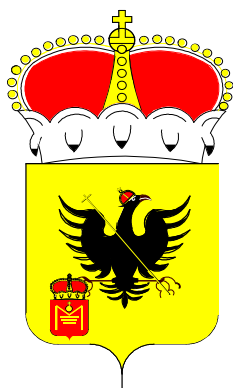


Koltzov-Massalsky



Description of Arms :

Or, an eagle displayed sable, its head tourne and ensigned with the coronet of a Russian Prince proper, holding in its sinister claw a crozier of the first, and in its dexter claw, ensigned with the cap (sic) of a Russian Prince proper, an escutcheon gules, charged with the letter "M" ensigned in the collar point with a cross on a bezant and the base hamaide of three barrulets, the first longer than the second which is longer than the third, gold.

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Principal Title : Prince Koltzov-Massalsky.

Creation : By tradition.

Alternative Spelling : Koltsov-Mosalsky, Koltzow-Massalski.

Family Name : Koltzov-Massalsky.

Family History : The question of the spelling of some Russian names can give researchers a lot of trouble. In France, for instance, a T is usually added to Ch to make the pronunciation clear. Where possible, we have followed the preferred spelling of existing members of the family - though, in some cases, even they are not always sure and often follow the custom of the countries in which they are now living.

This family is another of the great clan that comes down from St Vladimir Sviatoslavich, who brought Christianity to Russia. It is also a branch of the Princes of Chernigov, which appears elsewhere in this register.

Apparently, the great-grandson of Great Prince Sviatslav, the Great Prince Mikhailo Vsevolodovich of Chernigov, had a fourth son named Prince Mstislav Korachevsky. This latter had a great-grandson, Prince Yurii Mosalsky, who had a great-great-grandson, called Prince Koltsov-Mosalsky (or Koltzov-Massalsky).

Descendants of this prince seem to have served the Throne as *Stolniks* and *Okolnichii*. These humble-sounding offices actually meant that they served as advisers to the Tsar and were thus able to exert influence in court circles.

The also served as *Voivodes*, which was originally a military commander or the ruler of a province. The military aspect was later abolished but the office of civil administrator remained. The system was finally negated by Catherine II in 1775.

It is said that the family takes at least part of its name from the town called Massalsk, where no doubt they were in authority. They are now established in the West.

Koltzov-Massalsky

Saint Vladimir Sviatoslavich (c956-1015),
Great Prince and Christianiser of Russia

Yaroslav Vladimirovich (?-1054),
Grand Duke of Kiev 5 sons

Isiaslav (?-1078),
Ruler of Polotsk

Princes of
Kurakin

Vsevolod (?-1093),
Great Prince

Princes of
Smolensk

Sviatoslav (?-1076),
Ruler of Chernigov

Great Prince Mikhail Vsevolodovich of Chernigov (?-1246)
= daughter of Prince Roman Mstislavovitch of Novgorod

3
sons

Prince Mstislav
Karachevsky

Yurii, called
Torusky & Obolensky

Princes of

Princes of

Princes of

Prince Yurii Mosalsky

Prince Vasilii Koltsov-Mosalsky

Princes Koltsov-Mosalsky