



# Romanov News Новости Романовых

*By Ludmila & Paul Kulikovsky*

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**Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich  
4.12.1878 – 13.06.1918 - Eternal Memory !**



## 100-летняя годовщина убийства Великого Князя Михаила Александровича

### The 100th anniversary of the martyr's death of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich

In the night of June 13, 1918, in Perm, Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich, the younger brother of Emperor Nicholas II, and his personal secretary Nikolai Zhonson were secretly killed by Chekists. This event was the first of brutal murders of representatives of the Imperial House and their approximate ones, which followed in Yekaterinburg, Alapaevsk, and Petrograd. The remains of Michael Alexandrovich and his secretary are still not found. In Perm, the search continues for them.

Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich, was the fourth son of Emperor Alexander III, Russian commander, Lieutenant-General (1916), General-Adutant, and a member of the State Council (1901-1917).

In 2018, in accordance with the order of the Governor of Perm Krai, No. 257 of November 13, 2017, a program of events dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the murder on the night of 13 June 1918 in the vicinity of the city of Perm of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich, was launched.

Memorial events dedicated to the tragic events of a hundred years ago was held in Perm from 11 to 13 June and the main organisers were the Perm State Archives of Social and Political History, and Elizabeth-Sergei Enlightenment Society (ESES).



*The last known photo of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich, Perm 1918.*



The events was attended by the Governor of Permsky Krai Maxim Reshetnikov; Metropolitan of Perm and Kungur Methodius; Archbishop Michael of Medon, vicar of the Geneva and Western European Diocese; Chairman of the Supervisory Board of the Elizabeth-Sergei Enlightenment Society Anna Gromova; the great-great-grandson of Emperor Alexander III P.E. Kulikovsky with spouse Ludmila; numerous representatives of the family Zhonson (Johnson), who came from different countries - Paradon Nitaya, Sintontep Kanjanasakul, Jivin Kanjanasakul and other representatives of the Thai branch of the Zhonson family, and Vladimir V. Bystrov's family, his mother and daughter from Prague; the relative of the maid of honor of Empress Alexandra Feodorovna. E. N. Hendrikov, E.N. Osteletskaia; chairman of the charitable association "Around Russia" K.V. Rushti and the sons of the author of the book "The Last Tsar: Emperor Michael II" by Donald Crawford, Alastar and Roderick Crawford; rector of the Monastery of Equal-to-the-Apostles Mary Magdalene in Gethsemane Abbess Elisaveta (Shmelts), clergymen, scientists and public figures from Perm, Moscow, St. Petersburg, Yekaterinburg, and other Russian cities.

***Divine Liturgy in Saint Mitrophan Church, and great consecration of Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna side-chapel***

On June 11, His Eminence Methodius, the Metropolitan of Perm and Kungur, consecrated the northern side-altar in honor of the Holy Martyr Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna at the Church of St. Mitrophan of Voronezh and led the Divine Liturgy in the newly-consecrated chapel. Bishop Mitrophan of Severomorsk and Umba also took part in the Divine Liturgy. He had written a letter to Metropolitan Methodius asking for permission to participate, as he had a special family relation to Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich: his grandfather was the administrator of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich palace in St. Petersburg.



After moleben, Methodius, Metropolitan of Perm and Kungur welcomed and congratulated the audience on the landmark event:

"For a long time we were preparing to consecrate this side-chapel in honor of the Holy Martyr Grand Duchess Elizabeth and finally, by God's mercy it was done!

A hundred years ago, terrible events took place on our Perm earth. Those

terrible crimes, they tried to forget, and then somehow it "dissolve" into history, but it's impossible to forget human destiny. And in our memory the names of those people who have done a lot for Russia and lead it to greatness and power are resurrected.

They, as St. Philaret of Moscow, said, being worthy citizens left the homeland of the earth, becoming worthy citizens of the Heavenly Fatherland. And this unites us, it inspires us! Professor Georgy Petrovich Fedotov once said: "In the Russian saints, we honor not only the heavenly patrons of holy and sinful Russia: in them we are looking for revelations of our own spiritual path." And indeed the



deeds of the people we remember today were worthy, their deeds were magnificent, their deeds were holy. "

Also in his address, the head of the Perm Metropolitanate, His Eminence Metropolitan Methodius, thanked Vladyka Mitrofan for coming and noted that he gladly met a like-minded person in the matter of nationally venerating the Romanov's martyrdom.



*Left - Bishop Mitrophan of Severomorsk and Umba and Metropolitan of Perm and Kungur Mefody.  
Right - Anna Gromova received a diploma from  
Metropolitan of Perm and Kungur Mefody*

In turn, Vladyka Mitrofan stressed that the Permsky Krai and the Kola north have an innumerable number of victims who suffered from godless power. The blood of undeclared martyrs, which permeated the Kola land, gave births in the form of stones with miraculous crosses - staurolites. Thus, the Lord indicates the sanctity of this land and all places where people suffered for faith. Several such unique miraculous testimonies Bishop Mitrofan donated to Vladyka Methodius.



After that, Metropolitan of Perm and Kungur Methodius presented flowers and a letter of gratitude to Anne V. Gromova, for establishment of the monument to the Holy Martyr Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna, opened a year ago in Perm. The monument was inaugurated on August 24, 2017 on the initiative of the ESES at the building of the Elizabethan Hospital (Ekaterininskaya St., 224).

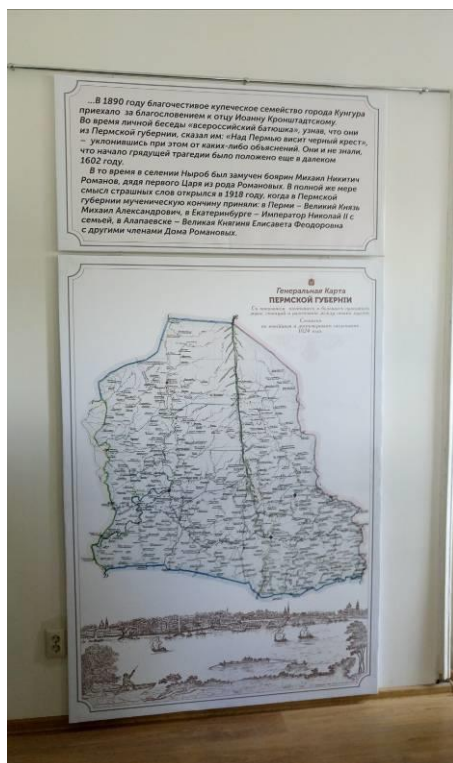


*From left - Anna Gromova, Bishop Mitrophan of Severomorsk and Umba, Metropolitan of Perm and Kungur Methodius, Paul Kulikovskiy and Ludmila Kulikovskiy. Right - The Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna monument at the Elizabeth Hospital in Perm.*

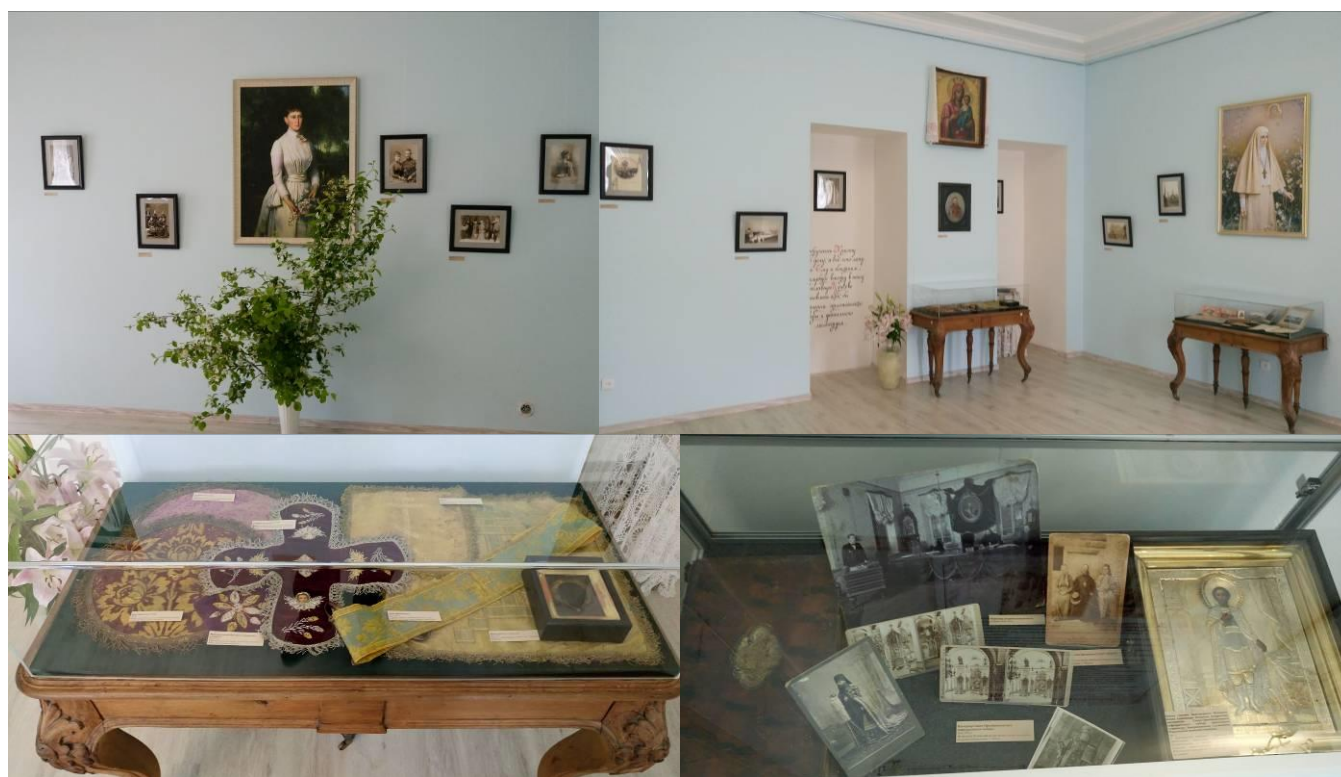


## The opening of the diocesan museum

A diocesan museum was solemnly opened at the church of St. Mitrofan of Voronezh. The participants of the Divine liturgy went upstairs in the other side of the church and into the memorial rooms dedicated to the Archbishop of Perm and Kungur Hieromartyr Andronicus (Nikolsky) and the holy Martyr Elizabeth Feodorovna.



There are several rooms, with icons, paintings, photos on the walls, and objects on display in glass-cases on tables. Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna visited the Perm province. In 1914, the Augustan pilgrim on the way to the Belogorsky Monastery prayed at the Assumption Convent.



### ***Opening of the exhibition «Perm Prisoner»***

In the historical park "Russia - My History" the exhibition "Perm prisoner" was opened, dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the death of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich and his secretary Nikolai Zhonson.

The historical park "Russia - My History, Perm Region" was opened in Perm on December 12, 2017, and is located in two historical sites of the city - restored buildings of the River Station and the Perm-1 railway station, which are facing each other, on the banks of the Kama River. The building of the former railway station "Perm-1" houses the historical exposition on the era of the Rurikovichs' reign, whereas the River Station hosts the Romanov exhibition, the 20th century history and the Russian history from the end of the Great Patriotic War to the present day.



The exhibition was organised by the Head of the History Department Svetlana G. Neganova and the Chief Researcher of the History Department of the Perm Local History Museum Lidia S. Tsvirko.

The exhibition presents large-format photographs, its originals are kept in the State Historical Museum in Moscow, Perm Museum of Local Lore, the Perm State Archive of Social and Political History, and private collection of Vladimir V. Bystrov (descendant of one of the sisters of Nikolai N. Zhonson).



The exhibition shows photos of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich, allowing visitors an opportunity to learn more about him, to see how he was in his childhood and youth, and photos of Perm a hundred years ago, which would be the view of the city that the Grand Duke saw. These were chosen according to the Grand Duke's diary entries and the collection of photographs available in the Perm Museum of Local Lore. For many visitors will be several previously unknown photos of Michael Alexandrovich, and his secretary, N.N. Zhonson.





Minister of culture in Perm Alexander R. Protasevich, Anna Gromova, Paul Kulikovsky and two representatives of Nikolai Zhonson's family - Vladimir Bystrov and Andrei Zhonson – greeted the guests. Their speeches were intercepted by short performances of music.

Paul E. Kulikovsky said - *"Thank you for the opportunity to say a few words here at the opening of the exhibition "Perm prisoner" in the historical park "Russia - My history".*

*We are in these day remembering two persons that was murdered 100 years ago here in Perm. These were no ordinary persons or ordinary murders. Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich and his secretary Nikolai Zhonson was kidnapped and shot in the night of June 12/13 1918 in the outskirts of Perm.*

*Michael Alexandrovich was the brother of Tsar Nicholas II and of my great-grandmother Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna.*

*This was the first murder of a member of the Romanov family, held in captivity on order of the Bolsheviks, which was soon followed by many more murders of Romanovs in Yekaterinburg, Alapaevsk and St. Petersburg.*

*I believe that this happened because he was in fact the legitimate head of state and the Bolsheviks saw him as a potential figurehead for a contra-revolution. However he was a most peaceful man, not involved in politics and did not make any activities against the new regime.*

*I am very pleased that his life, and particular his stay and death in Perm, is now included in this exhibition. I thank the organizers for this.*

*I think it will be an important addition in the honoring of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich and Nikolai Zhonson, here in Perm.*

*It will also be an addition to the education of all those coming here, about the history of Russia, which is important in understanding present Russia.*

*And hopefully, it will make visitors reflect on what happened then and how we can prevent a similar thing to happen again."*





For the first time Perm citizens and guests of the city could see the model of the monument to Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich by the sculptor Alexei Matveyev.

The sculpture is a bust that will be installed on a high pedestal.

- The monument will be made of bronze and granite, - told the sculptor. - I started to work on the image a year ago and decided to create not the ceremonial Imperial portrait, but to show in the Grand Duke first of all as a person, to reveal his features - generosity, honesty, decency, dignity and at the same time human simplicity. Therefore, I portrayed Michael in his overcoat.

In August, a council will be held, at which it will be decided where exactly the monument will be erected. Depending on the location it will be clear what the size the future monument should be.



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### **Opening ceremony of a memorial plate to Nikolai N. Zhonson**

On Siberia Street 5, at the former hotel "Korolevsky rooms" the opening of the plaque to the Secretary of the Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich, Nikolai Nikolaevich Zhonson took place.

Sergei Naganov, director of Perm archives welcomed those presents and introduced the project. Then followed short speeches by Anna V. Gromova, Archbishop Michael, Paul E. Kulikovsky, Paradon Nitaya, Vladimir Bystrov and Andrei Zhonson.

According to the relatives of Nikolai Zhonson, historical justice is finally restored.



Paul E. Kulikovsky said - "100 years ago, from this building where we stand, Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich and his friend Nikolai Nikolaevich was kidnapped in the middle of the night. Michael Alexandrovich was not yet 40 years old, when he was murdered and hidden in a place yet to be discovered.

So this is the last known place, where he was alive. Here we have the memorial plaque, where we per tradition are remembering him and are putting flowers for him, in lack of his burial place.





We are often describing the relationship between Michael Alexandrovich and Nikolai Nikolaevich, as between the Grand Duke and his secretary, but I think, in reality they were friends. And real friends help each other, also in the darkest hours. And so it was, they both were in exile in Perm and together met their far too early fate here.

With this in mind, I am happy that a memorial plaque for Nikolai Nikolaevich is also put here, so they both are remembered here. It is restoration of historical justice."

The plaque was then unveiled, and the inscription says -

**"Nickolas Nickolaevich Zhonson (1878-1918), the secretary of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich, Russian nobleman, officer of Russian Army, loyal to his duty, lived in this building, left for death"**



After the unveiling, the relatives of Nikolai Zhonson put flowers on the shelf below the plaques, followed by Paul E. Kulikovsky, Anna V. Gromova, and Archbishop Michael, and the many others attending the ceremony.



The plaque to Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich on the occasion of the events had been cleaned and looked again as new.



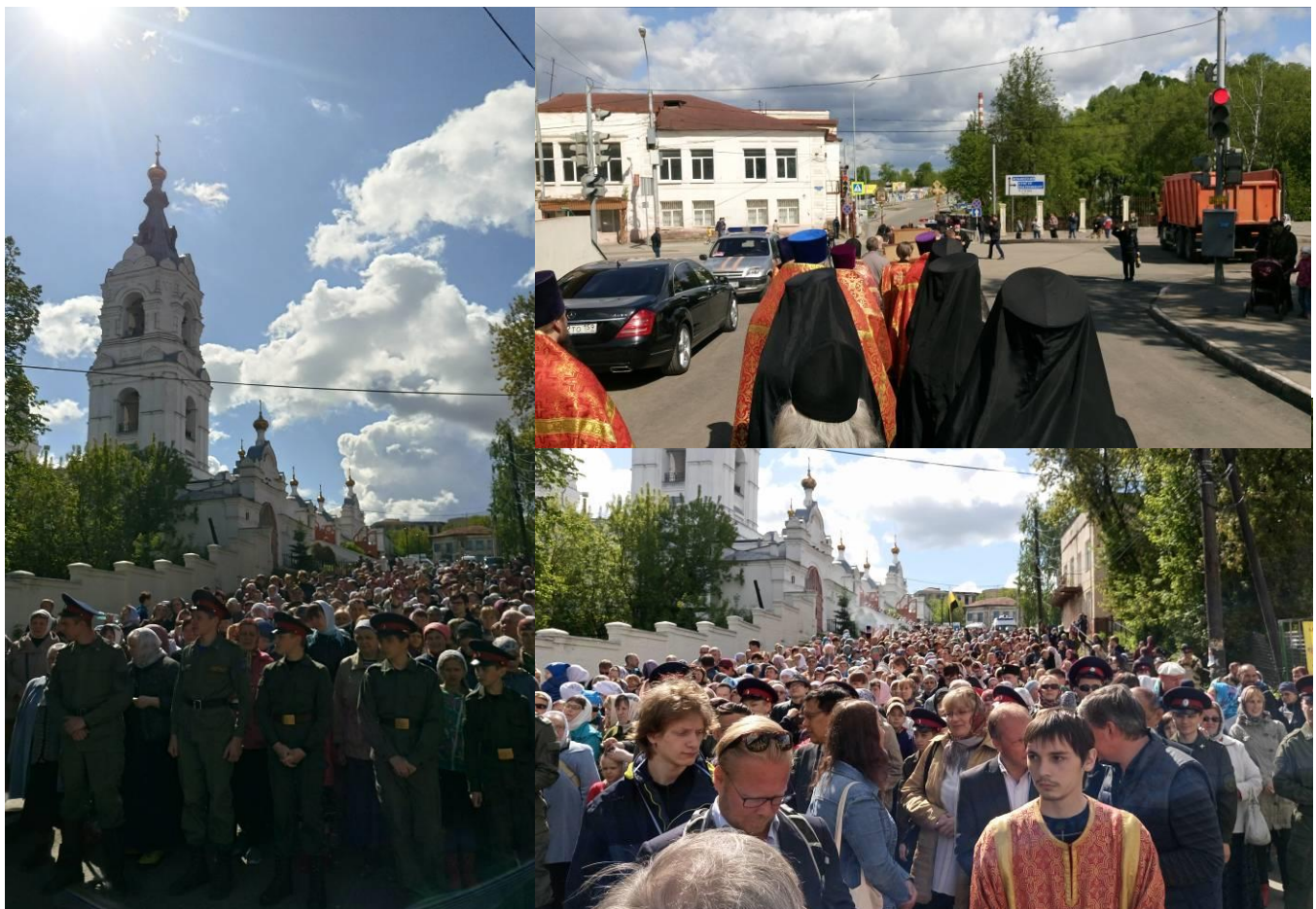




A group photo after the ceremony - with Alastar and Roderick Crawford, Archbishop Michael, Anna Gromova, Paul Kulikovsky, Ludmila Kulikovsky, Lubov Markova (in red), and the Zhonson family - Paradon Nitaya, Vladimir Bystrov, Andrei Zhonson and others.

### ***Sacred procession in the memory of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich***

The next day, on June 12, Divine Liturgy was served in the Holy Trinity Monastery of Stefanov and then the traditional cross-procession started in memory of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich to the chapel of Michael Tversky, the patron saint of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich.





About 1.500 pilgrims walked the 7 km to the chapel, among them for the first time - the relatives of Nikolai N. Zhonson. They were surprised at how many people came to honor the memory. Not all of them understood the words of the prayer "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on us!", which was sung all the way, but soon they caught up. They also learned that every year on June 12, hundreds, if not thousands, of local residents during the procession offer prayers to the Lord, asking forgiveness for their ancestors, who willingly or unwillingly took part. This event left an indelible mark on their soul.



Among the pilgrims were also His Eminence Michael, Archbishop of Medon, vicar of the Geneva and Western European Diocese, who traveled in dozens of Russian cities in 2004-2005, accompanying the ark with the relics of the Holy Martyrs Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna and the nun Varvara; Anna V. Gromova; and Paul E. Kulikovsky with spouse Ludmila. Hearing the singing, many residents came out of their houses, stood at the roadside and photographed the participants in the procession. The pilgrims could also enjoy the many gardens with fragrant lilac bushes.



The brick church-chapel of Michael Tversky on Red Hill (Krasnaya Gora) was built in memory of the Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich. At the chapel, in the village of Chapaevsky, the pilgrims visited the place of the alleged execution of the Grand Duke and his secretary Nikolai Zhonson and took part in the memorial service.

The service was led by His Eminence Methodius, Metropolitan of Perm and Kungur; and co-served by His Eminence Michael, Archbishop of Medon, vicar of the Geneva and Western European Diocese; and Reverend Mitrofan, Bishop of Severomorsk and Umba.

After the service, Bishop Mitrofan of Severomorsk and Umba addressed the audience, noting that he had come to Perm to pay tribute to his ancestors, who faithfully served the Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich and conveyed the warmth of this love.



"We all experience today's unprecedented feelings. This great memory, which is preserved by our people, today fully resonates in our hearts and responds in the Kingdom of Heaven, where all the innocent victims of the persecution of the Church are now praying with us, on faith," said the Bishop.

- My great-grandfather was the manager of the Palace of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich in St. Petersburg. And those stories that my grandmothers and ancestors have saved, which I have been honored and saved in my memory, they are precious. They talked about the Grand Duke's amazing kindness, surprisingly Christian qualities, about his directly personal concern for everyone with whom he came into contact.

Bishop Mitrofan noted that today's society is emerging from the darkness into which the Holy Russia once plunged and told the laymen the prophecy of John of Kronstadt that "over Perm there hangs a black cloud and a black cross."

"This was said long before the events, but even then the great old man foresaw that the Perm earth would be the place of rest for the best that our thousand-year-old Russia created, starting from Prince Vladimir, who showed an amazing triumph of faith in his heart and bestowed on our people. The Perm earth was chosen so that all this genetic memory, all this blood of the best, would nourish this land," His Eminence said.

Vladyka emphasized that our personal relationship to the Sovereign and his family is an inner tuning fork that "speaks" about the revival of historical memory:

- Everyone in his heart should feel this inner tuning fork if we want to know how much we have freed ourselves from the misfortune of godless times. Let's look into our hearts and ask how we treat the Tsar's family and all the descendants of the House of Romanovs. Do we have inner proletarian hatred or did we overcome it? If overcome, then Russia has a future. If we are still in this darkness, then the Lord has not touched our hearts to the fullest, and we are not yet saved.







Bishop Mitrofan thanked the Metropolitan of Perm and Kungur Methodius for the invitation and understanding that prevailed during his visit to Permian land, and also recalled that this was only the beginning of the path to reviving the memory of the martyrs.

On the territory of the Church of Michael Tversky on the Red Mountain, the foresters of the Levshinsky forest district had prepared the planting of 13 limes, in memory of the Imperial family of the Romanovs, who were shot 100 years ago.

Deputy Head of the Perm Administration Lidiya Koroleva, Head of the Administration of the Ordzhonikidzevsky District Yevgeny Karabatov, employees of the State Archives of the Perm Region, representatives of public organizations took part in the ceremony of planting the young limes.





***Musica Aeterna chorus under the direction of the conductor of the Perm Theater of Opera and Ballet Theodor Curentzis.***

In the Perm State Art Gallery Museum - located in the building of the Transfiguration Cathedral - an unique concert was arranged. In the hall with the unique collection of Russian religious wood sculptures from the XVII - beginning of XX century.

Members of the choir "Musica Aeterna" under the supervision of the famous conductor Theodor Curentzis, artistic director of the Perm Opera and Ballet Theater named after Tchaikovsky, stood singing, waiting for the guests to sit down - very unusual.



The performance of the choir was remarkable and stunned those who saw them for the first time. One of the songs was "Remember", which is performed with emotional movements, and make it a visual performance. And although not all the works performed were canonized spiritual music, it's wonderful when they are performed in a church, where the interior and amazing acoustics enhance the sound and emotional effect of the music.

***Presentation of the national project «The Imperial Route»***

The presentation of the project "The Imperial Route" was held in the Perm State Art Gallery. The project is dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the death of the Royal Passion-Bearers and Alapayevsk Martyrs, and representatives of the Russian Imperial House and is a revival of the historical, cultural and spiritual foundations of Russia, the dissemination of knowledge about the achievements of Russia during the reign of the Romanov dynasty, how the family of the last Emperor lived and kept the high traditions of piety, and the members of the Imperial Family as generous patrons and tireless benefactors.

It connects the places of residence, exile and deaths of representatives of the Romanov dynasty in different regions of Russia and abroad. The coordinator of the project is the Department of the Consumer Market and Tourism of the Tyumen Region.

- Now, it seems to me, the theme of the 300-year history of the House of Romanov is in demand in the society, because it is very important from the point of view of our national traditions, those pillars on which rested the Russian Empire, - noted Anna Vitalevna Gromova.

- We now have to say with all frankness that the search for a national idea is going on in vain, but in fact the idea lies on the surface - we must preserve the continuity of our history. We must rely on Orthodoxy, as a state-forming religion, should respect all religions, representatives of all religions that have lived in the world since ancient times in our land.



Representative of the Tourism Development Center of the Sverdlovsk Region Anastasia Prokudina presented the routes from the tour operators of the region.

The project "The Imperial Route. Perm Territory - Tyumen - Tobolsk - Yekaterinburg - St. Petersburg - Pskov - Kirov - Moscow" was presented.

In addition, the presentation of the project of the Yekaterinburg Diocese "Yekaterinburg Imperial Route" was held. The history of the route, its implementation, and objects that preserve the memory of the holy Imperial family, was told by the head of the youth department, candidate of historical

sciences Alexei Soloviev. Presenting the "Yekaterinburg Royal Route", Alexei Leonidovich noted that the Metropolitan of Yekaterinburg and Verkhoturye Kirill urged everyone in this memorable year to talk about the spiritual feat of the Emperor's family and the Alapaevsk martyrs.

The participant of the delegation of the Yekaterinburg diocese, Archpriest Maxim Minailo, called the commemorative events dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the death of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich "mournful, but very important."

"They bring us back to historical memory, they connect our cities, connect all of Russia through the memory of the Imperial Family and through the historical events of those years," Father Maxim said.

- The most important thing is that we are all united in one Spirit and are working today on the revival of historical truth, historical memory. Today, the pilgrim route (the "Imperial Route") is one for the entire country. This happened this year in a certain miraculous manner, with the blessing of God by the labors of many, many people. And in the future, not only our guests from abroad will go along this path, we ourselves must go along this path, we ourselves must remember what happened here, and find out what we do not know, draw conclusions and move forward.



### ***Meeting in Perm Archive***

In the Perm State Archive of Social and Political History a meeting was arranged for the group of visitors from abroad participating in the events dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the death of Grand Duke Michail Alexandrovich in Perm.



The director of the Perm archive Sergey V. Neganov welcomed all and told about the work carried out by the archive on the identification and scientific use of documents related to the Permian period of life of the Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich and his murder.

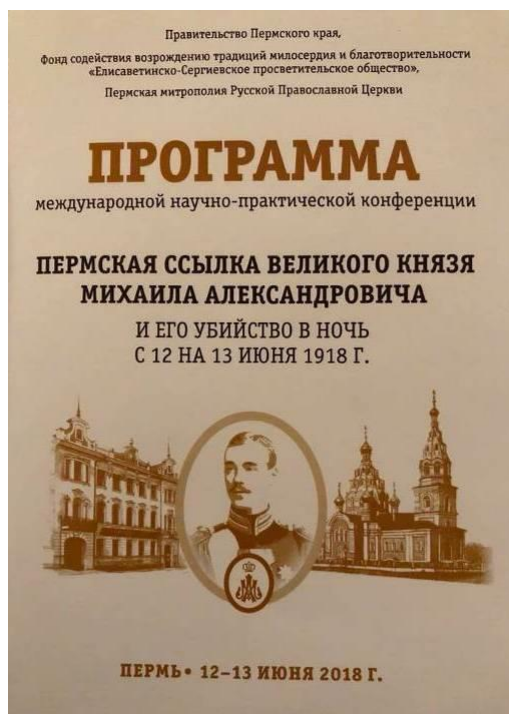
Then the deputy head I.V. Papulov informed the participants about the main documents from the archive funds related to the stay on the Permian land in 1918 of the Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich and to his murder and demonstrated some of them. For foreign guests who did not understand Russian, all that was said was translated into English by a professional translator.



Questions of the participants grew into a discussion related to the Permian period of life of the Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich and the circumstances of his death: the work of the white government authorities to investigate the murder of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich; the person next to the Grand Duke on the only known photograph of Michael Alexandrovich made in Perm in 1918; alternatives of the burial place of the remains of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich and his secretary N.N. Jonson; possible directions for further retrieval of documents on the topic under discussion, etc.



On June 13, the International Scientific and Practical Conference "Perm exile of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich and his murder on the night of 12 to 13 June 1918" opened in the Organ concert hall of the Perm Regional Philharmonic Society.



## ***The International Scientific and Practical Conference «Perm exile of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich and his murder on 12 – 13 June, 1918»***

The conference was opened by the Governor of Perm Krai Maxim Gennadievich Reshetnikov.

Metropolitan of Perm and Kungur Methodius, Archbishop Michael of Medon, vicar of the Geneva and Western European Diocese, Chairman of the Supervisory Board of the Elisavetinsky-Sergievsky Enlightenment Society Anna Gromova and Paul E. Kulikovsky, great-grandnephew of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich were in presidium.

The conference was attended by relatives of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich and Nikolai N. Zhonson, members of the Perm city дума, representatives of the Russian Orthodox Church and other religions, Russian and European historians, archivists, and representatives of local organisations.



The Governor of Perm Krai Maxim G. Reshetnikov greeted the guests and participants of the conference, thanked the scientists, historians, local historians, public figures, representatives of the Perm Diocese, archivists, whose efforts have been made to reduce the number of blank spots in the history of the murder of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich. According to him, in recent years, researchers have been able to find almost 900 archive documents that have a huge historical value on this topic.

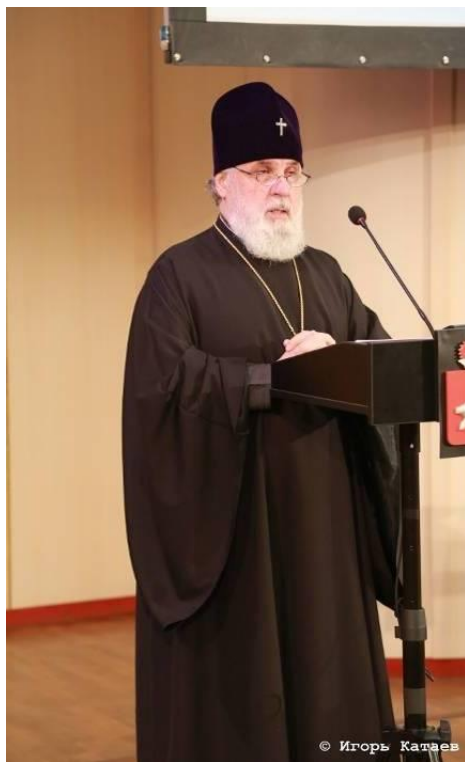
"Today it is a great honor for me to welcome the descendants of the Imperial Family and Nikolai Nikolaievich Zhonson to

Perm land. I am sure that the memory of the event of a hundred years ago is necessary for all of us to feel the historical process, for respect to the history of our region and for understanding today," said the head of the region.

According to him, the tragic contradictions of the era of the two Russian revolutions and the civil war significantly influenced the fate of the Perm Krai, where a lot of work is currently being done to restore the memory of the representatives of the House of Romanovs. In recent years, the attitude towards this topic has changed in society. "Of course we must remember the tragic pages of our history and the role that the Perm region played in the fate of the House of Romanov, in the fate of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich," - Maxim Reshetnikov said.



Thanking all for the tremendous work on restoring the truth about the murder of the members of the Romanovs' House and their proxies in the Perm Territory, the Governor expressed special gratitude to Anna V. Gromova, the Chairman of the Elizabeth-Sergei Enlightenment Society, the Deputy Chairman of the Imperial The Orthodox Palestine Society, the head of the international center "Charity in History" of the Institute of Oriental Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Ph.D., the co-chairman of the Council for the Systematization of the National Tourist Project "The Imperial Route".



His Eminence Methodius, Metropolitan of Perm and Kungur in his welcoming speech, spoke about the moral qualities of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich, who was an outstanding person, one of the most influential political figures of his time.

Vladyka Methodius: "Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich once said that he can be deprived of his property and the rights connected with his birth as punishment, but no one can deprive him of the right to shed blood for his Motherland. These are the words of a man who, by virtue of his position, could live peacefully, enjoying the pleasures that the world offers, because he had power and one of the greatest fortunes in the Russian Empire. But he also had good fame and other life priorities, a different hierarchy of values than many modern people. During the First World War, the Grand Duke placed in his palace an infirmary. After the February coup, he easily transferred his estate to the peasants. "

"In everyday life the brother of Emperor Nicholas II was simple, modest, delicate, trustful and honest, that all the people around him kind, and even was burdened by his position.

For example, the Bolshevik Vladimir Gushchev, the commissioner of the Gatchina Palace, when Michael Alexandrovich was under

house arrest, said: "The Grand Duke had three great virtues - kindness, simplicity and honesty. No party had any dislike for him, even socialists of all kinds treated him with respect. "

"It's hard for us to understand what happened to the minds and souls of people blinded by hatred, our countrymen who committed a vile murder in the June night of 1918 in Perm," Metropolitan Methodius said.

"From this event a whole chain of atrocities began against members of the Imperial House and their faithful companions. In doing lawlessness, people who committed the bloody massacre thought they were doing a good and just cause. In the photographs we see their proud and self-righteous persons. A century has passed. God put everything in its place. Today, the bright image of the Grand Duke, a noble and handsome man, is surrounded by the radiance of truth and dignity, and those who planned and realized the crime are devoted to historical oblivion."

"Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich did not hold on to his power, trying to keep it at any cost, but was ready to sacrifice his life for the good of his Motherland. Being the commander of the "wild" division, he always found himself in the midst of military events with his usual calm and composure, and the mountaineers literally worshiped him."

Vladyka Methodius expressed the hope that the Perm land will not only be the place where the Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich was killed, but also a place of memory, prayer, repentance and veneration of the Royal Passion-Bearers. According to him, we should think how morally healthy our society is, how spiritually strong we are, so as not to repeat such an atrocity.

"Touching upon the fate of Michael Alexandrovich, we can learn many more lessons for ourselves, and our respected scientists, local historians, journalists and all not indifferent people will help us," said the ruling bishop of the Perm diocese and wished everyone success and God's help.

Welcoming the participants of the conference, Archbishop Michael of Medon (Donskov), vicar of the Geneva and Western Diocese, noted that Russia Abroad had been waiting for this moment for a long time. For the Russian emigration, the catastrophe was not what happened in Petrograd in February 1917, but what happened in the Perm region. Russia was beheaded, knocked down in the prime of life by the assassination of Emperor Nicholas II and his brother, Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich.



Anna Gromova: "It was in Perm that a tragic knot was tied, which we can not untie for decades"

"Thank God that today we can speak the truth," Anna Gromova said, stressing that it was with the assassination of Grand Duke Michael

Alexandrovich and his secretary that the tragic path of the members of the Imperial Family began in Perm. Here, the Countess Anastasia Vasilievna Hendrikov, who accompanied the Imperial family, and Ekaterina Adolfovna Schneider, were also killed. It was in Perm that the tragic knot was tied, which we could not untie for many decades. Here, for the first time, the scenario was screened and applied, showing how society would react to the disappearance of representatives of the House of Romanovs. According to Anna Gromova, the assassination of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich became a touchstone of the unlawful destruction of hundreds of thousands of people during the years of the Red Terror.



Paul E. Kulikovsky's greeting - "Mr. Governor, Metropolitan, Archbishop, Anna Vitalevna, ladies and gentlemen, brothers and sisters, It is a pleasure to be in Perm again, and attend a conference dedicated to the memory of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich. I cordially greet the organizers and participants of this conference.

*I will however start with another person dear to me, and also to Michael Alexandrovich. Today, it is the 136 birthday anniversary of Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna, the younger sister of Michael Alexandrovich, and my great-grandmother - Eternal memory!*

*Exactly 100 years ago, in Perm, happened a tragedy. At first glance it looks like simple murder, but if one takes a closer look, a test of a planned genocide occur. The murder of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich and his secretary Nikolai Nikolaevich Zhonson, was the first of many members of the Imperial Romanov family and their entourage.*



*Nobody said anything. Nobody did anything. It was quietly ignored. This was to cost Russians dearly, the lack of protests and resistance unleashed a bloody red avalanche of terror, and 70 years of Godless enslavement started.*

*Every story has two sides. Darkness or Light. Tragedy or Triumph. An Earthly Kingdom lost, a Heavenly Kingdom gained. You choose which side to see, which one to believe, which one to talk about.*

*I am in special mood today, so I have decided to focus on positive things. Let the criminals disappear into the unknown. Today we honor the memory of the innocent victims - Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich and Nikolai Nikolaevich.*

*We honor Michael Alexandrovich for his service to Russia and Nikolai Nikolaevich for his loyalty to the Grand Duke. This I see happening in Perm in many ways.*

*Contact to the relatives of Nikolai Zhonson have been established. They have provided information about him, that has opened for us previously unknown pages of history.*

*The "other person", in the most iconic photos of Michael Alexandrovich made in Perm, is now identified as Colonel Peter Ludvigovich Znamerovsky, not as Nikolai Nikolaevich.*

*That led the ROCOR to make a new icon of Nikolai Zhonson, with an image based on new photos.*

*In Perm, a series of cultural events have been organized, and flowers were as per tradition placed at the memorial plaque on the building of the former hotel "Korolevsky Rooms".*

*Yesterday, a memorial plaque honoring Nikolai Zhonson was opened.*

*As I understand it, two rooms in this former hotel will be open soon, as memorial rooms for Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich and Nikolai Zhonson. I am very much looking forward to this.*

*An exhibition "Perm Prisoner" is added to the Historical Park "Russia - my History".*

*The "Imperial Route" is established in Perm, ready to take visitors to the places connected with Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich's stay here. And, I must add, to many more places, making it a tribute to the entire Imperial Family and it's entourage.*

*Yesterday, there was also a cross-procession in honor of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich.*

*A monument of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich is being prepared to be placed in Perm.*

*Of course the most difficult part for me, my family and many others is, that their remains are still not found. But this year, again a search is conducted, and even if no major result yet, we do not lose hope, that someday God will reveal the place to us.*

*And now our conference is opening. This is the third day in a row, in Perm, we are honoring Michael Alexandrovich and Nikolai Nikolaevich's memory - In itself a remarkable achievement.*

*Summing it up, I am very impressed by the activity level in Perm, related to Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich.*

*Thank you a lot - to all who have contributed and supported these projects. Mr. Governor, city administration, the church, archives on Perm, and our dear friend Anna V. Gromova and the Elizabeth-Sergei Enlightenment Society.*

*I started with Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna and I will end with a quote from her memoirs - "Misha was kindness itself, soft-hearted and had a most loveable nature. He was such a dear and good brother and a wonderful person, who everyone was fond of."*

*After the greetings, a video was shown with a virtual 3D tour around the streets of Perm, to the places where Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich went according to his diary in 1918. It was made by historians of the Perm State Humanitarian Pedagogical University and presented by Andrei Matkin, senior lecturer of the Department of General History of the PSPU.*

*Based on old photos, maps and other historical documents, the houses, shops, theaters, parks, etc came alive and visualized the city Perm at the time of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich's stay there.*

A reading from the book "Michael and Natalia", about Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich, by a school class headed by N.A.Kurdina, headmaster of A.S.Pushkin Perm School No.9 was very emotional. The children themselves had translated this book into Russian and presented an excerpt from it in the form of a small dramatization.

The plenary session started with Anna Gromova speaking about "Main stages and promotion methods for the national project "Imperial Route".

She recalled that a year ago she was in Perm and managed to promote the

project to the federal level. There is an amazing symphony of the Church, society and power, unity, enthusiasm, desire to cooperate, and this inspires all those who study our history and cherish it.

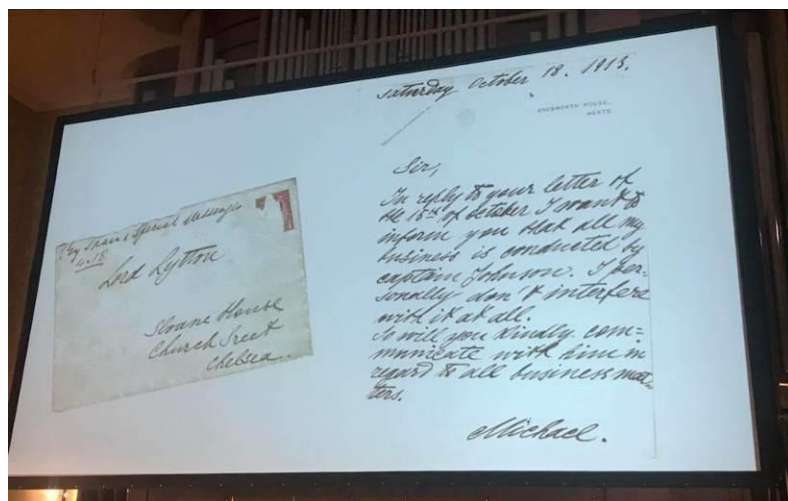
Anna Gromova highly appreciated the works of the historian Vladimir Khrustalev, the author of a series of books devoted to the murdered members of the Romanovs' House, and expressed hope that eventually we will learn the truth about each of them. Numerous books on this tragic topic were published.

Then she presented an award to Igor Alekseevich Gladnev, the Chairman of the Regional Branch of the All-Russian Public-State Organization "Russian Military Historical Society" in the Perm Territory.

Lyudmila Lykova addressed the - "Political status of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich". The doctor of historical sciences, the main specialist of the RGASPI believes that we need to call Michael Alexandrovich not a Grand Prince, but Emperor Michael II. As proof of her rightness, she considers the telegram of Emperor Nicholas II, in which he refers to his brother Michael: "Your Imperial Majesty." And according to Lykova, Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich only temporarily abdicated.

The grand-nephews of Nikolai N. Zhonson, Vladimir Bystrov and Paradon Nitaya, living in the Czech Republic and Thailand, made a report on the theme "Family of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich and the Zhonson: bonds of their destinies".

They showed the family tree of the family with photos and talked about how the descendants of Zhonson found themselves in such distant countries. Photographs of objects that are stored in their family archives were shown.



A letter in English by Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich, stating that all his business in conducted by Captain Johnson - in connection with leasing a house in England 1913.



Alastar Duncan and Roderick Alexander Crawford, the sons of Donald and Rosemary Crawford, authors of the book *Michael and Natasha: The Life and Love of Michael II, the Last of the Romanov Tsars*, dedicated to the Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich and his wife Countess Natalia Brasova, told about their parents work with the book and how this conference was a victory for their parents, as they always believed that Michael Alexandrovich rightly should be address as the last Tsar of Russia.



Director of the Perm State Archives of Social and Political History Sergei V. Neganov, one of the organizers of the conference and other events dedicated to the memory of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich, made a report on how his murder affected the public consciousness. Based on the documents, Sergei Neganov outlined the details of the murder committed on the night of 12 to 13 June 1918. He cited the testimony of criminals - the murderers of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich and Nikolai Zhonson. Told about how worthily they behaved in the face of death, and how Nikolai Zhonson was asked not to go with Michael Alexandrovich, when the Chekists came for him, but he insisted and voluntarily went for it.

Many new facts were contained in the report "Secretary of the Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich N.N. Zhonson ", which was read by Lubov P. Markova, head of the Library No. 32 of the

Educational Center "Library of Spiritual Revival" and of the "Association of Municipal Libraries" of the city of Perm.

She then presented Anna Gromova and Paul Kulikovsky some magazines with her articles.

Doctor of Philology, candidate of historical sciences, Rector of the Perm Theological Seminary Marina Degtyareva, addressed the audience with "Proof of faith: A.V. Hendrikov and E.A. Schneider ". She was followed by the grand-niece of the Countess Anastasia Vasilyevna Hendrikov (the maid of honor of Empress Alexandra Feodorovna) Elizaveta Osteletskaia, who came from Switzerland, with a greeting to the conference participants.

Kira V. Ryushti, the chairman of the French charitable association Around Russia, who supported her, added that she bowed low to everyone who continues the holy cause of resurrecting of such names forgotten by most contemporaries as Ekaterina Adolfovna Schneider and Anastasia Vasilyevna Gendrikova, who were killed in the Perm region just as cruelly.

Protopriest Igor Anufriev, rector of the Church of St. Great Martyr George the Victorious in Perm, spiritual father of the Permian theological seminary, member of the Public Chamber of the Perm Region, told the participants about the spiritual path of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich. Father Igor stressed that both the Grand Duke and Emperor Nicholas II, in the conditions of the crisis of the political system, tried to restore the monarchy through the people's will. Unfortunately, this attempt was unsuccessful. Although they sought to live according to the Lord's commandments, society accused the martyrs of weakness.

Under the guidance of Father Igor, who also leads the choir, at the end of the first part of the conference, the students of the Perm Theological Seminary performed sacred songs.

Chief specialist of GARF Vladimir Khrustalev, PhD (History) and deputy of the department for the study and publication of GARF documents, and Olga Lavinskaya, PhD (History) presented their book "The deaths of members of the Romanovs' House in the Urals in the summer of 1918. Materials of the preliminary research of the investigator for especially important cases at the Omsk District Court N.Sokolov: Collection of documents. " In addition, Vladimir Khrustalev told about the service of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich in the army during the Great War.



Participants in the conference also learned about the military activities of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich.

K.E. Tabachnev, a member of the historical movement, made a report on the topic "Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich at the time of his command in the 17th Hussar Chernigov Regiment (1909-1911)."

Sergei G. Ulanovich, the head of the military historical club "Lithuanian Lancers in the Russian Imperial Army", is engaged in historical reconstruction. His speech was called "1910 maneuvers commanded by Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich and their modern reconstruction."

Dmitry M. Sofyin, Candidate of Historical Sciences, Associate Professor of the Department of Contemporary History of Russia at the Perm State National Research University, told about the governor in the Caucasus, Count I.I. Vorontsov-Dashkov and the formation of the Wild Division.

The project of a monument to Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich was presented by Igor Gladnev, chairman of the Regional Branch of the All-Russian Public-State Organization "Russian Military Historical Society" in the Perm region. The monument is to be opened in December 2018 - to the 140th anniversary of the birth of the Grand Duke. The author of the project is Alexei Matveyev.

The conference ended with reports on the Permian period of the life of the Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich.

Yuri Zhuk, Doctor of Law, President of the Fund for the Remembrance of the New Martyrs of the Romanovs' Imperial House, spoke about the possibility of finding the remains of those killed on the night of June 12-13, 1918.



"An unsuccessful participant in the assassination of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich," was presented by Ivan Papulov, deputy head of the department of the NSA of the Perm State Archive of Socio-Political History.

Little-known pages of biographies of the participants in the murder of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich were told by the historian, the director of the publishing house "Pushka", one of the leading experts Nelly Zenkova, who stressed that this murder was not a spontaneous decision by a group of Perm Red Army soldiers, but a planned Bolshevik act, and experiment "before the murder of the Imperial Family.

The chairman of Perm Krai Society, a member of the Russian Union of Journalists, Vladimir Gladyshev, highlighted the problem of researching and perpetuating the memory of representatives of the House of Romanovs.

Chairman of the Perm regional branch of the All-Russian Society for the Protection of Historical and Cultural Monuments, Lev Pereskokov devoted his report to the image of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich in historiography.



Peter A. Sarandinaki, president of the American fund "SearchFoundation, Inc.", spoke about the long-term activity of the international search for the remains of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich. Among the participants of the expeditions there are professionals of the highest class, working without payment on a volunteer basis.

It should be noted that the foreign participants of the conference consider the remains of the Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich as relics, as he is ranked among the saints by the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia. His admirers do not lose hope that the relics will someday be found.

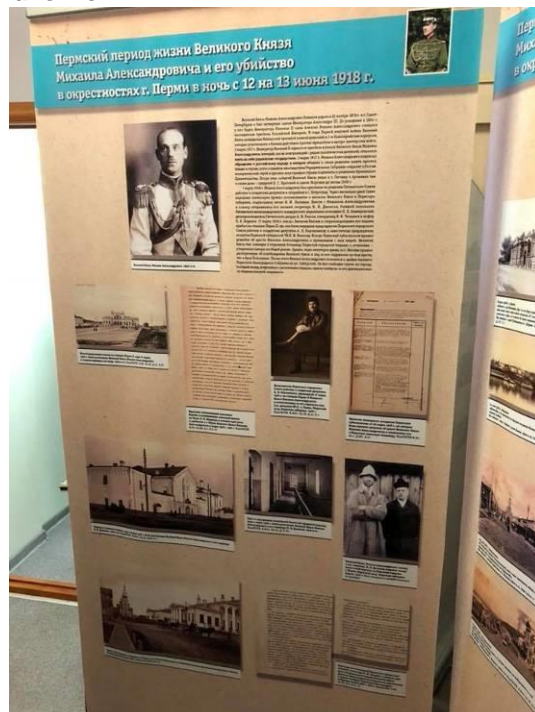
At the end of the conference Alastar and Roderick Crawford made an emotional plead for a final statement to be made, that Michael Alexandrovich was indeed the last Emperor of Russia. A final paper stating this was then made and all participants was asked to sign it, if they agreed with this statement, and most did!

### ***The traveling exhibition about Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich***

Outside the conference hall, in the lobby on seconf floor was a travelling exhibition about the stay in Perm in 1918 of the Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich and and his death on the night of June 12-13, 1918, prepared by the staff of the Perm State Archives of Social-Political History.

The initiator of this exhibition was the director of PermGASPI S.V. Neganov, the main developer is the deputy chief of the department of the NSA of the Perm arkhiv I.V. Papulov, and the consultant was a famous Permian historian, director of the publishing house "Pushka" N.A. Zenkova, who for many years have been engaged in the study of the Perm period of life of the Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich and the circumstances of his murder.

This exhibition consists of eleven stands with photos and documents, of which one is introductory; two are devoted to the Permian period of Michael Alexandrovich's life; one to the secretary of the Grand Duke, N.N. Zhonson; two to the circumstances of the murder of Michael Alexandrovich and



N.N. Zhonson; four to the organizers and participants in the murder of the Grand Duke and the last to perpetuating the memory of Michael Alexandrovich's stay on the Perm earth and the search for his remains.

Most of the documents at the exhibition have not been published anywhere before, and some have arrived in PermGASPI quite recently. So, on the exhibition banner dedicated to NN. Zhonson, there are documents handed over to the archive by his grand-nephew V. Bystrov in August 2017.

Videos:

1) In Perm came those who cherish the memory of the younger brother of Nicholas II - Michael Alexandrovich  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EwBA1Yt9s7w>

2) The 100th anniversary of the martyrdom of the representatives of the Romanov Imperial House  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PvMfavoW74q>

3) In Perm, a procession of the memory of Michael Alexandrovich  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c2YY2F9sGpg&t=1s>

4) Perm is included in the tourist project "the Imperial Route"  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n9fTkhXnOCA&t=0s>

5) Grand Duke Michael Romanov proposed to canonize  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WJ355RoFTOM&feature=share>

6) To the 100th anniversary of the martyrdom of the representatives of the Romanov Imperial house  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O0T2yr2Gbno&feature=share>

7) The expedition to search for the remains of Michael Romanov ended  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bthupl67fPo>







### ***Epilogue***

"There are people among motovilikhin old residents who are convinced that it is useless to look for the place of Michael Alexandrovich's grave," says Vladimir Gladyshev, a Perm local historian . "They believe that their bodies were burnt at Motovilikha Plant."

This version was widely distributed among white emigres. And, the source of it was the book of the English journalist Robert Wilton "The Last Days of the Romanovs", which he published in 1920.

In 1919, Wilton, as a correspondent for The Times, visited Yekaterinburg, where he communicated with investigators who conducted the case of the murder of the Imperial family.

"The police had a car. They sat in it with the arrested. Nobody in Perm either saw the Grand Duke or his secretary anymore. They were taken to Motovilikha, a factory lying a few versts from Perm on the Kama, and there they were killed; Their bodies were thrown into the blast furnace," writes Robert Wilton in his book, referring to one of the servants of the Grand Duke - Chelyshev . Whence the servant has learned about the further destiny of the killed, is not specified in the book.

However, little credit can be given to such a statement, as it has been specified by others directly involved in the affairs, that the killers did not come by car, but by three horse-drawn carts.

And also the local history specialist is skeptical about this version.

- Motovilikhinsky plant at that time did not work, only interrupted by small orders, so the blast furnaces at that time practically did not work, - says Vladimir Gladyshev.

According to other rumors, the remains of Michael Alexandrovich and Nikolai Zhonson in 1925 were taken from the ground by NKVD officers, burned in the furnace in Motovilikha, and the ashes were thrown into the Kama. But there is no documentary evidence of this version.

Two years ago, a woman living in Motovilikha, in the Chapaevsky microdistrict, came to Peter Sarandinaki, the head of the international expedition searching for the remains of Michael Alexandrovich. She said that in 1994 her son, who was then 12 years old, was playing with a friend in the forest, on the slopes of the Red Mountain, and there he found an old mine. The boys climbed inside and found two skeletons.

"The boy's mother said that the boys took one of the skulls from there and walked with him through the streets," recalls Peter Sarandinaki. - This saw a policeman and took away their skull.

But since the skull was old, and obviously could not serve as evidence of a recent murder, the precinct officer, threw out the children's find.

Could those skeletons be the remains of Michael Alexandrovich and Nikolai Zhonson? In principle, they could. Not far from the Red Mountain was an old brick factory, clay for which was mined in mines. And the two Bolsheviks, who were to hide their bodies the day after the murder of the Grand Duke, could well not bother digging a grave, but using a ready mine. But in the late 90's, after a child fell into one mine, all the mines was closed.

"The exact place where the boys found the skeletons, that woman did not know, and her son flatly refused to meet with us," says Peter Sarandinaki. "But the approximate location of the mines has been reported to us." And we spent five days digging in that ravine. At first the radar was trying to find voids under the ground. But they did not find anything, although the instruments showed that the ground in this place is new, that is, the pits there were recently covered. Then they excavated the area, but only wasted time. No skeletons were found.



*Participants in the murder of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich and Nikolai Zhonson: from the left to the right - A.V. Markov, N.V. Zhuzhgov, G.I. Myasnikov, V.A. Ivanchenko, I.F. Kolpaschikov, A.A. Mikov. 1924*

In search of the remains of the Grand Duke, all researchers rely on the memories of his killers. Although some refute them, others try to isolate a grain of truth from them... But why are there so many different interpretations in memoirs? Some historians believe that the killers specifically decided to confuse the trail so that no one could find the grave of Michael Alexandrovich. No wonder one of the organizers of the murder, Alexander Mikov, mockingly writes in his memoirs about the search by the white investigators who were hot on their feet trying to find the burial place of the Grand Duke: "They dig well, they dig like pigs. But they will find nothing."

Or maybe it's easier? Try to remember exactly what street you walked two years ago. It is unlikely that you will confidently



name the route. And then it was not two years, but six - their memories were written for the collection "For the power of the Soviets", which was supposed to be released in 1924, although it was not published. In addition, the murderers were most likely drunk afterwards, agitated by the crime, so if they drove five kilometers or six - what's the difference, for a rabid dog seven versts is not a hook, the main thing after all - they killed.

One important fact is, that even if the memories of the killers talks about where they killed them, there are no mentioning of where they buried the remains. But that they were buried one document talk about.

Now the place of the murder of Michael Alexandrovich and Nikolai Zhonson is considered to be the Red Mountain, a hillock at the entrance from the Vyshka II micro district to the Chapayevsky microdistrict. There in 1998, in memory of the Grand Duke, the chapel of Michael Tversky was laid. But until the remains are found, the question of the fate of the last Russian Emperor remains open.

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### **The search continued on the alleged site of the murder of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich in Perm**

In Perm, the search continued for the remains of Grand Duke Michael Aleksandrovich and his secretary Nikolai Zhonson. Excavations was conducted from 4 to 17 June at three sites in the area of Vyshki-2, just outside of Perm city.

As organizers of the prospecting works noted, on the threshold of excavation a large archival work was carried out, more than 2 thousand historical documents were studied. Based on this information, scientists believe that with a high degree of probability they found the place of execution of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich and his assistant. Now archaeologists are looking for the burial place for bodies.



The main task of the search organizers called the continuation of the scientific study of the land, which is defined as the possible location of the remains of the Grand Duke and his secretary. The organizers of the excavations carried out extensive preparatory work: all spontaneous landfills in the territory of the plots were removed to use the equipment. In addition, the search team communicates with local residents to obtain a historical certificate of selected sites.

To determine the level of the earth in 1918, a test trench was laid. During the excavations, various scientific methods was used to identify anomalies that can indicate the location of human remains.

If the remains was found, the search organizers add, they will be referred to the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation for investigation, since they are conducting a big case about the murder of members of the Imperial Family.



The search for the remains of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich and his secretary Nikolai Zhonson was organized by Peter Sarandinaki from the SEARCH Foundation in cooperation with the Russian authorities, the Russian Orthodox Church, Russian police, state and municipal bodies.



Participation in the search activities will be made by Russian and foreign scientists. Including representatives of the United States: the head of searches Peter Sarandinaki, investigator-criminalist Brooke Schaub, forensic geophysicist George Davenport, historian Stephen Jackson, forensic botanist Crystal Ostrich; representatives of Russia: archaeologist Dmitry Zenyuk, member of the historical cultural fund "Finding" Lyubov Markova and the founder of this fund Nelli Zenkova.

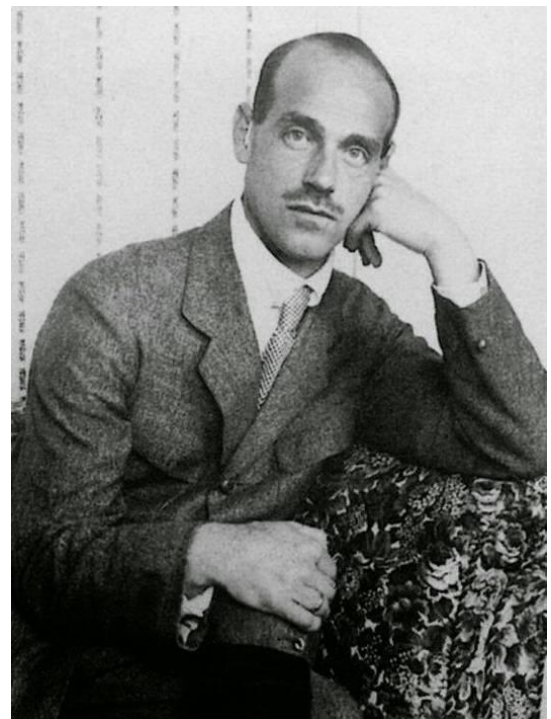
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### **Celebrations in Lokots, at the estate of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich**

11 June 2018, Bryansk News - In Lokots, Bryansk region, there were celebrations dedicated to the Day of Russia and the House of Romanovs. The younger brother of Tsar Nicholas II, Michael Romanov, who was ranked as a saint by the Russian Orthodox Church abroad and the first of the Imperial family to end martyrdom, owned the Brasov estate.

The celebration began with a cross-procession. Its participants overcame a considerable distance from the Ploshchanskaya monastery to the Lokots church in the name of the New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia, where the Metropolitan of Bryansk and Seversky Alexander performed the Divine Liturgy.

At the end of the Liturgy, before the icon of the holy Royal Passion-bearers, Vladyka Alexander performed a moleben. After the service, the head of the Bryansk metropolia congratulated all those present on the holiday.





"Romanov power - for the benefit of Russia" - such a slogan was seen by the participants of the holiday near the memorable stone on the site of the estate of Michael Romanov. Here they laid flowers. Then the festivities began on the historic palace square.

With a word of greeting, Governor Alexander Bogomaz addressed all those present:

- It is very symbolic that we begin celebrations in the village of Lokot. Here, as in a drop of water, it reflects all of Russia - from ancient times to our days. Today, under the shadow of the Brasov alleys, we particularly clearly feel the connection of times: the heroic past, the bright present, and the great future of our Motherland. Day of Russia is a day of unity of all patriotic forces, all who are ready to work for the good of our Motherland, to strengthen its power and authority.

George Michaelovich, Prince of Prussia, thanked everyone for preparing the holiday on the Brasov land:

- It was my dream to visit this place in the Bryansk region. I would like to congratulate all of you on the occasion, to thank the Governor and all those who helped to organize this wonderful holiday. I am sure that my ancestors look at us from heaven and are proud of our country, a great country! Happy Russian Day!"

Vladyka Alexander said - "I am happy that today a lot of people gathered here, and people share their talents. In Bryansk, people live beautiful souls and, of course, very gifted from God. Many people are enterprising, who respect the Church, love it. Before the revolution there were more than 1000 temples in Bryansk ancient land. Of course, they have not lived to this day. But 22 churches are waiting for their hour, waiting for them to pay attention to sensible people. Now the patronage movement is starting to be established, and I hope they will help restore our national shrines. I congratulate all the residents of Bryansk region on the coming Day of Russia. It is a young holiday, but we consider it a significant holiday in the life of our Fatherland and, of course, we try to prepare for it, and above all, to be worthy members of our society, worthy inhabitants of our great homeland-Russia."

The Metropolitan also told about his dream - to restore the palace of Michael Romanov, and his words have already found a response in the heart of philanthropist Oleg Panin, who helps not only in the celebration.

The holiday "Under the canopy of Brasovo alleys" continued with performances. The directors presented a remarkably built historical action, which tells about the love of Michael Romanov and Natalia Brasova, and about the tragic revolutionary upheavals.

The music was romantic songs - about love and Russia. The main dancing and defiling couple - Michael Romanov and Natalia was represented, like last year, by Anastasia Chirkova and Artur Potaptsev.

The shopping arcade that surrounded the site was also an exhibition. Spectators-buyers with pleasure looked at toys and elegant hand-made articles of wood - the Bryansk wolf, dolls and many other things. Portraits of the members of the Romanov family were very quickly dispersed.



## "Historical event in Perm land determined the destiny of mankind"

*Sergey Vasillivich Neganov, Director of Perm State Archive of Social Political History interviewed by Ludmila and Paul Kulikovsky*

Born in Perm in 1968. In 1992 - graduated from the Faculty of History of Perm State University.

In 1992 - 1997 - political adviser to the Head of Perm City Administration.

Since September 2015 Director of the Perm State Archive of Social and Political History.

### ***You have an education as a historian, but career went in other directions?***

Neganov: Since 1991, I have been engaged in politics and journalism, but not history as a science. By 1991, I was 20 years old and I believed in myself, thought that I was already an experienced journalist. I decided to revive the oldest newspaper in the Urals, *Permskie Vedomosti*, founded in the early 19th century. I appointed myself editor-in-chief, assembled a team of young guys, also historians, and we tried to create a liberal newspaper in European style. We had a lot of enthusiasm, but we managed to release only a few numbers. In January 1992, there was an economic reform, liberalization of the economy and it became clear that our liberal newspaper could exist only in the Soviet era. Prices for paper soared, and advertising did not even pay for the paper and printing. The newspaper stopped coming out, I wrote to other newspapers for a while on topics related to the new democratic policy. And when, after the coup and the ban on the communist party, new authorities began to work, I was recommended to the mayor of Perm as a specialist but a new policy. I was his adviser from 1992-97, then the mayor lost the elections, partly because of my fault. In 1999, I was invited to the governor's office, where I worked for 16 years. For 16 years I have been engaged in politics in this region, and now for 2.5 years I am the Director of Perm State Archive of Social Political History. In Soviet times it was called the party archive. It stores documents only from 1917 to the present.



### ***How did "the Romanovs" come into your life?***

Neganov: I came to the theme of the Romanovs not by chance. It is coincidence or not, but in 1989 I worked as a junior researcher at the Perm Local History Museum. At that time, the well-known screenwriter, film director, historian and publicist Helium Ryabov was searching for the remains of the Imperial family near Yekaterinburg. After he discovered them, he undertook an expedition to Perm in order to find the remains of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich. Ryabov believed that his sun was rising and now everything will turn out well. Using his connections, he went to different institutions and organizations. When he came to the museum, and this was in Soviet time, the authorities did not quite understand how to treat this topic, it was Perestroika, but nonetheless. And they said, we have a young man, he will help you. This person was me. I do not think that I really helped him, but I found some photographs of Solikamsky tract and maps for him.

Ryabov worked in Perm for only a month, and found a large amount of materials. But he did not meet the deadline in which he wanted to do it. He shared his findings, all this was discussed. Watching him, I saw how his mood changed from rising, to a restrained attitude, to complete disappointment. He was at the place you visited today, made exploratory pits. I remember our last meeting when he came from an excavation site smeared with clay. He announced that on the basis of all the information he came to the conclusion that the corpses were burned in the furnaces of the Motovilikhinsky plant and therefore it is useless to look for the remains. But he did not convince me. I believe that he was just disappointed with the lack of a quick result, the fact that he did not find the remains of Michael Alexandrovich and Nikolai Nikolaievich.





***You were the organisor of the just ended conference "Perm exile of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich and his murder". How did it become your task and how do you think it went?***

Neganov: The work has developed so widely largely thanks to the Russian Investigative Committee (RIC). Three years ago, (RIC) started the investigation of the criminal case for the murder of the Imperial Family. The murder of Michael Alexandrovich is made into a separate case in the framework of this case. Andrei Igorevich Bezmaternnykh, an investigator who leads the case in Perm, asked the archive to help find the documents. He is local, but he is a member of the investigation team created by the RIC. We

found out that most of the documents related to the murder of Michael Alexandrovich are stored in our archive. At the same time, only as a result of this search we found a number of well-known but not previously published documents.

As this work has progressed, I realized that this is a very good reason to make the archive open. The conference participants said that a lot of things will become known if the archives are open. At the same time, L.A. Lykova, who had in mind the archive of the FSB, gave a professional appraisal, others spoke in general. The archivists take offense at such words, and ask the question - Who closed the archives? The fact is that the archives are not closed, just it is difficult to access the archival documents. In my opinion, in order to make archives a part of real social life, they must find the topics themselves that may be of interest to society, and actively propose them, and then find documents from the archive and present them to the public. And I decided that this will be the theme related to Michael Alexandrovich, a topic that is necessary and in demand by the public. All our actions are subject to this idea.

Understanding that our documents are not so easy to convey for ordinary people, for non-professional, we made a traveling exhibition. It presents the original documents on Michael Alexandrovich and Nikolai Zhonson. This exhibition we did last year, but in this year it is expanded. The exhibition is very easy to move around the territory of the region, as it consists of banners showing images of documents. It was in schools and in cultural institutions, so ordinary people can get acquainted with archival documents.

***You are not just giving it to the media?***

Neganov: We work with the media. We tried to increase the number of newspapers, TV and radio companies who write on this topic, not because we paid them, we have no money, but because they themselves are interested. Some people said at the conference that the Nikolai Zhonson related topics suddenly appeared in the press. This is not unexpected. We worked with the media. If you try to call journalists and give them thirty pages in small font with citations from documents, then no one will ever publish it. But if you offer them an interesting story, set out simply and clearly, many will want to talk about it. And here was a beautiful sensation. Everyone thought that the Grand Duke was accompanied by the Englishman Brian Johnson, but it turned out that this is not so, his secretary was russian orthodox Nicholas Zhonson. Of course, this was helped by Vladimir Bystrov, who brought the documents.

In the 1990s, L. V. Pereskokov held conferences, but neither the public nor the press knew about them. It did not go beyond the city limits. There were professionals, and there were narrow discussions. After all, the professionals already knew that Johnson was not an Englishman, but it was necessary to make this information available to everyone, so for the society it was a sensation. I hope that if we continue to

move in this way and offer an interesting product convenient for public consumption, then the topic will not fade after the jubilee.

***Your mission is to find something or to prove something?***

Neganov: Rather to prove. I am a great patriot of this land, therefore I think that this is important. My previous and current professions - politics and history - are, oddly enough, connected, including in a practical sense. One of the problems that I had to solve in the past is the problem of a positive component of public consciousness. The smaller it is, the worse is the attitude of the people to the authorities, to the candidates in the elections, there are more opportunities for cheap non-constructive populism. Therefore, it is necessary to form a positive perception of the surrounding reality in the public consciousness. Like, that good actions of governors and deputies are perceived good by the society. With negative perception it is useless to do anything. For example, if they put a road, they will say that tomorrow it will fall apart.

And here, strangely enough, the historical component is important. People must believe that what is done on this land is cool, because this land has always been great and the people who live here have always been great. And if we talk about the fact that the last Russian Emperor lived on this land, it works. We tried to correct this in a video, that they not only died here, but also lived here. For people to believe in themselves, in the surrounding reality, so that they have a sense of self-respect, you need a decent biography of this land, including tragedy, dramas, but large-scale. This is also how a person needs a decent biography.

Pavel Eduardovich, you successfully realize an important mission of a lively connection with historical events and involving today's people. Thanks to your presence Perm people feel that this is not antiquity, it is a living relationship, it is about people, who were just recently.

That explains why the governor needs to invest in it. I think he understands this.

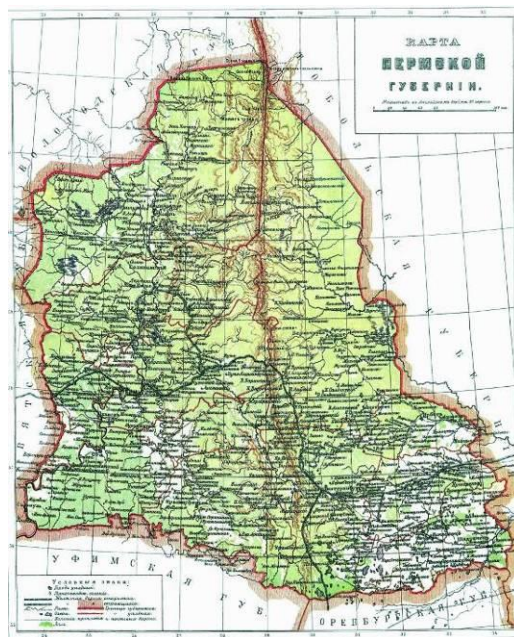
***I think it is very important that the Governor shows interest and it was great that he participated in the conference***

Neganov: The governor is quite consistent, he catches the ideas that we discussed, he does not try to cover the entire political sector. In general, he reacts positively. But there is a problem. Some historians react negatively to the sacralization of the topic, to the fact that the governor speaks of Michael Alexandrovich as Emperor Michael II. This is what Maxim Gennadyevich said at the conference last year. This was perceived by many as a bold, conscious position. Many historians took the position that this still needs to be proved and the governor is not right, they even tried to prove something.

This year Reshetnikov outlined another paradigm, which is more interesting for him now. The split in a society that continued with a geographic split. Permiaks all, and the governor, and me, and I have not yet met people who would not been sensitive to the fact, that for 200 years the whole of the Urals was part of the Perm province. Perm is the capital of the Urals. And when we hear in TV news every day that Yekaterinburg is the capital of the Urals, it infuriates me. For what reason! Yekaterinburg is a provincial town, a district center in the Perm province ..., almost a village. Sverdlovsk Region is similar to Motovilikha.

The Urals in the early 18th century was uninhabited and if there were settlements there, then these were around factories. Perm was also a factory, there was Yoshinsky copper smelting factory and Egoshihinsky settlement. By the eighties of the 18th century copper reserves had been depleted, the plant closed. There was a question what to do with the city, which, although it was small, already somehow grew by that time. Close the city or give it a new life?

By the decree of Catherine II the city was given a new life, Perm was appointed the capital of the Urals, an administrative center of province. Accordingly, for 150 years until the



*Map of Perm region, which then included Yekaterinburg and Alapaevsk.*



beginning of the 20th century, there was no industry here. In Perm there was trade, because it was a river, an important artery. Here there was an education, the first grammar school in which studied all, who wanted to get education in Urals. Then the first Urals university was set up in Perm, all the official institutions in the Urals were concentrated also in Perm. And this was the center of the Perm diocese. Businessmen, officials, scientists and teachers and clergy lived in Perm. None of them was fascinated by Bolshevik ideas, there was no ground for them. Unlike Yekaterinburg, which was a regional center in the Perm province, where there were factories and there was a proletariat. The same situation was in Motovilikha, but there was 10 km and a forest between Motovilikha and Perm. Now Motovilikha is part of Perm.

This situation is clearly visible in the fate of Sverdlov. In 1907-10 the Bolshevik party sent him to the Urals to create Bolshevik groups. First he arrived in the capital of the Urals, in Perm. He failed because in Perm, the Bolsheviks had no base. And he himself was eventually handed over to the police, where he was sitting ... Sverdlov fled, again returned to the Urals, but did not go to Perm, but went to Yekaterinburg and created a Bolshevik organization there. That is why Yekaterinburg was later appointed the capital of the Urals and named Sverdlovsk. This is what Maxim Gennadyevich was talking about.

A revolutionary confrontation, when the working centers in which the lumpen proletariat turned out to be hyper-revolutionary, and Perm, with all its traditions, cultural, spiritual, technical, mental, coming from the Stroganov empire, was in opposition to this new civilization. And this opposition is very vividly characterized by reference to Perm and Michael Alexandrovich when we talk about his life here. This is an essential part of the life of the Grand Duke in Perm. And our enthusiasts of local history study it carefully. Michael Alexandrovich visited many Perm people, he communicated with people, walked, went to the theater, and criticized some performances, but he liked other productions.

This life of the capital city, a provincial, but quiet and cultural city was in a vivid and obvious opposition to the life of Motovilikha, where these guys who shot Cossacks in barricades in 1905, then sat in jails, links, fled, again came across. And they returned victorious. Imagine their inner sensation, their desire to tear this life to shreds, completely unacceptable to them bourgeois, philistine life in Perm. This was most vividly expressed in the manner in which they conceived the murder of the Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich, as a symbol of all this life absolutely impossible for them.



***The murder was well planned, they acted according to some instructions, and why did they hide the bodies, and not boast of them as trophies?***

Neganov: Both options are possible. Maybe they acted according to instructions. Or on their own. I think they were afraid that they would be punished by Soviet authorities. It does not matter if Soviet Government knew about the killing, or not. Let's say the center will prefer to dissociate itself in the interests, for example, due to an international agreement, and then murderers would be punished - they will not be shoot for what they did, but for arbitrariness. While the corpses were not found, they could be justified. But Herostratos' fame did not give them peace. Particular Myasnikov, the most active among them, a few days after the murder gathered this group and told them - we have his memories in our archive - "We ourselves invented this version, that he escaped. For what if an impostor soon comes to Kolchak in Siberia and claims that he is Michael II. Let's dig out the corpses, throw them in the Korolevsky Rooms, and then I'll announce that I alone did it all." But the group quickly realized that he wanted to take all the glory and refused. In Yekaterinburg, they used the Permian experience.

***Regarding the conference, did you fulfill your tasks?***

Neganov: There's no bad press. There was critical opinions, but it is not public and only among 2-3 scientists. I spent a lot of time and energy on this, to solve specific problems. I believe that they are solved. I had the task of scaling the topic. If we raised it, creating a sensation at the expense of the theme of Zhonson, then we scaled it due to the sensational theme that Michael Alexandrovich was the Emperor Michael II. The governor said this last year, we supported it this year. I'm talking about everyone present.

In addition to the main, the accompanying tasks were solved: to support people who develop the topic, this is very important. They work, they need to be given the opportunity to speak out so that they will not be disappointed. It is necessary to involve new people, for example Zhonsons and Crawfords. But it is important that the main theme develops all the time.

This November we will hold readings, there will be a round table. Its theme will be the search for the remains of Michael Alexandrovich and Nikolai Nikolaevich. And we will beautifully present this to the public and the media.

The most important thing is the December mark - the 140th anniversary of the birth of Michael Alexandrovich. Obviously, the event will not be as large as now, but it supports the topic. Then we can use those topics that were stylistically out of place now, when we commemorated the anniversary of a death.

We need popular things that makes the people understand the topic. For example, many people asked me why at the last conference there were no souvenirs, badges, mugs with the monogram of Michael Alexandrovich. This is important in modern society for the development of the topic. Make a popular symbolical product. This is how you can develop the topic. But souvenirs are a companion thing.

By December we will publish a collection of documents. Maybe, along with the presentation of these documents, you can arrange a round table on the theme "Was Michael Alexandrovich really Emperor Michael II?" with the participation of lawyers, specialists from different directions who could present different views on this issue.

***Does the conference affects the locals or is it only for a narrow group of interested people?***

Neganov: I think, it does. Proof can be the reaction in the press, publications not about the conference itself, but interesting materials about Zhonson, about the behavior of the Grand Duke that night.

We have created a system for monitoring public opinion in the region. I think that changes in knowledge about Michael Alexandrovich will be noticed later on.

My working tactics are developing gradually, step by step, depending on how the situation is changing. While I plan November readings and December events. My long-term strategy is the goal. We understand where we are going, and how we move, we define it step by step.

The strategic goal is that we must respect ourselves, because in the history of the land that bore us and on which we live, events took place that determined the fate of this country and humanity.

***Is a canonization of Michael Alexandrovich part of the goal?***

Neganov: Of course, this is one of the parts of our plan. For me, as for an Orthodox person, everything is simple. If there is a consensus in the church, then yes, if not, then it is better to leave this question. Everything will depend on the mood of Metropolitan Methodius. The Metropolitan told me yesterday that if we form a package of documents to initiate the question of the canonization of Michael Alexandrovich, it would be good to attach a video that conveys the note of life. Vladyka understood this very well.

***How can I help you?***

Neganov: Yes, I very much count on the fact that we will be partners.





## The intaglio "Holy Royal Martyrs and Passion-Bearers" was presented

July 27, 2018 in the exhibition hall of the Jewelry House Argentov in Moscow, the presentation of the intaglio "Holy Royal Martyrs and Passion-Bearers", dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the Christian feat of the Imperial Family of Romanovs, was held.

The presentation was arranged by Galina V. Ananina, President of Fund for the Development of Jewelry Art. Ludmila and Paul Kulikovsky, members of the Moscow city дума, members of the Russian Nobility Assembly, representatives of the jewelry community and public organizations of Moscow attended the ceremony.

The intaglio was displayed on a black background, with white roses placed below it. Two sketches for the possible future used of the intaglio was also shown, with one of them placed above the intaglio.

Galina Ananina, Yaroslav Argentov and then Paul Kulikovsky made speeches.



*Ludmila and Paul E. Kulikovsky, speaking at the presentation, with Galina V. Ananina,*

*Paul Kulikovsky said - "Ladies and gentlemen. We are on the eve on the 100 years anniversary of the murder of Emperor Nicholas Alexandrovich, his wife and their 5 children. It was a tragedy, not only for my family, but also for Russia and the entire world.*

*This unique crime have touched the heart of many people and continue to do so.*

*In the year 2000 it led to the Imperial Family's canonization and now they are known also as the Royal Martyrs and the Royal Passion-Bearers.*



*You might think of a stone as something hard and cold, without life.*

*I see it as a creation from Mother Earth's heart, born during a struggle of extreme forces over millions of years, with incredible beauty hidden, waiting to be discovered, and with a long life ahead.*

*The stones comes alive, when master craftsmen and world class designers work on them.*

*They reveal to us the beauty, the colors, the shape, the sparkle, the expression, the mood, the life of the stone.*

*Here today we can see such an example of a stone, in an intaglio is shown the Royal Passion-Bearers, and now together they will continue their life forever, being admired and loved by people.*

*Thank you to the master Vladimir Popovich for creating this wonderful intaglio.*

*Thank you to Galina Vasilievna, president of the fund for the Development of Jewelry, and the Argentov Jewellery House for hosting this event."*

The intaglio, 51x40 mm, is a unique work performed in the best traditions of Russian iconography on a natural, colorless topaz weighing 183 carats carved by Vladimir Popovich.

An iconographic image of the Holy Royal Martyrs is the basis.





## Magnificent gala in Nice, dedicated to the bicentenary of the birth of Emperor Alexander II

June 15 at the Monte-Carlo Bay Hotel in Monaco a gala evening was held organized by ACRN (Friends of Russian Cathedral in Nice). The charity event was held for the purpose of financial support of the Russian Cathedral of St. Nicholas in Nice, and devoted to the celebration of the 200th anniversary of the birth of Emperor Alexander II.



*From left - Pierre de Fermor, Princess Dorrit Romanova, and Prince George Yurievsky*



Guests of honor were Prince George Yuryevsky, great-grandson of the Tsar-Liberator; Princess Dorrit Romanova, widow of Prince Dimitri Romanovich Romanov, the honorary president of the association ACRN; His Excellency Mr. Alexei Meshkov, Ambassador of Russia to France and the Principality of Monaco; and Ms. Ekaterina Semenikhina, Honorary Consul General of the Russian Federation in Monaco.

The events, collecting representatives of the highest aristocracy and numerous artists of culture and business, included:

- A solemn memorial service in the cathedral, led by Bishop Nestor of Chersonesos and Reverend Father Andrey Eliseev, Rector of the Cathedral.
- Grand Gala Dinner at Monte-Carlo Bay, Princess Grace Avenue, Monaco.

Pierre de Fermor, President of ACRN said - "ACRN has set itself the task of helping to strengthen the long-standing friendly relations between France and Russia, which, admittedly, have become somewhat more complicated lately. However, the main task of the association is to help the Russian Cathedral in Nice and provide the necessary financial support for its proper functioning. All income from our annual

gala evenings goes to donations to the cathedral, which is perfectly managed by Father Andrey Eliseev.

Our Board of Directors has chosen this year the venue for the Principality of Monaco to support also the Russian Orthodox parish of the Royal Martyrs in Monaco, led by Father Vadim, the newly organized association EORM (Russian Orthodox Church Monaco), led by Alexander Hagerty."



## Tsar-Days in Darmstadt

In Darmstadt, Germany, the Hessian representation of the Imperial Palestinian Society and the Society of Saints Elizabeth and Alexandra of Darmstadt are holding commemorative events dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the murder of the Holy Royal Martyrs and the Holy Martyr Grand Duchess Elizabeth.

The program "Tsar Days of 1918 - 2018" was opened in May, with the celebration of the 150th anniversary of the birth of Tsar Nicholas II. With the assistance of the Landgrave of the Hessian Donatus, head of the Hessian House, on May 19, the doors of the Wolfsgarten park complex, built in 1724, were opened.

Here the Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna and Empress Alexandra Fedorovna spent their childhood. Later they came here with their families when they visited relatives in Darmstadt. A large number of photographs have been preserved with Emperor Nicholas II, who repeatedly visited this park.

The parishioners of the Church of St. Mary Magdalene, Equal to the Apostles, as well as guests from Munich, were offered a 1,5-hour excursion around the park, and a photo session was held. In view of the large number of people, the moleben dedicated to Emperor Nicholas II, as well as the Imperial Family, was served in front of the entrance of the park chapel named after St. Banifatius.

June 1, 2018 the miraculous icon of the Mother of God of Kursk arrived in Darmstadt. On the same day, the First Hierarch of the Russian Church Abroad and the head of the German Diocese, His Eminence Mark, Archbishop of Berlin and Germany, visited the forthcoming photo exhibition.



*Alena Soudobin, His Eminence Mark, Archbishop of Berlin and Germany, and Denis Soudobin, Chairman of IOPS in Darmstadt.*



June 6, 2018, on the birthday of Empress Alexandra the photo exhibition "The imperial days of 1918 - 2018. Alix and Ella" was opened.

The photo exhibition is located in Designhaus, Mathildenhöhe, Eugen-Bracht-Weg, 6, 64287, Darmstadt (2 min walk from the Russian Chapel).

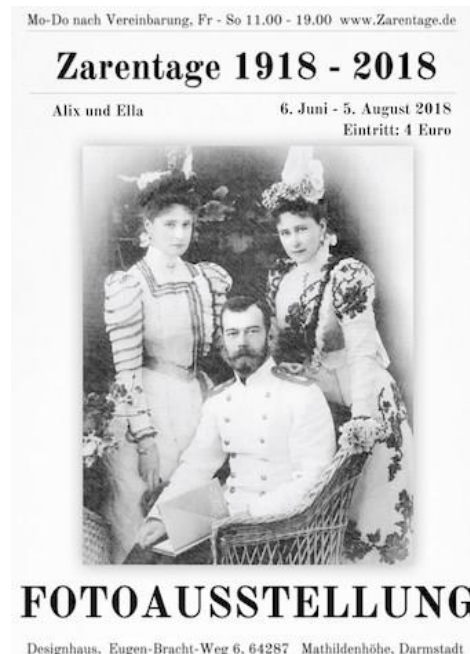
The exhibition is structured in three parts. The first part tells about the life of Alexandra Feodorovna in Darmstadt, about the principles of education in the family of the Grand Duke Ludwig IV, about the tragedy and losses, about a meeting with the future Emperor of Russia, ordinary family life, arrival in Darmstadt and the way of the family to holiness.

The second part is dedicated to Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna (Ella), and consist of selected materials that lead, step by step, year after year, to the blossoming of the best inner qualities of a person. The religiosity of the parents of the Hessian princess was reflected in the actions of the orthodox saint.

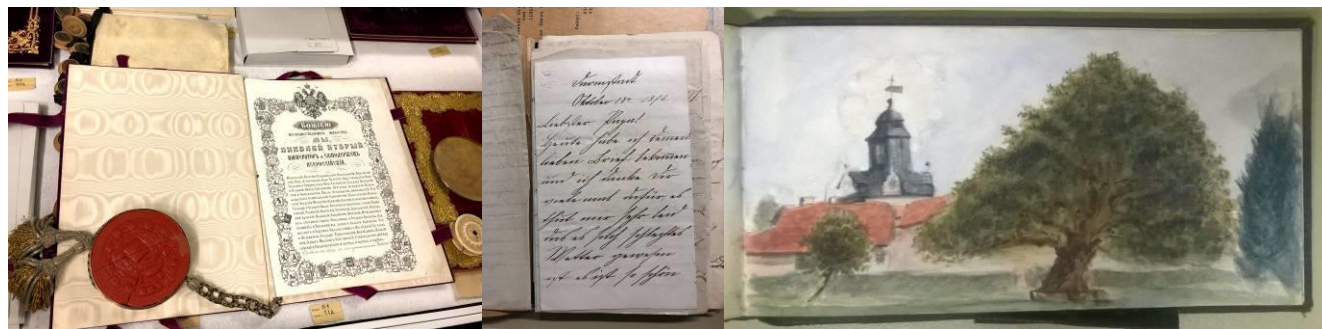
The third part of the exhibition was prepared in 2017 and will be continued in 2019. It is about a video presented in the form of interviews with citizens of Darmstadt. Each of us has something to remember and say about Alix and Ella, about Emperor Nicholas II and the Russian Chapel, a symbol of the city of Darmstadt, about the parish in the postwar period and today.

In the foyer of the exhibition building Designhaus, it is possible to acquire literature about Emperor's family and Grand Duchess Elizabeth, as well as DVDs about the life of Emperor Nicholas II.

The photo exhibition will last until August 05, 2018.



On the same day, an excursion to the state archive in Darmstadt took place. The archive stores rare materials such as documents signed by Tsars Nicholas I, Alexander II, Nicholas II, letters of Grand Duchess Elizabeth to her father, and children's drawings of Alexandra Feodorovna.



June 29, 2018 the castle Heiligenberg hosted a choral concert dedicated to the 200th anniversary of the birth of Tsar Alexander II.

In 2018, as well as every year on July 17, on the day of memory of the Royal Martyrs in the church of Darmstadt the Devine Liturgy will be celebrated with the bishop's rank.

July 18, on the day of memory of St. Grand Duches Elizabeth a charity concert will be hosted. The concert will take place in the big cathedral named after St. Elizabeth of Thuringia, in honor of which Princess Elizabeth of Hessen was named - this ancestor of the Dukes of Hessen was famous for her deeds of charity.

The Tsar Days will end in Darmstadt with the Elizabethan days that have already become a tradition and are celebrated on the birthday of Saint Elizabeth on November 1.

## Divine liturgy in memory of the Holy Royal Passion-Bearers in the Church-on-the-Blood

On the night of June 15-16, 2018, the third Saturday of Pentecost, the Metropolitan of Yekaterinburg and Verkhoturye Kirill celebrated the Divine Liturgy in memory of the holy Royal Passion-Bearers in the Church-Monument on the Blood.

The divine service was performed in the so-called execution room erected on the site of the murder of the holy Imperial Family. This is the first divine service in the altar, decorated with festivities dedicated to the centenary of the feat of the Royal Passion-Bearers.

The Metropolitan was co-served by the secretary of the diocesan diocesan administration of the Yekaterinburg diocese, hieromonk Kirill (Korytko), the senior priest of the Church on Blood, Protopriest Maxim Miniyailo, the clergy of the church and the Yekaterinburg diocese.

A sermon on the sacramental verse was uttered by Priest Vladimir Gliwinsky.



After the service, Metropolitan Kirill addressed the audience:

- 100 years ago, the last days of the life of our holy Tsar, and his holy family, and those whom the Lord was pleased to leave with them until the last test, passed here. For us, every day that brings us closer to the 100th anniversary is very important, as, in principle, every day and every opportunity is important, when we can be here in this holy place at the "Russian Calvary." The feat of the Holy Tsar is still not understood today, is not understood and not exalted by the dignity of the people for whose sake he suffered. Perhaps this time will come when a Russian person and a citizen of our Fatherland will understand what a feat Saint Tsar Nicholas accomplished so that today, 100 years after his death, we lived on this earth.



Therefore, the rest of the month before the century, until the great service that God will give, will be glorified by His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia, and all members of the Synod of the Russian Orthodox Church, and other kind people who will arrive here by this time, pray, and then we will also pray. Because people come here who love the Tsar, who love his holy family, revere and bring him his gift of love and his gift of repentance for those who sinned, our ancestors who betrayed and abandoned him. For us today is the day of our love for the Tsar, one of the days of our thanksgiving to the Lord and our love for God, who favored in such a way that this place was erected by the hands of non-church people with a sense of repentance for the sacred church committed by the ancestors.



### **Presentation of the reconstructed "Imperial Room" in the Church on Blood**

On June 20, 2018 in the Church-on-the-Blood, representatives of the mass media were presented the "Imperial Room" - the altar of the chapel in honor of the holy Royal Passion-bearers, erected "on the site" of the murder of the Imperial Family.

The senior priest of the Church-on-the-Blood Archpriest Maxim Minailyo told journalists about the new design, the reconstruction of the altar, the works carried out during the last year.

"Today, the altar architecture has completely changed. Like Kuvuklia in the Church of the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem, one church stands inside another temple" - Father Maxim said.

The works on decorating were conducted by masters from Moscow and Belarus. Talented Moscow icon painters worked led by Alexei Vronsky, and the mosaic was done by specialists of the mosaic workshop at the Holy Elizabethan Monastery of Minsk under the guidance of the icon painter Dmitry Kuntsevich. The work was supervised by nuns of the Novo-Tikhvin monastery of Yekaterinburg, known for their skill in restoring and decorating Orthodox churches.



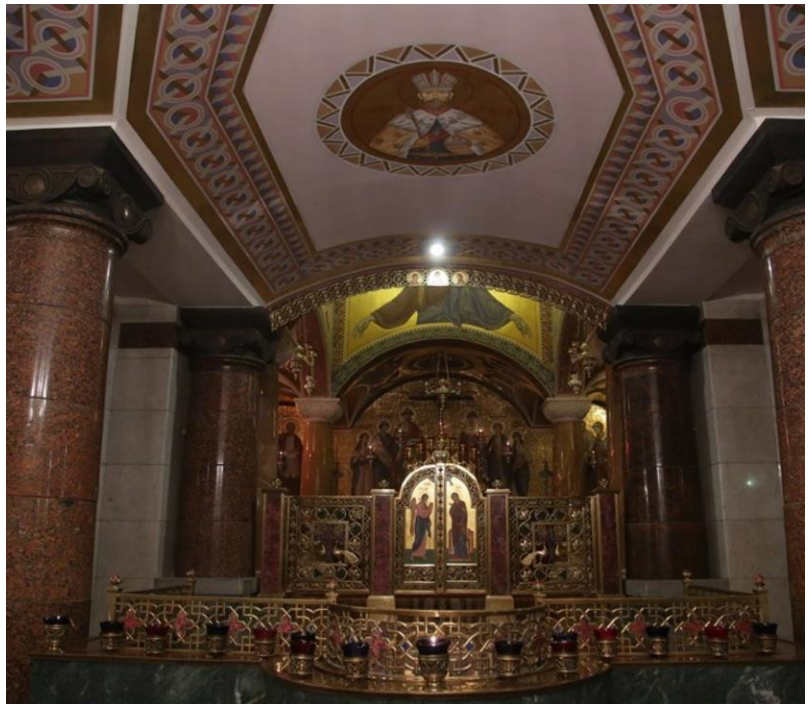


The unique mosaic, occupying the central part of the altar, is depicting the Holy Royal Martyrs and their loyal servants: Emperor Nicholas Alexandrovich, Empress Alexandra Feodorovna Tsarevich Alexei, Grand Duchesses Olga, Tatiana, Maria, Anastasia, St. Eugene Botkin doctor, valet Alexey Truppa, cook Ivan Kharitonov and maid Anna Demidova.

As the priest said, the mosaic reflects the position of the Royal Passion-Bearers at the time of their martyrdom. They stood with their backs to the east, facing west, as it is now depicted in the altar. Above them Feodorovskaya icon of the Mother of God rises, which is the heavenly patroness of the House of Romanovs.

Western vault depicts the Sovereign Icon of the Mother of God, which was revealed on the very day when the Emperor was forced to leave the throne, and the saints glorified during the reign of Emperor Nicholas Alexandrovich: St. Theodosius of Chernigov, St. Seraphim of Sarov, St. Princess Anna Kashinskaya, St. Joasaph Belgorod, St. Hermogen of Moscow, St. Pitirim of Tambov, St. John of Tobolsk.

The walls and the floor around the altar are lined with red onyx, which is very symbolic, because the red color on one side symbolizes the martyr blood shed by the Imperial family and its associates, and on the other hand, red is the color of the royal scarlet, porphyry, regal color. This color very well shows the feat of the Royal Passion-bearers, who both in royal majesty and in humiliation showed rare piety and unusual spiritual heights.



On the right side of the throne in a special reliquary there will be fragments of the Ipatiev House: a brick and a balustrade.



At the end, the senior priest of the church thanked the journalists for the meeting, noting the great importance of this holy place in the church.

"We must understand that this is the main sacred place of our city. And this room is the holy of holies in this church" - the father pointed out.

Video - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=227&v=ol9uxxY-Xdl](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=227&v=ol9uxxY-Xdl)

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## Church in the name of passion-bearer doctor Eugene

June 17, 2018, Metropolitan of Yekaterinburg and Verkhoturye Kirill in the Academic District of Yekaterinburg made the consecration of a cross in the foundation of the church in the name of the holy martyr righteous doctor Eugene and in memory of all the doctors of our Fatherland.

The church is laid in the territory of the future medical cluster, the construction of which began in March 2018. It is symbolic that the consecration of the church in honor of the holy doctor, the doctor of the Tsar's family Eugeny Botkin was held on the Day of the Medical Worker in the presence of representatives of the company initiating the construction of the new House of God and the heads of the healthcare of our region.

The consecration of the cross and the laying of the church took place with the participation of Archbishop Gabriel of Montreal and Canada and Bishop Eugene of Nizhny Tagil and Nevyansk, who also blessed this holy endeavor. Let us add that Vladyka Eugene is the first of the bishops who was named in honor of the holy martyr of the righteous Eugeny - the doctor of the Tsar's family, Eugeny Botkin.



In addition to clergy and the representatives of the company that initiated the construction of the church there were : Alexei Petrovich Vorobyov, deputy chairman of the Legislative Assembly of the Sverdlovsk region; Viktor Viktorovich Maslakov; chairman of the board of directors of JSC RSG-Academic Viktor Nikolayevich Kiselev; General Director of ZAO Academician MC, Nikolai Smirnyagin.

Honorable guests who shared the joy of the consecration of the construction site of the new House of God were Andrei Igorevich Tsvetkov, Minister of Health of the Sverdlovsk Region, Igor Michaelovich Trofimov, Chief Physician of the OKB No. 1, Lake Chusovskoye, OCMC Chief Doctor "Vitaly Borisovich Areintinsky, Vice-Rector of the Ural State University Alexander Zyryanov, the narcologist of the Sverdlovsk Region Oleg Valentinovich Zabrodin, the director of the Research Institute of OMM Galina Borisovna Malgina, as well as the deputies of the regional parliament and the city дума.

"Today is the day of the medical worker, the day of our beloved doctors, nurses, nannies, all those who are often even obliged to live because they lead us out of the very mercy of our spirit and our body, said Metropolitan Kirill after the consecration of the cross.

Noting the heroic labor of physicians, the archpastor stressed that the temple is consecrated in the name of one of these doctors.

- We consecrate the church in the name of one of these heroes-doctors, because the name of Botkin is a common name in the history of Russia and all medicine. Not casually Botkinsky hospital - one of the most known hospitals of the country. And the heir of this name, Eugeny Botkin here in Yekaterinburg, ended his life exactly one hundred years ago," said the head of the metropolis.

An example of a truly happy person called Bishop Nizhny Tagil and Nevyansky Eugene the life of Dr. Botkin in communication with the media.

- He was happy as a professional of his business, as a family man, the father of a large family, and as a loyal servant of the Emperor

He is the man who fulfilled his duty to the end. No matter how this happiness is combined with tragedy, no matter how his life ended, for all that this man is absolutely happy. You can read his notes, his diaries, it's very well reflected," said the Bishop.

- I would like to wish that this church is built, so that the people who come here will get health, well-being, that it will be the fulfillment of the meaning of human life, which is called happiness, and that it is here.

Recall, the doctor of the family of the Emperor Nicholas II Eugeny Botkin remained loyal to the Tsar to his last days. By voluntary desire, he went with the Tsar's family to exile in Tobolsk, and then to Yekaterinburg, where he took a martyr's death along with Sovereign Nikolai Alexandrovich and his family in Ipatiev's house on the night of July 16-17, 1918.

The decision on the canonization with the inclusion of Eugeny Botkin as a "passion-bearer of the righteous Eugeny, the doctor" was taken at the Bishops' Council of the Russian Orthodox Church on February 2-3, 2016. Glorification in the Face of Saints was held on February 7, 2016, the day of the feast of the Council of New Martyrs and Confessors of the Russian Church in the Yekaterinburg Church-on-the-Blood.





## Wooden sculpture of Emperor Nicholas II will be installed in Svetlogorsk

18 June. New Kaliningrad - Eight wooden sculptures will be installed in Svetlogorsk. The head of the city administration Andrei Tolmachev told that it will be a gift to the city from the participants of the VI Festival of Woodcarvers.

"We have already received all the sculptures in the municipality. Now we will ask the townspeople where to install them. At first they wanted in the Serbsky Square, considering that the competition was devoted to the Russian-Serbian friendship. But then came an interesting proposal: arrange these sculptures in different parts of the city, make a map and arrange a small quest for their search. Now we are considering these options" - Tolmachev explained.

Since this year the theme of the festival was the Russian-Serbian friendship and the World Football Championship, among the works there is a statue of Nicholas II. According to the director of the regional museum in Gvardeysk, Albert Adylov, he is very revered in Serbia.



"In the summer of 1914 the Emperor did not leave the faithful and half-hearted Serbian people in trouble, in the face of aggression, which ultimately led Russia to the First World War and the revolution. Taking the Russian emigrants after the Civil War, the Serbs said: "We will never forget that, having interceded for us, Russia committed suicide." It was in Serbia, back in the 30s (half a century before the official canonization), the Sovereign was first portrayed in icons" - Adylov wrote in the social sphere, commenting on the choice of the sculptor.

The local historian suggested that the prototype of the sculpture in Svetlogorsk probably was the well-known photographs of Nicholas II in the uniform and hiking equipment of an ordinary soldier of the 16th Infantry Regiment, made in the Crimea in 1911.

The Fifth Woodcarver Festival was held from June 15 to 17 in the Herman Brachert House Museum in Otradnoe. The event was attended by carvers from Moscow, Ivanovo, Moscow, Chuvash, Chelyabinsk and Vladimir regions.

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## Monument to the Royal Passion-Bearers consecrated in Godenovo

On June 11, 2018, a monument to the Royal Passion-Bearers - Emperor Nicholas II with the August family - was consecrated in the courtyard of the Nikolsky Convent in the village of Godenovo, in Yaroslavl Region, on the day of the 595th anniversary of the phenomenon of the Life-Giving Cross.



The author of the sculptural composition is the Moscow sculptor Sergei Bychkov. Another of his work - a monument to St. Seraphim of Sarov - a year ago was installed there in Godenovo. Now the Monk Seraphim meets the last Russian Emperor, and this meeting passes through the Cross. Between the two compositions in the church of St. John Chrysostom is the Unfathomed Goden's Cross.

Along the route to the entrance to St. Goden is placed 24 banners with photographic and biographies, dedicated to the feat of the life of the Imperial family.

On this day, the Divine Liturgy was celebrated in the courtyard of the St. John Chrysostom Church by Metropolitan Panteleimon of Yaroslavl and Rostov, Metropolitan Longin of Saratov and Volsky, and Bishop Theodore of Pereslavl and Uglich, along with clergy of the Yaroslavl Metropolitanate.

At the end of the Divine Liturgy, a copy of the Life-giving Cross was consecrated, which will be delivered to the Saratov Metropolitanate.



Then the hierarchs consecrated the new monument to the Royal Martyrs. The monument was erected in honor of the centenary of the murder of the Imperial Family. Several large portraits of the members of the Imperial Family were also placed at the entrance to the village of Godenovo. The hierarchs also led the opening of this "memorial alley."











## In Kirov some people spoke against the installation of a monument to the Imperial Family

Last month the Vyatka diocese initiated the installation of a monument to Emperor Nicholas II and his family on the Kirovskaya embankment. This proposal caused a number of disputes among the Kirov people. Some thought that the new monument would be an adornment of the city, others, on the contrary, did not see the reasons why the monument should be installed in Kirov, because Nicholas II, except for a brief visit, is not connected with the city and the region.

A survey among the townspeople on how they relate to the initiative was published on 17 June. It gave different results. Some of the respondents believe that the monument in the city can be installed, but it should be done on the territory of either the church or a chapel, and not the embankment. Others reacted negatively to the idea of installing a memorial, because now they are not concerned with the cultural appearance of the city, but with the lack of hot water in homes and bad roads.

The most negative point of view was, that the installation of the monument to Nicholas II is nothing more than a relic of the past. While others believed that it is better to send the available funds for the restoration of a cathedral or chapel.



On June 18, a public hearings took place, at which Kirov people expressed their opinion on this issue.

In addition the city administration offered a list of places where the monument can be erected. They were: the territory of the church of Feodorov, Trifonov monastery, the park named after Gagarin, Alexander Garden, a platform at the intersection of the streets Lenin and Gorbachev, and Profsoyuznaya and Kazan, as well as directly on the embankment.

The event aroused great excitement among the Kirov residents: 153 people gathered in the City Hall.

The moderator of the hearings was the head of the city Elena Kovaleva and the head of the administration Ilya Shulgin.

A pensioner who introduced herself a "candidate of science", talked a lot about social problems, blamed officials for putting such small questions on the table, and taking decisions on serious matters in a backroom.

- Today the main problem in the city of Kirov and in Russia as a whole is the problem of poverty, the pensioner said. "But our authority is not interested in it at all."



She said that the Kirov monument, according to experts, "just a miserable copy" of the monument, installed in the Diveevo Monastery, and therefore has no artistic value.

Another listed the "merits" of Nicholas II: the lost Japanese war, the shooting of workers' demonstrations, the unleashing of the First World War, the death of Russian soldiers on the fronts. "Finally, he abdicated, left us," the man said, to which one person cried out: "He betrayed the people! And who is Nicholas II? He drove Kirov pass, stopped, maybe went to the toilet here and went further! I believe that if the Vyatka diocese needs this monument, let it put it in its yard."

The Kirov priest Andrei Lebedev - "It is possible to appeal that we have a secular state, and therefore it is impossible to establish monuments to people connected with the Orthodox tradition. You do not protest against the fact that in every church there is an icon of Nicholas II, services are held in his honor. We need to look for a conciliatory position. In Kirov there is a monument to Lenin, nobody drags him away, that's why we also want a monument of a thousand-year history represented by Nicholas II in our city."

Pensioner and entrepreneur Nikolai Kalinin said that only the representatives of Communist parties are against the installation of the monument - "After all, as they say: there is a lie, and still there is Bolshevik propaganda. Nobody was so obliterated as Tsar Nicholas II with his family. And now the Communists want to rehabilitate themselves for killing him."

Another point of view was voiced by Protopriest Alexander Balyberdin - "The murder of the Imperial Family in July 1918 in Yekaterinburg was a mistake, a sin and a crime that divided our people for many years, and mistakes must be corrected," he said. - The installation of the monument will not disconnect, but will unite us, because it is a monument to the Imperial Family, and not to the Tsar, as ruler. We must establish it to remember the evil that has been committed, and never repeat it.



The performance of the veteran, who declared that Nicholas II had committed a sacrilege by abdicating the throne was very emotional.

The editor-in-chief of the radio station Ekho Moskvyy in Kirov, Svetlana Zanko, explained why this conflict arose at all - "The problem was that the Vyatka diocese stated very categorically: we collected money, we cast a monument and we will put it on the embankment. I am sure that if this information was submitted more tactfully in relation to the citizens, then there would not be any indignation now."

Two hours later, for which a huge number of opinions were expressed for and against the installation of the monument, the head of the administration, Ilya Shulgin, summed up: "We need to learn how to hear each other's opinion."

The head of the administration promised that all issues that bother the townspeople will be resolved through public hearings.

The final decision on the installation of the monument to Nicholas II and his family in Kirov, taking into account the opinions of citizens voiced at public hearings, will be adopted by deputies at the next meeting of the city Duma.

June 20, the Kirov City Duma voted to install the monument next to the Trifonovsky Monastery. Governor Igor Vasiliev commented in social networks the decision to install the monument to Nicholas II and his family in Kirov. He believes that the place chosen for the monument - the territory of the Trifonovsky Monastery - was chosen successfully, and the new object will help awaken the interest of the townspeople to the history of the country.



Thus, the head of the region notes that judging by the results of the hearings, the protest was caused, rather, by the proposed location of the monument and the lack of wide public discussion. The city authorities took into account the defect and gave voice to all concerned.

"Today, the deputies, based on the opinion of the public, voted for the installation of a monument in the territory of the Trifonov Monastery. I, as a resident of Kirov, also consider this place to be the most appropriate for such a monument," Vasiliev wrote.

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## **Shrine under the golf course in China: where Romanov Princes are buried**

16 June. RIA Novosti - This year marks the 100th anniversary of the martyrdom of Emperor Nicholas II and his family. Approximately at the same time and in the same place, seven more members of the Romanovs' house were killed. The remains of the Alapaevsk martyrs were accepted by China. Will it be possible to find and return their remains to their homeland?

### *From Russia to China*

"The search for the remains of Romanov Princes for the purpose of reburial in their homeland is associated with the new identity of Russia and its revival," said Russian diplomat Peter Stegny, author of the book "Skitonachalnik", dedicated to the fate of Hegumen Serafim (Kuznetsov). This monk took the bodies of the Romanov Princes from the Urals in the midst of the Civil War.

A day after the execution of the Royal Family, July 18, 1918, at the Lower Selimskaya mine, the Bolsheviks dropped the sister of the Empress, the Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna, the Head of the Martha and Mary Convent of Mercy, Grand Duke Sergei Michaelovich (the only one killed by a bullet), the Princes of the Imperial Blood John, Konstantine and Igor Konstantinovich, Prince Vladimir Pavlovich Paley (the son of Grand Duke Paul Alexandrovich from a morganatic marriage with Olga Pistolkors), Fedor Remez, the manager of the affairs of Grand Duke Sergei Michaelovich, and the sister of the Martha and Mary Convent, Varvara (Yakovlev).



Their bodies were discovered a few months later, when the Urals was taken by the White Army. Nikolai Sokolov joined the investigation, which at this time was conducting an investigation into the murder of the Imperial Family in Yekaterinburg.

By order of the commander-in-chief of Kolchak's troops, General Michael Diterikhs, the coffins of the Alapaevsk martyrs in a freight car were sent first to Chita and then to China. On April 16, 1920, members of the Russian spiritual mission, led by its head, Archbishop Innokentiy (Figurovsky) greeted the sad cargo at the station of Beijing.

The coffins of Elizabeth Feodorovna and the nuns of Barbara were separated and then taken to Jerusalem by the efforts of Hegumen Serafim (Kuznetsov) and the British Embassy in Beijing. "From 1920 to 1938, the remains of the remaining Alapayevsky martyrs rested in the Russian cemetery in Beijing, and from 1938 to 1947 on the territory of the Russian spiritual mission in China. In 1947, they were re-buried in the crypt of the church of St. Seraphim of Sarov in the Russian cemetery at the gate

Anindinmen in Beijing," - says Dmitry Petrovsky, an employee of the Department of External Church Relations of the Moscow Patriarchate.

#### *On the golf course*

In 1981, all the Alapaevsk martyrs were canonized by the Russian Orthodox Church abroad. And in 1992, the Council of Bishops of the Russian Orthodox Church included the Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna and sister Varvara in the Cathedral of the New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia.

"Currently, the coordination of church calendars of the Moscow Patriarchate and the Russian Church Abroad is being carried out, and therefore the question of general church glorification in the face of the saints and other Alapaevsk martyrs is being considered," - Petrovsky said.

Over the years, the Department of External Church Relations of the Moscow Patriarchate has been negotiating with the Chinese authorities to return the remains of the Princes of the Romanovs to their homeland.

"It's not just about exhuming the bodies of the deceased, but about finding relics of illustrious saints," he said.

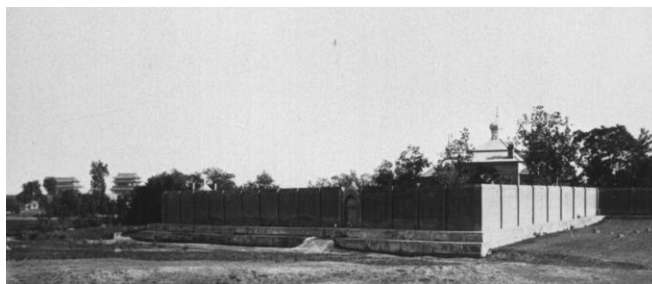
In 2017 a working group was formed from representatives of the Yekaterinburg Metropolia, the Government of the Sverdlovsk Region and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia.

"We regard the transfer of the relics not only as finding the remains of the glorified saints, but also as an act of people's reconciliation in the end of the Civil War." We are grateful to the Chinese people and the Chinese Autonomous Orthodox Church, who have preserved for us our saints ", - said the representative of the Russian Orthodox Church.

The remains of the Romanov Princes were buried in the Russian cemetery in Beijing, which in the 1960s was abolished.

"The graves of our compatriots buried there and the Chinese Orthodox priests were subjected to desecration from the side of the Red Guards," Petrovsky said.

Today there is a city park on this place. The place where, most likely, is the remains of the Romanovs, is the crypt of the cemetery Seraphim Church. "There is now a golf course, so the remains are probably preserved, but it will be possible to talk about this only after studying with the Chinese side, including georadar research and point excavations," the source said.



*Russian Spiritual Mission in Beijing. The church where remains of the Romanov Princes were buried.*

"The Chinese have already said that an expedition traveled to China, which was done in the 1970s, was semi-legal, when the embassy in Beijing was being repaired, located just on the territory of the Russian spiritual mission," recalls diplomat Peter Stegny.

In his opinion, the search and return of the remains of the Romanov Princes is a Christian duty of the Russian people.

How much time it takes is hard to say. Much depends on the degree of involvement of Russian church, public and state structures, from the activity of dialogue with Chinese colleagues.

"With the proper organization of work and with sufficient human will on the part of Russia and a good attitude on the part of China, the issue can be resolved fairly quickly," - Petrovsky said.

According to him, the issue was discussed only with the PRC State Administration for Religious Affairs, "which recognized it as not related to their area of responsibility."

But the Chinese side is ready for cooperation. This can be judged by the precedent of 2007, when the remains of White General Vladimir Kappel were brought from Harbin to Moscow for reburial.

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## The Tsarevich Alexei and Grand Duchess Maria burial-case continues

### Patriarch Kirill will visit Yekaterinburg on the centenary of the murder of the Imperial Family

June 28th. INTERFAX - "From July 14 to July 17, the Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia Kirill will be in Yekaterinburg, where he will make significant services," - the Patriarchate spokesman Alexander Volkov told journalists.

According to him, the next meeting of the Holy Synod will be held on the same days.

"Holding a regular meeting of the Holy Synod in Yekaterinburg will emphasize the importance of remembering the events of the shooting of the Imperial family and the beginning of persecutions against the Russian church in 1918," the priest said.

At the meeting of the Holy Synod will be discussed the issue of Yekaterinburg remains, found in the Porosenko log and, as researchers believe, belong to members of the Imperial Family.

During the trip to the Yekaterinburg metropolia, the Patriarch will perform the Divine Liturgy at the Church on the Blood, and then head the night procession to the monastery of the Holy Royal Passion-Bearers to Ganina Yama on the night of July 16-17.

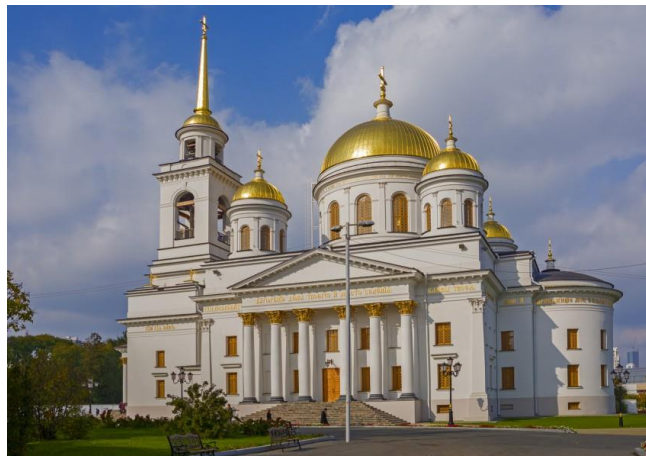
He will visit Alapaevsk, where the great consecration of the Church of the Holy Royal Passion-bearers will take place and perform a memorial service at the Alapayevsk mine, where the holy Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna Romanova and other members of the dynasty martyred.



## **The 100th anniversary of the death of two faithful servants to Emperor Nicholas II was marked in the Novo-Tikhvinsky Convent in Yekaterinburg**

On Sunday 10th June 2018, a Divine Liturgy dedicated to General Ilya Leonidovich Tatishchev and Prince Vasili Alexandrovich Dolgorukov, was held in the Saint Alexander Nevsky Cathedral, in Novo-Tikhvinsky Convent, in Yekaterinburg.

Exactly hundred years ago, June 10, 1918, two faithful subjects of Emperor Nicholas II - General Tatishchev and Prince Dolgorukov - was martyred in Yekaterinburg. They voluntarily followed the Emperor in exile to Tobolsk and Yekaterinburg. And on June 10 they were killed by the Bolsheviks on the outskirts of Yekaterinburg, behind the Ivanovo Cemetery. There is evidence that they were buried in the cemetery of the monastery. They were one of the noblest and most worthy people of their time, and one can hope that now they are standing before God and praying for us.



Until now, many documents have survived on the life of General Tatishchev, his dedicated service to the Fatherland, helping people, profound Christian faith, worthy behavior at the time of imprisonment with the Tsar's family and, finally, martyrdom. "Noble, perfectly honest," "Christianly merciful", "a person of touching kindness" - this is how contemporaries spoke of him. And even people who by force of circumstances were his opponents, spoke of him with respect: "He behaved himself worthy", "He had no contempt for people." General Tatishchev was full of nobility and love for his neighbors, he loved the Gospel with all his heart, he knew by heart and fulfilled his life.

According to the testimony of contemporaries, Ilya Tatishchev led a respectable life, was a modest and serious man, far from any secular novels.

In 1917, a new period in the life of I.L. Tatishchev began: the February Revolution marked the beginning of his way along with the Sovereign and his family. As the son of Doctor Botkin Gleb recalled, after the revolution among the courtiers, "an orgy of cowardice and despicable infidelity began. Most did not waste time and did everything to escape. " Against this background, the noble conduct of General Tatishchev was clearly distinguished. He immediately agreed to follow the Imperial family in exile in Tobolsk. Initially, the Sovereign offered this to Major General Naryshkin, but he asked to give him 24 hours to think about, and the Sovereign refused his services. Then the Emperor made the same proposal to General Tatishchev, and he immediately agreed, despite the fact that he had an old sick mother in St. Petersburg. The words sounded for many as a sentence, that it is necessary to go into exile with the overthrown Emperor, for General Tatishchev sounded like the call of God. Ilya Leonidovich understood that, by agreeing, he condemned himself to suffering and reproach. And of course, not only the sense of duty prompted him to do this, but deep faith and the desire to fulfill the evangelical commandments.

Eyewitnesses convey his words: "Who would be allowed to deny the conscience of the Emperor at such a difficult moment! It would be inhumanly black ingratitude for all the blessings of a perfectly good Sovereign to even think about such a proposal, it was necessary to consider him for happiness."

Ilya Leonidovich's boundless love for the neighbors touched the most hardened hearts. General Tatishchev was well treated even by such a person as Nikolai Rodionov, commander of the detachment of the Red Guards, who guarded the Emperor's family in Tobolsk, a man who "did not



know pity." However, according to the memoirs of Pierre Gilliard, "after seeing Tatishchev, Rodionov said to him:" I know you. I saw you in Berlin. You are a good person. You have never had contempt for people. I am ready to help you as much as I can." Tatishchev replied: "I have one request, and I will be grateful if you execute it. I ask do not separate me from the Emperor."

Arriving in May with the Tsar's children in Yekaterinburg, I.L.Tatishchev was immediately separated from them: Emperor's children were taken to Ipatyev's house, and the general was arrested. The situation in the prison was heavy. Almost every night they called someone to be shot.

June 10, 1918 was the last day of the life of General Tatishchev. Together with Prince Dolgorukov, he was shot without trial on the outskirts of Yekaterinburg in the forest near Ivanovo Cemetery. The bodies were thrown at the scene of the murder; they were found after a while. The remains were buried by the sisters of the Novo-Tikhvin Monastery.



Prince Vasily Alexandrovich Dolgorukov was born in 1868 in the family of Prince Alexander Dolgorukov. For 22 years, since 1896, Prince V.A. Dolgorukov devotedly and selflessly served in the retinue of Emperor Nicholas II. His loyal service to the Sovereign was interrupted only with the martyr's death of both.

A distinctive feature of Prince Dolgorukov was his dedication, his ability to forget himself for the sake of others. In his way of life, he was unpretentious and modest, despite the fact that he was always at the court. He did not like noisy entertainment and celebrations; was open and simple in communication and always shied away from any court intrigue and gossip that were completely unacceptable to his Christian conscience. He was endowed with impeccable honesty and height of spirit.

Protopresbyter George Shavel'sky wrote about him: "Prince V.A. Dolgorukov was endlessly devoted to the Emperor. His honesty and decency in all respects were beyond any doubt. "

After the abdication of the Emperor from the throne in March 1917, Prince V.A. Dolgorukov became the only one of all the members of the suite who voluntarily followed the Emperor. For the Prince it did not matter that thereby he condemned himself to suffering. He thought only of how to support and comfort the Emperor in these tragic circumstances. Eyewitnesses convey the words of the Prince, which he repeated in great excitement, worrying for the Tsar: "You do not need to pursue your personal interests, but to protect his interests."

Even a convinced opponent of the monarchy, State Duma deputy A. A. Bublikov noted that in those days from the entourage of the Emperor, "only the chief marshal of the High Court, Prince Dolgorukov," acted with real dignity." Arriving at the palace and witnessing the Emperor's meeting with his relatives, Prince Dolgorukov could not hold back his tears from compassion. During the entire stay under arrest in the Alexander Palace, Prince Dolgorukov was constantly with the Emperor, walked with him, worked, consoling him with his devotion. he preferred to share with him the cross of humiliation and shame.

Vasily Dolgorukov accompanied the August prisoners to Tobolsk, trying to facilitate their life there. In conclusion, the faith of Vasily Aleksandrovich became much deeper, he placed his whole trust in the Lord.

"I pray to God for help," he wrote to his mother. "I pray to God that He will take care of you and give you strength and courage to endure all these horrors," he wrote to her and her husband Count P.K. Benckendorff. "We will believe that one God keeps us, and we will not forget Him ...". "I do not lose my peace of mind and do not break, God helps me ... we must rely on the goodness of God. In the end,

only God knows what will happen next; we will need much courage and we will have to pray a lot. " "I do not lose courage and pray."

Vasily Alexandrovich, along with Ye. S. Botkin took on an unpleasant duty - to communicate with representatives of the new government and to convey to them the requests of the Imperial family. The Prince repeatedly petitioned the Commissioner V. S. Pankratov to provide prisoners with a freer regime, about the permission to take walks in the city and vicinities, and visiting the church. This required from Vasily Alexandrovich great patience, humility and meekness, since the majority of requests were answered by the authorities with a gross refusal.

In April 1918, Prince V.A. Dolgorukov was elected to accompany the Emperor, the Empress and Grand Duchess Maria Nikolaevna, who were forced to leave Tobolsk on the orders of the Extraordinary Commissar of the All-Russian Central Executive Committee V. Yakovlev. Upon his arrival in Yekaterinburg, he was immediately arrested and imprisoned.

He repeatedly appealed from prison and to the British vice-consul Thomas Hildebrant Preston, begging him to help the August prisoners, which became known from the memoirs of the latter.

May 28/June 10, 1918, together with General I.L. Tatishchev, he was shot by the Bolsheviks on the outskirts of Yekaterinburg. So Prince Vasily Alexandrovich Dolgorukov performed the deed of the sublime commandment of the Gospel: "There is no more love than if someone laid down his life for his friends."



A photo taken in Tobolsk, 1917. From left: E.A. Schneider, General I.L. Tatishchev, P. Gilliard, Countess A.V. Gendrikova, Prince V.A. Dolgorukov. Signed by four of them.

### ***About the date of death of I. Tatishchev and V. Dolgorukov***

There is some uncertainty about the actual date of the murder of Prince V.A. Dolgorukov and General I.L. Tatishchev, one source says July 10 exactly, while other indirectly is putting the date to June 10. The main sources are the testimonies of Lieutenant I. Tolstoukhov and A.A. Volkov.

On January 27, 1919 I. Tolstoukhov, who was in prison No. 2 at the same time as faithful servants of the Tsar, told the investigator: "Adjutant General I. L. Tatischev on July 10th on a special paper signed by Beloborodov and Didkovsky, was to leave the Urals region within 24 hours. According to the rumors received the next day, the generals I.L. Tatishchev and Prince Dolgoruky were found behind the Ivanovo cemetery killed by the guards..."





The receipt for one of the corpses in the name of civilian Dolgoruky and the receipt of Chutskova in the selection of two revolvers gives the right to presume that the dead were the generals I.L. Tatishchev and Prince Dolgoruky (The Death of the Royal Family ... P. 132).

A little later, in August of the same year, A.A. Volkov gave his testimony: "On May 25-26 (in the old style dating - June 7-8 in new style) Tatishchev was taken to the office of the prison. He did not take his own things with him: Only his coats and a wallet ... He soon sent for me, asking me to bring him things. I carried it. In the office, Tatishchev showed me the warrant (I do not know from which institution), in which it was said that Tatishchev was being expelled from the Urals region" (The Death of the Royal Family ... S. 452).

The circumstances of the death of Prince V.A. Dolgorukov are known from the story of his murderer, the chekist G.P. Nikulin. On December 18, 1957, at a meeting of his old comrades, he told the following. "When, in May 1918, Tsar Nicholas II was brought to Yekaterinburg, the Chief Marshal Tatishchev and Prince Vasily Dolgorukov from his entourage were arrested. Nikolai Bobylyov, chairman of the Yekaterinburg Cheka, is calling me with Valka Sakharov, and he tells us, smiling (his smile was very pretty, and he always smiled): "You take from the arrest house Tatishchev and Dolgorukov and here's your task - to take them to exile. On the horses, take them to the road and put them on the train." It is precisely known that since June 21, 1918, F.N. Lukoyanov was the chairman of the Urals Regional Extraordinary Investigation Commission, and N. A. Bobylyov, not mentioned in the memoirs of G.P. Nikulin.

At the Novo-Tikhvinsky Convent, the nuns think "July 10" is, most likely, either a reservation by I. Tolstoukhov himself, or a typo when copying his testimony. Obviously, what was meant was June 10, when the Acting Chairman of the Urals Regional Cheka was really N.A. Bobylyov. According to the old style, this is May 28, which is much closer to the testimony of A.A. Volkov.

### ***A hundred years ago the nuns of the Novo-Tikhvin Convent started to carry products to the Tsar's family***

June 18, 1918, exactly one hundred years ago, in the life of the Imperial Family, kept in Yekaterinburg in the house of Ipatiev, there was a change. On this day the sisters of the Yekaterinburg Novo-Tikhvin Monastery began to bring food to the Imperial prisoners. Until that day, the food of the prisoners was very bad, they were brought food from the Bolshevik's canteen. The Cesarevitch, who was ill while on the road, could not get better, and one of his doctors, Vladimir Derevenko, appealed to the commandant of Ipatiev's house so that the sisters of the Novo-Tikhvinsky monastery were allowed to bring additional food. Permission was given.

On June 18, the Empress wrote in her diary: "June 5/18. Anastasia 17th birthday. Good nuns bring now milk and eggs for Alexei and cream."

From that day on, several novices came to the Ipatiev house every day, bringing the best from the monastery's household: eggs, butter, bread, pastries, fresh vegetables, meat, sausage. One of the guards of the Ipatiev House later wrote in his memoirs: "The nuns of the monastery in Sverdlovsk, apparently, sacredly performed their duties in relation to the" Tsar-Father. They very often brought different concoctions of white flour and milk. Milk in quarters and bread in baskets we gave to the prisoners." The last time the sisters brought food on July 17, when no one from the Imperial family was alive. According to oral testimonies, the novices who brought the food were subsequently shot.



**Memorial service for the faithful Tsar's subjects Kliment Nagorny and Ivan Sednev was held in Novo-Tikhvinsky monastery on the day of the 100th anniversary of their martyr's death**

June 28, 2018 it was exactly 100 years since the martyr's death of loyal subjects of the Imperial Family - Klimenty Grigorievich Nagorny and Ivan Dmitrievich Sednev. On this day in the Cathedral of St. Alexander Nevsky in Novo-Tikhvinsky Monastery after the Divine Liturgy and after the evening service, a memorial service for the dead was performed, headed by Archpriest George Victorov.

Kliment Nagorny and Ivan Sednev selflessly served the Tsar's children: the first was the "uncle" of Tsarevich Alexei, and the second was the servant of the Grand Duchesses.



In particular, the great responsibility lay on Kliment Grigorievich, because, from the slightest oversight, the Heir could have been fatally traumatized. It required complete devotion. Kliment served the Tsesarevich faithfully, sharing with him all the sorrows and joys; heir was very fond of him.

Kliment Nagorny and Ivan Sednev voluntarily stayed with the Tsar's family in custody in Tsarskoe Selo, and then followed them to Tobolsk, where Nagorny lived with the Tsarevich in one room, serving him day and night. Together with the Royal Passion-Bearers, Kliment Grigorievich also attended all divine services, and the only member of the retinue and servants entered the choir organized by the Empress: he sang and read during services in the house church.

In the spring of 1918 Kliment Nagorny and Ivan Sednev voluntarily followed the Royal Passion-Bearers to Yekaterinburg. In the Ipatiev house they spent only a few days, and then were separated from the Imperial prisoners. They were imprisoned because they prevented the guards from taking the chain with an icon from the Tsesarevich.

June 28, 1918, they took a martyr's death from the Bolsheviks near Yekaterinburg, behind the Yekaterinburg-2 railway station (modern name - Shartash). Klimenty Nagorny and Ivan Sednev were buried, presumably, in the cemetery of the Novo-Tikhvin monastery.





In the June issue of the French magazine "Point de Vue Histoire" is published an article written by Paul Kulikovsky and illustrated with a few photos. We bring here the text in translation.

## "The Kulikovsky. Descendants of Olga Alexandrovna

*I am the great-grandson of Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna, sister of Tsar Nicholas II. I emigrated to Russia in 2008, where I became Managing Director of an international consulting company and I also support many charitable projects. With my wife Ludmila, we were the first descendants of the Imperial Family to relocate to Russia since the 1917 revolution. By Paul Edward Kulikovsky*

As I like to say, my life journey seems to be the reverse of that of my great-grandmother. Born in Canada, I lived in Denmark before returning to the land of my ancestors. I am born less than a month after the death of Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna, but many things and people remind me of her all the time.

Starting with my mother Xenia Kulikovsky who lived with her in the last years of the Grand Duchess life. During my first visit to Russia in 1992, the first place I visited was Peterhof, the birthplace of the Grand Duchess. I felt at home there. In July 1998, I attended the funeral of Tsar Nicholas II and his family in St. Petersburg. In September 2006, I participated in the reburial of Empress Maria Feodorovna, my great-great-grandmother, and eulogized on behalf of the Romanov family in Roskilde Cathedral in Denmark before escorting her remains aboard a Danish Navy ship from Copenhagen to St. Petersburg.

An extraordinary woman and long-lived character, many events have added facets to the character and wrinkles in the face of Grand Duchess Olga. She lived through many tragedies (two revolutions and two world wars) but especially family (premature death of her father, Tsar Alexander III, and her brothers, Grand Dukes George and Michael and Tsar Nicholas II).

Fortunately, she found happiness in her marriage with Colonel Nicholas Kulikovsky in 1916, and their offspring, two sons named Tikon and Gury - my grandfather. The Grand Duchess and her family were the last Romanovs to leave Russia from Novorossiysk in 1920 and lived in Denmark for twenty-eight years before moving to Canada.

A generous, very positive and humble person, the great passion of my great-grandmother was to paint. Describing her own life, she says, "I can see every event of my life bathed in the light of the setting sun. I must smile and laugh. If I ever start crying, I will never stop". On the first floor of a small Toronto hair salon, my great-grandmother died on November 24, 1960, a few months after her sister, Grand Duchess Xenia.

In 2006, I published the memoirs of the Grand Duchess Olga entitled in Danish *25 kapitler af mit liv*.

I am also very proud of my great-great-grandfather, Tsar Alexander III, a great man not only in size (he was 1m 90 tall), but also as a leader. In 2017 in Livadia, Crimea, President Putin unveiled a monument

Ciel  
MES AIEUX



Paul Edward Kulikovsky, à Krasnodar, au sud de la Russie.

### Les Kulikovsky

#### Descendants d'Olga Alexandrovna

Je suis l'arrière-petit-fils de la grande-duchesse Olga Alexandrovna, sœur du tsar Nicolas II. J'ai émigré en Russie en 2008 où je suis devenu directeur général d'une société internationale de conseil et je soutiens également de nombreux projets caritatifs. Avec mon épouse Ludmila, nous avons été les premiers descendants de la famille impériale à nous réinstaller au pays depuis la révolution de 1917. Par Paul Edward Kulikovsky

Comme j'aime à le dire, ma route semble être à l'inverse de celle de mon arrière-grand-mère. Né au Canada, j'ai vécu au Danemark avant de revenir sur la terre de mes ancêtres. J'ai vu le jour moins d'un mois après la mort de la grande-duchesse Olga Alexandrovna, mais nombre de choses et de gens me la rappellent continuellement. À commencer par ma mère, Xenia Kulikovsky, qui vécut avec elle dans les dernières années de sa vie. Lors de ma première visite en Russie en 1992, l'endroit que j'ai visité était alors Peterhof, le lieu de naissance de la grande-duchesse. Je m'y suis senti comme chez moi. En juillet 1998, j'ai assisté aux funérailles du tsar Nicolas II et de sa famille à Saint-Petersbourg. En septembre 2006, j'ai participé à la réinhumation de l'impératrice Maria Feodorovna, mon arrière-arrière-grand-mère, et j'ai fait l'éloge funèbre de la famille Romanov dans la cathédrale de Roskilde au Danemark, avant d'escorter ses restes à bord d'un navire de la marine danoise, de Copenhague à Saint-Petersbourg. Femme extraordinaire et à la longue existence, beaucoup d'événements ont ajouté des facettes à la personnalité de la grande-duchesse Olga et des rides à son visage. Elle a vécu de nombreuses tragédies politiques (deux révolutions et deux guerres mondiales), mais surtout familiales (morts prématurées de son père, le tsar Alexandre III, et de ses frères, les grands-ducs Georges et Michel et le tsar Nicolas II). Heureusement, elle a trouvé le bonheur dans son mariage avec le colonel Nicolas Kulikovsky en 1916, et leur progéniture, deux fils nommés Tikhon et Gury, mon grand-père. La grande-duchesse et sa famille furent les derniers Romanov à quitter la Russie de Novorossiysk en 1920 et vécurent vingt-huit ans au Danemark avant de déménager au Canada. Personne généreuse, très positive et humble, la grande passion de mon arrière-grand-mère était de peindre. Décrivant sa propre vie, elle disait : « Je peux voir chaque événement de ma vie baigné dans la lumière du soleil couchant. Je dois sourire et rire. Si jamais je commence à pleurer, je ne m'arrêterai jamais. » Installée au premier étage d'un petit salon de coiffure de Toronto, mon arrière-grand-mère y mourut le 24 novembre 1960, quelques mois après sa sœur la grande-duchesse Xenia. En 2006, j'ai publié les mémoires de la grande-duchesse Olga, intitulés en danois 25 kapitler af mit liv.



Ci-dessus, le tsar Alexandre III avec sa famille et sa suite. Devant, Olga enfant. Ci-contre, à gauche, l'empereur Nicolas II et sa sœur, la grande-duchesse.



La table du petit déjeuner, aquarelle d'Olga Alexandrovna, 1931.



Je suis également très fier de mon aïeul, le tsar Alexandre III, grand homme pas seulement par sa taille (il mesurait 1,90 m), mais aussi en tant que dirigeant. En 2017, à Livadia, en Crimée, le président Poutine a dévoilé un monument en son honneur en louant « l'homme d'État et patriote exceptionnel, homme d'endurance, de courage et de volonté inébranlable ». Quant aux autres membres de la famille Romanov, je me sers particulièrement proche de mes cousins les princes Michel Pavlovitch et Georges Yourievsky. Nous sommes tous les trois descendants de l'empereur Alexandre II, qui sera célébré en 2018 pour le bicentenaire de sa naissance. ●

in his honor by praising "the outstanding statesman and patriot, man of endurance, courage and unwavering will".

As for my other Romanov relatives, I feel particularly close to my cousins Prince Michael Pavlovich and Prince George Yurievsky. We are all three descendants of Emperor Alexander II, who will be celebrated in 2018 for the bicentenary of his birth."

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*On June 18, The Art Newspaper (English version) published Sophia Kishkovsky's article about the Museum of the Family of Nicholas II in Tobolsk. It mentions **Romanov News**, and we heartfully thank Sophia for it.*

### **Siberian museum memorialises the Romanovs in house where they were imprisoned**

*Museum of the Family of Emperor Nicholas II in Tobolsk is Russia's first devoted to 'Royal Martyrs'*

June 18. The Art Newspaper, Sophia Kishkovsky – Russia's first state-run museum devoted to the overthrown Tsar Nicholas II and his family has opened in Tobolsk, Siberia, in the former governor's mansion where they were imprisoned for eight months from August 1917. They were taken to Yekaterinburg and executed a year later. The Museum of the Family of Emperor Nicholas II is a branch of the Tyumen Museum and Educational Association, which encompasses several museums in the oil-rich region. "This is the revival of the memory of the imperial house," says Vladislava Dronova, the director of the Tobolsk Historical and Architectural Museum-Reserve, which runs the Romanov exhibition. "It is important not only for our region but for Russia."



The Russian Orthodox Church plays a central role in commemorating the Romanovs, who were canonised as Royal Passion-Bearers in 2000 for their steadfast faith at the end of their lives. A 700 km religious procession marking the 100th anniversary of the family's murder began earlier this month in Tobolsk and is due to end in July in Yekaterinburg.

The Romanovs are also revered by the historian Anna Gromova, the wife of the Kremlin official Alexei Gromov. She has overseen the curatorial side of the museum. At the opening in April, she said that it should serve as "a high spiritual example of the Royal Martyrs to remind all of us of a responsible attitude towards our Fatherland, our family, our faith", according to the Facebook page *Romanov News*. This is maintained by Paul Kulikovsky, a great-great grandson of Tsar Alexander III and the only descendant of the Romanovs to attend the event.

The Tobolsk museum was able to secure temporary loans from major Russian institutions, including the Central Armed Forces Museum and the State Archive, as well as private collections. Among the items in its permanent collection are a silk shawl and a Gospel that belonged to Empress Alexandra Feodorovna.

The Tyumen Museum and Educational Association drew criticism in 2017 after the collection of Tyumen's art museum was moved to an incomplete new building to make way for a multimedia exhibition, Russia—My History. It was created by Tikhon Shevkunov, a Russian Orthodox bishop who is reputed to be President Vladimir Putin's confessor. The show, which was launched in Moscow, has multiplied across Russia and includes sections on the Romanov dynasty as well as the 1917 Revolution and its aftermath. Yet it also praises aspects of Soviet rule. The Tyumen affiliate is part of the Museum and Educational Association and has proved popular, with more than 130,000 visiting since it opened last November.



Kulikovsky says that both the Tobolsk museum and Russia - My History “make Russian history accessible to a lot more people”. While the show’s multimedia technology draws the interest of young people, the museum is also an important showcase for “the real artefacts” in a “building that has historical significance”, he says.

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### **The fishing cottage of Alexander III in Langinkoski once again opened the doors for guests**

8 June. YLE. - The fate of the house-museum was decided literally in the last minute - before this Langinkoski was threatened with closure.

On June 1, the Langinkoski Museum, the fishing lodge of Emperor Alexander III, opened its doors again for guests. Langinkoski is one of the objects of the National Museum of Finland, and from June 1 it works daily from 11.00 to 18.00.

On weekdays, visitors have the opportunity to take part in the excursion in Russian, which starts at 14.00. The cost of the tour is included in the entrance ticket.



The fate of Langinkoski was decided literally in the last minute - before this, a rent dispute between volunteers supporting the functioning of the museum and the Forestry Administration threatened the museum with a closure. As a result, the content of the fishing lodge was taken over by the National Museum of Finland.

"I will definitely come here again!" - so said the future Russian Emperor Alexander III in the summer of 1880, visiting the picturesque Langinkoski and its surroundings. For the Imperial Family a fishing house was built where it could feel free from the strict Petersburg court life and enjoy fishing, cutting trees, cooking and each other's company.

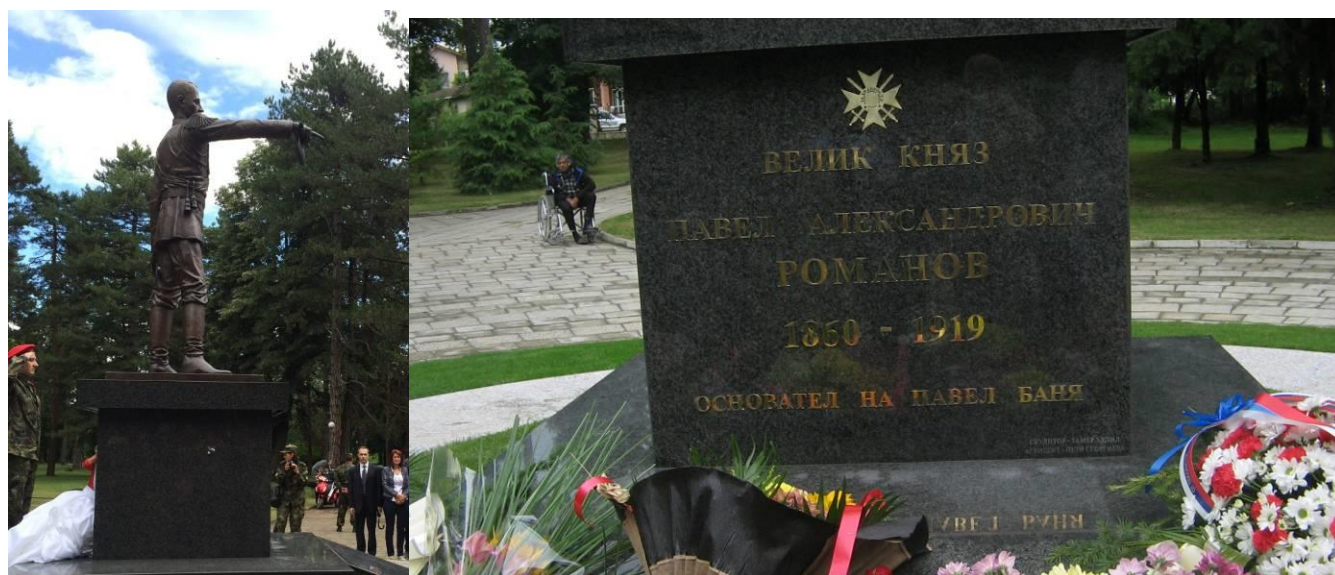
The fishing lodge is open to the public from 1.6 to 30.9.2018.

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## A monument to Grand Duke Paul Alexandrovich was opened in Bulgaria

On June 29, a monument to the Grand Duke Paul Alexandrovich was unveiled in the Bulgarian city of Pavel-Banya, which is a resort town named after him. The monument was established by the Municipality and upon a decision of the Municipal Council in connection with the 140th anniversary of the city and is located in the central park.



The height of the bronze monument is 2.4 meters, weight is 360 kilograms. It is installed on a 2-meter granite pedestal in the city park. Its author is sculptor Tamer Khalil. He portrayed the Grand Duke in full growth, holding in his hand the decree on the establishment of the city of Pavel-Banya.

Grand Duke Pavel was the son of Emperor Alexander II. At the age of 16 he crossed the Danube River with the Russian army and took part in the Russo-Turkish Liberation War.

On March 3, 1878, at the end of the Russian-Turkish War the liberation took place in the village of San Stefano. This is the year of the establishment of Pavel, which, 140 years later, became the town of Pavel Banya.



In the diary of the first priest of the newly built village of Pavel, in 1878 Father Sava Ivanov, it was recorded that the settlement was "named after St. Apostle Paul and the youngest son of the liberator His Majesty the All-Russian Emperor Alexander II, the Grand Duke Paul."

The opening of the monument is timed to coincide with the day when the Bulgarian Orthodox Church celebrates the day of the holy apostles Peter and Paul.

Vice-President of Bulgaria Iliana Iotova, Councilor of the Russian Embassy in Bulgaria Alexey Novoselov and the Honored Council of the Russian Federation in Plovdiv Georgiy Gerov took part in the event.

"As our teachers and parents raised us to respect the memory of the heroes, so we must give the children the behests of the glorious past. There is no future for the people who do not remember and do not respect their history," - said Iliana Iotova at the opening ceremony of the monument.

Video -

<http://news.bnt.bg/bg/a/dnes-v-pavel-banya-be-otkrit-pametnik-na-velikiya-knyaz-pavel-aleksandrovich>





## "Grand Duke Alexander Nikolaevich and Pavlovsk. To the 200th anniversary of Emperor Alexander II"

An exhibition dedicated to the childhood years of Emperor Alexander II (1818 - 1881) will be in the Library of State Pavlovsk Museum from June 22 to September 16, 2018. The unique project in cooperation with the State Archives of the Russian Federation and the State Hermitage presents archival and museum rarities telling the public about the childhood and adolescence of the Tsar, who went down in history under the name Liberator.

Education of the future Emperor is not inextricably linked with Pavlovsk, the beloved out-of-town residence of his "august grandmother" the Empress Maria Feodorovna (1859 - 1828).

It was to Pavlovsk in June 1818 that the little Grand Duke, born April 29 (17), 1818, was brought from Moscow. Here, under the tender and close concern of the Empress Maria Feodorovna, he spent most of the summer every year.

The new exhibition is largely devoted to this period of the Grand Duke's life. For the first time, the public will be shown items from Alexander's personal casket, which was in his office in the Winter Palace. The box was presented to Alexander in 1832 and since then he has taken in it priceless things for himself: toys, notes, office supplies, household items, souvenirs and trinkets. The atmosphere of the exhibition, carefully crafted by museum specialists, allows these objects to see the image of their owner - not so much the Emperor, but as a simple person who keeps the memory of the happy moments of his childhood and adolescence.



To reveal the history of objects from the secret box will help diary entries of Alexander Nikolaevich himself, his tutor K.K. Merder, letters of members of the Imperial Family from the collection of the State Archives of the Russian Federation. The iconography of the Grand Duke and future Emperor, his family members and the views of Pavlovsk in the 1820s are also presented at the exhibition.



**"The tragedy of the family ... the tragedy of the motherland ...", an exhibition dedicated to the Tsar's Family opened in Yekaterinburg**

June 5, 2018, the historical and art exhibition project "The tragedy of the family ... The tragedy of the Motherland ...", dedicated to the Romanov family, was opened in the museum-exhibition center "Poklevsky-Kozell House".

The exhibition was presented by the Sverdlovsk Regional Museum of Local Lore together with the State Museum-Reserve Pavlovsk, with the participation of the Charity Foundation "Elizabeth-Sergei Enlightenment Society".



Visitors get acquainted with numerous testimonies of the private life of the Imperial Family and the Grand Dukes of the Romanovs in the palaces of St. Petersburg, Tsarskoe Selo, Peterhof and Pavlovsk, saw on the photos and from the documents their weekdays and holidays, joys and sorrows, relationships with family and friends, activities and interests. Immersion in the atmosphere is promoted by unique items of fine and applied art from the palace, home-made watercolors and amateur photographs of Grand Dukes and Princesses, cute trinkets from private quarters and priceless gifts to the Emperor, the Empress and their children.





Among them there are the Empress's home dress, Olga Nikolaevna's children's shoes, dishes, silver cigarette cases that Alexandra Fedorovna presented to the Emperor, and he did not part with one of them until his death. Part of the exhibition is dedicated to Protopriest John Storozhev - he was the last to see the members of the Imperial Family alive. A total of 150 exhibits are located in three halls of the regional museum of local lore.



Anna Gromova, chairman of the Supervisory Board of the Charity and Charity Renewal Foundation "Elisabeth-Sergei Enlightenment Society" said at the opening: "This is an authentic photograph of John's funeral in 1927. A huge number of believers are following his coffin. Many family photos: mother, his wife, their betrothal, their wedding."

Special attention should be paid to authentic photographs of the Imperial Family, made by the court photographer. He accompanied them on trips and attended important events. Most of the Urals residents will see it for the first time. To ensure that such valuable exhibits are not spoiled, light is dimmed in the hall, a certain temperature is maintained. The exhibition was brought to Yekaterinburg from the Pavlovsk museum-reserve for the whole summer.

Pavel Krekov, deputy governor of the Sverdlovsk Region: "This will take place when the World Cup games will be played, when there will be a lot of people coming from different places in Russia and other countries. People will have the opportunity to see unique exhibits that bear the spirit of the era, this is an important educational activity."

The exhibition is open to visitors from June 5 to September 23, 2018.









## Fabergé Rediscovered in Hillwood

Designed to delight and surprise, the treasures created by the firm of Carl Fabergé have inspired admiration and intrigue for over a century, both for their remarkable craftsmanship and the fascinating histories that surround them. Now, a special exhibition at Hillwood in Washington DC, USA, unveil new discoveries relating to its own collection of Fabergé imperial Easter eggs and other famed works.

Featuring over 100 objects, *Fabergé Rediscovered* is highlighting new attributions and provenances and providing a new framework to study and understand 19th- and 20th-century jewelry and goldsmithing. The special exhibition will display the greatest examples from Hillwood's Fabergé collection, left by Marjorie Merriweather Post for the benefit of future generations, along with important loans from other museums and private collections, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Musée d'Orsay, the McFerrin Collection, the Edouard and Maurice Sandoz Foundation, and His Serene Highness Prince Albert II of Monaco.

Hillwood executive director, Kate Markert explains - "Since it's been over 22 years since Hillwood's Fabergé collection was last examined in a book or exhibition, this fresh look at the works of Fabergé, revealing new information, attributions, and provenances for Hillwood's objects, is long overdue."

The famous discovery in 2014 of a long-lost imperial Easter egg - Tsar Alexander III's 1887 Easter gift to his wife, Tsarina Maria Feodorovna - by a scrap metal dealer in the Midwest not only made headlines, but also prompted new findings about Hillwood's own collection. Newly uncovered facts relating to the rediscovered egg confirmed that Twelve Monograms Egg, long believed to have been made in 1895, was actually one of the two imperial Easter eggs fabricated in 1896. The fascination with Fabergé continues to uncover new facts and discoveries about the storied jeweler to the court of St. Petersburg.



Hillwood's collection has been the focus of study for several of its curators, beginning with Post's curator, Marvin Ross, who published a book about Hillwood's Fabergé in 1965. Anne Odom published on Hillwood's Fabergé collection in 1996, and was the last to do so. Current chief curator, Dr. Wilfried Zeisler, conducted research into Hillwood's archives, at the Bentley Historical Library in Ann Arbor, where Post's archives are housed, and in Russia to bring to light more of the collection's history and Post's early interest in Fabergé for this special exhibition and accompanying publication.



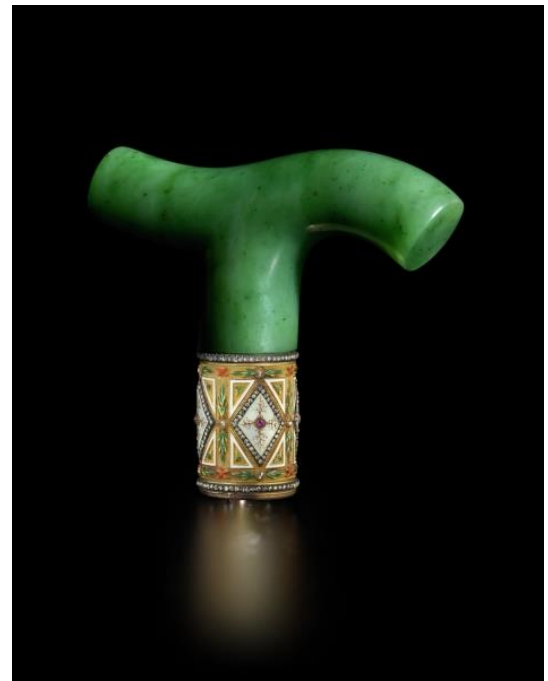


Hillwood's Fabergé holdings of about 90 objects represent a small portion of over 5,000 Russian objects in the collection," said Zeisler. "That Post and Ross dedicated their first publication on the collection to the works of Fabergé is a testament to the jeweler's importance in the history of decorative art. This new research, along with the updated attributions and provenances, will offer interest and intrigue to even the most knowledgeable Fabergé aficionados, while also introducing the famous jeweler to new audiences."

### *Hillwood's Fabergé Collection*

Marjorie Merriweather Post began collecting art in the first decade of the 20th century. In furnishing her New York apartment, she adopted a taste for 18th-century French style, which was the design trend of the day. The first Fabergé pieces she collected can be seen in the context of her new-found interest in French decorative art, particularly as they aligned with the criteria she developed for collecting: They were beautiful, finely crafted, and were associated with royalty.

Post acquired her first Fabergé piece in 1927 from the New York branch of Cartier. The 18th-century amethyst quartz box, which had once belonged to Prince Felix Yusupov, bears on its gold lid the marks of Fabergé. It would have interested Post for its precious materials and prestigious history. The second Fabergé item to enter her collection, and the first with an imperial connection, was a nephrite cane handle, set in gold and decorated with enamel, diamonds, and rubies. A note accompanying the piece signed by Grand Duchess Xenia Alexandrovna, the last Tsar's sister, verifies that it once belonged to her.

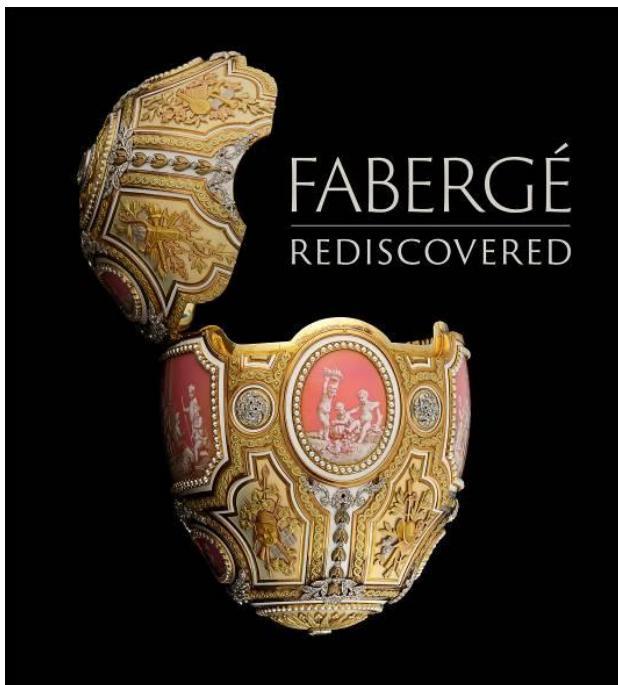


In 1931, Eleanor Barzin, Post's middle daughter, acquired the Catherine the Great Egg from Hammer Galleries as a birthday gift for her mother. A tribute to French design, the egg aligned with Marjorie's interest in French 18th-century gold and enameled boxes. When she departed for Moscow with her husband, diplomat Joseph E. Davies, in 1937, when he was appointed U.S. ambassador to the Soviet Union, Marjorie was already thoroughly acquainted with the history of the Romanovs and their jeweler Fabergé, having already acquired these three impressive examples.

With the possible exception of a rare wood display case with silver mounts, it does not appear that Post purchased any Fabergé objects during her time in the Soviet Union. The discoveries of other Russian treasures she made there, including porcelain, silver, enamel, and liturgical objects, did ignite a passion for Russian art, including the works of Fabergé, that would fuel her collecting for the rest of her life.

Post bought Hillwood in 1955 and decided that her home would become a museum, planning displays of her works accordingly and continuing to add to her collection. She acquired Fabergé most assiduously in the 1960s. Among the nearly 90 pieces of Fabergé in Hillwood's collection, highlights include two imperial Easter eggs; a bowenite clock designed by Fabergé's chief silversmith, Julius Rappoport, modeled after an 18th-century English clock, which belonged to Nicholas II's mother, Maria; a carnet, or notebook, with a miniature of the Empress Alexandra, possibly made at the time of her engagement in 1894; and a music box once belonging to the Yusupov family, considered to be one of the finest examples of Fabergé enameling.

Exhibition open from June 9th  
2018 to January 13th 2019



A full-color, 224-page companion catalog of the same title and authored by Zeisler has been published in partnership with Giles in conjunction with the exhibition. The lavishly illustrated book focuses on the recent research into Fabergé, providing revelations from the Russian public archives, and the discovery of objects thought to be lost that have brought to light new information about Fabergé's career and his creations. With new photography and illuminating focus spreads by Fabergé experts, this new volume presents the firm in the broader history of 19th- to 20th-century jewelry and goldsmithing, documents new attributions and provenances, and examines our continuing fascination with Fabergé's remarkable work.



## The exhibition "Romanovs. Russia. Kostroma"

June 8, 2018, the grand opening of the exhibition "Romanov. Russia, Kostroma." took place in the Kostroma Museum-Reserve.

In the historical halls of the Romanov Museum the Romanovs are presented as they were seen by contemporaries, and how they are represented by artists of our days, supplemented with unique documentary materials, which is today very relevant for a wide audience.

The exposition occupies the entire second floor of the Romanov Museum: these are large-scale paintings on historical subjects (the size of some of them exceeds 4 meters!), portraits of dynasty representatives, sculpture, photographs, documents and much more.



The Academy of Painting, Sculpture and Architecture of Ilya Glazunov provided more than 35 works. These are the works of the academy teachers and the best "small" and "big" diplomas of different years.

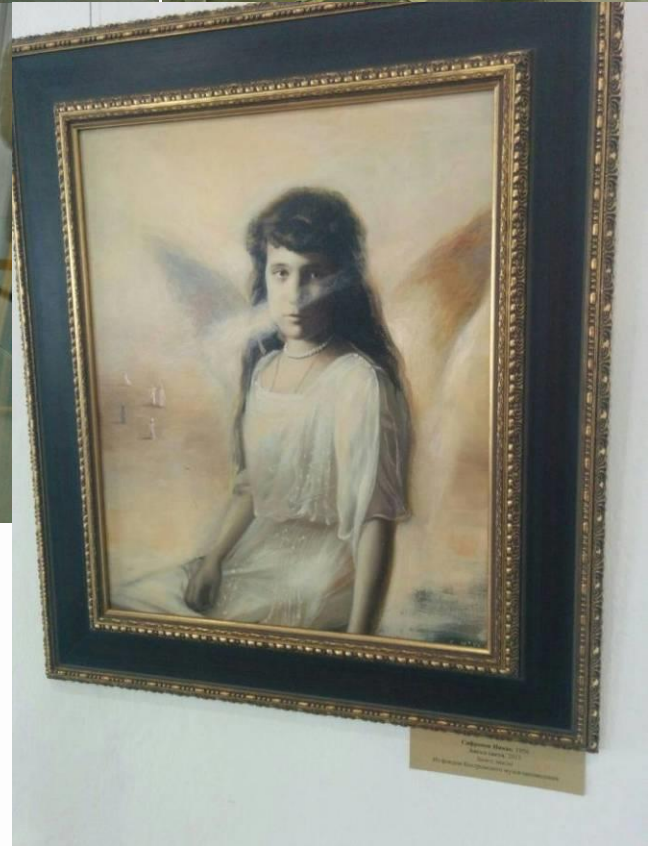
President of the Russian Academy of Arts, People's Artist of Russia Zurab Tsereteli provided seven unique sculptures for the exhibition, including the "Ipatiev Night".

Visitors will have the opportunity, to imagine what great victories and difficult trials the representatives of the royal Dynasty of Russia had to pass through 300 years of rule of a great country.

The exhibition will run until October 20, 2018 .



*The sculpture of Empress Catherine the Great by Zurab Tsereteli meets guests at the entrance. Several works are devoted to Peter the Great at the exhibition: this one is the largest one.*



*One of the most tragic works of Tsereteli: "Ipatiev night" - the family of Nicholas II before the execution.*

*Copies of court costumes of the early XX century. Cups produced at the end of the 19th and beginning of the 20th century.*

*A new painting - A festival of the Romanov.. Grand Duchess Anastasia - a work of Nikas Safronov*





## Exhibition "Imperial Gifts" at the Hermitage-Kazan Center

From June 6 to September 9

The "Hermitage-Kazan" Center of the Historical and Architectural and Art Museum-Preserve "Kazan Kremlin" opened an exhibition "Imperial Gifts" from the collection of the State Hermitage.

The exhibition includes twenty-five rarities of interest from both artistic and historical points of view. These monuments of jeweler art show that successes in diplomatic and political affairs, civil and military missions were often accompanied by precious gifts. Two extremely diverse and seemingly remote areas of human activity - artistic, vividly manifested in jewelry art, and state - are connected together.

ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ  
**ЭРМИТАЖ**  
The State Hermitage Museum



Министерство культуры Республики Татарстан  
Государственный Эрмитаж  
Государственный историко-архитектурный и художественный  
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Among the unusual and interesting examples of the language of 18th-century gallant diplomacy is the oval golden snuff-box decorated with a medallion of painted enamel depicting Venus and Cupid, presented to Peter I by Augustus II. The popularity of snuff-boxes - elegant boxes designed to store snuff in many ways contributed to Peter's orientation on the European manner of behavior. The gift of Prussian King Friedrich Wilhelm to Peter I is a crystal cup on the bronze foot - the only example in the Hermitage collection of stone vessels of European masters, on which the engraver left his signature - G. Spiller. (Gottfried Spiller (1663-1728).)

Among the precious gifts awarded to foreign envoys, the "portrait of the Sovereigns" is often mentioned. "The grasped portraits as awards for special merits or feats of arms were very common, they were worn on chains and valued along with the order. The exhibition presents one of the early portraits presented by Pyotr Semyon Grigorevich Naryshkin, an associate of the Tsar, a prominent figure of the Petrine era. The miniature of the painted enamel, executed with great skill, dates back to the pictorial portrait of G. Kneller the year 1697.

Many valuable items that contributed to a significant enrichment of the palace pantries were acquired during the reign of Empress Anna Ioannovna, the niece of Peter I. As an example, one can cite an unusual bowl of Chinese work on a low stalk, with two carved handles. Its form is typical for Chinese products of the XVII - early XVIII century, from which they drank wine. Probably, this work is one of the important gifts presented to the Russian court. Its golden lid, repeating the shape of the bowl, is decorated with chased ornaments with the monograms of Empress Anna Ioannovna and silver plates in the form of Imperial crowns adorned with diamonds. In the center of the lid is a large diamond (1.70 carats), which is both a kind of decorative finish and a handle.



During the reign of Peter the Great's daughter Elizabeth Petrovna, Russia's ties with European and Eastern countries, the exchange of embassies and, accordingly, memorable gifts, were strengthened. Attention is drawn to the elegant hand mirror, a kind of evidence of diplomatic victories. The golden frame of the mirror on the front side and the handle are decorated with chased ornaments, on the back there is an architectural composition. The mirror is richly decorated with rosettes and garlands of diamonds and rubies, giving the whole product an extraordinary solemnity, splendor and elegance. It is believed that the mirror, made in a manner characteristic of English goldsmiths, was presented to Empress Elizabeth Petrovna on behalf of the Turkish sultan Osman III. This is the reason for the decoration of

the pommel in the form of a crescent moon. This elegant piece, as well as many items of this kind were deposited in the palace pantries on the basis of oral or written orders. By 1760, the nucleus of the jewelry collection of the future Hermitage had already taken shape, but its assembly had not yet received its seat.

With the advent of Catherine II in 1762, a new stage of collecting jewelry began. Collecting and creating museum collections at this time becomes a characteristic phenomenon of all European households. In this period, the construction of the Winter Palace is finished, in which Catherine is engaged in a number of re-planning. In 1764, the ceremonial bedchamber of Catherine II was converted into a diamond room, located in the south-eastern part of the Winter Palace. Diamond room was approximately at an equal distance from the throne room and from the personal chambers of the Empress. Contemporaries said that the room was the richest cabinet of precious things. In the center of it, under a large crystal



cap, there were the State Regalia, and along the walls there were cupboards with ornaments, medals, snuffboxes, clocks,

Snuffboxes of various kinds and dignity are often mentioned in the lists of Catherine's gifts. In the years of her rule, the value of this type of gift has increased especially since it encouraged the commitment of the nobility to the cause of public service. The exhibition features a small elegant snuff box by Jean Jacques Duke, whose lid is decorated with a medallion with monograms "E II" and "Z". It is believed that the snuffbox was commissioned by Catherine II as a gift to S. Zorich - one of her favorites. Inside, under the lid of the medallion with the initials of Catherine and Zorich, there is an image



depicting the Faith, Hope, and Devotion is placed. The successes of Russia in the international arena also contributed to the replenishment of the palace treasuries with valuable gifts. Very important for the country, the events of the first and second Russo-Turkish wars and the associated annexation of the Crimea and the Kuban have been reflected in a number of monuments of art kept in the Hermitage collection. After the end of military operations with the Turks and the annexation of Crimea, last Khan of the Crimean Tatars presented to Catherine for her grandson Grand Duke Alexander Pavlovich an outfit of eight subjects. It includes, in particular, the quiver and silk embroidered on display, velvet with gold thread ornaments, pearls and overlays with turquoise, jade, rubies, emeralds.

A rare and unusual subject, which was presented to Catherine II by the Polish King Stanislaw August Poniatowski on June 27, 1783, is a written instrument. It differs not only in its unusual shape - in the form of a sofa, drawers and rollers of which serve as an inkstand, sandbox and feather storage - but also a magnificent decorative solution. The thread and polishing of the heliotrope on the front side and mother-of-pearl on the back, combined with an extremely thin chasing in gold, give out the hand of a significant master.

The court of Grand Duke Paul Petrovich, the heir to the Russian throne, called the small court, had independent contacts with representatives of foreign states. The exhibition features five items from a set of women's jewelry. Parure of eleven things filigree gold with diamonds and cameos made of papier-mache, made in 1795 at the St. Petersburg workshop Duvalier, was made as a gift for the wedding of Grand Duchess Alexandra Pavlovna and the Austrian Archduke Joseph of the bride's parents Paul Petrovich and Maria Feodorovna. After the transfer of Alexandra Pavlovna to Vienna, the decoration was taken away as part of a dowry. But after the death of the Princess, the set, together with a group of jewelry was returned to St. Petersburg. Part of the returned jewelry was unmounted and remade.



One of the rare and unusual items of Alexander's time is the inkwell. Simple and concise in form, elegant in proportion to the parts and decor, it was made from the first domestic platinum. The ink-pot was presented to Alexander I and was kept in the rooms of the Winter Palace, and from the middle of the XIX century in the Gallery of Jewels.



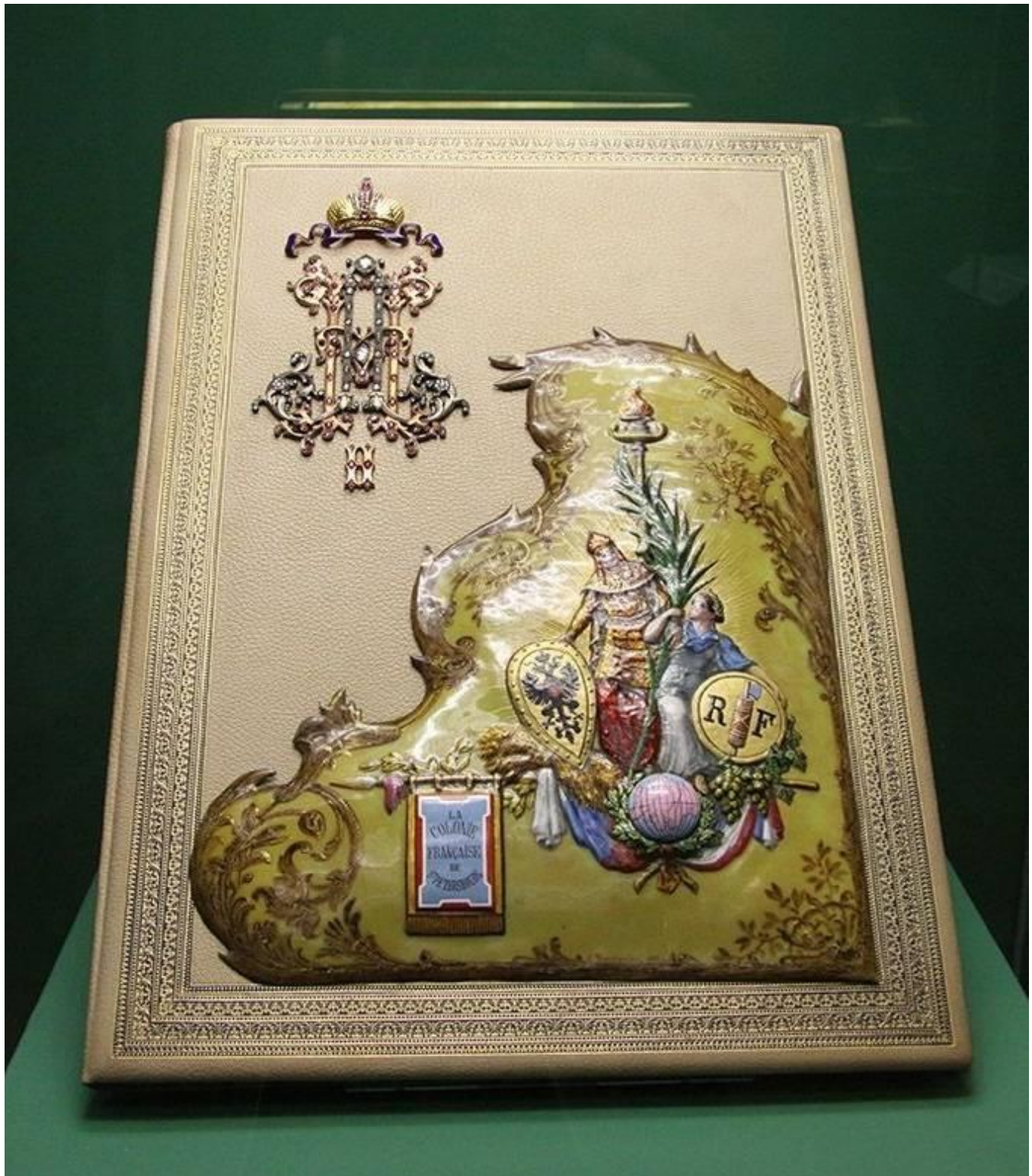
Precious stones or products with such stones were often gifts, a payment or a means of solving diplomatic conflicts. To the number of such examples, two horse hats, donated to Nicholas I on behalf of the Sultan and Padishah of the Ottoman Empire Mahmud, are mentioned. The first was brought in 1829 after the conclusion of the Adrianople world, the second - in 1834 in gratitude for the sending of a detachment by Russia, who stopped the army of Ibrahim Pasha, moving to Constantinople. This set includes a cap, nine harnesses and two flint pistols, one of which is on display.



Enrichment of the Tsarist treasury was promoted by various interstate contacts. These are visits and treaties, allied obligations and court etiquette, these are family ties. So, an unusual Hermitage casket is a gift of the Corporation of City London to Alexander II. He was presented to the Tsar during his stay in London in 1874 on the occasion of the marriage of his daughter, Grand Duchess Maria Alexandrovna and Prince Albert, Duke of Edinburgh, the second son of Queen Victoria. On the front side of the casket, executed under the influence of Renaissance articles, there is a plate of painted enamel depicting the reception of representatives of the City of London by Alexander II; inside is a dedicatory gift address.



Significant gifts accompanied the celebration of the wedding of Nikolai Alexandrovich (future Nicholas II) with Princess Alice of Hesse, (Alexandra Feodorovna), and after a year and a half the coronation of the last Russian Tsar. From the French colonists on the occasion of the coronation, the address was presented with a golden edge. Binding of light skin is decorated with gold plates decorated with painted enamel with two female figures symbolizing Russia and France. In the upper left corner under the crown is an overhead monogram with the monogram of Nicholas II and Alexandra Feodorovna, made of gold and silver and decorated with rubies and diamonds.







If the previous subject characterizes the state status of gifts, then the next, on the contrary, is an example of family values, so important for the last Russian Tsar. To the silver jubilee of the wedding of the parents of Nicholas II - Alexander III and Maria Feodorovna, in 1891 the main master of the Faberge firm Michael Perkhin performed the silver mantel clock. A complex composition of silver is formed by 25 putti figures playing on musical instruments. Above double-headed eagle under the crown; in the lower part - Romanov griffin, which holds a sword and two shields with the coats of arms of two Imperial dynasties: Russian and Danish, the silver anniversary of the unification of which this subject is dedicated. On the back there is a figured plate, on which the names of 32 donors - relatives of the Imperial couple - are listed.

The product of the famous firm returned, if not to its original owners, then to the place of their first habitat and representation. And, since all the monuments of art must finish their way in museums, and be accessible for viewing, then significant steps have already been taken in this field. After a long journey, the clock was purchased through the London branch of the auction house Sotheby's in 2006 and donated to the Hermitage in 2014 by Russian President Vladimir Putin in connection with the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the museum.





## **"How long can you fool people?": Poklonsky was indignant at the Romanovs' trip across the Crimean bridge**

3 June. NTV. - Natalia Poklonskaya commented on the trip of "Grand Duchess" Maria Vladimirovna and her son Prince George Michaelovich on the Crimean bridge.

A deputy of the State Duma called the "head of the imperial house" of the Romanovs and her son "titled" guests from Spain, "noting that in Crimea such "foreign citizens" advertise not only Russia's achievements but themselves as well.

In this regard, Poklonskaya urged to study history, "before admiring such voyages of self-proclaimed "sovereigns" and "tsarevichs." The ex-prosecutor of the Crimea drew attention to the fact that while Nicholas II was under arrest, his cousin Kirill Vladimirovich (his grand-daughter is the "Grand Duchess" Maria who had come to Crimea) "with a red bow went to M.V. Rodzianko to swear an oath".



Natalia Poklonskaya: "Instead of loyal feelings, others arise. Until when will we expose ourselves to the common laughing-stock? How many people can be fooled by various "monarchs"? Does it do us the honor of honoring such salesmen with incomprehensible goals? In my opinion, in "the sons of Lieutenant Schmidt" all have already played enough."

Also on her social networking page "VKontakte" she noted that in the Crimea the guests "managed to do a lot: bring into ecstasy the rabbi of the Sevastopol synagogue, talk with journalists, go on excursions, get an icon with a boat and much more."

Recall, Princess Maria Vladimirovna, along with her son on the day before in a LADA Largus drove along the Crimean bridge, which was inaugurated on May 15.



## **The Romanov "Imperial House" announced that Poklonskaya is insane**

4 June 2018. NSN - On the air of the National Security Council, Alexander Zakatov called the statement of the State Duma deputy about a trip along the Crimean bridge of Princess Maria Romanov and her son Prince George slander and said that in this way the deputy is trying to make herself another PR on the theme of the Imperial Family.

"There are a few slanderous statements in what Poklonskaya said. For example, she says that "foreign citizens" have arrived. Let me remind you that the "Grand Duchess" and "Grand Duke" since 1992 received the passports of Russian citizens, they are citizens of our country. About the grandfather of the "Grand Duchess" Poklonska spreads slander that he allegedly betrayed the Emperor. It has long been proven that there was no betrayal. There is a published correspondence, from which it appears that Kirill Vladimirovich together with his uncle Pavel Alexandrovich tried to do everything to, as they wrote, to save Nicky on the throne. The fact that they did not succeed, probably, it would not have been possible to anyone. But to spread this long-exposed slander for a deputy of the State Duma, for a lawyer - it's very embarrassing," he said.

At the same time, according to Zakatov, the "Imperial House" does not intend to call Poklonskaya to account for slander and believes that her state of mind is extremely unstable. "There can not be any action on our part, because this is one of the many unintelligent and dishonorable campaigns against the "Imperial House". The "Imperial House" is quite calm about Madame Poklonskaya's madness. We regret her current state of mind. We wish her a speedy recovery. We think that one day the Lord will send her admonition, and she will repent and apologize. If this does not happen - the worse for her".

### **Poklonskaya responded to accusations of a representative of the "imperial house"**

5 June. RT - State Duma deputy Natalia Poklonskaya commented on RT to accusations of libel in her address by the director of the office of the head of the "Russian Imperial House", Alexander Zakatov.

"Our dialogue with representatives of the organization calling itself the Russian Imperial House, showed well that they have nothing in common with the holy Imperial Family of the last Russian Emperor Nicholas II. That's why no one will be silent and bow down to them here. While looking at Mr. Zakatov's accusations against me, I have to regretfully acknowledge the rightness of contemporaries of the Emperor Nicholas II that the inherent grace of the spirit, spiritual beauty and moral greatness remained in the distant past. The master of behind-the-scenes intrigues and hypertrophied narcissus will say: he does not do honor to the organization calling itself the Russian Imperial House, to use the methods of the Soviet government, which massively declared believing people to be insane," Poklonskaya said.

She added that accusing his opponent of insanity and regret about her state of mind, is from the absence of other arguments.

"Well, of course, do not forget about slander. If you, Mr. Zakatov, think that at least one of my words is slander, I'm asking for mercy to the court, we will talk there about the historical vicissitudes, and also about who has a certificate from a psychiatrist, and who, perhaps, must be persistently asked for to present it to the public. I can say one thing: it is unconvincing," the deputy concluded.

Earlier, the director of the office of the head of the Russian Imperial House, Alexander Zakatov, responded to criticism of State Duma deputy Natalya Poklonskaya against members of the Imperial House. Zakatov expressed regret in connection with the spiritual state of the parliamentarian and accused her of slandering the citizenship of the Grand Duchess Maria Vladimirovna and her son Prince George Michaelovich.

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### **The resolution of the public forum "Tsar"**

The forum "Tsar" - a public forum for the preservation of the heritage of the Emperor Nicholas II - was held on May 18, on the eve of the 150th anniversary of the birth of the last Russian Emperor, in Yekaterinburg. The forum brought together historians, philosophers, theologians, public figures from different regions of the country and foreign speakers. They touched upon many issues related to the restoration and preservation of historical memory of the Emperor.





Following the blessing of the Metropolitan Kirill of Yekaterinburg and Verkhoturye, the Public Forum's participants adopted a resolution, the full text of June 1st which we are publishing here:

*"Resolution of the Public Forum "Tsar"  
(on the 150th anniversary of the birth of the last Russian Emperor Nicholas II)*

*We, the participants of the Public Forum "Tsarsky", scientists, public figures, representatives of the Russian Orthodox Church, gathered on May 18, 2018 in Yekaterinburg, on the eve of the 150th anniversary of the birth of the last Russian Emperor Nicholas II, realizing the entire measure of responsibility of present generations of Russian citizens for the preservation of a grateful and just historical memory of the life and state activities of the last Russian Emperor, stating the inadequacy of the efforts of society and the state in perpetuating the memory of the Emperor Nicholas II, mindful of the upcoming July 2018 100th Emperor Nicholas II anniversary of the murder, his family members and close people, consider it is necessary to implement a range of measures designed to promote:*

*- the recognition of the merit of Nicholas II as a ruler, whose contribution to the development of Russia was truly strategic,*

*- making an unequivocal assessment by society and the state of the murder of Emperor Nicholas II, members of his family, as well as close associates.*

*Among the actions necessary to perpetuate the memory of the last Russian Emperor Nicholas II, we consider priority:*

*- the development and implementation of an all-Russian information and educational campaign on the achievements of Russia in the era of Nicholas II,*

*- public examination of textbooks and teaching aids in the part relating to the reliability and completeness of the facts in the presentation of the period of the reign of Nicholas II,*

*- the creation and wide dissemination of new scientific and educational work on the basis of reliable scientific information about the era of Nicholas II,*

*- the formation of a state order for quality art works in various fields of culture and art, reflecting the true history of the reign of Nicholas II,*

*- installation in cities and other settlements of Russia of monuments, commemorative signs, memorial tablets and indexes reflecting various moments of life and activity of Nicholas II,*

*- the return of historical names to geographical objects related to the epoch of the reign of Nicholas II, in particular, the return to the archipelago of the Northern land of the historical name - the Land of Nicholas II.*

*In order to make a moral assessment of the murder of the Tsar's family on the part of the state, the call to which is expressed in the Message of the Consecrated Bishops' Council of the Russian Orthodox Church in 2008, we consider timely and worthy the possible adoption of a resolution by the State Duma of the Russian Federation of the information about the discussion which was published in a number of media on the eve our Forum.*

*In order to coordinate the implementation of the above measures, Forum participants consider it necessary to create the Association of the Memory of Emperor Nicholas II, designed to unite all those who contribute to perpetuating the memory of the activities of the last Russian Emperor, as well as representatives of churches, museums, enterprises, regions and municipalities, one way or another associated with the name of Nicholas II."*

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## Activities in Tsarskoye Selo



*The State Museum-Reserve "Tsarskoye Selo" announced a competition for the right to restore some interiors of the Alexander Palace.*

As stated on the website of the state procurement of the Russian Federation, the initial cost of the contract is 70.4 million rubles. The work should be completed by the beginning of 2020. Restoration will touch the interior of the Vestibule, Corridor, Library. The rosettes, plafones and cornices of the premises of the 1st floor of the palace will be repaired, the entrance porch, the fireplace, doors, windows, floors and elements of the architectural decor will be restored.

As reported, the first stage of the Alexander Palace is planned to open after the restoration by the end of 2018. For the visitors interiors of the private half of Nicholas II and Alexandra Feodorovna will be available.

The Alexander Palace was built in 1792-1796 near the Catherine Palace and was intended for the elder son of the Grand Duke Pavel Petrovich - Alexander. The construction of the palace began in 1792 according to the project of the architect G. Quarenghi. The management of the construction work was entrusted to the architect I. Neelov. According to the project of Quarenghi in 1794-1795 the interior decoration of the palace was carried out.



**Romanov** *buzz*



The Russian Historical Society, together with the Russian Military Historical Society, officially launched the competition for the creation of a new monument to Emperor Alexander III - you can apply before September 1, 2018.

To participate in the competition it is necessary to submit artistic sketches of the monument, as well as accompanying documents, including an explanatory note with technical parameters and economic indicators of the project.

The project of the monument participating in the contest should be created on the basis of the first sketches of the monument to Emperor Alexander III of the work of Paolo Trubetskoy. The first project remained unrealized - in it the sculptor portrayed the Emperor sitting on the throne. It is this image that is proposed to contestants to reinterpret artistically.

The monument to Alexander III is planned to be installed on the territory of the Grand Gatchina Palace, where large-scale restoration works are coming to an end. The intention to create a new monument to the Emperor was expressed by the Chairman of the Russian Historical Society Sergei Naryshkin at an extended meeting of the RIO branch, which was held at the end of May in St. Petersburg. Sergei Naryshkin then noted the importance of the personality of Alexander III, who together with his father Emperor Alexander II "laid a solid foundation of national historical enlightenment." The chairman of the RIO recalled that Gatchina was Alexander III's favorite residence, but there is still no monument to the Ruler on the territory of the palace.

The competition for the best project of the monument to Alexander III is held in one round. Results will be summed up until September 28, 2018.







On June 3, 2018, on All Saints Day, domes and crosses were consecrated in the village of Kostousovo of the Rezhevsky district for the chapel under construction in honor of Martyr Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna.

The consecration was performed by the dean of the Rezhevsky District, Priest Andrey Juganets. In his speech, Father Andrey noted that in the year of the 100th anniversary of the murder of the Imperial Family and Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna, it is very important that a chapel will appear on the Rezhevsky land, which will become a monument to their spiritual feat.

The construction of the chapel began in 2017 with the blessing of Metropolitan Kirill of Yekaterinburg and Verkhoturye. Viktor Maximovich Feoktistov, the initiator of the construction of the chapel in his native village was the chairman of the Chernobyl Union of the Chkalovsky district of the city of Yekaterinburg.

Addressing the audience, the head of the territorial administration Tatyana Valentina Agafonova expressed her hope that the chapel will become an ornament of the village, the place of spiritual attraction of its inhabitants, where they can pray to the Martyr Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna about spiritual sorrows and needs.



The estate of Grand Duke Sergei Michailovich is destroyed in the Mostov district of the Kuban. The historical monument of the late XIX century in the village of Psebai could become a tourist destination, but now it is rapidly turning into ruins. Today it is just a dilapidated house, lost in thick foliage. It's hard to believe, but here at the beginning of the last century the Grand Duke met the first faces of Europe. In Psebay they hunted for bison - a trophy that could only be obtained with the permission of His Highness.

During first Russian revolution, the princely house itself became a trophy, or rather, its decoration. Furniture, luxury goods carried. Since then, the walls of the house have seen different things. For a while students were engaged here, and afterwards in the rooms of the princely estate there was a village council.

Why today through the royal roof you can see the sky, how to stop the decline and how much money and time it takes to restore the historical monument, tells Daria Topchieva.

Video - <https://kubantv.ru/details/tsarskiy-trofey-kak-razrushaetsya-okhotnichiy-dom-velikogo-knyazya-sergeya-romanova-v-mostovskom-ray/>



On June 7, at the Kursk State Medical University, with the assistance of the Kursk Theological Seminary, with the blessing of Metropolitan Kursk and Rylysk Herman, the opening of the photo exhibition "The Last Romanovs" took place.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, the rector of the KSMU noted the special importance of holding similar exhibitions, mentioning also the memorable sign installed on the facade of the ophthalmologic hospital along Sadovaya Street. This sign was opened in honor of the visit on December 5, 1914 by Empress Alexandra Feodorovna with the Grand Duchesses Olga and Tatiana to the surgical hospital with wounded soldiers of the First World War. The



merit of the Great Empress is that she not only visited the sick, but also took an active part in helping them, serving them with her daughters as sisters of mercy. "This is the volunteering that we are talking about today and probably for this, including, we need to respect and bow our heads before these people ... Without roots, it is impossible to grow," said the rector of KSMU Viktor Anatolyevich. Archimandrite Simeon (Tomachinsky) stressed that all the activities of Emperor Nicholas II and members of His family were serving his people: "The Grand Duchesses were sisters of mercy, Emperor Nicholas II, as we see from many photographs, visits the wounded. You can evaluate his political successes in different ways, but certainly Nicholas II was a wonderful family man and his rule was sacrificial, he gave himself all his people."

Some of the photos are already known to the interested spectator, but some of them he will see for the first time. Delivered from Moscow, collected and processed by hieromonk Ignatiy (Shestakov), editor of the portal Orthodoxy.ru, and the staff of the Sretensky Monastery.

Kursk State Medical University is one of the largest and oldest universities in Kursk and leading medical educational organizations in Russia. Currently, is studying more than 2,700 foreign citizens from 42 countries (more than 35% of the total number of students). The educational activity of foreign citizens uses English.



In Samara, an exhibition of personal belongings of the Romanovs' house opened 9 June. The exhibition "Tsar's Golgotha: for the 100th anniversary of the Imperial family" was opened in the diocesan church and historical museum.

The exhibits tell about the life of the Imperial family. Among the relics are icons, clothes and books, which has miraculously survived. The unique things of the Romanovs, which have become a legacy for the whole world, are represented in Samara.

The family of the last Emperor laid traditions for decades to come. Their refined taste filled the collection with artistic masterpieces and rare icons. Among them - "August's victory." Exhibits that store the memory of happy and dramatic events can be seen in the Samara Diocesan Church History Museum until August 15.

Video - [http://guberniatv.ru/news/lichnye\\_vewi\\_semi\\_romanovyh\\_pokazali\\_na\\_vystavke\\_v\\_samare/](http://guberniatv.ru/news/lichnye_vewi_semi_romanovyh_pokazali_na_vystavke_v_samare/)



A unique carved 17th-century iconostasis from Moscow's Visoko-Petrovsky Monastery, created by order of Tsar Peter I and believed to have been lost, has been found in the storerooms of the "Kolomenskoe" Metropolitan Museum-Reserve, reports TASS.

"The iconostasis of St. Peter's Cathedral of Visoko-Petrovsky Monastery was not destroyed when the soviet authorities closed the monastery as was previously believed. A presentation was held in the State Institute for Art Studies on the first results of the examination of the dismantled and surviving icons, found in Kolomenskoe," said the abbot of the monastery Fr. Peter (Yeremeev).

As Fr. Peter noted, the iconostasis was preserved thanks to the distinguished restorer Peter Baranovsky.

"Elements of the six-tier iconostasis were transferred to Kolomenskoe at the end of the 1930s. They were kept without inventory, not really in proper conditions, but they survived... The carved columns, two rows of panels, other individual elements, and nearly all the icons have survived to our day," Fr. Peter explained.

The museum now faces the difficult task of restoring the icons and the remaining carved elements. There is as yet no talk of transferring the iconostasis back to the monastery.

The iconostasis was made by order of Tsar Peter I and installed in the monastery cathedral in 1690. The icons were painted in various styles by masters of the armory chamber.



In Magadan, the Tsar's religious procession of the National Liberation Movement was launched, which will end in Yekaterinburg. The rally was timed to coincide with the 100th anniversary of the demise of the Romanov Family.

In 2000, the Imperial Family was canonized. In memory of this tragedy, 6 members of the national liberation front on two cars will reach Yekaterinburg, where the dynasty of the Romanovs was shot.



Throughout the route (more than 20 thousand kilometers) crosses will be installed. In total there are 15 of them, made of pine logs, each 4.5 meters.

Video - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oGxc\\_DeqdO0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oGxc_DeqdO0)



Within the framework of the 17th International Festival of Orthodox Culture "Tsar Days" in Yekaterinburg, a charity concert dedicated to the memory of the Holy Imperial family, was held with the star of the world opera scene Lyubov Petrova.

Lyubov Petrova is a guest soloist of the Bolshoi State Academic Theater of Russia (Moscow), soloist of the Metropolitan Opera (New York). The singer is invited to perform many operatic scenes of the world: the Paris National Opera, the Teatro Real (Madrid), the Massimo Theater (Palermo), the Washington National Opera, the Netherlands Opera, the Colon Theater (Buenos Aires), the Opera of Pittsburgh (Ottawa), the opera houses of Denmark and others countries.

The charity concert was called according to a line from the diary of Empress Alexandra Feodorovna "Let the music of my soul not stop to sound" and was held on the birthday of one of the daughters of the Tsar's family - Grand Duchess Maria Nikolaevna, June 27 in the hall of the Makletsky Sverdlovsk Music College named after P.I. Tchaikovsky.

Organizers of the concert: the spiritual and educational center "Tsar" at the Church on the Blood, the art agency "Premier" (Moscow) and the charity fund Elena Obraztsova (Moscow).

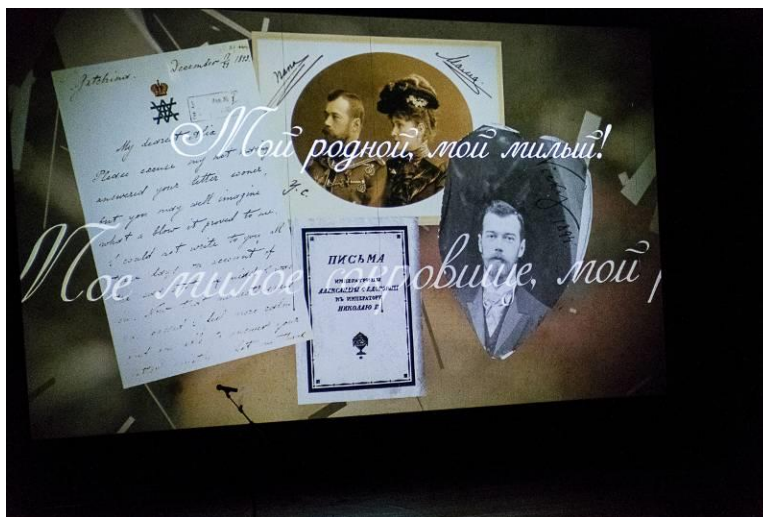


The premiere of the film "The Imperial Family: The Way to the Saints" was held on June 17 at the Tsarskoye Selo Youth Palace. The organizer of the show is the Council for Culture of the St. Petersburg Diocese. 2018 - the centenary of the death of the Imperial family, but also the acquisition of the holy patron saints of our Fatherland, as well as the 150th anniversary of the birth of the last Russian Emperor.

The film was created with the blessing of the Metropolitan of St. Petersburg and Ladoga Varsonofia with the support of the rector of St. Sophia Cathedral in Tsarskoye Selo, Archpriest Gennady Zverev. Rector of St. Catherine's Cathedral, Archpriest Nikita Zverev, noted the importance of site selection for the presentation of the film - in Tsarskoye Selo the last Romanovs spent the happiest years of their life.

"The Imperial Family: The Way to the Saints" is a story about the Imperial family of the Romanovs through the letters of the last years of the life of Emperor Nicholas II and Empress Alexandra Feodorovna, through the verses and memories of contemporaries, a look at the fate of Royal Passion-Bearers as a path of faith, hope and love. Unknown photographs, little-known memories of contemporaries, letters of 1917-1918 show the audience the Emperor as a man of family and faith, and not just a politician and a military leader.

Viewers will be able to watch the film on Spas TV, and it will also be available on the YouTube channel of the Department of Religious Education.





June 29, in the House of Baron Fredericks at Livadia Palace, multimedia exhibition "The Last Emperor" was opened.

On the eve of the tragic date in the history of Russia - the centenary of the murder of the Imperial family - a multimedia exhibition of the memory of the last Russian Emperor Nicholas II was open in Livadia. Within the framework of the exhibition project, paintings of great artists dedicated to the life of the Imperial family is presented. Visitors will see how the canvases of Valentin Serov, Pavel Ryzhenko, Laurits Tuxen, Albert Pierre Devan, and Vladimir Pchelin come to life. According to the organizers, the opening of the exhibition in Livadia in the beloved southern residence of Nicholas II is an act of repentance from Yekaterinburg to the holy Royal martyrs.

Multimedia exhibition will be available for residents and guests of Yalta until the end of September every day from 10.00 to 19.00 in the House of Baron Fredericks. The authors of the project are the film company "Rus" (Yekaterinburg). Ticket price: adult - 150 rubles, preferential - 100 rubles.



On July 12-15, 2018, within the framework of the XVII Festival of Orthodox Culture "Tsar Days", a music festival "The Road to the Church", will present high samples of classical and sacred music honored and loved in the House of Romanovs and reflecting the pages of Russian history.

The participants of the festival will be the Ural Academic Philharmonic Orchestra, Symphony Choir, municipal brass bands of the Sverdlovsk Region and military brass bands of the Central Military District. Special guests will be the outstanding English pianist Peter Donoh and leading soloists of the Mariinsky Theater.

The festival will open July 12 in the Great Hall of the Philharmonic concert "From the Life of the Romanovs". The Ural Academic Philharmonic Orchestra and Symphony Choir of the Sverdlovsk Philharmonic will perform on stage; soloists of the State Academic Mariinsky Theater: People's Artist of Russia, laureate of the State Prize of Russia Vladimir Vaneev (bass), laureate of international competitions Ekaterina Sergeeva (mezzo-soprano), Yegor Semenov (tenor); soloist of the Perm Opera and Ballet Theater. P.I. Tchaikovsky, laureate of international competitions Harry Aghajanyan (bass), laureate of international competitions Albina Shaikhieva (soprano).

On July 13, the concert of Russian choral music "Spiritual verse" will take place in the assembly hall of the Church-on-the-Blood. The Symphonic Choir of the Sverdlovsk Philharmonic, the artistic director and conductor - Honored Artist of Russia Andrei Petrenko will perform.

The next day, on Saturday, July 14, there will be a festival of brass music. The holiday will begin with a parade of orchestras. On the street of Tsarskoy there will be municipal brass bands of the Sverdlovsk region and military brass bands of the Central Military District. Then, on the site near the Church-on-the-Blood, a concert program of the brass band from the participants of the march-parade will be presented. The conductor is the head of the Military Orchestra Service of the Central Military District, Lieutenant-Colonel Sergei Aleev.

On Sunday, July 15 in the Great Hall of the Philharmonic the festival will end with a concert "Music of the House of the Romanovs". Ural Academic Philharmonic Orchestra will perform (conductor - Honored Artist of Russia Andrei Petrenko) and laureate of international competitions Peter Donohow (piano), Great Britain.



The ceremony of returning 16 portraits kidnapped by the Nazi group Reichsleiter Rosenberg was held in the white hall of the Gatchina palace on June 20.

Paintings from the historical collection of the Gatchina Palace, which for more than 70 years were considered lost, were found and returned to the museum.



The hope that the works of famous painters which were not evacuated, once returned to these halls, was long lost even by the old-timers of the museum. According to the available numbers and images, museum specialists were able to confirm the belonging of the paintings to the collection of the Gatchina Palace. Among them - portraits of Empress Elizaveta Petrovna, and Catherine II, the Grand Dukes Pavel Petrovich and Nikolai Pavlovich.

Nikolai Patrushev, Secretary of the Security Council of the Russian Federation: "Serious operational and investigative work was carried out to determine where the exhibits are located and to return them to the place where they should be located."

This collection began to be collected under the Emperor Nicholas I. The fate of more than a dozen stolen paintings is still unknown. But the found rarities have already been examined. They noted that the pictures, despite their difficult history, were well preserved.

"After framing, when they take their place in the galleries of the palace" stressed Culture Minister Vladimir Medinsky.

Video - 1) <http://www.ntv.ru/novosti/2035861/>

2) [https://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article\\_id/263725/](https://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/263725/)



"100 years without repentance." A new project of the musical theater Oksana Naboychenko, the musical tragedy "The Last Romanovs" premiere on July 4 at 19.00. It will be held at the Kaluga Innovation and Cultural Center. It reflects the tragic events of a hundred years ago, the history of the death of the last Russian Emperor's family.

In total Oksana Naboichenko wrote 7 musicals, more than 200 vocal-choral compositions.

Two musicals by Oksana Naboichenko became laureates of prestigious contests: "The Happiness of a Poor Girl" (music by O. Naboychenko) -The winner of the festival Magic of Theater (Sochi, 2007); The concert-suite "Talent for All Seasons" (theatrical vocalization of the fables by I.Krylov on the music of O.Naboichenko) is laureate of the Grand Prix of the Festival Running on the Waves in Italy (Milan, 2008).



In the Volgograd region the first monument to Nicholas II will be installed. The bronze bust will be installed on the territory of the Uspensko-Nikolsky church in the village of Archedinskaya.

The solemn opening of the first monument to the holy Martyr Tsar-Martyr Nicholas II will be held on June 17 - the day of the centenary of the death of the Sovereign.



The monument was made in Moscow on the project of the famous Russian sculptor Vyacheslav Klykov. He is the author of monuments to many Russian writers, commanders and Orthodox saints. Sculptures of Nicholas II by Vyacheslav Klykov have already been installed in Mytishchi, Tobolsk, Vladivostok, Simferopol, Melbourne. This year the bust will also be opened in New York. Note that in honor of the opening Bishop of Uryupinsk and Novoanninsky Elisha will hold a solemn service and a procession. To the consecration of the monument, the miraculous myrrh-streaming icon of Nicholas II will arrive in the church.



In the Russian History Museum, Jordanville, New York, on July 15 the exhibition "Last Days of the Last Tsar" will be opened. It tells of the final months of Nicholas II, his family, and faithful attendants. Commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Imperial Family's tragic death, the exhibition draws upon the rich materials held by the Russian History Foundation and over a dozen private collections to tell the gripping story of a family at the center of events that changed the course of history. In addition to viewing the exhibition, guests are invited to visit the library, Russian Nobility Association reading room, Holy Trinity Monastery Cathedral and bookstore.



June 26, 2018, Peterhof Museum Preserve presented the mobile exhibition "Rarities of the House of Romanovs. Summer Imperial Residence in Peterhof" in the Summer Palace in Beijing, the capital of the People's Republic of China. The exhibition at the Summer Palace finishes the grand tour of the Peterhof collection in China. For almost two years of exhibiting in the museums of Chengdu, Guiyang, Shijiazhuang, in the Chinese Art Museum "Millennium" in Beijing, the exhibition was seen by more than a million spectators. The Summer Palace, which celebrates its 20th anniversary this year as the World Cultural Property of UNESCO, is a grand palace and park complex in the northwest of Beijing, the summer residence of the Chinese Emperors of the Qing dynasty. Demonstration here of museum items related to the Russian Imperial home, speaks of the growing interest of the Chinese audience to the history and cultural heritage of Russia. The exhibition will last until October 9, 2018.



In Yekaterinburg posters with the Holy Royal Martyrs have appeared, advertising the "Tsar Days". The inscription reads: "it's not evil that will defeat evil, but only love."



A photo exhibition dedicated to the holy Royal Martyrs, "The Family of the Last Russian Emperor. The Romanovs: Imperial Service," will be on display in the Victoria Park Market shopping center in Auckland, New Zealand from July 14-21.

The exhibition is dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the martyric death of the last Russian Royal family, which will be solemnly marked on July 17 this year, and will feature photos of the family of Tsar Nicholas II, primarily reflecting the Romanovs' service to their people and Fatherland.





The exhibition allows for a view into the life of the Royal Martyrs, not so much in the ceremonial halls of the palace, but on the front, at work infirmaries, and at home.

The display was organized by the Church of the Resurrection of Christ in Auckland with the support of pravoslavie.ru. This is the first time the exhibition will be held in Auckland.

The exhibition can be found at Viktoria Park Market, 210 Victoria Street West, Auckland 1010.

Admission is free.



The Museum of Architecture in Moscow opened an exhibition dedicated to Silvio Danini - the last court architect of the Romanov dynasty. He completely changed the appearance of Tsarskoe Selo, designed buildings for various purposes: from palaces to power stations.

"Our architect" - so called Nicholas II him, Silvio Danini. During the reign of the Emperor Danini transformed and modernized Tsarskoe Selo.

"We would very much like to show the architecture, which is not in the textbooks. In particular, Silvio Danini was the last court architect, he was actively rebuilding what was built by his predecessors," - says Elizaveta Likhacheva the director of the Museum of Architecture named after A.V. Shchusev. An Italian of Russian descent, Danini was born in Kharkov, studied at the Petersburg Academy of Arts. In Russia, he was respectfully called Silvio Amvrosievich. Functionality and convenient layout Danini considered as important categories as the beauty of the building. The architect arranged the private apartments of Nicholas II and Alexandra Feodorovna. He built a power station for the needs of Tsarskoye Selo.

"Carrying out all these things that are necessary for a man of the 20th century, such as a bath with hot water, not to be worn by a servant's bucket, it was all done by him," says the curator of the exhibition Maria Rogozina.

The Church of the Palace Hospital of Tsarskoe Selo was rebuilt by Danini in the early Byzantine style. At the exhibition in the Schusev Museum - original lamps. The architect specially traveled to Ravenna to see the first Christian churches. His impressions, he not only sketched, but also shot on the camera. There are also color photographs of Danini, one of the first in Russia.

"In Tsarskoe Selo, it was becoming fashionable, and Danini had several cameras. He taught photograph to his children, his sons," recalls the relative Maria Rodigina.

The Soviet government did not accept the imperial architect, but did not reject him either. In later years, architect Danini was engaged in the design of dams and locks. He died in 1942, in besieged Leningrad.

Video - [https://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article\\_id/265546/](https://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/265546/)



On July 13, 2018, within the framework of the stay of His Holiness Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia, the relics of the Martyr Grand Duchess Elizabeth from the Martha and Mary Convent will be brought to the Urals capital.

The solemn meeting of the ark with the relics of St. Elizabeth Feodorovna will take place at 5:00 pm in the Church on the Blood, before the all-night vigil.

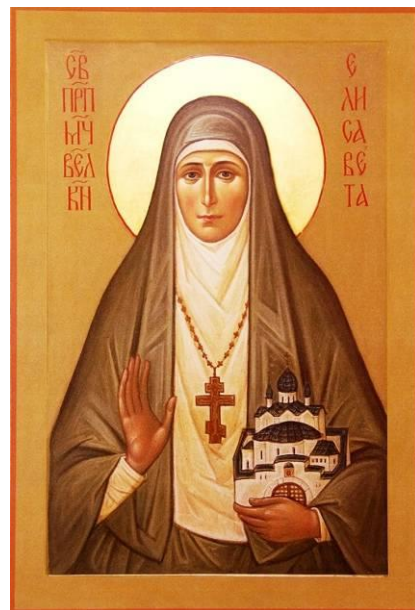


The centenary of the martyrdom of St. Tsar Nicholas, his family and their servants will be celebrated in Serbia.

July 17 His Holiness Patriarch Irenaeus of Serbia will lead the ministry of the hierarchical liturgy in the Russian church of the Holy Trinity in Belgrade. After that, at 11:00, the great procession starts from the Church of the Holy Trinity to the monument to Tsar Nicholas in the center of Belgrade.

This was announced last Sunday in all Orthodox churches in Belgrade. A special poster was prepared, informing the Orthodox Serbs about this event.

The monastic organization "Russian Assembly in Serbia" and the All-Serbian Slavic movement plan to lay wreaths to the monument to Tsar Nicholas in Belgrade on July 17.





Russian Ambassador to Great Britain Alexander Yakovenko stated that in September an exhibition devoted to the influence of medicine on the life of family members of the Russian Emperor Nicholas II will open in the Museum of Science in London.

"In September an exhibition devoted to the medicine of the Romanovs will be opened in the Museum of Science. Russian museums will actively participate in it. At the exhibition it will be possible to find many interesting photo documents and photo archives that were provided by the Russian side," - Yakovenko said.

He added that such an exhibition is an example of positive cooperation between London and Moscow.



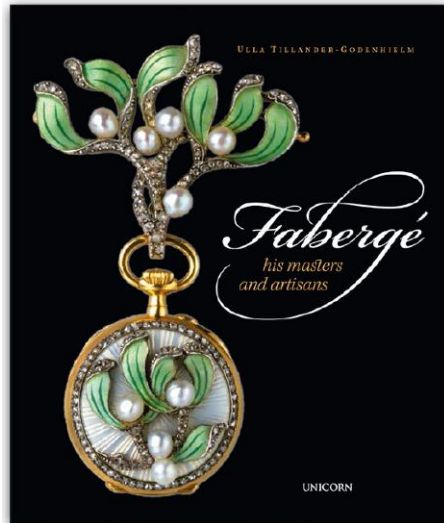
In Tambov was summed up the contest "Sketch from the life of the last Romanovs". The best picturesque and graphic creations of students of local Sunday schools and an Orthodox gymnasium were determined. In the competition that started on April 3, the children of 12-17 years took part. Works were accepted in three categories: drawing, story, research work. The sizes were stipulated the following: not less than 30x40 centimeters and no more than 50x70.

According to the information of the Tambov Metropolitanate, the jury included the chairman Metropolitan Theodosius of Tambov and Rasskazy.

At the final stage of the All-Russian artistic and literary Olympiad "Sketch from the life of the last Romanovs" in the capital, following the meeting, it was decided to send 18 entries.







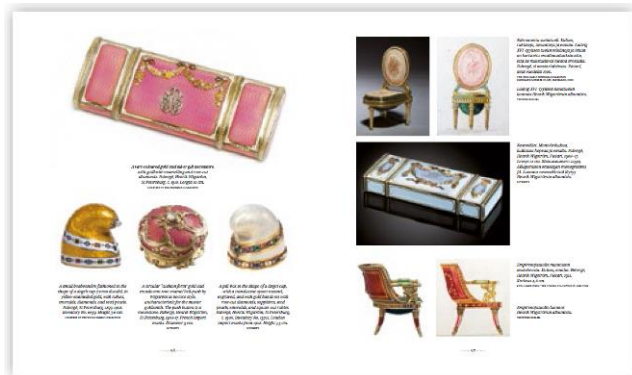
## Fabergé - His Masters and Artisans

By Ulla Tillander-Godenhielm

Carl Fabergé (1846-1920), jeweller to the Russian Imperial Court, enjoys iconic stature in the history of the goldsmiths' art. His life's work is still celebrated today, a century after the forced closure of his company in St Petersburg, capital of the then crumbling Russian Empire. Wherever Fabergé's works are shown, whether at exhibitions or in salerooms, they delight and inspire.

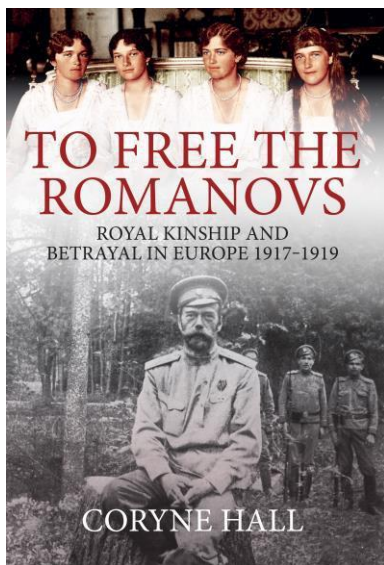
However, no man is an island. Without a host of creative talents behind the scenes – designers, master goldsmiths and silversmiths – Carl Fabergé's business could not have flourished. *Fabergé: His Masters and Artisans* lifts these craftsmen into the limelight. They not only deserve our closer attention, but the captivating stories of their lives and careers add appreciably to

what is known of the working processes at Fabergé. Featured here are names – familiar from the maker's marks on countless Fabergé treasures – of men such as Erik Kollin, August Holmström, Henrik Wigström, Viktor Aarne, Gabriel Nykänen, and many others. The book also explores jewellery manufacturing methods, touches on the company's well-known and influential customers, as well as showcasing Fabergé's very recognisable style and creativity. It contains much new information, including reminiscences, letters, and personal photographs alongside detailed images of Fabergé works.



Ulla Tillander-Godenhielm Ph.D. is the great-granddaughter of St. Petersburg goldsmith Alexander Tillander, a supplier to the Russian Imperial Court. She has been researching the oeuvre of the Russian jewellers for many years. Her doctoral dissertation was on the award system of Imperial Russia. She lectures, serves as a consultant for art exhibitions, and writes for exhibition catalogues and art publications in Finland and abroad. She has published several books on the art of the jewellers of St. Petersburg in Swedish, Finnish, and English, including *Jewels of Imperial St Petersburg*, published by Unicorn in 2013.

**Publisher:** Unicorn, London. **Hardback.** 272 pages. **Size** 270 x 230mm. **Isbn#** 978-1-911604-20-4  
**Price:** £30.00



## **To Free the Romanovs - Royal Kinship and Betrayal in Europe 1917-1919, By Coryne Hall**

When Russia erupted into revolution, almost overnight the pampered lifestyle of the Imperial Family vanished. Within months many of them were under arrest and they became 'enemies of the Revolution and the Russian people'. All showed great fortitude and courage during adversity. None of them wanted to leave Russia; they expected to be back on their estates soon and live as before. When it became obvious that this was not going to happen a few managed to flee, but others became dependent on their foreign relatives for help.

For those who failed to escape, the questions remain:- Why did they fail? What did their relatives do to help them? Were lives sacrificed to save other European thrones?

After 35 years researching and writing about the Romanovs, Coryne Hall considers the end of the 300-year-old dynasty and the guilt of the

royal families in Europe over the Romanovs' bloody end. Did the Kaiser do enough? Did George V? When the Tsar's cousins King Haakon of Norway and King Christian of Denmark heard of Nicholas's abdication, what did they do?

Unpublished diaries of the Tsar's cousin Grand Duke Dmitri give a new insight to the Romanovs' feelings about George V's involvement.

This throws a fascinating new light on the events and personalities of those turbulent times.

King George's role in the withdrawal of an asylum offer was covered up. Britain refused to allow any Grand Dukes to come to England, a fact that is rarely explored.

This book explores not only the murders but also the exciting escapes of the wider Romanov family- the Tsar's mother, siblings and cousins.

*Amberley Publishing, London. Hardback. 304 pages. 30 Illustrations. ISBN: 978-1-4456-8197-9. Price: £20.00*

### **"To Free the Romanovs: Royal Kinship and Betrayal" at the Basingstoke Discovery Centre - Thursday 12th July 2018**

To mark the centenary of the murder of Tsar Nicholas II and his family at Ekaterinburg in July 1918, Romanov expert Coryne Hall talks about her new book *To Free the Romanovs: Royal Kinship and Betrayal in Europe, 1917-1919*.

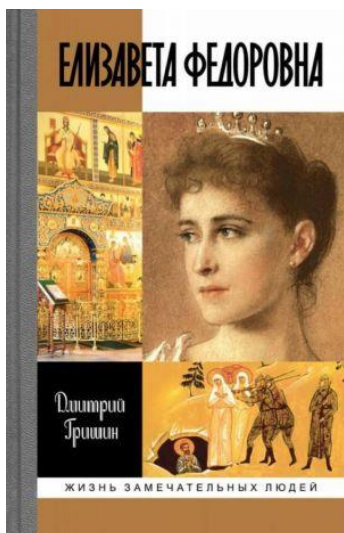
Just what did King George V and other royal cousins do to help the Tsar? And what happened to the Tsar's mother, brother, sisters, aunts and cousins? Some escaped with the aid of their European relatives but others suffered a brutal fate.

Coryne Hall is an historian, broadcaster and consultant specialising in the Romanovs and British and European royalty. The author of many books, she has lectured at conferences in England, USA, Denmark and Russia. Her media appearances include *Woman's Hour*, *BBC South Today* and live coverage of Prince Charles and Prince William's weddings for Canadian television and radio. She lives in Hampshire.



*"Georgie, 11 April 1919" - the photo of George Brasov that King Christian IX of Denmark kept in his office. One of the illustrations in the book "To Free the Romanovs".*





## Elizabeth Feodorovna

The most popular and prestigious biographical series "The Life of Remarkable People" was enlarged with a book about Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna, for the first time is presented the fate of this amazing and beautiful woman on its pages.

The author of the book is PhD (History), the chairman of the Sergievsky Memorial Fund Dmitry Grishin. He has already addressed this topic more than once, writing the first biography of Grand Duke Sergei Aleksandrovich (two editions have been published), and his book "Sergei and Elizabeth" dedicated to the Grand Duke, was recently reissued and continues to enjoy great popularity among readers.

In his new work, the author comprehensively covers the life of Elizabeth Feodorovna from her childhood to martyrdom. The book tells about her character, interests and feelings. The charitable activity of the ascetic, her great mercy and her deep Orthodox faith are presented in detail. At the same time, the main task of the author was to present Elizabeth Feodorovna a real person in specific circumstances. The book is a vivid, lively language and leaves a surprisingly bright feeling, although her heroine was killed in Alapaevsk.

On June 22, 2018, in the Blue Room of the Martha and Mary Convent of Mercy, Dmitry Grishin presented his new book "Elizabeth Feodorovna".

The presentation was attended by the chairman of the Imperial Orthodox Palestinian Society Sergei V. Stepashin, Paul E. Kulikovsky, rector of the Martha and Mary Convent Abbess Elizabeth (Pozdnyakova), Galina V. Ananina, sisters of the Abode, and parishioners.



Sergei V. Stepashin greeted the attendees and talk about Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna, her role in general and specific as chairman of the Imperial Orthodox Palestinian Society.

Mother Superior Abbess Elizabeth (Pozdnyakova) addressed the audience with a greeting and said:

- When I got a call from the publishing house and was asked to advise an author to create a book about the Holy Martyr Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna, I did not hesitate to call Dmitry Borisovich Grishin. Who, if not he, can tell about the Grand Duchess as if he knew her personally? Who can reveal her personality and character? The book turned out to be warm, sincere and, most importantly, reliable. In addition, it is written in a simple and understandable language.



## Cossacks in the Civil War in the South of Russia, 1917-1920

The album's theme is the participation of Cossacks from Don, Kuban and Terek Cossack troops in the Civil War in the South of Russia. The book contains 2 sections - the first - the end of 1917 to the beginning of 1919. And the second section - 1919 to March 1920. Geographically, the plots of photographs are associated with the regions of the Don and Kuban troops, as well as in Ukraine.

The circulation is 500 copies, 200 pages, 140 thematic photos + 140 photos of the personalities of the Cossacks of Don, Kuban, Terek and Astrakhan Cossack troops with a brief biographical note.

The album contains rare, as well as previously unpublished photos from foreign collections, including the archive of Major Williamson (18 photos of size A3 !!!! and 2 size A4) and personal archive of General Klimovich (Moscow mayor and head of counterintelligence in the Russian army, Baron Wrangel), also in the book photographs from the collection of Sergei Talantov (Moscow) were used. In addition, a huge help for photographic materials for the album was rendered by the memorial museum "Don Cossacks in the struggle against the Bolsheviks" in Podolsk and art. Elanskoj.

Album can be ordered from the author Oleg Kulakov: olemac@yandex.ru

