

Russian in the cities of the Warsaw Governorate in the period 1864-1915

Summary

The dissertation shows the Russians, who lived in the central province of the Kingdom of Poland - the Warsaw Governorate - in the period 1864-1915. The influx of Russians into the Polish lands intensified after the defeat of the 1863 uprising. The Russians stayed there until the outbreak of World War I and evacuation in 1914-1915. The subject of the study was the Russians living in the cities of the Warsaw Governorate (especially in the district towns), with the exception of the capital of the Warsaw governorate - Warsaw, which, as the capital of the Kingdom of Poland, is a matter for a separate work.

The dissertation presents the most representative groups of Russians: county leaders, leaders of earth guards, earth guards, gendarmerie, soldiers, border guards, Orthodox clergy, church governors, school directors and inspectors, teachers – but also women (including teachers) and children.

The dissertation consists of seven parts. The first chapter presents the general characteristics of the cities of the Warsaw governorate and the other places, where the population of the Russians was high. It shows the general characteristics of Russians coming to the area, analyzing their numbers, territorial and social origin, confession. The issue of the evacuation of the Russians from the Warsaw governorate in 1914-1915 and the attitude of the Poles to the Russian army during the Great War were also discussed.

The second chapter presents the most important Russian clerks in the cities of the Warsaw Governorate: the heads of the poviats, the heads of the earth guard and the chiefs of the gendarmerie. The personnel status of these offices was reconstituted in the respective gubernatorial districts. In the context of each of these groups I discussed issues related to their work, the origin of officials, their professional experience, service specificity, salary and possible ways of ending the job. They also evaluated the effectiveness of their work.

Chapter three presents the most numerous group of Russians in the Warsaw Governorate - Russian soldiers. It lists the types of troops that were stationed in the area and unit commanders. The numbers of Russian garrisons and the barracks base and its location in urban space were discussed. The life of a Russian soldier in the barracks (his uniforms, meals, armaments, exercises, education and entertainment) is also presented. The significance of

Russian garrisons for the development of the Warsaw gubernian cities, both in terms of economy and culture, is also shown here. The border guards, which operated in Nieszawa and Włocławek counties, were briefly characterized.

The fourth chapter was devoted to the Orthodox clergy. It depicts the kind of Orthodox churches that were created in almost all the towns in Warsaw Governorate. These were military, parish and private churches. It also shows Orthodox priests and their tasks, especially the origin of clergy, their education, work characteristics, salary, promotions and decorations. Besides the clergy, the figure of the church governor is also discussed here.

Chapter five presents the work of Russian teachers. It presents the structure of schools in the cities of the Warsaw Governorate. These were mainly secondary schools in Włocławek, Łowicz, Pułtusk and Gostynin. Then the Russian teachers (principals and school inspectors) working in these schools were shown and their tasks were discussed. The other teachers, including the few Russian women teachers, were also shown. I analyzed, among others, the origin of the teachers, their education, their qualifications, the subjects they taught, their teaching methods and their earnings. An attempt was made to assess the importance of teachers in the Russification process.

Chapter six shows the Russian family living in the cities of the Warsaw Governorate. It presents the circumstances of establishing a Russian family and the special conditions and problems, which appeared in the Warsaw Governorate. For this reason mixed marriages are also discussed. The age of Russians in marriage and their impact on the existence of a happy family were analyzed. I also included situations of adultery and divorce. This chapter also discusses issues related to having children (especially in a mixed family), including conditions of religious education. The role of the godparents is outlined. I also discussed the possibilities of Russian children's education and its influence on the existence of the family. The forms of spending free time by Russian children were also shown. A separate place was devoted to the Russian women - mothers, wives and daughters. This chapter also describes the housing conditions in which the Russian families lived in the cities of the Warsaw Governorate.

The last chapter presents some of the manifestations of Russian everyday life (including characteristic elements of the "Russian menu" – tea, alcohol, cigarettes). It also discusses selected Russian holidays and forms of circumvention by the Russians. Selected forms of entertainment in which Russians took part are also presented. A separate place was devoted to Russian organizations (including Orthodox fraternities). This chapter also presents the relations of Russians with other residents of this territory - mainly Poles and Jews.

Consciously ignoring the well-known and well-discussed topic of Russification, positive relationships are shown – the so-called "Good Russians" (e.g. Sokrates Starynkiewicz).

Russians were the smallest national group in the Warsaw governorate. Despite that they held power and decided the fate of these lands. Today there are still many proofs of presence of the Russians, among others, destroyed buildings barracks and cemeteries.

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