



**Visualizing History**

Gold-domed spires of the Church of the Annunciation reach toward the sky behind the Kremlin's walls. What was the original purpose of the Kremlin?

finally refused to pay taxes to the Mongols. The long submission to the Asian rulers was over. Today, Ivan is known as Ivan the Great because he was able to bring many of the Eastern Slavic principalities under his rule. His major gain was Novgorod, which controlled territory all the way east to the Ural Mountains, the traditional division between Europe and Asia.

**The Third Rome**

Other factors helped to strengthen the power of Moscow's rulers. After Constantinople fell to the Ottoman Turks in A.D. 1453, Moscow stood alone as the center of the Eastern Orthodox Church. In A.D.

1472 when Ivan III married Sophia, niece of the last Byzantine emperor, he took the title czar, or "caesar," the title used by the Roman and Byzantine emperors. Ivan also made the two-headed Byzantine eagle the symbol of his rule.

In A.D. 1493 Ivan added the title Sovereign of All Russia. The lands he ruled, eventually known as Russia, were a hundred times as large as the original Muscovite state. The people spoke one language, and the princes served one czar. The Russian Orthodox Church, which identified its interests with those of the Muscovite ruler, proclaimed that Moscow was the Third Rome. The Church regarded Ivan as both the successor of the Byzantine emperor and protector of the Eastern Orthodox Church, a claim all succeeding Russian czars would also make.

**Moscow's Culture**

Eastern Orthodoxy shaped the development of Moscow's culture. Its leaders stressed the importance of obedience to the czar and the government. The Church taught the people that submission to authority was a Christian duty. Joseph Sanin, an influential church leader during Ivan III's reign, wrote that "although the [ruler] was like other men in his physical characteristics, in his power he was similar to God in heaven."

Although western European influences reached Russia, they were transformed by local Russian styles and tastes. Instead of using Greek, Latin, or other classical languages, the Church used an early Slavic language in its worship and writings. Russia's religious leaders and political rulers also encouraged the development of a unique national style of icon painting and building construction. Ivan III had western European and Russian architects rebuild the Moscow Kremlin, or fortress. In spite of Western influences on its construction, the Kremlin became known for the typically Russian splendor of its beautiful onion-domed churches and ornately decorated palaces. Today the Kremlin in Moscow is still a center of government, religion, and culture for Russia.

**SECTION 3 REVIEW**

**Recall**

1. **Define** steppe, principality, boyar, czar.
2. **Identify** the Slavs, Rurik, Olga, Vladimir, Yaroslav, the Mongols, Alexander Nevsky, Ivan III.
3. **Locate** Kiev on the map on page

259. Why did Kiev prosper?

**Critical Thinking**

4. **Making Comparisons** Compare Kievan Rus with Moscow. How was each dependent on geography? What role did the Orthodox Church play in each?

**Understanding Themes**

5. **Cultural Diffusion** What traditions that had originated with Rome became part of Russian culture? How did Russian culture differ from the civilization of western Europe? Why?