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SOURCES FOR THE SCIENTIFIC BIOGRAPHY RECONSTRUCTION OF MARK VARSHAVCHYK (1918-2001)

The aim of the article is a comprehensive study, analysis, and systematization of a group of sources that present the figure of Mark Yakymovych Varshavchyk (1918-1921) as a famous Ukrainian historian, source researcher, and archivist. *The scientific novelty* is in the identification and characterization of documents that cover the scientific field of M. Ya. Varshavchyk. Attention is focused on significant events in the scientist's life, reflected in written and visual sources. The content saturation and the level of information potential of documents are established; their actualization is carried out.

The methodology is based on the theoretical foundations of modern source studies, principles of scientific knowledge: historicism, systematics, and objectivity, which allows the study of past phenomena, actions, and behavior of individuals, taking into account socio-cultural and ideological factors and realities of public life. Preference is given to the biographical method, as well as the method of oral history (interviewing), which consists in recording the experience of the individual and using the information obtained to reconstruct the past. **Conclusions.** The analyzed source base stimulates further searches for documents, particularly of personal origin, where there is information about the research activity of the scientist. However, the applied principles of systematization and comprehensiveness, the aggregate set of methods make it possible to reconstruct the scientific biography of the scientist.

Key words: M. Ya. Varshavchyk, scientific biography, historical source, archival documents, theoretical source studies.

A general trend in the development of modern Ukrainian science is the intensification of the study of the personological aspect in the history, place, and role of the individual as an important link in the natural and objective process of social life and the cultural sphere of the country.

Rethinking a number of concepts, approaches, established views in terms of expanding and deepening the study of biographical resources

based on the methodology of civilizational approach and new information transformations allow creating a new form of biographical research.

The analysis of the practice of using the term/concept “scientific biography” was conducted by S. M. Lyashko in her article. The author noted that the term “scientific biography” in the conceptual sense is used as a definition of a scholar’s biography, a scientist’s biography (“**scientific** biography”), or as a set of ways and methods of scientific organization of personal knowledge into a holistic system, which is a person’s biography regardless of his/her scope of activity (“**scientific** biography”) [2, p. 26].

In this article, we consider the sources that present the intellectual life of the scientist, his belonging to a specific professional workshop (humanities), a specific field of scientific knowledge (historical source studies), scientific, organizational, and pedagogical activities.

The study of the scientific heritage of Mark Yakymovych Varshavchuk, a Ukrainian historian, source researcher, and archivist has a small number of works that study the life and work of the scientist, highlights the priority issues of his works, emphasizes innovative ideas and original views on theoretical problems of source history development and the methodology of history.

All the life of M. Ya. Varshavchuk was associated with scientific and pedagogical activities in the institutions of Kyiv, where he defended his PhD and doctoral theses, held the position of Academic Secretary of the Central State Historical Archive of the USSR in Kyiv (now Central State Historical Archive of Ukraine in Kyiv), worked as an associate professor at the O. M. Gorky Kyiv Pedagogical Institute, in the structural units of the University of Kyiv: first at the Institute for Advanced Training of Teachers of Social Sciences, and later as a professor at the Department of Archival Studies, Faculty of History, University of Kyiv [4, p. 63]. And in every position, he did not stay away from scientific life in the country. In particular, M. Ya. Varshavchuk was the organizer of two All-Union scientific theoretical and methodological discussions, which took place on the pages of the journal “Questions of the History of the CPSU.” The Researcher of M. Ya. Varshavchuk’s work L. I. Buriak wrote that these discussions (1962/1963 and 1976) are “a kind of marker in the biography of the scientist and encourage contemplation on the case of the historian’s fate” [3, p. 59]. These contemplations are largely related to the intensification of research into the fate of intellectuals and the cultural elite of Ukrainian society, which was formed and operated in the conditions of Soviet ideology, totalitarian control, and censorship. M. Ya. Varshavchuk also worked in such conditions.

In his memoirs about the years of work with the scientist, professor M. G. Palienko wrote: “Professor M. Ya. Varshavchuk felt the time best

of all, he thought deeply about the processes that took place in society in general and historical science in particular. Although he was formed as a scientist under the influence of ideological monopoly due to the dominance of “Marxism-Leninism” not only in science but also in all spheres of Soviet society, he especially understood the need and importance of changes in conceptual, ideological, theoretical, and methodological” [3, p. 108].

After Ukraine gained independence, M. Ya. Varshavchik repeatedly returned to this topic in the 1990s. He shared his thoughts with colleagues because he perfectly understood the historical realities in which humanities scientists worked and their efforts to adapt to existing challenges. He unhesitatingly accepted the thesis of debunking the policy of the totalitarian regime in Ukraine in the 1920s and 1980s, aimed at decommunizing Ukrainian society and overcoming the remnants of Soviet ideology in history and other humanities, which led to devastating consequences for national culture, science, and spirituality.

The scientific biography of a scientist is a complex, multifunctional phenomenon that contains an analysis of the dominant factor that became decisive in an individual’s life and formed him as a creative person. That is why the reconstruction of the scientific biography of the Soviet scientist-historian requires the involvement of the most complete set of documents.

Sources that reflect the scientific life of M. Ya. Varshavchik have been systematized in four groups: a) archival (unpublished) documents; b) sources of personal origin: autobiographies, memoirs, letters, interviews, obituaries; c) the total scientific achievements; d) visual documents. The first group includes documents stored in the archives of Kyiv, in particular in the Central State Archive of Higher Authorities and Administration of Ukraine (TSDAVO of Ukraine)¹, in the Central State Historical Archive of Ukraine in Kyiv (CSHAK of Ukraine)², in the State Archive of Kyiv (SAK)³, in the Archive of the Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv (Archive of the KNU)⁴, where there is information about the scientific and organizational work of M. Ya. Varshavchik. The most informative are the three “Personal files” of the scientist, where, in chronological order, can be traced his scientific activities, achievements in the pedagogical field, obtaining new degrees and titles, career growth, the emergence of new publications, and more.

¹ Central State Archive of Higher Authorities and Administration of Ukraine (TSDAVO of Ukraine). F. 4703. Rec. 1. Case no. 20, 22, 27, 31, 47, 66, 76, 88, 113 and others.

² Central State Historical Archive of Ukraine in Kyiv (CSHAK of Ukraine). F. 2245. Rec. 3. Case no.103 / 55 p.

³ State Archive of Kyiv (SAK). F. R. 346. Rec. 5. Case no. 73. 18 pages.

⁴ Archive of the Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv (Archive of the KNU). Personal file of M. Ya. Varshavchik, PVF - 13, 101 p.

In the CSHAK of Ukraine the “Personal file” of M. Ya. Varshavchyk is stored, which dates from the period 1946-1952 – the time when M. Varshavchyk came to work at the Archives of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the USSR after demobilization from the ranks of the Soviet Army. The file contains a statement addressed to the director of the CSHA of the USSR, Candidate of Historical Sciences V. I. Strelsky with a request to employ him to the position of a scientific secretary of the archive with a one-month probation period; the autobiography of the scientist; list of his publications; materials on the defense of the candidate’s thesis, etc. This is the first “Personal file” of the scientist when he was just beginning his scientific activities, so it contains little information about the scientific achievements of M. Ya. Varshavchyk.

Many documents of the file are related to the active duty service of M. Ya. Varshavchyk in the Soviet Army during World War II. This topic is also included in his autobiography, in particular, it is noted that he was awarded the Order of the Patriotic War, second class (1944), the Order of the Patriotic War, first class (1945), the Order of the Red Star (1943) and medals “For the Defense of Stalingrad” (1943), “For the Capture of Königsberg” (1945), “For the Victory over Germany in the Great Patriotic War 1941–1945.” (1945)⁵.

A “Personal File” is also in the SAK in the fund of the Kyiv State Pedagogical Institute named after O. M. Gorky. The file begins with a statement by the scientist applying to the position of a senior lecturer at the Pedagogical Institute and dates back to 1948. The file contains an employee registration form, an autobiography, copies of diplomas of higher education, a copy of the diploma of a candidate of historical sciences, an associate professor’s certificate, the list of recent scientific papers (7 positions), etc.⁶. The archive also has a lot of documents relating to scientific, pedagogical, and organizational activities of the scientist⁷ in the funds of the Faculty of History and the Faculty of History and Philosophy, existed from 1955/1956 to 1968/1969 academic years in the structure of Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv. In the context of the founding of the Department of Archival Studies [5, p. 4] there are the minutes of meetings among its documents, recorded that in 1946/1947 and 1947/1948 academic years M. Ya. Varshavchyk taught the courses “Metrology” and “Chronology” on a per hour basis⁸. His work plans, reports on educational and methodical work, long-term plan of scientific work of the department in 1947-1950, reports on scientific work for 1947-1948 have been preserved⁹.

⁵ CSHAK of Ukraine. F. 2245-R. Rec. 3. Case no. 103. P. 2 rev.

⁶ SAK. F.R – 346. Rec. 5. Case no. 73. P. 7-10.

⁷ Ibid. F.R – 1246. Rec. 5. Case no. 218. P. 52-54.

⁸ Ibid. Rec. 13. Case no. 34.

⁹ SAK. F.R – 1246. Rec. 13. Case no. 61, 62, 107, 109, 110.

The largest case file is stored in the Archive of Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv¹⁰ and covers the career of the scientist during 1957-1995. The “Personal file” opens with an application of the historian for the position of associate professor of the Institute for Advanced Training of Teachers of Social Sciences at the University of Kyiv. The file contains an employee registration form (with a photograph of M. Ya. Varshavchyk), dated January 29, 1957, with the basic biographical data. It is stated that M. Ya. Varshavchyk is a member of the CPSU, has a higher education, graduated from the Faculty of History of the University of Kyiv in 1941 with a degree in History and received a diploma with honors, and has a degree of candidate of historical sciences.

In addition to traditional documents, the “Personal File” contains extracts from orders of gratitude for active participation in the scientific life of the university, organization, and holding of scientific conferences, readings, methodological seminars¹¹. Also, there is a copy of the award letter (dated 1978) with a brief description of the merits for which M. Ya. Varshavchyk is presented with the honorary title of Honored Scientist of the Ukrainian SSR¹². It is noted that the historian worked as a scientific secretary, head of the Research and Publishing Department of the Central Historical Archive, associate professor at the Kyiv Pedagogical Institute, the Kyiv Agricultural Academy, and on a per hour basis at the Kyiv State University. It is emphasized that M. Ya. Varshavchyk is a highly qualified talented teacher, a capable and experienced scholar who has 120 publications, including 8 monographs and 22 prepared candidates of historical sciences. In this file, there are numerous extracts from the meeting of the department, with the reports of M. Ya. Varshavchyk on scientific, educational, and teaching work¹³.

There is also a newspaper clipping with the text of the published Decree of the Presidium of the Verkhovna Rada of the Ukrainian SSR “On the assignment of the honorary title of Honored Scientist of the Ukrainian SSR to M. Ya. Varshavchyk” from February 25, 1987¹⁴.

In the spring of 1991, the five-year term of M. Ya. Varshavchyk as a professor came to an end and he wrote a resignation letter because of his retirement on July 1, 1991. However, he later worked part-time at the Department of Archival Studies and Special Branches of Historical Science until 1995.

¹⁰ Archive of KNU. Personal file of M. Ya. Varshavchyk, PVS - 13, 101 pages.

¹¹ Ibid. Pages 13, 14, 15, 33, 34, 40, 52, 79.

¹² Ibid. Pages 39-39 rev.

¹³ Ibid. Pages 33, 37, 52, 57, 64-66, 69, 75, 77-77 rev.

¹⁴ Ibid. P. 74.

The second group of sources includes autobiographies, published memoirs, letters, interviews, and other documents of personal origin. The most representative are ten memories of colleagues, students, and family members of M. Ya. Varshavchyk, published in the special edition to the 100th anniversary of the scientist's birth [3]. Among them, there are the memoirs of his fellow scientists who collaborated with M. Ya. Varshavchyk in different periods: N. I. Myronets [3, p. 95-99], V. F. Soldatenko [3, p. 100-106], M. G. Palienko [3, p. 106-110], S. F. Pavlenko [p.3, p. 110-116], L. M. Pushkarev [3, p. 120-123]. These historians recall various moments of communication with M. Ya. Varshavchyk, emphasize such features as a creative approach to solving scientific problems, experience, erudition, honesty, tolerance, friendliness, humanity. They emphasize that they are grateful for the fact that on their way of life they met M. Ya. Varshavchyk. Thus, recalling episodes of communication with the scientist, Ukrainian historian V. F. Soldatenko writes that when he was in the fourth year of the Faculty of History, M. Ya. Varshavchyk taught the course "Source Studies of the History of the CPSU" and the atmosphere in the audience was surprisingly calm, intimate, trusting. The teacher showed sincere respect for the students. The impression was created: a respected professor comes not to teach and not to preach, but sensibly, slowly share ideas about the depths of knowledge or scientific heights, which he was able to overcome over decades of meticulous work" [3, p. 100]. And M. G. Palienko, who worked with M. Ya. Varshavchyk at the same department, recalls that she met a scientist in the early 1990s when she became a graduate student of the department and for 10 years had the opportunity to communicate and listen to his lectures. The professor recalls: "Professor Varshavchyk's speech was an organic presentation in living scientific language, combining complex theoretical problems with specific historical stories, decorated with interesting examples, sometimes with a certain amount of jokes and humor" [3, p. 109].

Memoirs of L. M. Pushkarev – a famous source historian, who knew M. Ya. Varshavchyk for many years and was the person who M. Ya. Varshavchyk shared common scientific interests with, as well as personal sympathy, friendship with families. In his memoirs, L. M. Pushkarev recalled that the professor often repeated that "a true historian is not a descriptor, but an analyst and source researcher; for collecting sources you might not be a historian" [3, p. 123].

Memoirs of family members M. Ya. Varshavchyk – daughters, grandchildren, and son-in-law are also gripping. All of them warmly remember Mark Yakymovich. His daughter Iryna writes that "my father was not only my father but also a great friend. I always knew that there was a native person with whom I could consult, trust, find help, solve problems that

were extremely difficult for me” [3, p. 128]. And his granddaughter Natalia remembers that her grandfather “was able to be sensitive and strict, cheerful and sad, but always collected, focused and at the same time very open and friendly person” [3, p. 130].

This group of sources includes letters from M. Ya. Varshavchyk, which, unfortunately, did not remain in the archives, or the scientist’s family. However, some letters have been published in scientific journals. Thus, in 2013 in the context of the promulgation of the epistolary heritage of O. P. Pronstein, which is stored in his personal archive in the State Archives of the Rostov region (SARR) two letters of M. Ya. Varshavchyk to O. P. Pronstein were published. The letters are dated October 9, 1976, and October 14, 1977. Meaningfully these are friendly thanks for the books sent, congratulations on the new publications, hopes for a meeting at source conferences, etc. [6, p. 98-99].

A number of letters by M. Ya. Varshavchyk, stored in the personal archives of S. O. Schmidt at the Russian Academy of Sciences (RAS). The author of publications, A. V. Melnikov, notes that the fund has a lot of epistolary from more than one thousand two hundred respondents, including Ukrainian historians. There are also letters from M. Ya. Varshavchyk. The author notes that S. O. Schmidt had family relations in Kyiv and Ukraine. It was in Kyiv where his parents met for the first time, and his father, O. Yu. Schmidt began his scientific career here [3, p. 85-89].

The investigation includes nine letters and greeting cards from M. Ya. Varshavchyk. The first epistolary dates back to 1969, and the last to 1989, but the author of the article notes that, most likely, there are still letters from M. Ya. Varshavchyk, but the fund has not yet been dismantled and described. The content of the letters concerns, as a rule, scientific problems, in particular issues of development of theoretical source studies, publication of the article by M. Ya. Varshavchyk on the structure of historical source studies, on a joint review with V. I. Strelsky on the release of a new edition, and more. There are greeting cards, thanks for the positive feedback on his work, etc. This group of sources includes both oral interviews and written questionnaires, which also serve as a valuable source for research into the life and work of M. Ya. Varshavchyk.

The interview with M. Ya. Varshavchyk dates back to 1998 when a collection of scientific papers was being prepared on the occasion of honoring M. Ya. Varshavchyk on his 80th birthday. The interview was published in 1999¹⁵. Subsequently, its reprint took place in the monograph on M. Ya. Varshavchyk [3, p. 30-37].

¹⁵ Shlyax istoryka. Interv’yu z yuvilyarom [The path of the historian. Interview with the celebrant]. *Special branches of historical science: a collection in honor of Mark Yakymovych Varshavchyk* / Editor-in-Chief: Ya.S. Kalakura (ed.) et al. Kyiv, 1999. P. 7-12.

In total, the interview suggested five questions for extensive reflection/answer. Among them, there are the following: How did you become a historian? How have your views on the development of theoretical and methodological problems of historical science changed? What role did work in archival institutions play in forming you as a historian? What would you like to wish future historians? To all questions M. Ya. Varshavchuk made thorough comments.

In 2001 on the death of M. Ya. Varshavchuk two obituaries¹⁶ were published, where it was reported that the famous Ukrainian historian, source researcher, professor of the Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv M. Ya. Varshavchuk passed away. It was noted that he left a significant scientific heritage and trained many students.

The third group of sources includes the aggregate scientific heritage of the scientist, which best presents his achievements in the context of scientific development.

Metric indicators of the historian's work show that during 60 years of scientific life 183 works of the researcher were published, including 25 monographs and textbooks, 48 articles in journals and newspapers, 59 encyclopedic and reference and dictionary articles, 18 reviews of profile editions [1, p. 166].

Marko Varshavchuk entered historical science with his thorough research on the problems of theoretical source studies, methodology of historical research, archiving, and numerous investigations in specific historical disciplines. His modern ideas in the field of development of the historical source theory, its functions, introduction into scientific circulation of new concepts "fact-event", "fact-source", "fact-knowledge", a new interpretation of the content of "analytical criticism" and "synthetic criticism" raised the branch of historical source studies to a new stage of development. To a large extent, the level of the scientist is evidenced by his active participation in the discussion of newly published works on relevant topics. In particular, we counted that 1/10 of the scientist's papers is a review genre. Critical analysis of M. Ya. Varshavchuk's reviews argues that the scholar chose the works for review based on his own scientific interests, which were consistent with the current issues in the field of theoretical source studies. The study of the historian's review heritage is an impetus for understanding the contribution of individuals to the historical process; they serve as a valuable source of understanding of the intellectual space of Soviet-era scholars, times of rethinking and reassessing their past, including the achievements and fails of historical science. His reviews

¹⁶ Varshavchuk Marko Yakymovych: [Obituary]. *Ukrainian Historical Journal*. 2001. № 6. P. 153-154; Marko Yakymovych Varshavchuk (1918-2001): [Obituary]. *Archives of Ukraine*. 2001. № 4/5. P. 194-195.

confirm the evolutionary progress of the humanities in Ukraine, the change of its conceptual and ideological orientations, which indicates, on the one hand, the longevity of traditions, and on the other – the mastery of new modern technologies and their use in historical research.

The fourth group of sources consists of visual documents, namely photographs of M. Ya. Varshavchuk and other pictorial sources stored in the scientist's family, photos with colleagues and friends. In total, about 40 photos were published [3, p. 267-288], which contribute to a fuller understanding of the scientist's image, his presence, give an idea of the intellectual environment, family relationships, participation in scientific forums, in general, the multifaceted interests of the scientist. The first presented photo dates back to 1922, and the last one to 2016. The visual gallery represents all periods of life of M. Ya. Varshavchuk: from childhood to his 80th birthday. Photos with fellow scientists attract attention: M. Pushkarev, J. Kalakura, S. Schmidt, M. Maslov, L. Spirin, B. Korolev, and others.

Thus, it can be stated that the source base found in archival institutions, published documents, testimonies of colleagues, epistolary of the historian allow to reconstruct the scientific biography of the scientist and find out his contribution to the development of historical source studies.

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Джерела до реконструкції наукової біографії Марка Варшавчика (1918–2001).

Мета статті — комплексне вивчення, аналіз та систематизація групи джерел, що презентують постать М. Я. Варшавчика як науковця, історика-дослідника, фахівця в галузі історичного джерелознавства. **Наукова новизна** полягає у виявленні та характеристиці документів, що висвітлюють наукову сферу діяльності М. Я. Варшавчика. Увагу зосереджено на знакових подіях у житті вченого, що знайшли відображення у писемних та візуальних джерелах. Встановлено змістове насичення та рівень інформаційного потенціалу документів, здійснено їхню актуалізацію. **Методологія** базується на теоретичних засадах сучасного джерелознавства, принципах наукового пізнання: історизмі, системності та об'єктивності, що уможливило дослідження явищ минулого, вчинків і дій особистостей, враховуючи соціокультурні та ідеологічні чинники і реалії суспільного життя. Перевагу надано біографічному методу, методу усної історії (інтерв'ювання), який полягає у фіксації пережитого досвіду індивідуума та використанні цієї інформації для реконструкції минулого. **Висновки.** Проаналізована джерельна база стимулює до подальших пошуків документів, зокрема особового походження, де наявна інформація про наукову діяльність вченого. Проте застосовані принципи системності та всебічності, сукупний комплекс методик уможливають реконструювання наукової біографії вченого.

Ключові слова: М. Я. Варшавчик, наукова біографія, історичне джерело, архівні документи, теоретичне джерелознавство.