

1 - INTRODUCTION and ORIGINS

The Rivers Dnieper, Don, Volga

The great expanses of Eastern Europe

- tribes : Germanic, Baltic, Slavic, Finnish,
plus Scythians (Aryans), Huns, Magyars, Kazaks, Cumans, Turkics, etc

The VIKINGS

The Northmen / Norsemen / Normans / Norwegians

- Germanic tribes related to the Angles, Saxons, Goths, Franks, Burgundians, Lombards
- homelands: Denmark / Norway / Sweden / parts of Finland

The VIKING invasions of the 9th and 10th Centuries

The VARANGIANS

RURIK (died c. 879 AD) [also: Rorik / Hrorekr / Rurik]

- semi-legendary founder of the RURIK dynasty
- a Viking or VARANGIAN prince

-NOVGOROD

- Holmgard
- Gardar / Gardaveldi / Gardariki
- Viking rule begins c. 862

OLEG (Helgi / + 912)

- conquered Kiev (c. 882)
- establishes trade network from Novgorod
along DNIEPER River to the Black Sea
- proclaims himself GRAND PRINCE of KIEV
=the Grand Principality of Kiev
- failed attempt to conquer Constantinople

> KIEVAN RUS

Kyi, Shehek, Khoriv and Lybid

- landing on the shores of the River Dnieper to establish KYIV

KIEVAN RUS

Oleg (Helgi / + 912)

IGOR (Ingvar / r. 912 – 945)
-further attacks upon Constantinople (941 - 945)
-the VARANGIAN GUARD
-the Drevlians

ST. OLGA (Helga / regent 945 – 969), widow of Igor

SVYATOSLAV I (Sveinald Ingvarsson / r. 945 — 972)
-Yarapolk, Oleg, Vladimir

VLADIMIR I (St. Vladimir / Valdamarr Sveinaldsson / Volodymyr / r. 980 – 1015)
= “Vladimir the Great”

-son of Svyatoslav, kills his brothers to seize control over Kiev

-compiled the first Kievan Rus law code
-the CYRILLIC alphabet (St. Cyril / c. 860 AD)
-introduced Christianity into the country

-organized Kievan Rus lands into a confederation
-distributed major cities among his sons
-eldest son would be Grand Prince of Kiev
-brothers to succeed each other. moving up the hierarchy of cities

YAROSLAV the Wise (978 / r. 1019 — 1054)
-Prince of Novgorod

Principality of SMOLENSK

Vladimir II Monomakh (Vasily / Basileios / 1053 / r. 1113 - 1125)
-Grand Prince of Kievan Rus

Igor Svyatoslavich the Brave (Yuri / Ingvar Sveinaldsson / 1151 - c. 1202)
-battles against the Cuman / Polovtsy / Kipchak
-the river Kayala
-*The Lay of Igor's Campaign*

The city of VLADIMIR (Volodymyr) becomes the new seat of the Russian Grand Prince (c. 1170)

The *Primary Chronicle* / “Tale of the Bygone Years” (c. 1100) possibly by Nestor, a monk

Nicholas V. Riasanovsky (1923 - 2011) with Mark D. Steinberg
A History of Russia (1963 ; 2010)

If you have questions or suggestions, please contact me at nhohmann@sfcu.edu