
The ruling elite of Russia in 1725–1762: Mass biographical sources and methods of analysis

© S.V. Chernikov

Lipetsk State Technical University, Lipetsk, 398600, Russia

The article considers the basic methods and approaches to the analysis of mass biographical sources on the example of prosopographic database “The ruling elite of Russia in 1725–1762”. The presented techniques allow studying in detail the size, personal, national, genealogical structure and evolution of the ruling circle of the time, analyzing the general social characteristics of the personages, paths and options for social mobility.

Keywords: nobility, ruling elite, prosopography, biographical information sources

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Chernikov S.V., Cand. Sc. (History), Associate Professor, Department of History, Lipetsk State Technical University. Research interests: the ruling elite, the generals, nobility, landownership, property (the first half of the 18th century).
e-mail: zserg72@gmail.com
