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HISTORICAL SCIENCE IN THE USSR IN 1950–1980: HISTORIOGRAPHICAL DIMENSION

Summary

This article cast light upon the development of the historical science in Ukrainian Soviet Socialistic Republic during the second half of XX century (1950– 1980-s). The following question is reviled through historiography, which allows to make more precise conclusion about approaches of soviet Ukrainian historians in their works. Soviet historical science deals much with ideology and myths, in its work was based on the regulations and guidelines of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, as a whole, is not a positive feature for history as scientific knowledge. The leading role of the Communist Party could be felt on all levels of life in Soviet society – from everyday life to science. Taking into account the strict control by the totalitarian Soviet regime of the scientific community in the country, history of the given period differs by bias and prejudice that are not typical for historical science at all. In this basis, today the question of the state of historical science in Soviet society in the second half of the twentieth century looks rather interesting. This study reveals some aspects of this question by analyzing key historiographical works Ukrainian Soviet historians 1950s - 1980s. In the article outlined and analyzed desired for scientists research issues, identified positive aspects of work and its drawbacks. Comparing the general political mood in Ukraine with scientific conjuncture in the historic environment, the work draws parallels between the official party line and content-ideological content historiographical works of the given period. Thus, such works as «Essays of historical science», «Historiography of the history of Ukrainian SSR», «History of historical science in the USSR», «Pre-October period», «Historiography of the history of USSR: problems of the teaching and study» and others, act as typical works that were the product of their own period. It should be noted that in the article also underlined the positive aspects of these works, which indicates that during work with scientific literature, the author tried to be as objective as possible.

It should be emphasized that the analysis of scientific publications 1950 – 1980s done without separation of it from its historical period, which namely mach the demands of the principle of historicism. Author traced that the main trend to writing scientific papers were identified with the existing political regime, for example, in the works of the leading role of the Communist Party has always appeared on the agenda and the basic provisions of the Marxist-Leninist doctrine were made dogmatic. Another positive feature of the article is that it analyzes not only the conceptual content of Soviet historical works but also outlined the organizational aspects of writing – from financial matters to individual cases during publishing.

As a whole, the article of Fedyun O. I «Historical science in the USSR in 1950 – 1980: historiographical dimension» meets the modern demands of history, research topic is up-to-date to the study, all the requirements for execution are designed in strict sequence. The article can be recommended for publication.

Keywords: historiography, the CPSU, indoctrination, a cliche, the official line of the party.