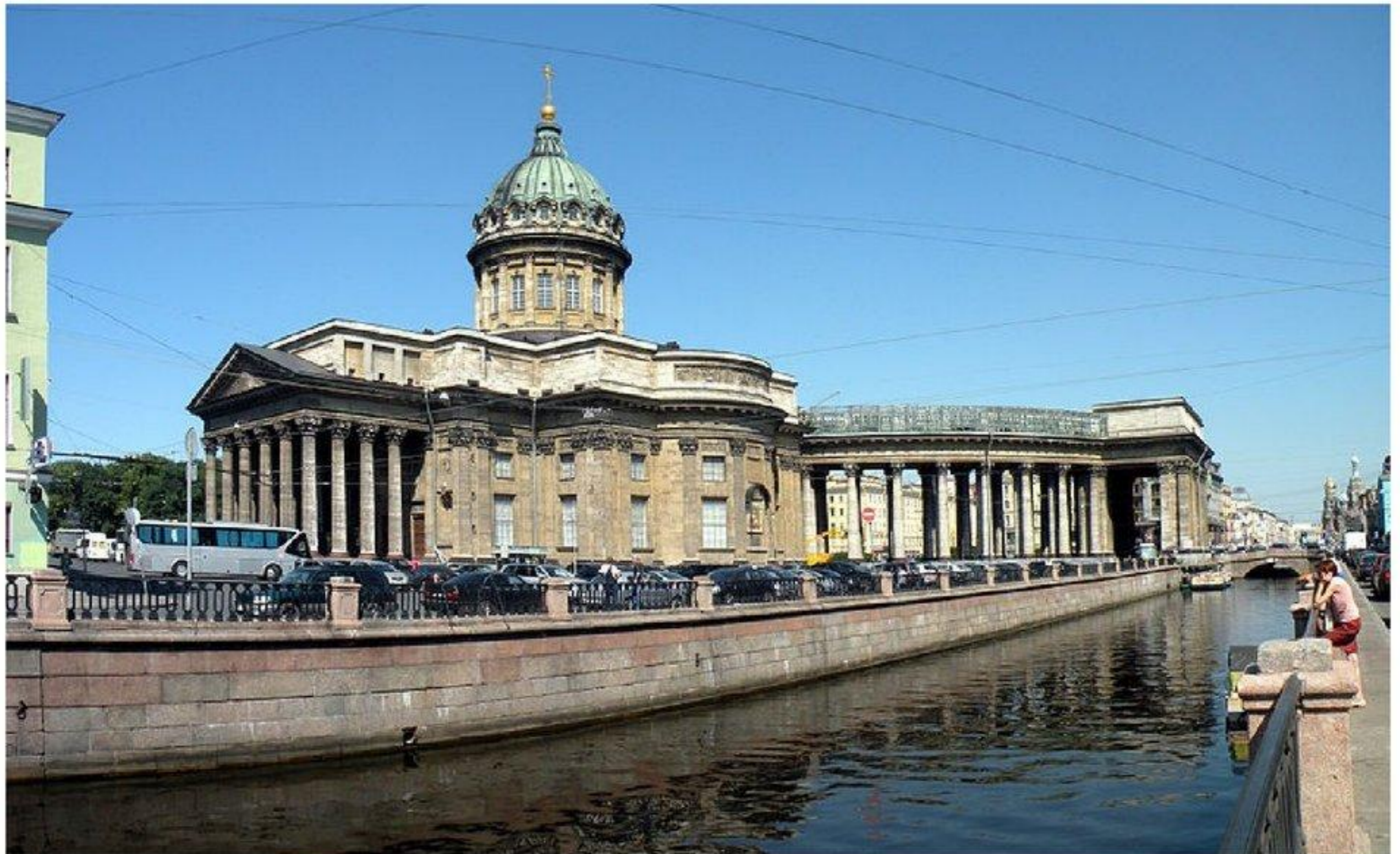


KAZAN CATHEDRAL



Kazan Cathedral in Saint-Petersburg is an outstanding monument of Russian architecture of the early 19th century.



Previously on the site of the Cathedral was a small stone Church of the Nativity of the blessed virgin, where in 1737 was moved venerated image of our lady of Kazan. It was the first Orthodox Church on the Nevsky Prospekt.



The Church Of Nativity



The Kazan icon of the Mother of God

By the late 18th century, the Church building became dilapidated and no longer fit established by the time of the appearance of the main Nevsky Prospekt. And in November, 1800, by results of competition of projects of a new Cathedral, a project was approved, executed by the architect A. N. Voronikhin.



Andrey Nikiforovich Voronikhin,
architect



Alexander Sergeievich Stroganov,
the Chairman of the Board of Trustees during
the construction of the Cathedral

September 8, 1801, took place the solemn ceremony of the Kazan Cathedral, which was attended by Emperor Alexander I.



The Emperor Alexander I

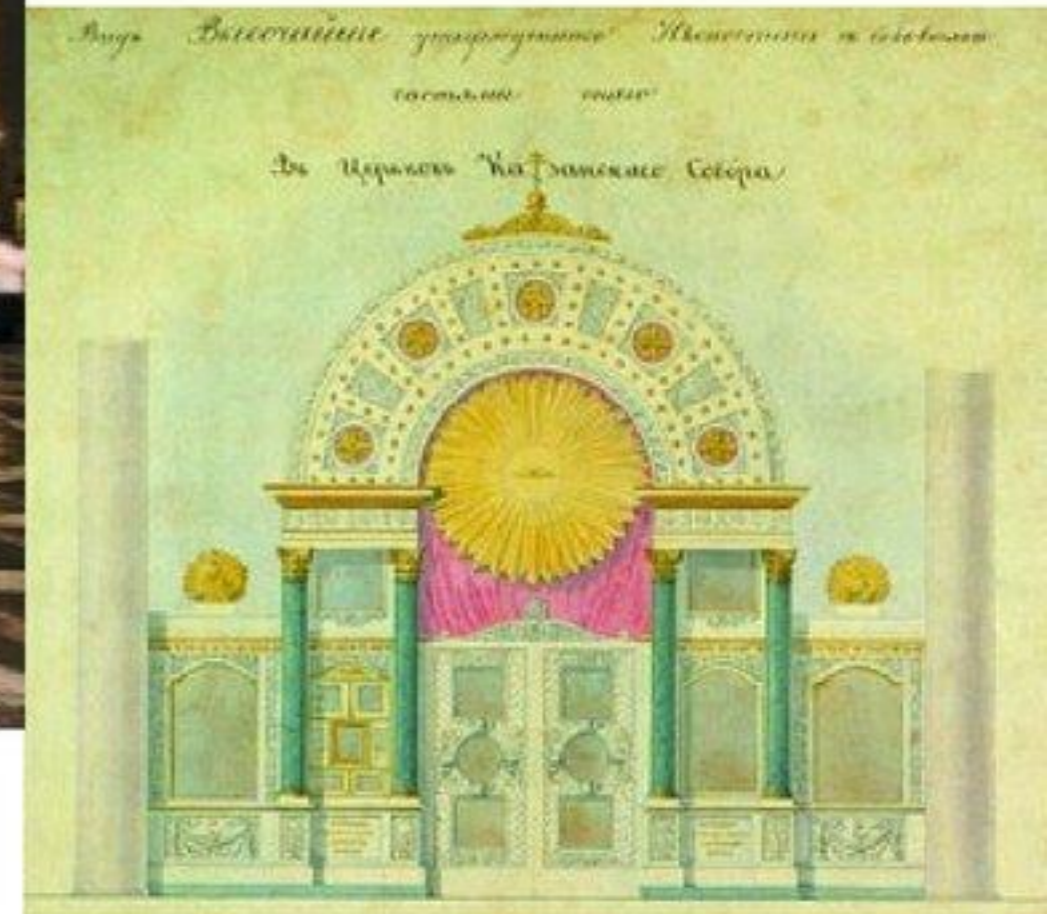


The officers of the life guards regiment of His Majesty

The construction of the Cathedral lasted 10 years, the decoration of the temple was used mainly domestic materials: marble Olonetsky, Vyborg and Serdobol granite, Riga and Pudozh limestone. For the first time in the global construction practice, Voronikhin was applied to the metal structure of the dome.



Interior of the Kazan Cathedral. **The Central part.**



The Kazan Cathedral became the tallest temple at the time (it has reached the height of 71.5 m) and one of the largest religious buildings in St. Petersburg.



The fate of the Cathedral has changed the Patriotic war of 1812, after which the temple was originally built for the icon, turned into a national victory Monument, and storage of military relics. Here were brought the trophies, including army banners and banners of Napoleon's troops, the keys of conquered cities, Marshal's batons.

In 1813, the Cathedral was buried field Marshal Mikhail Kutuzov.



The tomb of field Marshal M. I. Kutuzov

In 1837, in honor of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the defeat of Napoleon, on the semicircular square in front of the Kazan Cathedral was solemnly opened the bronze monuments of the famous Russian generals M. I. Kutuzov and M. B. Barclay de Tolly.

The author of the project was an outstanding Russian architect V. P. Stasov, and the figures of generals have been moulded by the models of the prominent sculptor B. I. Orlovsky.

Monuments memorial stressed the importance of the Kazan Cathedral as a kind of monument to the immortal feats performed by Russian soldiers in the name of the Fatherland.



Field Marshal M. I. Kutuzov



General Barclay De Tolly

After 1917, from the dome of the Cathedral, the cross was removed and in its place set gold plated ball with a spire.



In 1991, the Kazan Cathedral was again opened for worship. Today, the Church is the Cathedral of St. Petersburg diocese of the Russian Orthodox Church.



**Thanks for
your attention.**