## Great Victory - 72





Monument to the Liberator Soldier in Sysert

72<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of great Victory over Nazi Germany. At dawn on June 22, 1941, Hitler's armies attacked the Soviet Union without

This year we celebrate the declaring war. The Great Patriotic war, which was to last about 4 years, had begun. 72 years have passed since that terrible war







It has left unforgettable feelings not only on pages of war and historic documents, books and picture albums, but also in genetic memory of our people. No doubt, we must know our roots, the heroic past of our fellow countrymen. 70 years ago our Motherland was in fire. Millions of people suffered and died. But nevertheless people coped with everything, went through the trials and reached the victory independence reached and freedom from fascism. And it was the most important achievement that they could get. May 9 is a great holiday for all people. This holiday is dear for all the Russians!

> Photo by Elena V. Vatoropina and Igor S. Sokolov

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## **Immortal Regiment March**

Marches to commemorate the participants of World War II who fought against Nazi Germany are held across Russian cities and abroad. During the marches, people carry photographs of their ancestors who participated in the war.



The first Immortal Regiment took place in 2012 in Tomsk. About 6,000 people marched along the city's central

street with 2,000 photos of war veterans. A year later, another 120 cities and towns in Russia and several former Soviet republics held Immortal Regiment marches as well. The total number of participants reached about 180,000 in 2013 and grew to half a million on May 9, 2014, as Immortal Regiment marches took place in more cities and villages. On May 9, 2015, the March on Tverskaya Street and further to Red Square in Moscow was led by Russian President Vladimir Putin, who carried a portrait of his father, a war

The Immortal Regiment of Russia, a national public civil-patriotic movement, was registered on October 5, 2015. The representatives of 60 Russian regions initiated its formation at their congress in Vyazma, a city of military glory in the Smolensk Region on June 2, 2015.



Speaking at a session of the Victory Organising Committee in early April 2016, the Russian president noted that the Immortal Regiment was an "absolutely honest and sincere project" that should retain these qualities and develop freely.

In 2017 the number of participants in the Ural Federal district was more than 600 thousand people.