

# Life Histories of *Etnos* Theory in Russia and Beyond

*Edited by David G. Anderson,  
Dmitry V. Arzyutov and Sergei S. Alymov*

FID SOCIAL- UND  
KULTURANTHROPOLOGIE  
AN DER UNIVERSITÄT WÜRZBURG

OpenBook  
Publishers 

# Contents

---

Notes on Transliteration and Place Names	ix
Notes on Referencing Archival and Museum Collections	xi
Contributors	xiii
Acknowledgments	xvii
<b>1. Grounding <i>Etnos</i> Theory: An Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
<i>David G. Anderson, Sergei S. Alymov and Dmitry V. Arzyutov</i>	
Defining <i>Etnos</i>	2
Empires, Scientific Traditions, and <i>Etnos</i>	7
Life Histories, and Field Histories, of <i>Etnos</i> Thinking	10
<i>Etnos</i> and Contemporary Identity Movements	15
<b>2. <i>Etnos</i> Thinking in the Long Twentieth Century</b>	<b>21</b>
<i>Sergei S. Alymov, David G. Anderson and Dmitry V. Arzyutov</i>	
What's in a Term?: The <i>Etnos</i> Term and the Institutionalization of Ethnography in Russia	23
<i>Etnos</i> and Biosocial Science in Russia	34
<i>Etnos</i> and Soviet Marxism	37
<i>Etnos</i> in the Long Twentieth Century and Beyond	55

<b>3. Ukrainian Roots of the Theory of <i>Etnos</i></b>	<b>77</b>
<i>Sergei S. Alymov</i>	
St Petersburg Anthropology before Volkov	80
The Ukrainian National Movement and the Definition of Nationality	84
Volkov and the Politics of Ukrainian Identity in the Russian Empire	89
<i>The Ukrainian People in the Past and Present</i> as a Joint Project of the Russian and Ukrainian Liberal Intelligentsia	94
<i>Etnos</i> , the St Petersburg Paleoethnological School, and the Teaching of Ethnography	100
Museum, Fieldwork, and <i>Etnos</i> : the Role of Ethnographic Exhibits	108
Physical Anthropology and <i>Etnos</i> : Dmitriĭ Anuchin Challenges Volkov's Ukrainian "Anthropological Type"	117
Mogilĭanskiĭ in Exile: Political Activism and Teaching	122
The Legacy of Volkov in the USSR and Ukraine	132
Conclusion	136
<b>4. Mapping <i>Etnos</i>: The Geographic Imagination of Fëdor Volkov and his Students</b>	<b>145</b>
<i>Sergei S. Alymov and Svetlana V. Podrezova</i>	
Map, Archive, Museum: The Sources and Methods of the Commission's Work	147
Ethnographic Map-Making	147
Language: Creating a Dialectological Map	148
Museum Activities as a Platform for the Commission's Work	150
Organization, Methods, and Results of the KSEK Commission's Work	152
From Questionnaire to Monograph: A Model for Describing an <i>Etnos</i>	166
David Alekseevich Zolotarëv (1885–1935)	168
Dmitriĭ Konstantinovich Zelenin (1878–1954)	172

Sergeĭ Ivanovich Rudenko (1885–1969)	175
The “Working-Through”	183
Conclusion	190
<b>5. Notes from His “Snail’s Shell”: Shirokogoroff’s Fieldwork and the Groundwork for <i>Etnos</i> Thinking</b>	203
<i>David G. Anderson</i>	
<i>Etnos</i> Theory... Unwound	206
The Mystery of the Missing Tunguses: the 1912 Zabaikal Expedition	208
A Curious Guest at the Wedding: The 1913 Zabaikal Expedition	223
Conclusion: “Equilibria”, “Valence”, and the Snail Metaphor	234
Appendix 1: Archeography	240
<b>6. Order out of Chaos: Anthropology and Politics of Sergei M. Shirokogoroff</b>	249
<i>Dmitry V. Arzyutov</i>	
Ethnographer, Politician, Shaman	250
Vol’sk and ĪUr’ev: Political Life in the Provinces	253
Paris: on the “Degeneration” of Political Parties	256
Between Petrograd and the Far East	259
Shirokogoroff in Vladivostok: A Lecturer and a Politician	267
The Chinese Years: In the Shadow of Imperial Japan and Nazi Germany	274
Order out of Chaos	281
<b>7. Chasing Shadows: Sharing Photographs from Former Northwest Manchuria</b>	293
<i>Jocelyne Dudding</i>	
The Field Photography of Sergei and Elizaveta Shirokogoroff	297

The Field Photography of Ethel Lindgren and Oscar Mamen	309
Evolving Museology	320
Affection for and Recognition of Northwest Manchuria in the Twenty-First Century	322
Conclusion	340
<b>8. “The Sea is Our Field”: Pomor Identity in Russian Ethnography</b>	<b>349</b>
<i>Masha Shaw and Natalie Wahnsiedler</i>	
Pomor Landscapes and the History of Slavic Ethnography	351
Material Culture	353
Northern Russian folklore and Pomor’ska govoriã	361
Pomor Distinctiveness in a Pan-Slavic Frame	364
Pomors as <i>Subetnos</i>	365
Local Ideas	367
Theories of Pomor Origin	369
Recent Pomor Identity Movements	372
A Museified Approach to Culture	372
Pomor crosses	376
Indigeneity Claims	377
Conclusion	382
<b>9. Epilogue: Why Ethnos (Still) Matters</b>	<b>389</b>
<i>Nathaniel Knight</i>	
List of Illustrations	403
Index	413