

FOUNDATIONS OF MUSCOVY



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PROJECT PLAN



- a. Daniilovich of Moscow
- b. Opponents of Daniilovich
- c. Territorial Expansion & Resurrection of the Fallen Art
- d. Battle of Kulikovo
- e. The Metropolitan moves to Moscow
- f. Vanquish of the Golden Horde and Lithuania by Muscovy
- g. Intradynastic Warfare of Muscovy
- h. Rise of the mighty Eastern European Power
- i. Questions

PHOTOS GALLERY



I. Construction of first Kremlin walls of Moscow - 1156

2. Founding of Holy Trinity Sergius Monastery - 1337



DANILOVICH OF MOSCOW

- ❖ A century after the Mongols destroyed Kiev, the institutions that had given cohesion both to Kievan Rus and to the post invasion principalities were crumbling.
- ❖ The dynasty's complex rules of seniority and succession had been supplanted by the authority of the Mongols.
- ❖ They had begun to confer the throne of Vladimir to the princes who were most likely to fulfil their demands - the Daniilovich of Moscow.
- ❖ Daniilovich rule was not automatically accepted by the rest of the dynasty, even after the sound defeat of the legitimate heir, Alexander of Tver.



OPPONENTS OF DANILOVICH

- ❖ In order to stay in power they also strengthened their own territorial, economic, and military base and transformed the distribution of power in the lands of northern Rus and laid the foundations for a new state—Muscovy
- ❖ The adversaries of Daniilovich were also Riurikids. Their domains known as apanages has been carved out of older and larger principalities. It was a practice particularly pronounced among the Rustov clan.
- ❖ Their protests, however, made virtually no impression on the Mongol khans, who maintained the Ivan Daniilovich & his sons Semen (1341–53) and Ivan II (1353–59) in power



TERRITORIAL EXPANSION & RESURRECTION OF THE FALLEN ART

- ❖ Dmitrii Donskoi later sponsored the construction of walled monasteries and fortified the border.
- ❖ Territorial expansion also brought a larger populace under the direct rule of the Muscovite princes. Moscow's economic and tax base was broadened
- ❖ Tver was the first to accumulate sufficient wealth to resume the construction of stone cathedrals. Moscow followed, in 1326 Prince Ivan and Metropolitan Peter co sponsored the construction of the Church of the Dormition
- ❖ Those of the Dormition Cathedral in Vladimir were painted with frescos at the commission of Vasili I by Andrei Rublev



CHURCH OF THE DORMITION



BATTLE OF KULIKOVO



- ❖ The Battle of Kulikovo was fought between the armies of the Golden Horde, under the command of Mamai, and various Russian principalities, under the united command of Prince Dmitry of Moscow. The battle took place on 8 September 1380, at the Kulikovo Field near the Don River (now Tula Oblast, Russia) and was won by Dmitry, who became known as Donskoy, 'of the Don' after the battle.
- ❖ Although the victory did not end Mongol domination over Rus, it is widely regarded by Russian historians as the turning point at which Mongol influence began to wane and Muscovite power began to rise. The process eventually led to Muscovite independence and the formation of the modern Russian state.

THE METROPOLITAN MOVES TO MOSCOW

- ❖ The efforts of the Muscovite princes to consolidate their position within their growing realm benefited from the Church. The Church's indirect endorsement of the Daniilovichi of Moscow provided a measure of domestically based legitimacy.
- ❖ In the early 14th century Metropolitan Maxim used his influence to discourage Iurii of Moscow from challenging the succession of Mikhail of Tver to the Vladimir throne.
- ❖ The association of Peter with Moscow contributed to the city's growing reputation as an ecclesiastical center.
- ❖ For Metropolitan Peter and his successor Theognostus, the most pressing political fortune was maintaining the integrity of the metropolitanate of Kiev and all Rus.



THE METROPOLITAN MOVES TO MOSCOW

- ❖ For Alexis and Cyprian, the metropolitans of the second half of the 15th century, that issue became a preoccupation
- ❖ In 1375, Cyprian was expected to succeed Alexis, but when Alexis died in 1378 and Cyprian arrived in Moscow, he was humiliated and expelled by Prince Dmitrii. Dmitrii gave his support to Pimen
- ❖ The Laurentian Chronicle, copied by the monk Lavrentii in 1377, for example, incorporated the Primary Chronicle and a second component covering events to the year 1305.
- ❖ By the mid 15th century, Church texts characterized Dmitrii Donskoi as the hero of Kulikovo and stressed his role as the prince who had gathered an army drawn from many of the lands of Rus, to oppose the Tatars.



VANQUISH OF THE GOLDEN HORDE AND LITHUANIA BY MUSCOVY

- ❖ By 1425, Muscovy had strengthened both its material and ideological foundations. The new domestic sources of legitimacy, remained secondary along as the Golden Horde continued to be powerful and to support the Daniilovichs
- ❖ Vasilii I, who had married the daughter of the grand prince of Lithuania, not only met Lithuania's expansion with relative passivity, but named Vitovt as one of the guardians of Vasilii II



- ❖ After the death of Vasilii I in 1425 the balance of power shifted. Lithuania and the Golden Horde, had imposed internal order and external limits on the Rus lands
- ❖ Over the next 20 years, The Golden Horde split into 4 divisions:- the khanate of Kazan, the Crimean khanate, the khanate of Astrakhan and the remnant core- Golden Horde

PHOTO GALLERY



INTRADYNASTIC WARFARE OF MUSCOVY

- ❖ As Muscovy's neighbours had weakened, the Daniilovichi reverted their focus to intradynastic warfare. In the second half of the 14th century the princes of Moscow had regularly named their eldest sons as their heirs, in absence of his brothers or eligible cousins.
- ❖ However when Vasilii I died, he left not only his son Vasilii II, but also his four brothers. As long as his son's guardians, Vitovt of Lithuania and Metropolitan Photius, were alive no one questioned with his succession.
- ❖ But in 1430-31, when both of Vasilii II's guardians died, the eldest of Vasilii II's uncles challenged him for the throne of Vladimir



VITOVT OF LITHUANIA

INTRADYNASTIC WARFARE OF MUSCOVY

- ❖ Although Vasilii was awarded the patent, his uncle contested the decision and seized Moscow in 1433. When he died in 1434, his sons continued the war even though, they had no claim to the throne. The prolonged war was both brutal and decisive.
- ❖ By the time it was concluded, Vasilii had blinded one cousin and had in turn been blinded by another;
- ❖ he had been captured and released by the Tatars of Ulu Muhammed's horde;
- ❖ he had welcomed into his service two of the khan's sons who assisted him against his cousins;
- ❖ he had established Moscow's control over the vast majority of the northern Rus lands and increased its authority over Novgorod; and he had subdued his relatives—apanage princes in Muscovy—and restricted succession to his own direct heirs.
- ❖ The triumph of Vasilii II over his uncle and cousins enabled him and his heirs to continue virtually without restraint

RISE OF THE MIGHTY EASTERN EUROPEAN POWER

- ❑ The principle of vertical succession, confirmed by the war, limited the division of lands to the formation of apanage principalities for the grand prince's immediate relatives.
- ❑ By the mid 15th century the princes of Moscow had fashioned a new political structure, centered around their own enlarged hereditary domain and their dynastic line.
- ❑ Built upon territorial, economic, military, and ideological foundations that displaced both the traditional heritage of Kievan Rus and Tatar authority, the new state of Muscovy was thus poised to exploit the disintegration of Golden Horde and the reduction of Lithuanian expansion and to become a mighty Eastern European power



QUESTIONS

- i. Name the famous painting of Medieval Russia which were used to decorate Cathedral with Frescoes ?
- ii. Who freed Russia from the Golden Horde ?
- iii. Who won the battle of Kulikovo ?
- iv. How did vasilii 2 died ?
- v. Which brothers of vasilii refused to lend him any support ?



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