
ABSTRACTS

Ryabova L. K. **About the methodology problems in studies of contemporary history.**

The article analyzes the basic methodology problems of history in a new political and cultural context on the boundary of the XX–XXI centuries. The author introduces such problems as a «global history» and «universal history», the duties of historians and their responsibilities toward society, ethics and method, as well as «ethnocentrism» and «westernization» in historical science. The main factors influencing the development of methodology and theory of history are indicated here, as well as essential themes of contemporary scientific discussions, concerning the representation method of historical knowledge.

Keywords: methodology, modern theory of history, «global history», historians' responsibility, ethics, «ethnocentrism», methods of historical representation.

Lebina N. B. **The linguistic sources of the De-Stalinization's period of in the USSR. (The experience of the comparative analysis «Explanatory dictionary Sovdepii», dictionary-reference book «New words and importances» and «Brief household encyclopedia»).**

The author of this article tries to value the importance of the published linguistic sources for the reconstruction of the soviet history of 1953–1964. New words and expressions of this period are an important argument in the system proof of disintegration of Stalinism.

Keywords: Stalinism, dictionary, neologisms, political lexicon, slang, home lexicon, verification of the sources.

Ivanov V. A. **Poison-pen writers and the State power in the Soviet Russia in 1930–1960s.**

The article examines the multiple-aspect circumstances of the formation of the anonymous resistance of society against the governmental ideology and customary violence and lies told by the government, and the methods of the resistance of the anonymous displays in the Soviet Russia from the 1930s to the 1960s.

Keywords: Soviet people traumatized by violence, passive resistance, anonymous authors, anonymous letters and leaflets, repressive authorities, suppression of the poison-pen writers in the 1930–1960s.

Tverdyukova E. D. **Struggle against abuses during currency reform of 1947.**

In this article activity of law enforcement bodies on the struggle against abuses is analyzed during currency reform and cancellation of cards in 1947 in the USSR: gambling, concealment of the goods from the inventory, entering of contributions into savings banks, and preservation of the

closed forms of trade. It is shown that this struggle had character of mass political campaign and was accompanied by application of strict measures of punishment.

Keywords: the USSR, currency reform, cancellation of cards, abuses, trade.

Khodyakov M. V. **People and money: currency reform of 1947 and activity of the paper mill Goznak in Leningrad.**

The article concerns the activity of the paper mill Goznak in Leningrad during the preparation and implementation of the currency reform of 1947. The author emphasizes the insufficiently explored problem of the manufacturing of special paper for money. This article is based on archive sources, and analyzes the process of paper manufacturing, marks numerous technical difficulties which Soviet specialists faced during the realization of the governmental task.

Keywords: currency reform of 1947, Goznak, money manufacturing, special paper manufacturing.

Govorov I. V. **The corruption in the Stalinist society after the Great Patriotic War 1941–1945 (based on the sources of Leningrad and Leningrad Region).**

The article is based on the sources of Leningrad and Leningrad Region and examines the problem of the corruption in the Stalinist society after the Great Patriotic War 1941–1945. The article contains the information on the level of the corruption, its scales and forms and about the degree of the involvement of the representatives of the Soviet economic and party leaders into the corruption relations. The author comes to the conclusion that the most popular form of the corruption typical for the Stalinist system consisted of the «merging» of the Communist Party and the economic administrative personnel. This «merging» became an integral part of the life of the post-war society and influenced all the aspects of the state machinery functioning.

Keywords: corruption, self-supply, Stalinism, «Leningrad case», appointees.

Heinzen J. **Corruption and campaigns against bribery during the wartime and postwar Stalinism, 1943–1953.**

This summary of an ongoing, archive-based study of bribery in the Soviet Union in the period between World War II and the death of Stalin describes a critical factor in the evolution of the Soviet state and society in the post-war period. This project examines three related issues. The study investigates the nature and sources of corruption in the late Stalinist period, while painting a sociological portrait of the people committing these crimes. The regime's efforts to fight bribery is a second important topic of the research. «The View from Below», examining popular perceptions of bribery, comprises the third element of the study.

Keywords: corruption, late Stalinism, bribery, 1943–1953.

Zelenov M. V. **Restructuring of the Central Committee machinery of AUCP(b) in 1946, July 1948 and October 1952: structure, personnel and functions (sources for the study).**

The article deals with a discussion of political struggle influence on the machinery of the Central Committee of AUCP(b) in the period of 1946–1952. It is impossible to prove the influence of Central Committee secretaries, especially the groups of A. Kuznetsov, and A. Zhdanov, on the Central Committee machinery. It is possible to assert that the main executor of machinery reforms in 1948 and 1952 was G. Malenkov, but it is unknown who was the initiator — probably Stalin. The article details the changes in departments of the Central Committee Secretariat and highlights the major personnel changes within the Central Committee machinery over these years.

Keywords: AUCP(b), Politburo, 1948, 1952, Council of Ministers, CC Secretariat, party bodies, appointment of personnel.

Vinogradov M. S. **Provincial censorship (Gorky Oblit) in 1953–1964.**

From 1953 to 1966 the machinery of Soviet censorship which stood on guard of state secrets underwent changes both structural and functional. The article on the study of archival documents of Gorky Oblit shows the changes in staff and organization of the Department, as well as gives a generalized description of censorship removals in order to clarify the question of how censorship has changed under Khrushchev and if it changed at all.

Keywords: Soviet censorship, Gorky city, 1953–1966, GLAVLIT, «thaw».

Kashevarov A. N. **Economical aspect of the Soviet government's campaign against Church. 1958–1964.**

The author analyzes the reasons for the change in the governmental religious political course in the USSR during the «thaw» of the Khrushchev era. The article shows the absence of any prospect in the destruction of the Orthodox Church by total attack on her, including the undermining of the material basis.

Keywords: Russian Orthodox Church, 1958–1964, Moscow Patriarchate, decrees against church.

Ganelin R. Sh. **M. M. Litvinov's case on the XVIII party's conference.**

In the article, the discussion deals with differences of Stalin and M. M. Litvinov in 1939 after signing the treaty with Germany. Litvinov spoke of Hitler's threat in this period and did not agree with the «new foreign policy», which caused Stalin's concern. Reluctance to be silent in this situation was the reason for the resignation of Litvinov.

Keywords: M. M. Litvinov, Stalin, XVIII party's conference, the treaty with Germany, the foreign policy, 1939.

Krivosheev Yu. V. **«For the reason of evacuation from the region...»: Soviet migrants on the Karelian Isthmus and the beginning of the Great Patriotic War.**

The article examines the history of Karelian Isthmus developed by the Soviet migrants in the first part of 1941, after this territory became a part of the USSR. With the help of the archive sources, the author elucidates personnel reshuffles and people's lives on the eve of the war and in the extreme conditions of the hostilities.

Keywords: Karelian Isthmus, Soviet migrants, 1941.

Qualls K. D. **Constructing and reconstructing the memory of a hero-city Sevastopol.**

After near total destruction in World War II, the naval port of Sevastopol was rebuilt. This article charts the process of local authorities who, contrary to plans from Moscow, designed an urban biography for the city through monuments, street names, buildings, and guidebooks that emphasized Sevastopol's pre-Revolutionary heroism as an example for Soviet citizens' labor in defense and reconstruction. Localism took the place of Soviet centralization of authority and planning.

Keywords: Sevastopol, localism, World War II, urban architecture, city planning, memory.

Kutuzov V. A. **A. A. Zdanov and the decision of AUCP(b) about the journals «Zvezda» and «Leningrad».**

The author depicts the role of A. A. Zdanov in the acceptance and realization of the decision of AUCP(b) about the journals «Zvezda» and «Leningrad», which was accepted on the 14th of August in 1946 in non traditional way. He believes Zdanov's role to be important, but the minor in comparison to the role of Stalin.

Keywords: the journals «Zvezda» and «Leningrad», the decision of AUCP(b), A. A. Zdanov, I. V. Stalin, A. A. Akhmatova, M. V. Zoshenko.

Amosova A. A. **Exoneration of the victims of political repressions (based on the materials of the «Leningrad affair»).**

The article is devoted to the exoneration of the victims of political repressions, especially of the victims of the «Leningrad affair». The process of the restoration of the fond memory of «Leningrad affair» victims takes decades. In the article different periods of the exoneration are analyzed.

Keywords: an exoneration, the «Leningrad affair», A. A. Kuznetsov, N. A. Voznesensky, P. S. Popkov, Y. F. Kapustin.

Varga-Harris C. **Khrushchevka, kommunalka: socialism and daily life during the «thaw».**

Set within the context of the massive campaign that Khrushchev initiated to provide each family its own apartment, this article asserts that mutual preoccupation with housing served as a foundation for the Soviet state and populace to construct a «normal» socialist society after

Stalinism and World War — one based on material advancement and humaneness. The first part of the article connects the housing policy of the 1950s and 1960s to the revolutionary state goal of providing the proletariat dignified living conditions. The second part analyzes petitions for better housing submitted to officials by Leningraders who continued to inhabit decrepit old buildings as the supply of new apartments failed to keep pace with demand. This unpublished correspondence belied the capabilities of state construction to adequately resolve the housing crisis by depicting a degree of continuity from prewar and wartime circumstances in the sphere of daily life. At the same time, the fact that petitioners appropriated official discourse to demand that the authorities allocating housing honor state promises suggests that their objectives strongly converged with official ones. These aims included a decent home for the ordinary person to live in tranquility, enjoy family life, and, simply, feel like a human being.

Keywords: Russia, Soviet Union, «thaw», Khrushchev, postwar, housing, separate apartment (otdel'naiia kvartira), everyday life (byt, povsvednevnaia zhizn'), petitioning, socialist ideology, state paternalism, normalcy.

Chistikov A. N. **«Is it good or bad across the ocean?»: the impressions of Soviet people about life in foreign countries as found in their personal writings and presentations (from the 1950s to the 1960s).**

In the article, the impressions of Soviet tourists about life in foreign countries in the 1950–1960s are considered on the basis of analysis of various sources. Special attention is given to factors which influenced on the formation of these impressions.

Keywords: Soviet international tourism, «Khrushchev's decade», primary source.

Kozlov D. **Responding to A. I. Solzhenitsyn's «One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich»: Soviet readers' letters to «Novyi mir» in the 1960s. (Part I)**

This work analyzes the readers' reactions to «One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich» by A. I. Solzhenitsyn — one of the most influential publications of the «thaw» epoch. The work is based on the 532 readers' letters about this novella, dated the period from 1962 to 1969 from the archive of the journal «Novyi mir».

The explanation of what happened to the country in the XX century had to create a new system of values and a new language of the social self-expression. The power of «One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich» was that, no matter whether readers agreed with its interpretation or not, it urged them to reconsider their Soviet past in entirety, and offered them new ethic and language means. At the beginning of the 1960s many people began to realize the degree of the political violence and how much they had co-participated in that violence. The acknowledgement of the violence and its details lead them to its moral reappraisal and a wish to distinguish them from it forever.

Keywords: A. I. Solzhenitsyn, «thaw», terror, a journal «Novyi mir», 1960s.

Polynov M. F. **M. S. Gorbachev and the association of Germany.**

The policy of the Secretary general of the Central Committee of the CPSU of the President of the USSR M. S. Gorbachev concerning association of Germany in 1989–1990 is analyzed; it is shown that on the most key problems of association of the two Germanys, it supported the West and didn't use those possibilities which were objectively available to the Soviet Union.

Keywords: FRG, GDR, Soviet Union, the USA, England, France, Secretary general, the President, association of Germany, the NATO, neutrality, negotiations.