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16. MORE ON THE ROMANOV FAMILY

Tsar Nicholas II and his wife, Alexandra, had five children—four daughters and one son. This image depicts a portrait of Russia's Imperial Family before the days of the Bolshevik Revolution. Image online via Wikimedia Commons.

By all accounts, the Tsar was a good father. He sat with his [children](#) when they were ill and valued pictures they made for him.

Today the Grand Duchess Anastasia is probably the best known of the Romanov Family. She was an [adorable child](#), and you can read more about her in this [biography](#) (with pictures).

Nicholas II was ill-prepared to be Tsar of all the Russias. Here are short [biographies](#) of Nicholas, his [father](#), Tsar Alexander III, and his [mother](#), Empress Maria Feodorovna.

Although [Alexandra](#) was one of Queen Victoria's favorites, the Empress did not have the same relationship with the Russian people. This biography, with pictures, will be useful for those wishing to know more about *The Life and Tragedy of Alexandra Feodorovna*.

Their Homes and Towns

Peterhof, also known as Petrodvoerts, is the stunning summer palace of Peter the Great. With a canal leading to the Gulf of Finland, fantastic fountains covered in gold and stunning scenery, the palace and grounds make visitors believe they are in a fairytale land.

One of the most beautiful cities in Europe, [St. Petersburg](#) has had several name changes. Petrograd, Leningrad, and now, once again, St. Petersburg, it is the home of such fantastic places as the Tsar's Winter Palace, now the [Hermitage Museum](#). With at least 3,000,000 holdings in a thousand rooms, it is one of the greatest museums in the world.

The [Alexander Palace](#), at Tsarskoe Selo, was home to the Tsar and his family for several years before their execution. Check out this terrific site which tells you all about the Alexander Palace

Want to know what life was like in [Tsarskoe Selo in 1910](#)? If so, this site is worth a visit.

Their Possessions

Russia is known for its very-valuable [Faberge Easter Eggs](#) made by Peter Karl Faberge. [The first egg](#) was a present for the Tsarina. The Faberge firm closed as a result of the Russian Revolution.

In a stunning development, involving the famous Faberge Eggs, a scrap dealer from America's Midwest found an interesting object at an antique sale during the spring of 2014. He bought the item for \$13,000. Before

melting it down, the new owner thought it wise to investigate his purchase.

A Google search led him to believe it might be a valuable artifact. As it happens ... [his new purchase](#) was one of the 52 Faberge eggs owned by Russia's imperial family. Its value is ... \$33 million.

We can view other Romanov possessions online. Follow these links to see a [court gown](#) worn by Alexandra and a [uniform](#) worn by Nicholas.

The two youngest daughters of Nicholas and Alexandra, Maria and Anastasia, shared a bedroom at the Alexander Palace. Follow this link to [view a picture of it](#).

In the Russian Orthodox Church, an Altar Book of Gospels is walked through the sanctuary so all the people can see it. Follow this link to a Romanov Treasure: an [Altar Book of Gospels](#) bound with precious metal and gems.

More on Rasputin

Because Rasputin was such an infamous character, it is easy to forget that he was also a father himself. His daughter, Maria, wrote about her father in *Rasputin - The Man Behind the Myth*.

See [Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:](#)

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