

המכון הבינלאומי לגנאלוגיה יהודית ומרכז פאול יעקבי, ירושלים



INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR JEWISH GENEALOGY AND PAUL JACOBI CENTER

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Publication of Proceedings
of the St. Petersburg Symposium
on "Genealogy and Family History of Jews in Russia"

In September 2012, IJG held a ground-breaking Symposium - in Russian – together with the Russian Institute for Genealogical Research in St. Petersburg, on the "Genealogy and Family History of Jews in Russia". The aim of present proposal is to enable the publication in English of a selection of the papers delivered (say, 10-12 papers) in the form of an edited volume of "Conference Proceedings".

The Symposium focused on Jews who lived outside the so-called "Pale of Settlement" and within "Mother Russia", from the early nineteenth century until after the Bolshevik Revolution. Very little academic work has been devoted on these Jews and all but nothing done from the genealogical perspective. The reason for this lacuna is due, in large part, to conventional wisdom which holds that the numbers of such Jews were negligible and that few, if any, records of them exist. In fact, by the end of the 19th century sizeable Jewish communities had developed in St. Petersburg and Moscow and in various provincial cities in Czarist Russia. Moreover, a wealth of records for them is now accessible in Russian libraries and archives in various locations.

23 scholarly presentations were made at the Symposium by 20 scholars, of whom 14 were from the Russian side and 6 were from the Institute side (3 from Israel and one each from Paris, Philadelphia and Riga). The range of the papers presented was extraordinary, as reflected in just a few of their titles – "Materials on permission for Jews to settle beyond the Pale ... (Russian Ministry of Interior files, 1906-1913)"; "Jewish entrepreneurs in Moscow: commerce and philanthropy as family tradition (late 19th and early 20th centuries)"; "The genealogy of Jewish women (data from historical archives of St Petersburg)"; "Jewish Aristocracy: Rabbi David Tevel Katzenellenbogen, Chief Rabbi of St. Petersburg (1847-1930) – 16 generations of his line"; "Outlaws among the privileged: Jews in the Russian nobility"; and "Jews in Russian provincial towns before and shortly after 1917". Taken together, the papers provide a unique view into the lives, lineages and heritage of a significant segment of Jews in Russia which has been broadly overlooked.

Almost all of the papers delivered are in hand. Preliminary work to edit the Russian texts is in progress and funds are available to have them printed up in booklet form in Russian at the Russian National Library (St. Petersburg).

It is essential that the best of the Symposium papers be translated in English - otherwise they will have little or no impact or resonance beyond the Symposium participants themselves and readers of Russian. However, once published in English, a unique source of new knowledge will be put at the disposal of historians and social scientists, as well genealogists, both Jewish and non-Jewish, working on various aspects of Jews in Czarist and Soviet Russia in general. Hopefully the papers will stimulate research into an important area which begs for further investigation.

Production: A production team of four people is required to implement this project:

1. Academic editor – to select the papers to be published; edit them; and write an introductory chapter for the book, etc.
2. Professional translator – to translate 12-15 conference papers from Russian to English.
3. Copy editor – to ensure appropriate academic style in English, provide consistency, check footnotes, references, etc. (from Russian).
4. Project manager - to steer the book through to publication.

Budget: £15,000.

Time-frame: 12 months after commencement.

Symposium Programme: below

National Library of Russia
Institute for Genealogical Research

National Library of Israel
International Institute for Jewish Genealogy

Joint Symposium

**Genealogy and Family History
of Jews in Russia**

PROGRAMME

St. Petersburg, 10 -12 September 2012

National Library of Russia
Main building: Sadovaya st., 18 (in Krylov House)

Monday, 10th of September

Registration of participants – at the Institute for Genealogical Research (room 3-04, third floor).

11.00 – Visit to Jewish cemetery, St. Petersburg

18.00 Opening session

Opening remarks – Igor SAKHAROV,
Director, Institute for Genealogical Research
(St. Petersburg).

Opening remarks – Neville LAMDAN,
Director, International Institute for Jewish Genealogy (Jerusalem).

Greetings

Anton LIKHOMANOV, Director-General, National Library of Russia.

Edward SHAPIRO, Consul-General of Israel, St. Petersburg.

Mr. Alexander MAKAROV, Chairman of the Historical and Cultural Committee,
Government of St. Petersburg.

Opening Presentation: Prof. Benjamin NATHANS University of Pennsylvania, USA):
Jews living beyond the Pale – an overview and research directions.

Working Sessions

Tuesday, 11 September, 10.00 –

SOURCES AND RESOURCES

Chairman: Igor SAKHAROV

Vladimir PALEY (Moscow). Documents on Jewish genealogy in Russian provincial archives (Orel, Nizhniy Novgorod, Kazan etc.).

Olga NOVIKOVA (St. Petersburg). Materials on permission for Jews to settle beyond the Pale, with particular reference to Smolensk and Pskov provinces (according to the archives of the Russian Ministry of Interior, 1906-1913).

Maria KUNKITE (SPb.). Pre-revolutionary Russian legislation related to medicine, dentistry and pharmaceuticals which permitted Jews to settle beyond the Pale together with their families.

Vladimir LEVIN (Jerusalem). The Synagogue in Imperial Russia as a Genealogical Source.

Coffee-break.

Irina ANISIMOVA (St.Petersburg). Biographic and genealogical data on Jews in materials during the period 1918-1923 (according to documents of the Central state archive of St. Petersburg).

Anatoly RAZUMOV (St. Petersburg). KGB archives as sources for Jewish Genealogy during Stalin's purges.

Benjamin Lukin (Jerusalem) – Archival collections outside Russia, relevant to Jewish Genealogy in Russia.

Olga Aleksejeva (Riga). Jews in Latvia and the Consolidation of the Jewish Community in Riga in the Inter-War Period.

15.00 – 16.00.. – Lunch.

Aleksander Beider (Paris) – How can onomastics and Russian Jewish genealogy be of mutual assistance?

Maxim MELTSIN (St. Petersburg). Russian periodicals containing materials on genealogy and biographies of Jews and published during the last twenty years.

Vera KNORRING, Yury VARTANOV (St. Petersburg). The Jewish collection of books and periodicals in Russian National Library as source of information on genealogy, family history and *personalia* of Russian Jews.

Working Sessions

Wednesday, 12 September, 10.00 –

CASE STUDIES

Chairman: Prof. Benjamin NATHANS

Anatoly CHAYESH (St. Petersburg). Genealogy of Jewish women. Based on data from historical archives of SPb.

Alla KRASKO (St. Petersburg). Jews in the St.Petersburg merchantry. Jews among the hereditary honorary citizens (according to documents of the SPb. Historical archives).

Svetlana SHELYAPINA (St.Petersburg). The merchant family of Pundik in SPb. (according to documents of the Russian historical archive and Central Historical archive of St. Petersburg).

Efim ULITSKY (Moscow). Jewish entrepreneurs in Moscow: commerce and philanthropy as family tradition (second half of nineteenth and beginning of twentieth centuries).

Aleksey SHMELKIN (Moscow). The muscovite businessmen Shmelkins in their family surrounding (according to the documents of Moscow and SPb. State archives and familial papers and reminiscences).

Coffee-break.

Anatoly WOROBIEW (Moscow). The sources for genealogy of the family of tea-merchant Wulf Vysotsky.

Igor SAKHAROV (St. Petersburg). Outlaws among the privileged: Jews in the Russian nobility.

Aleksey SHMELKIN (Moscow). How a Jew could be admitted to Russian hereditary nobility: The Grinkrug case.

Michael Beizer (Jerusalem). Jewish Aristocracy: Rabbi David Tevel Katzenellenbogen, Chief Rabbi of St. Petersburg (1847-1930) – 16 generations “before and after”.

14.00 – 15.00. Lunch.

Maxim MELTSIN (St.Petersburg). Jews in Russian provincial towns before and shortly after 1917: medical doctor in Opochka (Pskov province) and artisan in Kazan (according to memoirs of author’s grandmother and grandfather).

Igor SAKHAROV (St.Petersburg). The family of timber-merchant Ilia (Eliahu) Gitovich before 1917 (Smolensk) and afterwards (Moscow and Petrograd – Leningrad – St. Petersburg): The question of social mobility in the changed environment.

17.00 Plenary Session

General discussion: Evaluation/Plans for future.

18.00 Closing of the Symposium

Final remarks – Igor SAKHAROV and Neville LAMDAN
