

Contents

Acknowledgements — V

List of illustrations — IX

Maps — XI

Introduction — 1

Slaving, ransom, and serfdom in western inner Eurasia, 1470s–1700s — 7

Muscovy and the steppe — 7

Serfs, slave raids, and border regime — 8

Slavery and Islam in Eurasia — 13

Chapter 1

Trade Routes and Slaving Zones in Eurasia. Empire, Ideology and Framing

Legitimate Human Merchandise — 24

(No-)Slaving zones — 33

Muscovy's counter dependency zone — 35

Chapter 2

The Conquest of Kazan — 43

New Israel — 46

Liberation from slavery as justification — 53

The 1550s campaigns — 58

Liberation in the 'Chronicle of the Beginning of Tsardom' — 59

The 'Letter to the Ugra' — 67

From transfer to mobilisation — 80

From liberation to conquest — 86

Makarii's letters — 92

Conquest — 95

Conclusion — 102

Chapter 3

Redemption, Ritual and Exodus — 104

Redemption — 105

The New Year's ceremony — 113

The Blessed Host — 119

Chapter 4

Spreading Liberation Ideas — 124

- Baptism and crossing the Red Sea — 124
- The True Cross and purification by water — 131
- Delivering saints — 145
 - St Sergius — 145
 - St Nicholas — 148
 - St George and the dragon — 157
- Theatre and liberation — 160

Chapter 5

Slavery, Ransom and Loyalty in Muscovy — 168

- Petitions by returning slaves and captives — 179
- Conclusion — 190

Chapter 6

Slavery and Empire — 193

- Intermediaries — 195
- Honour and empire — 199
- Saints' lives — 205
 - Saving heterodox subjects — 206
 - Joseph the Beautiful — 209
- 'Sons of Hagar' — 216
- Wisdom, empire and liberation — 224
 - Light symbolism — 230
 - Love and wisdom in propaganda — 236

Conclusion — 247

- Outlook — 254

Bibliography — 259

Index — 289