The exposition of the museum, in particular, will tell about the genealogical tree of the Romanovs, the life of Emperor Nicholas II, and his great journey to the east, as well as the construction of the Trans-Siberian Railway. In addition, it is planned to acquaint guests with the history of the icon of St. Nicholas the Wonderworker.

In Vladivostok a memorial plaque to Emperor Nicholas II was unveiled

On Friday, July 14, in the Vladivostok railway station building was inaugurated a commemorative bronze plaque with a bas-relief of the Emperor Nicholas II.

Bas-relief of the deceased Emperor was consecrated by the Metropolitan Veniamin of Vladivostok and Primorye.

The event was dedicated to the 125th anniversary since the stay of the young Tsarevich Nicholas Alexandrovich in Vladivostok, in May 1891, after returning from a trip around the world.



The inscription says - Tsarevich Nicholas Alexandrovich Romanov, future All-Russia Emperor personally laid foundation of the train station building Vladivostok 19 May/1 June 1891.





A mosaic icon of Nicholas II to be unveiled in Klin

13 July. MosReg. - On 13th July, a mosaic icon of Nicholas II will be unveiled on the façade of a new chapel dedicated to St Tsar Nicholas II, near the Tchaikovsky State Memorial Music Museum in Klin.

The initiator of the construction of the chapel in Klin is the honored artist of the Russian Federation Olga Kormukhina, a singer of the Moscow Regional Philharmonic Society and a member of the Public Chamber of the Moscow Region of two convocations, where she is a member of the commission on patriotic education of youth and culture. The construction, which is carried out with the support of the government of the Moscow region and the administration of the municipality, has now reached the stage of external decoration.

The chapel, founded in May, is dedicated to the last Russian Emperor Nicholas II, he became a saint in 2000 when the Russian Orthodox Church canonized the Imperial Family.

Olga Kormuhina in an interview noted that she considers herself the spiritual daughter of the Blessed Elder of the Russian Orthodox Church, Archpriest Nikolai Guryanov (1909-2002), who was one of the ideologists of the canonization of Emperor Nicholas II. The instruction of the elder is widely known: "The sacrifice of Tsar Nicholas is the complete crucifixion to Christ, the Sacrifice for the Holy Russia. The Holy King did not deny, on Him there is no sin of renunciation. He acted as a true Christian, humble Anointed of God. He should kneel for His mercy to us, sinners. He did not deny, but He was rejected. Above Russia, the sword of a terrible war is constantly hanging, and only the prayer of Saint Tsar Nicholas takes away the wrath of God from us. We must ask the Tsar not to have a war. He loves and pities Russia. If you knew how He Weeps for us! "



Video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9y-nFKh-jlY>

Monument to Emperor Alexander II in Tomsk

On July 12th, - the feast day of Sts Peter and Paul - in the city of Salair of the Kemerovo Region - the former Salair Mine of the Kuznetsky Uyezd in Tomsk Province - a recreated monument to the Tsar-Liberator Alexander II was unveiled.

The first time the bronze statue was erected in the Salair on the Church square was in January 1894. The Emperor relied on a sword with his left hand, and in the right held a decree on the abolishment of serfdom.

The Emperor never was there, but the fact is that Alexander II on February 19, 1861 abolished serfdom, introduced him to the rank of especially revered person of the house of the Romanovs. On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of this event, funds were collected for monuments to the Tsar-Liberator in all cities and towns of the Russian Empire.



The monument to the Emperor suffered the same fate as the whole of Russia and Tomsk province. In 1933 the Salair church was ruined, and crosses and domes were sent for melting. The 4-meter monument to Alexander was pulled off the pedestal by a tractor.

The restored monument, though not so monumental and for some reason without the decree, is now restored to its original location. This event is timed to the 110th anniversary of the consecration of the Peter and Paul Cathedral in the city of Salair and the 200th anniversary of the birth of the Emperor. Metropolitan Aristarkh and the head of Guryevsky district Sergei Malyshev participated in opening of the recreated monument.

Video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aciWR2BQJtc>

Feodorovsky town in Tsarskoye Selo will be restored

11 July. Restate - The dilapidated buildings in Fedorovsky town near the Alexandrovsky Gardens in Tsarskoye Selo is to be restored by September 2019. According to the draft, in the complex will be located the chambers of the Patriarch for receiving special guests and even a "house for waterfowl."



Feodorovsky town was built during the reign of Emperor Nicholas II for the clergy of the neighbouring Feodorovsky Sovereign's Cathedral. During the First World War the building was used as a hospital, and its wards were decorated with the participation of artists such as Repin, Roerich, and Vasnetsov. Now the neo-Russian town is in a dilapidated state. Only a few buildings in the complex are in use, another part is gradually being restored, and some, such as the refectory with a high tower, remain neglected.

The head of department on protection and use of cultural heritage KGIOP Elena Lomakina told, today Fedorovsky town is run by "Office for the use of buildings in the Northwest Federal District," the Office of the Presidential Administration. In 2014, this structure has signed a commitment to security in the monument of architecture, design documentation for the restoration and adaptation of the object to the modern use was agreed in 2014-2015. Under the terms of the obligations the town restoration must end by September 2019, after which it will be used as a "public buildings for a temporary stay of the population", - explained Ms. Lomakina.

Disclose details of the future use of the restoration project itself was prepared by the architectural studio Merkureva, which also developed plans for the reconstruction of the Konstantin Palace ("Palace of Congress") in Strelina, as well as the building of the Senate and Synod.

According to the architects the concept of Feodorovsky it will be a complex to accommodate special guests, including foreign delegations arriving in St. Petersburg. Also part of the function will be revived historic buildings - the Pink House will accommodate the Patriarch's chambers, and in the White apartment for nine permanent members of the Synod. The courtyard will have a pond with a bridge and a small house for waterfowl. In this case, the appearance of buildings will be restored and the interiors will be close to the original.



Activities in Tsarskoye Selo



Director of "Tsarskoye Selo" Olga Taratynova shared the plans (22 July, Evening St. Petersburg)

- Alexander Palace is now closed for restoration?

- This is a huge palace. It can not be done quickly. We are already now in the third year dealing with the creation of the infrastructure of the museum. The reconstruction project, which is coordinated in all instances, its budget is calculated in 2011 prices. We have to correct it. There are many technical difficulties: from the roof to the utilities. Much has been done, and we would like to partially "open up" the palace in 2018, to show how the Imperial Romanov family lived before leaving for Tobolsk.

- What is the vision for the future of the museum in the Alexander Palace?

- Traditionally, exposure of this type of museums is based on the most recent period of its operation. It will be an interior museum. In the west wing of the palace we will place the library fund and documents related to the Romanov family and its environment. A central part and the left wing, will be restore as they lived.

- What fate awaits Alexander Park?

- It is a huge park, which is twice the size of Catherine Park, of course, it is possible only if from the budget is allocated sufficient resources. We gradually transform Alexander Park in the cultural area with the appropriate infrastructure, we restore and open new facilities. In fact, the money that we get from Catherine Park, we redirect to the Alexander, to bring it in order. It is urgent to deal with pavilions, which are close to ruin, but we are able to save them. We have restored the White Tower, Arsenal, Martial Chamber and works are going in Chapelle, and at the Imperial farm.

The next step is the Chinese theatre, Mount Parnassos and Pensioner Stables. These objects - a part of Alexander Park. And the more we are restoring it, the more attention and protection the park requires. Without perimeter fences we will not do in the near future.

- In the Alexandrovsky Gardens there is Babolovsky. Your plans?

- We spend a substantial part of the earned funds for development and conservation of Babolovsky Palace. We are engaged in the trees, water lines, reconstruct the road. In these 254 hectares will be active sports, including cycling. The problem is that there we have to pull many kilometre of electrical networks and water.

- 2018 marks one hundred years of nationalization of our suburban Imperial residences that have become conservation areas. State Museum "Tsarskoye Selo" is going to celebrate the anniversary?

- There are plans for joint activities, consolidated exhibitions by Tsarskoye Selo, Peterhof, Gatchina, and Pavlovsk. The joint exhibitions are planned in the Arena - a very important and unusual project for which each museum will produce something of their own. But all the surprises I will not disclose. Very important for us in the future, is the project "Association" - theatrical fashion shows in the Catherine Park. In 2018 we want to make it brighter and more massive. We are planning several exhibitions, including one in collaboration with the Hermitage.



Tsarskoye Selo museum received the gift "Amber" egg

July 25, the Tsarskoye Selo museum received the gift "Amber" egg, made according to the sketches of the jeweller Theo Faberge - the grandson of the famous Karl Faberge. An exquisite piece of jewellery was donated to the museum by the chairman of the St. Petersburg Collection Philip Birkenstein.

- Excitement and trembling embrace me when I find myself in the Catherine Palace. I love Russia and Petersburg very much, but my heart belongs to Tsarskoe Selo. We dedicated this piece of jewellery to the legendary Amber Room and to those people who preserve this beauty for contemporaries, - admitted Mr. Birkenstein.

The egg is made of crystal (toned with amber) and decorated with Russian Imperial Crown with a cabochon ruby. Inside there is a gilded heart on an easel stand that reveals itself, exposing the red enamel with a rose and a diamond. The famous Amber Room inspired masters for the creation of the unusual jewellery.

The St. Petersburg Collection was organized by Theo Faberge, who conceived the creation of Easter eggs dedicated to the famous St. Petersburg palaces and imperial residences. Cooperation with the Tsarskoe Selo museum reserve began in 1999, when the egg "Alexandrovsky Palace" was made: crystal, with an engraved image of the building and a surprise (inside - a pond with a picture of the palace and a monogrammed monogram with Alexander III). Even then, the head of the fund, Philip Birkenstein, expressed a desire to help in returning to the museum collection items from the historical collection. With the financial support of the Foundation it was possible to purchase valuable exhibits from the collection of the Alexander Palace, including a chair from the Semicircular Hall, a firebox from the Reception of Nicholas II, vases of laminated glass, dolls and games of the beginning of the 20th century.



In 2012, the St. Petersburg Collection Foundation presented the Tsarskoye Selo museum reserve with the Easter egg "400th Anniversary of the Romanov House".

Joint issue of stamps by the Russian Federation and the Kingdom of Thailand

The stamp depicts King Chulalongkorn of Siam and Emperor of the Russian Empire, Nicholas II during a meeting in St. Petersburg in 1897.

Diplomatic relations between Russia and Thailand (Siam) was officially established during the visit of King Chulalongkorn (V Rama) in the Russian Empire in July 1897.


December 4, 1897 Russian diplomat Alexander Olarovsky was appointed Charge d'Affaires and Consul General of the Russian Empire in Siam, and June 23, 1899 in Bangkok was signed the Declaration regarding the jurisdiction of trade and navigation. Siam saw in the Russian Empire, a possible ally, hoping for help in defending their independence from the colonial powers of Europe and the


preservation of political sovereignty. Relations between the two countries gradually strengthened. In 1891, the Russian Tsarevich Nicholas Alexandrovich visited Bangkok. In response, the Royal Family of Siam made numerous visits to Russia, which directly strengthen the friendship between the two countries.

In 1897, Rama V traveled to Europe, where the Kingdom of Siam received an ultimatum for a surrender to the French army. Chulalongkorn called on all European countries for help. Only Russia responded by inviting the King of Siam to St. Petersburg to the Emperor Nicholas II, who offered to make a joint photo. The photo was printed in all European editions as evidence of a strong friendship between the Russian Empire and the Kingdom of Siam. While the French government conflict with Russia would have been extremely unfavorable, and after the publication of this photo France forgets its ultimatum and departed from Siam. This political course of Nicholas II and one photo save the Kingdom of Siam from colonization.



Romanov **buzz**

 On the TV channel "SPAS", on July 17 at 21.00, was shown the first part of the film from the memorable evening "memory of the death. February Tragedy. 1917", in the Hall of Church Councils of the Cathedral of Christ the Savior, arranged by Fund Ludvig Nobel..

 July 14, in the building River Station, was held an exhibition "Emperor Nicholas II: Road through the Khanty-Mansiysk". The event was timed to the 435th anniversary of the Khanty-Mansiysk and is one of the most significant events of the educational project "Centuries of Yugra".



The exhibition is collected literally bit by bit. According to members of the initiative group, led by Archpriest Serge Kravtsov, it turned out quite diverse in objects and in many ways unique in nature. There are photographs, numismatics, archive documents about visiting Nicholas II of Khanty-Mansiysk, drawings of imperial yacht, dolls dressed as royal era style, antique porcelain, descriptive stands. The opening of the exhibition was attended by a special guest - composer Igor Dunkul. His music accompanies the whole exhibition. July 16 the pianist performed a charity concert in Khanty-Mansiysk. According to the organizers, the exhibition and the concert is to raise funds for the establishment of a memorial sign in honor of the historic stop of Emperor Nicholas II in Samarov. It is planned to establish this memorial sign near the Ice Palace.



From 17 to 20 of July at 18:45 (repetition July 18-21 at 13:25) on the TV channel "Russia Kultura" was shown the documentary series "The Romanovs. Personal Chronicle of the century". The Prince, the great-grandson of Emperor Nicholas I, Nicholas Romanovich Romanov - historian, writer and public figure tells the story of family traditions, of what in the ancestral memory etched momentous events of the first decades of the twentieth century. Father of Nicholas Romanovich, Prince Roman Petrovich, was the second cousin and godson of the last Emperor, and his mother Praskovya Dmitrievna - the daughter of Count Sheremetev, a childhood friend and adjutant of Nicholas II. He was born in Antibes in 1922, where his parents were in exile. As acknowledged by Nicholas Romanovich, perfectly speaking in Russian, "all that surrounded him as a child, was so Russian" that he realized that he does not live in Russia, but in France only at six years old. This has the merit of parents to raise children "entirely in the Russian spirit."

In 1989 by the decision of relatives Nicholas Romanov headed Family Association, the main role of which is seen in the preservation of the unity of the genus, the promotion of its historical traditions and educational activities. Nicholas Romanovich, died September 15, 2014 in Tuscany. Shooting of the film "The Romanovs. Personal Chronicle of the century " took place in Switzerland during the life of Nicholas Romanov.

"Nikolai Romanovich told me his family history - says the writer-director Vitaly Yakushev. - In contrast to the official history, which is mainly based on the documents, the family keeps personal impressions and memories. This cannot be found in any textbook, because here the story passed through the fate of real people, and the history is more vibrant and warm, despite the sometimes very tragic tone. I cannot say with certainty which of the two stories is better but I personally think that the family history is fair and honest. It became my main task to work on the film."

Previously unpublished photographs from the personal archive Nicholas Romanov, as well as materials from the Russian State Archive of Cinema was used in the series.



The griffins on the Bank Bridge in St. Petersburg are being restored. The Griffins are figures of mythical creatures, created in the XX century by sculptor Pavel Sokolov, and the plan is to return them by the end of the year in an updated form and with gilded wings. Restorers carefully divided the monsters in half, to have access to every inch of their emaciated bodies. Restorers task is to create a durable coating.

"The material is a very good, high build primer, for a long service life," - said the head of the restoration workshop Yuriy Schedrov.

The most vulnerable part is the wings. At first they will get a red lead paint, then carefully and gently be covered with gold leaf.

Video - http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/181452/



July 5, was met the Orthodox procession from Belarus in Pskov, which for more than a month were walking along the route Mogilev - Pskov.

The religious procession was dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the feat of martyrs of the Russian Church and persecution of the faith unleashed by the Soviet government.

The procession passed along the route Mogilev - Vitebsk - Great Luke - Bottom - Pskov, lasted more than a month. The route repeat the path, done by deposed and arrested Russian Emperor Nicholas II.



On the last day the procession passed the Trinity Cathedral in Pskov. They were met by Metropolitan of Pskov and Porkhov Eusebius, Bishops, Abbess, deans church districts, heads of diocesan departments and clergy.



In the Smolny Monastery, restoration work is continuing. Specialists of the Committee for the Use and Protection of Monuments are not for the first time working on the masterpiece of Francesco Bartolomeo Rastrelli: they started work here already 11 years ago. And after the recent renovation of the central cathedral, the small churches of the ensemble are next.

Smolny Cathedral, one of the most famous monuments of St. Petersburg, has been enjoying the renewed, juicy-blue facade for more than a month now. Unfortunately, the four towers of the ensemble can not boast of such an appearance. And inside the state is far from being perfect. Once here, too, there were churches. But the twentieth century treated them sternly: instead of iconostases, the archive of the regional party committee. Ironically, it was the smooth layer of Soviet plaster and the complete lack of attention of the workers that saved the work of Francesco Bartolomeo Rastrelli almost in perfect condition.

"These are murals of Russian artists of the 1750s. Maybe the late 50's, early 60's. And here, you see, all the faces are preserved." - says the chief architect of the project organization Sergei Samusenko.

Video - http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/183525/



The restoration of the main fountain of Tsarskoye Selo should be completed in December. The monument miraculously survived during the Second World War and then was still working for some time. The last time it worked was in 1972. Fountain was mothballed until better times, which finally arrived.

Works under a transparent tent is in full swing. Restorers have already begun to seal the top of the fountain bowl, where a jet of clear water will go, and then fall back. The bottom of the bowl is covered with a lead coating, which need to re-lay tightly on marble base.

The garden appeared in the middle of the XIX century on the site of the landscape park. Alexander II wanted to break up the flower bed there. The fountain was to become the dominant in all the garden. Sculptor and architect Botta wanted to create a true symphony of marble.

Video - http://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/183265/



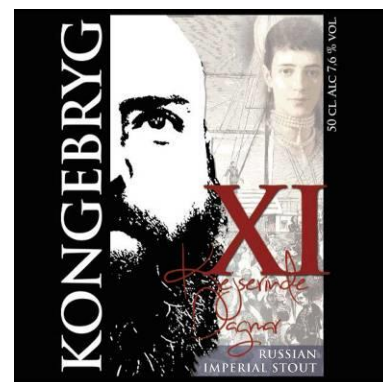
With the blessing of the bishop Thomas of Syzran and Zhigulevsky on the territory of the diocese was the 14th Tsar's reading "The fate of the Tsar, the fate of Russian power."

The festivities began in the ancient church of the Prophet Elijah with prayer and akathist to Tsar Martyr Nicholas, and ended with a big religious procession. Then, the conference was opened in the new hall of Syzran diocese. It brought together representatives of the clergy, writers, public figures, Cossacks from different cities of Russia and an audience simply not indifferent. Participants began the event with the anthem "God Save the Tsar" and the prayer "Heavenly King".

Then organizer Sergey Mikhalkin welcomed the participants in XIV «Tsar's readings" and at the end of the event all the guests, participants and listeners XIV «Tsar's readings" was invited to a common meal.



A "Russian Imperial Stout" - In Denmark, the mini-brewer Kongebryg (Royalbrew) has launched a beer named "Empress Dagmar", or better known as Empress Maria Feodorovna. The beer label also features Emperor Alexander III. It is number IX in a series of beers named after Royal personage.



A visit by Emperor Nicholas II to Smolensk, August 31, 1912.

Video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k9t5oBZtRik>



An exhibition dedicated the Romanov family, was opened July 17th on the first floor of the House of Culture "Pervomaisky" (First of May.) in Moscow. It will end on 30 July.

"An exhibition of this kind - this is undoubtedly a great cultural event, but also a great opportunity to touch the history of the Imperial Romanov family - said the press secretary of the administration Paul Shishurin.

Visitors can see pictures from everyday life of Nicholas II, his wife and children, found in magazines and calendars.



UKTV and Viasat's World History Channel have greenlit a two-part factual series on the roles of Tsar Nicholas II and his wife Alexandra in the Russian Revolution, told through the couple's love letters. UK indie Back2Back is working on Nicholas & Alexandra: The Letters (2x60') which will air on UKTV's Yesterday channel and on World History internationally.

The films mark the centenary of the execution of the last Emperor of Russia and his family in 1918. Distribution of the docs is being handled by Flame.

The documentaries will include contributions from historians and experts on the Russian Revolution.

Back2Back MD David Notman-Watt, who is the executive producer, said: "Nicholas and Alexandra's letters not only reveal their affectionate and humane sides, but also their cavalier attitude to politics, ruling Russia, and its people, which culminated in the 1917 Russian Revolution."

"To be honest, on first read some of these letters can come across as a draft script for an episode of Love Island – it's not what I expected at all, and that's an understatement."



In the spiritual and educational center "Imperial" in Yekaterinburg was presented new objects - a mouthpiece, the only one in the world. A cigarette holder made of gold, silver and jade, and encrusted with rubies by craftsmen of factory Carl Faberge. According to experts, through the mouthpiece was smoking the Emperor Nicholas II. A book one of the daughters of Nicholas II, the publication of speeches dedicated to the tercentenary of the Romanov dynasty and a "tabernacle", which was owned by Emperor Alexander III. All the exhibits were donated to the museum by private collectors.

Video - <http://www.obltv.ru/news/culture/chtoby-pomnili-v-ekaterinburge-startoval-masshtabnyy-festival-tsarskie-dni/>



On the eve of the anniversary of the execution of the last Russian Emperor Nicholas Romanov and his entire family, with the blessing of the priest of the Church of the Iberian icon of the Mother of God in Belyaev, priest Igor Krayev, after the Divine service, distributed an information booklets devoted to the events of 1917-1918.



Booklets were given to parishioners by members of the youth association "Iveron", which operates at the church. The Orthodox got acquainted with the main events of those terrible years, and the members of the society of spiritual enlightenment were able to share with them interesting facts about the way of the cross and trials of the Imperial Family.



The exhibition "The House of Romanov" in the museum-reserve "Staraya Sarepta" presents a unique collection of sculptural portraits of Russian rulers from Peter I to Nicholas II, which has no analogues in the world. The works are executed by the famous Volgograd master - sculptor, People's Artist of Russia Peter Chaplygin.

To embody at a glance three centuries of the history of Russia and to realize through a sculptural portrait is a complicated task. But Chaplygin - tries. The images of Russian Emperors, created in the genre of a ceremonial portrait. This is a fusion of social, political, religious, ethical and aesthetic aspects that determined the character of each personality for the sculptor.

This project is not so much the artist's reasoning about a specific Emperor, but rather an idea of the epochs and their ideals, a dialogue of the past, the present and the future.

All work is done in electroforming technology. The exhibition runs until the end of summer, and admission is free.

Video - https://vk.com/video-31253819_456239046





August 2, the State Museum and Exhibition Center "Rosphoto" will open the exhibition "Yacht" Standart and the family of the last Russian Emperor." The exhibition is based on memoirs and original photographs from the personal archive of N. V. Sablin, captain 2nd rank, who served on board the yacht Standart from 1906 until 1916.

A significant part of these photographs were made by the co-owner of the K. E. von Ghan & Co. photo studio, a famous Russian photographer A. K. Yagelsky, Court Photographer to His Imperial Majesty. He was entitled to conduct photo shoots of the Imperial Family. The exhibition includes photographs by the K. E. von Ghan & Co. photo studio, as well as remarkable documentary shots taken on board the imperial yacht. Besides photographs, the display features original letters of Emperor Nicholas II, written on board the vessel, watercolours and a collection of postcards devoted to the Standart, yacht log book, and a variety of other unique documents.

Photographs taken on board the Standart yacht will be presented to the broad audience for the first time ever. Visitors will have a chance to get a glimpse into the private life of the Imperial Family through these little-known photographs, which were meant to be kept away from prying eyes, hence their sincerity and frankness. The exhibition project is carried out in partnership with the Russian State Archive of the Navy, the Russian State Film and Photo Archive, and the Central Naval Museum.



The head of the Public Council at the Ministry of Culture Pavel Pozhigailo said that director Alexei Uchitel promised to make changes to the film "Matilda." Pozhigailo personally asked the director to show him "Matilda" in order to "try to find a compromise" and fix the trailer of the film.

"Uchitel promised to remake the video, to fix something in the film and eventually make a show for the Public Council, to discuss on this site," Pozhigailo said.

However the day after Alexei Uchitel denied that he agreed to make changes.



The Romanov palace in Likani to be restored for 320 thousand dollars. The Georgian authorities decided to give Likani Park a national status and turn it into a popular tourist destination glorifying the country. Restoration of the Likani Romanov Palace begins in the resort town of Borjomi (Samtskhe-Javakheti region).

The first stage is planning the design of the Palace, greenhouse and conference hall, as well as the park of the former government residence. However, the study will make a museum of the Palace of the Romanov and will create a master plan for the entire complex, according to the report of the Partnership Fund of Georgia.

"771 000 GEL (about \$ 321,250) will be spent for the execution of these works, the duration of the design work is eight months, and immediately after the project is completed, the construction and restoration works will be scheduled," the report said.

According to the organization, by the decision of the government last week the Likani Park was given the status of an immovable monument of the country's cultural heritage.



The obligation to restore the complex in Likani "Partnership Fund" took over in accordance with the agreement, issued in 2016 between the National Agency of State Property of Georgia and the "Partner Fund". In order to properly plan and implement the design and subsequent restoration of the complex, the "Partnership Fund" actively cooperates with the National Agency for the Protection of the Cultural Heritage of Georgia.

The Romanovs' Palace is a Moorish-style villa built by the decree of the Russian Emperor for the Grand Duke Nikolai Mikhailovich in 1892-1895 on the banks of the Kura in Likani (on the territory of Borjomi). The author of the project is the famous architect Leonty Benois.

In the Soviet era, the Romanov Palace became the property of the state. Soviet leaders often rested here, including Joseph Stalin.

After the independence of Georgia, the palace functioned as the summer residence of the president of the country.



A plaque to Emperor Peter the great was today officially opened in Maastricht, the Netherlands. The ceremony was timed to coincide with the 300th anniversary of the second visit of the Russian Emperor to the Netherlands.

The colourful bas-relief was designed by the sculptor Alexander Taratynov. The Emperor is depicted on the background of the Moscow Kremlin. Russian Ambassador to the Netherlands said that Emperor Peter I rightly is called the founder of the relations between the two countries.

"We consider Emperor Peter I, who made a great contribution to the development of our relations, we believe that this is our common heritage, which we must cherish and develop" - said Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Russian Ambassador to the Kingdom of the Netherlands Alexander Shulgin.

Video - <http://www.5-tv.ru/news/143149/>



On August 1, the exposition "Two centuries of glory"- the second part of the exhibition "Saved relics", will opened in the Museum of Military uniform of the RVIO. The guests of the exhibition will see more than 50 new exhibits representing the evolution of the military uniform from a beautiful spectacular but little suitable uniform for warfare to the practical in manufacturing and comfortable to wear during the reign of the Emperors Alexander I, Nicholas I, Alexander II, Alexander III and Nicholas II.

For the first time the public will see unique uniforms of soldiers and officers of the most eminent regiments of the Russian Imperial Army. A special place among them takes the uniform of the non-commissioned officer of the Tenginsky Infantry Regiment of the middle of the 19th century, where the great Russian poet Mikhail Yurievich Lermontov was serving.

A specialty will be an unique collection of mini sculptures by Alexander Voronov, dedicated to the Russian Imperial Guard of 1906-1917.



Музей военной формы одежды
Российского военно-исторического общества
представляет выставку

СПАСЕННЫЕ



РЕЛИКВИИ

ДВА ВЕКА СЛАВЫ

museum.history.ru
ПРЕСС-СЛУЖБА РВИО



July 28, 2017 in the main halls of the Winter Palace, two exhibitions were opened, one of which is devoted to the history of fabrics, the second - their restoration.

In the exhibition halls you can see banners, carpets, embroideries, lace, fabrics and costumes of countries of Western Europe, Russia and the East. The exposition includes trellises brought from Paris by Peter I three hundred years ago, the tapestry "The goddaughter of fairies", donated by Nicholas II to the French president Felix Faure, as well as the garter that was given to Alexander II by the British Queen Victoria.

The exhibition also includes ceremonial costumes, military uniforms and court uniforms. Thus, in the halls you can see the dresses of Catherine II, the wife of Alexander III Maria Feodorovna and the last Empress Alexandra Feodorovna. The exhibition will last until October 15.



A monument to the Holy Royal Martyrs - the family of Nicholas II - was opened on July 31st at the Cathedral Square of the Holy Trinity Seraphim-Diveevo Convent in the Nizhny Novgorod Region, where the days of the memory of St. Seraphim of Sarov are widely celebrated these days. Before the opening of the monument a moleben was held by Metropolitan Georgy of Nizhny Novgorod and Arzamas.

The idea of create the monument to the Holy Royal Martyrs belongs to the Nizhny Novgorod diocese and the charity fund "St. Basil the Great."

The place of installation of the monument - in the Holy Trinity Seraphim-Diveevo monastery - was chosen not accidentally. According to Metropolitan George of Nizhny Novgorod and Arzam, "Nicholas II personally took the most vivid part in the canonization of the elder Seraphim of Sarov."

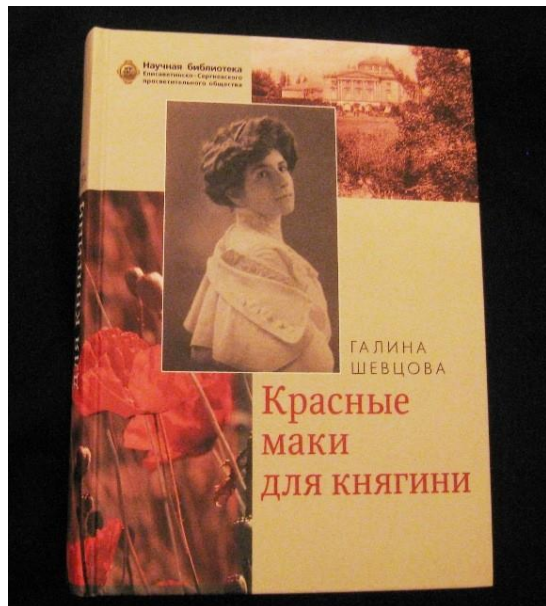
"Celebrations of the church glorification of Seraphim of Sarov took place on August 1, 1903, the whole Imperial family, including the Tsarevich Alexis, took part in them," said the Metropolitan.

The model of the monument was designed by the teacher of the Academy of Painting, Sculpture and Architecture named after Ilya Glazunov, Irina Makarova and represents the entire family of Romanovs in the festive attire with crosses and candles in hands going to the church. The monument is cast at a factory in the city of Zhukovsky, Moscow Region.



Video - <http://www.ntv.ru/video/1481062/>

A presentation of a book about Princess Helena Petrovna



July 5, 2017 in the Embassy of the Republic of Serbia was held a presentation of the book by Galina Shevtsova - "Red poppies for the Princess. Materials for the biography of Princess Helena Petrovna", also known as Princess Elene Karageorgievich, daughter of King Petra I Karageorgievich, who was married to the Russian Prince of Imperial blood John Konstantinovich.

Galina Shevtsova's monograph is devoted to the "Russian" period in the life of the Serbian Princess. She arrived in Russia as a bride of Prince John Konstantinovich in August 1911, and in December 1918 was forced to leave under pressure from the Soviet government.

Her personality and destiny is little known to the Russian and Serbian public. What was the problems of Princess Helena Petrovna. Did the Serbian Princess found happiness in Russia? How easy entered she the Russian Imperial House, and found there a worthy place? How did she build a relationship with the family of her husband? How she managed to get through the trials?

A worthy place in the book takes the historical era - the Balkan Wars and World War I, February and October revolutions. The reader will learn what challenges faced Princess Elena Petrovna and her family.





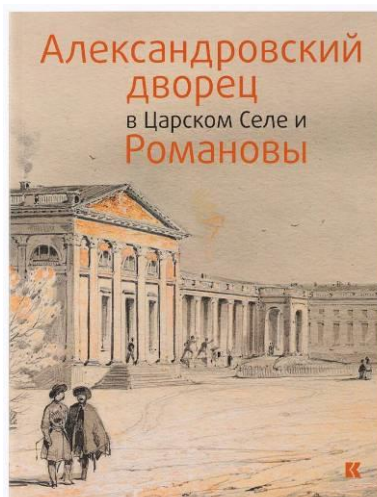
The work is written on the basis of a wide range of sources, many of which are introduced into scientific circulation for the first time, as well as the materials of the Russian press from 1903-1918.

Dr. Terzic Slavenko, Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of Serbia to the Russian Federation, Anna Gromova, Institute of World History, Russian Academy of Sciences, Jaroslav Vishnyakov, MGIMO University, Yuri Zhuk, New Martyrs Memorial Foundation of the Imperial House of Romanov and the author - Galina Shevtsova, participating in the presentation.

Fragments of newsreels was shown, where you could see the members of the royal family, Elena and her fiancé.



Catalogue for the exhibition "The Alexander Palace in Tsarskoye Selo and the Romanovs"



The Publishing house "Kuchkovo pole" has issued the long-awaited catalogue for the exhibition "The Alexander Palace in Tsarskoye Selo and the Romanovs".

The album "The Alexander Palace in Tsarskoye Selo and the Romanovs" presents the reader with a remarkable monument of Russian history and architecture. Romantic, gracefully shading the luxury of the ceremonial Catherine Palace in the ensemble of Tsarskoye Selo, the Alexander Palace took a special place in the life of many generations of the Imperial dynasty, from Catherine the Great to the family of Nicholas II.

The book includes articles by senior researcher of State Museum "Tsarskoye Selo" Viktoria Plaude - about Alexander Palace in the time of Alexander I, the curator of the exhibition Olga Barkovets - on the

residence of the last Russian Emperor Nicholas II, the deputy director of the "Tsarskoye Selo" Iraida Bott - about the fate of the Alexander Palace after the October Revolution.

The story of the two-hundred-year history of the Alexander Palace is illustrated by archival photographs and ceremonial portraits, drawings by court artists and members of the Imperial Family, photographs of everyday objects preserved to this day, documents and decorations of the palace of works of art. The album publishes rare autochromes - unique images obtained from one of the world's first colour photography and captured in 1917 the interiors of the palace as they were at the last crowned owners, as well as photographs of the pre-war museum exposition.



The publication is timed to the exhibition "The Alexander Palace in Tsarskoe Selo and the Romanovs" in the State Museum-Reserve "Tsaritsyno" in 2016-2017, organized in conjunction with the State Museum-Reserve "Tsarskoe Selo", the State Archives of the Russian Federation,

Aristocracy and Revolution



The book presents selected fragments of memoirs of high society representatives of the Russian Empire and those close to them about the tragic events of 1917-1918. The Grand Dukes Alexander Mikhailovich and Andrei Vladimirovich, Baroness M.D. Wrangel (mother of P.N. Wrangel), M. Kshesinskaya, Prince S.E. Trubetskoi, Princess S.A. Volkonskaya and other Russian aristocrats, swept away by a whirlwind of revolution, tell the truth about this fateful time, forever changed the life of our Fatherland.

Publisher: Abris, Moscow. Hard cover. 384 pages. ISBN: 978-5-00111-085-9

Russian officers about the revolution



The book presents the memoirs of the most eminent officers of the Russian Imperial Army - Brusilov, Wrangel, Denikin, Krasnov, Kutepov, Lukomsky, Semenov, Shkuro, etc. - dedicated to the revolutionary events of 1917-1922. The collection includes selected fragments of memoirs (the best fragments of memoir texts) as participants of the White Movement, as well as former Tsarist officers serving in the Red Army. The text of the publication is supplemented with colour and black and white illustrations, necessary comments and explanations of the editorial staff.

Publisher: Abris, Moscow. Hard cover. 384 pages. ISBN: 978-5-00111-077-4

Under the hammer...

Romanov related items in Auctions



Freeman's, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA, on October 17

Freeman's will be offering the library and collection of Father Ivan Storojev, including the important historical Ekaterinburg materials, in the upcoming October 17th sale of Russian Works of Art.

Father Ivan Storojev was a local Ekaterinburg priest who was brought in by the local Soviet and instructed to perform the final service: "Just stick strictly to what the service is all about," they warned. "We don't believe in God now, but we remember what the service, the funeral service, is all about. So, nothing but the service. Don't try to communicate anything, or we'll shoot."

Storojev was shaken by the experience and wrote about it in pages of the missal he used at the final service for the Romanovs. He kept this missal and the other items he used at Ekaterinburg for the rest of his life.



In her diary of 14 July, 1918 Empress Alexandra Feodorovna wrote "10:30. Had the joy of an small service (obednitsa) - with the young Priest for the 2nd time". This was the last religious service the Imperial Family would ever attend, and the 'young priest' was Father Ivan Vladimirovich Storojev (1878-1927).

Storojev, like many Russians, fled to China where he lived in Harbin, and became one of the central figures of the Russian community there. His family left China during the Japanese occupation, and ultimately settled in the West.

Bruun Rasmussen, Copenhagen, Denmark, on August 6

Medal with the portrait of Emperor Nicholas II. Imperial Finnish Economic Society, 30 mm, 15.35 g (incl. ribbon).

Estimate Dkr 800

