

CURRICULUM VITAE



Vladimir BOBROVNIKOV

(Ph.D. in History and Oriental Studies, Moscow Institute of Oriental Studies, 1994; B.A. in Medieval History, Moscow State University, 1987) is a Professor of History and a Leading Research Fellow at National Research University Higher School of Economics in St. Petersburg where he starts teaching courses in global history of empires, Islam and post-colonial Oriental studies from 2018. He also conducts regular archival and field researches on Islam in modern Russia's Caucasus from 1992 to date.

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About

Bobrovnikov is a historian of borderlands in tsarist and Soviet Russia who specializes in the history of rural non-Christian populations under the colonial and socialist modernization from the late eighteenth through the twentieth centuries. His major field of expertise is Islam in Russia, the Caucasus, as well as the history of Oriental Studies in Europe.

Bobrovnikov studied medieval and modern history as well as Islamic and Oriental Studies at Moscow State University and Institute of Oriental Studies in Moscow. In December 1993 he defended the Ph.D. Dissertation in History and Oriental Studies under the title: *Tradition and Modernity in the Mentality of the North African Peasants in the Modern Times* (07.00.03, Institute of Oriental Studies) (a monograph was written on its basis and published in Russian in 1998). From 2009 Bobrovnikov directs Caucasus chair at the Central Eurasia Research Center of the Moscow Institute of Oriental Studies. Before coming to HSE in St. Petersburg Bobrovnikov was a fellow at Netherlands Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities and Social Sciences (NIAS - KNAW) in Amsterdam, Netherlands in 2017-2018.

He is currently working on the project, which compares studies of Islamic and customary law, and Muslim legal practices in the borderlands the Russian empire (North Caucasus) with those of its European counterparts in the North Africa and Indonesia between the middle of the nineteenth through the early twentieth centuries. The project is entitled *Deconstructing Shari'a Justice in Russia's North Caucasus, 1860s-1920s. Practices, Networks, Actors from the Post-Colonial Perspective*. This project questions the hegemonic frameworks of interpretation: the collision between Shari'a, Islamic and non-Islamic customary law, and the preposition that Russian colonial officers and Muslim legal practitioners were ignorant of what happened in other parts of the colonized world.

His course offerings in 2018–2019 include “Comparative History of Empires” and an Introductory Seminar “Actual Issues in the History of Islamic Studies”.

He is a member of the European Association for Middle Eastern Studies (EURAMES, London-based, from 2000), CASCADE Caucasus network (Paris-based, from 2016), Society of Russia's Orientologists (Moscow, from 2004), Free Historical Society (from 2014), CASCADE Caucasus network (from 2016), and NIAS Fellows Association (from 2018).

He serves on editorial boards of the academic journals: *Ethnographic Review (Etnograficheskoe obozrenie)*; *Islamology*; *Oriens (Vostok)*; *State, Religion, Church in Russia and Worldwide (Gosudarstvo, religii, tserkov' v Rossii i za rubezhom)*.

Current Research Interests:

New imperial history, social and legal anthropology, Oriental studies and Orientalism. Arabic paleography and epigraphy. Transformation of Muslim village communities in the historical context of colonial and postcolonial (socialist) modernization, hybrid religious and legal practices, comparative analysis of (post)colonial transfers in the field of Oriental and especially Islamic studies in Russia's Caucasus, French North Africa and Dutch Indonesia. Interdisciplinary studies.

Fellowships:

Institut français d'études anatoliennes (IFEA, Istanbul, Turkey, 1996), Arbeitskreis *Moderne und Islam*, Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin (WIKO, Berlin, Germany, 2001), Maison des Sciences de l'Homme, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales (FMSH, EHESS, Paris, France, 2006, 2013, 2014), Netherlands Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities and Social Sciences (NIAS – KNAW, 2017–2018, Amsterdam, Netherlands).

Knowledge of Languages:

French and English (fluent); Arabic, Avar, German, New Greek (speaking and reading abilities); Latin, Georgian, Dutch (reading with a dictionary)

Major Grants and Projects:

1994–1996, Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research, Muslim Land Tenure and Social Transformation in a Dagestani Collective Farm, individual project
 1996–1998, Open Society Institute in Budapest, Customary law Transformation in Collective Farms of the Caucasus, project director
 from 1998 to date, contributor, from 1999 research consultant of the encyclopedic dictionary *Islam in the Former Russian Empire* directed and edited by professor Stanislav M. Prozorov, Institute of Oriental Manuscripts, Russian Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg
 2002–2004, Islamic Education in the Soviet Union and the Commonwealth of Independent States directed by Prof. Dr. Raoul Motika (University of Hamburg) (Volkswagen Foundation), member of the research group
 2007–2009, Central European University, ReSET Seminar on Methodology of History directed by Alexei Miller (Kiev), member of the research group
 2009–2012, The Politicisation of Islam in the Rural Communities of the Former USSR: An Inter-regional Comparative Study, 1950s–2000s directed by Dr. S. A. Dudoignon (EHESS, Paris) and Dr. C. Noack (NUI Maynooth, Dublin) (Volkswagen Foundation), member of the research group
 2013–2016, Transformations of Sacred Spaces, Pilgrimages and Conceptions of Hybridity in the Post-Soviet Caucasus directed by Prof. Dr. Kevin Tuite, Dr. Florian Mühlfried (Volkswagen Foundation), member of the research group
 2017–2018, Netherlands Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities and Social Sciences (NIAS - KNAW), Deconstructing Shari'a Justice in the Russian North Caucasus, 1860s-1920s: Practices, Networks, Actors from the Post-Colonial Prospective, individual project

Courses Taught:

Caucasus in the Modern World (in English, Master's Programme, Faculty of World Economy and International Affairs, HSE, Moscow);

History of Islamic Civilization (in Russian, Bachelor's Programme, Faculty of Humanities, HSE)

History of Islamic Culture in Russia and Worldwide (in Russian, Bachelor's Programme on Culturology, Institute of Cultural History, Moscow);

How to Write a History of Orient? Methodology of Historical Orientology (in Russian, Programme for Post-Graduate Students, Institute of Oriental Studies in Moscow);

Islam and Globalization in Central Asia (in English, Bachelor's Programme, Stanford University, overseas department in Moscow);

Islam and Islamic Studies in Russia (in Russian, Bachelor's Programme on Oriental Studies, Institute of Asian and African Studies, Moscow State University);

Islam in Russia: in the Past and the Present (in Russian, Master's Programme *Islamic Law*, Faculty of Law, HSE, Moscow);

Islam in Russia: Modern Challenges and Past Experiences (in English, Bachelor's Programme, Stanford University, overseas department in Moscow);

Islamic law, Shari'a and 'Adat in Russia: in the Past and the Present (in Russian, Master's Programme *Islamic Law*, Faculty of Law, HSE, Moscow);

Muslim Responses to the Postsoviet Transformation in Russia (in English, Master's Programme, Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration in Moscow);

North Caucasus in the Russian Empire (in Russian, Bachelor's Programme, Russian State University for the Humanities, Moscow);

La Russie face à l'islam et à ses musulmans (in French, Master's Programme, Institut des études politiques, Paris);

Social Anthropology of the Arab Middle East and North Africa (in Russian, Bachelor's Programme, Russian State University for the Humanities, Moscow).

Major Publications (from more than 400 published works)

Monographs, Collected Papers, Catalogues, Publication of Sources

Modern World in the Eyes of Fellaheen (North Africa in the XIXth–XXth Centuries) (in Russian), Moscow: Institute of Oriental Studies, 1998, 158 pp.

Custom, Law and Violence Among the North Caucasus Muslims (in Russian), Moscow: Vostochnaia literatura, 2002, 368 pp. Rev. by M. Kemper in *Ab imperio* (2002, no. 4, pp. 461–464, idem in *Die Welt des Islams* (2003, Vol. 43, No. 3, pp. 394–396); A.J.Frank in *Kritika* (2003, no. 1), idem in *Cahiers du Monde russe* (2004, vol. 45, nos. 3–4, pp. 747–749); W. Sunderland in *Kritika* (2006, vol. 7, no. 1, pp. 111–122).

S.N. Abashin, V.O. Bobrovnikov (Eds.), *Zealots of Islam: The Cult of Saints and Sufism in Central Asia and the Caucasus* (in Russian), Moscow: Vostochnaia literatura, 2003, 236 pp.

V.O. Bobrovnikov (Ed.), *Custom and Law in Written Monuments from Dagestan, 5th – early 20th Centuries*. Vol. I. *Before the Russian Conquest*. Vol. II. *In Tsarist and Early Soviet Russia* (in Russian), Moscow: Marjani Publishers, 2009, 239 pp. + 262 pp.

I.L. Alexeyev, V.O. Bobrovnikov (Eds.), *Tatar Shama'il: Word and Image. Catalogue* (in Russian), Moscow: Marjani Publishers, 2009, 112 pp.; 2nd ed. Moscow: Marjani Publishers, 2013, 224 pp.; 3rd ed. Moscow: Marjani Publishers, 2015, 208 pp.

A.K. Alikberov, V.O. Bobrovnikov (Eds.), *Dagestan and the Muslim Orient* (in Russian), Moscow: Marjani Publishers, 2010, 430 pp.

Voyage au pays des Avars (Daghestan, Russie, début du XXIe siècle) (in French), Paris: Cartouche, 2011, 189 pp.

Yu.Yu. Karpov, O.A. Sosnina, V.O. Bobrovnikov (Eds.), *Caucasus Dictionary: Land and People. Catalogue of an Exhibition* (in Russian), Moscow: Tsaritsyno Publishers, 2012, 352 pp.

(With M. Filatova) *Posters of the Soviet Orient, 1918–1940. Catalogue* (in Russian), Moscow: Marjani Publishers, 2013, 318 pp.

A.N. Artizov (Ed.), *From the History of Russian-Georgian Relations. To the 230 Anniversary of the Georgievsk Treaty* (in Russian), Borovsk, Moscow: Drevlekhranilische, 2014, 768 pp., [72 pp.] ill. + map.

V.O. Bobrovnikov (Ed.), *Half a Century in Turkestan. V.P. Nalivkin: Biography, Documents, Works* (in Russian), Moscow: Marjani Publishers, 2015. 688 pp., ill.

V.O. Bobrovnikov, Sayed J. Miri (Eds.), *Orientalism vs. Orientology* (in Russian), Moscow: Sadra, 2016, 440 pp.

V.O. Bobrovnikov, V.A. Korenyako et al., *Syntaslar. Funeral Steles of the Noghay Steppe. Catalogue* (in Russian), Moscow: Marjani Publishers, 2016, 672 pp., ill.

V.O. Bobrovnikov et al. (Eds.), *Muslims in the New Imperial History* (in Russian), Moscow: Sadra, 2017, 424 pp.

V.O. Bobrovnikov et al. *Russia's Islam: Essays in History and Culture* (in Russian), Moscow: Institute for Oriental Studies, 2018, 456 pp.

Textbooks and Syllabi

Social History and Anthropology of East Caucasus Muslims (Emergence of Regional Forms of Islam in Dagestan, Chechnya and Azerbaijan. A Syllabus (in Russian), Moscow: Institute of African and Asian Studies, 2003, 23 pp.

V.O. Bobrovnikov, I.L. Babich (Eds.), *North Caucasus in the Russian Empire* (in Russian), Moscow: NLO, 2007, 460 pp.

V.O. Bobrovnikov, I.L. Babich, *Methodology of Teaching Cultural Anthropology (Ethnology) for Culturologists* (in Russian), Moscow: Moscow State Linguistic University, 2007, 40 pp.

Islam in Russia: in the Past and the Present. A Syllabus (in Russian), Moscow: Higher School of Economics, Faculty of Law, 2013, 19 pp.

Islamic law, Shari'a an 'Adat in Russia: in the Past and the Present. A Syllabus (in Russian), Moscow: Higher School of Economics, Faculty of Law, 2014, 19 pp.

A.R. Syukiyaynen, V.O. Bobrovnikov et al, *Islamic law. Master's Programme andlioteka Methodic Recommendations* (in Russian), Moscow: Higher School of Economics, Faculty of Law, 2014, 406 pp.

V.O. Bobrovnikov, M.G. Shekhmagomedov, Sh. Sh. Shikhaliev, *Muslim Law and Custom in Russian Dagestan: Sources and Studies. A Reader* (in Russian), St. Petersburg: St. Petersburg State University, B.N. Yeltsin President's Library, 2017. 319 pp.

Selected Articles and Chapters

"Ethnic Migration and Common Security in Post-Soviet Daghestan", *CSF Newsletter*. 1996, pp. 4, 14.

"The Islamic Revival and the National Question in Post-Soviet Daghestan", *Religion, State and Society*, 1996, vol. 24, no 2/3, pp. 233–238.

"Islamic studies in post-Soviet Russia: in search of new approaches", *ISIM Newsletter*. December 1999, No. 4, p. 32.

"The Berbers, 19th – early 20th centuries AD", in D.M. Bondarenko and A.V. Korotaev (Eds.), *Civilizational Models of Politogenesis*, Moscow: Institute of African Studies, 2000, pp. 175–190. Rev. by E. Kavalski, *Ab imperio* (2004, no. 3, p. 614).

"Muslim Nationalism in the Post-Soviet Caucasus: Daghestani Case", *Central Asia and the Caucasus*, 2000, no. 1, pp. 93-104. Rev. by L.L. Adams, in S.A. Dudoignon, H. Komatsu (Eds.), *Research Trends in Modern Central Eurasian Studies (18th-20th Centuries)*, Tokyo, 2003, pt. 1, pp. 95, 96.

"Mythologizing Sharia Courts in the post-Soviet North Caucasus", *ISIM Newsletter*. 2000, no. 5, p. 25.

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"Al-Azhar and Shari'a Courts in Twentieth-Century Caucasus", *Middle Eastern Studies*. 2001, vol. 37, no. 4, p. 1–24. Rev. by S.A. Dudoignon, in *Central Eurasian Reader*, Berlin: Klaus Schwarz, 2008, vol.1, pp. 372–374.

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"Rural Muslim's Nationalism in the Post-Soviet Caucasus: the Case of Daghestan", in M. Gammer (Ed.), *The Caspian Region. Vol. II. The Caucasus*, L., N.Y.: Routledge, 2004, pp. 179–197.

"Archeology of Inventing Islamic Traditions in a Dagestani Collective Farm" (in Russian), *Ab imperio*. 2004, no. 3, pp. 563–593.

"The Beslan Massacre", *ISIM Review*. 2005, no. 15, p. 13.

"Verbrechen und Brauchtum zwischen islamischem und imperialem Recht: Zum Entzauberung des *işkil* im Daghestan des 17. bis 19. Jahrhunderts", in M.Kemper, M.Reinkowski (Eds.), *Rechtspluralismus in der Islamischen Welt*, Berlin; New York: Walter de Gruyter, 2005, S. 297–315. Rev. by A. Papas, *Abstracta iranica*. 2005, vol. 28 and by I. Schneider, *Der Islam*, 2009, vol. 85, issue 1, S. 250, 254, 255.

"Les lieux saints des clans routouls: pratiques religieuses hybrides chez les musulmans daghestanais", *Revue d'études comparatives Est-Ouest*. 2005, vol. 36, no. 4, p. 157–183. Rev. in *Cahiers du monde russe*, 2006, vol. 46, nos. 3, p. 665.

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"Islam in the Russian Empire", in D. Lieven (Ed.), *The Cambridge History of Russia. Vol. II. Imperial Russia, 1689–1917*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006, pp. 202–223. Revs. in *Annales. Histoire, sciences sociales*. 2009, no. 3, p. 86; *The Slavonic and East European Review*. 2009, vol. 87, no 2, pp. 359–362.

"Religion und Kultur in Dagestan: von der sozialistischen zur islamischen Revolution?", *Kultura. Rußland-Kulturanalysen*. 2006, no. 9, S. 14–20.

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"'Traditionalist' Versus 'Islamist' Identities in a Daghestani Collective Farm", *Central Asian Survey*. 2006, vol. 25, no. 3, pp. 287–302.

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"The Islamic Revival in a Daghestani Kolkhoz: between local Traditions and external Influences", in Bayram Balci and Raoul Motika (Eds.), *Religion et politique dans le Caucase post-soviétique*, Paris: Maisonneuve & Larose, 2007. pp. 163–182. Revs: 1) *Central Eurasian Studies Review*. 2007, vol. 6, no. 1/2, p. 32; 2) F. Longuet-Marx, *Revue des mondes musulmans et de la Méditerranée*. 2008, nos. 121–122, pp. 270–272.

"Bandits and the State: Designing a 'Traditional' Culture of Violence in the Russian Caucasus", in Jane Burbank, Mark von Hagen, and Anatolyi Remnev (Eds.), *Russian Empire: Space, People, Power, 1700–1930*, Bloomington, Indiana University Press, 2007, p. 239–267. Reviews: 1) *The Russian Review*. 2008, vol. 67, pp. 159, 706; 2) J. Staples, *Itinerario*. 2009, vol. 32, issue 2, pp. 153–154; 3) J. Sahadeo, *Kritika*. 2010, vol. 11, no. 2, pp. 381–409.

"Soveticum vs. islamicum? Some Results and Problems in the Study of Islam in Contemporary Russia" (in Russian), *Vestnik Evrazii*. 2007, no. 3, pp. 8–21.

"Russia's Muslim after the Archival Revolution: Views from the Caucasus and Bulgaria" (in Russian), *Ab imperio*. 2008, no. 4, pp. 313–333.

"Muslim Custom versus Socialist Law: Discourse on Shari'a Courts in Postrevolutionary

Daghestan", in Moshe Gammer (Ed.), *Islam and Sufism in Daghestan*, Helsinki: Finnish Academy of Science and Letters, 2009, pp. 101–129.

(with Amir Navruzov and Shamil Shikhaliev), "Islamic Education in Soviet and post-Soviet Daghestan", in Michael Kemper, Raoul Motika and Stefan Reichmuth (Eds.), *Islamic Education in the Soviet Union and its Successor States*, L., N.Y.: Routledge, 2010, pp. 107–167.

"Russian Caucasus and French Algeria: Casual Similarities or Exchange of Colonial Experience in Governance" (in Russian), in M. Aust, R. Vulpius, A. Miller (Eds.), *Imperium inter pares (1700–1917)*, Moscow: NLO, 2010, pp. 182–209.

"Catalogue of Manuscripts and Old Printed Books in Arabic, Persian and Turkic Languages from Kabardino-Balkaria", *Manuscripta orientalia*. 2010, vol. 16, no. 1, pp. 13–64.

"*Waqf* Endowments in Daghestani Village Communities From the 1917 Revolution to the Collectivization", *Die Welt des Islams*. 2010, vol. 50, nrs. 3–4. pp. 477–502.

"The Contribution of Oriental Scholarship to the Soviet Anti-Islamic Discourse: From the Militant Godless to the Knowledge Society", in Michael Kemper and Stephan Conermann (Eds.), *The Heritage of Soviet Oriental Studies*, London, New York: Routledge: Central Asian Series, 2011, pp. 66–85.

"“Ordinary Wahhabism” vs. “Ordinary Sufism”? Filming Islam for Post-Soviet Muslim Young People", *Religion, State and Society*, 2011, Vol. 39, Nos. 2/3, pp. 281–301.

Исламский призыв (да‘ва) на Кавказе XXI в. средствами кино: попытка дискурсивного анализа // *Восток*, 2011, № 4, с. 46–64.

"The Crimean War in the Russian Caucasus: Ideology of Frontier and Discourse of Muslim Resistance" (in Russian), in J. W. Borejsza (Ed.), *The Crimean War, 1853–1856. Colonial Skirmish or Rehearsal for World War? Empires, Nations, and Individuals*, Warsaw: Wydawnictwo Neriton, Instytut Historii PAN, 2011, pp. 299–332.

"From Collective Farm to Islamic Museum? Deconstructing the Narrative of Highlander Traditions in Dagestan", in Florian Mühlfried and Sergei Sokolovsky (Eds.), *Exploring the Edge of Empire. Socialist Era Anthropology in the Caucasus and Central Asia*, Berlin, Münster, Wien, Zürich. London: LIT. Halle Studies in the Anthropology of Eurasia. Vol. 25. Ch. 6, 2012, pp. 99–117.

"What did Plans to Create Russia's Aliens Result in? (Answer to John Slokum from the Muslims Borderlands of Russia)" (in Russian), in D. Sdvizhkov, I. Schierle (Eds.), «*Poniatiiia o Rossii*». *K istoricheskoi semantike imperskogo perioda*, Vol. II. Moscow: NLO, 2012, pp. 259–291.

"Islamische Rechtspraxis in Dagestan im 20. Jahrhundert", in Raoul Motika, Michael Kemper, Anke von Kügelgen (Eds.), *Repression, Anpassung, Neuorientierung: Studien zum Islam in der Sowjetunion und dem postsowjetischen Raum*, Wiesbaden: Reichert, 2013. S. 103–139.

"Withering Heights. The Re-Islamization of a Kolkhoz Village in Dagestan: a Micro-History", in Stéphane A. Dudoignon, Christian Noack (Eds.), *Allah's Kolkhozes. Migration, De-Stalinisation, Privatisation, and the New Muslim Congregations in the Soviet Realm (1950s–2000s)* (Islamkundliche Untersuchungen. Bd. 314), Berlin: Klaus Schwarz, 2014, pp. 367–397.

"We Have Done Away with the Tsars of this World, Now Let Us Attack the Heavenly Ones": Religious Intolerance in the Soviet Scholarship of Islam", in Edmund Dmitrów, Jerzy Eisler, Mirosław Filipowicz, Mariusz Wołos, Grzegorz P. Bąbiak (Eds.), *Wiek nienawiści: Księga dedykowana Prof. Jerzemu W. Borejszy* [A Century of Hate. Collected papers in Honor of Professor Jerzy W. Borejsza], Warsaw: Instytut Historii Polskiej Akademii Nauk, Instytut Pamięci Narodowej, Komisja Ścigania Zbrodni przeciwko Narodowi Polskiemu, Warszawa, 2014, pp. 35–52.

"Crime or Custom between Islamic and Imperial Laws: Demystifying *ishkil* in 17th - 19th Centuries Dagestan", in M.B. Piotrovskii, A.K. Alikberov (Eds.), *Ars Islamica*, Moscow: Vostochnaia literatura, 2016, pp. 620–645.

"The Islamic Discourse of Visual Propaganda in the Soviet East Between the Two World

Wars (1918–1940)", in *Russian Perspectives on Islam*, <http://chnmdev.gmu.edu/rpi/exhibits/show/one/introduction>, 10.09.2016.

"Shari'a vs. 'Adat in Post-Imperial Lawmaking: Political Discourse on Shari'a Courts in Dagestan, 1917-1927", *Annals of Japan Association for Middle Eastern Studies (AJAMES)*, 2016, vol. 32, no. 2, pp. 33–67.

"«Islamic Revival» in Dagestan: 25 Year Later" (in Russian), *Islamology*, 2017, vol. 7, no. 1, pp. 106–121.

"Islamic Discourse of Visual Propaganda in the Interwar Soviet Orient, 1918–1940", *Islamology*, 2017, vol. 7, no. 2, pp. 53–73.

"Paradoxes in the Study of Today's Islam in Russia" (in Russian), *Gosudarstvo, religiia, tserkov' v Rossii i za rubezhom*, 2018, no. 1, pp. 310–322.

"Applied Oriental Studies of Russia's Own Islam: From Orthodox Missionaries to Militant Godless and Wahhabis", *Insight Turkey*, 2018, vol. 20, no. 4, pp. 249–270.

Encyclopedic entries

"Abrek", G. Krämer, D. Matringe, J. Nawas and E. Rowson (Eds.), *Encyclopaedy of Islam*, 3rd ed. Pt. 1. Leiden: Brill, 2008, pp. 29–30.

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Historiography, Reviews, In Memoriam

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"Cambridge History of Russia in the Stuggle of Imperial Historiographies", *Vestnik Evrazii*, 2007, no. 1, pp. 190–197.

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(with I.L. Alexeyev, A.K. Bustanov, M. Kemper), "Obituary. Dmitriy Yur'evich Arapov (1943–2015)", *Caucasus Survey*, 2016, vol. 4, no. 1, pp. 112–113.

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