

## 2 - The RURIKID Dynasty and the RISE of MUSCOVY

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### The RURIKIDS

RURIK (died c. 879 AD)

- semi-legendary founder of the RURIK dynasty of the KIEVAN RUS
- a Viking or Varangian prince
- NOVGOROD (Viking rule begins c. 862)

Oleg (Helgi / + 912)

- conquered Kiev (c. 882)
- proclaims himself GRAND PRINCE of KIEV = the Grand Principality of Kiev

VLADIMIR I (St. Vladimir / Valdamarr / r. 980 – 1015)

- kills his brothers to seize control over Kiev
- introduced Christianity into the country
- organized the Kievan Rus lands into a confederation

The city of VLADIMIR (Volodymyr / also VLADIMIR-SUZDAL)

- becomes the new seat of the Russian Grand Prince (c. 1170) eclipsing Kiev

The beginnings of MUSCOVY

- MOSCOW founded c. 1150
- the KREMLIN (a citadel)

The MONGOL invasions (1230s onwards)

- Batu, grandson of Genghis Khan
- the GOLDEN HORDE
- capital at Sarai

- the burning of Moscow (c. 1240)

ALEXANDER NEVSKY (1221 – 1263)

- Prince of Novogorod (1236 - 1252)
- Battle of the Ice (April 1242)
- he drives off attacks by Swedes and Teutonic Knights

- Grand Prince of Kiev (1236 - 1252)

- Grand Prince of Vladimir (1252 - 1263)

Yaroslav, younger brother of Alexander Nevsky, becomes Grand Prince of Vladimir (1264 – 1271)

- founded the house of TVER

## The House of MUSCOVY

the renewed RURIKID dynasty > “the gathering the Russian lands”

Daniel / Daniil Aleksandrovich (1261 / r. 1283 — 1303)

- youngest son of Alexander Nevsky,
- becomes Prince of Moscow, forefather of the Grand Dukes of Moscow

Yuri, Prince of Moscow (1281 / r. 1303 - 1325)

- son of Daniil

Ivan I Daniilovich, Grand Prince of Moscow (1288 / r. 1325 — c. 1340)

- son of Daniil
- the Metropolitan of the Russian Orthodox Church moves to Moscow from Vladimir (1326)

Ivan II Ivanovich the Fair, Grand Prince of Moscow (1326 / r. 1353 — 1359)

Dmitry Ivanovich Donskoy (1350 / r. 1359 — 1389)

- extensive building of the Moscow KREMLIN
- Battle of Khulikovo (1380) — the first major defeat of the Mongol-Tatar hegemony

Vasily I Dmitriyevich (1371 / r. 1389 — 1425)

Vasily II Vasilyevich, “the Blind” (1415 / r. 1425 — 1462)

**-Constantinople falls to the Ottoman Turks (1453)**

IVAN III Vasilyevich, Grand Prince of Moscow (1440 / r. 1462 — 1505)

- marriage to Maria of Tver
- marriage to SOPHIA (Zoë) PALEOLOGUE  
-niece of the last Byzantine Emperor Constantine XI

- uses the title “Tsar and Autocrat”
- Moscow as “the Third Rome” (the monk Philotheos)  
-extensive building in Moscow with Italian craftsman

Vasili III Ivanovich (1479 / r. 1505 - 1533)

IVAN IV Vasilyevich, “Ivan the Terrible” or “Ivan the Fearsome” (b. 1530)

- Grand Prince of Moscow (r. 1533 - 1547)
- Tsar of All the Russian (r. 1547 - 1584)  
-first to be proclaimed TSAR (“Caesar” / tzar / czar / 1547)

- his first wife: Tsarina Anastasiya Romanovna Zakharina-Yureva  
-her father: Roman Yurev (+ 1543)  
-her brother: Nikita ROMANOV

- the *oprichinina*
- the burning of Moscow (1571)

FEODOR / FYODOR (Theodore) I Ivanovich, Tsar of All Russia (1557 / r. 1584 - 1598)  
and brother DMITRI

-BORIS GODUNOV (c. 1551 – 1605), Regent of All Russia (1585 — 1598)

- elevation of the Metropolitan to Patriarch (1589)
- made peace with Sweden and Poland
- colonization of the southern steppes and Siberia (regions east of Ural Mtns)
- strengthening of government officials & townspeople at the expense of the boyars
  
- with death of Fyodor I, Boris crowned tsar (1598)  
    **-his coronation brings an end to the RURIKID Dynasty**

BORIS GODUNOV, Tsar of All Russia (c. 1551 / r. 1598 – 1605)

-“the Time of Troubles” (1598 – 1613)

- ended by a *zemsky sobor* (assembly of the land)
- election of Nikita Romanov’s grandson, **Mikhail Fyodorovich Romanov**

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- \* *Ivan the Terrible*, by Robert Payne (2002)
  - \* *Fearful Majesty: The Life and Reign of Ivan the Terrible*, by Benson Bobrick (2014)
  - \* *Boris Godunov*, by Alexander Pushkin
  - \* *The Reign of Boris Godunov*, by N.M. Karazim (from his *History of the Russian State*), translated by Geoff Baldwin (2013)
  - \* *The Golden Horde and the Rise of Moscow*, by Ann Byers (2016)

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