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SOURCES AND DOCUMENTARY BASE FOR RESEARCH ON THE GENEALOGY OF THE KUBAN COSSACKS

Abstract

Active development of the scholarship on Kuban Cossacks puts much emphasis on the history of Cossack families and fates of some members of the Kuban Cossack Army. And yet genealogy of the Russian Cossacks, unlike that of other ethnic and social groups, has rather poor coverage in Russian historiography. In view of this, the article considers the structure of the source base of historical and genealogical studies of the Kuban Cossacks, assesses certain types of sources and argues the possibility of their use in genealogizing. There is a large collection of papers on the service of Cossacks deposited in federal and regional archives of the Russian Federation, its information capabilities for reconstruction of the Kuban Cossacks pedigrees is addressed in the article. As the basis of the source base on the genealogy of Kuban Cossacks are written document sources of the pre-Soviet period, it is advisable to embark on reconstruction of the Cossack bloodlines starting with such 'classical' genealogical sources as parish registers, confessional (or spiritual) lists and census records; these are analyzed here with reference to the Cossacks. However, a complete historical and genealogical research and recreating family history of the Kuban Cossacks demands a broader range of sources covering all stages and ins and out and the Cossack military life, that is, records of

service and histories of military service, personnel rosters, family lists, documents on awarding ranks and awards for distinguished military service, as well as those providing data on instruction of Cossack children in various educational institutions. Proposed structure of source base on genealogy of the Kuban Cossacks allows competent and reasonable approach to genealogical research on the subject.

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Keywords

Genealogical research of the Cossacks, sources, genealogy, family history, genealogy sources, Kuban Cossacks.

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