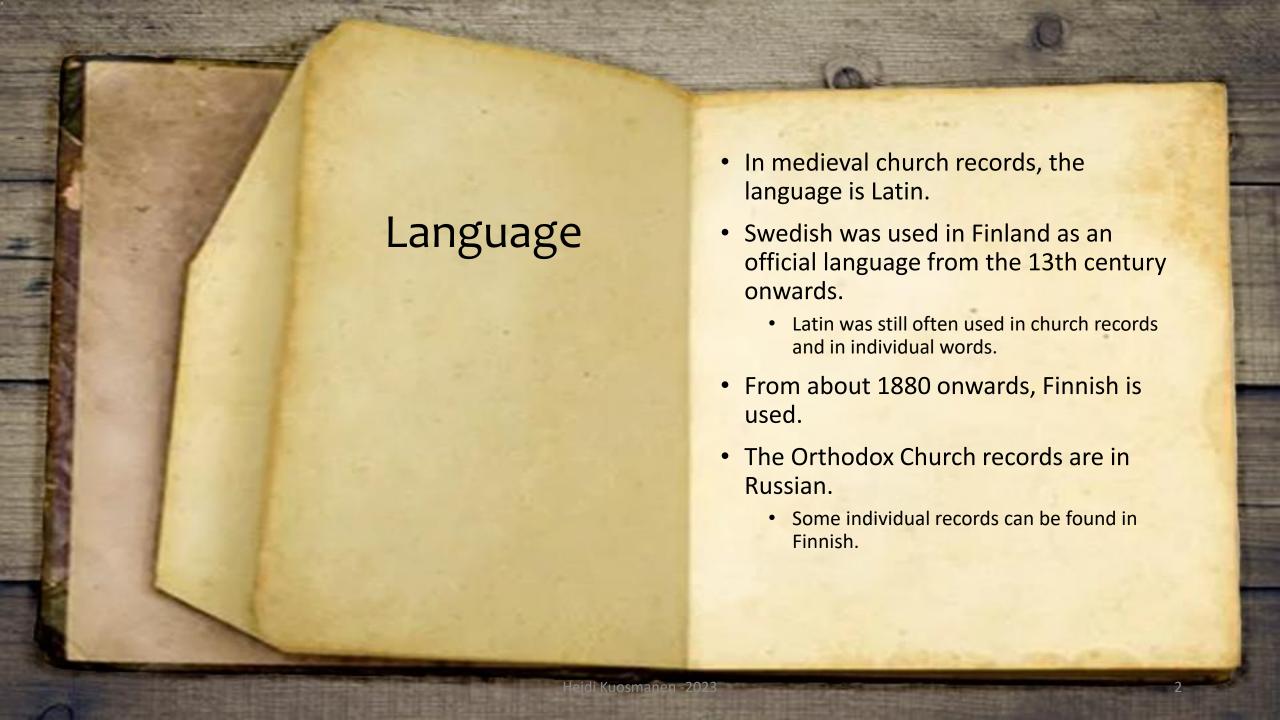
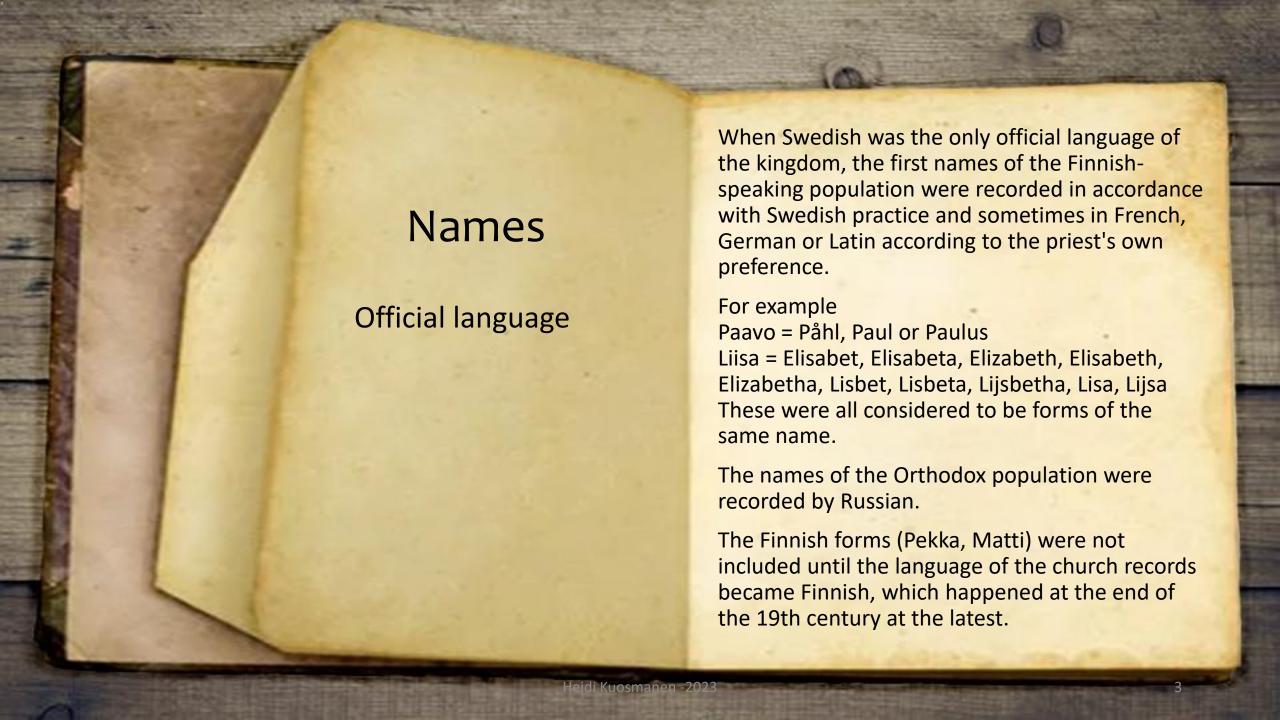
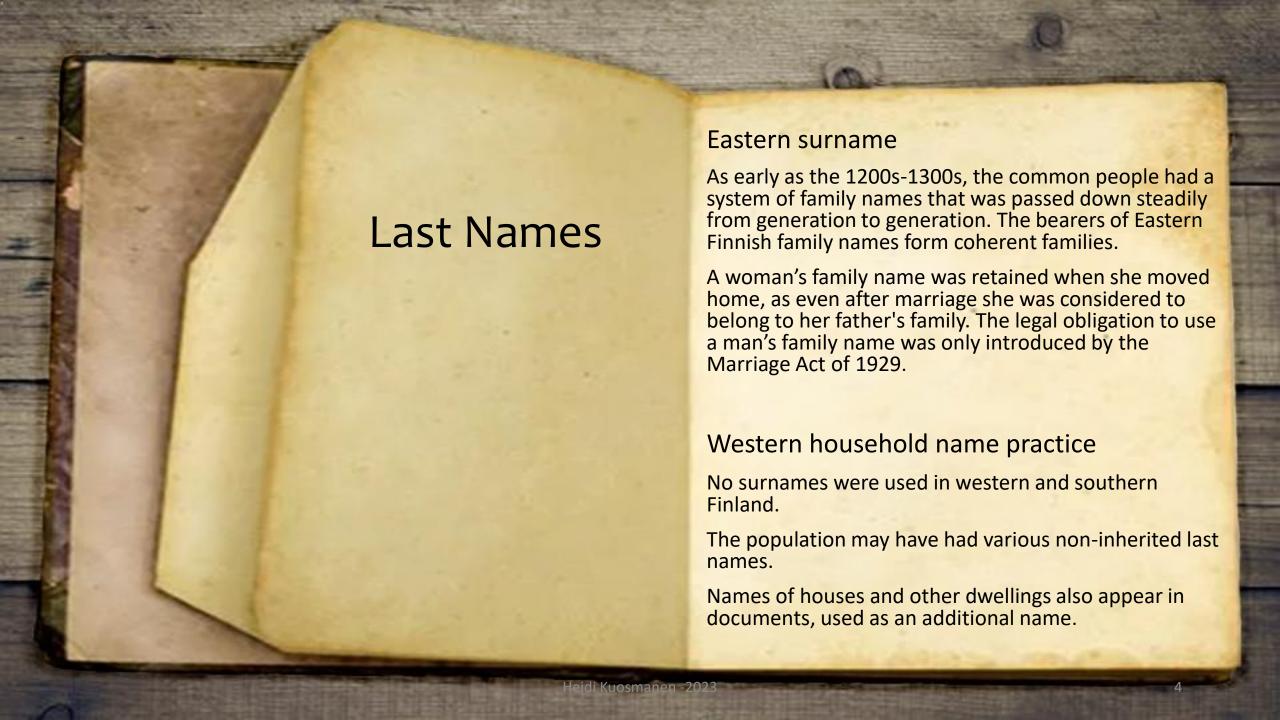
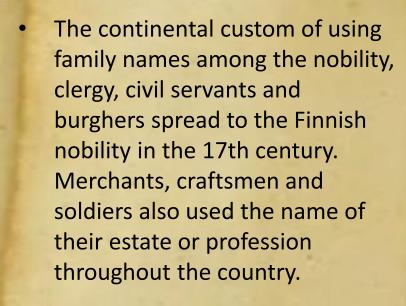
CHALLENGES IN FINNISH FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH

Heidi Kuosmanen





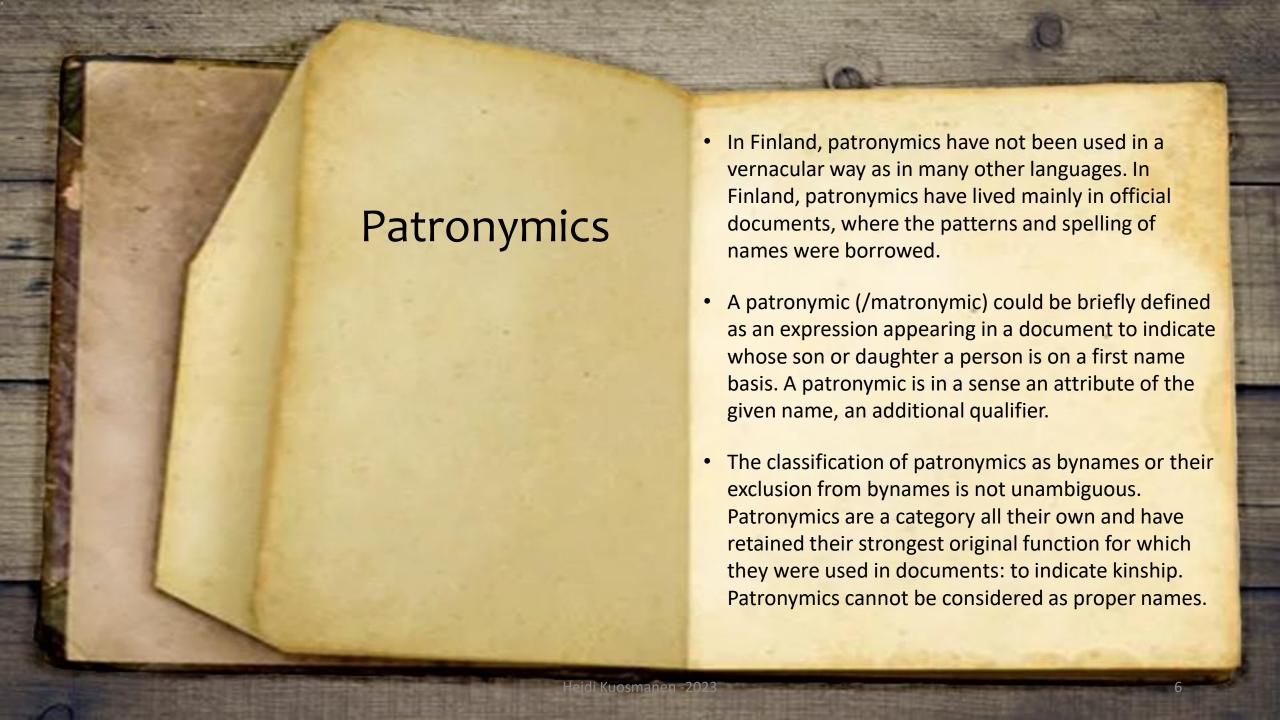




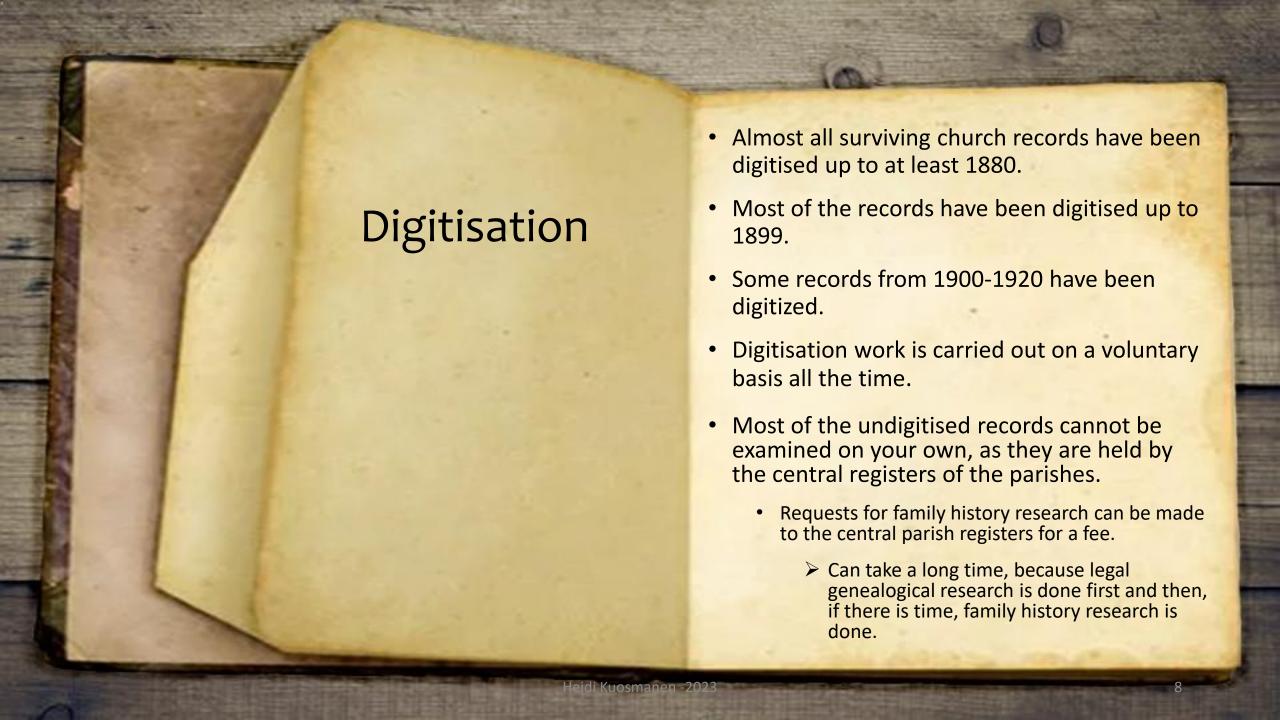
 For the nobility, the names became hereditary early on, for others the names became surnames more slowly. Military names belonged to the "ruotu" and a new soldier often used the same military name as the previous one.

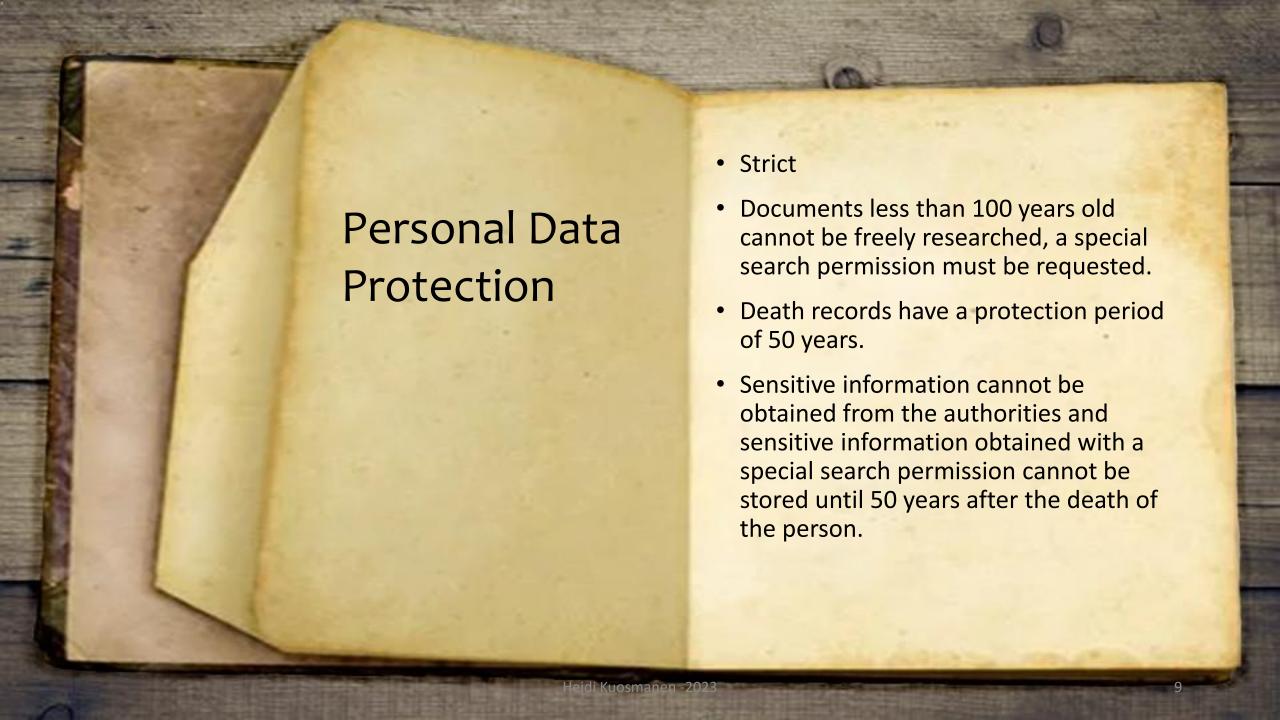
Ruotu = A unit of land responsible for equipment and maintenance of a soldier

- Some of the foreign-language military and craftsman names remained hereditary family names.
- After the middle of the 19th century, non-Finnish surname holders began to change their names to Finnish.
- Towards the end of the 19th century, the rural and urban working population of western Finland began to use taken surnames.
- The old names are only more or less correctly recorded spellings of the names actually used.









More information:

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