

The Volokolamsk Paterikon
A Window on a Muscovite Monastery

T. ALLAN SMITH

The purpose of this volume is to make accessible to mediaevalists, church historians and Slavists, texts associated with the Monastery of the Dormition in Volokolamsk, one of the most important monastic foundations in mediaeval Muscovy, and with its founder, Iosif of Volokolamsk.

The *Volokolamsk Paterikon* by Dosifej Toporkov is the principal focus of the study, but also included in translation are Dosifej Toporkov's *Funeral Oration for Venerable Hegumen Iosif*, Savva Černyj's life of Iosif and the *Life of Kassian Bosoj* and *Life of Elder Fatej* by Vassian Koška. All of these texts are contained in GIM Sinodal'noe sobr. No. 927, compiled by Vassian Koška in the middle of the sixteenth century. Some recently edited supplementary tales from the *Volokolamsk Paterikon*, compiled by Vassian Koška and preserved in RGB Muzejnoe sobr. No. 1257 of the mid-sixteenth century, are also included in this translation. All of these texts are valuable documentary witnesses to the type of monasticism practiced in a monastery which would become a major centre for literary production and provide the Russian church with numerous higher clergy.

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PONTIFICAL INSTITUTE OF MEDIAEVAL STUDIES

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Preface

This volume makes accessible to mediaevalists, church historians and Slavists, texts associated with the Monastery of the Dormition in Volokolamsk, one of the most important monastic foundations in mediaeval Muscovy, and with its founder, Iosif of Volokolamsk. The *Volokolamsk Paterikon* by Dosifej Toporkov is the principal focus of the study, but also included in translation are Dosifej Toporkov's *Funeral Oration for Venerable Hegumen Iosif*, Savva Černyj's life of Iosif and the *Life of Kassian Bosoj* and *Life of Elder Fatej* by Vassian Koška. All of these texts are contained in GIM Sinodal'noe sobr. No. 927, compiled by Vassian Koška in the middle of the sixteenth century. The texts are valuable documentary witnesses to the type of monasticism practiced in a monastery which would become a major centre for literary production and provide the Russian church with numerous higher clergy. In the nearly twenty years since I completed my dissertation on GIM Sinodal'noe sobr. No. 927, editions of texts and many new literary and historical studies have appeared that have expanded our understanding of Iosif and his monastery. New directions in our understanding of the literary genres of mediaeval Rus' have emerged. The present volume takes this scholarship into account. Translations and notes have been thoroughly reworked, the bibliography has been updated, and a new introduction has been written. A list of biblical references and a glossary of religious terms appearing in the translation have also been added. Transliteration of Slavic languages in Cyrillic scripts always poses problems; for this book I have used the International Scholarly System.

I am grateful to many people for their encouragement and support as I prepared this book. My initial gratitude must go to my *Doktormutter* Professor Fairy von Lilienfeld, who guided my research and who has remained an inspiration throughout my academic career. Students at the Toronto School of Theology who encouraged me to prepare this book also deserve mention: Greg Peters, Brenda Ihssen and Jonathan Seiling. I owe a particular debt of thanks to the two anonymous readers for their comments and suggestions. Their wisdom and erudition helped significantly and positively to shape the final version of the text. Any remaining faults and weaknesses are my own.

Abbreviations

For complete details, please consult the bibliography.

<i>BibSanc</i>	<i>Bibliotheca Sanctorum</i>
<i>ČOIDR</i>	<i>Čtenija v imperatorskom občestve istorii i drevnostej rossijskix pri Moskovskom universitete</i>
<i>ČOLDP</i>	<i>Čtenija v moskovskom občestve ljubitelej duxovnago prosvješčenja</i>
<i>HGR</i>	<i>Handbuch der Geschichte Russlands vol. 1: Bis 1613: Von der Kiever Reichsbildung bis zum Moskauer Zartum</i> , ed. M. Hellmann
<i>LThK</i>	<i>Lexikon für Theologie und Kirche</i> , ed. Karl Rahner et al.
<i>MERSH</i>	<i>The Modern Encyclopedia of Russian and Soviet History</i> , ed. J.L. Wieczynski
<i>OCA</i>	<i>Orientalia Christiana Analecta</i>
<i>PIV</i>	<i>Poslanija Iosifa Volockogo</i> , ed. A.A. Zimin and Ja.S. Lur'e
<i>PSRL</i>	<i>Polnoe Sobranie Russkix Letopisej</i>
<i>SKKDR</i>	<i>Slovar' knižnikov i knižnosti drevnej Rusi</i> , ed. D.S. Lixačev
<i>TODRL</i>	<i>Trudy Otdela drevnerusskoj literatury</i>
<i>VMČ</i>	<i>Velikie Minei Četii</i>
<i>VP</i>	<i>Volokolamskij Paterik</i> , ed. Pitirim