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**TO KILL A CHINGGISID: EURASIAN NOMADIC TRADITIONS IN
THE POLITICAL ARSENAL OF TSAR THEODOR SVETOSLAV (1300–
1322)**

(Summary)

The article examines the execution of Nogay's oldest son Chaka at the turn of the 14th c. The events in Tarnovo are analyzed in a broad comparative perspective in order to answer the question why Theodor Svetoslav chose the method of strangulation for the elimination of his brother-in-law. A number of other killings and executions of persons with royal blood throughout Mongol Eurasia are surveyed and juxtaposed with various diachronous parallels. It is argued that by strangling Chaka, Theodor Svetoslav kept an ancient steppe taboo that prohibited the shedding of royal blood. Thus, a conclusion is drawn that the Bulgarian Tsar followed a standard Mongol practice for elimination of Chinggisids.