

Today in History, Sept. 5

By [The Moscow Times](#)

September 05, 2013



A beard token, given to Russians who paid the beard tax.

315 years ago today, on Sept. 5, 1698, Peter I introduced a tax on beards to bring Russians closer to Western cultural standards. Nobles and officials were charged 600 rubles per year — a substantial amount at the time — if they didn't cut their beards. Only church officials were exempt.

Original url: <https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2013/09/05/today-in-history-sept-5-a27394>