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Nicholas II: little-known facts of life

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Аннотация

In this book I have systematized little-known facts of biography of last Russian Emperor Nicholas II, related, in particular, the predictions and prophecies, which he has received during his life, and has built these facts in one time line – in result the surprising picture has opened. The surprising picture has allowed completely on new (completely on new is not exaggeration!) to look at a history of his reign, his character, a life and destiny.

Nicholas II: the Emperor Who Knew the Fate

Here I systematized little-known facts of biography of last Russian Emperor Nicholas II, related, in particular, with the predictions and prophecies, which he has received during his life, and I have built these facts in one time line – in result, the surprising picture has opened. The surprising picture has allowed completely on new to look at a history of his reign, his character, a life and destiny. Nicholas II tried to overcome a Fate many times: in 1899 (the Hague peace conference); then (most decisively) in March, 1905 (an attempt to abdicate and to head the Russian Orthodox Church); and then again and again but he could not overcome the Fate. His attempts to overcome a Fate are the main essence and content of this book.

In 2009, the St. Petersburg Documentary Film Studio has released a documentary on my script, titled "The Emperor, who knew the fate" (directed by Roman Yershov) – about the last Russian Emperor Nicholas II. The film won eight of diplomas and prizes at international film festivals (in Russia and Ukraine), including two awards for best screenplay, and the grand prize for best director.

The film on IMDb= <http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1833718/> .

Below I will first briefly tell of the film (synopsis), and then describe in detail the essence of real events in the life of Nicholas II, which are reflected in the film.

Absolutely all lines of the story are created on a documentary

basis.

Much more details all the facts set out below are described in my big book "Emperor, Who Knew the Fate. And Russia, Who Did not Knew" (published by "BHV-Petersburg", 2011).

Synopsis

1891. Young Heir Nicholas during round-the-world travel in April, 1891 in Japan at will of a case meets known Japanese monk-hermit. The old man predicts to him and Russia a set of heavy tests at the next years and threat for a life within the next few days. Next day the Japanese policeman makes attempt to kill his.

1896-1898. In five years (at September, 1896, soon after a marriage and Crowning), during official visit to England, Prince of Wales shows him a horoscope for date of his birth, made earlier at the request of prince by famous English predictor (Louis Hamon aka Cheiro) who has already had time to become famous in Europe for the exact predictions to some political leaders and heads of state, ministers, other known people.

The prediction for Nicholas II spoken: "Whoever the man is that these numbers, birth dates, etc., represent, he will be haunted all his life by fears of war and bloodshed. He will do his utmost to prevent war, but his Destiny is so intimately associated with such things that his name will be bound up with two of the bloodiest

wars in human history; at the end of the second he will lose all he loves most, his immediate family will be massacred, and he himself will meet a violent death."

The life of Imperial family in Russia goes on by normal course, but once, after a meeting with known Russian economist (who has written earlier a large book against the future wars), In 1898 Nicholas recollects Cheiros prediction and he makes a decision to overcome a Fate: to call on all world leaders and organize the world conference on disarmament for prevention of wars (the Hague peace conferences May 1899).

1901. In March of this year there are 100 years from the date of murder of emperor Paul I. From that time in the former palace of emperor Paul (in suburb of St. Petersburg) there is stored the letter with the predictions of monk Abel (sealed by Paul's personal seal). Emperor Paul bequeathed "To open the letter to my descendant in centenary day of my death". In April, 1901, being pleased with a unusual adventure, Nicholas and his wife empress Alexandra come to the former Pauls palace. Nicholas opens sealers on an envelope and reads the letter: it is the predictions of monk Abel which lived in those years (1757-1841) and has made predictions for all future Russian emperors, up to Nicholas II and further for Russia. All predictions up to 1901 already precisely had happened (had taken place): monk Abel has predicted all events, including the names of Russian emperors (Nicholas's ancestors) with surprising accuracy. A prediction of

the monk for Nicholas are gloomy: two wars, two revolutions, destruction of Imperial family in 1918 and accession above Russia of a godless yoke (Bolshevism). Nicholas and Alexandra are shocked. Alexandra does not want to believe in it.

Meanwhile in Imperial family the fourth daughter (Anastasia) is born. A Heir is not born on former. The French doctor and occultist (Filipp Vashon) and famous priest John Kronshtadtsky advise Nicholas and Alexandra to address to Seraphim Sarovsky's heavenly protection.

1903. During glorification in city of Sarov (city of Seraphim's monastery), Nicolai and Alexandra receive two posthumous prophetic messages from Saint Seraphim. One of these letters was forged (from Department of police) and the second (original) letter was from the widow of secretary of Seraphim Sarovsky (Elena Motovilova, 80 years old). In the evening of July 20, 1903 they read the big message of Saint Seraphim in which many events of Nicolai's reign are predicted, including the Russia-Japanese war, and – again – the awful end for Russia and for Imperial family in 1917-1918.

1904-1905. In 100 days after Sarov's celebrations, in Imperial family the Heir is born. It is soon found out, that he is sick of a hemophilia. Meanwhile, by 1904 on the Far East are weaved into hard unit of the contradiction between England and Japan, on the one hand, and Russia – on the another hand. Though Nicholas,

for the sake of preservation of the world, is ready to compromise with Japan (and for a day prior to the beginning of war agrees on all its conditions), Japan nevertheless begins war, intentionally not having waited several hours before official telegram of the consent of Nicholas on all conditions of Japan.

1905. The war against Japan goes unsuccessfully for Russia. In Russia there are a disunion and revolution. Nicholas II see that a gloomy part of predictions of Japanese hermit, English predictor, monk Abel and Saint Seraphim comes true, and he again tries to overcome own Fate. In March, 1905, he meet with representatives of ROC (Russian Orthodox Church) and suggests to Archbishop and priests of ROC to restore patriarchate. Thus simultaneously he want to proclaim a renunciation of a throne and head ROC. Representatives of Church are silent. Nicholas is indignant by their silence and leaves assembly. After that Rasputin appears in Alexander Palace (in St. Petersburg's suburb where Imperial family lived since 1903) Nicholas comes into force, temporarily gets rid of influence of hostile opposition, builds the Duma monarchy (the Russian version of a constitutional monarchy). Stolypin carries out reforms. Revolution is suppressed.

1907. A political and economic approach of Russia with England begins. In August, 1907 Cheiro (English predictor) comes to St.Petersburg on his financial affairs. He makes

the acquaintance of Minister for Foreign Affairs (Izvol'sky) and makes to him a horoscope, and tells about future war (1914-1918). The minister tells about it to Nicolai II. Emperor invites Cheiro in the Peterhof palace. He is struck, having found out in Nicholas of that English gentleman who came to him in Cambridge in September, 1896. Nicholas asks to make for him two horoscopes – for Alexandra and Heir (baby Alexei). The same 1917-1918 arise for them as fatal years. After this events Cheiro meets with Stolypin and later – with Rasputin. They do not trust in made for them Cheiro's predictions.

1916. The First world war go on. The Russian pilots deployed near mountain Ararat (in Turkestan district) during one of flights see the Noah Ark (the glaciers on a southern slope of mountain has thawed because of extremely hot summer). Nicholas II receives the message about Noah Ark. He and Alexandra perceive it as last sign before Russia's crash. However, Nicholas and Alexandra for a long time already have decided to execute the duty to Russia up to the end. Nicholas orders to send to Ararat powerful expedition (150 person) for detection of the Noah Ark. Expedition achieves the purpose, measures and photograph the Ark, and in the beginning of 1917 sends documents and samples of a covering of the Ark to Petrograd (the name of St. Petersburg since August, 1914). Since March 9, 1917 Nicholas together with family appears under arrest in Alexander palace. Materials of expedition to Ararat vanish in

perishing Russian Atlantis...

1917. March 2, 1917. The generals plot (conspiracy) was the last link in the chain of events and fatal obstacles which led to the overthrow of the monarchy Nicholas II was isolated in Pskov and had no communication with either the Commanders or anybody else. He understood that now the conspirators would not stop at anything. Nicholas did not want to strife and split in the Army and Russia, and he agreed to an allegedly voluntary abdication... ..So, in those days, all main predictions came true: they all called the year 1917 a fatal one: when he would be betrayed by his surroundings and would be forced to sacrifice himself for the sake of Russia, while he personally would lose everything.

Detailed exposition

The last Russian Emperor Nicholas II was born in 1868, murdered in 1918...

His biography seems to have been studied through the length and breadth, but the farther we get away from the events of those days, the more secrets history reveals to us... So many obstacles of the life of the last Russian Emperor are extremely unusual and enigmatic till now. I decided to tell you about them here.

1891

In 1890-91, Prince Nicholas travelled in the East. He visited Egypt, India, Burma (Myanma), Indonesia, and China. In Japan, an old guardian of the Russian cemetery told him about a famous Japanese hermit, monk Terakuto: this monk was able to read people's fates. He lived not far from Kyoto.

Visiting Kyoto was in Nicholas's plan for Japan.

On April 28, escorted by Greek Prince George and interpreter Marquis Ito, Nicholas met with Terakuto.

Marquis Ito quoted two of Terakuto's prophecies in his memoirs.

The first: *"The danger is lingering over your head, but the death will step back, wherefore a cane will be stronger than a sword... and the cane will then shine and glitter."* The second: *"Great sorrows and convulsions are apprehending you and your country. You will be fighting for everyone, and everyone will be against you. Beautiful flowers grow at the edge of an abyss, but their poison is pestiferous: children long to the flowers and fall down into the abyss if they do not listen to their Father... There is no sacrifice blessed more than the one you made for your entire people... I see tongues of fire above yours and your family's heads..."*

A few days after this meeting with Terakuto, an attempt on Nicholas's life was made in the town of Otsu.

...Policeman Tsuda Sandzo pulled out his samurai sword and hit Nicholas on his head twice. Greek Prince George saved Nicholas's life having deflected the third blow aside with his

cane. Rickshaws seized and disarmed the assailant.

(Later on) by order of Alexander III the cane that had played such an outstanding role was decorated with adamants and given back Prince Gorge.

As Terakuto had predicted, “the cane turned out to be stronger than the sword, and the cane started shining with glitter...” The first of the two prophecies came true.

For a few days, Nicholas remained sad... But he was only 23, and his melancholy could not last long... It is hard to believe that he was able to perceive the gist of the second prophecy at the time...

1896-1898

...Five years passed. They embraced his father's death (Alexander III), his marriage to Hessian Princess Alice, the official coronation in Moscow, and numerous peoples' deaths during the coronation festivities at the Khodynka Field...

By the way, according some data, the mass stampede took place not only at Khodynka Field in Moscow in 1896, but also earlier – at Golden Jubilee of Queen Victoria in London (in 1887): in the memoirs of Russian general Kuropatkin (due to the "Khodynka" in May 1896 in Moscow), we read: "*The Duke of Edinburgh said that during the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the reign of Queen Victoria had 2,500 people were killed and several thousand injured and no one was embarrassed.*" (Nikolai II: Memoirs. Diaries. St. Petersburg., 1994. pp. 47-48.) Alexei

Kouropatkin. From the diaries 1896. May 19. However, perhaps these memories is not correct, and there had mean not the 50th anniversary of the reign of Queen Victoria, but a mass stampede in 1883 in Sunderland (UK), where in the distribution of gifts to children in the concert hall "Victoria Hall" were killed 183 children

However, back in 1896. In August 1896, three months after the coronation, Nicholas II and Alexandra with their baby daughter Olga went for an extended European tour paying official and private visits to the august lords of Europe. In September, they arrived to the coast of Scotland. Queen Victoria (Grand Mother of the Russian Empress) was waiting for them in the Balmoral Castle.

Here Nicholas had received his second prophecy, this time from English Count Louis Hamon (also known as famous predictor Cheiro). The Prince of Wales passed the text of this prophecy to Nicholas.

Cheiro had predicted the future to monarchs, ministers, many famous people from Europe and America. In particular, he had predicted many events (including the dates of deaths) to Queen Victoria of Britain and the Prince of Wales (the future King of England), as well as the attempt on the life of the Persian Shah.

Long before the Titanic's catastrophe, Hamon had predicted this tragedy.

Here is the gist of his prediction for Nicholas II:

"Whoever the man was that these numbers represented, would

be haunted all his life by the horrors of war and bloodshed; that he would do his utmost to prevent it, but that his Destiny was so intimately associated with such things, that his name would be bound up with some of the most far-reaching and bloodiest wars that had ever been known, and that in the end he would lose all he loved most by sword or strife in one form or another.”

... Nicholas had no plans of war with whomever, and there were no signs of war in Europe in those years.

People in Russia and in the world saw him as a peaceful tsar.

One British newspaper wrote in early 1930s that in 1898 Nicholas II, under the influence of Cheiro's predictions for the upcoming bloody wars, had initiated convening of the Hague Peace Conference.

In 1898, Russia had sent out a note to governments all over the world naming the arms race unacceptable and offering to convene a conference on this issue.

There were many opponents among the world leaders, but thanks to Nicholas's insistency, the conference took place in the Hague in May 1899. A Convention on the rule of carrying out wars was signed there, and – for the first time in history – an International Arbitration Court was established.

By the way, in 1901, Nicholas II and Russian diplomat Fyodor Martens have been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize. The memory of Nicholas's II contribution to peace immortalized in the UN: the UN Secretariat posted Appeal Russian tsar to the peoples and governments of the world (1898), and there is a bust

of Nicholas II there.

We can say that Nicholas II tried to “overcome his fate” – to prevent a possible war – already in the first years of his governance.

1901

Five years later, this time in Russia, Nicholas and Alexandra got another prediction of their own and the country’s tragic future. This time, the prophecy came from the past and was a lot more detailed than those of Terakuto and Hamon.

It was a prophecy of monk Avel (Abel, 1757-1841).

While Avel was alive, each Russian monarch, starting with Catherine II, had put him in prison after knowing the date of his or her date of death predicted by Avel.

Each following monarch, including Emperor Paul I, would let him out to discuss the enigmas of the future with him.

Avel's prophetic message was kept in a small exquisitely decorated box in Gatchina palace: in 1801 Emperor Paul I had put it into an envelope and inscribed on it:

“To be unsealed by my descendant on the hundredth anniversary of my death.”

The 100th anniversary came on March 12, 1901.

According to his Great Grandfather’s will, Nicholas and Alexandra decided to go to Gatchina to reveal the century-old secret. They departed joyfully, but came back very reflective and

sad.

What was written in this message?

The text of the letter was published abroad in the early 1930s: first in Berlin, and later on, in Kharbin.

Here is what Avel wrote about the “last tsar:”

“...He will have big patience and dove’s purity... He will replace his crown of a tsar with a crown of thorns; he will be betrayed by his own people. ... There will be a war, a very big war... People will fly in the air like birds, and swim under the water like fish; and they will extinguish each other with evil-smelling sulphur. The tsar’s throne will crash down on the eve of the victory. The treason will grow and abound. And your grandson will be betrayed, and many of your descendants will shed white their clothes with the blood of the Lamb; and a man with an ax will grasp the power in insanity, but will afterwards cry bitterly himself... Blood and tears will give drink to the mother earth. Bloody rivers will flow. Brother will rebel against brother... This is God’s connivance, God’s Anger for Russia’s abdication from its sovereign blessed by God. And there’s worse to come...

Two wars will come, each one more sorrowful than another. A new Khan Baty will raise his hand in the west. The people will get between the fire and flames. But Russian folk will not be extinguished from the face of the earth, as will be protected by the prayer of the tortured Tsar.”

...

...

By the beginning of the 20th century, three daughters were born in the royal family. Everybody had been hoping for an heir, but on June 5, 1901, the fourth daughter was born in the Tsar's family; she was named Anastasia. No prayers for a son would help.

1903

Then a well known priest John Kronshtadsky told them about the Saint wonder-worker Seraphim Sarovsky (1759-1833).

Simple people considered him a Saint for a long while, but the Church had not canonized him as a righteous Holy man until 1903.

By the beginning of Nicholas II reign, Archpriest Johann had already gained the glory of a physician. He had even been healing remotely, like he did with the son of Bulgarian Tsar Boris. Thousands of people attended his bright prophecies.

By the end of his life (he died in 1908), father Johann had anticipated the approaching tragedy of Russia and was badly distressed by it. *“Repent, wherefore an awful time is coming. It will be so awful that you cannot dare imagine...”*

He offered to glorify/canonize Seraphim Sarovsky in 1903.

Father John wished to give to Royal Family a strong heavenly guardian...

Celebrations of glorifying and canonization were arranged in July of 1903.

Nicholas and Alexandra were going to Sarov with the entire family: they were going to pay homage to the remains of the Saint and pray to him for a birth of a son.

The Emperor's train arrived in Arzamas where from the Royal Family started for Sarov – to the Diveyevsky Monastery, where they had spent three days in praying.

The Empress had been taking baths in the baptismal fount at night praying for a birth of a son. In those days, Reverend Seraphim was declared the Tsar's family's heavenly guardian.

On July 20, 1903, the 80-year old widow of Seraphim Sarovsky's secretary passed a letter to Nicholas II. Seer Seraphim had written this letter specially for Nicholas II in the last year of his life (in 1833) and gave it to his secretary with the words:

“You will not live to see this, but your wife will see when the entire Royal Family will come to Diveyevo to pray on me, and the Tsar will come to see her. Let her pass then my letter to the Tzar”.

Nicholas II took the letter with veneration. He had read it after he came back to the Hegumen's house and started crying bitterly after that. The court people tried to console him saying that Father Seraphim, though a Saint, could be wrong, but the Tsar was inconsolable.

The message from Seraphim Sarovsky had warned Nicholas II about all the major events in Russia in detail, up until the year 1918, and then later on until the end of the 20th century.

...

After gaining Seraphim Sarovsky as the heavenly guardian,

Tsarina Alexandra conceived in the late autumn of 1903, and on July 30, 1904, she gave birth to a boy – the heir Prince Alexey – at the small Alexandria Palace in Petershof (suburb of St.Petersburg). Nicholas II wrote in his diary:

“July 30. An unforgettable and great day for us... I do not have enough words to thank God for the consolation he sent to us in this year...”

...

In 1903, Russia got into a deep political conflict with Japan and Great Britain. Nicholas, remembering that by predictions the war with Japan could be a very hard one, was agreeing to one concession after another. By 1902, the Trans-Siberian Railway was nearly completed; this helped the Russians trade in the Far East.

But on the eve of January 23 (1904), the Japanese military attacked the Russian squadron in Port Arthur...

One of the two predicted to him bloody wars had begun.

1904-1905

It became clear very soon that the war would be long and hard. No victories had been won, and the life of ordinary people was getting more and more hard: an all-world financial crisis was taking place in the years of 1900-1905, and it was extremely hard in Russia.

Understanding all this, Nicholas II had begun to prepare a broad program of liberal reforms. We could compare it with

Gorbachev's "perestroika" of the 1980s! Mass media started to openly criticize the bureaucracy and discuss the necessity of major reforms. On the eve of the new 1905 year, all thinking people in Russia had been living with expectancy of huge changes coming from the top; many believed in the first Russian constitution to come...

The January 1905 events had pushed all these expectations away.

The day of January 6, 1905, became a warning to these events: on the day of the water consecrating ritual (Epiphany), during the fireworks from the Peter and Paul Fortress, one of the artillery guns accidentally shot at the Winter Palace with canister shells; they hit windows of the Winter Palace and the Jordan Pavilion where the clergy and the Tsar with his escort were at the moment. The canister shells cut down the staff of the church flag right above Nicholas's head and wounded one of the officers.

Coincidentally, the last name of the officer was Romanov.

In the meantime, the capital was paralyzed by strikes of workers on military enterprises – and this was taking place during war time!

Japan had assigned major sums of money to destroy stability in Russia from inside; the money was used to terrorists to purchase weapons, to organize strikes of military enterprises, and for strike funds...

On January 9, 1905, a peaceful demonstration of workers was

scheduled to take place in the capital of Russia in order to pass a petition with a number of requests of social and economic character. However, social-revolutionary terrorists added a long list of absolutely unacceptable political demands to this petition.

Considering all the obstacles, on January 8 the monarch decided against going to the capital city next day.

The demonstration was banned, but a renegade priest Gapon did after all lead the people into the streets. The armed social-revolutionary terrorists were among the peaceful demonstrators... Half a year later, being abroad, the renegade priest Gapon answered a journalist's question about what would have happened had the Tsar come out to the demonstration. Gapon said: "He would have been murdered immediately..."

...The tragic events of January 9 produced the most formidable impression on the royal family. And the revolutionaries kept escalating terror. In February, they assassinated Great Prince Sergey, a close relative of Nicholas, in Moscow.

A serious conversation on the future took place between Nickolas and Alexandra. All of the predictions they had received earlier from various sources had come to take place. All attempts to overcome the gloomy prophecies proved to be of no result.

March 1905. An attempt to renounce the throne.

This time the Tsar decided to overcome the Fate forever: to

abdicate in favor of his little son Alexey under the regency of Alexandra and the Tsar's brother Mikhail.

Tsar Nicholas himself planned to go into convent. However, Metropolitan Antony did not agree to give his blessing to this decision: "One should not build his personal salvation on refraining from monarchial bonds indicated to him by God..."

After long contemplations in prayers, Nickolas decided to restore the Patriarchy; he offered the Church to elect him Patriarch.

...Peter I dismissed the Patriarchy and established the Holy Synod, the Head of which was appointed by the Monarch himself. This way the Russian Church had lost its independence and its destiny as keeper of "nation's honesty."

Back in the 19th century, many had realized that restoration of the Patriarchy was necessary for the benefits of the people and the country. The crisis of faith threatened the whole society with a catastrophe. Nicholas II had deeply felt this as well: he did consider himself personally answerable to God for the Russian people and the strength of people's faith. Up until 1917, words "the father-tsar" were more than just words for the peoples of Russia, but their hope and faith as well.

The 1904-1905 mutinies ultimately convinced Nicholas II of the necessity to restore the independence of the Church and its authority among the nation. He had to fulfill his bonds to Russia in the capacity of the Patriarch of the Independent Church...

In March 1905, the Monarch announced his decision at the traditional meeting with the members of the Holy Synod and asked for their approval.

One of the participants of that meeting wrote:

“...This was so unexpected and so far from any of our assumptions that we could not find what to answer and remained silent for several moments... The Tsar stared at us all in indignation, stood up in silence, bowed to us and left the room where we remained crestfallen and almost ready to tear our hair out for our inability to produce an adequate answer. We should have made a low bow to him, admiring the greatness of the decision he had made on a heroic exploit of saving Russia, and we had just remained silent.”

And further on, this writer continued:

“The Tsar’s heart is truly in God’s hands; thanks to what happened, it revealed that the hierarchs had been looking for their strength in the Patriarchy, but not in God, and THEIR HOME WAS LEFT EMPTY...”

... Nicholas II had failed once more in overcoming of the course of his fate. This was a tragedy of a strong and committed, clever and deeply religious man, the last Emperor of Russia. He was not discouraged, he had continued doing what he had to, but he was aware of what was there ahead of him...

It might very well be that this internal knowing was the reason for his outwardly calm attitude towards many events and his “reliance upon the grace of God” frequently mentioned and

disapproved by contemporaries from his immediate circle...

...

Meanwhile, Russia was experiencing serious defeats in the course of its war with Japan – both on land and sea. But by the summer of 1905, Japan had fully exhausted its reserves to continue the war and was paying a very high price for each new victory: its military casualties were nearly two times higher than Russia's.

Besides that, Russia could go on with the war for a long time. Being aware of this, Nicholas began peace negotiations from the position of strength.

Prime Minister Sergey Vitte came to the U.S. – to the city of Portsmouth – for negotiations and, quite unexpectedly, Japan agreed to a peace treaty on honorable for Russia conditions. The Portsmouth Treaty was acknowledged as a national tragedy in Japan and with ironic smiles among the opposition in Russia.

Insurgencies and riots kept going in Russia.

Nicholas commissioned Vitte to prepare a Manifest of Civil Liberties. On October 17, 1905, the Manifest came into effect. After almost 300 years of absolute monarchy of the Romanov dynasty in Russia, major changes, including freedom of speech, meetings, parties and people's representation in the elected legislation body – the State Duma, were about to start... Preparations for the elections began.

But armed encounters started in Moscow. Nicholas assumed tough measures in order to suppress them.

...

The royal family was in deep depression. Besides all, it turned out that their son Alexey was sick: he had hemophilia – a hard and incurable disease.

Rasputin helped the little boy to overcome painful shocks connected with hemophilia and promised to Nickolas and Alexandra that the boy would “get rid of the disease after he turned 18.”

We are not going to tell Rasputin’s story in details here. We can only mention that gossips and slander about his influence over Nicholas through the Empress were hugely exaggerated by the opposition.

Police Department Director Vasiliev investigated the issue of Rasputin’s influence on Nicholas’s decision making, including through so-called “notes” to the Empress, and came to conclusion that it was practically negligent. Altogether, there were 10-15 notes, and only two of them coincided with Nicholas’s orders.

1907

...1907. Almost 4,500 state officials had been killed or disabled by revolutionary terrorists in two years. But by now, the revolution had been totally suppressed. Moderate Third Duma was functioning. Some results started to come out from the October 17 Manifest. Russia was in the process of intensive development.

Prime Minister Stolypin carried out his reforms and was

working on grandiose plans of modernization of the country designed for the next 20 years. Russia began to turn into one of the most advanced countries in the world.

In 1907, again by the initiative of Nicholas II, the second Hague Conference was announced and carried out. It adopted a number of important conventions limiting the arms race. Russia started to re-establish good relations with the Great Britain. Louis Hamon arrived on personal business to St. Petersburg in July 1907. He was introduced to Foreign Affairs Minister Izvolsky and told him his prediction:

“During 1914-1917, Russia will get involved into a new war, the most terrible war that Russia has ever been engaged in.” Izvolsky told Nicholas about it. Nicholas invited him and Hamon to his summer palace in Petershof. The meeting took place in August. Nicholas had been talking to Hamon one-on-one for several hours.

Louis Hamon wrote about this meeting in his memoirs:

“At his request, I worked out before his eyes the charts of the two other lives. Both showed the same thing, that 1917 was ‘overwhelmed by dark and sinister influences that pointed to the end.’ I was amazed at the calm way in which he heard my conclusions... He knew he was a fated monarch.”

However, Nicholas II did what he should, and in the years 1907-1914 under his rule Russia is rapidly developing in

all spheres of the economy. The pace of development of industry and agriculture were the highest among developed countries in Europe. By 1914, Russia joined the five most developed countries in the world. Education, secondary and higher education and science also developed rapidly.

Contrary to popular (so far) opinion, during the 1907-1914 period significantly increased also the level of living and social protection of workers. U.S. President Taft declared publicly in 1912 that the Russian system of social insurance is the best in the world.

July 1914

...In 1909 -1914, Nicholas II applied numerous efforts to prevent the war in the Balkans. It is commonly assumed that Nicholas had done nothing to prevent the war in July 1914, in the course of the most crucial days. This is not true. For example, on July 29, two days prior to the beginning of the war, Nicholas sent a conciliatory telegram to Wilhelm with an offer to turn the dispute around Serbia to the Hague Court. Wilhelm had never replied to this telegram.

Forgotten telegram.

Quote: (Palaeologus M.G . Tsarist Russia during World War . Chapter XII. The Forgotten Tsar's telegram to Emperor Wilhelm):

"Sunday, January 31, 1915 Petrograd "Governmental Herald" publishes the text of the telegram dated 29 July last year in which Emperor Nicholas suggested that Emperor Wilhelm convey the Austro-Serbian dispute the Hague tribunal. Here is the text of the document: "Thanks for your telegram conciliatory and friendly. Whereas official message presented today by your ambassador to my minister was conveyed in a very different tone. Beg you to explain this divergency! It would be right to give over the Austro-servian problem to the Hague conference. Trust in your wisdom and friendship." – The German government has not seen fit to publish this telegram to the number of messages that are exchanged directly, both the monarch during the crisis preceding the war. ... – And what a terrible responsibility assumed the Emperor Wilhelm, leaving without a word of reply sentence of Nicholas! He could not respond to an offer otherwise than agreeing to it. And he did not answer because he wanted war"

Quotes: (from "The Evidence in the Case" by James M. Beck (p.81, p.106)

Quote (p.81): *"...the Czar, with evident sincerity, suggested to the Kaiser that "with the aid of God it must be possible to our long tried friendship to prevent the shedding of blood," and proposed a reference of the question to the Hague."*

Quote (p.106): *"THE SUPPRESSED TELEGRAM FROM THE CZAR. It is a curious and suggestive fact that the German Foreign Office in publishing the correspondence between the Kaiser and the Czar omitted one of the most important telegrams. The Russian*

Government on January 31, 1915, therefore, made public the following telegram which the Czar sent to the Kaiser on July 29, 1914:

"Thanks for your conciliatory and friendly telegram. Inasmuch as the official message presented to-day by your Ambassador to my Minister was conveyed in a very different tone, I beg you to explain this divergency. It would be right to give over the Austro-Servian problem to The Hague Conference. I trust in your wisdom and friendship."

The German Foreign Office has since explained that they regarded this telegram as too "_unimportant_" for publication. Comment is unnecessary. It thus appears that the Czar at the beginning of his correspondence with the Kaiser suggested that the whole dispute be submitted to The Hague Tribunal for adjustment. Servia had already made the same suggestion. As the world owes the first Hague Convention to the Czar's initiative, it can justly be said to his lasting credit that he at least was loyal to the pacific ideal of that great convention of the nations."

("The Evidence in the Case. A Discussion of the Moral Responsibility for the War of 1914, as Disclosed by the Diplomatic Records of England, Germany, Russia, France, Austria, Italy and Belgium. By James M. Beck, LL.D. Late Assistant Attorney-General of the U. S. Author of "The War and Humanity.")

On August 1 Germany had declared war on Russia.

Once again, Nicholas failed to overcome the Fate...

1915

...August 1915. The Russian Army retreated due to lack of armaments and heavy casualties. Against ferocious disagreements from his closest advisers, the General Staff and the Government, Nicholas II made up his mind to take charge of the retreating army. On August 25, Nicholas II became the Supreme Commander-in-Chief and ordered significant measures to improve the situation, including organizational and personnel changes (among other, the appointments of new Commanders of the fronts).

Winston Churchill, the British Minister of Defense in 1917, wrote:

“In accordance with the superficial fashion of our days, it is usual to interpret the royal regime as blind, rotten and capable-of-nothing tyranny. But examination of the thirty months of the war with Germany and Austria changes these false impressions and reveals the true facts...”

And then Churchill wrote about the role of Nicholas as of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief:

“...Long retreats were over. The projectile hunger was overcome. Armaments were coming in by a broad flow. A stronger, more numerous and better supplied army was on the guard of a huge front... Russia began the year of 1917 victorious and stronger than ever. Why not to honor him for this? ... The

burden of the latest decisions was on his shoulders... The form of government he had been implementing, which he was the lead of and which he contributed the living force to by his personal qualities HAD WON THE WAR FOR RUSSIA BY THAT TIME..."

August 1916. Noah's Ark

August 1916. Russian pilots deployed in the South of Russia near Mount Ararat were testing equipment for high-altitude flying. They saw a strange vessel of the size of a football field in a saddle: this was Noah's Ark! An extremely hot summer melted the cirques on the mountain peaks and the Ark of Noah appeared from under the ice. The squadron commander sent a report on this historic discovery up the chain to St. Petersburg.

The report reached Nicholas II. He and Alexandra perceived this discovery as a sign of fate and, possibly, as a sign of the catastrophe approaching Russia. The Tsar ordered a big expedition to climb up Mount Ararat.

The military expedition reached its goal, took pictures and measurements of Noah's Ark. All the expedition's findings were lost in the revolutionary days of 1917.

Before, after and up until now, various expeditions were sent to Mount Ararat to find Noah's Ark, but that was the only time when people saw it clearly and in full.

November 1916. Gossiping and slander about Rasputin and

the royal family reached the apogee. Many believed that Empress Alexandra was holding secret negotiations with Germany through Rasputin. Though Kaiser Wilhelm and Alexandra's German relatives did actually try to start secret negotiations on the separate peace, she had declined these proposals. Her senior brother Prince Ernie said bitterly to her: "There is no more Princess 'Sunny' for us," – her German relatives had called her this name since her childhood...

The supposed treason of the Empress was already broadly discussed even at the State Duma's podium...

Nicholas received a telegram report on this issue at the General Headquarters.

Both Nicholas and Alexandra understood that this would not be the last demand of the plotters. Nicholas decided in the favor of his family understanding only too well that this meant a catastrophe for him.

...On the night to December 17\30, Rasputin was killed in Prince Yusupov's Palace.

What did the plotters achieve this way? A month later, they acknowledged that "nothing has changed."

March 1917. Abdication

On February 22 (Julian), 1917, after the end of the Entente Countries' conference in Petrograd, Nicholas II departed for the General Staff (in Mogilev) to get ready for the spring advance

of the Russian Army agreed on with the Allies. Next day, riots began in Petrograd: interruptions in bread supply to the capital occurred due to extremely strong snowstorms.

By the way, not everybody knows that Russia was the only country participating in the war where no ration books (food stamps) or limitations on any food products (but sugar) were introduced.

These interruptions in bread supply were the first and only during the whole war. But the riots began immediately.

On February 26, at the Holy Synod's meeting, Church Hierarchs refused to appeal to the people to stop the riots.

In the meantime, the situation at the fronts and in the rest of the huge territory of Russia remained stable everywhere, but in Petrograd, where a real rebellion was taking place. Some parts of the reserve squadrons even supported the rebels.

After Nicholas knew about this, he ordered to send to Petrograd the faithful squadrons from the front – up to 40 thousand people, but the Chief of the Staff General Alexeyev stopped them as they approached to Petrograd having sent deliberately false information on the allegedly normalized situation in the capital.

Nicholas understood the danger and he went to Tsarskoe Selo (his residence near Petrograd) on board of a special train, but the Provisional Executive Committee of the Duma in Petrograd took the railways leading to the capital under their control. The Tsar had to change his route and went to Pskov. He hoped to resume

managing the fronts and the situation in Petrograd from there, the Headquarters of the Northwest front.

But he did not know that by that time Commander-in-Chief of the Northwest front General Ruzsky had already been the actual head of the “generals’ plot.” The chain of fatal obstacles of those days got linked...

After the very first conversation with General Ruzsky Nickolas understood that the military commanders betrayed him. His orders were not executed any more. Chief of the Staff General Alexeyev was leading secret negotiations with Commanders of Fronts seeking their support. Not all were ready to break their oath: three gave sharp refusals, but five of them did agree.

Admiral Rusin strongly opposed the abdication.

General Khan Nakhichevan strongly opposed the abdication.

General Keller strongly opposed the abdication.

Admiral Kolchak did not respond to the request of General Alekseev.

But:

Grand Duke Nicholas Nickolaevich supported the abdication

General Brusilov supported the abdication

General Evert supported the abdication

General Sakharov supported the abdication

Admiral Nepenin supported the abdication.

...The generals' plot (conspiracy) was the last link in the chain of events and fatal obstacles which led to the overthrow of the monarchy...

Nicholas II was a man of honor; he would never expect the generals of his army, his Chief of the Staff, and the Commanders of fronts to violate their oaths!

A year would pass, and many of those including Ruzsky and Alexeyev would bitterly regret of what they had done – but it would be only too late...

...

Ruzsky demanded that Nicholas II abdicated. He showed him telegrams from Commanders at the Fronts supported the idea of his abdication. He also withheld from Nicholas II other opinions (against abdication).

Nicholas II was isolated and had no communication with either

the Commanders or anybody else. He understood that now the conspirators would not stop at anything. Nicholas did not want to strife and split in the Army and Russia, and he agreed to an allegedly «voluntary abdication»...

He agreed to abdicate in favor of his son. But after a conversation with Doctor Fedorov about hemophilia Nicholas changed his mind in favor of his brother Michael.

Everybody around the Emperor in those days was impressed by his self-control. But many of witnesses of the days remembered that the skin around his eyes turned brown with

white folders of wrinkles... and even the special Tsar's train which had arrived in Pskov in all its glamour had as if somehow turned "old" – the new paint on the cars cracked, split and was peeling off in full strips.

...So, in those days, the main predictions of Terakuto, Louis Hamon, Avel and Seraphim Sarovsky came true: they all called the year 1917 a fatal one: when he would be betrayed by his surroundings and would be forced to sacrifice himself for the sake of Russia, while he personally would lose everything.

After the dramatic farewell with the troops in Mogilev he was informed that he should consider himself arrested. Tsar's Mother, Maria Feodorovna, wrote to the Great princess Olga Konstantinovna about this later:

"I am thankful to God that I had a chance to visit him in those awful 5 days in Mogilev, when he was so lonely and abandoned by everybody. He was as a true martyr, inclined against the unavoidable... I am the only one to know how much he had been suffering and what despair was there in his soul. He had sacrificed in the name of his country. This was the only thing he could do, and he did do this!"

The words about the martyrdom and sacrifice in the name of saving Russia were like an echo of Avel's prophecy about the last tsar...

EPILOGUE

...Most likely, professional historians, always aloof from the “mythical themes,” might be very critical regarding introducing the concept of “fate” into the context of a historical research. Nevertheless, various monarchs, presidents, and country leaders did receive fateful prophecies through many centuries.

...Alexey Losev, a famous Russian historian, philosopher and philologist of the 20th century, had contemplated on this issue a lot and by the end of his life came to the following conclusion:

“Why does everything in our lives go one way and not the other? Why is someone doomed to die one year and not another? No even the most accurate science is able to predict this... There is freedom of will, but there also is a Fate. We are not aware of God’s intentions, but each person has his own fate... Why does God need this? He needs this to save the world...”

Russia's achievements during the reign of Nicholas II.

Over the past hundred years. none of the state rulers had not been so slandered as Nicholas II ... « Weak. limp. bloody ” – these labels have been hung on him during his lifetime (and especially later, in the USSR). Historians. especially Soviet. with great pleasure did Nicholas II responsible for Khodinka. Tsushima. Jan. 9 (“Bloody Sunday”) – that part is true. as the head of state is ultimately responsible for everything, regardless

of personal involvement or non-involvement in the events . However. why it is considered that all of the positive changes in the country during his reign was not made because of his own will, not because of his persistent state work, but in spite of, without his daily work? In fact, he made a lot...

When Nicholas II was created Russian **financial-monetary system** . During his reign, the ruble was pushing down franc and the mark, overtaking the dollar.and rapidly approaching to the pound sterling. For the first time in the history of Russian revenues exceeded expenditures. and this was without any increase in the tax burden. When Nicholas II, a burden of direct taxes was four times less than in France and Germany. and eight and a half times less than in England. All this has led to an unprecedented flowering of Russian industry and an influx of capital from the developed countries of Europe. In the period from 1894 to 1913 a young Russian industry increased its capacity by four times. During WWI production increased even more rapidly.

During the reign of Nicholas II, **the length of railways** was increased by 1,574 kilometers per year (for comparison: the highest rate of communist rule took place in 1956 and amounted to 995 kilometers). In the begining of XX century Russian Empire came with the biggest and best in the world oil and petrochemical industry. At the same time. by order of the Emperor in 1896 the export of crude oil was limited – in order to develop their own industry – and 94 % of all crude oil processed

into the country. All products was famous for high quality and low cost.

Russian metallurgical industry grew rapidly . Pig iron smelting increased over twenty years, almost four times ; copper smelting – five times ; production of manganese ore as five times . Production of cotton fabrics doubled. coal mining throughout the empire for twenty years has increased more than fourfold. The budget was constantly and quickly grown: from 1.2 billion rubles at the beginning of the reign of up to 3.5 billion rubles in 1913 . . For ten years (1904-1913) the excess of ordinary income over expenditure of more than two billion rubles. The gold reserve of the State Bank has increased from 648 million (1894) to 1604 million (1914). At the same time, **the budget was increased without introducing new taxes and no increase old taxes – only due to the growth of the economy.**

The length of railways, as well as of the telegraph wires, were grown more than doubled. Also increased river fleet – the largest in the world. (In 1895, Russia had 2,539 ships in 1906 – 4317 .) After the Russian -Japanese war, the army was thoroughly reorganized . Russian fleet, which suffered severely in the Russian -Japanese war. revived much more powerful by 1914 – and this success has also been achieved through great personal merits of Nicholas II . During the years 1906-1912 he twice overcame the stubborn resistance of the opposition in the State Duma of Russia on this issue.

Although the gap in labor productivity and in terms of gross output (GDP) per capita in comparison with advanced countries were still large, but in 1913-1917 **Russia have surely approached to one of the five most developed and prosperous countries in the world.**

Critics of Nicholas II, and also some historians say that all the achievements over the years – it is a merit of his ministers (Witte, Stolypin, Kokovtsoff), and Nicholas II has supposedly just slowed them. Fullness! He chose and appointed them, and they all (even Witte, not fond of Nicholas) admitted that they were able to carry out his reforms only because of his trust and support – sometimes against the furious resistance of powerful opponents.

Russian agriculture was also rapidly developed. For twenty-three years of the reign of Nicholas II harvest bread has doubled. In 1913, Russia was the world's first largest producer of rye, barley and oats, the country has become a major exporter of agricultural products, it accounted for 40% of total world exports of agricultural products. Never in the future it does not happen again!

Today it is hard to believe, but in the years 1912-1917 the **Russian workers (at least in large enterprises) earned no less than European workers. and prices in Russia for all major products were much less!** In factories with more than 100 workers, has since 1898 introduced free health care that covered 70 percent of the total number of factory workers.

Since June 1903 the imperial government made it mandatory for employers to pay benefits and pensions to the victim or his family in the amount of 50-66 % of the content of the victim. Since 1906 trade unions started work, and they have rapidly grown . The Act of 23 June 1912 have introduced the compulsory insurance of workers against illness and accident . **Social legislation (insurance) already in 1912 was one of the best in the world (and it is publicly acknowledged U.S. President Taft) .**

Living conditions (housing conditions) of working-class families are also continuously improved: if at the end of XIX century, many working families still lived in communal barracks, by 1913 more than half of working-class families (in the cities) rented a separate apartment. And they spent to pay rent not more than 20% of the family budget (less than in Europe and the U.S.). Families of workers were big (at least three children), but only one (the head of the family) worked, and he kept the whole family. Was a large choice of apartments. The rapid growth of housing construction (**building boom**) in Moscow began with the 1880's and continued without interruption for nearly 35 years, until the beginning of WWI – but in the course of WWI, although the pace of housing construction fell (but not to zero), the housing construction go on even in the during of WWI. It is important to note as well that the pace of housing construction have consistently exceeded the birth rate (and population growth), although the pace of population growth

(3.5% per year, including fertility), Moscow and St. Petersburg took 3-4 places in the world. (!)

Obviously, this means that the living conditions in Moscow and St. Petersburg continuously improved – until 1916\17 years. By the way, not everyone knows that Russia during WWI was the only belligerent country that did not introduce ration cards (except for sugar).

Of course, in the beginning of the XX century the situation of workers in all countries (even in developed countries) was left much to be desired, – but only in Russia after 1917, it has become much worse than under Nicholas II. The standard of living of the workers and peasants recovered by the end of the NEP (by 1927), but later (in 1928-1941) the standard of living began to fall again, and reached a low in 1940 (two times worse than in 1913 for the workers, for the peasants – a lot worse). Living conditions of workers in the Soviet Union were worse than in Tsarist Russia until the beginning of mass housing under Khrushchev (late 1950s) .

Over twenty years of the reign of Nicholas II, **population** of the empire has grown up more than fifty million people – on 40 %, the natural population growth exceeded three million a year. Along with the natural growth markedly increased also the level of well-being. For example, the contributions to the state savings banks increased from three hundred million rubles in 1894 to two billion rubles in 1913. Note also that the Russian forensic detective police was recognized as the best in the world in 1913

in Switzerland at the International Congress of crime police.

The income per capita: in 1913 Russia was on the 4th place in the world. Economic independent activity has resulted in unprecedentedly rapid development cooperation. Until 1897. Russia had only about a hundred of consumer companies with a small number of participants and hundreds of small savings and loan associations ... By 1 January 1912 the number of consumer societies was close to seven thousand ... By 1914, credit cooperatives increased by seven times its share capital compared to 1905 and totaled up to nine million members. Cooperation in agriculture has developed rapidly after 1914. even during WWI. As is known, in the 1920-s years, prominent Russian economist A.Chayanov developed a strategic program for the development of agriculture on the basis of the further development of cooperation, while maintaining a mixed economy – but that plan was rejected by Stalin, and Chayanov was arrested and then executed in 1937.

Education: it grew rapidly and expanded under Nicholas II. There was introduced hitherto unprecedented program of public education ... Primary education was free, and in 1908 the Ministry of public education have embarked on a universal compulsory primary education, and by 1917 it was already covered the vast majority of school-age children in the European part of Russia. On 1918 there was planned introduction of compulsory secondary education. But already in 1916, educated recruits were more 70% – more than, say, in 1927.

Unprecedented development since the beginning of XX century Russian science has achieved. Silver Age in the arts, the golden age of literature and publishing, the heyday of journalism, the newspaper business, the emergence of thousands of various magazines, hundreds of new museums – all of this took place during the reign of Nicholas II. He sets the basics of **parliamentary democracy, free elections** – and it is closely monitoring these processes. Nicholas II was well aware that Russia is not in full ready for such a democratic transition. However, by 1914, Russia was in fact the constitutional monarchy and democratic institutions were not curtailed during WWI.

In October 1914. the American magazine National Geographic has completely devoted its latest issue to one main theme – Russia . Collection of articles have been placed under the title: «Young Russia – The Land of Unlimited Possibilities». . The authors of these articles, as well as many at the time (including, for example. the French president Clemons) predicted that by the middle of the XX century Russia will take first place in the world in terms of economic development. The authors of the magazine also noted that Russia has enjoyed the fastest growth in the world population. and they predicted that the population of the Russian Empire in 2000 will reach 600 million people (while the growth rate of the population). About the same was predicted by famous Russian scientist Mendeleev in the early XX century. He estimated that by the middle of the XX century.

Russia's population would reach 400 million people.

In 1912, commissioned by the French government, the renowned French economist Edmond Teri made a detailed analysis of the Russian economy (in all sectors of the economy). He noted the remarkable progress in all areas. Edmond Terry wrote in the conclusion of his research: *"If the case and the development of European nations from 1912 to 1950 will go the same way as they were from 1900 to 1912, then in this case, by the middle of this century, Russia will dominate Europe politically as well as economically and financially."* In his book ("The economic transformation of Russia") he summed up spectacular gains in all areas of Russia: *"There is no need to add that **no nation in Europe can boast such results.**"*

The reign of Nicholas II – is a genuine RUSSIAN MIRACLE. Russian scientists, engineers and economists have planned interesting and ambitious new plans for economic reforms and fiscal policy that would inevitably lead to the hegemony of Russia in the global market.

Of course, it would silly to deny that during the reign of Nicholas II, Russia had no problems. Of course, problems were inevitable – at such a rapid movement from backwardness to civilization, at such the snatch of the outsiders of the world to a global leader. However, successful reforms conducted in all areas, and the problems would may be solved successfully – if the catastrophe 1917 would not came ...

Such is the truth about Nicholas II of Russia and about his

rule. He was the last moral and the best ruler of Russia – during the whole XX century, and until now.

THE END.

P.P.S. Much more details all the facts about Nicholas II and about Russia of the beginning of XX century are described in my big book "Emperor, Who Knew the Fate. And Russia, Who Did not Knew" (in Russian)