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Sources for Studying of the Local Government in Siberia in the 18th - Early 20th Century: Historical and Source Studies Themes

Abstract

Increased interest in the local government history is associated not just with the necessity to peer into the past, but also with purely practical needs. While returning to forgotten traditions, it is important to take into account the heritage of centuries. Today, we need to take a fresh look at well-known facts, to cast away old delusions and myths, and to prevent the emergence of new ones. Theoretical basis of the paper is such methods as historicism, objectivity, alternativeness; they allow an unbiased approach to the analysis of the problems and a critical attitude towards the sources. The methodology includes the use of means and methods of local,

systemic, problem-chronological, and comparative historical methods, as well as the development of a “new imperial history.” The paper systematizes sources on formation and development of the local government in Siberia in the Imperial period. The following groups of sources are highlighted: regulatory and legal acts; documents of management and record keeping; statistical materials; periodicals; sources of personal provenance. There is regional specificity in the content and structure of sources. The sources characterize the history of local government in Siberia in the 18th - early 20th century, wherein personal, socio-political, and departmental conflicts played an important role. The article attempts to show the role and place of the general police in the local government of pre-revolutionary Siberia and to analyze the main sources on the subject. It focuses on structure, nature, organizational and legal problem of the local government in Siberia in the 18th - early 20th century.

Keywords

History of Siberia, historical source, power, local government, administration, mandate, national policy.

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