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**ACTIVITY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SCIENCES OF
KHARKOV VETERINARY INSTITUTE in the 50-60's of the XX century**

Summary

The article is devoted to the development of social sciences in the Kharkov Veterinary institute in the 50-60s of the XX century during Khrushchev's «ottepel». The personality cult of Stalin and new opportunities for social scientists and historians were condemned according to the decisions of the 20th and 21st Congresses of the CPSU. The subject of scientific research is expanding, the funds of archives are opened and new sources are being introduced into the scientific field. This was a period of a

certain liberalization of the social and scientific life of the country. At this time collective works of Kharkov historians appeared. The most notable phenomenon of that time was the work on the 26-volume «History of Cities and Villages of the Ukrainian SSR». Historians of the Department of Social Sciences of the Kharkov Veterinary institute also contributed to the writing of this work.

Historiography of the subject under study is rather limited. General information on the history of the Kharkiv ZooVeterinary Institute and its departments and the activities of teachers can be found in collections devoted to the anniversary dates of the institution. The first generalized study on the formation and development of Kharkiv ZooVeterinary Institute can be found in the paper M.P. Palyutina «Kharkiv Zoo Veterinary Institute (past and present zoinengineering faculty)».

In the 1956–1957, academic year at the Department of Marxism-Leninism of the Kharkiv Veterinary Institute four teachers worked in the teaching of three independent courses: «The History of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union», «Political Economy», «Dialectical and Historical Materialism».

In the 1960–1961 academic year, the Department of Marxism-Leninism, KhZVA had 12 lecturer, which provided teaching of five disciplines: «The History of the CPSU», «Political Economy», «Philosophy», «Fundamentals of scientific atheism and aesthetics», «The Basics of Marxist-Leninist Ethics».

Important role in the work of the department was devoted to scientific work: the defense of dissertations, writing monographs on relevant topics for that time, studying the history of native land.

Preparing the article the historical genetic method of research was used.

Key words: *«ottepel», personality cult, social sciences, historical science, liberalization*