

#### 4 - PETER the GREAT and CATHERINE the GREAT

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##### The ROMANOV Dynasty

MIKHAIL I Fyodorovich Romanov, Tsar of All Russia (1596 / r. 1613 – 1645)  
-establishment of the ROMANOV dynasty

ALEKSEY (ALEXIS) Mikhailovich (1629 / r. 1645 — 1676)

oo Mariya Ilinichna MILOSLAVSKAYA

|  
Fyodor and Ivan and Sophia

∨  
FEODOR III |  
          ∨  
          IVAN V  
          |  
          Anna

oo Natalya Kirillovna NARYSHKINA

|  
Peter  
∨  
PETER the GREAT

Feodor III Alexeyevich (1661 / r. 1676 — 1682)

IVAN V (r. 1682 – 1696)

-the Miloslavskys vs. the Naryshkins

-the STRELTSY (the musketeers)

-Sophia becomes Regent

-Peter lives outside Moscow in Nemetskaya Sloboda (a German colony)

-Streltsy rebellion again

PETER the GREAT / Pyotr Alekseyevich I Veliky, Tsar of All Russia (1672 / r. 1682 – 1721)  
Emperor of All Russia (r. 1721 — 1725)

oo EUDOXIA Lopukhina (1669 - 1731 / married to Peter 1689 - 1698)

|  
Alexis Petrovich

PETER the GREAT / Pyotr Alekseyevich I Veliky, Tsar of All Russia (1672 / r. 1682 – 1721)  
Emperor of All Russia (r. 1721 — 1725)

-attacks Crimean Tatar vassals of the Ottoman Turks (1695 – 1696) and annexes Azov

-the “Grand Embassy” (1697 – 1698) as Sergeant Pyotr Mikhaylov

-rebellion of the Streltsy (1698)

-the GREAT NORTHERN WAR (1700 – 1721) against Sweden  
CHARLES XII, King of Sweden (1682 / r. 1697 – 1718)

“In planning it and in sustaining it, Peter displayed iron willpower, extraordinary energy, and outstanding gifts of statesmanship, generalship, and diplomacy.”

-attack of Poland, Denmark and Russia upon Sweden (Feb 1700)

-Sweden defeats Russia at Narva (1700)

Peter: “Necessity drove away sloth and forced me to work night and day.”

-Sweden invades Poland (1702 – 1706)

-Marta Skowronska (b. 1684) > CATHERINE (Yekaterina) Alekseyevna

-construction of a new capital city: St. Petersburg (1703 > )

-the Senate, the supreme organ of the state

-the siege of Poltava (1709)

-Charles XII, King of Sweden, remains in Moldava (under Ottoman control)

-Ottoman attacks (1710 – 1713)

-the Russian capital is transferred to St. Petersburg (1712)

-Peter marries Catherine (1712)

|  
Anna and Elizabeth

-Charles XII, King of Sweden, is killed (assassinated ?) in Norway (1715)

-death of Alexei Petrovich, the Tsarevich / Crown Prince (1690 - 1718)

-end of the Great Northern War : the Peace of Nystad (1721)

-King of Sweden, Frederick of Hessen (r. 1720 – 1751)

-Baltic shores are annexed by Russia

-Sweden sinks to become a secondary power

-the Senate in St. Petersburg changes Peter’s title from Tsar (Caesar)  
to Emperor = EMPEROR of all the RUSSIAS (1721)

-thus: PETER the GREAT, Emperor of all the Russias (r. 1721 — 1725)

-Catherine is crowned CATHERINE, EMPRESS-CONSORT of All the Russias (1721 — 1725)

- campaign against the Persians in the Caspian Sea area (1722 – 1723)
  - Persia cedes the western and southern shores of the Caspian Sea to Russia in return for military aid against the Ottoman Turks

- death of Peter (Feb. 8, 1725)

CATHERINE I, Empress and Autocrat of All the Russias (1725 — 1727)

PETER II (1715 / r. 1727 – 1730)

Tsarina (Empress) ANNA (1693 / r. 1730 – 1740)

- a daughter of Ivan V, half-brother of Peter the Great

- expeditions of Vitus BERING (1728 – 1741)
  - Kamchatka, Bering Sea, Alaska

Tsarina ELIZABETH (1709 / r. 1741 – 1761)

- a daughter of Peter the Great and Catherine I
- the Winter Palace in St. Petersburg

- the Seven Years War (1756 — 1763)
  - France, Russia and Austria against Prussia (with a little British help)

Karl Peter Ulrich, Duke of Holstein-Gottorp, son of Anna (deceased, a daughter of Peter the Great) becomes:

PETER III (1728 / r. 1762)

- oo Sophie Frederike Auguste, Princess of Anhalt-Zerbst [in the Holy Roman Empire]

- Oranienbaum

- upon his death in 1762, she becomes:

CATHERINE II “The Great” (Yekaterina Alekseyevna / 1729 / r. 1762 – 1796)

- coronation September 1762

*“I may be kindly, I am ordinarily gentle, but in my line of business I am obliged to will terribly, what I will at all.”*

- death of Augustus III, King of Poland (r. 1735 - 1763)
  - [House of Wettin, Elector of Saxony, the Holy Roman Empire]

- Stanislaus Augustus Poniatowski (1732 – 1798)
  - the Czartoryski family

- becomes King of Poland (r. 1764 – 1795)

- the revolt of the Confederation of the Bar (1770) in Poland
  - Russian armies move into Poland
- war between Russia and the Ottoman Empire (1772)
- the 1<sup>st</sup> Partition of Poland (1772)
- major reforms in Russia
  - reorganization of the laws of Imperial Russia
  - abolition of torture in legal proceedings
  - proclamation of religious toleration
  - administrative reforms to streamline the Russian government
  - attempted easing of serfdom
  - the Moscow Foundling Home
  - the Smolny Institute for Noble Girls
- Pugachev's Rebellion (1773 – 1774)
- the Charter of the Towns (1782)
- Jews are officially declared foreigners with foreigners' rights (1785)
- in France : the beginning of the French Revolution (summer 1789)
  - the overthrow of the French monarchy
    - and the establishment of the First Republic (1792)
  - the execution of Louis XVI, former King of France (Jan. 1793)
  - the First Coalition (against France) / Feb. 1793 >
    - Britain, the Netherlands, Spain, Naples, Austria and Prussia
- Catherine and Poland
  - reforms in Poland
    - hereditary throne (1792)
  - the 2<sup>nd</sup> Partition of Poland (1793)
  - the Kosciusko uprising (1794)
- in France : the collapse of Robespierre's government
  - and establishment of the Directory (1794 — 1795)
- Catherine and Poland : the 3<sup>rd</sup> Partition of Poland (1795)
- the major palaces:
  - the Winter Palace and the Hermitage
  - Peterhof
  - Gatchina Palace
  - Tsarskoye Selo (Catherine I Palace)

-the famous lovers

- Grigory, and possibly Alexei, Orlov > Alexis Bobrinskoy
- Alexander Dmitriev-Mamonov
- Stanislaus Poniatowski
- Grigory Potemkin
- Sergei Saltykov, Nicholas Alexander Suk, Alexander Vasilchikov, Peter Zavadovsky
- Prince Platon Zubov (the last lover, 40 years younger than Catherine)

-the popular plays and operas

- The Story of Tsarevich Fevey* (a dramatic fairy tale), *O Time !* (a comedy in 3 acts),  
*From Rurik's Life* (a historical drama); etc

-Vicente Martin & Soler

PAUL I (r. 1796 – 1801)

ALEXANDER I (r. 1801 – 1825)

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### Recommended Readings:

- \* *A History of Russia*, the authoritative text by Nicholas V. Riasanovsky and Mark Steinberg (2010)
- \* *Russian History: A Very Short Introduction*, by Geoffrey Hosking (2012)
- \* *Vladimir, the Russia Viking: The Legendary Prince Who Transformed a Nation*, by Vladimir Volkoff (2011)
- \* *Peter the Great: Autocrat and Reformer*, by Michael W. Simmons (2016)
- \* *Peter the Great*, a classic by Robert K. Massie (1981)
- \* *Catherine the Great: A Short History*, by Isabel de Madariaga (2002)
- \* *Catherine the Great: Portrait of a Woman*, by Robert K. Massie (2012)
- \* *Catherine the Great: The Last Empress of Russia*, by Michael W. Simmons (2016)
- \* *Catherine the Great and Potemkin: The Imperial Love Affair*, by Simon Sebag Montefiore (2016)
- \* *The Empress of Art: Catherine the Great and the Transformation of Russia*, by Susan Jaques (2016)
- \* *Catherine the Great : Love, Sex and Power*, by Virginia Rounding (2008)
- \* *The Winter Palace: A Novel of Catherine the Great*, by Eva Stachniak (2012)

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