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**HISTORIOSOPHICAL DIMENSION OF DEPORTATION PROCESSES
ON THE TERRITORY OF THE UKRAINIAN-POLISH BORDERLANDS IN 1944 – 1951
(the peer-review on the monograph: Artemyshyn Yu. Deportation Actions of the 1940s
in the National Memory of the Ukrainians: State and Prospects of Research : monograph /
NAS of Ukraine, I. Krypiakevych Institute of Ukrainian Studies. Lviv, 2023. 276 p.)**

**ІСТОРИОСОФСЬКИЙ ВИМІР ДЕПОРТАЦІЙНИХ ПРОЦЕСІВ НА ТЕРЕНАХ
УКРАЇНСЬКО-ПОЛЬСЬКОГО ПОГРАНИЧЧЯ У 1944 – 1951 рр.
(рецензія на монографію: Артемишин Ю. Депортаційні акції 1940-х років
у національній пам'яті українців: стан та перспективи дослідження : монографія /
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The monograph by Yuliia Artemyshyn focuses on the study of deportation actions of the 1940s that took place on the Ukrainian-Polish borderland, the traumatic and tragic events of 1944 – 1951 in the context of Allied policy during World War II, as well as the formation of post-war borders in Europe. The author set herself an ambitious goal of creating a holistic, comprehensive image of deportation, going beyond the scope of the event history, as well as recreating a social and socio-psychological aspect of the issue, namely: the reception

of deportation process by the deportees, key features of socio-psychological and material adaptation; to reconstruct their life trajectories based on archival and oral history materials, to form historical, national memory about the war, forced deportation, and the image of “small Motherland”.

In the study there are clearly outlined the goal and research objectives related to its implementation. The chronological boundaries of the study are defined correctly.

The monograph includes Introduction, four Chapters, Conclusions, Appendices, Nominal and Geographical Indexes, which outline the logically grounded structure of the presented research. The text is preceded by a list of conventional abbreviations.

In the chapter “Historiographic, Theoretical and Methodological Foundations of the Study” there is a broad historiographic overview of the issue, which characterizes the source base of the study, reveals the essential features of historical memory and traumatic experience as an object of study, as well as the peculiarities of studying the border region and the multiple identities of its inhabitants. Carefully analyzing historiography of the issue topic under study, the author of the monograph focuses on the least researched aspects and legal grounds of deportation, on the international legal evaluation of these events by the Ukrainian and foreign scholars, revealing repressive nature of actions carried out and a corresponding development of the Soviet legal framework.

Successfully comparing the research by the Ukrainian and foreign scholars, Yu. Artemyshyn shows that in the Ukrainian historiography, the issue of deportation and related problems was mostly studied in the section of political history (a kind of response to a political order), instead, there are no comprehensive studies on the application of anthropological visions of history, and historiosophical dimension and related problem of collective memory require further development, expansion of the range of sources, and introduction of new methods and approaches, which becomes the researcher’s calling.

A core component of the source base of the study is the recorded and analyzed memories of people from Chełm region, Nadsiania and Lemkos regions, as well as the results of the author’s interview and sociological survey conducted by the researcher with a combination of open and closed questions in the questionnaires. The researcher used narrative analysis methods. The sample includes the surnames of deportees, their descendants, mostly from Western Ukraine, and young people from the eastern regions of Ukraine.

A separate group of sources consists of materials stored in the State Archives of Lviv Region and archival files of convicted people stored in the sectoral archives of the Security Service of Ukraine. There have been used the published memoirs of people, both in Ukraine and Poland, documentaries, programmes about resettlement, and video materials. Collections of documents have been also used, which reflect the regulatory framework of deportations and the Ukrainian-Polish conflict, both from the Soviet period and published during the time of Ukrainian independence, as well as in Poland.

Yu. Artemyshyn successfully uses materials from the Ukrainian and Polish press in order to trace the inclusion of the issue under study in the collective memory of the Ukrainian and Polish population, the positions of various ideological circles, the dynamics of views and evaluations, including those of public figures, historians, and public intellectuals.

It is necessary to note the author’s great work in systematizing the sources used, her correctness, scientific objectivity in using data, taking into consideration the possible presence of constructed reality, especially in documentaries, author’s programmes, and journalism, where author’s opinion is represented.

The author of the study conducted a comprehensive analysis of the concept of “historical memory” as an interdisciplinary phenomenon, as a certain socio-humanitarian concept; presented a holistic picture of the study of historical memory from the perspective of anthropological turn in modern historiography, and also elucidated different approaches to interpreting the object of her research by the Ukrainian and foreign researchers (Astrid Erll, Maurice Halbwachs, Marc Bloch, Pierre Nora, Jan and Aleida Assmann, Alan Confino, Eva Domanska, Marian Golka, etc.). The researcher characterized different dimensions of historical memory: collective and individual, as well as models of their construction using the concepts of “place of memory”, “communicative memory”, “cultural memory” and “regional memory”. At the same time, Yu. Artemyshyn rightly agrees with Astrid Erll’s opinion that the terminological heterogeneity of the concept of “historical memory” allows sciences such as history, psychology, sociology, and literary studies to conduct a methodological dialogue.

In the monograph there is revealed how collective memory influences the construction of personality, its awareness of personal and collective experience, and its identity. The dynamic aspect of collective, cultural memory is studied, presented as a living, active process influenced by the interaction of three types of historical factors: intellectual and cultural traditions, “memory creators” and “memory consumers” (Wulf Kansteiner). A vivid, emotionally charged memory, enhanced by communication technologies, partly carries within itself the traumatic experience of certain events, i.e. it has a traumatic dimension. In this part of the monograph, the researcher shows herself as a subtle analyst of socio-psychological phenomena, with an understanding of modern technologies and methods of influencing a personality, deep processes in a human soul.

In the context of the multiplicities of memory, their varieties, taking into account the traumatic historical experience of World War II and the Holocaust in the 20th century, in the monograph there is presented and characterized the direction of post-memory research, the author of which is Marianne Hirsch.

It is post-memory that is formed in the context of the memory of subsequent generations, as a reflection of traumatic events, of individuals who did not directly experience them, but who adopted the memory of experience from the loved ones, relatives, and can be transmitted in a hyperbolic, exaggerated manner.

According to Yu. Artemyshyn, understanding the mechanisms of post-memory allows us to understand and comprehend the creation of narratives of deportees and their descendants more deeply. The researcher emphasizes the importance of studying methodological principles of the analysis of traumatic experience. There should be noted an undeniable psychotherapeutic effect of such analysis.

Pointing out that the concepts of “suffering” and “heroism”, with a significant advantage of the former, are firmly rooted in the collective memory of the Ukrainians, in the author’s opinion, it is worth resorting to new research concepts in the context of victimization of the historical past, namely: trauma, collective trauma, in order to reconstruct and understand the creation of a collective image of deportation.

Professionally, in the monograph, there is justified the methodological direction of the research through the concept of “trauma” and its application in socio-humanitarian disciplines, referring to thorough research in psychiatry, neurology, psychology, revealing the mechanisms of spread, awareness of trauma in a team, and features of verbalization of traumatic experience.

The relationship between the concepts of traumatic experience verbalization, traumatic memories, oral history, as components of historical memory research, as methodology for

reconstructing the past, and the features of its application in the Ukrainian historiography, are also evidently revealed. The challenges that researchers face when applying the presented approaches and theories are traced.

Yu. Artemyshyn offers a detailed analysis of the key concepts of the study, a description of terminological discussions due to their complexity and multifacetedness, the lack of established terminology in socio-humanitarian disciplines. Accurately the researcher depicts spatial, cultural and socio-psychological models of the borderland, their complex, nonlinear and contradictory architectonics.

The researcher shows how the transformation of borders affects people's consciousness, changes the self-awareness of individuals and communities. A special identity is created based on the functioning of new – old norms, ideologies, value approaches; a new mental manifestation of the borderland is being created, a new cultural space, a regional subculture, a linguistic image that fits into the linguistic picture of the world.

Summarizing significant achievements of psychologists, psychoanalysts, psychiatrists, sociologists, and philosophers, Yu. Artemyshyn psychologically accurately reveals how an individual's identity is created within the framework of a social system, through social interaction (C. Cooley), a common "human heritage" (C. Woodward), a complex and nonlinear network of communications, a variety of social roles and their personal interpretation, and recognition of an individual by others.

The multifaceted pluralism of role choices and their interpretations determines multiplicity of identity, and modern world, full of rapid changes in socio-economic circumstances, technologies, and limited choices, changes the lifestyle of modern people, making their identity less stable, fragmented, and weak.

The author clearly outlines the focus of her own research: the regional/local identity of deported Ukrainians and their enduring connection to the "small Motherland".

In the monograph there is recreated a holistic picture of the interethnic conflict and deportation abroad in accordance with the theoretical and methodological principles defined in the research. The tragic historical circumstances of the Ukrainian-Polish confrontation in the context of World War II are successfully revealed, taking into account the Polish-Ukrainian relations from the end of the 19th to the first half of the 20th centuries, features of the German occupation, and the desire of the Nazis to Germanize the occupied lands quickly, using the loyalty of the Ukrainians and creating a protective zone which consisted of the displaced Ukrainian population around German colonies.

The researcher's objective is to reconstruct the experiences in the historical memory of the participants in these events, to find common trajectories – generalized plot lines of stories about difficult moments experienced, to rethink them in order to ease the burden of personal responsibility due to their complexity. The painful emotional and psychological experience becomes a matrix that organizes the socio-historical reality of that period. It clearly manifests the neurotic contradiction of traumatic experience, caused by the internal conflict between the desire to suppress the terrible event from consciousness and desire to talk about it out aloud in order to relieve mental tension.

The majority of people interviewed by the researcher were children and adolescents, and she took into account the influence of a child's psyche on informativeness, on the image of the past, as well as vulnerability of a child's psyche, the intensity of experiences, anxiety, and destruction of the basic sense of safety and security. The researcher takes into account the fact that, having witnessed events as children, the interviewees build their stories from

the perspective of adults, constructing “phantom plots”. In the monograph there are also traced gender differences in remembering traumatic events, successfully comparing female and male memories.

The monograph demonstrates the author’s high level of mastery in empirical research methods and her focus on verified, reliable results. Owing to this approach, it is possible to show how the construct of collective trauma of immigrants from Poland was created, to analyze the memorialization practices created by the immigrant community, and to reveal emotional reservoir of ideas about events that tend to stereotype. Their creation is a multi-level process, influenced by both the age factor and the psycho-emotional characteristics of the environment, as well as a holistic historical and cultural context.

In the narratives of the deportees, two images that seem mutually exclusive prevail – suffering and heroic struggle, but in fact, they outline the two poles of these events: on the one hand, defeats, losses, betrayal, pain, and on the other – triumph, victory, and the joy of life.

The researcher rightly warns scholars in the field of humanities against unreliable, distorted facts of the past, artificially created visions of the past that are superimposed on images of external enemies. The author thoroughly researches the prehistory of mass deportations in Europe and in the modern history of Ukraine, analyzes in detail the methodological aspects of this issue, the terminology and qualification of deportations. It is noteworthy that the truthful, in fact, for the first time in Ukrainian historiography, reproduction of the experience of immigrants entering a new society against the background of a previous ethnic cultural, religious one, property and natural geographical differences of the regions of new residence, a multivariate nature of life situations, the peculiarities of entry and adaptation to the new conditions of the Soviet reality, efforts to preserve socio-cultural integrity, etc.

Accordingly, the author’s definition of identity as a mechanism for a person’s mastery of reality, during which a system of meaning formation is established and awareness of one’s own place in society and the world, seems justified and reliable.

For deportees, the space of the lost homeland created in memory serves as the primary support for perceiving oneself in the world and building a national identity. In the hierarchy of values, this level of identity is of great importance. The feeling of longing, nostalgia remains with them and corrects the worldview of linguistic life circumstances.

An important basis for the monograph is a sociological survey of student youth at Ivan Franko National University of Lviv, as well as coverage of the problem of deportation of the Ukrainians in the pages of the Ukrainian press. Analysis of materials related to deportation and published in Western Ukrainian periodicals, in particular the newspaper “Vysoky Zamok” and regional newspapers, allowed the researcher to see numerous errors and inaccuracies in the interpretation of this issue. The author highlights press materials related to Operation Vistula on the eve of its 70th anniversary, citing the opinions of both Ukrainian historians, politicians, journalists, and Polish government officials and conservatives, considering this problem not only from a political perspective, but also addressing the issue of material compensation for Operation “Vistula”.

The section of the monograph “Deportation Actions in the Media and Everyday Representations: Regional and National Memory” offers a detailed examination of the history of deportation since 1944 and focuses on the issue of popularizing the history of the Ukrainian-Polish border region at the beginning of the 21st century.

A special aspect of Yu. Artemyshyn’s monograph is her turn to cinema and her desire to explore the problem of historical memory and recreate the tragedy of the deportation of

Ukrainians through artistic documentary film. This speaks to the author's comprehensive scientific erudition, which goes beyond the framework of one field of knowledge. The researcher thoroughly analyzed documentary and feature films dedicated to the tragic history of Zakerzonnia during World War II, the depiction of terror and ethnic crimes against the Ukrainians in Poland, and the tragedy of the displaced.

The author does not limit herself to studying the issue of regional and national memory, the Polish-Ukrainian confrontation in the press and cinema; she turns to the reflection of the issue of deportation in fiction and literature in the second half of the 2010s. She analyzes the political essays of the Polish publicist Jacek Kuroń "In the Trap of History" (1997); the collection of essays by Bohdan Skaradzinski "Attention to the East" (1997); Pavel Smolenski's collection "Funeral of the Cutthroat" (2001), and the collection of reports "Syrup of Wormwood" (2017), which are dedicated to the tragic pages of the Ukrainian-Polish confrontation, forced deportation, and the search of national identity. The author also refers to fiction about the deportation of the Ukrainians from Poland, about Zakerzonnia written by the Ukrainian writers, in particular to the novel "Eternal Calendar" (2019) by Vasyl Makhno; the book by Tetiana Ivanitska "My Grandfather was a Polish Immigrant"; the novel by Tetiana Pakhomova "The Schismatic. Children of Cain" (2016).

The researcher devotes the chapter to the peculiarities of historical memory, the concepts of memory transmission and the image of the "small Motherland". Dwelling in detail on the process of creating the image of the "small Motherland" as a way of categorizing space, Yu. Artemyshyn refers to the works of the Dutch historian Frank Ankersmit, the American Andrew Demshuk, the Polish researcher of the category of memory Malgorzata Glowacka-Greiper, and the German scholar Jan Assmann. Yu. Artemyshyn details the concept of the "Homeland of Memory", examines the model of collective memory as an important factor in constructing the personality and the image of the "small Homeland" (Kholmshchyna, Nadsiania, Lemkivshchyna, Boikivshchyna), which can also be considered part of the communicative and cultural memory of migrants. According to the Ukrainian researcher, the image of "small Motherland" is a created image in the minds of immigrants, which at the same time preserves the memory of the past and is associated with the concepts of "place of residence" and "home". The very concept of "home" is an important point of support for deportees "for constructing their own "self", identity and environment." Yu. Artemyshyn's elucidation of the psychobiological phenomenon of reminiscence, associated with the constant appeal in memory to events of the past and the problem of the collective and cultural memory of the Ukrainians, deserves attention.

Thus, the myth of "small Motherland" is gradually being created, about Kholmshchyna, Nadsiania, Lemkivshchyna and Boikivshchyna, the basis of which was the transformation of geographical, political and socio-cultural space-time of "small Motherland", its certain universal sacralization and ideologization, the formation of a new self-identification of a human being associated with the loss of territorial identity.

Conclusions. The monograph is one of the first in Ukraine thorough studies analyzing the deportations of 1944 – 1951 in Ukraine, as well as the reflection of their traumatic process in the minds of the deportees. Reproducing with scientific accuracy the historical, political, socio-psychological, and everyday aspects of the problem is a difficult and responsible task, which Yu. Artemyshyn coped with dignity. The monograph contains rich, comprehensive material that allows us to recreate historical events, the life of the deportees, the dynamics of their experiences, the content of national memory, national feelings, and the comparison

of oneself with the small and large Motherland. The framework of the monographic study did not allow us to go beyond the set goal, and many of the results obtained did not receive further interpretation.

By incorporating empirical research methods (the author's interview and social survey), Yu. Artemyshyn interviewed three generations of deportees who had experienced traumatic and post-traumatic experiences, and this is an unconditional achievement that allows us to reveal deep features of their historical memory, archetypal images, their transformation, and ways of resolving trauma. However, the empirical sample, although mathematically reliable, is not extensive, leaving further scope for research to develop the topic.

Russia's full-scale war against Ukraine in 2022 has brought to the fore the problem of forced resettlement of the Ukrainians carried out by the Russian occupation regime, forced by the circumstances of hostilities in front-line territories. The monograph by Yu. Artemyshyn reflects contemporary realities in Ukraine – Russian aggression against the peaceful Ukrainian people, the annexation of Ukrainian territories, the acute, traumatic reception of what was experienced by the internally relocated people, and the reassessment of values and meanings of life.

Thus, the monograph by Yu. Artemyshyn allows us to more deeply comprehend the entire scope of not only political, but also socio-psychological, socio-cultural problems of our present, to understand the mechanisms of the formation of modern Ukrainian identity.

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