I. S. Agafonov

The Znamenskoe Chudo (Miracle) in the Novgorod Chronicles: Origin of the Cult

The article presents the ways of the solving the disputable problems connected with the initial stage of the formation of the Znamenskii series. The early Novgorod chronicle texts are analyzed according to the Byzantine tradition and in the context of the history of Novgorod of the second half of the 12^{th} century.

Keywords: Ancient Novgorod, the icon "Znamenie", 1170 year, Novgorod Chronicles

S. N. Azbelev

The Geography of the Battle in the Kulikovo Field

The historians interpreted the Chronicles' record of the Nepriadva mouth as the place of the Russian forces victory in 1380 from the contemporary point of view. It has led to the mistake of archeologists in their search of mass grave sites. However, it was the Nepriadva source from the Volovo lake in the middle of the Kulikovo field that the Chroniclers called the river mouth that time. The area of the search was 40 km distant from the real field of the battle.

Keywords: Kulikovo Battle, mouth of Nepriadva, mistake of historians, search of grave sites, mistake of archeologists

S. V. Alpatov, S. M. Shamin

The European Humor in Russia in the 17th cent.

The authors of this paper systematize both the already known and the new materials about the European comic texts that were imported to Russia during the 17th century; some possible ways of transmission are discussed. It is shown that both the imported and the original comic texts are of an equal importance in the formation of the Russian secular culture.

Keywords: laughter, humor, satire, Russian culture of the 17th century

M. M. Bentsianov

The Novgorod Sources of "Tys'achnaya Kniga" – 1550. The Experience of the Retrospective Analysis

On the basis of the "relict" features of the Novgorod part of "Tys'achnaya Kniga" (1550) the attempt of the retrospective analysis was made. The author believes that the creation of this source in the second half of the 1630's was a reflection of the overall processes of the Tsar's court reformation implemented in these years. The study of the service of several generations of the Novgorod deti boyarskie shows the actual elimination of the members of this corporation from the control system of the Russian state and loss of privileged status. The initiatives of the 1630's, that were devised but were not implemented, should have change the situation. In the conclusion of the article the importance of a retrospective study of extant lists of the service people (Dvorovaya Book, the Book of a Thousand, desyatni) is emphasized.

Keywords: Tys'achnaya kniga, Novgorod, scribe books, deti boyarskie, the service, the manorial system, kormleniya

E. N. Boriushkina

The гръхъ and the безаконие in the Tolkovaja Paleja

In the article semantics of words *iptixi* and *besakohue* in The Tolkovaja Paleja — a unique monument of Old Russian language is considered. Specifics of the use of the specified words in a monument is defined by its contents: The Tolkovaja Paleja is the full case of medieval knowledge of the Christian world for neophytes and Jews. It is established that "sin" and "lawlessness" are concepts of two different cultures, however in the text of a monument their intended rapprochement is made for moving of the addressee from one cultural context in another.

Keywords: abstract vocabulary, Tolkovaja Paleja, historical semantics, contextual analysis, sin, lawlessness

M. A. Girshevich

About Pyatnitsky Church Localization and Borders of the Pyatnitsky Conets of Smolensk

This article is devoted to identification of a pre-Mongolian temple found during archaeological works carrying out in 2012 in the city of Smolensk. On the basis of written sources of the beginning of 17th century the question of borders of the Pyatnitsky Conets of the medieval city is considered.

Keywords: Smolensk, Pyatnitsky Conets, Pyatnitsky church, border, temple

O. A. Golovkina

The Biblical Idioms Containing "пещь" as a component in the Old Russian Language

The article is devoted to the etymology of such biblical phrases as "пець железная" (iron pesch), "пець огненная" (fierly pesch), "ввергать в пець огненную" (to plunge into the fiery pesch), "вавилонская пець" (Babylonian pesch). The symbolic meaning of such important interrelated biblical images as of fire and oven is analyzed. The article presents the history of the formation of the figurative meaning in the word combinations with the component "pesch". The influence of Byzantine and Slavic sensible literature was studied and liturgical texts were examined for containing these biblical phrases.

Keywords: the Bible, the Old Testament, the New Testament, biblical phrase, free word combination, set expression, figurative meaning, liturgical literature, exegetical literature

L. I. Zhurova

The Rumyantsev Collection and Handwritten Tradition of Maximus the Greek's Literary Heritage

The article contains investigation results of three groups of Maxim Greek's works, included in unique Rumyantsev collection (RSB. Rum. N° 264, the middle of the 16th cent.). There are particular qualities of textology of the author's works that are available in single record, in two and multiple records. The problem solution has been made with the help of conclusion system that had been got early during investigation of author's collection — Ioasafov and Chludov collections.

Keywords: Maximus the Greek, Rumyantsevskii collection, manuscript, record, message, story, author's work, Ivan IV, Metropolitan Macarius, astrology

A. V. Laushkin

The Heirs of Patriarch Ishmael and the Biblical Mosaics in the Chronicle Reports of Polovtsians

The article analyzes the biblical parallels in the Kuman chronicle reports. Acknowledging the significance of these parallels for those who had composed chronicle texts devoted to the Russian-Kuman conflicts, the author nevertheless concludes that there had been no sustainable correlation of this fight with any episode (or episodes) of the Old Testament' history in Rus' annals (and in literature in general) of the pre-Mongol period. As for attribution to Kumans of the 'ishmaelite genealogy' by the creators of chronicles, the author argues that although the Biblical roots are evident, still this view was formed under the key influence of extra-Biblical imagery and ideas.

Keywords: Early Rus' chronicles, the Bible, Polovtsians, ishmaelites, the image of the other

A. F. Litvina, F. B. Uspensky

"Svatstvom obuemshesia...": Permitted and Prohibited in Crisscross Matrimonies of the Princely Marriages in the 40-60th years of the 12th cent.

As it is known the Russian princes of the pre-Mongolian time quite sequentially followed the prohibition not only on the marriage of close relatives but also on the matrimonies related by marriage. A unique case of the violation of the canon prohibition on so called crisscross matrimonies, when a sister and a brother from one family get into marital union with a brother and a sister from another family, is studied in this paper. Also the authors consider the matrimonial philosophy of the Rurik dynasty as it was and show the extraordinary importance of the relation between princes connected by marriage in the organization of the military and political unions and coalitions in the 12th century.

Keywords: pre-Mongolian Old Russia, Rurik dynasty, matrimonial philosophy of Russian princes, princes' marriages and military and political unions, matrimonial low, church restrictions

L. B. Sukina

St. Nicetas Stylites of Pereslavl: Peculiarities of Worship and Iconography of the All-Russian Saint at the end of 15th - 16th cent.

The paper shows the development process of the early iconography of St. Nicetas of Pereslavl in the context of his canonization in 15—16th centuries. The author examines extant works of the embroidery and icons, using the hagiography data and others sources.

Keywords: Russian centralized state, Russian Church, hagiography, iconography, canonization, worship of Saints

I. Chekova

The Chronicle Praise to Princes Olga in Povest' Vremennyh Let: Poetics and Textual Criticism Guessworks

The author studies the poetic manner and textual criticism of the Praise to princes Olga in Povest' Vremennyh Let. The special attention is paid to the rhythmicity, sonic expression and the circular pattern of the Praise, also to its connection to the Acathistus to Virgin Mary and the Eulogy to the Virgin Mary Assumption by Kliment of Ohrid. The author comes to the conclusion about the impact of the Kliment of Ohrid creative work based on the Byzantine oratory to the Old Russian literature and his significance for the Orthodox cultural area.

Keywords: The Praise to princess Olga, poetics, Acathistus to Virgin Mary, the Eulogy to the Virgin Mary Assumption by Kliment of Ohrid, Byzantine

D. D. Smirnova

All-Russian Scientific Conference "Historical Narrative in Medieval Russia: the 450th Anniversary of Stepennaia Kniga (the Book of Royal Degrees)"

It is a report about the Scientific Conference held at the St.-Petersburg State University on October 10—11 (2013).

Keywords: conference, Stepennaia Kniga (Book of Royal Degrees), historical narrative, chronicles