

S. V. Alpatov, I. Maier, S. M. Shamin

“Rassechenie Evropi”: the Russian Translation of the Pamphlet of “Anatomia Europae” (1672)

This study is devoted to the Russian translation of the anonymous pamphlet “Anatomia Europae” (in Latin and French) published in the Netherlands in 1672. With the help of quotations from the Scripture, its author describes the political situation in Europe resulting from the invasion of the Netherlands by Louis XIV and his allies. The text was translated into Russian and provided with a commentary in the Diplomatic Chancery in Moscow. To judge from the fact that the translation was kept in the archive of the Privy Chancery, it was intended for Tsar Aleksey Mikhaylovich.

Keywords: Russian culture of the 17th century, the pamphlet “Anatomia Europae”, the history of the Netherlands, “rampjaar”

V. M. Kirillin

The Eulogy to the Feast of the Intercession of the Mother of God of the Unknown Old Russian Author: Peculiarities of Content, the Time and Place of Origin

The article is devoted to the little-investigated monument of Old Russian homiletic tradition – the Eulogy to the Feast of the Intercession of the Mother of God written by the Unknown Master of Word. The author analyses the content of the eulogy, brings to light the ideological and artistic connection with the Hesychasm of Gregorius Palamas and with literary manner “braiding of the words”. Based on a wide range of facts on the history of the Feast of the Intercession in the medieval Rus’ the author identifies the place and the time of its origin.

Keywords: eulogy, homily, “braiding of the words”, Mariology, antitype, service, Octoechos, Hesychasm, Palamism, mysticism, Feast, icon, church, Collection of sticherons, Novgorod

V. A. Kuchkin

Samar, Samara and Povolzhye Cities in the 13th–16th Centuries

The author analyzes the foundation of stationary settlements and cities along the Volga River from the time of conquest and subjecting Povolzhye to Mongols in 1236–1424 and till the end of the 15th century, when the Russian cities had been found on Volga below the Oka River. The author considers West European, Arabic, Persian, and Russian written sources, Spanish, Italian and English maps of the 14th–16th centuries, numismatic and archaeological material, linguistic data. The author has come to the conclusion that the connection between Mongol cities and nomadic farms was poor; there was no continuity of Russian cities of the 16th century on Volga with Mongol ones.

Keywords: Povolzhye, cities, nomadic and settled civilization

A. I. Makarov

The Members of the Boyar Family Saltykovs and Samara Copy of “The Tale of Barlaam and Josaphat” (1628–1629)

The article is devoted to the investigation of the parentage, life and activity of the influential courtiers of the first half of the 17th century B. M. and M. M. Saltykov brothers related to the creation in Samara in 1628–1629 the unique illuminated copy of “The Tale of Barlaam and Josaphat”. The revealed connection between the Samara manuscript and the members of the noble family of Saltykovs allows presenting the primary story of Samara city in the context of Russian history.

Keywords: the Saltykovs, illuminated manuscript, “The Tale of Barlaam and Josaphat”, Samara

M. M. Bentsianov

The Court of Andrei Staritskii and the Problem of “Staritskii Mutiny” of 1537

This article continues the author’s research on the courts of the appanage princes in the Russian state of the first third of the 16th century. By way of the Staritskii appanage example the author considers the role and the significance of the appanage principalities in the system of the Russian state as well as an interrelation between the state authority and nobility. As it is observed in the article the “synchronism” of the political processes transformed the Staritskii court in the end of the thirties to the court of the pretender on throne that, by-turn, was reflected the events of 1537. In the final analysis the author concludes that the appanage courts did not play an important role in the political history of that period. An exception to the rule is the political and especially dynastic crises of 1533, 1537 and 1553, when the appanage princes under their birth became the throne contenders.

Keywords: appanage principality, appanage system, Prince Andrew Staritskii, boyar children, service class, appanage service, Staritskii principality, Staritskii mutiny, nobility

S. N. Bogatyrev

The Dating of the Stepennaia kniga

This article re-examines the dating of the Book of Degrees of the Royal Genealogy, which is one of the most important literary works created during the reign of Ivan the Terrible. Modern scholars usually date this work to the second half of the 1550s – early 1560s. On the basis of his analysis of early copies of the work, in particular their structure and textual connections with various chronicles and administrative records, the author argues that the Book of Degrees was created in the second half of the 1560s. It is thus essential to consider the relationship between Ivan the Terrible and the church during the Oprichnina in further studies of the origin and history of the Book.

Keywords: Muscovy, chronicles, dynasty, Ivan the Terrible, metropolitans

G. Lenhoff

The Foundation of the Kazan’ Bishopric and the Stepennaia Kniga Project

The article tests the hypothesis that the foundation of the Kazan’ bishopric in 1555 provided the impetus for the *Stepennaia kniga* project. Drawing on the findings of N. P. Likhachev, N. F. Lavrov, S. M. Kashtanov and A. A. Zimin, the author presents codicological evidence and compares the treatment of themes in steps 1 and 17 with contemporary documents, attributed to Metropolitan Makarii and Ivan IV, promoting the Christianization and colonization of Kazan’.

Keywords: Ivan IV’s eastern policy in the 1550s, the conquest and Christianization of Kazan’, commercial privileges, land distribution, ecclesiastical jurisdiction, the Kazan’ eparchy, the investiture of Gurii (Rugotin) archbishop of Kazan’ and Sviiazhsk, historical narrative, genealogies, chronicles, instructions (spiritual and diplomatic)

A. S. Usachev

The Commentaries on the Stepennaia Kniga: Some Additions

This article presents the additions to the third final volume of the *Stepennaia kniga* (The Book of Royal Degrees), which contains comments to the edition (Moscow, 2012). It gives the information about the editions and some scholar opinions left out of account in the comments and also revisions of some inaccuracies.

Keywords: Stepennaia kniga (The Book of Royal Degrees), hagiography, writing of annals, Old Russian Literature, source study, the 16th century