European Hanseatic Library
2020-2021 years
4 years together!

The European Hanseatic Library, created in 2017 by our joint efforts on the basis of the "Teffi" sociocultural Center, has been operating in the city of Tikhvin (Russia) for 4 years. And it doesn't just work – it develops successfully! The need to install another bookstack to accommodate constantly increasing funds shows its development. Yes, the covid-19 pandemic continues to dictate its terms around the world, but we remain optimistic and continue to work with the current conditions and faith in the future. And we are pleased to offer you another bulletin of the European Hanseatic Library with information on the results of the past year of work.
July 2020 – June 2021

We regularly organize exhibitions of book novelties dedicated to the cities and countries of the Hanseatic League. Over the past year, about 10 expositions were held, at which books were presented, received from Salzwedel and Cologne, Duderstadt and Goslar, Gronau, Mühlhuisen and Luneburg (Germany); from Olsztyn, Wroclaw and Slubice (Poland), from Tartu (Estonia) and Turku (Finland), from Kaliningrad and Pskov, Tver and Ivangojord, Porkhov and Smolensk (Russia). And this is not a complete list of our exhibitions!
July 2020 – June 2021

In the context of sanitary restrictions, it has become especially important to work with Internet resources, primarily with social networks, which allow us to be in touch with our readers. We prepared reviews of new products received in the collection of the Hanseatic Library, posted posters of book exhibitions and told about the latest news. In general, over the past year, more than 60 posts were published, mainly on the Russian social network VKontakte (vk.com/teffylib).

We continue to digitize the fund of the European Hanseatic Library and in the future we are planning to place the digitized books in the Electronic Library. This will make unique publications about the history, culture and sights of the cities of the Hansa available for reading to users all over the world – regardless of the country of residence. Over the past year, 55 books have been digitized, and the electronic fund already has 70 books.
Most active partners

We are immensely grateful to all the cities of the Hansa, we appreciate every book which was sent to us. However, today we decided to celebrate our most active partners. We have compiled the "Top 10" participants of the "European Hanseatic Library" project, and this list looks like this:

1. **Gdansk** (Poland) – 68 books
2. **Rostock** (Germany) – 56 books
3. **Duisburg** (Germany) – 37 books
4. **Tartu** (Estonia) – 28 books
5. **Anklam** (Germany), **Tallinn** (Estonia) – 25 books
6. **Veliky Ustyug** (Russia), **Hannover** (Germany) – 24 books
7. **Pskov** (Russia) – 23 books
8. **Kaliningrad** (Russia) – 21 books
9. **Wismar** (Germany) – 20 books
10. **Stykkishólmur** (Iceland), **Великий Новгород** (Russia) – 17 books
October 2020

Gdansk (Poland) has become our most active partner city over the past years - it donated 68 books to the Hanseatic Library! We have developed good relations with the Voivodship and Municipal Public Library named after Josef Konrad-Korjenevsky, which celebrated its 75th anniversary in 2020. This anniversary and the active support of the European Hanseatic Library were the reason for a pleasant surprise for our Polish colleagues. A selection of books about Tikhvin and an official municipal award – the gratitude of the head of the city of Tikhvin Alexander Lazarevich to the library staff – went to Gdansk.
Whatever shocks may occur in world politics, normal people and cities on opposite sides of borders want to live in peace, communicate and get to know each other better. The Hanseatic Commonwealth and our Hanseatic Library are a prime example of this.

Alexander Lazarevich, head of the city of Tikhvin (Russia)
We are very impressed by the work of the Sociocultural Center "Teffi", as described in the 2019-2020 report, especially the educational activities for children. We strongly believe that it is very important to preserve multicultural heritage of Europe and promote cooperation between Hanseatic cities.

Jan Wais,
Deputy Director of Foreign Relations Office of Wroclaw (Poland)
The fund of our library was complemented with an unusual book - "The Tale of the Hanseatic Walking into the Land of Pskov". The uniqueness is that its author is an ordinary schoolgirl from Moscow – Sofya Shamraeva. Having once visited the Hansa Museum in Porkhov, the girl was so impressed that she wrote a fascinating adventure story about the adventures of Hanseatic merchants who set off on a dangerous journey to the Pskov lands. This book is about the times when merchants from different countries were encountered on the Velikaya River, about mysterious and distant times. Sophia presented the book with her autograph to the Hanseatic Library, and we sent a letter of thanks to the young author as a token of gratitude. Sofya Shamraeva’s story is very popular among our readers.

December 2020
January 2021

The Hanseatic Library was among the first to receive the original layout of the "Guide to the Russian Hanseatic Cities" prepared by the official representation of the Union of Russian Hanseatic Cities. Tikhvin also took part in the work on the guide.

The booklet introduces the reader to the history of the cities of the "Russian Hansa", their sights, souvenirs and major tourist events. Now each city of the Union has the opportunity to print as many copies of the guidebook as it needs for its promotion.
February 2021

We took part in the online meeting "Making a Poetry", joined to the birthday of Belozersk poet Alexei Shadrinov. The meeting brought together students and teachers from schools in Belozersk, teachers from schools and universities in Vologda, Moscow and Haifa (Israel). Young authors and eminent literary critics spoke with their poems, Aleksey Shadrinov’s poems were recited, including those performed by a representative of the Hanseatic Library.

March – June 2021

The international art educational project "Creativity without Borders - Draw the Hansa", organized by the Pskov Charitable Foundation for the Development of the Local Community "Kind City" with the support of the Pskov City Duma, did not remain without our attention. The Hanseatic Library chooses a literary and historical basis that reflects the traditions of Tikhvin and will inspire young artists from partner cities to create paintings. At the end there was art exhibition. The aim of the project was to captivate young people with the history of the Hansa, to keep young people interested in research and creativity.
April 2021

We were enthusiastically preparing for the presentation of the European Hanseatic Library at the XI Russian Hanseatic Days, scheduled in the city of Veliky Ustyug on July 23–25, 2021. We developed a quiz "Tikhvin – Veliky Ustyug – Hansa", stocked up with branded decks of cards "Hanseatic couple" and prepared for the guests of the holiday ancient Russian games that develop dexterity, eyecrometer and patience. Unfortunately, the festival in Veliky Ustyug was postponed to 2022 due to the complicated epidemiological situation. But our developments remained, the Hanseatic Library will definitely present them to the audience next year!
The European Hanseatic Library has become a link for the Hanseatic cities, providing an opportunity for companionship and interaction.

Elena Miklyaeva, acting as Deputy Head of Administration of Tver (Russia)
I have no doubt that the work of the European Hanseatic Library will highlight the importance of the Hanseatic cities in the historical, cultural and tourist sense.

Dr. Oliver Junk, burgomaster of Goslar (Germany)
May 2021

Our guest was the Russian Father Frost – he was in Tikhvin on an official visit, as the ambassador of the Veliky Ustyug and the XI Russian Hanseatic days. The ambassador of the main fabulous city of Russia met with the leadership of Tikhvin, got acquainted with the sights of our city and, of course, came to get acquainted with the Hanseatic Library. We conducted an excursion for the distinguished winter guest, told about the history of the project, about the cities of Europe that took part in it. Russian Father Frost left his impressions in the guest book and promised to tell his many guests about the European Hanseatic Library in Tikhvin.
May – June 2021

In the Center "Teffi" there was an exhibition of paintings "Pastel sound of the native land" by a wonderful artist from the Hanseatic city of Belozersk – a member of the National Union of Pastelists of Russia and the Eurasian Art Union Natalia Polikarpova. The exhibition was organized by the Hanseatic Library as part of the new cultural initiatives of the Union of Russian Hanseatic Cities. More than 20 bright works, performed in the technique of pastel painting, introduced the visitors of the exhibition to the beauties of Belozersk and the Vologda Region. After the opening ceremony, Natalya Polikarpova held a dry pastel master class, in which more than 20 students from the Tikhvin children's art school took part.
Schoolchildren continued to participate in exciting interactive journeys “Around the Hanseatic Cities”. Children found out why it was Lubeck, the capital of the Hansa, where the leaded pigeon appeared on the cross of the main dome of St. Sophia Cathedral in Veliky Novgorod, what Bremen became famous for in addition to world-famous musicians, what goods of the Hanseatic trade were most popular in the union cities and many other interesting facts about history Hanseatic and Hanseatic cities, about the modern Hanseatic movement. 112 schoolchildren have visited the Hanseatic Travels, and we invite new young travelers!

May – June 2021
We are glad for your success and believe that the cultural and educational work carried out by the European Hanseatic Library is a significant informational and social contribution for the population.

Baiba Shmite,
Head of the Department of Culture of the Riga City Council (Latvia)
Over the past year, the European Hanseatic Library received 174 new books from cities of Belarus, Belgium, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Russia and Estonia. The collection of the library now numbers 929 books, which tell about 117 cities from 14 European countries.

Today the following cities are represented in the Hanseatic Library.

**Belarus.** Vitebsk, Polotsk.

**Belgium.** Brugge.

**Estonia.** Narva, Pärnu, Tallinn, Tartu, Viljandi.

**Finland.** Turku, Ulvila.

**France.** La Rochelle.

Note. Cities that have not yet taken part in the project are marked. Nevertheless, the Hanseatic Library has an insignificant amount of books about these cities – these books were obtained from various sources.

Iceland. Hafnarfjördur, Stykkishólmur.
Lithuania. Kaunas.
Norway. Bergen.
Poland. Braniewo, Chełmno, Elblag, Gdansk, Kołobrzeg, Lebork, Olsztyn, Slawno, Strzelce Opolskie, Torun, Wroclaw.
We are looking into the future!

We are encouraged by the fact that the process of filling up the book fund has become permanent, more and more cities are being connected to the formation of the European Hanseatic Library. And we believe that cooperation will continue, and together we will make sure that all the cities of the Hansa will be represented in the library!

Tikhvin is interested in the development of language, educational, cognitive, entertainment and game projects under the guidance of the European Hanseatic Library. In particular, due to its participation in the federal program "Cultural Environment", the “Teffi” Center became the owner of virtual reality equipment. Now we are planning to start developing virtual tours of the cities of the Hansa, which will introduce you to the unique architecture of cities, including UNESCO World Heritage Sites. And we invite the Hanseatic cities to take part in the development and preparation of such virtual tours, because they will clearly present the rich historical heritage and tourism potential of our cities!

We continue to digitize the collection of the European Hanseatic Library, and we hope that the time will come when our books will become available on the Internet to readers all over the world, and therefore to the inhabitants of the cities of the Hanseatic League. Therefore, Tikhvin continues to look for partners among the Hanseatic cities who are ready to join us in solving this problem!

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