



Romanov News Новости Романовых

By Ludmila & Paul Kulikovsky

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July 2018 - Part 2/2



"Romanov News" - 10 years anniversary!

By Paul Kulikovsky

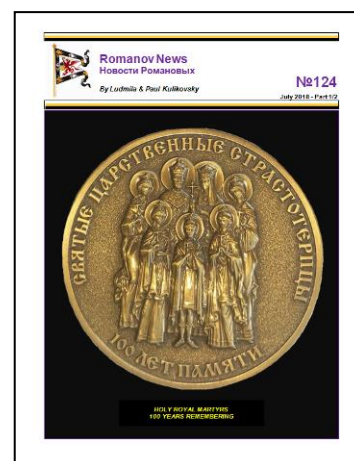
10 years ago, after praying in the Cathedral of St. Peter and Paul, in St. Petersburg, at the service on the 90 years anniversary of the murder of the Imperial Family and 10th year anniversary of the burial of their remains, I felt a need to write about my experience and to share it with others. This is how was born the idea for the project "Romanov News".

The main idea was to increase the interest of members of the Romanov family to come to Russia, and to do it by telling about what are actually happening in Russia and how much there are to be seen in Russia related to the Romanov family. Then was added to tell how people and the media view the Romanov family, and to be a source of information on family events anywhere in the world.

The first issue of what was to become the *Romanov News* was issued on 24th July 2008. It was not yet called *Romanov News*, but had the headline "In memory of Nicholas II. 90 years after his murder and 10 years after the burial in St. Peter and Paul - July 2008" and was my report on our (Ludmila and my) visit to St. Petersburg. The 8 pages long report also told about our activities before and after the memorial service.

In the beginning *The Romanov News* was sent mainly to members of the Romanov family, some close relatives, and a few friends - but soon the news spread and requests came for being included in the distribution list and the number of subscribers grew. Now the *Romanov News* is also available on Facebook, with a Page for its news, and a Group for discussions and members contributions.

With the increasing interest in Russia, in Russian history and hence the Romanov dynasty, followed an increase in Romanov related events, with a culmination in 2013, to the 400 years anniversary of the first Romanov Tsar. This also led to a growth in numbers of articles in *Romanov News*. And for one and a half year, the *Romanov News* was issued also in a Russian language version.

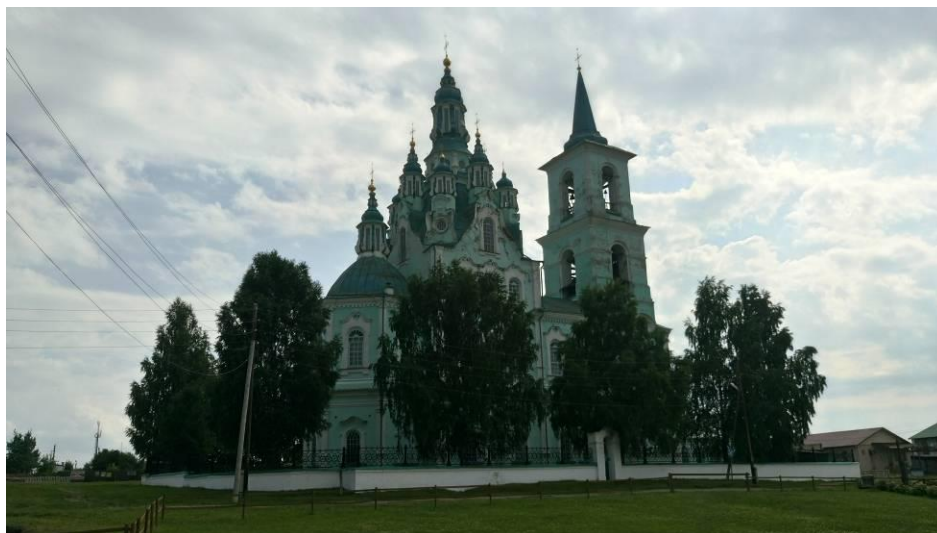


The number of events have stayed at a high level for 5 years. But will we after the commemorations of the 100 years anniversary of the murder of the Imperial Family in July 2018 see it continuing or dropping? Many journalists have recently been asking this question. I think the issue of the "Imperial remains" will keep the interest at a high level, only after the final acceptance of them, can they and we all have peace. And *Romanov News* will be there to cover the developments. Stay tuned!

"Last letters of the Romanovs from imprisonment"

In the Church of the Savior Transfiguration, located in the village of Lower Sinyachikh, Alapaevsk District, was an exhibition with photos, new paintings and copies of letters written by the Romanovs in captivity. After the service in the the monastery of the New Martyrs and Confessors of the Russian Church in honor of the Alapaevsk Martyrs on July 18, Ludmila and Paul E. Kulikovsky went to see it.

The Savior-Transfiguration Church has the status of a historical and architectural monument of federal significance. The stone two-storeyed church was laid down on May 12, 1794 and completed in 1823 at the expense of the owners of the local plant Yakovlev. The lower church was consecrated on February 3, 1810 in honour of the Protection of the Holy Virgin. The upper church was consecrated on June 23, 1845 in honour of the Transfiguration of the Lord. Inside the church there are still paintings of the XIX century.



After 1917, the church was used as a warehouse, mill, grain dryer, since 1937 it stored grain. The church that had become dilapidated in the 1960s began to be rebuilt by local residents. In the late 1960s, it was taken under the protection of the state, as a monument of architecture. By the autumn of 1977 the restoration was over. In the 1980s, near the Savior Transfiguration Church began a creation of a museum of wooden architecture and it came to include the church. Inside the church was made a collection of Ural folk painting on wood. Currently, the museum also presents icons, church books and objects. The museum also features five chapels from local villages standing nearby.





"Last letters of the Romanovs from imprisonment" - an exhibition in the hall of the Church of the Savior Transfiguration in Alapevsk. Copies of letters were shown in transcript and with photos of the author.



In the hall, along the windows, were made full scale figures of the Alapaevsk Martyrs on one side and the Royal Martyrs on the other. The Martyrs were covered by a translucent white fabric.



*Inside the church several new paintings of representatives of the Martyrs were placed.
From left - Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna, Empress Alexandra Feodorovna, Prince Igor Konstantinovich, Prince John Konstantinovich, Grand Duke Sergei Michaelovich, Grand Duke Konstantin Konstantinovich (Snr ?), Emperor Nicholas II, Prince Vladimir Paley, and Nun Varvara.*

The All-Russian Scientific and Practical Conference "XVI Romanov Readings"

On July 19 in Yekaterinburg and July 20 in Alapaevsk, the "XVI Romanov Readings" were held.



On July 19, the conference started at the Museum and Exhibition Center "Poklevsky-Kozell House".

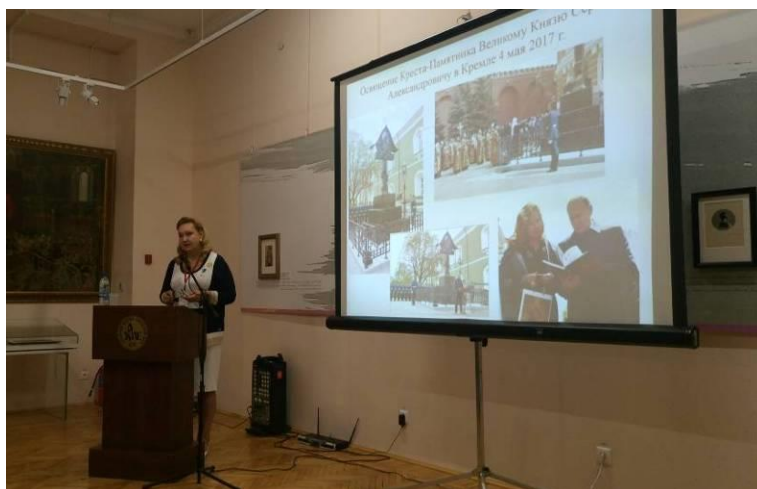
Natalia Vetrova, PhD (Sociology), General Director of the Sverdlovsk Regional Museum of Local Lore named after O. Kler, welcomed all the participants.

In the presidium were also Galina Golovina, deputy Minister of Culture of the Sverdlovsk Region; Anna V. Gromova, Chairman of the Elizabeth-Sergei Enlightenment Society; and Elena Yurina, Director for Public Relations of the Ural Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

Following their greetings, Paul E. Kulikovsky expressed his gratitude to Natalia Vetrova and the participants for keeping the memory of the Imperial Family alive.

The plenary session started with Anna Gromova telling about her work - "Preserving the historical memory of the representatives of the Imperial House of the Romanovs-the victims of the reign of terror in 1918-1919".

- Julia Kantor, Doctor of History, chief scientific collaborator of the Institute of World History of the Russian Academy of Sciences, professor, told about - "The eagles flew away. When and why the imperial symbols disappeared from Petrograd and when they returned."



- Ekaterina Boltunova, PhD (History), Associate Professor National Research University "Higher School of Economics" presented the "Memoirs of A.Evreinov "Trip to Tobolsk": a new source on the history of the last months of the life of the Imperial Family from the funds of the Bakhmetev Archives (New York, USA).
- Alexander Kruchinin, Chairman of the Sverdlovsk Regional Office of the RIPO - "Events July 14-15, 1918 on the Ural Front and the fate of the Imperial Family."
- Lyudmila Lykova, Doctor of History, chief specialist of the Russian State Archive of Social and Political History - "On the version of the burning of the remains of the Royal Martyrs on Ganina Yama."



Then the participants went into section meetings, of which there were three.

Section 1 - The Russian Empire in the Romanov era.

- Georgy Chagin, Doctor of Historical Sciences, Head of the Department of Ancient and New History of Russia, Perm State National Research University - "The role of the Romanovs in the integration of Nyrob into the sphere of Russian statehood."
- Nikolay Novichenkov, director of Verkhotursky State Historical and Architectural Museum-Reserve - "God has given me to know the true price of greatness and happiness of the earth." Verkhotury trace in the case of the disgraced Tsarina Evdokiya Romanova (Lopukhina)."
- Yakov Lazarev, PhD (History), an employee of the Laboratory of Edited Archeography of the Ural Humanitarian Institute - "Military-administrative reforms in the south-west of Russia in the XVIII century: the historiographical aspect."
- Vladimir Mikityuk, PhD (History), Senior Researcher of the Economic History Sector of the Institute of History and Archeology of the Ural Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences - "Adapting the population of Yekaterinburg to the reforms of Emperor Alexander II."
- Elena Kazakova-Apkarimova, Doctor of History, Leading Researcher, Methodology and Historiography Sector, Institute of History and Archeology, Ural Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences - "Railway construction in the Urals in the era of the Romanovs."
- Natalia Korsakova, PhD (History), Senior Researcher of the St. Petersburg Institute of History, RAS - "The last New Year reception of the Diplomatic Corps by the last Russian Emperor."
- Lyubov Dvinsky, chief research officer of the department of history of the Sverdlovsk Regional Museum of Local Lore named after O. Kler and Andrey Zubov, head of the archive of the Sverdlovsk Regional Museum of Local Lore named after O. Kler - "About the building for the Alexander II museum in Yekaterinburg."
- Alexander Mramornov, PhD (History), scientific supervisor of the project for publishing the documents of the Holy Council of 1917-1918. Novospassky Stauropegic Monastery - "Members of the Holy Council of 1917-1918. About Emperor Nicholas II."
- Alexander Yarkov, Doctor of History, Professor, Leading Researcher, Expert Scientific Center for Combating the Ideology of Extremism and Terrorism, Tyumen State University - "Give us the Tsar" (about monarchical moods among the Muslims of Western Siberia in 1917-1918).
- Larisa Eltyшева, Head of the History Department, Kungur Historical, Architectural and Art Museum-Reserve - "Romanovs on the Kungur earth"

Sections 2 - The fate of members of the House of Romanovs.

- Anna Konivets, Senior Researcher of the State Hermitage Museum - "On the contentment of the family of the "former Emperor" and her entourage."
- Vitaly Shitov, Chairman, Coordinator for the Ural Region, Fund of Memory of the New Martyrs of the Romanov Imperial House - "The riddle of the last photo of Nicholas II."

- Marina Tokmacheva, teacher of the Department of Roman and Germanic Languages, post-graduate student of the Chair of Pedagogy, Lugansk National Taras Shevchenko University - "Orthodoxy as a categorical imperative in the upbringing of the heirs of the House of Romanovs."
- Veronica Turchaninova, PhD (Pedagogic), history teacher, School No. 50 (Nizhny Tagil) - "Gallery of portraits of the Romanov family in the photo album of the Urals breeders of Turchaninovs."
- Olga Pushkareva, philologist, psychologist, head of psychological service, independent expert on information security, Multiprofile Center "Elis", Tyumen State University - "Psychological features of relationships in the family of Nicholas II."
- Veronika Kalinina, head of the scientific and methodical sector of the Yekaterinburg Museum of Fine Arts - "Main teachers of the Grand Duchess: the continuation of the traditions of the Moscow school of painting in the watercolors of Olga Alexandrovna Kulikovskaya-Romanova. History of Collections."
- Lubov Markova, Honored Worker of Culture of the Russian Federation, Library Instructor No.32 (Library of Spiritual Revival, Perm) - "Not Brian, not Johnson, not an Englishman." New materials about the secretary of the Grand Duke Mikhail Alexandrovich Nicholas Zhonson.



Section 3 - The Russian Imperial House in Historical Memory.

- Zhanna Kormina, PhD (cultural science), Professor, Higher School of Economics (St. Petersburg) - "The Emperor examined the city": The memory of the murder of the Imperial Family in Sverdlovsk in the late Soviet era."
- Marina Ognietova, Chief Specialist in Archives Affairs, Nizhny Tagil Administration - "Commemoration of Emperor Alexander II in Nizhny Tagil in the XIX century."
- Irina Kopytova, Chief Curator, Cherdynsky Museum of Local Lore. A.S. Pushkin - "Honoring the Romanov Imperial House on the basis of the collection of the Cherdynsky Museum of Local Lore. A.S. Pushkin."
- Sanami Takahashi, Assistant Professor, Center for Slavic and Eurasian Studies, Hokkaido University (Japan) - "Russian Abroad and the Question of Glorification of the Tsar's Family: From the Materials of the Synodal Archives of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia."
- Lyudmila Murtuzalieva, Honored Worker of Culture of the Russian Federation, Society of Uralic Studies of Local Lore and Vitaly Shitov, Chairman, Coordinator for the Ural Region, Fund of Memory of the New Martyrs of the Romanov Imperial House - "The "Romanov" theme in the Urals Museum of the Revolution."
- Elena Shimonek, Deputy Director, Yekaterinburg Municipal Center for Archival Documentation and Lyudmila Somova, Chief Archivist, State Archives of the Ulyanovsk Region - "To the biography of the investigator in the case of the murder of the Imperial Family I.Sergeev."
- Nadezhda Pakhomova, Director, Museum of the History of Stone-Cutting and Jewelry Art - "To the history of the acquisition of the "Romanov Foundation"."
- Sergey Kashansky, PhD (Medicine), Leading Researcher of the Department of the Yekaterinburg Medical and Scientific Center for the Prevention and Health of Workers of Rospotrebnadzor - "'House of Special Purpose" on postcards."
- Sergey Shevyrin, PhD (History), head of the scientific and methodical department, Memorial complex of political repressions (Perm) - "The history of the Romanovs in excursion projects of the Memorial Complex of Political Repression."
- Anastasia Scherer, Senior Lecturer, Department of Education and Extension, Institute for Educational Development (Yekaterinburg) - "Modeling of architectural objects associated with representatives of the Romanov dynasty, as an interactive form of excursion events."
- Evgeny Kurlaev, PhD (History), Senior Researcher, Institute of History and Archeology, UB RAS - "Search for the remains of Romanov family members on the Old Koptyakovskaya road by the Institute of History and Archeology of the Ural Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences in 1992-1997."

- Nikolai Neuimin, head of the department of the history of the Romanov Dynasty Sverdlovsk Regional Museum of Local History named after O. Kler - "The history of one photo (to the question of the death of members of the House of Romanovs in Alapaevsk on the night of July 16 to July 17, 1918)"
- Olga Aksenova, the head of the exhibition department of Verkhotursky State Historical and Architectural Museum-Reserve - "The Tsar's Tower" in Verkhoturys. People, events, facts."

After the end of the conference the opening of the exhibition "In beloved Livadia" was held. In the evening was arranged a visit to the Memorial of the Romanovs on the Old Koptyakovskaya road. On July 20 the conference continued in Alapayevsk.

The opening of the exhibition "In beloved Livadia ..."

The conference "XVI Romanov Readings", in the Museum and Exhibition Center "Poklevsky-Kozell House, was concluded with the opening of the exhibition "In beloved Livadia", from the funds of the Livadia Palace Museum.

The general director of the Sverdlovsk Regional Museum of Local Lore Natalia K. Vetrova noted - "Yekaterinburg and Livadia are connected like Life and Death ... Life, joy, creativity is Livadia!".

Irina Feliukovna, the main curator of the Livadia Palace Museum, described in details the exhibition that comprehensively represents the happy moments of Nicholas II's family's stay on vacation in the Crimean estate in the 1900s and the 10s.

Paul E. Kulikovsky made a welcoming speech and shared his memories of visiting the Livadia Palace.



With the high guests of the museum were the Consul General of Germany in Yekaterinburg Stefan Kail with his family, who were among the first to familiarize themselves with the exposition.



The exhibition presents more than 50 original items, formerly belonging to the Imperial Family and decorating the private rooms of the Romanovs in the Livadia Palace. Among them are: authentic photographs of professional masters and amateur photos; watercolors of the court painter Mikhail Zichy, depicting members of the Imperial Family and their entourage against the backdrop of the beloved palace and Crimean nature; watercolor sketches made in the Livadia Park by the Grand Duchesses Olga and Tatiana; watercolors by A. P. Schneider depicting the corners of the park with flowers; watercolor portrait of Empress Alexandra Feodorovna with the children in a work by E. Samokish-Sudkovskaya; pencil sketches made by the hand of Empress Alexandra Feodorovna original photos and graphic portraits of the most August Persons from the Imperial Family's own collection.

In the Crimea, in Livadia, the Imperial Family was happy. It was there, in a modest daily life, they so wanted to return in the hardest time for the family, in 1917.

The exhibition will be open until October 3rd.





- Videos - 1) <http://www.obltv.ru/news/culture/v-ekaterinburge-otkrylas-vystavka-posvyashchennaya-zhizni-romanovykh-v-krymskoy-rezidentsii/>
 2) <http://vesti-ural.ru/news/72647-v-oblastnom-kraevedcheskom-muzee-otkrylas-vystavka-v-lyubimoi-livadii.html>
 3) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aCdeCF4ZVJA>



The opening of the church in honour of Nicholas II and his family in Saraktash

July 8 in Saraktash, Orenburg region, in the Holy Trinity Simeon Monastery of Mercy a church in honour of the Holy Royal Passion-Bearers and all the confessors and new martyrs of the Russian Church was opened.

Among the guests was the only descendant of the Imperial Family living in Russia - Paul E. Kulikovsky, great-great-grandson of Emperor Alexander III, great-grandson of Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna, the younger sister of Emperor Nicholas II.

Standing in front of the church, Dean of the Holy Trinity Simeon Monastery of Mercy, Archpriest Nikolai (Stremsky) welcomed the many believers who has arrived and in particular those arriving from far away. Then he turn to Paul Kulikovsky and invited him to say some words.

Paul Kulikovsky said - *"C Prasdnikom! Thank you for inviting my wife Ludmila and me to Saraktash.*

As it is my first visit here, at the Holy Trinity Simeon Convent of Mercy, let me shortly say a few words about myself.

I am a great-great-grandson of Emperor Alexander III. A great-grandson of his youngest daughter Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna - the sister of Tsar-Martyr Nicholas Alexandrovich.

I was born in Canada, grew up in Denmark, and since 2008 live in Moscow. So, no I did not come from abroad to be here today, only from Moscow.

And yes, I am the only descendants of the Romanov dynasty living in Russia.

We are in a very special year with many important anniversaries.

We celebrated in April the 200 years birthday anniversary of Emperor Alexander II - the Tsar-Liberator. In May we celebrated the 150 years birthday anniversary of Emperor Nicholas II, the Tsar-Martyr. In June, we remembered the 100 years since the murder of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich in Perm.

And now we are getting ready to the most anticipated anniversary this year.

In the middle of July, it will be 100 years since the murder of Emperor Nicholas II, his family, and servants in Yekaterinburg, and the murder of Grand Duchess Elizabeth and Nun Varvara, and several other Romanovs in Alapaevsk.

These murders was a tragedy, not only for my family, but also for Russia and the entire world.

The lack of protests and resistance was to cost Russians dearly. A bloody red avalanche of terror was unleashed and 70 years of Godless enslavement started.

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 Passion-Bearers.

So now we will commemorate the date, both remembering the murder of them, and also celebrate the 100 years anniversary of their martyrdom - the birth of our new Martyrs.

In many parts of Russia will in these days be erected monuments to the Royal Martyrs, but the best monument is of course a church dedicated to them.



Ludmila and Paul E. Kulikovsky with Archpriest Nikolai (Stremsky) in front of the new church

Such a church are we consecrating here today and I thank the Lord for being able to be here in person, being a witness to such a great celebration.

I have the wish, that people will come to this church, will pray, and feel the love of the Royal Passion-Bearers.

Will come and pray to the Passion-Bearers, and find peace in their souls and happiness.

Will come and feel part of our Orthodox family.

Will come and get a good health.

Will come and meet old friends and new friends.

Will come and thank God for all.

I am sure, You will all be most welcome.

Finally - A big thank you - to all who have contributed and supported this project."

Archpriest Nikolai (Stremsky); Paul E. Kulikovsky; Ataman of the Vozdvizhensky Cossack society, Captain Anatoly Gusev; the builder of the church in honor of the Holy Royal Passion-bearers of all the confessors and new martyrs of the Russian Church, Ataman of the Spassky Cossack village, Captain Evgeny Stremsky; and the Cossack Colonel Alexander Tetskov, cut the red ribbon.

After that, the first Divine Liturgy took place in the new Saraktash church. It was performed by Priest Nikolai Klygun.

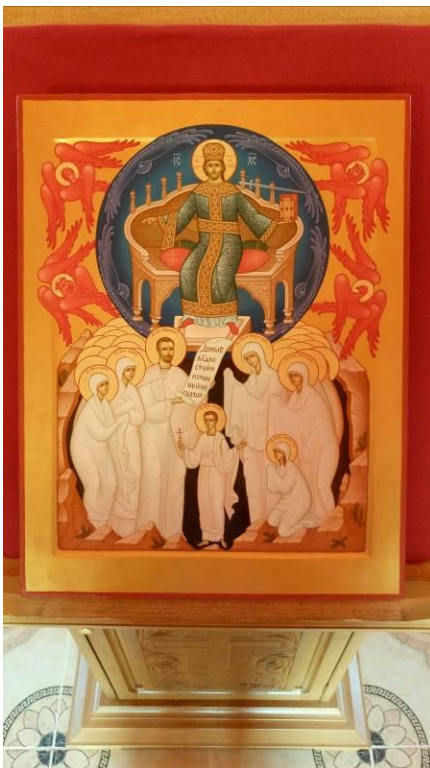


The Church in honor of the Holy Royal Passion-Bearers and all the New Martyrs and Confessors of the Russian Church was laid in memory of the 400th anniversary of the Romanovs' House, as well as the murder of the Imperial Family on July 17, 2013. The construction of the church was conducted on voluntary donations.

The height of the church is 37 meters. It became the third tallest building in the Holy Trinity Simeon Monastery of Mercy after the Holy Trinity Cathedral (42 meters) and a separate bell tower (45 meters).



Icons for the new church were executed by a team of icon painters under the guidance of Elena Mamontova.



Above top - In the iconostas are individual icons of the Royal Passion-Bearers.
Above - In the church are many other icons of the Royal Passion-Bearers.



Left - Ludmila and Paul Kulikovskiy, with the Mayor of Saraktash and the officers of the Orenburg Cossacks.
Right - The plate informing about the main dates of the church: when laid and when opened.



An overview of the Holy Trinity Simeon Monastery of Mercy in Saraktash, Orenburg Region.
The new Church in honor of the Holy Royal Passion-Bearers and all the New Martyrs and Confessors of the Russian Church is located to the left, in the middle.

In front of the entrance to the church were placed 6 posters with text and photos about the Royal Passion-Bearers.



"Tsarevich Nicholas Alexandrovich's house in Orsk"

Early morning on July 9, Ludmila and Paul E. Kulikovskiy, escorted by Ataman of the First Orenburg Cossack Department, Colonel Sergei Slepov, went by car 260 km on the steppe from Saraktash to Orsk.

Orsk was founded in 1735 in the process of the Russian colonization of Bashkiria and the Southern Ural region and housed an exchange post and Russian customs that dealt with traders from Kazakhstan and Asia.

The city grew dramatically starting from the 1870s. The population was mainly occupied with trade in cattle and grain, reprocessing of agricultural products, and various arts and crafts. Many women were involved in the business of weaving famous Orenburg shawls. By 1913, the population of Orsk was over 21,000, and by 1917 there were eleven churches and minarets.



"On August 6 (July 24 in the old style), 1891, the city of Orsk was visited by His Imperial Highness Heir Tsesarevich Nicholas Alexandrovich, the future Tsar Nicholas II. He was returning from his Eastern travel (1890-1891), that ended with an attack on his life in Japan.

At the cathedral square, His Imperial Highness received the report of the stanitsa ataman. Under the festive ringing of the bells the Heir met the clergy.

Emboldened by the holy cross and sprinkled with holy water, His Highness entered the cathedral of the Transfiguration of Our Lord.

At the exit from the Cathedral of Tsarevich Nicholas Alexandrovich, the City Head of Orsk D.G. Shvedov greeted him with bread and salt on a silver platter. Further gifts were brought: the women's community presented a feather shawl, the gardener Dmitriev - fruits from his garden. Then His Imperial Highness, with the enthusiastic cries of the people, followed between the rows of pupils and students of the city schools to the house of the merchant of the first guild V.I. Nazarov.

In the house of merchant Nazarov, His Imperial Highness was brought bread and salt on a silver dish of the deputation of Orsk merchants, Cossacks and peasants of the Preobrazhensky plant. His Imperial Highness Tsesarevich Nikolai Alexandrovich handed the merchant VI Nazarov a portrait of the Tsarevich with his personal signature to the memory of the meeting, and a gold watch to the gardener Dmitriev.

The Tsarevich was pleased to have a glass of tea with cherry homemade jam and stayed at the merchant's house for fifteen minutes.

Then His Highness left for the State Stud Farm 5 km outside the city. Tsarevich Nikolai Alexandrovich proceeded through the city of Orsk. The carriage of the august traveler was accompanied by fifty Cossacks and Cossacks of the escort platoon. A triumphal magnificent arch was built three versts from the horse-farm estate. There was an arch of three gates: medium, large and small. The gate was crowned with domes and towers. Above the silver dome stood a brilliant gilded two-headed eagle, and above the middle gate were portraits of the Emperor, the Empress, and the Heir Tsarevich.

The next day, His Highness arrived back in Orsk. Tsarevich Nikolai Alexandrovich decided to contribute to the restoration of the city of Orsk, which suffered from severe flooding. By his decision, he ruled: the money in the amount of 20 thousand rubles, taken by the city council from the state to restore houses affected by the spring flood, the treasury is not returned. In addition, he allocated, from his personal funds, money to build a building for the men's school and a new stone church on Mount Preobrazhenskaya.

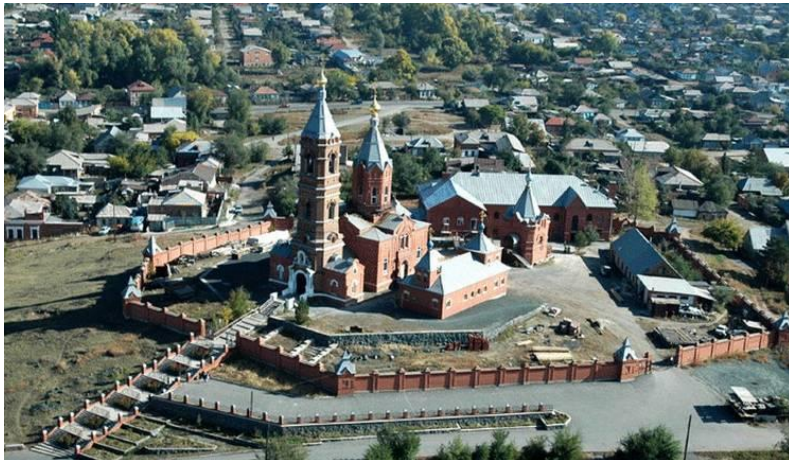
After saying goodbye, His Imperial Highness Tsesarevich Nikolai Alexandrovich left for Orenburg. For a long time the Cossacks remained in place, looking in the footsteps of the departing crew, and only when he disappeared from sight, they gradually began to disperse, in order to share with each other the impressions of unforgettable days."

Arriving in Orsk, Ludmila and Paul E. Kulikovsky were met at the city border and taken to the Transfiguration of Our Lord.

There they were greeted by Bishop Irenaeus (Tafuni) of Orsk and Gai; Abbess Xenia; Archpriest Alexander (Azarenkov); Archpriest Sergius (Baranov); and Archpriest Alexander (Kutsov).

The church is at present under restoration, but it was shown to the guests, who also could enjoy a little bit of singing by Abbess Xenia and Archpriest Sergius.

After a tour of the school, they all went to the merchant Nazarov's house.



From left - Archpriest Alexander (Azarenkov), Archpriest Sergius (Baranov), Archpriest Alexander (Kutsov), Ludmila and Paul Kulikovsky, Bishop Irenaeus (Tafuni) of Orsk and Gai, Abbess Xenia and Cossack colonel Sergei Slepov.



The house of the merchant Nazarov is one of the oldest in Orsk, it was known in 1871, but when it was built is not known. In the year of the accession to the throne of Nicholas Alexandrovich in 1894, merchant Vasily Ivanovich Nazarov ordered a gilded marble plaque decorated with jewels in Yekaterinburg to install it on his house, then every year on the day of the name day of Nicholas II, which at that time was considered a day off, the merchant organized a celebration for the citizens. The house stood in festive decoration, and in the evening illuminated from all sides by light.

After the revolution, the plate was destroyed. Recently, a new plaque appeared next to the entrance.

On 17 July 2017 (one year ago) the house was transferred from the owner Elena Sukhanova to the convent of the Iberian Icon of the Mother of God in Orsk.

There are now plans for a restoration of the building and it is to house a cultural center, including a museum.



Then, together with the Head of the city Andrey Odintsov, and Bishop Irenaeus of Orsk and Gai, was visited the Cathedral of the Holy Great Martyr and Victorious George in the Vasnetsov square.



The cathedral is relative new. In 2001 was laid a small wooden church in the name of St. George the Victorious, and in March 2002, in the church began daily service. Soon after, the church could no longer holds all pilgrims, and its was decided to reconstruct it. By 2004 it was increased to the double size.

After viewing the icons and relics, it was time to prepare for the drive back to Orenburg.

Upon the return to Orenburg from Orsk, the Kulikovskys met with Vera Bashirova, Vice-Governor of Orenburg region.

After the meeting she expressed the following (On Facebook):

"Our meeting with the direct heirs of the House of Romanov took place in the last minutes before they left for the airport. Their excited story about a trip to Orenburg was full of events: the opening of a church in the Saraktash district, then - a trip to Orsk, the house of merchant Nazarov, where the future emperor once stayed, and then - Tsarevich Nicholas Alexandrovich. Figure of the young Nicholas in the window. Warm meeting in the Orsk Diocese. Admiration by Orenburg. Orsk. Orenburg people.

For us - touching the history of the country, for them - the history of the family.

Family branch of the Kulikovsky-Romanovs is the second marriage of the daughter of Alexander III, Olga and a simple officer,

Nicholas Kulikovsky. Love-match. What happened to the sister of Nicholas II in her first marriage with the Prince of Oldenburg - God knows. But how much restrained nobility and modesty in today's descendants of the Imperial Family. How similar are their faces to the faces of their ancestors, imprinted on old photographs. Our history is in people, in their faces. In their souls. I am grateful for the opportunity to meet such people. Let such meetings, leaving in the heart of a quiet light, will be more in life."



From left - Ataman of the First OKV Department, Orenburg Cossack colonel Sergei Slepov, Ludmila and Paul E. Kulikovsky, and Vera Bashirova, Vice-Governor of Orenburg Region.



Memorial cross in honour of Royal Martyrs erected on Isle of Wight

July 9. Orthochristian - As the 100th anniversary of the July 17, 1917 martyrdom of Tsar Nicholas II and his family and their faithful servants draws near, their holy memory is being honoured throughout Russia, and in other Orthodox countries such as Serbia.

Their memory was also honoured in England over the weekend, when a memorial cross dedicated to the last Russian Imperial Family, along with St. Elizabeth the Grand Duchess and sister to the last Tsarina Alexandra was unveiled on Saturday in the town of East Cowes on the Isle of Wight.

The monument was opened by the Deputy Chairman of the Romanov Family Association Prince Rostislav Romanov. The ceremony was attended by Lord Lieutenant (the official representative of the British crown) of the Isle of Wight Major General Martin White and Russia's permanent representative to the International Maritime Organization Yuri Melenas.

Following the opening of the monument, His Grace Bishop Irenei (Steenberg) of Sacramento offered some words of reflection on the holy Royal Martyrs:



The reason that we have a blessing for a monument is to remind ourselves that these individuals whom we are commemorating were not just political figures, not just members of a monarchy, but above all, in the Orthodox world we commemorate them as saints and martyrs, and that these events of 100 years ago were not just of an execution, but of a martyrdom of a pious family who led their people and their nation, and by their example the whole world into a life of faith that surmounted times of incredible trial, and by their intercession and prayers the peoples of Russia were maintained, sustained over a dreadful century and brought finally into freedom, and the ability once again to worship the God Who was so beloved of the Tsar-Martyr and of his family.



The blessing service was then celebrated by Fr. Andrew Phillips from Colchester, England. The choir of the Convent of St. Elisabeth in Minsk, Belarus flew in especially for the festive event.

The opening of the monument was timed to coincide with the opening of the “Romanov’s Cross” exhibition dedicated to the last days of the life of Nicholas II and the Royal Family, as well as to their familial relations with the Windsor Dynasty and their mutual visits. The exhibition is being held at the Barton Manor, where the Romanovs visited in 1909, and presents a number of personal items and photographs related to the Russian Imperial Family. Many of the items are kept in private collections around the world and are rarely exhibited.

The exhibition was organized by the Grand Duchess Elizabeth Romanov Society.

Videos: 1) https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=3288&v=z8NJbF3X2x4

2) https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=3&v=fuomuVCBY54

In Jerusalem, the memory of the Imperial Family was honored



A funeral service was held in the Sergiyev Compound. It was built at the end of the XIX century specifically for Russian pilgrims. And until 1914 it was the main gate of the Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society in the Holy Land.

In the refectory of the Sergiev monastery a moleben was performed. Then a presentation of the temporary exhibition took place. It presents documents, photographs and artifacts found in the cellars of the Sergiev family farm. They make it possible to comprehend the contribution of the Romanov family to the formation of Russian Palestine, the pilgrims of all classes who came to Jerusalem from the remotest parts of the Russian Empire. Founded in 1882 and reborn 110 years later, already in the new Russia, the Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society held the first ever conference in the Holy Land. The main goal is the restoration of continuity and the continuation of the efforts to strengthen the Russian spiritual presence, started once by the Imperial Family.

"We must remember that 101 schools were opened by the Imperial Family in the Holy Land, in which more than 10 thousand people were educated at a

single moment. There were 6 hospitals" - said the chairman of the Council of the Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society, Igor Ashurbeyli.

Video - https://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/273467/

100th anniversary of New Martyrs Elizabeth, Barbara celebrated at their relics in Holy Land

Following on the heels of the glorious festivities for the 100th anniversary of the murder of the holy Royal Martyrs, the Russian Orthodox Church also commemorated the centenary of the martyrdom of St. Elizabeth the Grand Duchess and the Nun Barbara and Grand Duke Sergei Mikhailovich Romanov, the Princes Ioann Konstantinovich, Konstantin Konstantinovich, Igor Konstantinovich, and Vladimir Pavlovich Paley, and Grand Duke Sergei's secretary Fyodor Remez martyred with them.

A festive Divine Liturgy was held at the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia's St. Mary Magdalene Monastery in Gethsemane, where the holy martyrs' relics repose, headed by His Grace Bishop Nicholas of Manhattan, reports the site of the Russian Spiritual Mission in Jerusalem.



Clergy from the Spiritual Mission, the monastery itself, and ordained pilgrims from Russia, Ukraine, Serbia, Bulgaria, and the Czech Orthodox Churches also celebrated the service. The service was also attended by the nuns of several other Holy Land monasteries and numerous pilgrims.



According to tradition, the service was attended by His Holiness Patriarch Theophilos of Jerusalem, along with His Eminence Archbishop Nektarios, the Jerusalem Patriarchate's representative to the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

Following the Divine Liturgy, a moleben was celebrated before the relics of St. Elizabeth the Grand Duchess and New Martyr.

The service was followed by a festive meal for all pilgrims.

The Thais celebrated Emperor Nicholas II

In the Thai city of Hua Hin about 5 years ago there was an Orthodox parish. Hua Hin is located near Bangkok and is one of the residences of the King of Thailand. When a question was discussed among the mission staff, in honor of whom a new church would be built, an offer was made from the Phuket parish to name the church in honor of the Royal Passion-Bearers.

On buses and private cars from around Thailand came pilgrims, and not less than half of them - the Thais. Perhaps because the tourist season has long ended, and in Thailand there were only permanent residents and a few tourists.

Of all the Thais who were present at the service, a pair of elderly spouses-the Admiral of the Royal Navy of Thailand, Varong Songcharoen and his wife, Vorasulisi (Bhakdikun) Songcharoen, who is a relative of St. New Martyr Nikolai Zhonson, stood out. Admiral Varong and his wife recently



returned from Russia, where they participated in an international conference dedicated to the memory of Grand Duke Mikhail Alexandrovich and Nikolai Zhonson.



The service is solemn - in the altar there is a cathedral of priests, a male choir sings in the church and is crowded. At the end of the Divine Liturgy, Archimandrite Oleg tells a sermon about the feat of the Tsar and his family, about how to appreciate the monarchical order in Thailand. At the end of the sermon the choir sings the hymn of the Russian Empire "God Save the Tsar", as well as the Royal Anthem of Thailand "Sansoen Phra Barami". Father Oleg tells about the new martyr Nikolai. For most parishioners, he is unknown, and the presence of Thai siblings in this church is exciting and mysterious - I would like to certainly get to know them better.

After the end of all prayers, the festival continues in a more relaxed format: during a festive dinner the choir of the St. Nicholas Church sings songs, students of Sunday schools from Pattaya and Samui come out.

The Royal Passion-Bearers and Martyrs was remembered in Finland

On 17 July, the Archbishop Leo of Helsinki and Finland, of the Finnish Orthodox Church, served a moleben for the Royal Passion-Bearers and Martyrs on the day of the tragic murder by the Bolsheviks 100 years ago of Emperor Nicholas II and Empress Alexandra Feodorovna with children Grand Duchess Olga, Tatiana, Maria, Anastasia and Tsarevich Alexis, at the chapel at the Langinkoski Museum.

The Mayor of Kotka Esa Sirvie, members of the Russian Nobility Assembly in Finland and the National Marine Museum in Kotka Pia Paukku were present. A lot of people gathered, local and visitors who wanted to attend and honour the memory of the Royal Passion-Bearers.

In Langinkoski there is the fishing log of Emperor Alexander III and the future Sovereign of Russia, Emperor Nicholas II visited it with his brothers and sisters. Emperor Nicholas II continued this tradition in connection with the summer trips on the ship the Standart in the skerries of the Gulf of Finland.





Memory of the Royal Passion-Bearers was honoured in Slovakia

At the invitation of His Beatitude Metropolitan of Czech Lands and Slovakia Rostislav and with the blessing of His Holiness Patriarch Kirill of Moscow and All Russia, Metropolitan Sergius of Barnaul and Altai visited Slovakia. Metropolitan Sergius celebrated the Primate of the Orthodox Church of the Czech Lands and Slovakia for the Divine Liturgy in the town of Stropkov in the Church of the Robe of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The divine service was attended by an employee of the Embassy of the Russian Federation in Bratislava.

At the end of the Liturgy, His Beatitude Metropolitan of the Czech Lands and Slovakia Rostislav solemnly presented to the Metropolitan of Barnaul and Altai Sergius a gift for the Russian Orthodox Church - an iconographic image of holy Royal Passion-Bearers made by Orthodox believers in the town of Stropkov on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the martyrdom in Ekaterinburg of the Royal Family.

Metropolitan Sergius, on his part, presented His Bliss to the prayerful memory of the icon of St. Macarius, the enlightener of Altai, and gave the censer and other utensils to the community of the church.

Honoured the memory of the holy Royal Passion-Bearers in Bender, Moldova

The tragic events that took place on the night of July 16 to July 17, 1918 in Yekaterinburg, were recalled in Bender. On this night, commemorative events were held, dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the murder of holy Royal Passion-Bearers.

They began the procession from the Transfiguration Cathedral to the church in the name of the Holy Prince Alexander Nevsky . In the procession, led by the icon of the holy Royal Passion-Bearers, the clergymen of the cathedral led by its rector Archpriest John Kalmyk , the clergy of the Central, Bendery, Grigoriopol and Slobodzeya deaneries districts, as well as parishioners of churches of the diocese took part.



Then the solemn consecration of the chapel was held in the name of the new martyrs and confessors of the Russian Church and the holy Royal Passion-Bearers, which was built on the initiative of the PMR President V.N. Krasnoselsky .

At midnight, the Divine Liturgy began, which was headed by the Archbishop of Tiraspol and Dubossary Savva.

The service was attended by the head of state V.N. Krasnosel'skii and his wife, the chairman of the Supreme Council of

the PMR A.S.Shcherba, the head of the state administration of Bendery R.D. Ivanchenko , the chairman of the City Council of People's Deputies of Bender Y.I. Kara, N. V. Dymchenko, the coordinator of the orthodox youth movement "Sorok Sorokov" (Pridnestrovie) V. V. Gusk, the rector St. Peter and Paul Fortress of Bender, Abbess Elisaveta (Vasilake) with the sisters, the abbess of the Holy Vvedensko-Pakhomi women's monastery in Tiraspol, Abbess Pakhomiya (Leschuk) , representatives of the Pridnestrovie branch of the IOPS, and numerous believers.

At the end of the Liturgy, prayers were offered to holy Royal Passion-Bearers. At the end of the service the Pridnestrovian State Choir sang the Russian Empire's "God Save the Tsar" hymn.

The president of the PMR noted that the execution of the Tsar's family became the first link in the historical chain of tragic events that the great country had to endure. Killed 100 years ago, the August family was connected with our land. Emperor Nicholas was here four times and prayed repeatedly in the church of the Holy Prince Alexander Nevsky, along with the Empress, the Tsesarevich and the Grand Duchesses.

The ruling bishop addressed all participants of the night service with an archpastoral word, and also handed to the president of the PMR V.N. Krasnoselsky a medal "In commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the restoration of the



Patriarchate in the Russian Orthodox Church", which the head of state was awarded with the blessing of His Holiness Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia Kyrril.

Video - https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=2&v=wEeVRO-qHg

In USA

July 17, 2018, at the premises of the Synod of Bishops of ROCOR in New York, the First Hierarch of the ROCOR, the metropolitan of East America and New York, Hilarion, consecrated a bust of Emperor Nicholas II.



On Tuesday, July 17, the feast day of the Holy Royal Passionbearers, Metropolitan Hilarion of Eastern America & New York celebrated Divine Liturgy in the Synodal Cathedral of the Sign in New York City, co-served by Archpriest Alexander Belya (dean of New York City), Archimandrite Yeleveriy (Skiba; rector of Our Lady "The Inexhaustible Chalice" Church in Brooklyn, NY), Abbot Vladimir (Zgoba; rector of Our Lady "Unexpected Joy" Church on Staten Island, NY), Archpriest Edward Chervinsky (cathedral cleric), Hieromonk Tikhon (Gayfudinov; abbot of Holy Protection Skete in Buena, NJ), and cathedral Protodeacon Nicolas Mokhoff.

Singing at the divine service was the Synodal choir, under the direction of conductor Peter Fekula. Praying in church were parishioners and faithful of various parishes, representatives of the Romanov family, and Cossack delegates.

Upon completion of the service, Fr. Tikhon read aloud Metropolitan Hilarion's Epistle on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the martyrdom of the holy and right-believing Royal Passion-Bearers. His Eminence and the clergy served a short moleben in front of icons of the Royal Passion-Bearers and other holy relics housed at the Synodal cathedral: a reliquary with the right hand of the Holy Nun-Martyrs Elizabeth and Barbara. Metropolitan Hilarion then thanked all those who prayerfully honored this day with their presence, and gave the floor to the general director of the Russian National Creative Workshop "Art-Project," LLC, and the International Foundation for Mutual Development &

Strengthening of Spiritual Unity and the Religious & Historical Values of Russian Orthodoxy in the Homeland & Abroad "Under the Protection of the Theotokos," Eugene (Evgeny) Korolev. It was these organizations that presented the cathedral a gift: a bust of the Tsar-Martyr Nicholas II. The first such bust was installed in Melbourne, Australia.



"This image was first made before the revolution, out of stone. During Perestroika in the Soviet Union, vandals desecrated it," Korolev explained. "After the fall of the USSR, in 1993, the bust was brought from Crimea to Moscow, to the workshop of Russian national artist Vyacheslav Klykov. They created a mold of the bust and poured it in bronze. Unfortunately, we do not know the identity of the original artist who created this marvelous work. But we do know that this monument is considered the most faithful to the likeness of Emperor Nicholas II. I would like to offer my respect to Vyacheslav M. Klykov for granting new life to this work of art.

"In Russia they are currently celebrating the 'Tsar Days,' and I think the most important thing for us is to learn lessons from this tragedy and never repeat them."

Korolev congratulated everyone on the occasion of the feast, and presented Metropolitan Hilarion with a dove prepared in the workshop, as well as pouches with soil from the holy sites of Yekaterinburg, where Emperor Nicholas II, Empress Alexandra, and their children were held captive, and where they were all murdered.

For his work with the Cossacks, Eugene Korolev presented Fr. Tikhon with the Order of Emperor Nicholas the Second.

Flanked by clergy, the First Hierarch proceeded to the entrance to the cathedral, where the bust of the Tsar-Passionbearer Nicholas II had been installed, and blessed it. The festivities concluded with a banquet in the cathedral hall.

Last Days of the Last Tsar

The exhibition narrates the events leading up to this grim finale and portrays the family whose life and tragic fate have fascinated the world for a century. This is the first exhibition in North America dedicated exclusively to the final months of Nicholas II and his family.

Drawn from the rich museum, archival and library collections of the Russian History Foundation, the exhibition highlights the unique objects and documents collected by Nikolai Sokolov during the 1918-1919 investigation of the Imperial Family's murder. The Foundation's artefacts are supplemented by loans from a dozen U.S. collections, which range from splendid coronation gifts and luxurious objets d'art by Faberge to modest personal effects found during Sokolov's investigation. After being dispersed for a century, these objects are brought together, many of them displayed for the first time. The exhibition is also the first to publicly present recent findings of a DNA analysis conducted by the FBI that shed light upon the ongoing investigation into the identification of the remains of Tsar Nicholas II, his family, and their faithful attendants.

Special Exhibition on view July 17, 2018 to March 8, 2019.

See exhibition Images here -

<http://www.russianhistoryfoundation.org/#visit>



In Argentina

In the Library of the municipality of Mar del Plata, Argentina, an exhibition dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the murder of the Romanov Imperial Family was opened. Members of the local Orthodox community, residents and guests of the city were invited to the exhibition.

The photo exhibition acquainted visitors with the life of the Imperial Family and for many Argentines for the first time highlighted this page in the history of Russia. An indelible impression was made on the young generation of parishioners: they looked at the holy martyrs in a new way and looked with interest at the faces of their peers, so vividly looking in the pictures, but untimely gone into eternity.

The Argentinians asked many questions about the history of Russia and about the personality of Emperor Nicholas himself.

The exhibition will be held in other cities of Latin America.

The memory of the Tsar-Martyr must live in the hearts of the younger generation.

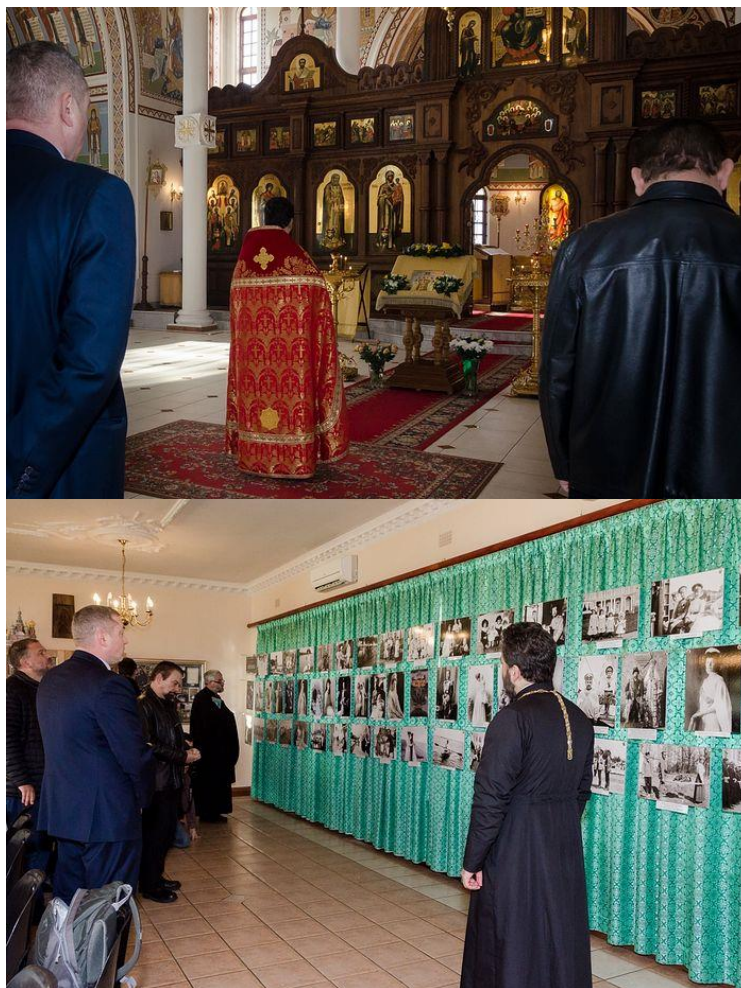


The memory of Royal Passion-Bearers was honoured in South Africa

July 17, 2018 on the day of the memory of the Holy Royal Martyrs and the 100th anniversary of their martyrdom in the church of St. Sergius of Radonezh in Johannesburg, the Divine Liturgy was performed. After the end of the divine service in the parish center, the opening of the exhibition "The Last Romanovs" took place.

The exposition presented personal photos from the archive of the Romanov family. The photo exhibition is organized by the parish pr. Sergiy Radonezhsky with the support of the Rossotrudnichestvo representation in South Africa and the portal "Orthodoxy.ru".

In the opening of the exhibition, in addition to parishioners, Archimandrite Jacobus Van Der Rit, cleric of the Johannesburg diocese of the Alexandrian Orthodox Church, and Afrikaners who came to pay tribute to the memory of the last Russian Tsar, took part. They laid flowers to the icon of the royal martyrs and took part in the conversation about the Romanov family with great interest.



In Serbia

On July 17, 2018, solemn events dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the martyrdom of the Romanov family were held in Belgrade.

The Divine Liturgy at the Russian Holy Trinity Church, the metochion of the Russian Orthodox Church in Belgrade, was led by His Holiness Patriarch Irenaeus of Serbia, co-served by the vicar of His Holiness Bishop Stephen of Remezia, the rector of the metochion of Archpriest Vitaly Tarasiev and the metropolitan clergy.

The service was attended by the Minister of Technological Development and Innovation of the Republic of Serbia N. Popovic, the Director of the Office for Cooperation with Churches and Religious Associations M. Radojevic, the Culturel Attache of the Embassy of the Russian Federation in Serbia A.N. Konanykhin, as well as numerous diplomats, politicians, public figures of different countries, philanthropists.



After the service, the Primate of the Serbian Orthodox Church, with a large confluence of believing people, moved past the Assembly (parliament) of Serbia with the choir participating performing "God Save the Tsar".

The procession went to the monument to the holy Tsar-Martyr Nicholas II, where a prayer was served, after which His Holiness Patriarch Irenaeus addressed the audience with the word about the personality and feat of the last Russian Emperor.



According to Patriarch Irenaeus, the Russian Emperor was "one of the greatest rulers and tsars of Russia in terms of their moral and spiritual qualities. All his life he was accompanied by distrust, slander, underestimation of his personality, and this happened if we look at a time when tsarist Russia had numerous enemies, as now."

"It is not known what would have happened to Serbia and the Serbian people, had he (Nicholas II) not entered the First World War," the patriarch said. Patriarch Irenaeus noted that the entire family of Romanovs behaved "deeply Christian" to the very end. Then, wreaths were laid with the participation of representatives of the Russian embassy, Serbian politicians, clergymen, public figures.

Video -

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=10&v=eSjnMJM58AY



On July 18, a round table on the theme "Tsar Nicholas II Romanov - the ruler and the saint" was held in the building of the rector's office of the Belgrade State University, organized by the Russian Orthodox Church in Belgrade. Archpriest Vitaly Tarasiev and clergyman of the Serbian Orthodox Church Archimandrite Mikhail (Bikovich), as well as representatives of the scientific

community of Serbia, took the floor at the event: Protopriest of the University of Belgrade Dr. I. Popovich, Professor of the Faculty of Law Dr. Z. Mirkovich and Senior Researcher of the Institute of Balkan Studies of the Serbian Academy of Sciences Doctor B. Milosavljevic.

In Republika Srpska, Bosnia and Herzegovina

In the city of Banja Luka (Republika Srpska, Bosnia and Herzegovina), the ceremony of laying flowers at the monument to Nicholas II was attended by representatives of the Government of the Republika Srpska. Prayer for commemoration was made by Father Miladin Mitrovic.

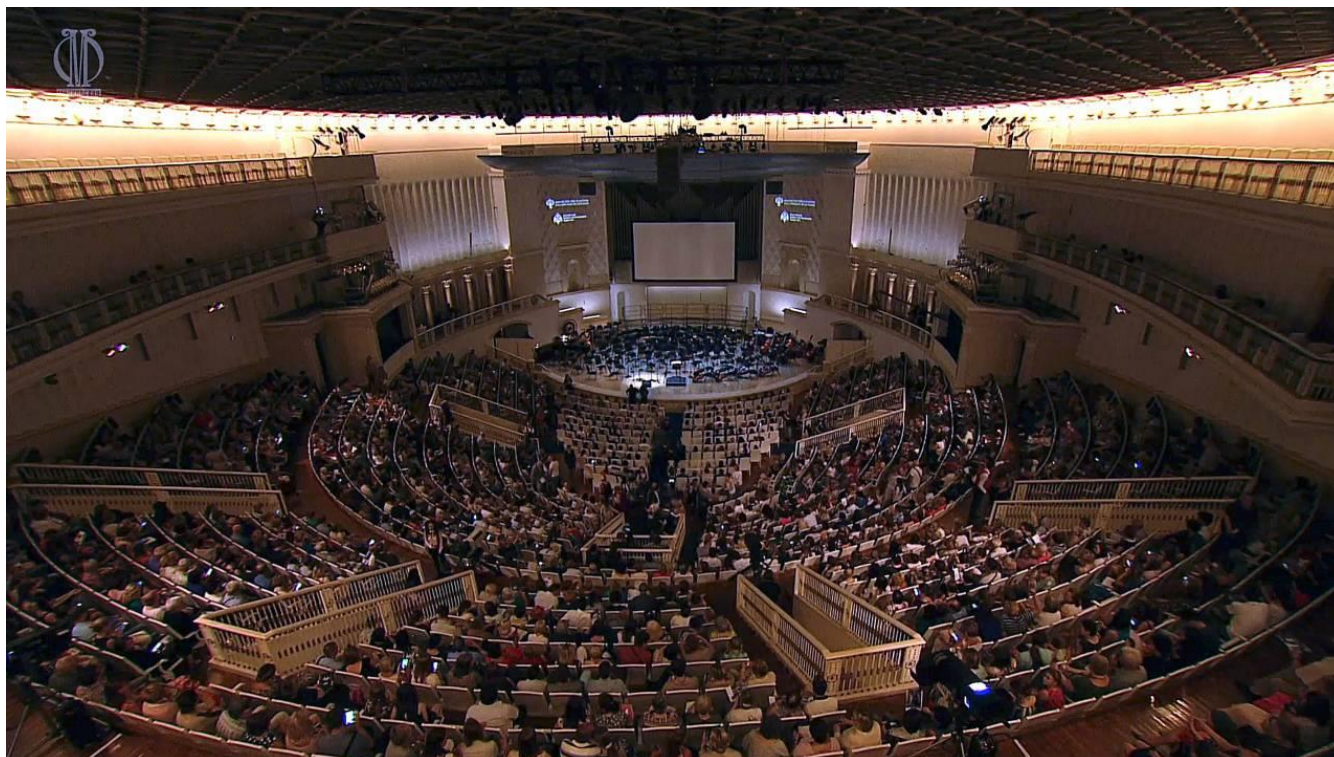
In the village. Riteshic (Republika Srpska, Bosnia and Herzegovina), the ceremony of laying flowers was organized by local activists, led by Zoran Gajic. The ceremony was attended by Vasyl Dulnev, the second secretary of the Russian Embassy in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Concert-requiem in honour of the Romanov family in Moscow

On July 17, a Concert-requiem, timed to the 100th anniversary of the martyrdom of the Romanov family, was held in the Concert Hall. Tchaikovsky in Moscow.

The concert was attended by the Academic Great Choir "Masters of Choral Singing" and the Academic Symphony Orchestra of the Moscow Philharmonic.

The production is based on the letters of Emperor Nicholas II and Empress Alexandra Feodorovna, read by actors Dmitry Pevtsov and Olga Drozdova. The lines from the correspondence were accompanied by the works of P. Tchaikovsky, A. Tchaikovsky, G. Lvovsky, D. Bortnyansky, P. Chesnokov, S. Rachmaninov, S. Prokofiev, F. Schubert, L. van Beethoven, J. Brahms.



"This is not the first time we have read the letters of our martyrs, some of us know by heart. They are all permeated with such love, as if they are written by a 16-year-old boy and girl. If you abstract yourself from the authors and just read them, it's a complete impression that these are only young, loving people who met each other. This is absolutely amazing, - noted Dmitry Pevtsov.



Honored guests of the concert were the chairman of the Russian Historical Society Sergei Naryshkin , as well as the member of the Central Council of the Russian Military Historical Society director Nikita Mikhalkov.

- One hundred years ago, incredible villainy and betrayal were committed when the Emperor was forced to abdicate, and the family and heir were killed. This, in my opinion, is one of the most monstrous crimes of the last century," said Mikhalkov.

He noted that the centenary of the death of the Imperial Family should be a lesson for the future.

- I believe that today, more than ever, we need to remember what happened, and not only as a repentance, but also as a warning before what should not be. On the one hand, this is a day of terrible grief, and on the other hand - the need to think about what it was and, God forbid, happen again. And after a hundred years, and two hundred and three hundred, we must remember this," the director emphasized.

Video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-IJJ54plo3E>

The exhibition "The Imperial Ark"

In the lobby of the Tchaikovsky Concert Hall in Moscow the exhibition "The Imperial Ark", was organized by the Russian Military Historical Society (RVIO) in cooperation with the Russian Historical Society.



Among the exhibits are rare photographs of the Imperial Family, as well as related events and places, personal belongings to Emperor Nicholas II and his family members.

Among the unique exhibits from the funds of the Russian Museum of Medicine and the National Research Institute of Public Health named after N.A. Semashko - are previously unpublished copies of the letters of the physician E. Botkin, written by him in Tobolsk, the authentic signatures compiled by him for the members of the Imperial Family, as well as items from the first-aid kit of the last Russian Emperor.

The memory of the Romanov family was honoured in Moscow

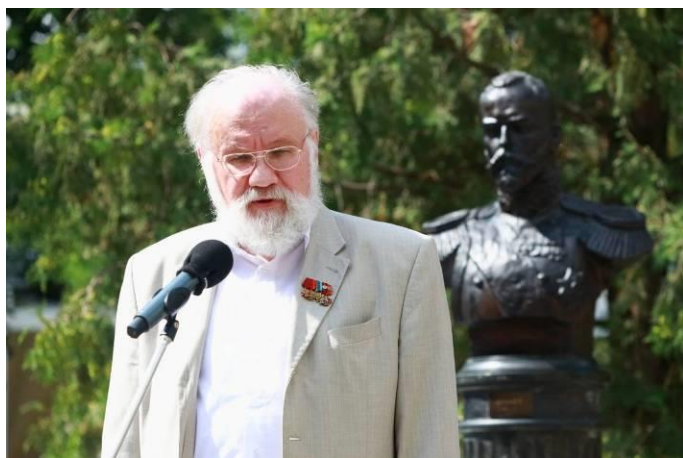
On the 100th anniversary of the martyrdom of the Romanov family, the Russian Military Historical Society held an International Memorial Action. Mourning events were held simultaneously at several dozen monuments to Emperor Nicholas II and the Imperial Family, located on the territory of Russia and beyond.

In the ceremony of laying flowers at the monument to Nicholas II on the Alley of Rulers in Moscow took part: the author of the monument, President of the Russian Academy of Arts Zurab

Tsereteli ; Ambassador for Special Assignments of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, member of the Central Council of the RVIO Vladimir Churov ; Assistant to the Deputy Minister of Defense of the Russian Federation Alexander Kirilin ; Advisor to the Minister of Culture of the Russian Federation, Adviser to the General Director of the Orthodox TV channel "SPAS" Igor Eleferenko.

Also, the State Academic Russian Choir named after A.Ya. Sveshnikov (artistic director Eugene Volkov) and the orchestra of the Military Commandant's Office of Moscow.

On the day when the earthly life of Emperor Nicholas II and his family was finished with a brutal murder, flower-laying ceremonies and memorial actions were held in several regions of Russia and abroad.



- Today, we pay tribute to the memory of martyrs, the Passion-Bearers. The glorification of the holy new martyrs has been going on for several years. Monuments to Nicholas II and his family are open in a number of cities and countries. But for the Military-Historical Society it is also the memory of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief of the troops of the Russian Empire who fought on the fronts of the Great War from the Baltic to the Black Sea, the Caucasus, Persia, Mesopotamia, Thessaloniki and Champagne. Here is the scale of the military operations that the Supreme Commander-in-Chief Nicholas Alexandrovich led in 1916 - 1917

in the modest rank of colonel," said Vladimir Churov, a member of the Central Council of the Russian Air Transport and Space Agency.

"The villainous killing of the Emperor and his entire family, including minors, is a crime. Without trial, in an atmosphere of secrecy, a whole family was killed in a barbarous way. This atrocity returned to its performers: almost none of them ended their lives in a natural way. The shadow of this cruel crime lay on our whole country, followed by the huge sacrifices of the civil war ... Our duty is to remember this tragedy. Over the last twenty years, our society has become more united. Let us hope that never more fratricidal war will occur in our country! - said Assistant Deputy Minister of Defense of the Russian Federation Alexander Kirilin.

The President of the Russian Academy of Arts Zurab Tsereteli also spoke about preserving the memory and continuity of history. He said that he plans to create a park of history of Russia, so that new generations know their history.

"I have a concept to create a park of the history of Russia, so that children and new generations know their history so that they conduct master classes and lessons in history," he said.

Moscowites also laid flowers to the monument to Mikhail Fedorovich and Nicholas II at the Novospassky Monastery.

- Today much has been said about the holy Royal Passion-Bearers, about their fate. Today is not only the day of tragedy, it is the day when the souls of the murdered met with our heavenly Father. They say a lot about the fact that the Russian people betrayed the Romanovs. A hundred years have passed,

and we glorify the memory of the last Emperor - which means that the Russian people remember his royal feat, - said Igor Eleimentenko, Advisor to the General Director of the Orthodox TV channel "SPAS" .

In St. Petersburg, in Tsarskoye Selo, the Romanov family was celebrated

In the Feodorovsky Sovereign Cathedral of Tsarskoe Selo on the night from July 16 to July 17 marked the 100th anniversary of the martyrdom of the Imperial Family of the Romanovs. The Divine Liturgy was performed by the rector Bishop Markel of Tsarskoye Selo with the clergy of the cathedral.



During the service the participants of the annual religious procession "The Tsar's Way" prayed - citizens of Russia, Belarus, Ukraine, including parishioners of the churches of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia. In the cathedral they were brought especially revered icons.

The actor of the Lensovet Theater, Sergei Peregudov, told - "The history of the life and death of the Imperial Family can not help but touch the heart, their life is an example of a truly Christian attitude to the family." Thanks to their deep faith and humility, they remained simple, clean, lived according to the word of God. "They are a spiritual example for many people." A procession around the church took place.

Feodorovsky Sovereign Cathedral is the favorite place of prayer for the Romanov family. The tradition to gather in it, remembering the bloody violence with the crowned family, was born in the mid-1990s. On this night pilgrims in joint prayer remember the events of the tragic night of 1918, when Emperor Nicholas II, together with his wife and children, was shot in the basement of Ipatiev's house in Yekaterinburg by the decision of the Ural regional executive committee.

In St. Petersburg in the territory of the Resurrection Church of Christ on the Obvodny



Canal, a prayer was held, after which representatives of the regional branch of the RVIO laid a basket with one hundred symbolic carnations to the monument of the Imperial couple.

- Emperor Nikolai Alexandrovich was the founder and honorary Chairman of the Imperial Russian Military Historical Society. We are trying to continue the traditions of the founders of this society, founded more than a hundred years ago, to preserve the memory of glorious historical events, military exploits, both individual heroes and the entire people, " said Vladimir Kazakov, deputy head of the St. Petersburg and Leningrad branch of the Russian Association of RVIO.

Icon of the Royal Martyrs was presented in Yaroslavl

In Yaroslavl in the Assumption Cathedral appeared an icon of the Royal Passion-Bearers - the family of the last Russian Emperor Nicholas II.



The icon was given on the eve of the 100th anniversary of the execution of the Imperial Family by Uzorochoye, which since 2007 has been holding trade fairs in Yaroslavl. The new icon was consecrated by the metropolitan of Yaroslavl and Rostov Panteleimon. The image will be installed in the iconostasis of the cathedral.

"Due to the fact that the Imperial Family visited Yaroslavl and Cathedral of the Assumption, which was located on the site, this location icon appears meaningful and significant", - told the press secretary of the Yaroslavl Diocese Priest Alexander Satomsky.

On July 17, the 100th anniversary of the death of the Imperial Family, also a procession was held around the city dedicated to this date. It was organized by the Yaroslavl Cossacks.

A cross was unveiled in Rostov, on the 100th anniversary of the execution of the Imperial Family

According to legend, Emperor Nicholas II, when returning from the Caucasian mineral waters in 1911, visited the monastery together with Tsarevich Alexei, and bowed to the main shrine of the monastery - the Iberian icon of the Mother of God.



In Rostov there was a divine service and consecration of the worship cross, installed on the territory of the Holy Iveron Monastery in the Northern residential area. The monumental building of bronze weighs almost 2 tons, and in height reaches about 5 meters. The cross is cast to the 100th anniversary of the execution of the Imperial Family of the Romanovs. The images of Emperor Nicholas II, his wife and children are carved in the lower part of the monument. On the front side there is an icon of the Mother of God "Derzhavnaya".

The authors of the monument are architect Anna Yasinskaya and sculptor Andrei Polyanichko. Work was carried out almost round the clock. Less than 3 months passed from the stage of the sketches to the installation.

The Divine Liturgy and the consecration of the cross were made by the head of the Don Metropolis, Metropolitan of Rostov and Novocherkassk Mercury.

In Tambov

At seven o'clock in the morning Vladyka, in the service of the clergy, celebrated the Divine Liturgy in the Transfiguration Cathedral, and then the procession with the moleben of the Holy Royal Martyrs. At the end of the procession, Metropolitan Tambovsky and Rasskazovsky Theodosius addressed the audience with the archpastoral word.

Representative of the Russian president in the Central Federal District Igor Schegolev attended the ceremony at the monument to Nicholas II. The guest was accompanied by local officials: the governor, the head of the city of Tambov, the chief federal inspector of the region and the metropolitan. Another meeting took place at the bust of Nicholas II, which is located behind the cathedral church, and at the pedestal was laid flowers. The meeting was attended by members of the Tambov branch of the historical society "Two-headed Eagle" and the representation of the Military Orthodox Mission.

The exhibition "A Trace in History. Nicholas II" was opened in the regional museum of local lore. The exposition tells about the Emperor's visit to Tambov.

In Kursk

Within the framework of the "Tsar Days", a bas-relief icon of the Romanovs was consecrated. The image adorned the eastern wall of the Church of the Royal Passion-Bearers.



"So it happened that in our parish there are a lot of good couples with kids, and after all the Royal Martyrs are patrons of families," noted Alla Kunitsyna, who has been going to this church for 8 years already. - And the rector of the church Oleg Chebanov along with his mother bring up their own three daughters and adopted son.

After the festive service, Metropolitan Herman, together with the parishioners, made a procession around the church, during which he consecrated the bas-relief icon with the image of the saints Tsar Nicholas II, Tsarina Alexandra, Tsarevich Alexei, Grand Duchesses Olga, Tatiana, Maria and Anastasia.

As the artist of the bas-relief, the teacher Igor Dakhnevsky, admitted, he made the icon in bronze for the first time. Before starting work, he studied a lot of photos of the Imperial couple, the Tsarevich and Grand Duchesses.

"They were not just shot, but also, trying to destroy the traces of the crime, they took the remains to Ganin's pit and burned them with acid," said Archbishop Herman. - Before the execution, the family of the last Emperor suffered insults and humiliation. But they transferred all this with Christian patience, humility, with prayer for the enemies. What an example for all of us!

In Astrakhan

In memory of the iconic events of Russian history in the Astrakhan Regional Scientific Library named after N.K. Krupskaya, a round table "Russian Tsar Nicholas II era" was held, dedicated to the personality of the last Russian Emperor.



The event was organized jointly with the Astrakhan Metropolitan of the Russian Orthodox Church, the Astrakhan branch of the Imperial Orthodox Palestine Society, the Caspian branch of the Society of Russian historical education "Two-headed eagle." Participants in the meeting, which was held in the framework of the "Royal Days - 2018" were members of the clergy, historians and local historians, educators, youth community.

During the round table presentations were made on the successes and achievements of Russia in the period 1894-1917, the role of Nicholas II in Russian history, its impact on historical and political processes, the spiritual state of society in the early twentieth century.

Participants of the event noted that knowledge of the historical truth will allow to assess the fruits of the Emperor's rule and the scale of his personality. The study of documentary publications for different periods of the history of the state will help to form an objective assessment of the personality of the Sovereign and his family.

The book-illustrative exhibition "Romanovs: a portrait of the dynasty" attracted the attention of documentary and historical editions gathered to disclose the history of one of the greatest monarchical dynasties and its contribution to the formation and development of the Russian Empire.

In Samara

On the night of July 16 to July 17, 1918, Emperor Nicholas II was shot in Yekaterinburg, along with his family and members of the retinue. In the centenary of the death of the Romanovs across the country there are commemorative events. In Samara a cross-procession took place.



In Sochi

In the city of Sochi, the Krasnodar regional branch of the RVIO organized a mourning rally at the bust monument to Emperor Nicholas II, located on the territory of the Cathedral of the Holy Archangel Michael. The deputy head of the city of Sochi, the chairman of the Sochi local branch of the RVIO IV Romanets, the chairman of the Sochi city branch of the Combat Brotherhood, I.S. Palevsky, representatives of public and veteran organizations, students of educational organizations, Father John, Father Superior of the Church, clergy and parishioners. Irina Romanets addressed to those present on behalf of the Russian military-historical society with a call to remember and honour your history. The mourning event ended with a minute of silence and laying flowers and a wreath at the monument to Emperor Nicholas II.

In Crimea

In the Republic of Crimea in the Livadia Palace Museum a mourning ceremony took place. The event, organized with the support of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Crimea, was attended by the administration of the Livadia Palace Museum, members of the Crimean and Sevastopol regional branches of the RVIO, representatives of the State Museum of Heroic Defence and Liberation of Sevastopol. The



gathered laid flowers to the monument of Emperor Nicholas II. After that, a thematic tour of the halls of the Livadia Palace and the display of the historical drama "The Defence of Sevastopol" was held.

In Volgograd

July 17, 2018, on the territory of the Uspensko-Nikolsky church in the village of Archedinskaya was solemnly installed and consecrated a bust to the holy Tsar-martyr Nikolai II. The solemn divine service and procession was led by Bishop Elisei of Uryupinsk and Novoanninsky.



A capsule with earth from the mine from Ganina Yama and Alapaevsk was mounted in the bust of the Emperor. The bottle of Holy water for consecration was brought from the Temple on the Blood of Ekaterinburg. The shrine was greeted by Don Cossacks lined up in honour. Also among the guests of honour - Counsellor of the First Hierarch of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia, the head of the Military Orthodox Mission and the head of the Russian public organization "Orthodox mission for the revival of spiritual values of the Russian people" Igor

Smykov. He noted, that the image of the holy Tsar-Martyr Nicholas II will now invisibly guard the Don

Region: - It can be said that the last Emperor Nicholas II stood on alert duty. People will not just lay flowers to the bust, but also pray, ask for intercession.

Another significant event for Orthodox Christians is timed to this date - a miraculous myrrh-streaming icon of Nicholas II arrived in the church. On the prayers before the miraculous icon there are healings from various ailments. In the small wooden church, there is nowhere to fall an apple - it does not contain all those who wish to glorify the last Russian Tsar-father, Nikolai II. Despite the rain that rages all day, pilgrims gathered practically from all areas of the Volgograd region.



Videos - 1) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-7tXJJNY1Hc>
2) https://youtu.be/N6LW_Jvcuc4

The Romanov alley in the Pechersk monastery was consecrated

July 15 in the ancient Voznesenskaya Pechersk monastery were celebrations to complete the Romanov alley of Glory.

To the bells from the ancient Ascension Cathedral, His Eminence Metropolitan George of Nizhny Novgorod and Arzamas, the rector of the Pechersk monastery, Archimandrite Tikhon (Zatyokin), with the elder serving brother, proceeded from the Bishops' Chambers to the Romanov Alley.

After garments, His Eminence performed the rite of blessing the newly installed monuments to Saint Regal Martyrs Emperor Nicholas Alexandrovich, the Empress Alexandra Feodorovna and Tsarevich Alexei Nikolaevich, as well as the Russian Emperors: Alexander III, Alexander II, Alexander I and Nicholas I.

On the consecration of monuments, His Eminence addressed the audience with an archpastoral word, in which he recalled the special service of the monarchs of the Russian Empire.



After that, Archimandrite Tikhon (Zatyokin), the hegumen of the monastery, greeted Bishop George, thanking His Eminence for his part in the creation of the Romanov alley of Glory and handed him the silver bust of Emperor Nicholas Alexandrovich, the Tsar-Passion-Bearer.



"Without God, Tsar and Fatherland ..."

By Irina Tishina

July 16, 2018 in the House of Russian Abroad named after A. Solzhenitsyn with the participation of the Russian Nobility Assembly, the Cultural and Educational Center "Transfiguration" and the St. Filaret Orthodox Christian Institute was hosted a round table dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the murder of Emperor Nicholas II and his family, entitled "Without God, the Tsar and the Fatherland." ...To the 100th anniversary of the murder of Royal Passion-Bearers ".



Starting the work of the round table, in the large conference hall of the house, Georgy Kochetkov, rector of the St. Philaret Orthodox Christian Institute, said - the purpose of the meeting is not only to remember the family of Emperor Nicholas II, but also the entire era of his reign, correlating it with today. The gathered was welcomed by the director of the House of Russian Abroad V.A. Moskvina. We should not only talk about why this terrible crime happened, he stressed, but also to prepare for repentance - the repentance of every person, since the murder of the Imperial Family happened with the testimony of our ancestors ... Our country.

"Symbolically," the leader of the Russian Nobility Assembly O.V. Shcherbachev - that the round table is taking place in the House of Russian Abroad: the murder of the Emperor and his relatives was the last feature through which the country crossed, and its citizens were not only without faith and the Tsar, but also without the Fatherland - genuine Russia went into internal emigration, in his "abroad" ... In part, continued Oleg Vyacheslavovich, we continue to live in this "abroad", and expressed hope: Russia will return to its Fatherland!

Before the discussion began, the organizers demonstrated to the audience the record of the interview of 1964 with one of the members of the execution of the Imperial Family - Grigory Nikulin. Recognition of the direct perpetrator of a crime that did not consider his acts criminal, made a heavy impression. Particularly struck by Nikulin's words about the "humanity" of what happened compared to what could have happened to Nicholas II and his entourage in the face of an inhuman and bloody Civil War.

After demonstrating this historical testimony Georgy Kochetkov addressed the first question to the participants of the round table: how did the Russian society react to the death of the emperor and his family?

According to the doctor of historical sciences, the researcher of the White movement V.Z. Tsvetkov, the murder of the Imperial Family should be viewed in the context of the "red terror". In many speeches of the leader of the revolutionary movement of Lenin, Vasily Zhanovich drew attention, there is a definition of "terror" as a deterrent to the enemies of Soviet power. Red propaganda, the historian emphasized, especially "hung" on all "whites" a label of monarchists who would, by all means, necessarily seek revenge on the peasantry for the Decree on Land and, consequently, for involvement in regicide - the peasants in that case were forced to support the Soviet power.

Doctor of historical sciences V.P. Buldakov is sure: the murder of the Tsar is "the costs of the monarch's profession". The ideas of the tyranomahia, Vladimir Prokhorovich believes, go through the whole

history, since ancient times: the Monarch is responsible for everything, therefore the Emperor and his spouse in this regard "do not mind", "sorry" for only the children who were shot and his entourage. One should not think about repentance, the historian concluded his speech, but about "what did happen" and "why it became possible" .

Specialist of the Institute of Russian History of the Russian Academy of Sciences strongly objected to it. George Kochetkov: how can there be no pity for the killed people?!. Repentance, added Fr. George, it is necessary, because "there was a crime", and it is difficult to assess the actions of the Tsar who "answered for everything", since many archives are still closed and historical documents are unavailable.

O. Shcherbachev formulated the second question for discussion: how did the Yekaterinburg tragedy affect the fate of the country, the fate of the Russian people? ..

Answering this question, the historian and writer F.V. Razumovsky stated that today we are witnessing a "split" in Russian society after another "turmoil", and the murder of the Imperial Family should be analyzed in the context of the "Russian tradition".

In the opinion of Felix Velievich, the beginning of the Civil War should be considered the year 1914, when Lenin proclaimed the famous slogan: "We will turn the imperialist war into a civil war!" The tsar continued FV Razumovsky, "held the situation of the growth of Russian Troubles," and on the second day after abdication from the throne - the main tragic event - immediately began the unrest among the workers, soldiers and peasants, pogroms of landed estates.

According to V.P. Buldakov, the events in Yekaterinburg "did not affect" the fate of the country and its people. And there can be no collective repentance, the historian is sure, - repentance is "only individual".

Discussion of the acute topic of the murder of the last Russian Monarch exceeded the usual time limit of the House's activities - after a hundred years the descendants of the witnesses of those terrible years of civil confrontation - both "red" and "white" - needed this difficult conversation, giving hope for the future of the country, the future our children. We hope that the historical truth and those who extract it from the testimonies of eyewitnesses and archival dust will help in the coming centuries to avoid the next "Russian Troubles".



The Tsarevich Alexei and Grand Duchess Maria burial-case continues

Authenticity of the "Yekaterinburg remains", will not be decided at the upcoming Synod on July 14

July 9. / TASS - The question of the authenticity of the "Yekaterinburg remains", which may belong to the family of Tsar Nicholas II, will not be finally decided at the upcoming Synod on July 14, which will be held in Yekaterinburg on the eve of the century of the murder of the Imperial Family. This was reported to TASS on Monday by the chairman of the Department for External Church Relations of the Moscow Patriarchate, the permanent member of the Holy Synod, Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk.

"It seems to me that on this Synod [this topic] will not be raised, although we usually get to know the Synod's agenda in the final form only on the eve of the meeting." But if this session were to discuss this topic, we would be informed in advance, " - said the Metropolitan.

At the same time, he noted that this issue is on the agenda. "But I do not think that it will be finally decided at this meeting of the Synod," added Vladyka Hilarion.

The Russian Church will not come to conclusion on possible Romanov remains in time for their centenary

July 10. Pravoslaviye - The Russian Orthodox Church is not planning to recognize the possible remains of the Royal Martyrs in time for their centenary celebration on July 17, the head of the Synodal Department for Relations with the Society and the Media Vladimir Legoida said in an interview published on Izvestia yesterday.

The Church representative stressed that the Church's decision on the remains will not happen before the completion of all the examinations - genetic, historical, anthropological, and forensic. There are 34 examinations altogether.

"The decision will most likely be made at the level of the Council of Bishops, due to the importance of the question. It will not be timed to any date. As the patriarch has stressed many times, we have no right to make any mistake on this question," Legoida continued.

The Patriarch wants to achieve the truth

July 14 - RIA Novosti. The Primate of the Russian Orthodox Church wants to personally find the truth in the matter of recognizing the remains of the Tsar, the head of the patriarchal press service, priest Alexander Volkov, said on Saturday.

"The Patriarch wants to achieve the truth, he is a person who loves to understand everything in detail. He had a list of ten questions he asked experts, "Volkov told reporters.

He repeated that the final position of the Church will be formulated at the Council of Bishops, but in the near future it is not planned. "Therefore, even if the expertise is completed, which I understand is over by 90%, their final announcement will still be at the Cathedral," the press secretary of Patriarch Kirill continued.

According to him, there is no discrepancy in the Russian Orthodox Church when "the Patriarch believes so, and others do not." The hierarchy of the Church wants its position not to be subject to any political movements, Volkov concluded.

The Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation continues to investigate the criminal case of the murder of members of the Russian Imperial House in 1918

16 July - "In order to clarify all the circumstances of the death and burial of the members of the Imperial Family, the resolution of disputes that arose in connection with the identification of the remains of a group of people found near Yekaterinburg, the investigation re-examined all the circumstances relevant to the case and carried out a set of investigative actions and expert studies.

At present, the conclusions of the complex commission of molecular genetic examinations confirm the belonging of the discovered remains to the former Emperor Nicholas II, members of his family and persons from their entourage.

According to the conclusions of the molecular genetic examination, 7 out of 11 found remains correspond to the family group - mother, father, four daughters and son. The results of the comparison



of the genetic profiles of bone remains and specimens from the relatives of the Romanov family who currently live both on the paternal and maternal lines confirm that the remains belong to Nicholas II and his family members.

In addition, from the conclusion of the molecular genetic examination on the establishment of the biological relationship of Emperor Alexander III (exhumed in the Peter and Paul Cathedral in St. Petersburg) and the deceased person identified as the former Emperor Nicholas II, it follows that they are relatives at the father-son level.

After the completion of two re-commissioned medical (anthropological), autiological and historical-archival forensic examinations in the criminal case, the final procedural decision will be adopted.

Prominent scientists have been involved in the production of these expert examinations, they have studied and systemized about 2,000 documentary sources, including those discovered in 2017-2018, to resolve the issues raised.

Svetlana Petrenko, the official representative of the Investigative Committee
16-July-2018"

The Investigative Committee has denied the version of the poisoning of Alexander III

26 July. Izvestia - A chemical study of samples of the exhumed remains of the father of the last Russian Emperor Nicholas II, did not reveal traces of poison and other harmful substances.



Head of the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation Alexander Bastrykin told Izvestia about the results of the examination of the remains of Emperor Alexander III, which was conducted as part of the investigation into the death of the last Russian Monarch's family.

Experts decided to check the previously expressed version of a possible poisoning of the Autocrat. To test this argument, in the criminal case on the death of the Romanovs, an examination of several hairs of the exhumed remains of Alexander III was carried out.

- Modern technology allows you to posthumously reveal by the analysis of hair the presence of poisons or other harmful substances in the human body, even after a century. And the results of this examination completely refuted the version about the poisoning of the Emperor," Bastrykin said.

Emperor Alexander III died October 20, 1894 in the Livadia Palace after a long illness of the kidneys - chronic nephritis. According to doctors, the beginning of the ailment of the Monarch is connected with the collapse of the imperial train near Kharkov in October 1888, when the roof of the car crashed onto the monarch, which he held on his shoulders until the aid arrived.

More from the interview with the Chairman of the IC of Russia Alexander Bastrykin

Alexander Bastrykin, the head of the Investigation Committee of the Russian Federation, answered questions in an interview with Izvestia.

- This year was 100 years since the execution of the Imperial Family. The Investigative Committee recently reported on the results of new examinations that confirmed the authenticity of the Imperial remains. How did the research differ from what it was in the 1990s?

- The Investigative Committee re-examined all the relevant circumstances. Thanks to this particular case, the genetic expertise in Russia has seriously progressed. And if in the 1990s of the last century

molecular genetic studies were conducted only on mitochondrial DNA, that is, on the maternal line, then modern genetics makes it possible to carry out analysis on the Y chromosome, establishing a biological relationship in the male line of several generations of people.

The study of the remains in the Department of Biomedical Research of the Department of the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation

Thus, the complex commission molecular-genetic examinations confirmed the belonging of the discovered remains to the former Emperor Nicholas II, members of his family and persons from their entourage. In this case, 7 out of 11 found remains correspond to the family group - mother, father, four daughters and son.



- *What specific genetic samples were compared during the examinations?*

- All possible comparisons were made, and for the objectivity of the examination were conducted in different, independent laboratories. Molecular genetic examination to establish the biological relationship of Emperor Alexander III, previously exhumed in the Peter and Paul Cathedral in St. Petersburg, and the deceased person identified as the former Emperor Nicholas II, confirmed that they are relatives at the father-son level. "Ekaterinburg remains", discovered in 1991, were compared with the DNA profile of Nicholas II, isolated from the traces of his blood left on the shirt, after the attack on him in Japan. Also genetic profiles of bone remains are compared with samples from living relatives of the Romanov family both on the paternal and maternal lines.

In addition, earlier in society there was a version of the possible poisoning of Emperor Alexander III. We decided to test this argument by appointing, within the framework of this criminal case, a chemical examination of several of his hair seized during the exhumation. Modern technology allows you to posthumously reveal by the analysis of hair the presence of poisons or other harmful substances in the human body, even after a century. And the results of this examination completely refuted the version of the poisoning of the emperor.

- *What else remains to be done by the investigation?*

- The final procedural decision can be taken after the completion of two re-commissioned medical (anthropological), and historical archival forensic examinations. Within the framework of these examinations, scientists study and systematize about 2,000 documentary sources, including those found in foreign archives and museums in 2017-2018 and those not studied by anyone. Expert councils have collected researchers of different ages and schools, among them those who already participated in the study of the remains in the 1990s, as well as those who first touched on this topic.

- *What is it for?*

- Earlier in the public space were voiced different arguments associated with the events of 1918. Therefore, in the framework of the criminal case, we check all possible versions, including the complete destruction of bodies; that other persons who are not related to the family of the Romanovs and their entourage were buried near Yekaterinburg; about the salvation of the members of the Imperial Family; about another time of burial and other versions. The results of these examinations, along with other evidence in the criminal case, will answer these and other questions.

An investigative experiment has already been conducted in which investigators reproduced the situation and other circumstances of the shooting of the Imperial Family and persons from their surroundings in a room imitating the execution room of the Ipatievs' house. The characteristics of this room were described in the protocol of the inspection of the scene of the incident, carried out in August 1918. The results of the experiment completely refute the arguments of some researchers that in such a small room could not accommodate 11 victims and participants in the shooting.

For the first time, fragments of jewellery discovered in 1998 in the Ganina Yama area, where in 1918-1919 search works were conducted aimed at discovering the remains of the royal family and evidence of its death, were first investigated. The conclusion of the physical and chemical examination revealed that the gold content in all three fragments does not correspond to the currently regulated samples. This suggests that jewellery was made in the Russian Empire long before the modern metric system of samples was adopted. Within the same expertise, nine beads, discovered together with fragments of gold items, were examined. They coincide in appearance and size with beads in photographs from the case of investigator Nikolai Sokolov and a bead located in the memorial church of Job the Long-suffering in Brussels.

Thus, these and other data refute other versions presented by various researchers, and additionally confirm the version about the execution of the Imperial Family in Ipatiev's house and the burial of the remains of those killed near Yekaterinburg.

New DNA evidence in America points to veracity of Romanov remains

July 25, 2018. Washington, D.C., pravoslavie - According to the Russian Investigative Committee, the complex of more than 35 scientific examinations on the remains found near Ekaterinburg, believed to belong to Tsar Nicholas II and his martyred family, have confirmed that the remains do belong to the Royal Martyrs. The Russian Church is paying close attention to the examinations and taking the experts' words into consideration, but is proceeding carefully on the question of whether to officially recognize the remains. While the experts can offer valuable information, if the remains are legitimate, they are therefore holy relics, and thus it is first and foremost a spiritual question for the Church, in which there can be no room for doubt.



Tsaritsa Alexandra's locket.

As Russian Faith reports, new DNA evidence has surfaced, in America of all places.

A major announcement was made at the opening of the "Last Days of the Last Tsar" exhibition on July 17, the feast of the Royal Martyrs, at the Russian History Foundation Museum at Holy Trinity Monastery (Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia) in Jordanville, New York, when Nicholas Nicholson, a Russian art scholar and antique expert, revealed that two Fabergé items had surfaced that had belonged to the Royal Family and contained two locks of hair.

As Time reports, Nicholson is the Senior Vice President of the Philadelphia auction house Freeman's and a Fabergé expert who had met a private collector who owned a Fabergé locket containing a photograph of Tsaritsa Alexandra

and a lock of her hair and a Fabergé photograph frame with a picture of Queen Louise of Denmark, Tsar Nicholas II's grandmother, also with a lock of her hair.



Photograph of Queen Louise

Nicholson contacted Peter Sarandinaki, the president of the SEARCH Foundation that oversaw the discovery of the remains believed to belong to Tsarevich Alexei and Grand Duchess Maria in 2007. Sarandinaki sent the samples to the FBI, where they were checked against DNA on file from the original round of tests on the remains in the 1990s.

Time reports: The DNA extracted from the hair in the locket turned out to be the perfect match for the female line Mitochondrial DNA for Tsaritsa Alexandra, and also checked correctly against the DNA on file from Prince Philip, another distant relation who had donated samples for the first DNA tests in the 1990s. The DNA extracted from the photograph frame material also proved to be the

correct female line mitochondrial DNA for Tsar Nicholas.

In short, as confirmed by a Justice Department report released in June, all of the DNA from the two samples perfectly matches the already long-published DNA sequence of the remains found in the Koptiyaki forest. This information has been submitted to the Patriarch, and the Commission on the Imperial Remains.

Meanwhile, the Fabergé items and many others are on display until March 8, 2019 at the Jordanville Museum.

Volodin instructed the Committee of the State Duma to discuss the idea of the Day of honoring the memory of Nicholas II

July 17 - RIA Novosti - State Duma Chairman Vyacheslav Volodin suggested that the Duma Committee on Regulations and Control discuss the idea of annually honoring the memory of the executed Imperial Family in the lower house of parliament on July 17.

During the plenary session of the State Duma, the leader of the Liberal Democratic Party of Russia, Vladimir Zhirinovsky, proposed to amend the State Duma's rules of procedure to amend the anthem of Tsarist Russia, "God Save the Tsar," once a year on July 17 in memory of the last Russian emperor.



The deputy from the "United Russia" Natalia Poklonskaya supported Zhirinovsky's initiative. "As a prosecutor, I want to say that the reason for the murder is the malice of the criminals who realized the first color revolution in the world, after which the greatest country in the world, the Russian Empire, was destroyed, and the red terror was started, in which the rivers of blood were flowing. After his speech, the LDPR party applauded, and not only the LDPR party, I believe that I will be supported, why postpone the year, I propose that deputies in this hall honor the memory of the holy sovereign," noted in turn Poklonskaya during the meeting.

Almost 60% of Russians consider the murder of the Tsar's Family a monstrous crime

July 16. TASS - Most Russians do not find any justification for the execution of the Tsar's Family by the Bolsheviks in 1918, considering it a monstrous crime, and not just retribution. This is evidenced by the data of a survey conducted by the All-Russian Center for the Study of Public Opinion (VCIOM) held on the eve of the century of the death of the last Russian Emperor Nicholas II and his family.



"Most Russians (57%) believe that the execution of the Imperial Family is a monstrous, unjustified crime (among people aged 35+ this share is higher than among the younger generation from 18 to 34 years old.) Another 29% think that the death penalty is too much to pay, but Nicholas II was to be punished, more often by young people (46% among 18-24-year-olds.) Only 3% believe that the execution of the Imperial Family was a just retribution of the people for the Emperor's mistakes, in the analysis of the survey.

At the same time, the most common feeling that Nicholas II causes among Russians is sympathy - 43%, most often about this people say at the age of 45 (45% -46%). 22% tend to think more about him negatively, and young people aged 18 to 24 years are more sensitive to antipathy for Nicholas II. 7% of the respondents only show indifference to the ruler, and 4% sympathize with him (among 45-59-year-olds - 5%).

"To date, the Soviet narrative, which announced the execution of the Tsar's family by the Bolsheviks near Yekaterinburg during the Civil War, was a necessary and just retribution for mistakes and crimes of the Romanov dynasty, has finally exhausted its credibility. Regardless of political views and attitudes toward events a hundred years ago, Russians consider what happened then as a crime that has no justifications. Against this background, the last Tsar, whatever his merits or failures really are, appears before the today's public opinion as a sympathetic person and deserving at least sympathy," said Valery Fyodorov, General Director of the All-Russian Public Opinion Research Center.

The initiative all-Russian poll "VCIOM-Sputnik" was held on July 11, 2018. The survey involved Russians aged 18 and over. The survey method is a telephone interview on a stratified two-base random sample of stationary and mobile numbers of 1.6 thousand respondents.

"Alexander II at Tsarskoe Selo. Home at Last"

On July 31 in the Zubov wing of the Catherine Palace opened the exhibition "Alexander II at Tsarskoye Selo. Home at last", dedicated to the 200th anniversary of the birth of the Emperor. Participating in the opening were Ludmila and Paul E. Kulikovsky, great-great-great-grandson of Emperor Alexander II, who both made a speech at the opening and cut the red ribbon to the exhibition.

The first floor of the Zubov Wing of the Catherine Palace was occupied by Alexander II as his private rooms. His wife Empress Maria Alexandrovna were on the second floor, above him.

Most of their interiors were lost during WWII, and is now only known from the watercolours by Luigi Premazzi and Eduard Hau, as well as in illuminated works by photograph Steinmueller and other photographs from 1930s. However, a few original furnishings have survived and the exhibition attempts to "reconstruct" a few of the rooms with those.

The opening ceremony started in the private garden of Alexander II, just outside the Zubov Wing. Olga V. Taratynova, General Director of the Tsarskoye Selo Museum, welcomed all the guests. Then Olga F. Filimonova, Deputy Director for International Contacts and Cultural Events, as the moderator gave the "floor" to Iraida K. Bott, Deputy Director for Research and Education; Paul E. Kulikovsky; and Konstantin Mogilevsky, Director of the fund "History of Motherland".



АЛЕКСАНДР II В ЦАРСКОМ СЕЛЕ

ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ МУЗЕЙ-ЗАПОВЕДНИК «ЦАРСКОЕ СЕЛО»
ПРИ УЧАСТИИ МОСКОВСКОГО МУЗЕЯ УСАДЬБЫ ОСТАНКИНО

ALEXANDER II AT TSARSKOE SELO

TSARSKOE SELO STATE MUSEUM AND HERITAGE SITE
WITH PARTICIPATION OF OSTANKINO ESTATE MUSEUM, MOSCOW



Выставка в Zubовском флигеле
Екатерининского дворца
Касса: с 11.00 до 18.00
Выходной день: вторник

Exhibition at Zubov Wing
of Catherine Palace
Tickets: 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Closed: Tuesdays



Left - Olga V. Taratynova. Right - Iraida K. Bott.

Paul E. Kulikovskiy said - *"Let me start with a troika of thank you - Thank you for the invitation to be here today. Thank you for the opportunity to say a few words. And thank you for having arranged an exhibition dedicated to my great-great-great-grandfather - Emperor Alexander II. The exhibition "Alexander II in Tsarskoye Selo. Finally I'm at home" is a part of the 200 years birthday anniversary celebrations of Emperor Alexander II, the Tsar-Liberator, which we are commemorating the entire year of 2018.*

It is wonderful to be in Tsarskoye Selo again, even if I cannot call it "I'm at home" as Alexander Nikolaevich could. But let me assure you the feelings are the same today - walking here in the this beautiful place, in the footsteps of my ancestors, I feel a strong connection, and it is always lifting my mood to a higher level. Times have changed. Let me take the opportunity to wish Tsarskoye Selo Museum-Reserve congratulations with its own 100 years anniversary.



Alexander Nikolaevich received a brilliant education and was properly the best prepared Ruler of Russia ever. About him was said - He did not want to seem better than he was, but was often better than he seemed. His life was full of historical important events and achievements with far reaching impact, many until our days. So even if we had the whole day, it would not be enough to give a full picture of Alexander Nikolaevich and all of his achievements. As I have to be brief, I can present you only a miniature and the grand illustrations to his life, you will have to see in the exhibition.

The reign of Alexander II was marked by many important reforms, with the most important being the "Abolition of serfdom", on March 3rd, 1861. To these great achievement can be added military victories, that significantly expanded the empire, and his greatest victory lead to the re-establishment of Bulgaria as a state and also to Romania, Serbia and Montenegro could claim independence from the Ottoman Empire. He liberated 22 million serfs in Russia, and 10 million people in the Balkans. He was really "The Tsar-Liberator", at home and abroad. Less people knows about his other reforms - Military reforms, legal reforms, the introduction of local self-government and educational reforms.

Yes, all of his reforms are important, but they are not the only things he did in his 26 years of service to Russia. Indirectly, the spirit of optimism encouraged by the 'Great Reforms', together with the relaxation of censorship and other restrictions, unleashed an unprecedented creative energy in all sphere of culture. But instead of gratitude, terrorists hunted him for many years. By the will of fate, he was destined to pay for the freedom given to the people, by his own blood. On the life of Alexander II, six attempts were made, and on the seventh, God called his servant Alexander Nikolaevich home - on March 13, 1881 - Eternal memory!

Had he not been killed, I am sure his signature on the "Constitutional project" would have made people call him "the Great" - the third of the Romanovs, after Peter the Great and Catherine the Great. This is one of great tragedies in Russian history. Thank you to all those who worked on preparing the exhibition. And thank you all for coming to this celebration of one of Russia's greatest rulers - the Tsar-Liberator Alexander Nikolaevich."

After the speeches, the red ribbon at the entrance to the exhibition in the Zubov Wing.



About 200 artifacts such as paintings, furniture and porcelain pieces, weapons, bronzes and uniforms which belonged to the Emperor and his family members and were used by them at Tsarskoe Selo, are presented from the collections of the Tsarskoye Selo Museum and by Moscow's Ostankino Estate Museum. The latter loaned to the exhibition 25 furniture pieces from Alexander's Office in the Ostankino Palace.

The highlights include the arms from the Asiatic Room of the Catherine Palace, some personal effects - his clock, briefcase and portraits of his grandchildren - from Alexander's desk, and some pieces of the famous Lyons furniture set from the sitting room of Alexander's wife, Empress Maria Alexandrovna.



As the favourite summer residence of Alexander II and his family, Tsarskoe Selo was a place where many private and formal events happened in different periods of the Emperor's life. Alexander spent part of his childhood summers and autumns together with his parents at the Alexander Palace, which had a children's house on a small island in a nearby pond for the children of Nicholas I to play and sail in a boat. They also enjoyed a playground in the Alexander Park near the White Tower, with an earth bulwark, a gym, a maze, a swing and a mast with a rope ladder. Besides games and

entertainment, the young Alexander's life at Tsarskoe Selo was full of studies. His tutor Karl Merder, Captain of the Life-Guards Izmailovsky Regiment, and his mentor Vasily Zhukovsky, a poet, enlightener and a close friend of Alexander Pushkin, were the teachers Alexander loved and highly regarded all his life.



His wedding to Maria Alexandrovna (Princess Maximiliane Wilhelmine Auguste Sophie Marie of Hesse and by Rhine) took place at the Winter Palace of St Petersburg in April 1841. After two weeks of wedding celebrations, the newlyweds retired to the Alexander Palace, but soon moved to the Great Palace of Tsarskoe Selo, where the future Emperor occupied the first floor rooms in the Zubov Wing and his wife the former rooms of Catherine II upstairs.

With their springs and autumns spent at Tsarskoe Selo, the Tsesarevich and Tsesarevna's early marriage years were filled with mutual warmth and understanding. The Grand Ducal couple usually began their day with morning tea in Maria Alexandrovna's dining room after Alexander took a walk around the Great Pond in the Catherine Park. Then they paid a daily visit to his mother, Empress Alexandra Feodorovna, at the Alexander Palace. According to contemporaries, "the almost daily gatherings at the young couple's were dominated by joviality and ease; all were engaged in reading, music, playing whist; the most august host and hostess charmed their guests with amiability and sympathetic benevolence."

Alexander alternated days of rest and entertainment at the residence with day in St Petersburg where he participated in the State Council, the Committee of Ministers, the Senate and the Synod and in military parades and reviews. In love with Tsarskoe Selo too, without her husband Maria spent her time in long walks around the park with a maid of honour.

Their first child, Grand Duchess Alexandra (1842-49), was born at Tsarskoe Selo in August 1842. Her baptismal ceremony took place at the Palace Chapel and her godfather was Emperor Nicholas I.



With Alexander's succession to the throne in 1855, his lifestyle at Tsarskoe Selo changed. Like in St Petersburg, he had to receive ministerial reports and convene meetings in his office at the Zubov Wing of the Catherine Palace, where he deliberated on the future reforms, made his decisions and signed the most important documents. It was there that the meetings of the Commission for the Emancipation of the Serfs were held.

One of Alexander's favourite pastimes in the scarce hours of rest was to draw military uniforms - his "infatuation" since young years. He also spent his free time in the alleys of the Catherine Park, strolling with his dog in the morning and riding in a carriage in the evening. Heading off on trips across Russia and abroad, Alexander II would often start them from his favourite residence, where he always returned afterwards.

At Tsarskoe Selo Alexander II experienced the tragedies and the joys of his family's life. His sister, Grand Duchess Alexandra Nikolaevna, died at the Alexander Palace on July 29, 1844. His mother, Dowager Empress Alexandra Feodorovna, died there on October 20, 1860. In spring 1865, the news from French Nice told the Emperor of the fatal illness of his eldest son Nicholas, the heir apparent; Alexander left Tsarskoe Selo to be with the dying "Nixa" and then came back to spend here the mournful days before the son's burial at the cathedral of the Peter and Paul Fortress. On May 22, 1880, Empress Maria died after a long and serious illness; Alexander received the bad news at Tsarskoe Selo and returned immediately after her funeral.

On May 6, 1868, Alexander's first grandson, the future Emperor Nicholas II of Russia, was born at Tsarskoe Selo to his younger son Tsesarevich Alexander and Tsesarevna Maria Feodorovna. In 1868 Tsarskoe Selo celebrated Alexander's 50th anniversary as Patron of the Life-Guards Hussar Regiment. A regimental patron of many units, his ceremonial position with the Hussars was of special significance to him because he was appointed by Emperor Alexander I on April 27, 1818, when he was only 10 days old. That is how his 50th birth anniversary coincided with that of the patronage.

One of the last important events in Alexander's life at Tsarskoe Selo was his morganatic wedding to Princess Catherine Dolgorukova (1849–1922) on July 6, 1880. A secretive ceremony was held in front of a mobile altar set in a room in the Great Palace of Tsarskoe Selo. Then Catherine was given the title of Princess Yurievskaya.

Alexander II had love and devotion for Tsarskoe Selo until the end of his life. He watched over the condition of the residence that he kept so many memories about. Already formed by that time, the palace-and-park ensemble underwent no significant changes during his reign, except for a few new palace interiors and some new decorative elements in the old halls. Three elegant rooms were created to the designs of the court architect Ippolito Monighetti: the Moorish-style Asiatic (Turkish) Room, the Main Staircase in Neo-Rococo and the Lyons Drawing Room "in the Louis 14th style".



The composition of the personal rooms of Alexander II included the Front, the Chamber, the Dressing room, the Cabinet, the Asian, the Standard (or the Banner), the Arsenal, the Pantry, and the Reception.

The exposition in the former Chamber room is dedicated to the wife of the Emperor Maria Alexandrovna. The room is decorated with enlarged copies of the preserved watercolors with the interiors and to it are added a clock and two candelabra that were in the Empress's bedroom.

Under Alexander II, the interior of the dressing room changed, but the furniture of mahogany remained unchanged: a sofa, a chest of drawers with a hinged lid and a modest washbasin, a table, armchairs and a wall mirror with a console table. From the furniture of the dressing room, two mahogany half-cupboards and an armchair covered with brown leather were preserved, as well as a gilded bronze chandelier. Pair vases-aromatnitsy, made at the Royal Porcelain Factory in Berlin, the Imperial couple received in 1857 as a gift from the Prussian King Frederick William IV.

During the WW2, the furniture of the Cabinet was lost. The exposition presents the original furniture from the Alexander II's Cabinet in the palace of Dmitry Nikolaevich Sheremetev in the Moscow estate of Ostankino, where in 1856, before the beginning of the coronation celebrations, the Emperor and his family stayed. By the arrival of the highest name, the largest repair for the history of the palace was made, it attracted the best architects. In accordance with the fashion trends of the time, the rooms were furnished in the style of the "second Rococo". Presumably, furniture for new premises was ordered in St. Petersburg in the workshop of the Gambs brothers.

In addition to furniture from the Ostankino palace, numerous memorial items belonging to the Imperial couple are presented in the interior: portraits of their sons Nicholas, Alexander, Pavel and Sergei, a frame with portraits of grandsons, donated to Alexander II from children for the 25th anniversary of the accession to the throne; a boulevard with a picture of the Emperor's office in the Winter Palace, an ink device in the form of a traveling trunk and a number of other items used by the Emperor.



One of the most interesting interiors - the Asian (Turkish) room or the "small Turkish salon" - was created under the influence of the passion for the art of the Orient.

The Asian Room came to being after the Crimson Sitting Room was rebuilt in 1851, when Alexander was the heir apparent.

The decoration of the room attracts by the rich decor, brightness and exoticism. Almost all of its decorations were diplomatic gifts of the Persian and Bukharian rulers, the offerings of the courtiers and the things brought by Nicholas I and Alexander II from the eastern campaigns. Items from the collection of royal weapons were hung along the walls on bright oriental carpets and collected in symmetrical trophy compositions.

The Oriental style of the interior was complemented by sofas with velvet cushions, coffee tables inlaid with mother-of-pearl, a variety of oriental jugs, trays, coffeepots, censers, kumgan pitchers for beverages and a suit of Ibrahim Pasha. Its centerpiece was a fountain, making it resemble of an oriental smoking room, filled with a luxurious "Moorish" style.

Walls of the Arsenal room at the exhibition adorn the canvases of the artist Adolf Gebens depicting the uniforms of the Russian army and the picture of Horace Vernet "Damned weather".

In the former Standard there is a canvas by Johann Schwabe "The favorites of the Imperial Family". In the imperial house dogs were always kept, and they enjoyed special love and privileges. Emperor Alexander II adored his pets and ordered paintings with their images to famous painters.

In the room that used to be the reception room of Alexander II, the decoration items of the Lyons hall are presented: a furniture set made of lapis lazuli and gilded bronze, made according to the project of Ippolit Monighetti at the Peterhof granite factory, upholstered furniture, screen and paintings of the "Sibylla Libyan" by an unknown artist of the circle Francesco Barbieri and the composition of the Italian Felice Schiavoni "The Death of Raphael", acquired by Grand Duke Alexander Nikolayevich during his journey through Italy.

The Lyons Drawing Room was a new spectacular interior, ordered by Alexander II's wife in the early 1860s. Following his customer's taste and the fashion trends, Monighetti created both the new architectural décor and the new furnishings, such as a lapis-lazuli and gilt-bronze set of furniture and lighting fixtures with the monogram of Empress Maria Alexandrovna, who considered lapis lazuli her favourite semiprecious stone.



The exhibition is open until the end of 2018.

Video - https://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/276785/

Pavlovsk school was presented with a picture of Emperor Nicholas II and Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna

23 July. RIA Voronezh - Moscow artist Andrei Sokolov presented Pavlovsky school with a picture of Emperor Nicholas II and Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna on Saturday, July 21.

The canvas depicts the moment of transfer by Nicholas II of the educational institution under the auspices of his sister, Olga Alexandrovna. The picture is to hang in the school building. The size of the canvas is 2 x 1.6 m.

- I have a special interest in history. The plot of the picture was chosen not casually: it shows the very moment when the Grand Duchess takes an educational institution under her patronage. Sincerely happy for the school that it has such patrons: Nicholas II, ranked by the church as Saint, and Grand Duchess Olga - a worthy role model. I hope the picture will become a kind of talisman that will protect the school," Andrei Sokolov told.

The building of the Olginskaya Gymnasium (now the Pavlovsk school with in-depth study of individual subjects) was built with the funds of the city treasury in 1898.

The decision to give it the name "Olginskaya" was taken in 1913, when the 300th anniversary of the Romanov dynasty was celebrated.

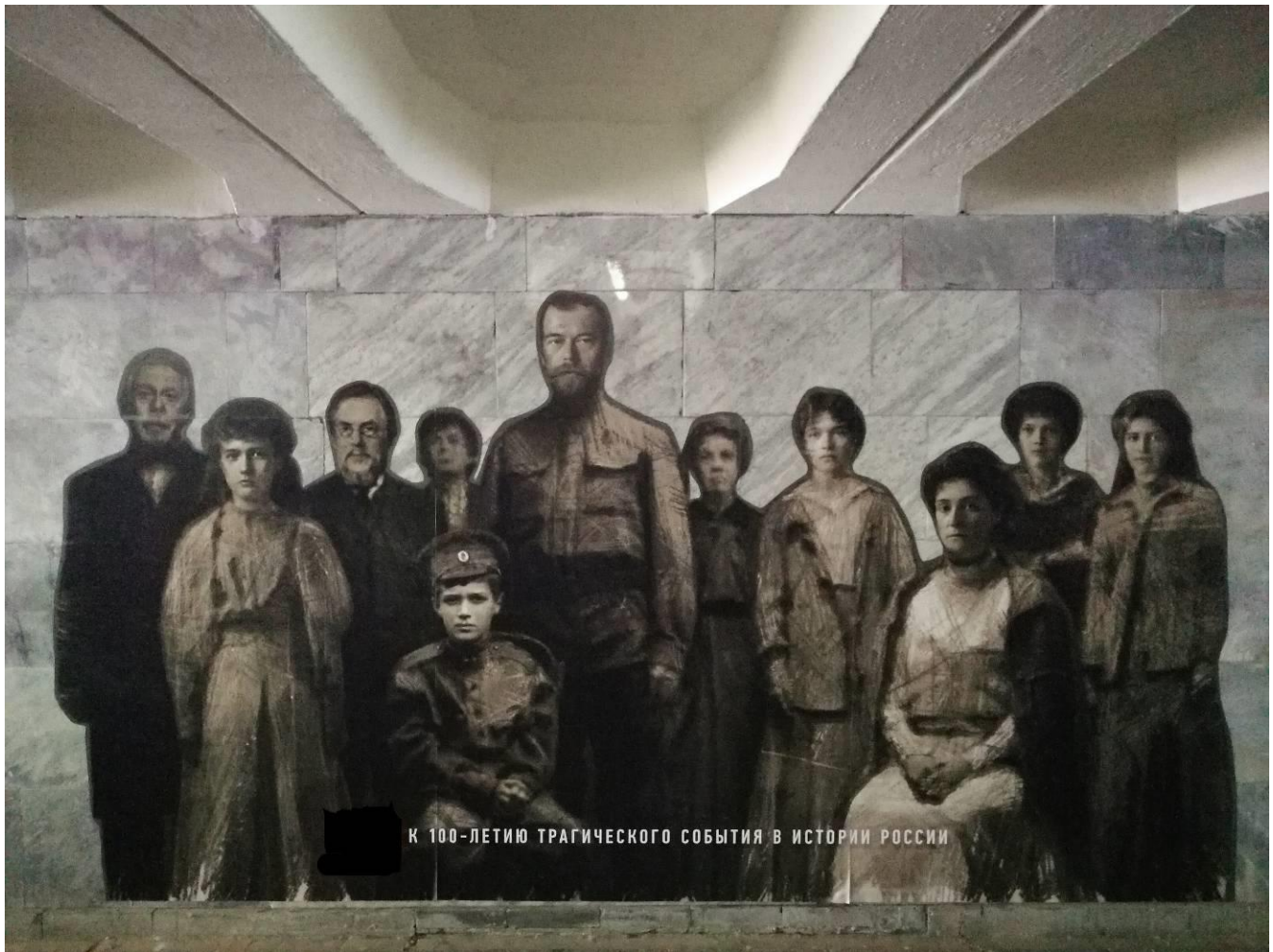
In the gymnasium, Russian language, mathematics, history, geography, physics, calligraphy, needlework, pedagogy, foreign languages and the Law of God were studied. Graduates received the title of primary school teachers. Girls were admitted to the gymnasium from the age of nine. Training was paid, orphans were taught for free. The academic year began on the first of September.



"Point of no return"

In the underground passage in Yekaterinburg there was an installation about the murder of the Imperial Family. Street Art produced the work "Point of no return".

On the walls opposite each other are depicted members of the Romanov family with servants and against them the Chekists. Between the two images on the floor a red circle is marked, marked as "Point of no return". If you stand directly on it, then on the one hand the victims of the shooting will look at the viewer, and on the other - the barrel of the pistols.



"This work is a desire to recall the tragedy of specific people and all people. The shooting in the basement of the Ipatiev House, including the murder of absolutely innocent children and servants, became a symbol of the tragedy of all Russia, a great tragedy of the twentieth century. This shooting really became a point of no return. And it seems to us important that a person can feel this point, literally be on it, even for a moment",

"We wanted without any gadgets and technologies to give people, by simple and accessible means, what it was like to face the murderers. To try to literally immerse yourself in a tragic moment, to become a part of it, to stand between a defenseless Imperial Family and people with revolvers, "representatives of the agency told.

The publication emphasizes that this is a temporary work. It is made with a film, so in the future it can be easily removed.



A bas-relief was set up for Nicholas II at the station of Mineral Waters

July 15. The Caucasus Post - Believers worshiped the memory of the holy Royal Passion-Bearers. On the eve, July 14, in Mineral Waters, the eighteenth procession was held, dedicated to the memory of the holy Royal Passion-Bearers. The prayer procession this year was headed by Archbishop Theophylact of Pyatigorsk and Circassian.

After the service, Vladyka and the priests, accompanied by more than five hundred parishioners, went to the churches of the city. Since 2001, two churches have appeared and on these places the religious procession are stopping: the Annunciation and the Royal Passion-Bearers and the chapel of the Great Martyr George the Victorious.

The prayer procession then went to the railway station, where it was decided to perpetuate the memory of the visit to St. Nicholas II in the city. It was at the station of Mineral Waters in December 1914 that the Emperor, returning from the Caucasian front, accepted the deputation of the Stavropol province. On the station building a memorial plaque with the image of the Holy Sovereign in the Cossack Circassian and the story about the historical event was installed. The bas-relief was consecrated by Archbishop Theophylact.

The bas-relief was ordered by the Cossacks of the Mineralovodsky District Cossack Society.

- "The memory of the Imperial Family, and especially the only visit by the last Emperor to Mineral Waters, is part of the history of our country. The bas-relief can become one of the places of tourist importance for the Stavropol Territory and the resort region of the KMW," said Oleg Gubenko, ataman of the Mineralovodsky District Cossack Society.



Exhibition of Alexander Kondurov "Seven letters from the past" was opened in Feodore's Cathedral

15 July. "Living Water" - On the choruses of the upper church of Feodore Cathedral in St. Petersburg, on July 15, an exhibition of Alexander Kondurov "Seven letters from the past" was opened, dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the death of the Imperial Family.

There are seven portraits of the murdered family: Emperor Nicholas II, Empress Alexandra Feodorovna and their children. Faces and figures appear through the mutilated walls of the shooting room of the Ipatiev House, each composition includes a facsimile fragment from the letter and the outlines of a black window frame in which the cross is clearly read.



The exposition is supplemented by other works of the artist dedicated to the spiritual path of Russia and its history in the 20th century: "Revolution, October", where a black angel extends his hands over the angel crowning the Alexander Column, "Trizna" - Russia is depicted in the form of a black plate on which a crowd of demonstrators goes by the defeated head of the monument to Emperor Alexander III in Moscow.

The painting "The execution of the Imperial Family" is in a private collection, the poster is presented at the exhibition: members of the firing squad appear as a fuzzy black substance creeping into the image of the Imperial Family and dragging it into darkness. The upper part of the picture reminds both a bullet-pierced wall, and, at the same time, clouds as a symbol of the upper world, and in the center of the picture - the image of the All-Seeing Eye.



"We are entering special days - the date of the centenary of the shooting of the last Russian Emperor and his family is approaching," said the rector archpriest Alexander Sorokin. - This is said a lot and it will be said - at conferences, in sermons. We had a happy opportunity not so much to pronounce words as to indulge in silent thoughts, having these works before our eyes. They speak for themselves, they are beautiful portraits of all members of the Romanov family. You can admire them as a creation of the artist, at the same time to relate the impressions to the thoughts that one way or another visit every believer - and in general a person not indifferent to history, to what happened hundred years ago. We can not but perceive this event as, in fact, today's - by its fruits, results. It remains to wish that these reflections would be fruitful, useful to the soul, in spite of all the tragedy of the incident, so that the beautiful that we see in these pictures should guide us to all truth. "

Alexander Kondurov admitted that he had been interested in church art for a long time, but he had never been directly involved in them: he did not paint icons, he did not take part in the painting of temples, although he has such a dream. The first picture about the tragedy of the Imperial Family wrote a long time ago. In connection with the tragic date again plunged into this topic.

The Last Tsar: Blood and Revolution will open in the Science Museum in London

The new exhibition, opening Friday 21 September 2018, will investigate the role of science in the extraordinary lives and deaths of Tsar Nicholas II and his family, and take visitors behind the scenes of one of the greatest mysteries of the 20th century.

Set against a turbulent backdrop of social upheaval and war between 1900 and 1918, The Last Tsar: Blood and Revolution will explore the significant influence of medicine on the private lives of the Imperial Family during this period and the advances in medicine and forensic science over 70 years later that transformed the investigation into their sudden disappearance.

Rare artefacts, including the family's personal diaries, private possessions and jewellery found at the scene of their murder, and an Imperial Fabergé Egg presented by the Tsarina to her husband just a year before the fall of the imperial house, will help bring the personal lives of Autocrat Nicholas II and his family to life. For the first time, photographic albums created by an English tutor to the Imperial Family, and now part of the Science Museum Group collection, will be on public display, providing a fascinating glimpse into their daily lives.

From the treatment of their only son and heir Alexei's life-threatening haemophilia B, a rare blood condition and infamous 'royal disease' passed down from Queen Victoria, to the Tsarina's fertility and the Red Cross medical training of the Tsar's daughters, this exhibition will explore the Imperial Family's contrasting reliance on both the latest medical discoveries of the time as well as traditional and spiritual healers. The family's determination to keep Alexei's illness a secret, as well as their unorthodox approach to providing relief, compelled them to take controversial measures that ultimately contributed to the fall of the 300-year-old dynasty.



Ian Blatchford, Director of the Science Museum, said: "This exhibition marks 100 years since the end of the Romanov dynasty and explores one of the most dramatic periods in Russian history, all through the unique lens of science. Our curatorial team have brought together an exceptional, rare and poignant collection to tell this remarkable story. I want to thank all our lenders in the UK, Russia and America for making this exhibition possible."

The investigation into the disappearance of Tsar Nicholas II, his family and entourage, following the revolutions of 1917, started in July 1918 and the case remains open today. One hundred years later, this exhibition will take visitors behind the scenes to uncover the science behind the investigation into one of the greatest mysteries of the 20th century.

Visitors will be able to examine evidence from the scene of the execution, from the dentures of the imperial physician and a single diamond earring belonging to the Tsarina, to an icon peppered with bullet holes, and delve into the remarkable modern forensic investigation which set out to piece together the events of that night.

This investigation was one of the first occasions that forensic DNA analysis was used to solve a historic case, involving the best British experts under the direction of Dr Peter Gill from the Forensic Science Service. Blood samples from relatives, including His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh, and advances in DNA profiling and 3D reconstruction, helped to positively identify the remains of the Imperial Family and enabled the investigation to reach convincing conclusions. Formal identification of the remains of the last members of the Imperial Family is expected to be announced this week, which will finally and decisively bring closure to this historic case.

Moscow Kremlin Museums to showcase Nicholas II valuables at exhibition in London

July 17. TASS - The Moscow Kremlin Museums will take part in the exhibition "Last Tsar: Blood and Revolution" that will open at London's Science Museum in September, the museum press service said on Tuesday.

"The Moscow Kremlin Museums will feature the 1916 'Military' Easter egg by Carl Fabergé's firm. The 'Military' egg created for Empress Alexandra Fedorovna stands out among all precious Easter gifts. It is pronouncedly simple, without precious stones and was made of steel - material uncommon for imperial gifts."

"The surprise of the 'military egg' is a water-color miniature



depicting the review of troops of the Southern and Western fronts, where Czar Nicholas II headed together with the heir at the end of the 1915."

Emperor's notebook with sketches of jewellery will be another exhibit. "This is a thick notebook with 305 water-color drawings by Nicholas II. These are mainly drawings of cuff links, pins, key-holders, etc. most of which Nicholas II received as presents from his loved ones (mostly from his wife) and friends. The first notes were made in 1889, and the notebook was ended ahead World War I," the press service said.

An icon with the image of the Royal Family was taken to Kaluga

11 July. Nikatv - A unique carved full height icon with the image of Nicholas II and his family arrived today in Kaluga straight from the Moscow icon painting workshop.



All-Russian action "Imperial Days" is now held all over Russia on the eve of the anniversary of the tragic events. After the execution of the Romanov dynasty on July 17, 1918 in Yekaterinburg, the Russian Orthodox Church ranked them among the saints. On the Kaluga earth will pass the procession, its shrine will be a unique carved icon, made by Moscow masters. It was already brought to the regional capital.



The Moscow dynasty Shchitovy was engaged in the production of the icon, especially for the monastery of the Savior of the Holy Face that is located in the village of Klykovo, Kozelsky district. Another 21 years ago in the monastery decided that there should be a large icon of the Royal Martyrs.

- During three months was made the sketch. Faces of saints are made of oak. Ornamentation - from linden. And the background was velour - told woodcarver Philip Shchitov.

- Now preparatory measures for the action "Tsar Days" begin in all cities of Russia. We (the Kaluga region) were among the first, it can be said, joined and started with the bringing of a unique carved icon of the Imperial Family.

- says the member of the organizing committee "Royal days in the Kaluga land 2018" Sergei Zotov.

"In memory of the last Emperor, relics of the Emigrant Museum in Belgrade"

On the eve of the 100th anniversary of the execution of the Imperial Family an exhibition opened in the State Historical Museum, based on items from the emigre Museum of the memory of Nicholas II in Belgrade.

The exhibition dedicated to the memory of the last Russian Emperor occupies a small room, the historical office of historian Ivan Zabelin - one of the founders of the museum -, and usually this space is closed to visitors. The exhibition is timed to the 100th anniversary of the execution of the Imperial Family and it is truly unique. All the exhibits presented in these windows were not collected in Russia.



In 1936 the Society for the Memory of Emperor Nicholas II, created by Russian emigrants in Belgrade, founded a museum. Its first exhibits were memorabilia brought by emigrants themselves, as well as relics sent to the museum by members of the Romanovs' house, including the Dowager Empress Maria Feodorovna. Here are the letters of Tsarevich Alexei addressed to her, the son of Nicholas II congratulates his grandmother on Easter. And this is the schedule of the tsarist children's classes for the 1917 academic year. And a photo of the Grand Duchesses, among themselves, they called themselves OTMA - Olga, Tatiana, Maria, Anastasia, presented by Pierre Gilliard to the Belgrade Museum.

"Pierre Gilliard - one of the approximate of the Imperial Family, the child's tutor, the tutor of the Tsarevich Alexei, remained with the Imperial Family during their imprisonment in Tobolsk, but during transportation to Yekaterinburg was forcibly separated and thanks to this he managed to escape. He was fond of photography, very often photographed the Imperial children," - said the curator of the exhibition Nikolai Misko.

"Subjects are very personal, which belonged to and were associated with the last family, there are very few. Because, under different circumstances, they had to flee from Russia, and everything with themselves was not taken. And more often, nothing could be done," says the assistant curator of the exhibition Alexandra Svinarenko.

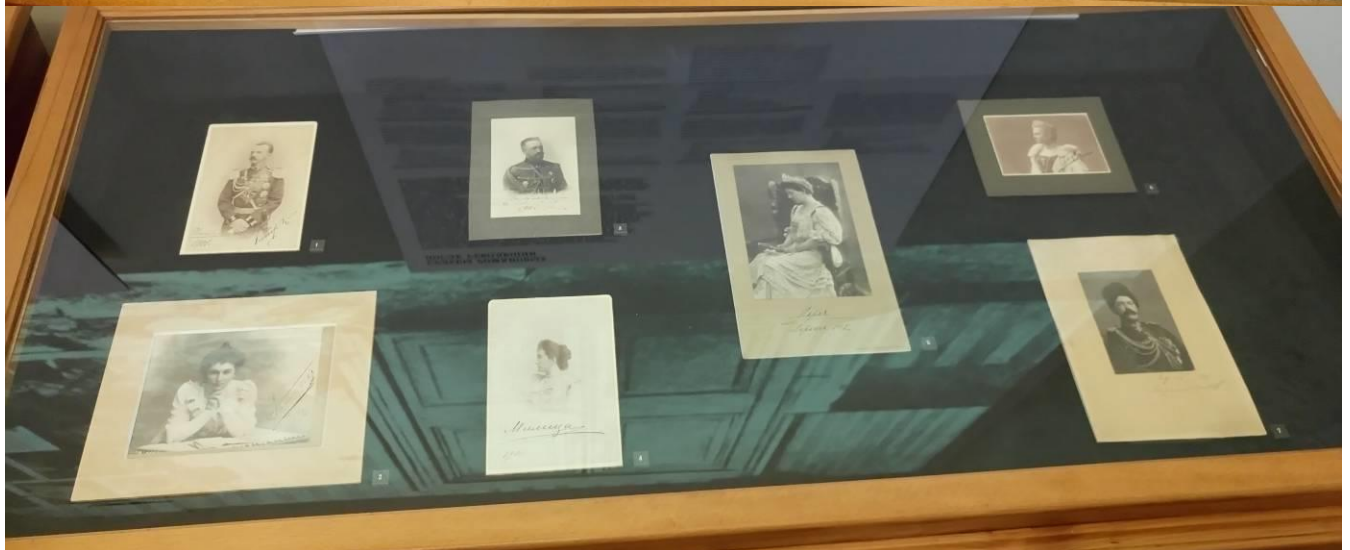
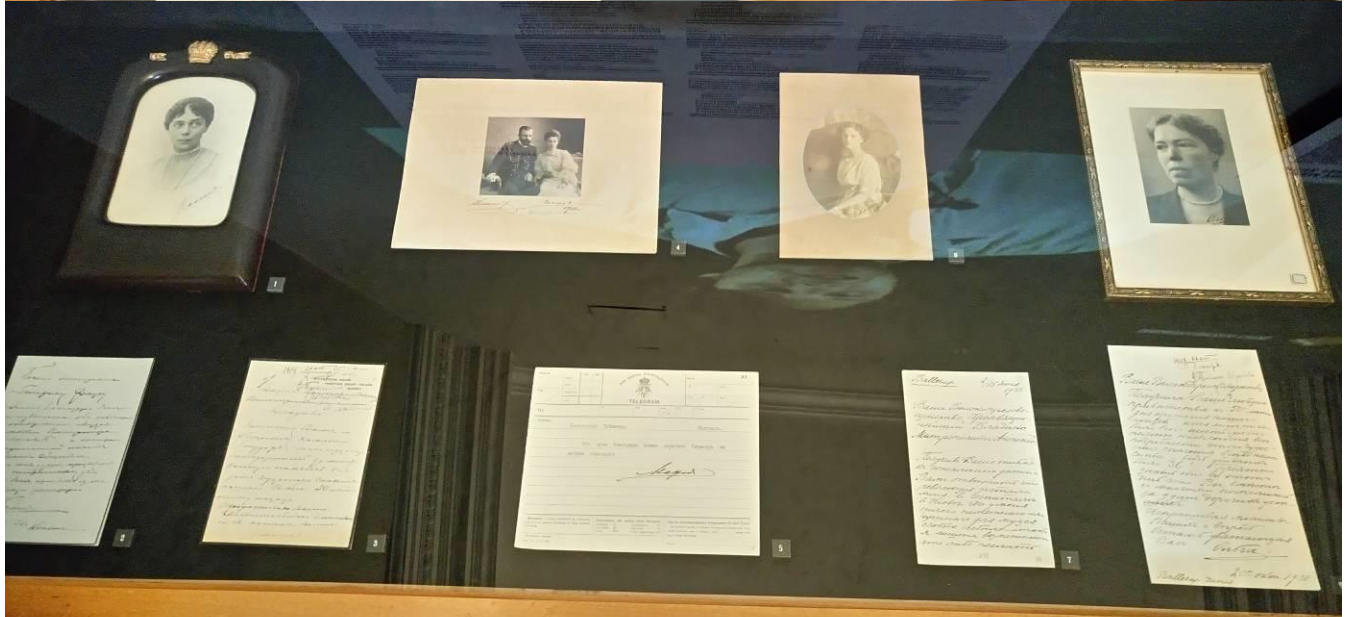
In 1947, communist Yugoslavia handed over the building of the Belgrade Museum together with all the exhibits to the Soviet Union. So the collection came to the Historical Museum. Never before has it been shown. One of the first to visit the exhibition was the descendant of Emperor Alexander III Pavel Kulikovsky.

"I'm leaving for Yekaterinburg tomorrow for memorable events with very mixed feelings. Of course, the killing of the Imperial Family is a tragedy. But at the same time it is the birth of new martyrs. We can pray to them, I'm sure they are praying for Russia. And therefore the Romanovs belong not only to the past, they are present in the spiritual life in people's lives even today," said the descendant of Emperor Alexander III Paul Kulikovsky.

This exhibition is only a prologue. In September, the Historical Museum will open the exposition "The Throne and the Family", telling about the reign and death of the last Emperor.



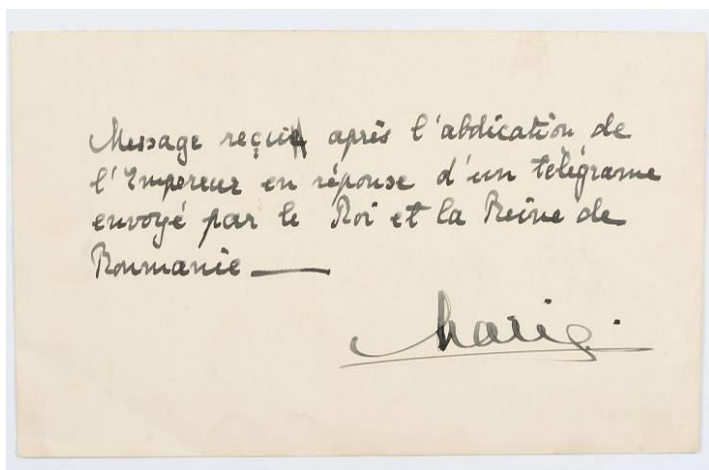
Video - https://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/270585/



P. Savchenko's book "Empress Alexandra Feodorovna", ed. Society of the memory of the Emperor Nicholas II in the Russian printing house S. Filonov

Yugoslavia, Belgrade, Novi Sad. 1939 .

This book, published by the Society of the memory of the Emperor Nicholas II, was written by Peter Sevastyanovich Savchenko - Colonel, teacher of the Crimean Cadet Corps. Under the auspices of the Society two more books of the authorship of Savchenko were published: "Bright Youth" (dedicated to the heir Tsarevich Alexei Nikolaevich) and "Russian Girl" (about the Grand Duchess Olga Nikolaevna). Probably, the books were sent as a present to all the Romanovs, with whom the Society maintained contacts.



(Above) Handwriting of Queen Marie of Romania on a telegram about the abdication of Nicholas II to the king and queen of Romania.

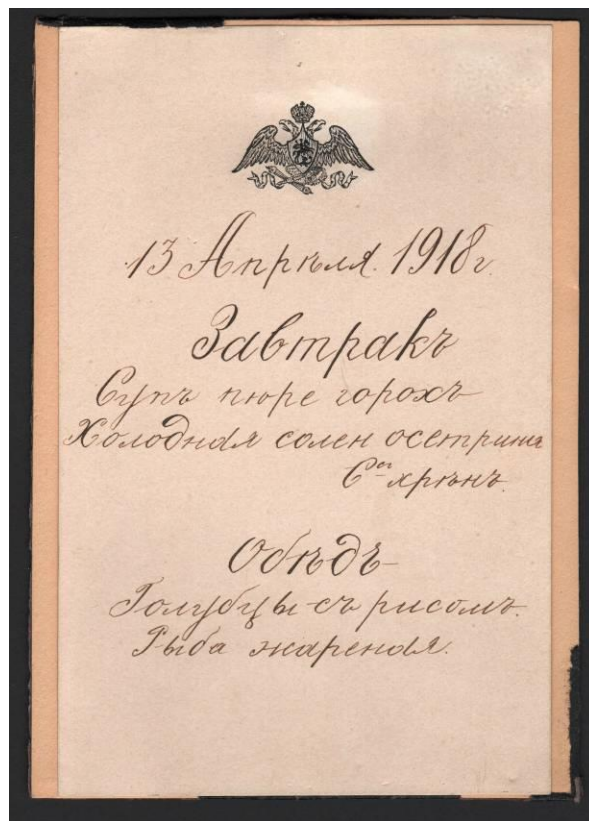
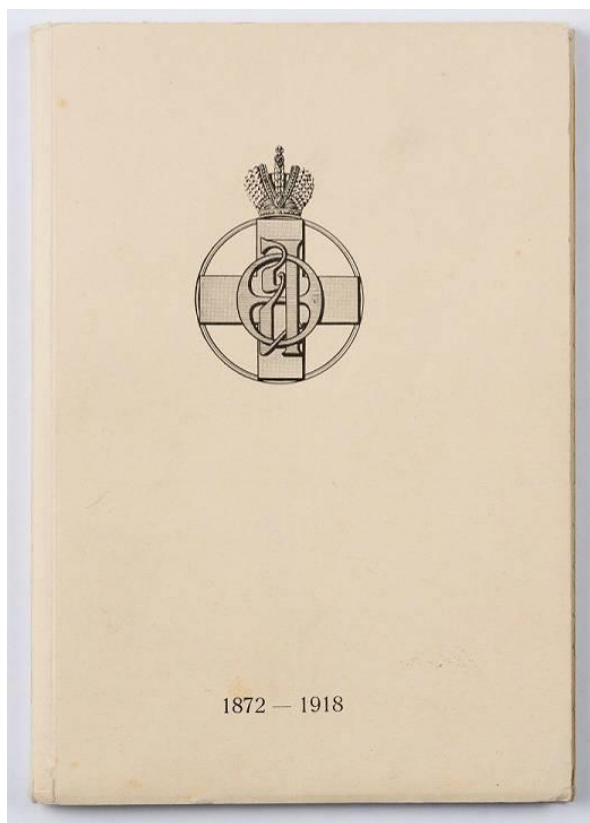
Early March, before the 8th, 1917.

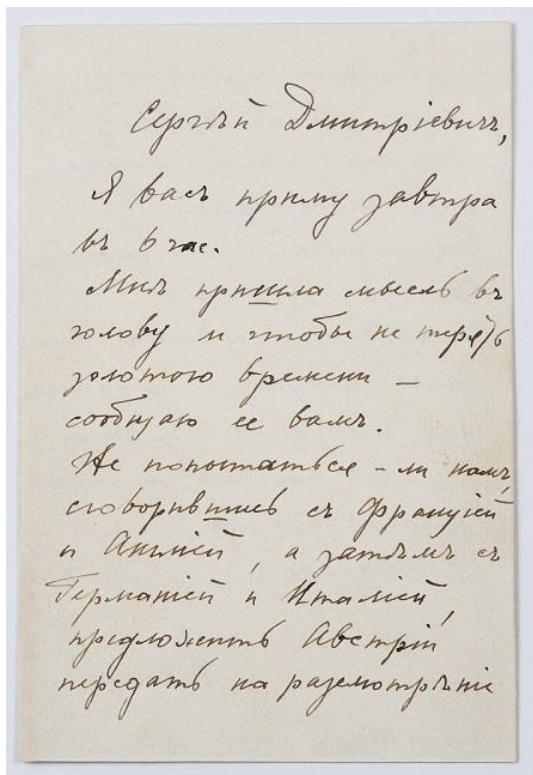
Sometimes the donors of the Museum of Memory of Nicholas II were sorry to part with the original documents related to the latest Romanovs. Thus, the cousin of Emperor Nicholas II, Queen Maria of Romania, sent to the Museum not only her photo with an autograph, but also a photocopy of the telegram of Nicholas II to the king and queen of Romania, which he sent with gratitude for their sympathy and support a few days after the abdication. On the back of the copy Maria Romanian left a handwritten annotation.

(Right) Breakfast and lunch menu for Emperor Nicholas II's family in Tobolsk. Russia, Tobolsk April 13, 1918.

On the back of the menu - an inscription in pencil by P. Gilliard's hand: "Menu de Tobolsk. Leurs Majestés ont quitte Tobolsk la veille le 12/25 avril 1918" ("The Tobolsk menu. Their Majesties left Tobolsk on the eve, April 12/25, 1918"). The tradition of making the menu for each day the family of Nicholas II kept in custody. Only the diet and the quality of performance

changed. Such cards were preserved by many people who had been at dinner with the Imperial Family.





A letter of Emperor Nicholas II to the Minister of Foreign Affairs S.D. Sazonov. Russia, St. Petersburg. July 14, 1914.

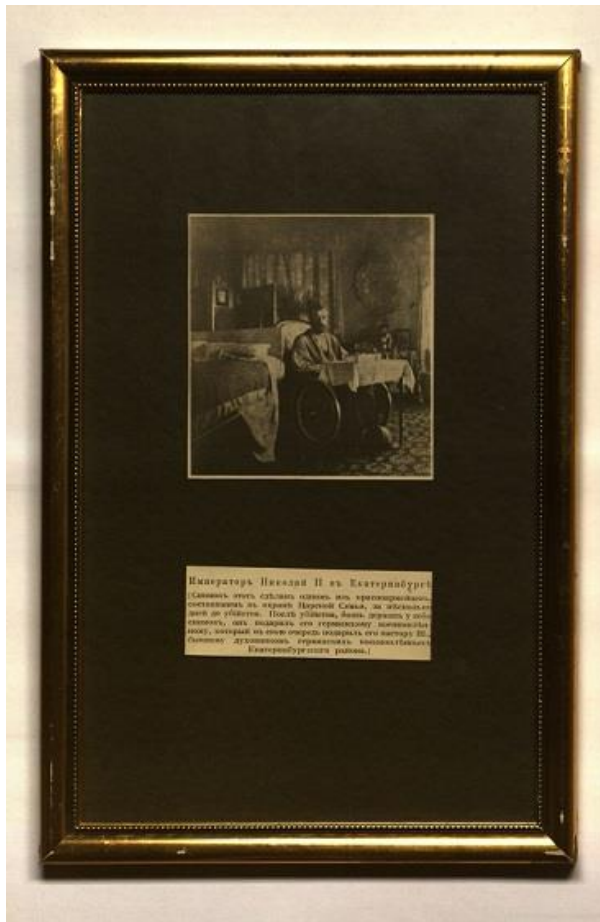
The letter indicates the unsuccessful attempts of the Emperor to prevent the impending war. The very next day Nicholas II left in his diaries the following entry: "At 8½ Sazonov was accepted, the cat. reported that at noon today Austria declared war on Serbia. "



Portrait of Dowager Empress Maria Feodorovna with her autograph, 1908. Imperial yacht "Polar Star". Leather frame with gold embossing.



Portrait of the heir Tsarevich Nicholas Alexandrovich with his autograph. Atelier S.L. Levitsky. Russia, St. Petersburg, 1888.



Portrait of Emperor Nicholas II in a wheelchair made in Livadia in 1902.

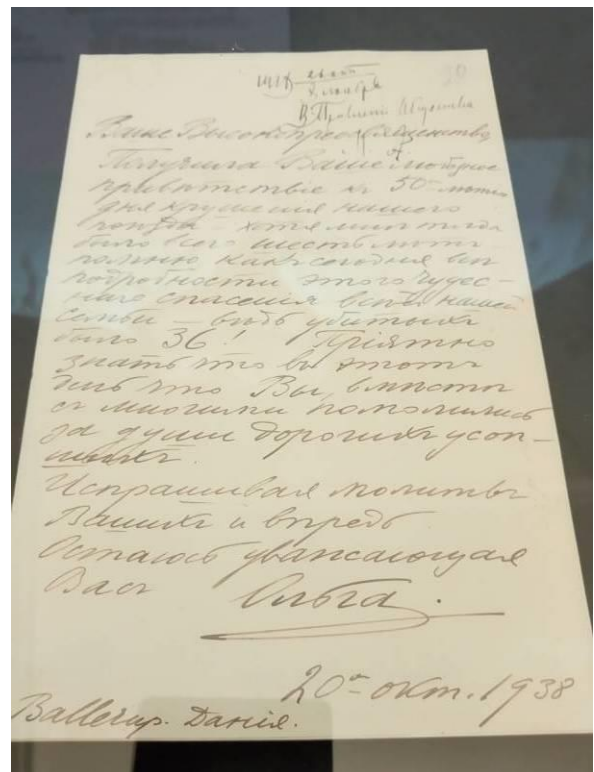
Russia, Livadia; Yugoslavia, Belgrade.

An error or a falsification? This image is a clipping from an unidentified emigrant publication mistakenly annotated as "Emperor Nicholas II in Yekaterinburg" and supposedly made by a Red Army guarding the family. In fact, at the moment there is no known photograph of the Imperial Family from prison in Yekaterinburg. But it is known that this image was made in Livadia in 1902, during the illness of Nicholas with typhus - that's why the emperor is in a wheelchair.

According to the label on the back of the frame, this portrait was handed over for use and storage to the Museum of Emperor Nicholas II in Belgrade in 1941 by Vladimir Dmitrievich Hershelman.

Letter by Grand Duchess Olga Alexandrovna on October 20, 1938, the 50 years anniversary of the Borki train disaster.

"Your Eminence, I received your kind greeting on the 50th day of the crash of our train - although I was only six years old at the time - I remember today how all the details of this wonderful salvation of our whole family - there were 36 killed! It's nice to know that on this day you, along with many, pray for the souls of the dear departed. I ask your prayers and will continue to respect you. Olga."



Letter of heir Tsarevich Alexei Nicholaevich, Tsarskoye Selo, 14 April 1916.

"...Christ is Risen!
My Dear Grandmother
Congratulate you.."

Activities in Tsarskoye Selo



The Alexander Palace will partially open after reconstruction in late 2019

The Alexander Palace in the Tsarskoye Selo Museum-Reserve will receive the first visitors after reconstruction in late 2019, for them a third of the areas will be opened, said Olga Taratynova, the Director of the State Museum.

"We wanted to open the Alexander Palace at the end of this year. Technical complexities - expert examinations, our remarks, corrections - were delayed, I believe that this year we will not have time, unfortunately. Opening of the first stage will be in the end of next year, this is a whole block, 30-35% of the area," she told journalists on Thursday.

"My deep conviction: while we do not let people into the object, it does not live, but exists." And when there are visitors, despite everything the building lives, it is heated, somehow functioning, and it even moves the subsequent restoration process, forcing us and contractors to work faster," added O. Taratynova.

The project provides for restoration repairs with the adaptation of the Alexander Palace to a multifunctional museum and exhibition complex.

To preserve the existing building envelope, a staircase and one of the elevators will be dismantled, as well as a cargo platform and bathrooms on the first floor. For the sake of preserving the historical elements in the interiors premises will be re-planned. It is also planned to change the size of the pit: this will help to preserve the integrity of the existing historical drainage collector.



Romanov *buzz*



On Saturday, June 30, the great-great-grandson of the Emperor of Russia Alexander III Pavel Kulikovsky and his wife Lyudmila visited the estate Khvalevskoye, which is located in the village Borisovo-Sudskoy Babaevsky district.

As the Babaev district newspaper *Nasha Zhizn* informs, the nobleman Nikolai Kachalov, at which this estate was built, was well acquainted with Alexander III.

Now the restored estate of the Kachalov noblemen "Khvalevskoye" is not only a unique monument of the manor house-building of the Russian North, but also a real cultural center. Charitable concerts and performances, book presentations, meetings with interesting people, seminars and conferences are regularly held here.

Recall that the estate "Khvalevskoe" was restored at the expense of Russian businessman and public figure Yuri Voicehovskiy-Kachalov.



Photos of the Romanov family were presented in Rosphoto. An exhibition devoted to the 150th anniversary of the birth of Emperor Nicholas II opened on 4 July. The exposition includes 120 photographs, which are now stored in state archives. They are not only official, protocol events, but also moments of rest of the Imperial Family. Curators note that the last Romanovs left the richest photo archive, because they loved this kind of art very much and often took a camera in hand.

That is why the exposition has such personal photos, on which the Emperor rests on the grass after playing tennis or sitting in a wheelchair, struck by typhus. At the exhibition, the roots of the photo with the carpet become clear. True, unlike the Soviet past, here it is far from the background.

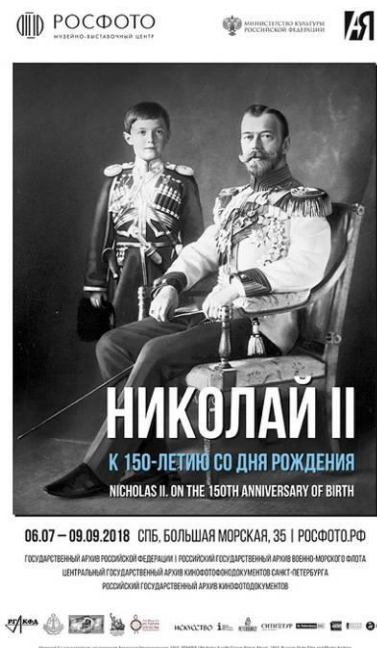
Elena Agafonova, curator of the exhibition - "His reign coincided with the dawn of photography in Russia. Not only were there professional photographers, Kodak made a portable camera, a film camera. And it infected everyone with love for photography, including the Imperial Family, they all photographed. All were passionate amateur photographers. When Nicholas had the first camera, he had never parted with it."

As befits the first person, the Emperor was photographed by the best Russian and foreign masters. Many pictures with the authorship of studio Von Han. At one time the museum workers wondered who this man was. And it turned out that behind the pseudonym was a personal photographer of the family, Alexander Yaglinsky.

A lot of pictures is by the master of reportage Karl Bulla. In 1904, he received permission to shoot "views of the capital, as well as celebrations in the highest presence."

The exhibition will last until 9 September, film screenings and lectures will be held in parallel.

Video - <https://topspb.tv/news/2018/07/5/v-rosfoto-predstavili-vystavku-posvyashennuyu-150-letiyu-nikolaya-ii/>



A poster with a photograph of the Imperial Family appeared the other day on Nikolai Ostrovsky Street.

On the poster there is an appeal to Nicholas II. "July 17, 100 years since the murder of the holy Imperial Family with loyalists. Forgive us, Sovereign!" - reads the text on the poster. Who made placement of this poster is unknown.



The "Romanovs' Lullaby" is dedicated to the lives of the Grand Duchesses and the young Tsarevich Alexei. Peter Nalitch composed the music, while a #Romanovs100 team member wrote the lyrics.

Video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fz4W74CYDa0>



The Chinese palace in Oranienbaum celebrates an anniversary - 250 years. By this date restorers have completed the next cycle of work. For the public is open three more halls. This is the first palace that Catherine began to build after arriving in Russia, even before her accession to the throne, a festive pavilion for which she spared no effort or money.

"She wanted something of her own. And this was her first self-expression - the Chinese Palace. Therefore, the tastes, and love, and enthusiasm of Catherine - it's all in this palace," - said the curator of the Chinese palace of the museum-reserve "Peterhof" Tatyana Syasina.

Three rooms in the palace belonged to the heir to the throne the Grand Duke Pavel Petrovich. They were opened after the restoration - a cabinet, a boudoir and a cornucopia. In the bedroom there was preserved an exquisite straw panel, which Paul liked so much. Embroidery with silk, decoration with beads - thin tubes of colored glass, made at the Mikhail Lomonosov's factory. A few years ago, it seemed that it was impossible to save these interiors.

The most difficult thing was to revive the boudoir, it is often called "Walnut chambers". Each panel of the master was removed and taken to the restoration in the workshops. An interesting detail: when the restorers dismantled the wooden panels from the walls, they discovered a door that historically

connected the boudoir with the office of Pavel. Now you can see it. True, the opening was laid in the middle of the XIX century.

On the narrow corridor, the future Emperor Paul the First passed into his office? Although it is so small it was called "Kabinetik." But the refinement of the finish was not inferior to the large chambers. Plafond - immediately visible Venetian school Tiepolo; a panel on the walls - the work of Chinese masters of the XVIII century. The paintings are two-sided - on one landscape, and the other - hieroglyphics. The verses sound like this: "on a cold mat in cold clothes I woke up after libations".

"Of course, what has been done now is colossal! Finally, the image of Paul's office returned, as it was at least on the iconographic images of the late XIX - early XX century," - noted Tatyana Syasina. But the Chinese Palace has not yet been completely restored. It remains to revive seven rooms - the chambers of Catherine the Great. The work will be completed in a few years. Only then we will see, as the famous art historian Igor Grabar said, "the real miracle of the XVIII century - a unique Chinese palace".

Video - https://tvkultura.ru/article/show/article_id/268146/



July 13, 2018 as part of the festival "Tsar Days" in the Multimedia Historical Park "Russia - My History. Sverdlovsk region" was the premiere of the documentary historical film "Revolution: a trap for Russia".

The film shows behind-the-scenes roots of the 1905 revolution on the basis of the documents of the Archive of the Japanese Foreign Ministry and the Library of the US Congress. Archival sources are first introduced into scientific circulation. The author of the film claims that the first Russian revolution was not a consequence of its internal social and economic problems, let alone the uprising of the masses, but the result of constructing the mechanisms of the "color" revolution of that time.

Video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UrGS4FGXkic>



The documentary "Elizabeth Feodorovna. There was only one prayer left" in two parts was broadcast on Russian national TV "First Channel" on July 17th and July 18th.

Description - "The name of Elizabeth Feodorovna, the sister of the Empress and the wife of Grand Duke Sergey Alexandrovich, is covered with legends. Most of them are the life story of a saint. About who Elizabeth was in the world, how she loved, whom she did not accept, with whom she fought all her life, virtually nothing is known about this.

The film presents unique documents - after 100 years the archives of Russia, including GARF, open previously unknown evidence: for seven years the Tsar's secret police monitored her, attacked her (they threw a bomb under the train in which she was traveling), she was called one of the participants in the conspiracy against Rasputin. It was thanks to Elizabeth Feodorovna that the marriage of the heir to the Russian throne of Nicholas took place with her younger sister Alisa, the future Empress Alexandra Feodorovna.

Her husband, Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich, is spoken of as a vicious man, and their marriage is called unhappy. The authors of the film undertook to prove that these are only rumors, based only on the documents and personal letters of the spouses.

Grand Duke Sergei Alexandrovich, the brother of Emperor Alexander the Third, was the first of the Romanovs killed by terrorists in the twentieth century. His death broke the life of Elizabeth Feodorovna "before" and "after". In the past, there were palaces, luxury, intrigues. In the new life there was only prayer and love.

For 13 years, the Grand Duke led Moscow - who was with him Elizabeth Feodorovna? What role did you play in the political arena? What effect did Nicholas II have?

To create the most complete picture of the life and feat of the Grand Duchess, a full journalistic investigation was carried out - the film shooting took place in Russia, Germany, and Israel.



Letters and memoirs of event participants are read in the frame of popular actors - Yegor Beroyev and Ksenia Alferova. "

Video - Part 1: <https://www.1tv.ru/doc/pro-zhizn-zamechatelnyh-lyudey/elizaveta-fedorovna-ostalas-lish-odna-molitva-film-1-y-dokumentalnyy-film>

Part 2: <https://www.1tv.ru/doc/pro-zhizn-zamechatelnyh-lyudey/elizaveta-fedorovna-ostalas-lish-odna-molitva-film-2-y-dokumentalnyy-film>



July 15, 2018 in Paris, the first French woman cosmonaut, Officer of the Order of the Legion of Honor Claudie Haignere was awarded the Order of Emperor Nicholas II.

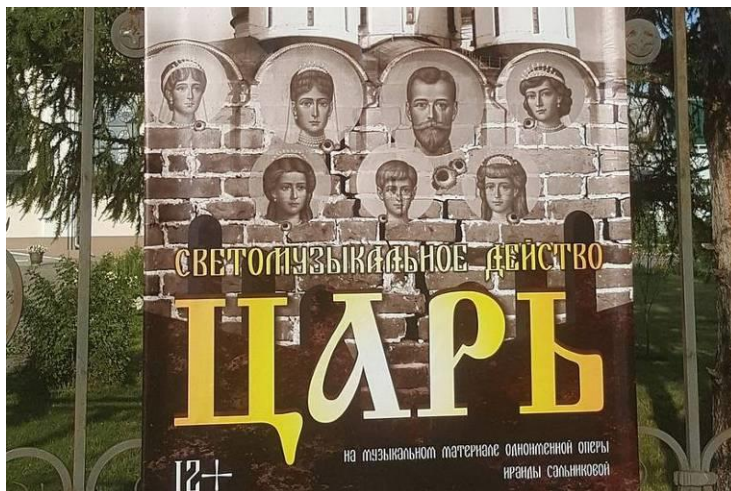
The high Orthodox award was presented on behalf of the Chief of the Military Orthodox Mission Igor Evgenievich Smykov and was signed by Archimandrite Gavriil (Konevychenko), rector of the Church of the Tikhvin Icon of the Mother of God, the spiritual leader of the St. Petersburg public organization "Revival of the Cossacks Spiritual and Cultural Heritage of Cossacks".

Claudia Haignere was awarded the Order Badge for the strengthening of friendly relations between Russia and France, her services in the exploration of the Cosmos and in connection with the Centenary of the feat of the Holy Family.



In Novosibirsk, on the stage of NOVAT, an opera about the reign of the last Russian Emperor Nicholas II - "This is a conversation between Nicholas II and God". Very soon, on July 29, the Novosibirsk people will see the light-musical performance "The Tsar" on the walls of the Trinity Cathedral in Vladimir.

And already in November, viewers will be presented another unusual opera - about Nicholas II.



On Sunday, July 29, on the facade of the Trinity-Vladimirovsky Cathedral, a light show "Tsar" was shown, dedicated to the 1030th anniversary of the baptism of Rus and the 100th anniversary of the death of the Imperial Family.

The final of this event was fireworks, which took place in the rain. Despite the bad weather, a lot of people from Novosibirsk and the region came to see the show.

The performance is a continuation of the project "The History of the Russian State in Symphonic Paintings", which has been carried out for 13 years with the support of the Novosibirsk Diocese.



The light and musical action "Tsar" was based on the fragments of Iraida Salnikova's opera of the same name, which premiered on November 27 at the Novosibirsk Academic Opera and Ballet Theater. According to the composer, the libretto of the opera was based on the diaries of Nicholas II and his family, as well as the lyrics of the poets of the Silver Age: Nikolai Gumilev, Marina Tsvetaeva, Alexander Blok, Sergei Yesenin, and others.

Video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cDLxQ-bM88M>



In Kursk, in the Aseev Library opened an exhibition "The Dynasty of the Romanovs". Exhibits for this exhibition was provided by the famous Kursk collector Yuri Khripkov.

- "Here are postcards, postcards dedicated to the Romanov dynasty, since the time of Filaret," - says the collector. - "For me the most expensive postcard is Princess Tatiana, released more than 100 years ago."

The opening of the exhibition was honored by the metropolitan Kursk and Rylsk Herman. - "The last Emperor Nicholas II was glorified not by the church for successes or failures, which every leader has, - said Bishop Herman. - He is glorified for his Christian patience for all the sorrows and humiliations and calamities that they suffered".

However, according to the clergy, the current authorities should remember the lessons of history, and if, what to learn from the last tsar of Russia, then the ability to restrain their promises.

"An important moment like this is to edify everyone." Nicholas II always kept his word. If he spoke, it was firm, it was holy and it was unbending, "said archpriest Oleg Chabanov, secretary of the Kursk diocese.

Video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D56-31J1w1Q>



Vladimir Gusev, Director of the Russian Museum in St. Petersburg, in an interview with VTBRussia on 19 July told the museum's plans.

- Is there something grandiose in the plans for the next year and a half?

- An exhibition about Nicholas I from the series "The Saga of the Romanovs" is being prepared. He was an interesting personality, an outstanding ruler. On the one hand, the Third Department (organ of the political police) appeared during his reign, on the other hand, there was also the reformer Count Speransky. An unsuccessful war in the Crimea and, at the same time, an active policy in the Caucasus. Much was done in art, the Cathedral of Christ the Savior and the New Hermitage were built. In 2020, it will be 125 years since the foundation of the Russian Museum. Our museum was founded by the decree of Nicholas II on April 25, 1895. Three years later the museum opened the doors for the first visitors. Grandiose show with champagne and fireworks will not be, we do not compete with "Scarlet Sails", we have our own program. The same year marks 175 years since the birth of Alexander III, whose name is worn by our museum. Also in 2020, there will be 200 years since the consecration of the Mikhailovsky Castle. As you can see, there are many memorable dates, we are preparing a whole series of events connected with the history of the museum, and the release of the anniversary

edition. Also by 2020 I would like to do most of the restoration work in the Mikhailovsky Castle halls that have been freed after the library move.



How does the Penza region relate to the imperial name of the Romanovs? A special project for the centenary of the Imperial Family's shooting is on the air of the Rossiya 24 - Penza TV channel of July 24, 2018.

Video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tvNMxUgZr44>



What trace did Emperor Nicholas II leave in the history of Ufa?

Video - https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=222&v=0TeUbF6pwwU



In Yoshkar-Ola an exhibition "Holy Royal Martyrs" was opened in the orthodoxy museum. The exposition included a collection of photos of the Imperial Family. The interior and everyday life items of the turn of the XIX and XX centuries, documents and periodicals of that era are presented.

Video - https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=187&v=qmHlbWmt_OE



In the capital of the Urals, a bridge was discovered, blown up by the Bolsheviks shortly after the execution of the Imperial Family. It is at the entrance to the city from the direction of the Polevsky tract. On one of the stones, from which the structure was built, is the inscription "Was blown up by the Bolsheviks" and the date was preserved. Nikolai Neuimin, head of the Romanov dynasty's history department at the Sverdlovsk Regional Museum says - "Pay attention to the date: July 14" - according to a new style, this is July 27: it turns out that soon after the murder of the Imperial Family the Bolsheviks, retreating from the city, blew up this strategically important object.



With the dates, at first glance, there is some confusion: on July 25, 1918, the White Guards entered the city. "The one who put the inscription, most likely, was mistaken. Most likely, the bridge was blown up on July 24 during the day or on the night of the 24th to the 25th." The building was repaired only in April 1919."

In the opinion of local historians, the most amazing thing is that during all the years of the Soviet power, none of the Party workers or KGB officers came to mind to deal with this bridge and to concrete or paint over the inscription left by the whites. "Find another monument to Kolchak's people that would not have been destroyed in the USSR!" - Neuimin notes.



A chapel in honor of the Holy Royal Passion-Bearers will be built in Diveevsky Monastery. On July 21, in the Holy Trinity Seraphim-Diveevo Convent, Metropolitan Georgy of Nizhny Novgorod and Arzamas performed a prayer service at the beginning of a good deed. The divine service was held before the construction of the chapel in honor of the Holy Royal Passion-Bearers.

The ruling bishop was assisted by clerics of the Nizhny Novgorod diocese. During the service together with the pilgrims and parishioners the abbess of the monastery Abbess Sergiy (Konkov) and the sister of the monastery prayed.

The chapel will be built next to the Holy Canal near the larch, which the sisters of the monastery planted in 1904 in honor of the birth of the heir to the Russian throne - Tsarevich Alexei.



To the 100th anniversary of the tragic death of the Imperial Family, the Moscow Theater Hermitage on July 19, invited to the film "Nicholas II. Do not quench my lamp ...".

"The film is about the Royal Passion-Bearers, the fall of the Russian Empire, the tragic consequences of God's apostasy. In the media, creative, scientific space, the struggle of the two extremes prevails. And, that is a sin to conceal, in the Orthodox community.

On the one hand, the convinced supporters of the monarchy in their extreme manifestations, reaching the sin of the tsarist rule, or balancing on the verge, on the other, extremely liberal circles living outside the historical and spiritual experience of Russia, fascinated by seeming intellectual and educational superiority.

In this virtual space of adoration, fanaticism, hatred or contempt, Love disappeared, faith faded, and hope weakened.

There was a distortion of the role of the last Emperor as the anointed of God in the history of Russia and God's providence about it.

Both of them carefully compose, convenient for their ideas, stories about the life of the last Imperial Family and its close environment.

This film is about a worthy Orthodox man and his family. It is addressed to people who are not indifferent to the fate of Russia, for whom it is vital to see with a pure heart, let it be bitter, but truthful and awaken, while compassion and repentance sleeping in the depths of the soul, who realize that to remain in indifferent ignorance is mortally dangerous, who wants to understand the riddle of meekness and the sacrifice of the true Russian soul, for whom the concept of love means giving, not taking."



The documentary film "The Emperor's Name" about the last Monarch of the Russian Empire will be presented in four cities: Novosibirsk, Moscow, St. Petersburg and Yekaterinburg in early September. Filming began in the summer of 2017, at which the Ministry of Regional Policy of the NSO allocated 145 thousand rubles. But due to some difficulties the budget of the picture was increased due to the funds of the public organization "Civil Patrol".

Within 70 minutes, the film will tell about how Siberia changed after the construction of a railway by the order of the emperor.

The development of Siberia in the film "In the Name of the Emperor" is compared with the history of the development of the Midwest of the United States. However, as in tsarist Russia they did not destroy the elite and its culture.

"There is a philistine opinion that the development of Novosibirsk began after 1917, but experts do not think so. Our main task was to stretch a thread between the past and the present, to show that history was not interrupted in 1917. We should be grateful people, and in particular to the Imperial Family, for their contribution to the development of Novosibirsk. It is important to note that the city is located on the lands belonging to the house of the Romanovs, while Novosibirsk did not pay for these lands before the revolution. We should learn how to pay off our debts, including moral ones," - said the author of the idea of the film, the head of the public organization "Civil Patrol" Rostislav Antonov.



On the one hundredth anniversary of the murder of the holy Royal Passion-Bearers, the author's collective of the 1st Sevastopol TV channel, with the participation of the trustee of the Saint-Clementine Inkerman cave monastery of Sevastopol, published the film "Nicholas II and the Tsar's family. Sevastopol Pages".

The film uses materials, photographs and fragments of video from the personal archive of the chairman of the Historical Club "Sevastopol Taurian" candidate of historical sciences V. Prokopenkov."

The film is based on diary entries, letters and newspaper articles. Natalia Braiko, the author of the film, helped create a whole team of comrades-in-arms and like-minded people in creating the film.

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



Photos of the Imperial Family adorned the streets in Republika Srpska. Banja Luka, the largest city in the Republika Srpska, is located in the west of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Here the Royal Passion-Bearers are honored in a special way, and by the centenary of their martyrdom on the streets of the city there were stands with photographs of the family of Nicholas II, which read: "In honor of the Romanov Family."

In the spring, an exhibition and a solemn evening dedicated to the Tsar's Family were held in the city, and a bust of Nicholas II was installed here a few years ago.

For a year now, a church in honor of Nicholas II has been under construction in Banja Luka. The Church of the Transfiguration of the Lord will be built in the Old Russian architectural style. It will also have a side-chapel in honor of the Royal Passion-Bearers. The architectural project was prepared by Moscow architects Alexei Kapustin and Alexandra Skabichevskaya.



Jason Clarke Joins Helen Mirren in HBO's 'Catherine the Great'. The 'Chappaquiddick' star will play Grigory Potemkin, a Russian military commander who has a love affair with Catherine and becomes both her "favored statesman and lifelong friend."

The four-part limited series will follow Russian Empress Catherine (Mirren) toward the end of her 36-year reign in the late 18th century and the intrigue and conflicts that surrounded her.

Clarke and Mirren recently co-starred in the film Winchester. The Chappaquiddick actor earned a SAG Award nomination in 2018 as part of the ensemble for Mudbound. His other credits include Zero Dark Thirty and The Chicago Code. Upcoming projects include First Man and Aftermath.

Catherine the Great is a co-production between HBO and British broadcaster Sky. Nigel Williams (HBO's Elizabeth I) is writing the miniseries, and Philip Martin (The Crown) will direct. Mirren, Martin, David M. Thompson of Origin Pictures and Charlie Pattinson of New Pictures are executive producers.



The premiere of the series "Romanovs" will be held on Amazon Prime video on October 12. The project consists of eight unrelated stories about people who are convinced that they are the descendants of the famous royal dynasty. Each of the storylines was filmed in a new location with a new cast.

Trailer - https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=1&v=LHJ1jOGnBYI



In Penza, in the Zarya microdistrict under construction, a church was laid in honor of the murdered Imperial Family of the Romanovs who, for their suffering, were recognized as saints.

On the construction site, the Metropolitan of Penza and Nizhnelomovsky Seraphim performed a moleben. At the end of the service, Vladyka wished the residents a speedy erection of the church.

According to the Penza diocese, the building of the former Annunciation Cathedral under the Spassky Cathedral

will be moved here from Penza Cathedral Square. The church will be completely re-assembled, and it will be dedicated to the holy Royal Passion-Bearers.

To date, work has already been completed to prepare the foundation, soon the erection of the building of the church will begin.



July 27, 2018 in Perm State Archives of Social and Political History was held an expert round table devoted to the search for the remains of Grand Duke Mikhail Alexandrovich and his secretary N.N. Zhonson. The event was attended by Perm scholars, historians, representatives of the Perm Metropolia of the Russian Orthodox Church, and archivists.

The main speaker at this meeting was Yury A. Zhuk, Doctor of Law, President of the "Fund of Memory of the New Martyrs of the Romanov Imperial House" (Moscow). Zhuk shared his archival finds, developed by hypotheses, suggestions on the organization of further searches for the remains of Grand Duke Mikhail Alexandrovich and his secretary N.N. Zhonson.

A lively and interested discussion among the round table participants also raised questions about the authenticity of the remains of the Imperial Family and the abdication of Emperor Nicholas II.

At the end of the event, S.V. Neganov invited those present to take part in the III November historical and archival readings, during which to continue the discussion of issues related to the search for the site of the murder and the remains of Grand Duke Mikhail Alexandrovich and N.N. Zhonson.

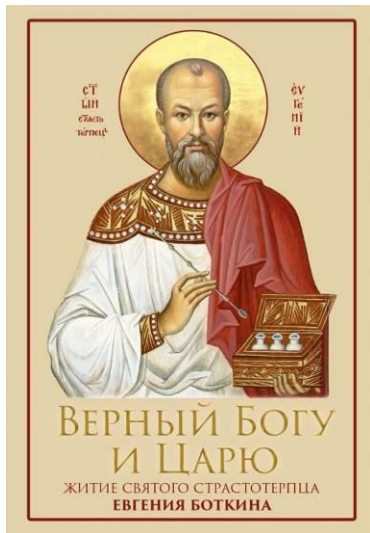
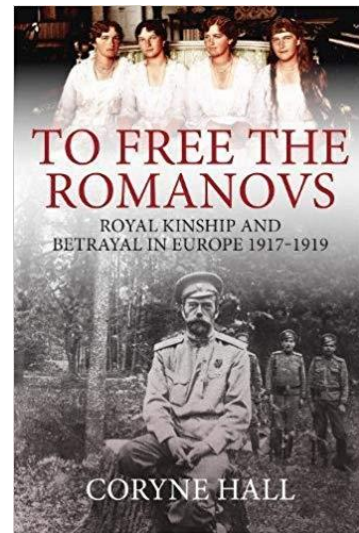




Book presentation with Coryne Hall

Wednesday, October 24, 2018, 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM, at Pushkin House, Bloomsbury, London, UK, author Coryne Hall makes a presentation of her latest book, 'To Free The Romanovs: Royal Kinship and Betrayals in Europe 1917 - 1919'.

"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'. 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 thirty-five 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.



On the eve of the Tsar's Days, the Novo-Tikhvin Monastery presented the book about the Life Medic of the Royal Family - St. Eugene Botkin - "Faithful to God and the Tsar"

A new book was published in Yekaterinburg about the faithful medical practitioner of the Tsar's family, the passion-bearer Eugene Botkin. In 1917, he voluntarily went into exile with the Imperial Family and together with them was killed in the Ipatiev house on the night of July 17, 1918. Dr. Botkin is glorified in the face of saints in 2016. His illustrated life gave birth to the Alexander Nevsky Novo-Tikhvinsky convent for his name-day, July 9, the day of the Tikhvin icon of the Virgin.

Materials about the life the sister collected in different archives for several years, communicated with the descendants of St. Eugene, studied his correspondence. They also found many previously unknown photographs that were included in the book.

The Emperor spoke about Doctor Botkin: "He is more to me than a friend." Indeed, Eugene Sergeevich Botkin was more for the Tsar and his family. Together with them he passed all the trials to the end - up to the martyr's death in the Ipatiev House ... On the eve of the Tsar's Days, the life of the holy passion-bearer Eugene, prepared by the sisters of Novo-Tikhvin Monastery was published.

The life of St. Eugene is amazing. He served at court, constantly was in high society, amidst intrigues, and at the same time he preserved the perfect purity of soul, honesty and kindness. He was a man with a loving heart. Although Eugene S. Botkin was glorified in the saints' name only two years ago, he is widely revered. In his honor called the children at baptism and monks at tonsure, in Yekaterinburg in June 2018 laid the church of St. Eugene, and in his name it was decided to name one of the streets of the city.

Here we publish some excerpts from his life. One day Eugene Sergeevich wrote to his son: "The more I live and see, the more I am convinced that the most valuable thing on earth is the human soul. If it's

kind and clean, it sounds so marvelous, so wonderful, like great music." Most of all, these words fit into Dr. Botkin himself. Let's listen to this marvelous music of his soul



Since childhood, Eugene has been generous, modest and compassionate. His brother, Peter S. Botkin, recalled: "He was infinitely kind. One could say that he came to the world for the sake of people and to sacrifice himself. From the most tender age, his beautiful and noble nature made itself felt: he was not like other children. Always friendly, with an innate delicacy and an unusually gentle soul, he was disgusted with the games with which many other boys were passionately addicted. He stayed away from these battles, but when something happened and our tricks took a

dangerous character, he stopped the fighters, risking getting the most terrible blows."

Eugene had a special gift to choose affectionate, comforting words and never hesitated to thank and praise people, freely expressing their most tender feelings. He admired with all his heart any gift and extolled the donor as if he had been given something precious and exclusive. At the same time, it did not matter whether this item was expensive or very small and insignificant in value.

Already at a young age, Eugene learned to assess various life vicissitudes from a moral point of view, relying on the gospel doctrine. Here is an excerpt from a letter in which Eugene explains to his cousin Vera how one can make loved ones happy; this letter of the eighteen-year-old boy amazes with the maturity of his judgments:

"You write that 'for the happiness of the sisters would sacrifice their'. But after all, happiness is not a thing that you could buy for a certain price. One person can not give the other complete happiness, but he can help him. Let him not expect for this one of a number of extraordinary cases: living with a man whom he wishes to see happy, he can at every step with various small proofs of attachment, with minor concessions to ease his life, eliminating obstacles to his peace. Believe me, that is also a lot, especially since it is not so easy as it may seem. A man, whatever he is, encounters so many major difficulties, obstacles, griefs in his life's path, which sometimes dies when confronted with them. But I am sure that if his forces were not at the same time undermined, nerves irritated and tense with various minor adversities, barely perceptible shots of neighbors, he would more often come out victorious from the struggle for existence and would rather recover better after inevitable defeats".



I was not afraid for myself ...



In February 1904, Evgene Sergeyevich, leaving his wife and four young children (the elder was at that time ten years old, the younger was not even four), volunteered for the Russo-Japanese War. He had the right to not go there - no one would have condemned him for it - but as a man who fervently loved Russia, Dr. Botkin could not stay away when it came to the honor and security of the Motherland. While on the road, Evgene Sergeyevich began to write letters to his wife, and then regularly wrote from the front.

In one of the letters Dr. Botkin talks about the battle of Wafangou. During the battle, he bandaged the wounded orderly. He suffered not so much from wounds, but from the fact that in the midst of the battle left an artillery battery

without a medic. Dr. Botkin further writes:

"It was the finger of God, who decided my day. I took my health bag and went to the mountain, where on the slope of it and sat down near the stretcher. The shells continued to whistle over me, tearing to pieces, and others, in addition, threw out a lot of bullets, mostly far behind us. Others fell on the next hill, where there was a 4th battery, for some reason, especially hateful to the Japanese. They showered her with frenzy, and often I thought with horror that when the smoke dissipated, I would see the broken tools and all the people killed by it. And this fear for others, the horror of the destructive effect of this

mean shrapnel was the real weight of my seat. I was not afraid for myself: never in my life have I felt so much the strength of my faith. I was absolutely convinced that, no matter how great the risk that I was subjected to, I would not be killed if God does not want it; and if he so wishes, then His holy will ...

Yevgeny Sergeyevich always spoke with reverence about the defenders of the Motherland, and now he was glad that during this fight he was exposed to the same danger: "Why should I be in better conditions than they? After all, they all have families for whom the death of their loved one will be a grievous grief, and for others - and ruin. "

The doctor with complete calm remained in the epicenter of the battle, while this was a need. His bravery struck the orderlies. "The orderlies, who were running along the lower slopes of the mountain, seeing me in their place, all got close to me and settled down near the stretcher, but when the shrapnel shook and stones knocked me over a bucket of water, a stretcher broke through and threw them on one of the orderlies, they finally went down and only looked out from under the mountains, I was intact after especially strong and close strikes ...

One of the battery attendants, a handsome fellow of the Chimeras, looked at me, looked, finally, crawled out and sat down beside me. Was it a pity he began to see me lonely, were they ashamed that they had left me, or did my place seem enchanted to him? I really do not know. It turned out like the whole battery, however, for the first time in combat, and we talked about the will of God."

Send the best wishes from the bottom of the old well

April 13, 1908, Emperor Nicholas II signed a decree on the appointment of Dr. Botkin as his medical doctor. The tsar's family was served by a large staff of doctors, among whom were various specialists: surgeons, ophthalmologists, obstetricians, dentists. Most of all doctors, the Tsar's children loved Dr. Botkin.

Grand Duchess Olga, despite the great difference in age between her and Eugene Sergeyevich, freely discussed with him all that interested her or worried. "When I listen to you," she said to him one day, "it seems to me that I see clear water in the depth of the old well", and then Olga often wrote to him: "Merciful Well!" In reply, the doctor wrote: "Your Imperial Highness, dear and esteemed Olga Nikolaevna, from the bottom of my heart I congratulate you and from the very bottom of the old well send best wishes. Warmly devoted to you Eugene Botkin."

Dr. Botkin loved the Tsar's children very much and spoke with special affection about the younger ones, calling them "my little ones." He wrote to his children about Anastasia: "She is a lovely girl!" Anastasia had a great sense of humor and often mixed around, she had the gift of communicating with people, and she was able to disperse wrinkles from anyone who was not in the spirit. Despite the fact that the girl often naughty, she was very kind and she had a heart of gold. Once Dr. Botkin told her about this:

- Anastasia Nikolaevna, you are made of gold. "Not at all, I'm made of ordinary leather," she objected.



With Tsarevich Alexei, Dr. Botkin had close and warm relations. The boy because of loss of appetite often refused in the morning from breakfast. In such cases, Eugene Sergeyevich sat next to him and told him various funny stories from his past or from everyday life. The Tsarevich laughed and at the conversation drank his chocolate and ate a toast with honey or a sandwich with fresh caviar. The Tsarevich was very attached to Eugene Sergeyevich and once said to him: "I love you with all my little heart."

In August 1918, the Emperor, the Empress and their children were sent into exile in Tobolsk, along with their approximate people who volunteered to go with them. Among them was Dr. Botkin.



The living conditions of the Imperial Family in the Tobolsk were at first rather tolerable. Nobody interfered in the inner life of the family, no soldiers entered the chambers. All the faces of the retinue and servants were free to go where they wanted. Dr. Botkin wrote to his brother Peter: "We are here, as in Noah's ark during the flood. If our ship does not die and is not absorbed by the waves, if by chance it avoids the general destruction, hiding somehow on the rock until the end of the world storm, only then it will be possible to more or less clearly see what happened to us. Will I live to see this day? Who can say this? What do we know about this? Now there is only one hope for the mercy of God."



Dr. Botkin's letters these days were imbued with a truly Christian mood: not a word of murmur, condemnation, discontent or resentment, but complacency and even joy. He wrote that he likes Tobolsk, which he called "God-fearing city", because "there are 27 churches here and all such old and beautiful churches." "We have wonderful, summer weather with this charming, soft, transparent Siberian air that I like so much," he wrote in one of the letters. I like it here very much, "a century to live," as Uncle Misha used to say." The reason for this calmness of the spirit was, undoubtedly, in complete devotion to the will of God and in the utter hope of His good Providence.

In exile, Yevgeny Sergeevich continued to carry out the ministry of the doctor. During the day he received and visited patients, including ordinary citizens. A scientist who has been in contact with the scientific, medical and governmental elite of Russia for many years now humbly served as a zemstvo or town doctor to simple peasants, soldiers, workers and petty bourgeois. Evgene Sergeevich considered himself obliged to treat soldiers guarding the house where the Tsar's family lived; he took them in his room and even set a time, which he always visited at home for their sake (from three to five in the evening). Simple peasants came to him from the village, Evgene Sergeevich also hosted at home.

In Tobolsk, Evgene Sergeevich, as he himself wrote, "tried very hard to take care of how to please God ... And God blessed my labors, and I'll keep this bright memory of my swan song till the end of my days. I worked with all my last strength. "



Endured to the end, he will be saved

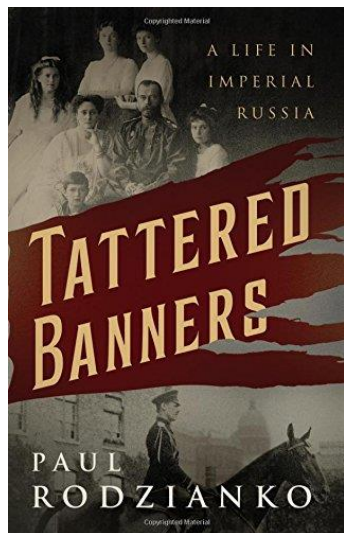
July 16, 1918 was the last day of the earthly life of Evgene Botkin. At seven o'clock in the evening the family of the Romanovs and the doctor and servants drank tea. Then Evgene Sergeyevich continued to write a letter to his brother Alexander, started a week ago: "My dear, good friend Sasha, I am making a last attempt to write this letter - at least from here - although this reservation, in my opinion, is absolutely superfluous: I do not think that I was destined to ever write somewhere else - my voluntary imprisonment here is not as limited by time as my

earthly existence is limited. In fact, I died - died for my children, for friends, for the cause ... My children may have hope that we will see them someday sometime in this life ... but I personally do not pamper myself with this hope, illusions are not lulled and unvarnished reality look directly into my eyes ... "

The denouement was already close. On the night of July 17, 1918, all the prisoners were ordered to go down to the basement, allegedly because of the unsettled situation in the city. There, the prisoners were told that they had decided to shoot them. The shots rattled, which cut short the earthly life of the Imperial Family and its faithful subjects, opening a gate to eternal life for them.

Many years later Gleb Botkin, reflecting on the fate of his father, wrote that it was a mystery to him how such a meek and humble man as his father "could have an incomprehensible power of spirit without which it is impossible to behave with such heroic calmness in circumstances so terrible for any mortal." The answer to this bewilderment can be found in Dr. Botkin's last letter: "You see, my dear," he wrote to his brother, "that I am cheerful in spirit, despite the sufferings experienced, which I have just described

... I am supported by the conviction that the one who has endured to the end, he will be saved." Evgene Botkin, faithful to God and the Tsar, endured everything to the end and, through the unbelievable promise of the Lord, gained not only salvation, but also the crown of the martyr in the Kingdom of Heaven.



Tattered Banners: A Review

July 1st, The Postil Magazine - A marvellous and deeply evocative book has just been rescued from obscurity and given an afterlife. It is Tattered Banners by Paul Rodzianko. Until this reissue, by Paul Dry Books, this was a difficult book to find. The few copies of the first edition (published in 1939) that came on the market tended to be rather exorbitantly priced. Money-issues aside, this scarcity also meant that few had access to the important account given in this often moving memoir.

The structure of the narrative is a classic one – a man caught in the vortex of destruction. It is also the story of Russia – from the splendor of a sophisticated and cultured age, to the slaughter of the First World War, the cruelty of the Revolution in 1917, and the ensuing Civil War.

The book begins with descriptions of the frivolities, the preoccupations and even the innocence of that pre-war era: the follies and pranks of drunken officers, extravagant revels, glittering ballrooms, and even one or two pretty courtesans, like the blonde Nadejda (Nadezhda). A lost world, long vanished, and often forgotten: “a world that hate and passion have swept aside.”

It is worth noting that the book was written in English, a testimony to that lost cosmopolitan world when men and women were expected to know French, German, and English, along with Russian. Rodzianko knew all four languages. And his writing style is fresh, light and evocative, without being ponderous or preachy. And his insights are often startling, for their enduring relevance: “Then, as now, [people] think what their newspapers told them to think. Whatever they read most often in the biggest type is what nations believe. The masses become indignant, hysterical or conceited, according to the propaganda handed out to them.”

Rodzianko's canvas is large on which the slow, inexorable passage into tragedy is depicted. The book opens with the terrible calamity of Khodynka Field (the stampede on Tsar Nicholas II's coronation day, in which 1300 people were trampled to death). Thus, the reign of the last monarch of all the Russias began with a bloodbath – and his reign also ended with one.

Then follows the Russo-Japanese War (another disaster for Russia), the failed Revolution of 1905, which was a warm-up to the real one a dozen years later.

Rodzianko very fairly describes how Russia blundered and fumbled its way into the First World War, by siding with Britain and France, against Germany. It would be a war that everyone knew was of no benefit to Russia, but this was the age of alliances, or what we would call honor.

Russia knew little about modern warfare, and Rodzianko describes the ruinous mishaps, the bad judgment, terrible logistics (lack of food, ammunition, shells), with regiment after regiment wandering about here and there, not knowing whether to attack or retreat, with inept generals issuing orders that contradicted those given earlier.

The saddest parts of the book are the feats of grand heroism shown by the Russian rank-and-file which were nothing other than a terrible waste of life: “...the country they died for was soon to crash; their sacrifice was in vain.”

Then comes the “crash” itself – the Revolution, an unmitigated disaster for Russia, followed by the chaos of 1917, the slaughter of the Imperial Family, and the ensuing long and bloody civil war.

The memoir now becomes a chronicle, and the chronicle becomes an eyewitness account to the terrible and bloody birth of the modern age. What begins as a time of enchantment, lurches into utter horror.

But more than anything else, the book is a life remembered, and the life belongs to Paul Rodzianko, soldier, professional equestrian, and member of the Russian nobility whose childhood of great wealth and privilege was spent playing in palaces, and visiting heroic men, like his grandfather, the old Prince Stroganoff, whose memory reached back to Napoleon and the conquest of Paris by the Russians. There are cameo-appearances by Kaiser Wilhelm of Germany, who agrees to be tossed about by drunken cavalry officers; there is the kindly Tsar Nicholas, the holy man Rasputin and his murderer, Prince Youssoupoff, the great singer Chaliapin, the brave but doomed General Kolchak, and even a revolting lunch of plover eggs with King George V.

In recounting his life, Rodzianko meditates upon the loss of his world: "...the flower of Russia riding as they would ride to their deaths."

Interestingly, this republication also marks the hundredth anniversary of the murder of Tsar Nicholas II and his entire family (July 17, 1918).

Rodzianko was with the Whites (the anti-Red faction in the Russian Civil War), when they captured Ekaterinburg, where the royal family was being held captive. The Whites had hoped to free the Tsar. But the Bolsheviks were far cleverer, and had shot them all and carefully hid the bodies, which were not found until 1998 (they had been located in 1979).

Rodzianko meticulously describes the grisly week he spent, piecing together what he could, trying to locate the bodies of the Tsar and his family. He fails, for the Reds are too meticulous in their murder. What he discovers instead is the vast inhumanity that was the Civil War, for Ekaterinburg and its environs are thickly scattered with graves of hundreds, if not thousands, shot by the Reds – a harbinger of what lay in store for Russia under Stalin.

He digs up bodies that he is told might belong to the royals, but he finds nothing conclusive. But he does manage to find a survivor – the little dog that belonged to Alexei, the young tsarevitch. Perhaps as a consolation, Rodzianko adopts the lost dog, from a lost time, and eventually brings him back to England. The dog's name, sadly enough, was Joy.

This book is an enthralling read and should be on the bookshelves of all who like to wander in lost realms and muse awhile on days long gone. It is a book filled with atmosphere, color and lively anecdote. The only regret is that Rodzianko should have written more about his life, for as he observes: "I myself cannot believe that I have lived through and witnessed such things."
