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# SYNOPSIS OF THE JOURNAL

## LITERATURE STUDY

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**CHARACTER'S NAME AND LITERARY TRADITION:  
ONCE AGAIN ABOUT THE SUBTEXTS OF «PRINCESS MARY»  
BY M.YU. LERMONTOV**

*The article examines female characters with the name Vera and the plots in which they participate in the Russian stories written in the 1820s–1830s. The objects of the analysis are stories by N.A. Polevoi, Ye.P. Rostopchina, A.A. Bestuzhev-Marlinsky and others, including M.Yu. Lermontov with his story «Princess Mary» from the novel «The Hero of Our Time». Usually the function of this female character is a demonic hero's victim (shaken or shattered faith) or, more often, a victim who changed her destiny or a heroine not corresponding to the ideal / name and (as an option) destroying the hero who loves her. The first variant is presented in the story by V.P. Titov «The Secluded Little House on Vasilievsky Island», which is based on the oral story by A.S. Pushkin. The second one is shown in the stories by N.A. Polevoi «A Painter» and by Ye.P. Rostopchina «Rank and Money». In many aspects, the story written by N.A. Polevoi is invective against women and the principles of upbringing, which fosters false values in them. The story by Rostopchina is a protest against the perverted ideas used by girls' parents and that determine their fate; it is also a protest against psychological violence, dictation, which deprives the young creature of the choice of freedom. The story by A.A. Bestuzhev-Marlinsky «Fregat "Hope"» is different from this type of plot: here, «illegal» passion destroys the heroine, Princess Vera and her beloved hero. In contrast to the romantic stories Lermontov in the story of Vera and Pechorin in «Princess Mary» breaks the connection, the correlation between events or situations – the elements of the plot and the characters' inner world and problematizes the love of the male character. The author of «Princess Mary» constantly breaks readers' expectations, destroying genres stereotypes, demonstrating the romantic code inadequacy, discourse of the depicted situations. The tradition is highlighted by the author's irony.*

*Key words: character's name; literary tradition; plot; subtext; romantic story; A.A. Bestuzhev-Marlinsky; N.A. Polevoy; Ye.P. Rostopchina; M.Yu. Lermontov.*

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**DOSTOYEVSKY'S JOURNALISM IN THE «SMALL TIME»:  
CLOSER LOOK AT GILYAROF, KOVNER, O'CONNELL  
AND DISRAELI**

*The present article deals with an interpretation of the «Jewish chapters» in Dostoyevsky's «A Writer's Diary» written in 1877 in the course of European social and political discourse of the 19th century. Dostoyevsky's diary is a unique and outstanding publication on the problem of the Jewish Question. However, enfranchising of national and religious minorities as well as a broad abolitionist movement was emblematic of the 19th century societies – Irish emancipation in the Great Britain; transformation of Austria into the Dual Monarchy of Austro-Hungarian Empire with a set of autonomous & semi-autonomous regions – mostly Slavic; participation of some provinces in the European part of Ottoman Empire and the Jewish emancipation in different parts of the Old World. Russian Empire – at that time, a country with the biggest Jewish community in the world – was not completely excluded from this process: the possible «conversion» of 3 million of Jews from Russian residents into Russian subjects caused social and journalistic debate, later known as the «Jewish Question». In the article using the methodology of contextual analysis, we interpret the epistolary duel of Dostoyevsky against Kovner as a distant echo of British polemics of O'Connell versus Disraeli and as a commentary of Gilyarov-Platonov, a «father» of Slavophilic approach to the problem of the Jewish Question in the Russian Empire. The introduction of the «Small Time» journalistic context shows the «Jewish chapters» in «A Writer's Diary» not as a primitive ego-document transmitting Dostoyevsky's personal views to the public, but as an episode of common-European dispute of that time. The article demonstrates that in three journalistic texts, determined by the clash of Christian Conservative and Liberal journalists, the image of a better country as well as the problem of its transformation into a secular and multi-confessional society is highlighted.*

Key words: *journalism; the Jewish Question; Dostoyevsky; the Small Time; typology; contextual analysis.*

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**YES, THIS FLAME, WE SET FIRE:  
THE THEME OF REVOLUTION  
IN THE POETRY BY VYACHESLAV IVANOV  
(BASED ON THE COMPUTER COMPLEX  
«HYPERTEXT SEARCH OF WORDS-SATELLITES  
IN LITERARY TEXTS»)**

*The article contains an analysis of the lexical combinations in the poems by Vyacheslav Ivanov. They were written during the Russian revolutions in 1917. The combinations are selected by means of the computer complex «Hypertext search of words-satellites in literary texts». In the poems devoted to a single subject, we selected a number of indicative components of the lexical combinations. Some of these components are included in the top of a special compiled frequency dictionary of the poems on the revolution theme. Its material was an anthology «Poets – Revolution. The Russian poetry of the first decades of the Soviet power about the great October» (1987): «day», «go», «peace», «people», «land», «enemy», «freedom», «Russia». The specific features of the author's perception can be judged by the combination, which includes the*

«earth», lexemes of the thematic group «Birth» («motherland», «to give birth» , «native», «mother», etc.) and «Holiness» («Holy», «sacred», «sanctuary»). At first, Ivanov perceives the revolutionary changes in Russia as an organic product appeared from the mother's womb of the Earth. To the mythological analogy (the earth gives birth to fruit) and Christian (the mother of God gives birth to Christ) one more level is added – historiosophical: revolution – the Holy child of Russia. After the October revolution to the components of the thematic group «Religion», such as «God», «believe», «Spirit», «soul», «heaven», «Light» lexemes «demon», «cross», «Lord», «Christ», «Church» are added. The number of components of the lexical combinations with negative meaning increases: «demon», «wandering», «malice», «blood», «fierce», «rushing», «mist», «ruin», «vague». The most frequent component involved in lexical combinations is now not «earth», but «God». Now in the hope of changing Russia the poet trusts in God's mercy.

Key words: Vyacheslav Ivanov; poetic reflection on a historical event; revolution; lexical combinations; computer complex.

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## **THE OCTOBER REVOLUTION IN RUSSIAN POETRY THROUGH THE PRISM OF LEXICAL COMBINATIONS**

Article is devoted to the study of general tendencies in the poems, containing a revolution subject and written by the Russian poets of XXth – the beginning of the XXIth centuries. The use of the original software system «Hypertext search of words-satellites in literary texts» makes it possible to identify non-obvious links between the texts. We refer to the same words repeating lexical combinations where the same words are placed at a short distance from each other in the text; at the same time in most cases, they do not retain their grammatical, semantic and phonetic features. The analysis of the combination «revolution – sea» which in different cases is increased by the additional components «October – dawn», «sailor-armor», «forest» has shown that the general lexical combinations can be explained by a unity of historical realities. However, in the presence of additional common points at the level of images and composition these lexical combinations find closer intra text connection that makes it possible to assume influence of one text on another. Therefore, we can make suggestions about the impact of Bryusov's «October 1917» on E. Bagritsky's «Mariners». In general, the poems written in the first half of the twentieth century and devoted to the revolution are made primarily on the analogy base: the natural element – and the revolution or historical events that took place at different times in different countries. The Poems of the second half of the XXth – the beginning of the XXIth centuries are predominantly based on the principle of an antithesis: opposition of that time – modern time, people of the past – a modern person or figures of revolution – what remained to contemporaries (names, sculptures, ghosts); the alive – the dead; high art (marked by quotes and allusions of classics' verses) – a vulgar language, an abusive language; ceremonialism, rituals, celebrations – sacral and profane. The Poems the most closely connected in pairs on the presented material are R. Rozhdestvensky's «Verses about My Name» (1959) and Ye. Yevtushenko's «When Men Have Freckled Faces...» (1967), R. Rozhdestvensky's poem and B. Khersonsky's poem «The Eccentric Youth ...» (2006); poems «Revolution in Tyumen» (1972) by V. Vysotsky and T. Kibirov's «To a Question of Romanticism» (1989).

Key words: *Russian poetry of the XXth–XXIth centuries; the theme of revolution, lexical combinations; software system «Hypertext search of words-satellites in literary texts»; intertextual relations; V. Bryusov; E. Bagritsky; L. Martynov; A. Prokofiev; Ye. Yevtushenko; R. Rozhdestvensky; V. Vysotsky; T. Kibirov; B. Khersonsky.*

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**DISCOURSE OF AN ERROR AND  
THE REVOLUTION REPRESENTATION  
IN THE MATERIALS OF THE JOURNAL «NOVY LEF»**

*In the materials of the journal Novy LEF, 1927–1928, the revolution is the main source of artistic legitimacy and justification for creative experiments of avant-garde. The revolution is an embodiment of «modernity», and aesthetic novelty is correlated only with it. At the same time, the «jubilee» materials are often associated with the discussion of errors in social and cultural construction, errors in creative practice. The revolution oblivion as a living event led to the interest in the means of its secondary actualization, in the forms of the «revolutionary character» representation in demonstrations, club work, and in screen art. Due to the fact of the past time, the revolution must become a fact of the present. This aim is achieved by radicalization of the artistic form, expansion of intermedia links, and mastery of art by extra-esthetic fields. The literature is considered in the context of the photo, radio, revolutionary poster; the prospects of its further development are connected with learning the methods of other types of art. Comprehension of the representation errors turns out to be a tool of self-criticism and revealing the utopian beginning in the theory and practice of the «production art». The errors are explained by esthetic stagnancy of the new art addressee, little interest of the authorities in a radical experiment, a gap between the purposes and means. At the same time, an error is considered as a condition for a new artistic form creation, as a means of individualizing the subject of creativity. The most systemically discourse of an error was expressed in the publications of V. Shklovsky at the turn of the 1920s–1930s. According to V. Shklovsky any novelty in art is a consequence of clash between logic of a form and the «target tasks» put forward by the changed social reality. Therefore, each new work is written «incorrectly» and can be estimated in categories of an error. In this regard, the theorist suggests refusing category «qualities» in assessment of literary texts.*

Key words: *discourse of an error; aesthetic theory; revolution; Novy LEF; industrial art; legitimation; Osip Brik; Viktor Shklovsky; Aleksander Rodchenko; Sergei Tretyakov; Nikolai Chuzhak.*

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**COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF THE IMPLEMENTATION  
OF THE CONCEPT «NAZI»  
IN THE FICTION ABOUT THE SECOND WORLD WAR  
(E.M. REMARQUE AND B.L. VASILYEV)**

*The article considers such meanings of the concept «Nazi» in the novels by E.M. Remarque and B.L. Vasilyev as Hitler and associates of his regime, ordinary Nazis, Nazi organizations. In the Remarque's novel «A Time to Live and a Time to Die» in the characterization of Hitler negatively colored vocabulary is not practically used, however in describing his environment the vocabulary with a negative connotation prevails over neutral one. In the Vasilyev's novel «Not on the Active List» Hitler represents his criminal regime. Ordinary Nazis described by Remarque and Vasilyev are subject to herd instinct, they are blinded by propaganda of pro-government media. Nevertheless, Remarque holds the idea of a gradual understanding by the Germans of the fact that the ongoing war brings death not only to Russians, but also to themselves. The Nazis in Vasilyev's novel have not yet come to understanding the horror of their situation, at the beginning of the war, they are still stupidly self-complacent, but in the first days of the terrible slaughter, some of them understand that they can die senselessly on a foreign land. Ordinary Germans in the novel by Remarque fear and hate of the representatives of such organizations as the SS. In Vasilyev's novel the Nazi organizations are not mentioned, but the German propagandists broadcast on behalf of great Germany which for the Soviet soldiers is the cruel and artful invader who set the purpose to enslave the population of their native land. The authors in their works show the ups and downs of the human spirit, and each of them with the power of his talent delivered a verdict of guilty to the war.*

*Key words: E.M. Remarque; B.L. Vasilyev; war prose; the concept of «Nazi»; comparative analysis.*

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**THE MODEL «PASTOR – BORDER CHARACTER»  
IN THE PARISH PROSE  
OF THE XXI<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY: THE CONTEXT OF RANDOM INTERSECTIONS.**

*The article is devoted to the features specific to the system of characters in the parish prose, which is a kind of literature that belongs to spiritual realism. The research is based on the parish stories by contemporary writers-clergy: Alexander Dyachenko, Alexis Lisnyak and Alexander Shantayev. The author's main focus is a borderline character – a person who does not belong to the parish world, but under certain circumstances he enters an interaction process with the narrator, a priest. The process is possible to be fulfilled on the relative border of secular*



*and Church environment. The model «pastor – border character» is considered in the context of short-term and long-term interaction. The specifics of short-term intersections are demonstrated at three situational levels: a) a joint trip; b) a visit to the priest; c) a random meeting. Based on the analysis of the goal-setting principle, research of the portrait and speech characteristics, the following types of the characters characteristic in this context are found: ironic, asocial, contrast, sympathetic. The long crossing context makes it possible to more deeply and multispectually explore the images of the edge characters, to identify additional types, which include play-actor's (clownish) and combo-based ones, as a rule, in connection with antisocial and clownish types. At the same time, the range of artistic means that contribute to the disclosure of the characters' images. Additional techniques include: a description of the interior, an evaluation by other characters, and an image of the character in the dynamics.*

*Key words: literature of spiritual realism; parish prose; model «pastor – border character»; intersections; portrait; interior; speech characteristic.*

## LINGUISTICS

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### **THE AESTHETIC EVALUATION EXPRESSION IN THE TEXT «THE LIFE OF YEVFROSINIYA OF SUZDAL»**

*The article is devoted to the methods of the language expression of aesthetic evaluation in the Old Russian text. The evaluation is understood by the authors as an attitude of the evaluation subject to the objective value according to the idea of beauty and ugliness existing in the middle ages.*

*The material is based on one of the outstanding literary works written in the hagiographic genre of Vladimir-Suzdal Russia specific for the XVI<sup>th</sup> century – «The Life of Yevfrosiniya of Suzdal», which has not previously become a source of the research. Special attention is paid to the textual description of insufficiently studied lists of «The Life...», stored in the funds of the Vladimir-Suzdal Museum-Reserve.*

*It is emphasized that in contrast to the modern Russian language, which includes a paradigmatic system of hyperonym– hyponym set in the XVIII<sup>th</sup>–XIX<sup>th</sup> centuries. The aesthetic evaluation in the era of epochs before nationalism could be expressed only at the syntagmatic level, in a specific context, through the use of eight main ways/models: nouns in the instrumental case of restriction, pointing to the «aesthetic» grounds of the assessment and adjectives denoting the overall quality of the evaluation object (krasna litsem); a coordinated attribute phrase «an*

*animate noun + a qualitative adjective» (prekrasnaya otrokovitsa); a combination of two / three nouns (krasota litsa); a noun + a relative adjective in the function of an attribute (telesnaya krasota); nominal adjectives in attributive function and nouns denoting inanimate objects of the assessment (belye rizy); adjectives in the nominal form and adverbs of degree (zelo krasna); and a noun formed from the verbs of speech and a participle of the passive voice (svet' neizpechennyi); a word combination with forms of passive voice participle in the past tense formed from the verbs, which are combined with nouns standing in the instrumental case, they express a meaning of «physical», «external», «material» (ukrasheny biserom”).*

*Further study of the aesthetic evaluation expression in the medieval texts will make it possible to visualize the process of formation of Russian literature, reflecting the linguistic world view of the human lived in Ancient Russia.*

**Key words:** *aesthetic evaluation; ways of language expression; the Old Russian language; hagiography; manuscript.*

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#### **EPISTOLARY DISCOURSE AS A SOURCE OF THE LANGUAGE PERSONALITY STUDIES: A.V. MAKEDONOV AND A.A. PALSHKOV (BASED ON THE MATERIALS OF THE LITERARY MUSEUM ARCHIVES OF SMOLENSK STATE UNIVERSITY)**

*The article continues a series of the author's publications describing a communicative-pragmatic level of Adrian Vladimirovich Makedonov's personality (1909–1994), a famous Soviet literary scholar and critic. We analyze unpublished letters from the archives of the Smolensk State University Literary museum. The epistolary discourse based on A.V. Makedonov's correspondence with various artistic intellectuals lived in 1960s–1990s makes it possible to single out characteristic features of a collective speech portrait of an elite Russian intellectual as well as to trace how communicative-pragmatic use of speech standards contributes to understanding the way of the interlocutors' interpersonal relations are developing in various situations of epistolary communication.*

*The addressee of the letters comprising an empirical material of the present article is Alexander Alexandrovich Palshkov (1927–1989), the first popular director of the Literary Museum with whom the famous critic corresponded in 1975–1977.*

*The letters in question actively use speech etiquette standards (situations of a request, gratitude, agreement / disagreement, praise, critic, etc.) reflecting established interpersonal relations between the interlocutors and single out characteristic features specific to their speech portraits. Key speech standard phrases are singled out through the contextual analysis. They give an idea of epistolary discourse peculiarities in the creative circle of the late XXth century.*

*The archive material used in the article is firstly introduced into scientific discourse.*

**Key words:** *epistolary discourse; language personality; speech portrait; A.V. Makedonov; A.A. Palshkov; interpersonal relations; specifics of speech standards; archival materials.*

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## **GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS AND THEIR ROLE IN THE FORMATION OF TOPONYMS**

*This article deals with the processes of geographical terms and geographical proper names interaction. The research is conducted on the material of Smolensk ancient business manuscripts of the XVII<sup>th</sup>–XVIII<sup>th</sup> centuries. Our attention is paid to the history of the word «term» which consists in its primary meaning transformation and fixation of this word as a concept denotation in the concrete science within the Russian scientific language formation. This article describes some geographical terms which have become the basis for the creation of the geographical proper names – toponyms and microtoponyms.*

*As opposed to the majority of other sciences (mathematics, physics, astronomy), geographical terminology used the words from the most ancient layers of the Russian language: bereg (a shore), gora (a mountain), les (a forest), ozero (a lake), reka (a river), etc. as scientific terms. Besides, in the XVII<sup>th</sup>–XVIII<sup>th</sup> centuries in Russia there was geographical literature (national and translated) which contained various geographical units. However, new notions transmission needed new linguistic means. Thus, popular-colloquial and dialectic vocabulary became the most important source of the geographical scientific language supplement.*

*The article shows the examples proving that not only general use terms may participate in the toponyms and microtoponyms formation but also vulgar (local and dialect) geographical terms take an active part in this process. According to many scientists a single toponymic system cannot be formed and exist without these terms. Later, some popular-colloquial words could enter geographical scientific terminology, the others remained in dialects, but both were the basis of the toponyms formation.*

*Key words: term; popular-colloquial words; vocabulary; written records; Smolensk region; toponym; toponymy; microtoponym.*

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## **GRAMMATICAL MEANINGS AND NON-LINGUISTIC REALITY**

*The term «grammatical meaning» is full of meaning in both parts. The meaning as a correlation of a linguistic unit with a non-linguistic reality is found in all grammatical forms of morphology, except the neuter gender. This meaning is either masculine or feminine; the number*

*is singular or plural, etc. For instance, «brat» (brother), male – masculine gender; the singular number – one object. The grammatical forms of morphology have the following meanings: a gender, a number, a relation of one object to another one, animate or inanimate objects, a measure of the marker, a limit of the action, a subject and an object of the action, a reality of the action, time of the action, an action correlation to the speaker and the listener.*

*However, in some words such a correspondence is not observed, that is why the «grammatical» component or the formal meaning is necessary. There are two discrepancy types: correspondence-discrepancy is out of the question; contradiction of the grammatical meaning of a non-linguistic reality.*

*The correspondence-discrepancy is out of the question, firstly, when there is nothing in the non-linguistic reality that could correspond to the grammatical meaning. For example, Russian word «koster» is masculine, but this subject has no sex; the word «voda» has a grammatical meaning of the singular number, but material nouns name objects that can not be calculated.*

*Secondly, the correspondence-discrepancy is out of the question, when we don't know for sure the reality. For example, from the sentence «Elephant saved the boy» we do not know what sex the elephant has.*

*The grammatical meaning is quite often contradicts the extralinguistic reality. For example, Russian words «listva», «studenchestvo» name a variety of objects, but they have a singular form. Russian nouns «klyon», «mlekopitayushcheye» and «narod», are inanimate nouns, but they name living beings.*

*Key words: meaning; grammatical meaning; non-linguistic reality; correspondence; discrepancy; contradiction.*

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## **LANGUAGE TENDENCIES IN THE TEXTS WRITTEN FOR CHILDREN'S PERCEPTION**

*The article presents current tendencies as a linguistic and cultural phenomenon in respect to the language of texts written for children. These texts belong to diverse genres: fiction, textual elements of cartoons, advertisements, titles of children's mass media, song texts, etc. The article gives a definition of the language tendency; important signs of modern word usage are specified in the children's speech discourse.*

*The language tendencies are considered through examples of children's texts of different genres. The article analyzes key lexical units containing a «vogue» connotation that is defined by frequency of the word usage, their predominantly foreign origin, a character of lexemes nominees and their axiological power. In the study of «catchwords» the linguoculturological component of the analysis is important, as the tendency itself is in many respects caused by sociocultural factors: language and economic policy, elite's ideological and cultural orientation, guidelines of society development.*

*The article shows that a connection between lexemes and contemporary discourse of the young people interested in IT, connotative components of the lexemes semantics and meaningfulness of their nominative elements assist in forming value systems of the texts addressees. The author makes a supposition that contemporary texts demonstrate a definite split*

*between the axiological orientation of the new generation in comparison with the traditional didactical, ethic and aesthetic guidelines of children's literature of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.*

*The article stresses the commercialization of «information products» for children and the deterioration of their quality as the problem causing the imbalanced «catchwords» usage. The orientation at the tendencies (including language tendencies) determines indirect impact on the changes of value paradigms of the younger generations, thus adding to the conflict with the generation of their parents.*

*Key words: language tendency; texts written for children's perception; tendencies in writing texts for children; English loan words and slang words in children's speech.*

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### **THEMATIC PARALLELS IN THE SCHOLARLY SLANG IN THE XIX<sup>TH</sup> AND XXI<sup>TH</sup> CENTURIES**

*The article provides a comparative analysis of lexical items grouped by themes found in the Russian scholarly slang in XIX<sup>th</sup> and XXI<sup>th</sup> centuries. As a result, groups of similar topics that describe studies, leisure, bad habits, relations between students and teachers, as well as students' in-group relations have been identified. The examination of the original and modern school slang has shown general trends in the ways how new words were adopted into vocabulary by: metaphorisation of words found in everyday speech, word-building and adopting words from the foreign languages. Sequences of synonyms related to specific slang words can be identified within certain topics – the phenomenon demonstrating the importance of a particular concept for slang users. Numerous groups of synonyms form slang groups according to students studying in different educational institutions, time of studies, their academic performance, behavior and other characteristics, as well as slang words denoting «teacher». The most abundant groups of synonyms represent the topic «Bad habits» incorporating words and word combinations with the meaning «to consume alcohol». The comparative analysis of the vocabulary existing in the Russian scholarly slang of the XIX<sup>th</sup> and XXI<sup>th</sup> centuries demonstrates that it's not always possible to draw parallels between topics as there are themes characteristic entirely either of the XIX<sup>th</sup> or XXI<sup>th</sup> centuries. For example, the topic «Corporal punishment in an educational institution» that had a lot of slang words in the XIX<sup>th</sup> century did not remain in modern dictionaries, as the above-mentioned phenomenon ceased to exist, whereas in the XIX<sup>th</sup> century there were no lexical units that stood for «narcotics» or «computer», since there were no such concepts at that time. The research has discovered slang lexical units that firstly appeared in the XIX<sup>th</sup> century, but still exist in the XIX<sup>th</sup> century, and either have kept or completely changed their original meaning. All findings have been supported by examples from lexicographical sources.*

Key words: *scholarly slang; thematic groups; comparative analysis; metaphorisation; borrowing; word-building.*

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## LINGUISTIC AND CULTURAL CONTINUUM OF THE WORD «BLINY» IN RUSSIAN LINGUISTIC WORLD-VIEW

*Human knowledge of the world is a system of certain concepts, and a language serves as a codifier of the world view, which includes various concept spheres forming a national identity in its entirety. Specifically a concept sphere is composed of concepts that solve the main task of cultural linguistics –development of people’s mentality and culture through the language. The article is devoted to the analysis of the linguistic and cultural continuum of the word «bliny» in the modern Russian language as a part of the key idea concerning «Zima» in Russian linguistic world-view. The purpose is a comprehensive study of the language continuum of the lexical item «bliny»: the word origin and its history in the Russian language, modern semantics, study of the word formation of the formative word and derived stems, which differ in subtle shades of the lexical meaning. The functional-speech continuum assisted in identifying the compatibility of the studied lexical item with other words. The context analysis identifies the following conceptual positions in the use of the lexical item: national recipes of pancakes; the cooking process; a routine, delicate or festive dainty; a ceremonial or ritual dish; Russian national or international dish; a means of creating a warm atmosphere; a means of speech artistic expressiveness; an indicator of Russian hospitality; an artifact of spiritual and material culture of Russian people; an item of highly-specialized functional lexis; a means of entertainment; an anatomical structure of a living organism and its internal biological processes, etc. A set of general scientific and specific linguistic methods and techniques are used in study of the material. They make it possible to organize and to summarize the collected linguistic data. The mentality and culture of Russian people are reflected in the semantic content of the concept under the study, which is confirmed by the active use of this word in both direct and figurative meaning in scientific, artistic and journalistic texts. The study proves that the lexical item «bliny» has successfully been adapted in the modern Russian language and it increases its semantic meaning depending on the contextual situation of its use.*

Key words: *linguistic and cultural continuum; the lexical item «Bliny»; etymology; semantics; compatibility; functionality.*

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## **COMMUNICATIVE STRATEGY OF THE TARGET AUDIENCE FORMATION IN THE ENTERTAINING RADIO DISCOURSE**

*In modern journalism, despite the development of television and Internet media, radio remains one of the major media outlets. Along with other types of media it is involved in the overall process of globalization and integration in the mass media, which impacts on its development and operation. So, the radio communication systems can observe phenomena common to all media: a move from information to infotainment, development of games and entertainment.*

*In addition, factors such as improving technical capacity of radio stations, their apparent commercialization, the desire to find new forms of interaction with the audience and diversify of the radio content and a radio station in general, affect the broadcasting of each radio station, its positioning and speech features. For successful operation of a radio station you must have not only an original content that will be demanded by the audience, but also a set of distinctive features making possible to attract people and stand out of the other radio stations.*

*Analyzing the decrypted radio texts «Brigade U», («Europe +»), «Wakeupers» (the RECORD), «Podyomniki» («Nashe Radio»), «Sergei Stillavin i yego druzya» («Mayak»), «Yeti-shou» («Radio Sibir», Omsk) we came to the conclusion that one of the dominant communicative strategy in the entertainment radio discourse is a communication strategy for a target audience formation.*

*The article provides a ground for the selection of the entertainment radio discourse in the structure of the media discourse and gives it's characteristic. The work presents different perspectives on the definition of the «communication strategy» and the «communicative tactics». The article analyses communicative strategy for the target audience. The article presents characteristics of communicative tactics nomination, self-presentation, positioning of the radio and television stations that determine the communicative strategy.*

*Key words: media discourse; entertainment radio discourse; communicative strategies and tactics.*

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## **ADVERTISING INTEGRATIONS IN VIDEO BLOGS: FORMATS, GENRE AND LANGUAGE FEATURES**

*The article studies the formats of advertising integrations in video blogs, the advantages of video blogging as a way for promotion of advertising information. Special attention is paid to verbal and non-verbal elements of video bloggers' speech behavior in the process of advertising*

*integration. The relevance of studying main formats of advertising integration in video blogs is determined by a number of circumstances. Firstly, it is the growing popularity of advertising in video blogs: taking into account the popularity of video blogging, modern commercial companies focused on communication with video bloggers in order to use the popular media resource for advertising and marketing purposes. At the same time, it should be noted that the communication resource of video blogging in Russia has been relatively recently discovered and it is quite a new object of the research. Secondly, despite the popularity of video blogging, many companies still don't trust bloggers and don't have the technology to establish effective communication with the audience. Moreover, correctly placed advertising can become quite effective: advertisers actively using this format of interaction note the success of the advertising integrations. From the authors' point of view you can find the appropriate integration format and choose a video blogger with the appropriate content and audience for almost any category of the advertised product. Video content of popular vlog channels (more than 100 videos of various formats and genres) served as the material for the research. The method of complex linguistic description was used as a basic method, including techniques of generalization, interpretation and classification of linguistic facts.*

*Key words: advertising; advertising integration; Internet communication; video blog; YouTube.*

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## **DISTRIBUTION OF ATTRIBUTES IN ENGLISH TEXTS**

*The study of individual peculiarities of the author's style in fiction is one of the most important issues in stylometry. This article proposes an approach based on one of syntactic features – that of an attribute. The attributive position is characterized by a unique freedom from the predicative verb obligatory valency and thus, to a large degree, it reflects the author's individual style preferences.*

*The present study carries out quantitative analysis of attribute types used in the works of popular English writers (both male and female that allows us to classify their individual styles and styles peculiarities by gender.*

*According to the parts of speech category of the words used as attributes the latter are grouped into different attribute classes counted for each text, the results are used as a data-base for the quantitative analysis.*

*The study proves that the exponential function plus 1 is a good fit for the data of the observed attribute distribution in the texts.*

*Key words: attribute; parts of speech; distribution; exponential function; quantitative analysis.*

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## **AUTHORS' COMMUNICATIVE AND COGNITIVE STRATEGIES IN ANALYTICAL ARTICLES (BASED ON ENGLISH MILITARY PUBLICISTIC DISCOURSE)**

*The study of speech genres is of great importance for communicative linguistics. The genre of an analytical article (analysis) refers to the argumentative discourse.*

*The article is devoted to the use of communicative and cognitive strategies in the genre of the «analytical article» (analysis). The classification of the cognitive strategies is presented and the linguistic means of their verbal explication are considered.*

*The study confirms the fact that the author's communicative and cognitive strategies are a means of realizing his intention. The study supports that the most used cognitive strategies confirming the author's arguments are comparison, opposition, concretization, desirability, dispersion and «mathematic modeling».*

*The strategy of persuasion is used only by those communicants who participate in communication as officials. It should be noted that such cognitive strategies as egocentrism and categoricity are not used in the statements of the author's analytical article (analysis).*

*Key words: strategies; genre of an analytical article (analysis); intention; composition; publicistic discourse, linguistic means.*

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## **ANALYSIS OF THE LEXICOGRAPHIC PROCESSING OF SPORTS SLANG UNITS IN THE DICTIONARY OF MODERN AMERICAN SLANG**

*The research focuses a microstructure of modern American substandard vocabulary dictionary, containing data about sports slang units. We gradually study the dictionary entry components, which can most precisely characterize the registered lexical unit: a vocable and its variants, orthoepic and grammatical features, sociostylistic (namely, ethically stylistic) colouring, sociolinguistic information encompassing data about the territory and time span of its functioning, as well as corporate and professional milieus. A slang unit semantization is the most complicated and important special element of the lexicographic description and, thus, it includes several steps. The first step: division of the polysemantic (monosemantic) vocable meaning into separate meanings (sub-meanings), while taking into consideration homonymous and conversional relations that sometimes a vocable can establish. The second step: work with the types of explications construing the vocable meaning; they may be: a) a synonymous definition by a literary synonym; b) a synonymous definition by a set of literary synonyms; c) a synonymous definition by a non-literary synonym; d) an expandable (descriptive) linguistic definition; e) a philological and encyclopedic definition; f) a combined definition. The third step: introduction of indices, markers, references, additionally clarifying different aspects of a slang unit meaning. The fourth step: an introduction of illustrative examples, the sources of which include: a) films; b) reference books, dictionaries, encyclopedias; c) documentary literature (memoirs, biographies, etc.); d) Internet sources; e) belles lettres; f) periodicals. The fifth step: an introduction of etymological and derivational information. The thoroughly developed and*

*well-arranged microstructure along with a proficient graphic design turns the dictionary into a handy reference book at work with sports slang as well.*

*Key words: American slang; dictionary entry (microstructure); slang dictionary; sports slang; substandard lexicography.*

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### **DISTRIBUTION OF LEXICAL UNITS IN THE TEXT AS A FEATURE OF THE AUTHOR'S INDIVIDUAL STYLE**

*At present great attention in linguistics is paid to the study of an author's individual features of the style. These features belong to different levels of a language system.*

*The paper deals with the cumulative or distributive analysis of lexical units, i.e. whether it is preferable to view a text as a bag of words or take the position of words into account.*

*The analysis of verse lyrical texts by the famous American poet H. Longfellow made it possible to obtain the data about lexical diversity of nouns and verbs in the texts in general and in different positions in verse line. Semantic groups of the most frequent nouns and verbs were singled out.*

*Among the most frequent nouns the following thematic groups are found: a human and his/her feelings; lexical units reflecting perception and the surrounding world. Most frequent verbs include: verbs of horizontal movement and verbs denoting vertical movement and position. These verbs are followed by verbs reflecting different psychological states.*

*Properties of frequency of lexical units in different positions as opposed to the cumulative approach were established. The obtained results prove that the analysis of lexical diversity in different positions taken separately is preferable. On the basis of the studied texts the distribution of nominal and verbal lexical units is governed by the same general tendencies.*

*Our special attention is drawn by the fact that a structural unit of the verse speech (line) resembles language in its relation to its initial and final elements.*

*The further research may include an analysis of additional text corpora (verses by other authors) and other types of discourse. This will enable us to specify the properties of a prospective and retrospective prognostic force of initial and final elements included in the verse line, to estimate the relation of structural and syntactic units in texts belonging to different types.*

*Key words: style; most frequent words; distribution; verse text; lexical richness index.*

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**IRMTRAUD GUTSCHKE. HERMANN KANT. DIE SACHE UND DIE SACHEN  
(«LIFEWORKE AND ALL THE REST»):  
THE LIFE OF A «POLITICAL PERSON» AND POLITICAL WRITER.**

## **PART I. PERSONALITY DEVELOPMENT**

*The article focuses on the problem of the German writer Hermann Kant's personality development based on the material of the book by I. Gutchke «Hermann Kant. Lifework and all the Rest» («Die Sache und die Sachen», 2007). The book is a product of two genres: a memorial prose and journalism (interview). Memoirs are a documentary and historical narration bordering on autobiography in the form of a presentation. The interview concentrates attention on the topical questions which the famous person is asked and which are of public interest. Memoirs are based on the work of the special type of memory – the autobiographical one. The personality of the story-teller narrating about the events of his own life approaches the hero (subject) of the narration to the greatest degree. The form «I» unites the author's personality, the subject and the object (the story about oneself) in such a text. That form of the narration is most adequate to the objectives of our research – to show the personality development of the «political person» and political writer. Special emphasis is laid on the formation of a political core of H. Kant's personality showed at the main stages of his life: childhood (his family and school, books) and youth (the war, captivity).*

*The article shows that the prison (2 years) and prisoner-of-war camp (2 years) became his genuine «universities», that pedagogical «province» where his personality developed. Here he subjected to revision his short life before the captivity: the books read in the Nazi Germany, the school he attended, infant and junior Nazi organizations. In the camp he endures deprivations – hunger, cold and hatred from the Polish population; however he managed to overcome any resentment, to understand his own fault of the German soldier who came to Poland to conquer it.*

*The prison and the camp, his life on the verge of death revealed to him his personal potential, temperament, character, «political physiognomy». Here he discerned special qualities of his personality: activity, sharp tongue, courage, an ability to reason and convince, to make people take his side. It is these qualities that make him a «red (pro-communist) leader», put at the head of the camp anti-fascist activist group. In such a way family traditions of the Hamburg proletarian and new life experience got entwined.*

*The camp «programmed» his further life and motivation of his behavior. He came back home with a firm ideological position. He clearly understood whose side he took. Later on he realized that he perceived a lot of things in a simplified manner, but the Marxist ideologems acquired by him on the courses were those «power clots» which enabled him to see his place in history.*

*Key words: memorial prose; journalism (interview); autobiography; childhood; family; school; books; war; captivity; «political person».*

## **HISTORY AND ARCHEOLOGY**

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## **AN ENGLISH POET IN THE FOREIGN SERVICE**

*The article is devoted to one of the most famous English writers of the late XVIIth and early XVIIIth centuries George Stepney, for whom serving the muse became equivalent to serving the state in the diplomatic field. At that time diplomatic and military battles in Europe became, with rare exception, main events in the life of the contemporaries. The creative elite's reaction of those years was expressed not only in printed production, but also in active participation in the political life of their country and the continent as a whole. Many of its representatives made a brilliant career in this field. The young diplomat who showed his best in his early career in Hamburg was continuously in demand, mainly on the lands of the Holy Roman Empire. At the same time Stepney was engaged in creative activity, he became a member of the Royal Scientific Society and was considered one of eight poets worthy of imitation. He wielded a skilful pen therefore his business and personal letters resembled literary masterpieces. He was respected by powerful politician and Commander John, Duke of Marlborough, a German philosopher Leibniz was among his correspondents. Stepney's diplomatic activity during the war for the Spanish heritage was particularly important. In the pamphlet «An Essay upon the Present Interest of England» he urged to limit rapidly growing power of France. As Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary in Vienna in 1701–1706, Stepney promoted formation of the Great Alliance against France and a victory of the Allied forces at Blenheim in 1704.*

Key words: *poetry; diplomacy; printed controversy; ambassador; negotiations; coalitions.*

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### **ORANGE MARRIAGE OF FREDERICK WILLIAM, ELECTOR OF BRANDENBURG AND ITS CONSEQUENCES**

*Not only Austria, but also Brandenburg carried out a successful dynastic policy. Despite the failure of the marriage negotiations with the Swedish Queen, Frederick William, Elector of Brandenburg decided to marry Louise Henrietta, the daughter of the Stadhouder of the Netherlands, Prince of Orange. The Brandenburg ruler wanted to use dynastic ties with the Orange House to conclude a defensive alliance with the Netherlands. Such an alliance, in the opinion of the Elector, would give assistance in resolving the Pomeranian and Julich-Cleves hereditary questions. Stadhouder Frederick Heinrich assisted his son-in-law at the Westphalian Congress. However, the General States of the Netherlands did not form a military alliance. They actively supported the estate in Cleves. The General States had strong antiorange sentiments. Such a treaty was concluded only in 1655. The attempts made by Frederick William to accelerate this process and to reach an agreement with the General States were not successful. He tried to use the birth of the heir to conduct negotiations. The death of Frederick Heinrich and his heir William II, made these plans even more impossible. However, the Netherlands in the first period of the Great Elector's reign became a role model. Frederick William introduced indirect taxes and fees, which contributed to increasing of the budget, built a network of channels, began to develop conventional industry and agriculture. Louise Henrietta became a loving wife and counselor in various matters. A large number of Dutch colonists took part in the development of the Brandenburg state. Only after the reinstatement of the Orange dynasty's representatives in the position of Stadhouders, the relations between these two countries significantly improved.*

Key words: *Elector, Stadhouder; Orange; Brandenburg; Cleves; Pomerania; Frederick William; The Netherlands.*

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**THE ADRIANOPOLE CATASTROPHE PERCEPTION  
BY THE CONTEMPORARIES  
IN THE CONTEXT OF A RELIGIOUS STRUGGLE  
AT THE END OF THE IV<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY**

*The article analyzes the contemporaries' reaction to the Adrianople catastrophe (378 A.D.), which is considered by the historians as the beginning of decline and fall of the Roman Empire. The importance of the event for the world of antiquity can be seen first in the historical works, created at the end of the fourth century. Most of them were finished by their authors with the mentioned event. In perception of the catastrophe, both the pagan and Christian authors had in common a pessimistic sense of the happened and following disasters for the entire Roman world. In search for guilty persons, both the pagans and the Christians blamed the Roman Emperor Valens, both of them considered his infamous death to be a divine punishment, though the Christians focused attention on the Valens's punishment for his addiction to Arianism, to which the barbarians were addicted as well. In addition, both the pagans and the Christians searched for divine providence and predictions of the catastrophe, as it was traditional for antiquity. It is noteworthy, that in the Altar of Victory controversy, which was the central event of the religious and political confrontation between the pagans and the Christians, the theme of Adrianople was not considered at all. Patriotic feelings at that time turned out to be above the religious predilections. Thus, in perception of the Adrianople catastrophe and its immediate consequences, the pagans and the Christians were quite similar. The catastrophe did not become a topic or even an argument in the opposition of paganism and Christianity at the end of the fourth century.*

Key words: *The Later Roman Empire; Adrianople catastrophe; barbarians; paganism; Christianity; Arianism.*

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**WEIGHTING EQUIPMENT IN THE CONTEXT OF BURIAL INVENTORIES OF  
GNYOZDOVO MOUNDS: SOME ASPECTS  
OF INTERPRETATION**

*Medieval burials of Ancient Rus' with weighting equipment – equal balance scales and plummets – are traditionally considered to be traders' equipment involved in the transcontinental trade through major routes connecting Northern and Eastern Europe with Byzantine and the Arab East. Gnyozdovo mounds have delivered the most numerous and prominent collection of the weighting equipment in the territory of Ancient Rus. The analysis of their inventories, sex and age differentiation and burial context produces a more detailed and precise view of social and professional attribution of the grave owners. In many aspects, burials located in Gnyozdovo demonstrate more close similarities to Northern early medieval burial grounds like late Birka than to the contemporary necropolis of Ancient Rus. The majority of Gnyozdovo mounds with plummets are considered to be ordinary ones since they lack prominent social, professional and ethnic features. On the contrary, the equal balance scales are more common among rich graves with manifold inventories. However, they surprisingly rarely contain plummets. The latter found in Gnyozdovo belong to common utensils of everyday life while the equal balance scales primarily indicate social but not professional status of their buried owners, which is verified by equal distributions of the inventory in graves between the men and the women that is characteristic to early urban necropolis like Gnyozdovo.*

*Key words: equal balance scales; plummets; early medieval time; Ancient Rus; burial inventory; social and cultural attribution; early urban necropolis; Gnyozdovo.*

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### **THE PRISON REFORM AND ITS REFLECTION ON THE PAGES OF «VESTNIK EVROPY» AND «RUSSKY VESTNIK» JOURNALS (1879–1885)**

*The reflection of the state reforms in the second half of the XIX<sup>th</sup> century on the pages of the Russian periodicals was a significant factor of the social life in the country. The press influenced the internal policy of the Russian monarchy and formed public opinion. This article analyzes an attitude of the two leading socio-political journals belonging to the liberal and conservative views of the national press towards the prison legislation and the first measures taken by the government to transform the penal system. The chronological framework of the study (1879–1885) covers a turning point in the domestic politics and the beginning of the prison reform that followed a long-term preparation.*

*The main attention is paid to the «internal reviews» of «Vestnik Evropy», which were political reviews of the situation in the country, as well as special articles on the prison reform of its opponent – «Russky Vestnik». The materials of the journals contain enough information that allows us to judge the principal position of the journals on the prison reform. «Vestnik Evropy» sharing the belief in the need to build a rule of law state in Russia, subjected to an analysis main laws and bills on the changes in the prison system. «Russky Vestnik», which fought for the strengthening of the administrative power, concentrated on practical measures to improve the prisons. The publication demonstrates that «Vestnik Evropy» and «Russky Vestnik» had intransigent attitudes towards assessing the grate reforms of Alexander II and their consequences, supported reforms in the prisons, but defended various programs of their implementation, which corresponded to the ideological guidelines of the publications.*

Key words: *reforms of the second half of the XIX<sup>th</sup> century; prison reform; penal system; «Vestnik Evropy» and «Russky Vestnik».*

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### **JUDAISM IN SMOLENSK PROVINCE IN THE 1905s–1917s: A HISTORICAL AND LEGAL ASPECT**

*The Jewish community in Smolensk province was one of the largest communities along with Moscow and St. Petersburg ones at the beginning of the 20th century. The history of Judaism development in the territory of Smolensk province in the 1905s–1917s is closely connected with the the Russian legislation compliance of the previous period concerning the Jewish population, and as well as implementation of the norms proclaimed by the decree «On Strengthening of Religious Tolerance» of April 17, 1905.*

*The archive documents newly introduced by the author into the scientific use make it possible to broaden our understanding of Judaism development in Smolensk region during the historic period under consideration. A characteristic feature of this period was the contradiction between observance of the legal norms and the desire to prevent the growth of Judaism in the territory of Smolensk province.*

*The provincial authorities monitored the manner in which the conversion of the Jews into Orthodoxy, Catholicism and Protestantism religions was carried out.*

*Under the authorities' control the questions were simultaneously raised on the houses of worship construction and the placement of burying for the Jews. In resolving these issues the provincial authorities relied on the current Russian legislation in the relevant field («Medical Regulations», «Construction Regulations», «Statutes of Spiritual Affairs of Foreign Confessions», etc.).*

*The study findings significantly complement the scientific understanding of Judaism development in the territory of Smolensk province in the 1905s–1917s.*

Key words: *Smolensk province; freedom of conscience; heterodox confessions; Judaism; Jewish places of worship.*

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### **FEATURES OF ETHNIC GROUPS LOCALIZATION IN THE TERRITORY OF FIVE MOSCOW DISTRICTS IN THE 1912s–1920s (ACCORDING TO THE HOUSE REGISTERS)**

*Ethnic groups unequally concentrate in urban districts. At the same time, their ethnic structure is not static and changes over time. The study of five urban districts makes it possible*

*to determine local features in the process of ethnic city migration in the 1912s–1920s, and to identify the factors affecting it. For this purpose, the paper considers the population censuses of Moscow in 1912 and 1920, which contain data on ethnicity. In addition, new sources are applied – house registers of Moscow in the 1918s–1921s. The house registers belong to five city districts and contain records about tenants of the houses. These people formed a database of 7,330 entries. Ethnicity of the tenants is determined by anthroponymic methods with the involvement of other information from the house registers. Thus, it becomes possible to use the population census in Moscow in 1920 in conjunction with the house registers. The major method of the study is a calculation of the localization of the most numerous ethnic groups lived in five districts of Moscow in the 1912s and 1920s. The obtained data analysis shows a significant difference in the ethnic structure of five districts, and also allows us to trace dynamics of the ethnic groups' localization: from 1912 to 1920 the number of the ino-ethnic population of Moscow significantly increased due to migrations caused by the First World War. As a result, the settlement system that had been existing for many decades was distorted. The study establishes an interrelation between the city migration of ethnic and social groups and demonstrates factors affecting the ethnic settlement in Moscow before and after the outbreak of the First World War. This study will subsequently make it possible to consider relation of ethnicity with territorial representation in the population of five selected districts in Moscow.*

Key words: *house registers; Moscow; 1912s–1920s; ethnic groups; groups; population; census; nationalities; structure.*

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## **HOW THE MEDICAL FACULTY OF SMOLGU WAS BEING CLOSED DOWN IN THE 1922s–1924s**

*In the initial period of the new economic policy, proclaimed at the Xth Congress of the Bolsheviks party in the spring of 1921, the country entered a period of public funds austerity in all spheres, including social one. In 1922, even the first-level schools were removed from the central and local budgets, a special tax on education was introduced, and school education became fee paid. This could not help but affect high school. Moscow starts the process of reducing the network of universities and closing down certain university departments. Smolensk state university was not an exception. Just like many others, it was proposed for closure. But the firm and constructive position of the provincial government, which suggested funding for the University from the local budget, did not allow to close neither the University nor its medical faculty.*

*This process lasted more than two years. During this time the University and its medical faculty passed through several inspections of different levels. All of them noted the high level of the University development and its medical faculty established in 1920: qualified staff of professors, good equipment at that time, their own laboratories, offices, clinics in city hospitals.*



*The situation was complicated by the fact that at the same time the pedagogical faculty of the University was removed from the state budget, Smolensk province was also forced to take over its funding.*

*The University board managed to unite the efforts of all interested parties in the preservation of the University and the medical faculty: local party and Soviet authorities, trade union, professors, students, leadership of neighboring provinces, whose students studied at Smolensk University. At the end of 1924, the question of the possible closure of the medical faculty was finally removed from the agenda.*

Key words: *Smolensk State University; medical faculty.*

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### **ANTI-SEMITIC SENTIMENTS IN THE SOVIET PROVINCE IN THE 1920s**

*The article considers development processes of anti-Semitism in the Soviet province in post-revolutionary time on the basis of the firstly extracted material from archives of Bryansk, Gomel, Kaluga, Oryol and Smolensk. Analyzing the archival materials of the 1920s years, the author comes to conclusion that for the majority of the population in the Soviet province anti-Semitic sentiments remained. They were based not only on the secular traditions in relations with the Jewish population, but also had been generated by policy and actions of the Soviet government. Such sentiments were not avoided by inhabitants as well as representatives of the Soviet authorities, trade-union figures, communists and Komsomol members.*

*Having balanced the Jews with other social groups the fait accompli revolution allowed them to considerably raise their social status. In the orthodox population's view it became the most striking example of the fact that the communists' power is the Jewish power, and the communists themselves, as a rule, also belonged to this nation. In such a situation any actions of the authorities directed to improvement of the Jews situation caused negative reactions. All this generated aggression not only against the Jewish population, but also against the authorities – the communists and even the Soviet power. The arsenal of judeophobia was quite extensive – from insults on the ground of their nationality and ridicule of national disadvantages to the desire of physical violence. Especially it was characteristic of the inhabitants living in those territories which before the revolution were in «the pale of settlement» or adjoined it.*

Key words: *anti-Semitism; Soviet power; communists; sentiments; discontent.*

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### **THE GUIDE VOKS FOR FOREIGNERS ABOUT SMOLENSK REGION AND BELARUS**

## AT THE END OF THE 1920s

*The article considers the history of a guidebook creation. It was made for the foreign readers who wanted to visit the USSR in the second half of the 1920s. The guidebook was created under the guidance of All-Union Society for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries (VOKS) established in 1925 and operated under the direction of O.D. Kameneva until 1929. On the archival materials of the People's Commissariat for Public Education of the Belorussian SSR the article presents an idea of a new guidebook which included information about republics of the USSR (the first guidebook of 1925 has a description of only five large cities of the Soviet Union). As a result of the work the guidebook was published in three European languages (German, French and English) in the late 1920s. It provided reference information about republics, cities of the USSR, indicating possible travel routes. The author of the article pays attention to a biography of the compiler (Sandor Rado) and bibliographic rarity of the guidebook, which is now only kept in the largest libraries in Russia and the United States. The analysis of the text taken from this publication about Smolensk region and Belarus including the cities of Smolensk, Minsk, Orsha, Vitebsk and Mogilev allows us to judge the number and ethnicity of the population (according to the information of January 1, 1927), infrastructure and sights of specific residential areas and etc. The important details of the everyday life in the late 1920s, mentioned monuments, many of which are now lost, make the guide a valuable historical source. The statistics of the number of foreigners who visited the USSR in the second half of the 1920s testifies to the relevance of the guidebook and the role of VOKS in the organization of the foreign tourists' flow to the Soviet Union.*

*Key words: All-Union Society for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries; VOKS; foreigners; USSR; guide; Sandor Rado; Smolensk region; Smolensk; Belarus; Minsk; Orsha; Vitebsk; Mogilev; 1920s.*

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## THE INSTITUTE OF RED PROFESSORS (1921–1938): ITS FUNDING AND INFRASTRUCTURE

*The article is devoted to the functioning of educational institutions, established after the Revolution of 1917 for the purpose of teaching «new» professors' and scientific staff in the socioeconomic, educational and economic fields and scientific infrastructure in the 1920s–1930s. The practical realization of a «state» project in the scientific field and elite education is studied by the example of the Institute of Red Professors history (1921–1938). Using the methods of an audit and social statistics, the author characterizes financial support of the institution, its infrastructure formation, peculiarities of the budgetary discipline and causes of its liquidation in 1937. The article proves that the study of the Institute of Red Professors history illustrates practical experience of the extraordinary and «revolutionary» project on renewal of scientific and educational sphere and its functioning. The work allows us to correct a lot of historiography ideas (for example, about politically and socially homogeneous staff, features of information and infrastructure support of the Institute, privileges and social status of the «red professors»). Analyzing boundaries and potential of the state scientific regulation, the author raises a question about the ratio of the State investments to everyday realities in the 1920s–1930s and about the*

*success of the Institute of Red professors as a «state» project. The author concludes that the Institute emerged as an «extraordinary project», for some time it existed as a «showcase». However, due to the Institute expanding it required colossal financial and infrastructure investments; but in social and domestic realities of the 1920s–1930s these investments were not justified and they were «improperly» used. The Institute of Red Professors was an «expensive» state project. It was one of the reasons for its closure in 1937. The article is based on a wide range of unpublished papers, from private sources to the records of the State Archives of the Russian Federation and the Archives of the Russian Academy of Sciences.*

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