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"

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. A. Maslova

The Baskak Institution During Its Time of Existence and Function in Old Russia

This article considers the main aspects of the Mongol Baskak institution and its function during the time of existence in Old Russia. The main conclusions of the paper are based on the Russian chronicles and formal notes including data of the Eastern sources. The period of existence of the Mongol Baskak institution was the second half of the 13th century — the first half of the 14th century, its main function was to supervise the collection of tribute.

Keywords: baskak, Russian princes, tribute, the Golden Horde, North-East Russia

G. E. Dubrovin

<u>The Formation of the Plotnitsky End and the State Reforms in Novgorod in the Middle – the Second Half of the 13th Century</u>

The article is devoted to the process of the Plotnitsky end formation as an equal member of the municipal Novgorod Federation. The author brings to light the reasons of this process. He shows the interconnection between the formation of the new ends (Plotnitsky and Zagorodsky) and the Novgorod statehood reforms in the middle and the second half of the 13th century.

Keywords: medieval Novgorod, the «old» and new («young») ends, off-ends suburbs, three- and five-ends Federation_

I. V. Islanova

The Problems of Archaeological Study of the Upper Volga and Valday in the First Millennium AD

The problems of archaeological study of the analyzed area are closely intertwined with the general questions of cultural changes during the early medieval era and the previous period. The debates on many questions such as the chronology of late stage and local groups of Djakovo antiquity, the appearance of mound ritual, the time of the appearance of Slavs on the Upper Volga are connected uppermost with the lack of archaeological sources. After the series of settlements of the 6^{th} – 7^{th} centuries AD with domination of Slavic element in the material culture and the absence of the tradition of the erection of burial mounds were brought to light the question about ethno-cultural identity of Pskov long barrows culture still remains open.

Keywords: Early Middle Ages, Pskov long barrows culture, Djakovo culture

V. V. Bychkov

The Teaching about the Symbol of the Author of the Areopagiticum (the Aesthetic Aspect)

Each text of Dionysius the Pseudo-Areopagite (the 5^{th} — the beginning of the 6^{th} century) is filled with the spirit of symbolic thinking. It is known that he even has even written a treatise "The Symbolic Theology" which has not come to our time. In the process of the reconstruction of the main principles of the symbol system of the author of the Areopagiticum that is undertaken in this essay, it has been revealed that they have an expressive

aesthetic stylistic nuance. May be it was it that attracted the attention of the Old Russian authors who disputed about the limit of symbolization in the icon painting and used as an authoritative patrology source the texts of Areopagiticum about similar and dissimilar similarities, the apophatic symbols, etc.

Keywords: Corpus Areopagiticum, symbol, image, dissimilar similarities, aesthetics, art, apophaticism, cataphaticism

M. O. Novak

Some Specific Language Characteristics of the Tolstoy Apostol of the 14th Century (RNB. Q.π.I.5)

The article is devoted to one of the most notable Old Slavic manuscript of the 14th century containing Acts and Epistles of Apostles. The author discusses the phenomenon of translation and differently directed tendencies of Old Slavonic literary language development reflected in the manuscript.

Keywords: Tolstoy Apostol, Preslav version, manners and phenomenon of translation

A. E. Soboleva

The Short Version of the Life of Alexander of Svir

This article is dedicated to the version of the Life of Alexander of Svir found out in one of the Collections of legends of the 17th century. The author considers this text to be the Short version of the Life. It has some composition features that makes it differ from the most widespread Long version specially written for VMCh. The version was probably created in the 17th century. The author of the article assays the linguistic peculiarities of the text. She proposes that some copies of the Short version traced back to the texts of the Life and BMCh by their artistic manner of narration underleing this text.

Keywords: the Life of Alexander of Svir textual study, short version, copy, manuscript

M. V. Korogodina

Adoption of Orthodoxy in the 14th-16th Centuries: Written Texts and Practical Tradition

In the 14th century the specific office of Baptism for the Muslims, Jews and non-Orthodox Christians appeared in the Russian Kormchie books (Nomocanons). The appearance of these texts indicated the necessity to create rules for adoption Orthodoxy by adherents of different faith which had come to stay in Russia. However, till the 16th century the practical tradition of adoption Orthodoxy differed from the written ordo.

Keywords: office of Orthodox Baptism, Kormchie books (Nomocanons), Muslims, Jews and non-Orthodox Christians, adherents of different faith

N. B. Mankovskaya

Antiquity Creates Our Present (in Honor of V. V. Bychkov's Seventieth Anniversary)

The paper is devoted to the analysis of the academic achievements of Victor Bychkov, a renowned expert in aesthetics. Bychkov has given a detail analysis of the history of implicit aesthetics of the countries of the Eastern Orthodox region and subdivided it into four principal stages: Patristic aesthetics; Byzantine aesthetics; Old Russian aesthetics, and Russian theurgic aesthetics. He has written the monograph about each period.

Keywords: aesthetics, philosophy of art, image, symbol, Orthodox aesthetics, Old Russian aesthetics

A. S. Usachev

The Time of the Origin of the "Stepennaia Kniga": Discussion in Progress

A. S. Usachev adduces additional arguments in favor of the early dating of the significant monument of the Old Russian literature of the time of Ivan IV - "Stepennaia kniga". The examination of the paper of the oldest copies of the monument, its text and the composition of the sources affords ground for the conclusion that the hypothesis about the origin of the oldest version of the "Stepennaia kniga" not later than 1563 year is well-reasoned at present.

Keywords: textual criticism, manuscript, source study, 16th century, the history of Russia, the Old Russian Literature, writing of annals, the history of the Church, metropolitan Athanasius

A. A. Shaikin

About the "Literature Tradition" of Old Russia

There is the book review on A. V. Karavashkin "The Literature Tradition of Old Russia" (Moscow, 2011). The message of the book is to dispose from dogmata in the Old Russian texts investigation, to see the elements of creativity in the traditional canons and patterns, to ground the state that Old Russian author could be the innovator in the frame of tradition.

Keywords: literature tradition, literature etiquette, background of the epoch knowledge, traditionality, topos, conventional models, author and authorship of the Old Russian works