

The Formation of V.M. Khvostov as a Historian and the Professional Activity of a Scientist

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Abstract

Vladimir Mikhailovich Khvostov is one of the major, well-educated Russian historians. His scientific heritage includes numerous works on the history of diplomacy and international relations, on the research of major problems of general and national history. Among them are his doctoral dissertation «The Foreign Policy of the German Empire in the Last Years of Bismarck's Chancellorship», articles on the history of international relations in the Middle East in the late 19th century, manuscripts of the 2nd volume of «History of Diplomacy» and introductions to the book «History of Foreign Policy of the USSR», numerous articles and reports on various issues of foreign policy and international relations. The article deals with the pedagogical and organizational activities and interests of Vladimir Mikhailovich Khvostov, which were quite diverse; the life of V.M. Khvostov, the characteristics and evolution of his approaches and views on the laws of educational processes, issues of pedagogy and education in general, the problems of education and expedient development of the younger generation, which found reflection in his research, teaching and organizational activities.

Keywords: History, Historiography, Kazan, Pedagogy, Education, Development, Education, Kazan University.

Introduction

The article discusses the formation of a famous historian, scientist and public figure - academician Vladimir Mikhailovich Hvostov. Based on archival materials of the personal fund of V.M. Hvostov, located in the Archive of the Russian Academy of Sciences, many facts of the biography of the scientist were revealed.

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Conventionally, there are four periods in his life:

1905-1926 - the formation and formation of the personality and worldview of Vladimir Mikhailovich Hvostov.

1926-1938 - The first stage of scientific creativity: specialization in research on the history of international relations, defense of a doctoral dissertation.

1939-1955 - the activities of the scientist during and after the Great Patriotic War.

1960-1972 - Work at the USSR Academy of Pedagogical Sciences, vigorous international activity. This article is devoted to the first period of the life and work of Vladimir Mikhailovich Hvostov.

The beginning of the career of a prominent scientist falls on the Kazan period. Here he studied: first in the 2nd male gymnasium of the city of Kazan, in the school of the 2nd level, and then at the Eastern Pedagogical Institute. During his studies at the institute, Vladimir Mikhailovich worked at the office of social science as a rabbi faculty of VPI and at the Tatar Communist University at the department of the history of revolutionary movements in the West.

Vladimir Mikhailovich Hvostov was not only a major historian and scientist, but also a skilled and qualified organizer of pedagogical science, the head of pedagogical (historical) education.

Methods

The basis of the work is represented by the approaches based on the principles of scientific objectivity and historicism, which provided: on the one hand, the study of scientific views and activities of V.M. Khvostov as a phenomenon generated and conditioned by objective-historical conditions of development of Russian society and the state of historical science, on the other hand - analysis of ideas and in general the scientist's scientific outlook as a process with internal dialectic development, as well as the evaluation of the objective impact of the scientist's activities on the state and the state of historical science. The main research methods were both general scientific methods (analysis and synthesis, induction and deduction) and special-historical ones. Historical-genetic method allowed us to recreate a creative portrait of Vladimir Khvostov in the chronological framework of the study period - XXth century (1930-1970s); historical-comparative method was used to highlight the new brought by V. M. Khvostov in the study of national and general history; we also used chronological, historical and biographical methods, methods of historiographical and source analysis.

The basic principles of the study are the principle of historicism and objectivity in the assessment of V.M. Khvostov's contribution to the study of Russian and USSR foreign policy and international relations, to the teaching of social sciences, and to the activities of the Academy of Pedagogical Sciences in the period under review.

Results

Vladimir Mikhailovich studied at the 2nd male gymnasium in Kazan, then, until 1922, at the 2nd stage school. Since then, the Archives of the Russian Academy of Sciences have preserved 4 notebooks with notes on the history of Vladimir Mikhailovich for the period of

grades 3 and 4, in which the main points on the new general and Russian history are recorded.

The historian himself recalled in one of his autobiographies: “Born in Kazan, June 24, 1905. My father was a professor at Kazan University. I studied at the Kazan men's gymnasium. The October Revolution found me in high school. When I was 15, my father died of typhus in 1920. After that, I had to earn extra money with lessons, since my mother's income was not enough, but I still had the opportunity to finish high school. After the death of my father, my mother (Khvostova Lidia Aleksandrovna) entered the service in the archives of Kazan University, and soon the government awarded her a personal pension. Since 1933 my mother has been living with me».

In 1926, Vladimir Mikhailovich Khvostova graduated from the Eastern Pedagogical Institute: on June 29, at a public meeting of the State Qualification Commission at the VPI (chairman - VPI rector, prof. SP Singalevich) V.M. Khvostov successfully defended his thesis on the topic “History and Modernity in the School Course of Social Science. Methodological principles and practice of building school courses» (supervisor - prof. SP Singalevich, reviewer - prof. VT Dityakin).

It rarely happens that a scientist, in his very first work, has so accurately and successfully determined the main direction of his future activity, as Vladimir Mikhailovich Khvostov did. His thesis was his first published work. Perhaps a young graduate of the Kazan Oriental Institute - he was barely 21 years old - has not yet «programmed» his routes in life and science. But, one way or another, already in the title of the first work of V.M. Khvostov, the further path of the scientist and public figure is visible. History, modernity, school. History is inextricably linked with modernity. The history from which he went to school, to pedagogical science.

It should be noted that initially Vladimir Mikhailovich entered the Kazan University at the Mathematical Department, Physics and Mathematics Faculty. In the archives of Kazan Federal University, there is a personal file of Vladimir Mikhailovich Khvostov, where there is an application for admission to verification tests for enrollment in the number of students of the above faculty, as well as a subsequent application dated July 27, 1923, requesting the issuance of documents for transferring to another university. He himself writes in one of his autobiographies that from the second year he moved to the Eastern Pedagogical Institute, the Department of History and Economics. I think that this was the first independent step on the way to his professional activity. While studying at the Eastern Pedagogical Institute, Vladimir Mikhailovich attended the following courses and completed practical exercises in the following areas:

A. Theoretical courses: the basics of social labor education. General course of psychology. Biology. Human anatomy and physiology. State law of the USSR. Political Economy. Economical geography. The history of ancient culture. Russian history (2 parts). Primitive culture. Historical materialism. The French Revolution. French. Tatar language. Social Science Methodology (2 parts). New story.

B. Practical exercises: Political economy. History of the World War (in the memoirs of contemporaries). The history of ancient culture. Russian history. The economic policy of the Soviet government. History of the CPSU. Historical materialism. The history of medieval culture. State law of the USSR. French revolution. Pedagogical workshop. Social science methodology. Summer industrial practice.

It is noteworthy that the Archive of the Russian Academy of Sciences preserved his
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report in the seminar on the history of materialism «Russian imperialism in the understanding of Pokrovsky (from the point of view of dialectics to questions of history)». The task of the work is to clarify Pokrovsky's views on imperialism, the dialectics of its concept. Vladimir Mikhailovich writes that he agrees with Pokrovsky, considers his views on imperialism more dialectical than Pavlov's theory of imperialism.

During his studies at the university, Vladimir Mikhailovich established himself as a responsible and disciplined student, which is why the teaching staff treated him with respect. During his stay at the institute, he worked at Istpart in 1923-1924, as well as at the workers' faculty of Kazan University in 1924-1925.

As a student, V.M. Khvostov worked as a laboratory assistant at the social science office of the VPI workers' faculty (October 1, 1925 to February 1, 1926), then was accepted as an assistant at the Department of the History of Revolutionary Movements in the West of the Tatar Communist University from January 15, 1926.

In 1926, Vladimir Mikhailovich Khvostov moved to Moscow and entered graduate school at the Institute of History of the Russian Association of Scientific Research Institutes of Social Sciences, which he successfully graduated in 1929.

Teaching activity of V.M. Khvostov began as a graduate student: here he lectures and conducts seminars on modern and contemporary history at the workers' faculty. After graduating from graduate school, the historian was enlisted to serve in the central archive as a junior archivist with a job in the Committee for the publication of documents of the world war at the Central Executive Committee of the USSR (resolution of the commission for the publication of documents of the world war of September 1929, as well as the resolution of the collegium of the central archive (order of the Central Archive of Ukraine No. 7, paragraph 3); and already on December 7, 1929, he was transferred to senior archivists (by order of the Central Administrative Office of the RSFSR).

From 1927 to 1930 V.M. Khvostov taught modern and contemporary history at the Moscow Industrial Pedagogical Institute. K. Liebknecht, at that time he was acting assistant professor, then continued teaching at the Smolensk Pedagogical Institute in the 1930-1933s. It should be noted that in 1931-1933 V.M. Khvostov was an assistant professor at the Editorial and Publishing Institute. In 1932-1933 he worked in the Commission under the Central Executive Committee for the publication of documents of the era of imperialism as a senior researcher.

February 12, 1929 V.M. Khvostov was approved as a corresponding member of the Society of Marxist Historians.

There is also a memo that Vladimir Mikhailovich was sent as an associate professor to scientific and pedagogical work in Baku, to the State University on June 25, 1930.

In 1932 V.M. Khvostov was at the Institute of History and Philosophy as an associate professor, acting professor. In 1933, he began work as a senior researcher (under contract) at the Institute of History of the Communist Academy, and from February 1934 he worked as a consultant editor in the scientific office of the editorial board of the history of the Civil War, leading the work of the group for the supervision of foreign materials.

In 1935, Vladimir Mikhailovich taught at the Moscow Institute of History, Philosophy and Literature. N.G. Chernyshevsky (MIFLI), and then at Moscow State University. After the establishment in 1936 of the Institute of History of the USSR Academy of Sciences, V.M. Khvostov became his research assistant.

One of the most famous students of V.M. Khvostova S.L. Tikhvinsky, in an article dedicated to the memory of the Russian historian, wrote that his lectures were distinguished by the richness and deep analysis of factual material, as well as knowledge of domestic and foreign sources and literature. The historian was inherent in a strict intelligible, but at the same time highly literary form of presentation.

In addition to teaching activities V.M. Khvostov is studying the history of international relations and Russian foreign policy in the second half of the 19th - early 20th centuries. The young scientist draws on a wide range of foreign sources, literature and archival materials due to his excellent knowledge of foreign languages.

In 1934, Vladimir Mikhailovich received the academic title of associate professor. In 1938, the historian defended his doctoral dissertation on the topic «Foreign policy of German imperialism in the last years of Bismarck's chancellorship». In this regard, Nikolai Poletika's «Memoirs» is very interesting: «On the recommendation of Tarle to read the course» New History of 1871-1917, «the Faculty of History invited a» learned Varangian «from Moscow - a young Moscow historian, postgraduate student, academician F.A. Rothstein Vladimir Mikhailovich Khvostov (Rotblat & Holdren, 2012). In 1935, Vladimir Mikhailovich taught at the Moscow Institute of History, Philosophy and Literature. N.G. Chernyshevsky (MIFLI), and then at Moscow State University. After the establishment in 1936 of the Institute of History of the USSR Academy of Sciences, V.M. Khvostov became his research assistant.

A.L. Narochnitsky wrote about V.M. Khvostov as a teacher who proved himself not only as a professor at Moscow University and the author of textbooks for higher education. Vladimir Mikhailovich has always had great attention to improving school history education. It is impossible not to recall the well-known school textbook on modern history, created under his editorship and with his participation. This textbook was used by many millions of schoolchildren, not only in the USSR, but also in Cuba and other socialist countries. The Archives of the Russian Academy of Sciences preserved an extract from the minutes of the Presidium Meeting dated June 16, 1940, in paragraph 3 on awarding Vladimir Mikhailovich for the general editing of the second volume of the New History textbook and for compiling chapters on the history of Germany, England and France - 1,000 rubles.

A new edition of this textbook prepared by a team of authors, edited by V.M. Khvostov was highly appreciated and was awarded the first prize of the Ministry of Education of the RSFSR (Zemsky et al., 1957).

Throughout his career, V.M. Khvostov was associated with teaching at higher and secondary schools. He was a true fighter for the implementation of the policy of the Communist Party and the Soviet government in the training of scientific and pedagogical cadres of social sciences, took an active part in the development of the main directions of scientific research in the field of pedagogical sciences.

For a long time Vladimir Mikhailovich headed the Scientific Council on the History of USSR Foreign Policy and International Relations under the Presidium of the USSR Academy of Sciences. In 1959 he was appointed director of the Institute of History of the USSR Academy of Sciences. Until 1968, V.M. Khvostov remained its leader (Paul et al., 1990).

On October 23, 1953, Vladimir Khvostov was elected a corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences for the Department of Historical Sciences (general history), and on June 26, 1964 - an academician for the Department of History. Vladimir Mikhailovich in 1959-1967 held the position of Deputy Academician-Secretary.

In 1967 V.M. Khvostov becomes the first president of the USSR Academy of Pedagogical Sciences and heads it until 1971. Vladimir Mikhailovich in 1972 became a member of the Board of the Ministry of Education (Børsen, 2013).

It is also necessary to note the other side of the activity of Vladimir Mikhailovich Khvostov - the fact that he trained a large group of graduate students. Almost throughout the entire Soviet Union, in all educational institutions, there were his pupils, whom he led. Working with them for a number of years at Moscow University, of which he was a professor, working with them at the Academy of Social Sciences, at the Higher Party School, at the Institute of International Relations, Vladimir Mikhailovich did a lot to train scientific workers. And then, due to the fact that he moved to the Institute of History of the Academy of Sciences, the situation there in the Institute itself changed completely, radically: V.M. Khvostov managed to put together a team, organize creative work, improve the situation so that scientific life there was most developed and works on the development of a number of theoretical problems were more actively promoted.

In 1971 V.M. Khvostov was elected academician-secretary of the Department of History of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR, and in 1972 became chairman of the National Committee of Historians of the Soviet Union. The scientist takes an active part in the work of major international forums of historians, organized by the International Committee of Historical Sciences (ICIN).

Findings

V.M. Khvostov persistently urged to refuse the ill-natured notions of the past and search ways to disarmament and strengthening of international security. He also resolutely demanded to dismantle military bases on the territories of other countries and pull them out. He wrote: «Foreign military bases create a menace for political development for young emerging countries. Presence of foreign troops threatens safety and independence of that state where they are based. Scientists' duty is to support the movement to destruct foreign bases and military disengagement from others territories».

Vladimir Mikhailovich always encouraged scientists to serve the cause of peace and human happiness and to fight against those who aimed to use outstanding scientific discoveries for war and enslavement of people (Khvostov, 1940).

Conclusion

Research activities and interests of Vladimir Mikhailovich Khvostov were quite diverse. After analyzing numerous historiographic and archival sources, as well as available literature

on the subject of master's research, it would be rational to single out three areas of scientific interests of the scientist, - these are questions of the history of diplomacy and international relations; Problems general and national history (mainly the events of world wars); as well as the tasks of pedagogical science in general (including historical education). In any of the three topics presented research, V.M. Khvostov was able to adequately prove himself as a teacher, historian and organizer of science.

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