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**PROFESSOR L.D. PROSKURYAKOV (1858 – 1926):  
NOTES TO THE INTELLECTUAL BIOGRAPHY STUDIES**

**Summary**

Intellectual biography is a synthesized conglomerate of ethics, history, literature, and art. The origin of the biography is the constant dialectic of the beginnings. Actually, this fact makes necessary to involve interdisciplinary research methods as the only possible way of creating «real» biographies and gives rise to a mandatory discussion of the phenomenon of biography.

The paper attempts to analyze some aspects of the professional activity of Professor L.D. Proskuryakov in the field of building mechanics. The author considered certain approaches to the biography of the outstanding mechanic engineer and bridge builder L.D. Proskuryakov. Biography as science and biography as a method of scientific knowledge are highlighted. The purpose of the study is to outline the chronological retrospective of Proskuryakov's engineering thought in the field of designing and building railway bridges. These stages of biographical reconstruction enable to determine the place of historical research methods in biography.

It is argued that the issue has not been explicitly investigated so far. Historiosophy of design and construction of railway bridges in Ukraine and Russia by

Proskuryakov is defined. The study is based on methods of historical-chronological and comparative analysis, logical method that involves the documentary and historiographical base of the works of domestic and foreign scientists.

It was found that the study of the biography of L.D. Proskuryakov in the historical-cultural context gives the opportunity to reconstruct critical problems of history of science and technology: evolution of ideas of domestic bridge building; transformation of the ideas of reconstruction of railway transport of the second half of the 19th – beginning of the 20th century.

The author stresses that Proskuryakov's contribution to the world science and technology was not investigated properly.

**Keywords:** *L.D. Proskuryakov, engineer, construction mechanics, railway bridge, scientific school, history of science and technology, biography, science, biographical reconstruction, historiography*