

## ON THE ISSUE OF STUDYING SIBERIAN MERCHANT CLASS: THE CIRCLE OF SOCIAL CONTACTS OF GOLD PRODUCER YAKOV FRIZER

The research is dedicated to Siberian merchant Yakov Frizer, a range of his communication and social contacts. Present research targets to illustrate through Frizer example particularities of everyday life and activity of the Siberian merchants on the threshold of the 19th–20th centuries, interrelations between various ethnic-confessional and social groups, between regional entrepreneurs and capital administrators as well as great potentialities of self-implementation for Jewish merchant within the Russian Empire. The article is based on the personal archive of Yakov Frizer, his books and articles, materials of the Siberian press and archival documents from the Russian Historical Archive (RGIA) and the State Archive of the Russian Federation (GARF). The authors have concluded particular features of Siberian society as a multi-layer society with intersections of various social, ethical and confessional worlds, national and religious tolerance and active social position.

**Keywords:** Ya. D. Frizer, Siberia, merchants, Jews, gold industry, social contacts, Russian Empire.

### Acknowledgments

The research is done with the support of the International grant of the SEFER Center for University Teaching of Jewish Civilization. The research grant is provided within the framework of philanthropical program «Academic Judaica in post-Soviet space» (Genesis Philanthropy Group).

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#### For citations

Vladimirsky I., Krotova M. V. On the issue of studying the Siberian merchant class: the circle of social contacts of gold producer Yakov Frizer // Omsk Scientific Bulletin. Series Society. History. Modernity. 2020. Vol. 5, no. 2. P. 9–15. DOI: 10.25206/2542-0488-2020-5-2-9-15.

Received February 25, 2020.

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