

Review

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A Publication on the Role of the Clerical Establishment in the Ruin of the Monarchy in Russia

### Abstract

Russian historians consider in this review the 2nd revised and enlarged edition professor Mikhail Anatolyevich Babkin's monograph "Priesthood and Kingdom (Russia, early XX century - 1918). Research and materials." Babkin's research relates to field of history, theology, and church law, and the authors of the review see an innovative approach in this. The said monograph opens new horizons for comprehending Russian historical transformation in 1917. It considers historical processes from the point of view of problem of "priesthood and kingdom." The authors note significance of this problem for the history of Russia not only in the 17th century, but also in the period of revolutions in early 20th century. Considering revolutionary processes from this angle is justified and expedient. Babkin's monograph contains research and also published documents and extended reference apparatus. The authors conclude that Babkin's work does not close issue, although it makes the discussion of reasons for destruction of pre-revolutionary state-church relations model relevant today. They state that the author of the monograph does not hide his monarchist sympathies and considers clerical establishment of the Russian Orthodox Church one of the guilty parties in the overthrow of the monarchy. In the pre-revolutionary years, the clergy worked, in essence, for the revolution. The clergy, that was meant to sacralize imperial power, became a leading actor in its desacralization.

### Keywords

History of Russia, revolution of 1917, Orthodox Russian Church, issue of "priesthood and kingdom."

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