

Efremov.

My native town is Efremov. It's a small provincial town with a population of about 60 thousand people on the south-east of Tula region. Efremov stands on the banks of the river Krasivaya Mecha. The town was founded by the Russian tsarina Catherine the Great. Thanks to Turgenev's stories our river has become famous all over the world. The river's length is 244 km, it falls into the Don and then into the sea. The banks of the Krasivaya Mecha are very picturesque and admiring Russian nature where the Krasivaya Mecha flows is called "Russian Switzerland".

In 1657 the Russian tsar Peter the Great visited Efremov on his way during the Azov campaign. In 1778 Catherine the Second approved the town's emblem. There were three silver ploughs in the green field and the ribbon with the tsar crown over it. The town was famous for its agriculture. It supplied Moscow with rye and buckwheat. There were many rich merchants in the town, but the richest was Nechaev, his black marble monument is still safe in the grove.

Soon the railway station was opened in Efremov. In 1933 the Synthetic Rubber plant was built in Efremov. The plant produces vitamin B-12, acetone, premixes and other products. There are many industrial centres in our town: Biochemical plant, Chemical plant, GPK.

There are 10 secondary schools, 2 technical schools, 2 vocational schools, the House of Culture "Chimic", the Youth Centre "Oktyabrskiy", the lyceum, the Museum of Regional Studies, the Literature and Art museum where Bunin lived, the Art school, the Music school, the swimming pool "Volna", the Bunin park, the Komsomolskiy square, the Kurgan. Griboedov, Lermontov, Uspensky, Paustovsky lived and worked in Efremov.

8 heroes of the Soviet Union came from our district. One of them is still alive. His name is Alexei Pavlovich Tatarnikov.

I'm very proud that I live in Efremov.