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THE DYNASTY OF CHERNIGOV, 1146–1246

Historians in pre-revolutionary Russia, in the Soviet Union, in contemporary Russia, and the West have consistently relegated the dynasty of Chernigov to a place of minor importance in Kievan Rus′. This view was buttressed by the evidence that, after the Mongols invaded Rus′ in 1237, the two branches from the House of Monomakh living in the Rostov-Suzdal′ and Galicia-Volyn′ regions emerged as the most powerful.

However, careful examination of the chronicle accounts reporting the dynasty's history during the second half of the twelfth and the first half of the thirteenth century shows that the Ol′govichi of Chernigov successfully challenged the Monomashichi for supremacy in Rus′. Through a critical analysis of the available primary sources (such as chronicles, archaeology, coins, seals, "graffiti" in churches, and architecture) this book attempts to correct the pervading erroneous view by allocating to the Ol′govichi their rightful place in the dynastic hierarchy of Kievan Rus′.

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Frontispiece The miraculous icon of the Mother of God from the Eletskiy Monastery, Chernigov (seventeenth century)

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Preface

Like its predecessor, *The Dynasty of Chernigov 1054–1146*, this book is based on an examination of primary sources. From among these, the chronicles of Rus′ have once again served as the main reservoir of information. Nevertheless, they cannot be taken at face value. We must keep in mind that not one chronicle copy from the twelfth or the thirteenth century has survived. Chronicles written at the courts of the princes under investigation were incorporated into later compilations and have come down to us, for the most part, in those from the fifteenth and the sixteenth centuries. Consequently, in evaluating chronicle accounts, we must keep in mind the biases of the original chronicler and of later compilers. Moreover, errors crept into the texts during the course of recopying when scribes inadvertently made mistakes through ignorance, carelessness, or fatigue. In some instances compilers changed the text when they sought to improve the original in the light of their own world-view.

The dating also produces special difficulties. The chroniclers use two systems of dating: the March (*martovskiy*) Year and the Ultra-March (*ul'tramartovskiy*) Year. Both years begin with March. When the chronicle uses the March Year, the correct January year of the Christian or Common Era is obtained by taking the chronicle date, for example 6732, the date from the creation of the world according to the Byzantine calendar, and subtracting 5508, the year before Christ in which, according to Byzantine reckoning, the world was created. This gives us the January year 1224 CE. If the chronicler is using the Ultra-March Year of 6732, it is necessary to subtract 5509 to obtain the correct January year, 1223 CE.[1] It is not always clear which system was being used. In later compilations, entries included under one year frequently represent a mixture of the two styles; the compiler incorporated into his text entries from some chronicles which used the one system and some which used the other. In determining the correct

[1] See also *Mikhail*, pp. x–xii, and *Dynasty*, pp. xvi–xvii.

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dates for the Hypatian Chronicle (Ipat.), the Laurentian Chronicle (Lav.), and the Novgorod First Chronicle (NPL), N. G. Berezhkov's study has been used as a guide.[2]

The chroniclers frequently refer to events as happening during the spring, the summer, the autumn, or the winter. Each season lasted three months. Spring began on March 8, summer on June 9, autumn on September 10, and winter on December 9. Thus, in the March Year, winter came during the last three months of the year: December, January, and February. According to the January calendar, however, the three months belong to two different years: December falls at the end of one year while January and February come at the beginning of the next. Thus, the winter that occurred in the March Year of 6732 corresponded to December of 1224 and January and February of 1225 in the January calendar, while the winter that occurred in the Ultra-March Year of 6732 corresponded to December of 1223 and January and February of 1224. It is also useful to note that the ice on the rivers usually melted in April.

The main source of southern Rus′ information has been the Hypatian Chronicle, which is named after its oldest manuscript from the beginning of the fifteenth century.[3] The chronicle can be divided into three parts: the so-called Primary Chronicle up to the year 1117, the South-Russian *svod* completed in 1200 at the Vydubichi Monastery, and the chronicle of Galicia and Volyn′ covering the years 1200 to 1292.[4] G. A. Perfecky translated the Galician–Volynian text into English.[5] The complete chronicle has also been translated into Ukrainian. The latter edition is particularly useful for its explanatory notes, maps, and geographical identifications.[6]

In 1377, the monk Lavrenty copied the so-called Laurentian Chronicle from a defective manuscript.[7] It records events up to the year 1305 and is the oldest source of information for Suzdalia, especially for the thirteenth century. Up to the year 1240 it also reports events from the Chernigov and Kievan lands. The chronicle incorporates the "*svod* of 1239" kept at the court of Yaroslav Vsevolodovich and the "*svod* of 1263" kept at the courts of Konstantin Vsevolodovich and his sons in Rostov.[8] Written by Suzdalian scribes, this compilation of the Monomashichi on occasion expresses hostility towards the Chernigov dynasty.

[2] Berezhkov. [3] Ipat.
[4] L. V. Cherepnin, "Letopisets Daniila Galitskogo," *Istoricheskie zapiski* 12 (1941), 228–53; D. S. Likhachev, *Russkie letopisi i ikh kul′turno-istoricheskoe znachenie* (M.-L., 1947), pp. 431–3; O. P. Likhacheva, "Letopis′ Ipatevskaya," SKKDR, 235–41.
[5] Perfecky. [6] Makhnovets′. [7] Lav.
[8] Yu. A. Limonov, *Letopisanie Vladimiro-Suzdal′skoy Rusi* (L., 1967); Likhachev, *Russkie letopisi*, pp. 427–31; Ya. S. Lur′e, "Letopis′ Lavrent′evskaya," *SKKDR*, 241–5.

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The Novgorod First Chronicle gives information mostly about Novgorodian affairs. Two of its copies have been published. The *Sinodal'nyy spisok*, or older redaction, was compiled during the fourteenth century and records events up to the middle of that century. The *Komissionnyy spisok*, or younger redaction, was compiled in the fifteenth century and records events up to the middle of that century.[9] Although the two copies have almost identical texts for the period under investigation, the younger redaction can at times be used to fill lacunae in the older. When quoting from the Novgorod First Chronicle two references will usually be given, the first to the older redaction and the second to the younger. The chronicle is of special importance to our study because it describes the involvement of the Ol′govichi in Novgorod during the first third of the thirteenth century.

In addition to these, all the chronicles in the series *Polnoe sobranie russkikh letopisey* (PSRL) were examined. Many of them are late compilations from the fifteenth to the seventeenth century which, in the main, repeat the information of the three oldest chronicles listed above. Nevertheless, they occasionally contain unique items of news. Of special value are a number of compilations that derive their information from the hypothetical source known as the *svod* of Feodosy and Filipp (1472–9).[10] Among these are the "Moskovskiy letopisniy svod kontsa XV veka," also known as "the Moscow *svod* of 1479" (Mosk.) which frequently expands or clarifies the Laurentian Chronicle, the "Ermolinskaya letopis′" (Erm.), the "L′vovskaya letopis′" (L′vov), and the "Patriarshaya ili Nikonovskaya letopis′" (Nikon.). The latter has been used sparingly because of its late provenance and the questionable reliability of its amplifications.[11] Another hypothetical source, the so-called *svod* of 1448, contains entries with different information.[12] It was evidently used by the Novgorodian chronicles known as the "Sofiyskaya pervaya letopis′" (Sof. 1) and the "Novgorodskaya chetvertaya letopis′" (N4).[13] These supplement the information given by the Novgorod First Chronicle.

The seventeenth-century "Gustinskaya letopis′" (Gust.) belonged to the Gustinskiy Monastery in the district of Poltava southeast of Kiev. In 1843, it

[9] NPL; see Likhachev, *Russkie letopisi*, pp. 440–4, and B. M. Kloss, "Letopis′ Novgorodskaya pervaya," *SKKDR*, 245–7.
[10] A. N Nasonov, "Moskovskiy svod 1479 i ego yuzhnorusskiy istochnik," *Problemy istochnikovedeniya* 9 (M., 1961), 350–85. For a more detailed bibliography, see *Mikhail*, pp. ix–x.
[11] Mosk., Erm., L′vov, Nikon. 9, and Nikon. 10.
[12] Ya. S. Lur′e, "Obshcherusskiy svod-protograf Sofiyskoy I i Novgorodskoy IV letopisey," TODRL 28 (1974), 114–39.
[13] Sof. 1 and N4.

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was published as a supplement to the Hypatian Chronicle in PSRL.[14] Unfortunately, it was not included in the 1908 republication. The "Gustinskaya letopis′" is important because it incorporates in its first part a manuscript similar to the Hypatian Chronicle. Consequently, a comparison of the two helps us to determine the correct dates of events. The "Radzivilovskaya letopis′" is of interest for its more than six hundred miniatures. Although these were drawn towards the end of the fifteenth century when the chronicle was written, a number of them are evidently direct copies of older, probably contemporary, miniatures.[15]

V. N. Tatishchev's *Istoriya Rossiyskaya* has been used sparingly. He produced two redactions of the work. The first, the more trustworthy, is contained in volume four of his *Istoriya Rossiyskaya*. He used sources that have since been lost and was thus able to incorporate new information. The second redaction, in volumes two and three, was a revision of the first. Although Tatishchev added more unique news from new chronicles and foreign sources, the second redaction is suspect. He wrote the text in contemporary Russian and therewith frequently changed the meaning of the original. He also inserted his own explanations without identifying them as such. For the purposes of our investigation the first redaction will be treated as the more reliable. Even so, his work will be referred to, in the main, only when both redactions have identical information.[16] It should also be noted that the Polish historian J. Długosz wrote a twelve-volume history in which he incorporated excerpts from Kievan and Galician–Volynian chronicles. Certain items of news concerning southern and southwestern Rus′ are found only in his work.[17]

Non-chronicle texts are also valuable sources. One of these is the *Paterik* of the Kievan Caves Monastery, compiled during the first third of the thirteenth century.[18] It is made up mainly of letters written by Bishop Simeon of Vladimir in Suzdalia and the monk Policarp from the monastery. The accounts contain useful references to princes and religious personages

[14] Gust.; see D. I. Myshko, "Hustynsk′kyi litopys iak istorychne dzherelo," UIZh 4 (1971), 69–73.

[15] *Radzivilovskaya ili Kenigsbergskaya letopis′*, Komitet Imperatorskago Obshchestva Lyubiteley Drevney Pis′mennosti, 118 (Spb., 1902) (photoreproduction). Concerning the miniatures, see O. I. Podobedova, *Miniatyury russkikh istoricheskikh rukopisey* (M., 1965).

[16] Tat.; see A. A. Shakhmatov, "K voprosu o kriticheskom izdanii Istorii Rossiyskoy V. N. Tatishcheva," *Dela i Dni*, Kniga pervaya (Peterburg, 1920), 80–95; *Mikhail*, pp. xiii–xiv, and "Pitfalls," 137–53.

[17] J. Długosz, *Longini canonici Cracoviensis, Historiae Polonicae* (Leipzig, 1711), bk. 6. See also Yu. A. Limonov, "Pol′skiy khronist Yan Dlugosh o Rossii," *Feodal′naya Rossiya vo vsemirno-istoricheskom protsesse* (M., 1972), 262–8.

[18] D. Abramovich, *Kievo-pecherskiy Paterik* (K., 1930); M. Heppell (trans.), *The "Paterik" of the Kievan Caves Monastery* (Cambridge, Mass., 1989); L. A. Ol′shevskaya, "Paterik Kievo-Pecherskiy," *SKKDR*, 308–13.

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of this period. The *Lyubetskiy sinodik* is an important source for helping us to determine the identities of the princes of Chernigov. The work contains a list of deceased princes of the dynasty to be commemorated by the monks at the Monastery of St. Anthony in Lyubech. R. V. Zotov compared the list of names in this source to the princes known from the chronicles and established the identities, the baptismal names, and monastic names of many individuals.[19]

A short account known as the "Slovo pokhval′noe na prenesenie moshchey Svv. Borisa i Gleba" exhorts the princes of Chernigov to live in brotherly love.[20] The anonymous work was presented on the feast of the translation of the relics of SS. Boris and Gleb. It appeals to the younger princes to be submissive to the elder ones and to cease their rivalries. The unknown author points to David Svyatoslavich (d. 1123) as an ideal prince and extols his princely behaviour and Christian virtues. The context of the *Slovo* reveals that it is a Chernigov work written after David's death.[21]

Hagiographic literature and religious accounts also provide useful information. The most important of these are the Life (*Zhitie*) of St. Evfrosinia of Suzdal′[22] and the account of the miraculous cure of Mikhail Vsevolodovich as a youth.[23] A unique source of written information is the fund of graffiti surviving on the walls of churches, notably in St. Sofia in Kiev. These inscriptions were meticulously studied by S. A. Vysotsky.[24] The epic poem "The Lay of Igor's Campaign" (*Slovo o polku Igoreve*) has not been used as a source.[25] Although it is useful insofar as it reflects the spirit of the age, it is unreliable as political evidence and provides no information that the chronicles do not give.

In addition to written works, other primary sources have been used. These include archaeological, architectural, artistic, sphragistic, and numismatic evidence. During the 1990s, Ukrainian archaeologists published valuable material concerning the Chernigov lands. Unfortunately for the political historian, much of the information is of greater value to the

[19] Zotov.
[20] Kh. Loparev (ed.), "Slovo pokhval′noe na prenesenie moshchey Svv. Borisa i Gleba," *Pamyatniki drevney pis′mennosti 98* (Spb., 1894).
[21] M. A. Salmina, "Slovo o knyaz′yakh," *SKKDR*, 429–31.
[22] V. T. Georgievsky, "Zhitie pr. Evfrosinii Suzdal′skoy, s miniatyurami, po spisku XVII v.," *Trudy Vladimirskoy uchenoy arkhivnoy komissii* (Vladimir, 1899), bk. 1.
[23] "Kniga stepennaya tsarskogo rodosloviya," PSRL 21, chast′ pervaya (Spb., 1908), 248–9.
[24] *Drevne-russkie nadpisi Sofii Kievskoy XI–XIV vv*., vyp. 1 (K., 1966) and his *Kievskie graffiti XI–XVII vv*. (K., 1985).
[25] V. P. Adrianova-Peretts (ed.), *Slovo o polku Igoreve* (M., 1950); J. Fennell and D. Obolensky (eds.), "The Lay of Igor's Campaign," *A Historical Russian Reader: A Selection of Texts from the XIth to the XVth Centuries* (Oxford, 1969), pp. 63–72; O. V. Tvorogov, "Slovo o polku Igoreve," SKKDR, 435–7.

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study of the ethnic and material culture of the region. In like manner, the evidence of medieval architecture and art is of greater use to students of architecture and art than to political historians. Relying on seals and coins as sources is also problematic. Specialists frequently disagree in attributing these objects to specific princes. Moreover, there is insufficient evidence and a lack of consensus among investigators concerning the princes' personal signs such as those found on building materials. Consequently, a political historian must use all this potentially valuable evidence with caution.

The book is, in effect, a compilation of virtually all the information that the chronicles give on the dynasty of Chernigov for the period under investigation. Accordingly, events are examined chronologically in imitation of the method used by the chroniclers. Since most readers are unfamiliar with the dynasty's history, it is hoped that this method of presentation will give them a clearer understanding of it. Moreover, it will give them an appreciation of what events the chroniclers and their contemporaries considered to be noteworthy. This approach will also give the reader a cross-section view of the political, ecclesiastical, and personal lives of members of the dynasty. For easier reading each chapter is divided into subsections with headings.

Problems arise in writing Slavic place names, proper names, and titles in English. The term Rus′ has been used to designate the so-called kernel of the original state. For our purposes this includes the lands of Kiev, Chernigov, and Pereyaslavl′, along the central Dnepr region. The terms patrimony (*otchina*) and domain (*volost′*) are used interchangeably. Place names and proper names (such as Igor′, Mikhail, Pereyaslavl′, Zadesen′e) have been transliterated from the forms found in the indexes of the relevant chronicles. When chroniclers give different forms of a name, significant variants are noted the first time the name appears (for example, Trubetsk, Trubchesk, Trubech). For foreign names that have commonly accepted forms in English, the latter have been used (for instance, Chingis Khan, John de Plano Carpini, but Baty instead of Batu).

In speaking of dynasties, we have adopted the terminology of the chroniclers, who referred to members of a particular princely family by the collective form of the progenitor's name. For example, the descendants of Svyatoslav Yaroslavich of Chernigov (d. 1076) were called the Svyatoslavichi, and those of Vladimir Monomakh (d. 1125) the Monomashichi. With growth in numbers, one dynasty sometimes split up into several dynasties. In this way, for example, the Svyatoslavichi became the Ol′govichi of Chernigov, the Davidovichi of Chernigov, and the Yaroslavichi of Murom and Ryazan'. The Ol′govichi in turn bifurcated into the senior branch and the cadet

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branch. The Monomashichi split up into the Mstislavichi of Volyn′, the Rostislavichi of Smolensk, and the Vsevolodovichi of Suzdalia.

Russian words have been transliterated according to the British system of Latinisation given in *The Slavonic and East European Review*.[26] Some minor modifications, however, have been made to this system. For example, e and ë are always transliterated as e (thus "ego" and not "yego"); the endings –yy and –iy are rendered –y in first names (as in Antony, Yury) and in modern surnames (Golubovsky, Vysotsky); however, in adjectival endings –yy and –iy are used (Pecherskyy, Vizantiyskiy); and feminine names ending in –iya are spelled –ia (Sofia, Agafia). For the transliteration of Ukrainian words and names we have followed the system adopted by *The Journal of Ukrainian Studies* published by The Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies in Toronto. Greek, Polish, German, and other foreign names are transliterated according to the forms found in *The Cambridge Medieval History*. Russian diacritical marks have not been used.

Abbreviations are explained in the list of abbreviations, where bibliographical information is found for the frequently used abbreviated titles. For unabbreviated titles, the first reference to a work is given in its complete form while subsequent references consist of the author's name, a key word or words from the title, and the page reference.

[26] W. K. Matthews, "The Latinisation of Cyrillic Characters," *The Slavonic and East European Review* 30, nr. 75 (1952), 531–48.

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Acknowledgments

The plan to investigate the history of the dynasty of Chernigov was conceived some twenty years ago. The intention was to write the history in one book, but it soon became clear that a single volume would not do justice to all the available material. During the course of writing this, the second book on the dynasty of Chernigov, I received much valuable assistance from colleagues and friends whom I wish to thank.

First, I wish to acknowledge my indebtedness, albeit posthumously, to my former supervisor John Fennell, who encouraged me to take up the project and guided me with his insightful observations until his death. The late Sir Dimitri Obolensky advised me on Orthodox practices and Jonathan Shepard apprised me of Byzantine political traditions.

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unflaggingly looked after my numerous requests. The staff at the Slavonic Section of the Taylorian Institute Library was always most accommodating. At the Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies, Toronto, Caroline Suma cheerfully gave expert assistance.

I am indebted in a special way to Patricia Ellsworth for her enthusiastic assistance and for her optimistic efforts at trying to improve my grammatical and stylistic infelicities. I am grateful to Gerald Dimnik for his valuable technical assistance. My heartfelt thanks go to Karen Dinsdale who, as my administrative assistant, gave me most welcomed support and encouragement.

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Chronological table of events

THE THIRD GENERATION CONTINUED: 1146–1164

1146 – August 1: Igor′ Ol′govich succeeds Vsevolod to Kiev
– August 13: Izyaslav Mstislavich deposes Igor′ and takes him captive
– Svyatoslav Ol′govich moves to Novgorod Severskiy and seeks to free Igor′
– The Davidovichi try to kill Svyatoslav and to appropriate his lands
– Izyaslav Mstislavich helps them to attack Novgorod Severskiy
– Yury of Suzdalia sends his son Ivanko to help Svyatoslav
– The Davidovichi and Izyaslav Mstislavich capture Svyatoslav's Putivl′
1147 – January 5: Igor′ becomes a monk
– January 16: Svyatoslav defeats Izyaslav Davidovich near Karachev
– April 4: Svyatoslav and Yury meet at Moscow
– Svyatoslav recaptures the Vyatichi lands
– September 19: the Kievans kill Igor′
– Svyatoslav drives out Mstislav Izyaslavich from Kursk
– Izyaslav Mstislavich and Rostislav of Smolensk set fire to the Zadesen'e towns
1148 – Izyaslav Mstislavich attacks Chernigov and pillages Lyubech
– The princes of Chernigov conclude peace with Izyaslav Mstislavich
1149 – Izyaslav and Rostislav pillage Yury's lands
– July 24: Yury sets out to attack Izyaslav Mstislavich in Kiev
– Izyaslav declares war on Svyatoslav
– Yury and Svyatoslav defeat Izyaslav at the river L′to
– August 23: Yury occupies Kiev
1150 – Svyatoslav transfers Igor′'s remains from Kiev to Chernigov
– Izyaslav evicts Yury from Kiev
– Izyaslav invites Vyacheslav Vladimirovich to be co-ruler

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1151 – Vladimir Davidovich falls in battle
– Izyaslav Davidovich occupies Chernigov
1152 – Izyaslav Mstislavich and his allies demolish Yury's Gorodets
– Yury and Svyatoslav Ol′govich retaliate against them
1153 – Izyaslav Mstislavich and his allies attack Svyatoslav
1154 – November 14: Izyaslav Mstislavich dies in Kiev
– Vyacheslav Vladimirovich dies in Kiev
– Izyaslav Davidovich occupies Kiev
1155 – March 20: Yury occupies Kiev
1156 – Svyatoslav Vladimirovich seizes Vshchizh from his uncle Izyaslav
– Svyatoslav Vsevolodovich rebels against his uncle Svyatoslav
1157 – May 15: Yury dies in Kiev
– May 19: Izyaslav Davidovich occupies Kiev
– Svyatoslav Ol′govich occupies Chernigov
– Svyatoslav Vsevolodovich occupies Novgorod Severskiy
1158 – Izyaslav Davidovich and Svyatoslav Ol′govich conclude a pact at Lutava
– Izyaslav flees from Kiev to the Vyatichi
– Rostislav Mstislavich occupies Kiev
1159 – Izyaslav Davidovich fails to drive out Svyatoslav's son Oleg from Putivl′
– Izyaslav fails to capture Chernigov
– Izyaslav joins Svyatoslav Vladimirovich in Vshchizh
1160 – Izyaslav pillages the Smolensk lands
– Svyatoslav Ol′govich and his allies storm Vshchizh
– Svyatoslav Ol′govich sends his son Oleg to visit Rostislav in Kiev
– Izyaslav Davidovich deceitfully wins over Oleg and other Ol′govichi
1161 – February 12: Izyaslav captures Kiev
– March 6: Izyaslav dies in battle
1163 – Bishop Leon of Suzdal′ visits Svyatoslav Ol′govich
1164 – February 15: Svyatoslav Ol′govich dies
– Svyatoslav Vsevolodovich occupies Chernigov
– Oleg Svyatoslavich occupies Novgorod Severskiy

THE FOURTH GENERATION: 1164–1201

1166 – Svyatoslav Vladimirovich dies in Vshchizh
– Svyatoslav Vsevolodovich and Oleg Svyatoslavich fight over his domains

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1167 – The Ol′govichi campaign against Khans Koza and Beglyuk
– March 14: Rostislav Mstislavich dies
– May 19: Mstislav Izyaslavich of Volyn′ occupies Kiev
1168 – March 2: Mstislav and his allies attack the Polovtsy
1169 – Andrey Bogolyubskiy's coalition plunders Kiev
– March 8: Andrey appoints his brother Gleb to Kiev
1170 – Mstislav Izyaslavich seizes Kiev
– April 13: Gleb returns to Kiev
– August 19: Mstislav dies in Volyn′
1171 – January 20: Gleb dies in Kiev
– Roman Rostislavich occupies Kiev
– July 20: Igor′ Svyatoslavich campaigns against Kobyak and Konchak
1173 – Andrey Bogolyubskiy evicts Roman from Kiev
– Mikhalko gives Kiev to his brother Vsevolod and Yaropolk Rostislavich
– March 24: Ryurik Rostislavich occupies Kiev
– September 8: Svyatoslav Vsevolodovich occupies Kiev
– Yaroslav Izyaslavich of Lutsk occupies Kiev
– Svyatoslav drives out Yaroslav from Kiev
– Svyatoslav lays the foundation for the Church of St. Michael
1174 – June 29: *boyars* kill Andrey Bogolyubskiy
– Oleg Svyatoslavich pillages towns belonging to Svyatoslav Vsevolodovich
– Svyatoslav and Oleg conclude peace
1175 – Roman Rostislavich occupies Kiev
– May 21: Mikhalko and Vsevolod depart from Chernigov for Suzdalia
– Svyatoslav's son Oleg captures Sviril′sk from the princes of Ryazan′
1176 – The Rostislavichi attack the nomads but are defeated
– July 22: Svyatoslav Vsevolodovich replaces Roman in Kiev
1177 – Svyatoslav sends Bishop Porfiry and *Igumen* Efrem to Vsevolod Yur′evich
1180 – January 16: Oleg Svyatoslavich dies
– Igor′ occupies Novgorod Severskiy
– August 17: Svyatoslav's son Vladimir is installed in Novgorod
– Vsevolod of Suzdalia takes Svyatoslav's son Gleb captive
– Svyatoslav fails to kidnap David Rostislavich and flees to Chernigov
– Ryurik Rostislavich occupies Kiev

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1181 – Svyatoslav fails to free Gleb from Suzdalia
– Svyatoslav becomes prince in Novgorod
– Svyatoslav and the Ol′govichi attack Drutsk
– Svyatoslav occupies Kiev
– Ryurik's troops rout Igor′ and the Polovtsy at Dolobsk
– Ryurik cedes Kiev to Svyatoslav but keeps the Kievan land
1182 – The Novgorodians expel Svyatoslav's son Vladimir
– Vsevolod of Suzdalia sets Svyatoslav's son Gleb free
1184 – February 23: Konchak raids the lands of Pereyaslavl′
– Igor′ pursues the pillagers and takes captives
– July 30: Svyatoslav and Ryurik defeat the Polovtsy at the river Erel′
– Igor′ defeats nomads at the river Merla
1185 – January 1: Svyatoslav consecrates the Church of St. Vasily
– Svyatoslav and Ryurik defeat Konchak
– Svyatoslav goes to Karachev
– April 23: Igor′ marches against the Donets Polovtsy
– May 12: Igor′ is defeated at the river Kayala and taken captive
– Igor′ escapes from Konchak's camp
1186 – March 25: Svyatoslav consecrates the Church of the Annunciation
– Porfiry fails to pacify Vsevolod of Suzdalia with the princes of Ryazan′
1187 – Konchak plunders the river Ros′ region
– Polovtsian bands raid Chernigov lands
– October 1: Yaroslav Osmomysl dies in Galich
1188 – Svyatoslav and Ryurik campaign against the Polovtsy along the Dnepr
– Vladimir Igorevich returns from captivity with Konchak's daughter
– Roman Mstislavich of Volyn′ seizes Galich
– Bela III drives out Roman from Galich
– Svyatoslav sends his son Gleb to the king in Galich
– Ryurik refuses to give Svyatoslav his Kievan domains in exchange for Galich
1190 – Kuntuvdey incites the Polovtsy to pillage the Ros′ region
– Svyatoslav calls a *snem* of the Ol′govichi in Chernigov
1192 – Igor′ defeats the Polovtsy
– Igor′ and the Ol′govichi campaign against the Polovtsy a second time

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1193 – The Polovtsy hand over Kuntuvdey to Ryurik
– Svyatoslav fails to conclude peace with the Lukomortsy and the Burchevichi
1194 – Svyatoslav and Ryurik stand guard against the Polovtsy at Vasiliev
– Svyatoslav goes to Karachev
– April 23: Svyatoslav departs from Karachev for Kiev
– July 25: Greeks collect Svyatoslav's granddaughter for the emperor's son
– Svyatoslav dies during the last week in July
– Ryurik occupies Kiev
1195 – Vsevolod Bol′shoe Gnezdo challenges Ryurik's allocation of domains
– Ryurik gives to Vsevolod the five towns he had given to Roman Mstislavich
– Roman asks Yaroslav of Chernigov to help him evict Ryurik from Kiev
– The Monomashichi demand that the Ol′govichi renounce Kiev forever
1196 – Yaroslav's troops besiege Vitebsk
– Roman of Volyn′ raids Ryurik's lands in support of the Ol′govichi
– Vsevolod and David invade the Chernigov lands
– Yaroslav negotiates a peace with Vsevolod
1197 – In March Yaroslav's son Yaropolk becomes prince of Novgorod
– The Novgorodians evict Yaropolk six months later
1198 – Yaroslav Vsevolodovich dies
– Igor′ replaces him Chernigov
– Roman occupies Galich
1201 – Igor′ dies in Chernigov
– Oleg Svyatoslavich succeeds him

THE FIFTH GENERATION: 1201–1223

1201 – Roman of Galich evicts Ryurik from Kiev
– Roman and Vsevolod appoint Ingvar′ Yaroslavich to Kiev
1203 – January 2: Ryurik, the Ol′govichi, and the Polovtsy sack Kiev
– Vsevolod appoints Ryurik to Kiev
1204 – Ryurik and Roman attack the Polovtsy
– Roman has Ryurik tonsured
– The Ol′govichi defeat the Lithuanians
– Oleg Svyatoslavich dies and Vsevolod Chermnyy occupies Chernigov

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1205 – June 19: Roman of Galich is killed
– Ryurik seizes Kiev
– Ryurik and the Ol′govichi fail to capture Galich
1206 – The Ol′govichi hold a *snem* in Chernigov
– The Ol′govichi and Ryurik march against Galich
– Vladimir Igorevich occupies Galich
– Vsevolod Chermnyy evicts Ryurik and occupies Kiev
– Vsevolod appoints his son Mikhail to Pereyaslavl′
– Ryurik evicts Vsevolod from Kiev and Mikhail from Pereyaslavl′
1207 – Vsevolod drives out Ryurik from Kiev
– August 19: Vsevolod Bol′shoe Gnezdo sets out against Chernigov
– He diverts his attack against Ryazan′
– Ryurik evicts Vsevolod Chermnyy from Kiev and occupies it
1208 – Roman Igorevich drives out his brother Vladimir from Galich
– September 4: the Galicians give Galich to Ryurik's son Rostislav
– Ryurik Rostislavich dies in Kiev
– Vsevolod Chermnyy occupies Kiev
– The Galicians evict Rostislav and reinstate Roman Igorevich
1209 – The Hungarians expel Roman and place Benedict in charge of Galich
1210 – Vsevolod Chermnyy sends Metropolitan Matfey to Vsevolod Bol'shoe Gnezdo
– The Galicians ask Vladimir Igorevich to return to Galich
1211 – The Galicians hang three Igorevichi
1212 – Vsevolod Chermnyy drives out the Rostislavichi from their Kievan domains
– April 13: Vsevolod Bol'shoe Gnezdo dies
– The Rostislavichi attack Kiev
– Vsevolod Chermnyy flees to Chernigov where he dies
– Vsevolod's brother Gleb replaces him as senior prince
– Mstislav Romanovich of Smolensk occupies Kiev
1218 – February 2: Konstantin Vsevolodovich dies and Yury succeeds him in Suzdalia
– Mstislav Mstislavich Udaloy occupies Galich
1220 – The Lithuanians pillage Chernigov lands
– Mstislav Svyatoslavich of Chernigov pursues the raiders
1223 – May 31: the Tatars defeat the princes of Rus′ at the river Kalka
– Mstislav Svyatoslavich of Chernigov is killed
– Mstislav Romanovich of Kiev is killed

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THE SIXTH GENERATION: 1223–1246

1223 – June 16: Vladimir Ryurikovich occupies Kiev
– Mikhail Vsevolodovich occupies Chernigov
1224 – Yury of Suzdalia asks the Novgorodians to accept Mikhail as prince
1225 – Mikhail reconciles the Novgorodians with Yury
– Yaroslav Vsevolodovich replaces Mikhail in Novgorod
1226 – Yury helps Mikhail against Oleg of Kursk
1228 – Vladimir Ryurikovich and Mikhail attack Daniil Romanovich in Kamenets
1229 – Mikhail rules Novgorod as an autonomous prince
– Mikhail leaves his son Rostislav in Novgorod as prince
1230 – Bishop Spiridon cuts Rostislav's hair in Novgorod
– Vladimir Ryurikovich and Mikhail send a peace delegation to Suzdalia
– A famine hits the entire land
– *Posadnik* Vnezd Vodovik and Rostislav flee to Chernigov
1231 – March 25: princes attend a *snem* in Kiev
– Mikhail attacks Vladimir Ryurikovich in Kiev
– Yaroslav Vsevolodovich attacks Serensk and Mosal′sk
– *Posadnik* Vnezd Vodovik dies in Chernigov
1232 – Vodovik's supporters leave Chernigov
1233 – Izyaslav Vladimirovich pillages Daniil's town of Tikhoml′
– Mikhail and Izyaslav threaten to march against Daniil
– The Galicians invite Daniil to be their prince
1234 – Mikhail attacks Kiev
1235 – Vladimir and Daniil attack Mikhail in Chernigov but he drives them off
– Izyaslav Vladimirovich brings the Polovtsy to Mikhail's aid
– Mikhail defeats Vladimir and Daniil at Torchesk
– The Polovtsy take Vladimir captive
– Mikhail occupies Kiev
– Daniil flees from Galich
– Mikhail appoints Izyaslav Mstislavich to Kiev and occupies Galich
– Vladimir returns to Kiev from the Polovtsy
1236 – Daniil and Yury of Suzdalia join forces against Mikhail
– Yaroslav Vsevolodovich replaces Vladimir Ryurikovich in Kiev
– Mikhail campaigns against Daniil in Volyn′
– Daniil attacks Mikhail and Rostislav in Galich
– Mikhail gives Daniil Peremyshl′ and they conclude peace

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– The Tatars defeat the Volga Bulgars
– Yaroslav departs from Kiev and returns to Suzdalia
– Mikhail appoints Rostislav to Galich and he occupies Kiev
1237 – Rostislav leads a campaign against the Lithuanians
– The Galicians invite Daniil to Galich and Rostislav flees to Hungary
– December 21: Baty invades Ryazan′
1238 – Baty razes Kozel′sk in the Vyatichi lands
1239 – March 3: the Tatars sack Pereyaslavl′
– Yaroslav Vsevolodovich takes Mikhail's wife captive at Kamenets
– October 18: Chernigov falls to the Tatars
1240 – Mikhail executes Tatar messengers and flees to Hungary
– Bela IV expels Mikhail and Rostislav from Hungary
– Mikhail and Rostislav go to the Poles
– Mikhail is pacified with Daniil and the latter returns Kiev to him
– December 6: Baty takes Kiev
1241 – Mikhail and his family flee to Mazovia and Silesia
– Mikhail returns to Kiev and appoints Rostislav to Chernigov
1242 – Rostislav seizes Galich
– Rostislav flees to Hungary and marries the king's daughter
– Baty sets up the Kipchak Khanate at Saray
1243 – Baty appoints Yaroslav Vsevolodovich prince of Kiev
– Mikhail visits Bela IV who rebuffs him
– Mikhail disowns Rostislav
1245 – October 26: Baty gives Daniil the *yarlyk* to rule Galicia and Volyn′
1246 – September 20: Baty kills Mikhail and his *boyar* Fedor at Saray
– September 30: Yaroslav Vsevolodovich is poisoned at Karakorum

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Glossary

artel′ a team of craftsmen commissioned to build masonry structures
detinets citadel
druzhina a prince's private detachment of troops, bodyguard
druzhinnik member of the *druzhina*
dvor a prince or nobleman's household, court, courtyard
gramota a letter, an official document of a treaty, law, or deed
grivna monetary ingot, coin
igumen abbot, father superior of a monastery
izgoi a debarred prince, one ineligible to rule a town
konets a suburb of a town, a town quarter
kuna pelt of marten, monetary unit
letopis′ chronicle, annals
ostrog a suburb of a town surrounded by a palisade
podol′ the lower town with a port and market
posadnik mayor, chief executive official in a town, a prince's lieutenant
postrig hair-cutting ceremony initiating a youth to majority
shurin brother-in-law (wife's brother)
sinodik book containing the names of those deceased whom the faithful wished to have commemorated in church services
skhima the schema or the great habit, the strictest monastic observance in the Orthodox Church.
skhimnik a monk having taken the vows of the *skhima*
snem council of princes, congress, meeting, assembly
spisok manuscript copy
strastoterpets martyr, literally "passion-sufferer"
svat son-in-law's father; daughter-in-law's father
svod chronicle compilation, codex
test′ father-in-law (wife's father)
tiun (tivun) town official, administrator
tysyatskiy commander of a town militia, police chief

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ustav statute
veche popular assembly, town assembly
voevoda military commander
volost' district, domain, administrative unit
yarlyk charter, Tatar patent for a throne, document of privilege
Zhitie 'Life', narrative account of a saint's life or death
zyat' son-in-law, brother-in-law

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