

## Authenticity of Romanov remains confirmed through DNA analysis

Today [July 17] marks the 100th anniversary of the execution of Nicholas II and his family, an event that toppled Russia's Romanov dynasty. Yesterday, as the country was preparing to [commemorate](#) their deaths, Russian investigators announced that new DNA testing had confirmed that remains attributed to last tsar and his family are in fact authentic—a finding that may pave the way for the deceased royals to be buried with full rites by the Orthodox Church.

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As part of the new tests, investigators exhumed the body of Nicholas' father, Alexander III to prove that the two are related, and also took DNA samples from living members of the Romanov family.

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The remains of Nicholas, Alexandra and three of their daughters—Anastasia, Olga and Tatiana—were found in 1979.

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Orthodox Church officials, however, contested these findings. In 1998, the remains that had been uncovered some 20 years earlier were interred in Saint Petersburg, but the Church refused to give them full burial rites.

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The latest DNA analysis is part of the criminal investigation ordered by the Church. According to the AFP, Church spokesman Vladimir Legoida said in a statement that officials will review the latest findings “with attention.” The Romanovs may finally receive a full Church burial—though it will not come in time for the centenary of their deaths.

**Read full, original post:** [DNA Analysis Confirms Authenticity of Romanovs' Remains](#)