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Apostils in the Early Printed Cyrillic Books in Light of Genealogy and Social History

## Abstract

The article continues the author's studies on apostils in the early printed Cyrillic books as a source on social history. It considers apostils not as a source for studying book culture, but as one on genealogy. This article and the one previously published are both based on a database that the author has been compiling since 2008. Two types of apostils are most pertinent for reconstructing genealogy of a family. The first is *sinodik* listing names of family members to be prayed for in memorial service. *Sinodiks* usually followed the endowment or (more rarely) ownership inscriptions. They were widespread in the 17th and 18th century. The second type is *annals* (*letopisets*). These usually follow ownership records and note most important events in the family history, milestones of the family members' lives. Family annals supplant *sinodiks* and prevail in 18th and 19th centuries. The author proposes a method of reconstructing genealogy of families from inscriptions of *synodik* and *annalistic* nature. While even single records contain unique information on the fates of family members (for example, an entry from 1655 on the

endowment of priest Antipas Filimonov, whose children were in the Merchant Hundred), when taken together, apostils provide important data on the genesis of certain social groups. This thesis is substantiated by evidence of four families from various social strata: dyak (clerk) F. M. Matyushkin, commissar A. F. Podleskova, a printing house worker L. G. Shokurova. Apostils provide data on social origins of the 17th century monastic clergy. Moreover, synodiks references to "infants" or "slain" allow to touch upon issues of demography. Thus, apostils may be called an important source on social history in general. Information drawn from a large number of inscriptions is systematic.

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### Keywords

Source studies, apostils, biography, genealogy, social history, book culture, social dynamics.

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