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**KLAPCHUK**

**Serhii M.**

Doctor of Historical Sciences, professor,  
honored worker of education of Ukraine,  
chief researcher of science sector of  
Institute of history, agricultural science,  
education and technology  
(Kyiv)

**HISTORICAL ASPECTS OF THE UKRAINIAN CULTURE  
DEVELOPMENT IN THE SECOND HALF OF XIX – EARLY XX  
CENTURIES**

The development of the Ukrainian culture in the second half of XIX – early XX century is considered on the basis of the specific historical, problematic and chronological methods analysis. Special attention is paid to the development of the workers and peasants education taking into account the processes that have been associated with assimilatory policy of the Russian Empire against the Eastern Slavic peoples.

The complete liberalization of the Russian Empire public and political life in the 60–70-ies of the XIX century has led to the establishment of national schools in Ukraine. In the second half of the XIX century Sunday schools network was created, textbooks were printed. Among this literature we should note the «South Russian Primer» by T. Shevchenko, «Arithmetic» by D. Moroz, «Grammar» by P. Kulish, etc. In 1864 all elementary schools received the same name – primary schools. They were declared unsecured.

There were only 17 thousand schools of such kind at the end of the XIX century. As a result, about 70% of children remained out of school. In these circumstances, there were established two types of gymnasium, such as classic and real one as a result of educational reform. These links of middle-school education were proclaimed unsecured and public, tuition had to be paid. Natural science, chemistry, mathematics

and drawing were taught in real high schools. The rapid economy development in the second half of the XIX century has led to the need to create institutions of higher education, such as Kyiv Polytechnic Institute (1898), South-Russian Institute in Kharkiv (1865), Higher Mining School in Katerynoslav and others. At the beginning of the XX century there were 27 universities in Ukraine, and 35 thousand students studied there.

The state of education was rather complicated in Western Ukraine. Education in all schools, except the elementary ones in Galicia and Bukovyna were conducted only in Polish and German. In 1890 the total number of illiterates reached 66.4 per cent in Galicia and 75 percent in Bukovyna. Domination of the Polish education has been preserved in the early twentieth century despite some education liberalization in the Austria-Hungary Empire. In 1896 among 320 students studied in Chernivtsi University there were only 20 Ukrainians.

Thus, in the second half of XIX – early XX century the Ukrainian culture continued its progressive development, despite the systematic oppression and prohibitions. Cultural figures had to overcome considerable political pressure from the state of the Russian, German and Polish cultures.

In the first quarter of the twentieth century an educational level of the Ukrainian people remained low. Approximately 70 percent of its population, and in some regions this figure was even more than 80 percent, remained illiterate.

In particular, the network of schools has increased during 1917 – early 1919. So, in 1919 among 3.36 million of school-aged children only 2.3 million were enrolled. This means that the number of those who were in school has increased by 20%.

The Central Rada has done quite a lot in the difficult social and economic conditions, in war time and armed conflict of the first quarter of the twentieth century. 5.4 thousand of secondary schools were opened at that time, more than 100 high schools. The national universities in Kyiv, Mykolaiv, Kharkiv, Odesa began to function in the system of higher education. The Central Rada and UPR government approved the project of opening nine Ukrainian Universities in Kharkiv, Sumy,

Poltava, Kremenchuk, Vinnytsia, Chernihiv, Kamianets-Podilskyi, Uman, Katerynoslav.

The higher education has been significantly developed in the times of the Hetmanate. The Council of Ministers with the direct participation of P. Skoropadskyi has focused its activity on the new Ukrainian universities establishing in all regions of the state. Generally, in the early twentieth century the Central Rada, the Hetmanate and the Directory have done a lot of work, which contributed to the development of public education. Thus, 33 new institutions and universities were opened for 4 years, where studied more than 82 thousand students. These data witness that new branches of science and industry have been formed by one generation, the intellectual potential of the society has greatly increased and new possibilities of cultural growth have significantly contributed to the material culture improvement.

***Key words:*** *Ukrainian culture, literacy, the Central Rada, the Hetmanate, the Directory, T. Shevchenko, I. Franko, V. Antonovych, V. Vernadskyi and others.*