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**THE SCIENTIFIC AND ORGANIZATIONAL  
ACTIVITIES OF NATIVE HISTORIAN P. KURINNYJ  
(1920s - early 1940s)**

**Summary**

Petro Kurinnyj (1894 – 1972) – a famous Ukrainian historian, archaeologist, ethnographer, the founder and the first Director of the Uman local history Museum, the Ukrainian Museum-town (1926-1932), Professor of the Ukrainian Free University in Munich, one of the founders of the Ukrainian Free Academy of Sciences.

The main content of the article is focused on scientific and organizational work of Petro Kurinnyj, his activities in the development of national historical science. The lack of historiographical tradition and the constant influx of new source allows for the development of new approaches of this topic.

The author begins the study by examining the problems of formation of scientific interests of Peter Kurinnyj in the postgraduate period of his life in Uman. The implementation of several local projects, have contributed to the fact that the young scientist was noticed in a professional environment and was invited to work in Kiev.

In 1924 Peter Kurinnyj becomes a member of the leading scientific institutions of Ukrainian Academy of Sciences. There he engaged in academic and administrative work: creates charters, makes proposals to reform the industry, goes

on an expedition, publishes scientific works etc. As the Director of the All-Ukrainian Museum town becomes the protector of the cultural heritage of the Ukrainian people. Peter Kurinnyj always tried to keep a balance between the interests of the Bolsheviks and scientists of the «old generation». Thanks to him from Russia to the Ukraine was returned to many historical monuments. The creation of a network of Museum institutions has helped to keep these monuments from destruction of ideological beliefs. In 1933 the scientist was arrested on charges of «Ukrainian bourgeois nationalism». By the end of 1930-ies he officially forbidden to do science.

Only in 1940-ies there is a partial rehabilitation of his name. P. Kurinnyj at this time was a member of the Committee for the Protection and preservation of historic, cultural and archaeological monuments in the Executive Committee of the Kyiv city Council. During the establishment of the occupation regime he adopted a decision on further emigration from the territory of Ukraine.

In the article the author clarifies these and other facts of intellectual biography of the scientist, and representations of his person in combination of individual qualities and relationships.

**Keywords:** *Petro Kurinnyj, The National Academy of Sciences, the All-Ukrainian Archaeological Committee, All-Ukrainian Museum town, the Museum of archaeology, monument protection activities.*