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ATHON AND THE ORTHODOX MISSION IN ALTAI IN 19TH – EARLY 20TH CENTURY

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Abstract. The article summarizes information about the spiritual ties of the monasteries of Mount Athos and the believers of Altai in the XIX – early XX centuries. The spiritual traditions of Orthodoxy, broadcast by the most important center of Eastern monasticism, thanks to the efforts of the Altai missionaries, quickly spread in the South Siberian region. The veneration of Athos icons, particles of relics and other shrines was at the heart of the crowded religious actions: processions of the cross, prayers, pilgrims “walking” to holy places. The presence of Athos shrines in Altai has become one of the most important factors in Orthodox missionary work and parish service.

Keywords: Orthodoxy, Athos, Altai spiritual mission, Russian Orthodox Church