

Guide #5 Super-Excellent Timeline, 1700-1917¹

1700	Death of last Orthodox Patriarch of Moscow (Adrian); no replacement named
1710	Incorporation of Baltic region and predominantly Lutheran population there
1721	Peter the Great's <i>Spiritual (Ecclesiastical) Regulation</i> ; creation of Holy Synod
1740-55	Mass conversion of Volga peoples
1741	First form of state recognition of Buddhism (eastern Siberia)
1742	Empress Elizabeth orders expulsion of Jews from Russia
1762	Catherine II (the Great) becomes Empress (reigns until 1796)
1764	Secularization of Orthodox ecclesiastical properties (mostly monastic)
1768	Orthodox violence against Catholics, Uniates & Jews in Poland-Lith (<i>Koliivshchyna</i>)
1772-95	Partitions of Poland; incorporation of numerous Roman Catholics, Uniates & Jews
1773	Edict on Toleration of All Faiths by Catherine II
1783	Russian annexation of Crimea and Muslim & Christian populations there
1788	Establishment of Orenburg Muslim Spiritual Assembly in Ufa (for Volga-Ural Muslims)
1800	Establishment of <i>edinoverie</i> (unified faith). ²
1801	Creation of Roman Catholic Ecclesiastical College (rough equivalent to Synod)
1810	Creation of Main Administration for the Religious Affairs of Foreign Confessions
1811	Georgian Orthodox Church subordinated to Holy Synod, loses autocephaly
1827	Conscription edict begins draft for Jews, promotes conversion in army
1828	Eastern Armenia (and seat of Armenian Catholicos) annexed by Russia
1830	November Insurrection of Poles against Russian rule
1830s	Official statutes for many of the "foreign confessions"
1839	Uniates "reunited" with Orthodoxy in empire proper (but not Kingdom of Poland)
1841	Secularization of Orthodox, Catholic & Calvinist church properties in western provinces
1847	St. Petersburg signs Concordat with Holy See in Rome about Catholics in Russia
1860s	Russian conquest of Muslim Central Asia
1863	January Uprising of Poles against Russian rule; anti-Catholic measures in response
1866	Mass apostasy of baptized Tatars in Volga region to Islam
1874	Regularization of civil status of Old Believers & Orthodox sectarians
1875	Uniates "reunited" with Orthodoxy in Kingdom of Poland. ³
1880-1905	Konstantin Pobedonostsev serves as chief procurator of the Holy Synod
1883	Old Believers & sectarians receive right of private (but not public) worship
1886	Creation of official anti-sectarian & anti-schismatic missionaries
1894	Baptists are officially classified as "a most dangerous sect" in Russia
1903	Canonization of Serafim Sarovskii
1901	Orthodox Church officially repudiates Lev Tolstoy for unorthodox teaching
1905	Revolution of 1905; significant reform of Russia's religious order October Manifesto promises "freedom of conscience"
1914	Outbreak of World War I
1917	Collapse of the old regime and the Romanov dynasty; Bolsheviks seize power

¹ Any one desiring a 63-page timeline of events in Russian religious history covering the years 1057-1999 (with 442 footnotes) is welcome to contact me. Otherwise, I assume that this is sufficient for now.

² This allowed Old Believers to use pre-Nikonian liturgy if they recognize authority & legitimacy of Holy Synod & official Church – in effect, an attempt to end the schism through compromise.

³ This signaled the end of the Uniate Church in all of Russia. That church – called "Greek Catholic" – continued to exist across the border in Austria.