

# = Geschichte der Wolgadeutschen =

## History of the Volga Germans

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<http://www.wolgadeutsche.net/>

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The site "GESCHICHTE DER WOLGADEUTSCHEN" (History of the Volga Germans) was created in 2005 and dedicated to the history of the Volga Germans. On the website you can find lots of interesting and unique information on the history of the Volga Germans. The website also offers **local history and genealogical forum "The Volga Germans"**.

The website "GESCHICHTE DER WOLGADEUTSCHEN" (History of the Volga Germans) also has more pages of professional historians and Amateur historians, which include a large number of articles, photographs and archival documents on the history of the Volga Germans.

### **Krieger V. The trial of the members of the last government of the Volga German Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic.**

What happened to the last members of the government of the Volga German Republic?

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### **Revnitsev M. Flags and coats of arms of the Volga German ASSR.**

Did the Volga German Republic have its own coat of arms and flag?

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### **Documents of the Soviet period about the German autonomy in the Volga.**

Compiler V. Diesendorf

The website "GESCHICHTE DER WOLGADEUTSCHEN" includes the following units:

- **History of the Volga Germans;**
- **Library;**
- **Encyclopedic dictionary (Lexicon);**
- **Databases;**
- **Creativity of the Russian Germans;**
- **The Local history and genealogical forum.**

The author of idea and the creator of the website is the amateur local historian Alexander Spack having a number of newspaper publications in Russia and abroad (the USA, Germany), the author of the brochure "A Republic on the Volga" (1993) and the monograph "Administrative-Territorial Changes in the Volga German Area in 1764-1944" (2012). The work about professor George Dinges repressed in 1930 was prepared and published together with Dr. Victor Krieger (Heidelberg, Germany) („Volk auf dem Weg“, # 4 / 2006, # 5 / 2006).

### **From archives of People's Commissariat for Internal Affairs:**

The indictment in the case  
of Dinges G. G., Sinner P. I. and Synopalov A.K. of October 10, 1931.  
([http://www.wolgadeutsche.net/history/obw\\_zakl\\_10\\_10\\_1931.htm](http://www.wolgadeutsche.net/history/obw_zakl_10_10_1931.htm))

In 2009 under the leadership of A. Spack an expedition on the former Frank canton of the Republic of Volga German (today Zhirnovsk County of the Volgograd Region) was carried out.

Within the website "GESCHICHTE DER WOLGADEUTSCHEN" (History of the Volga Germans) A. Spack has been working on the description of the German settlements in the Volga region. Today the description of 300 settlements is prepared and placed on the website.

## **The website “GESCHICHTE DER WOLGADEUTSCHEN” represents:**

- The chronicle of the major events in the history of the Volga Germans since 1762 up to now.
- That was written about Volga German colonists in the reference editions of pre-revolutionary Russia; the most remarkable description of life, character, manners and customs of Volga region colonists from "History of the Volga German Colonists" by Jacob Dietz; destiny of the monument to Catherine the Great – the best decoration of Katharinenstadt; history of creation and development of the State historical archive of the Volga Germans; history of creation of the first Soviet tractor which was produced in the 1920th years in the Republic of Volga German and many other things.
- Lists of maternal and affiliated colonies; results of population census of 1926 across the Volga German ASSR; statistical data on the Republic of Volga German for 1929-33 years and etc.
- Famous decrees of Catherine the Great, verified with the texts which are stored in the Russian archives; the decree of the Soviet power about creation of area of the Volga Germans and the Decree of Presidium of VS USSR of August 28, 1941 "About the resettlement of Germans, living in the Volga region" and other acts which were ever accepted regarding Volga Germans.
- The list of the German settlements of the Volga German Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic with their description.
- Articles about the German churches on Volga and the photo of churches of the German villages of the Volga Area.
- Maps of the Samara and Saratov provinces from "The Desktop Atlas of A.M. Marx" of 1903; maps of the Nikolaev and Novouzensky districts of the Samara province of Samara provincial zemstvo of 1912; geographical and administrative map of the Labour commune of Area of Germans of the Volga region of 1922; the map of the Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic of the Volga Germans from "the Atlas of the USSR" of 1928; administrative-economic map of the Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic of the Volga Germans of 1938, city map of Marxstadt of 1933, and also plans of some other settlements and other maps and schemes.
- The photoarchive is hundreds of photos with views of different places of the Volga German Area and photos from family albums.
- In the virtual museum of Volga German photocopies of references, certificates, title covers of books and other exhibits – documentary witnesses of history of the Volga Germans are collected. Here photos from a collection of the Russian State Archive of Documentary Films and Photographs the life of the Republic of the Volga Germans in 1927-1940 are presented.
- In library of the website there is a unique opportunity to read articles from old German newspapers and magazines and to see them in original execution when they were printed still by a Gothic print:
  - editions till 1917: "Klemens" (Saratov), "Volkszeitung" (Saratov);
  - DZZ – German Central Newspaper;
  - newspapers and magazines of the Republic of the Volga Germans for the different periods: "Nachrichten", "Bolshevik", "Rote Jugend", "Kollektivist" (Kanton Seelmann), "Stossbrigadler" (Kanton Frank), "Kommunist" (Kanton Gmelinka), "Rote Fahne" (Kanton Lyzanderhöh), "Rote Sturmflagge" (Kanton Marxstadt), "Stalins Brigade" (Kanton Kukkus), "Stalins Weg" (Kanton Erlenbach), "Stimme des Stoßbrigadlers" (Kanton Krassny Kut), "Rot Front" (Kanton Krasnojarsk), "Stalinez" (Kanton Unterwalden), "Stalinist" (Kanton Gnadenflur), "Bolschewistisches Tempo" (Kanton Pallassowka), "Udarnik" (Kanton Solotoje); popular scientific and economic magazine "Unsere Wirtschaft", pioneer magazine "Die Trommel";
  - foreign editions: "Der Wolgadeutsche" (Berlin), "Wolgadeutsche Monatshefte" (Berlin), "Deutsches Leben in Rußland", "Der Landbote" (Argentina).
- The Digitized books and the annotated description of the book editions devoted to history and culture of the Russian Germans, including and of the Volga Germans; the poem of the officer Platen "Description of travel of colonists, and also a way of life of the Russians" and "The Song about a Kister Dyce" by David Kufeld with illustrations and many other things.
- Encyclopaedic dictionary contains more than 300 articles on history of the Volga Germans and biographies of outstanding people of the Volga German Area. The majority of articles are specially written for the website.