

Issue No. 10 of 2011 is totally dedicated to the history of Belarus during the so called «Khrushchev Thaw» in 1953—1964.

An article by a historian from Hrodna **Vadzim Karol** «Joy and Sorrow: Stalin's Death as Seen by the Inhabitants of the BSSR» considers how the death of Joseph Stalin, the leader of the Soviet state, was perceived by the population of the BSSR in March 1953. The analysis is made on the basis of the then press and contemporaries' published memories.

The topic is further developed in an article by a historian **Iryna Kaštalan** «Oh, I'd Rather Lose My Mother...». The article is based on contemporaries' oral memories about the events, collected by the author in 2008—2009 within the framework of research of the USSR's domestic politics repressive factors' influence on the Belarusian everyday life of the first postwar decade.

A historian from Minsk **Valancin Maziec** in his article «Tendencies of State Ethnic Policy in the BSSR in the 1950s» analyses the measures which were taken by the Communist powers of Belarus during the period mentioned to provide the functioning of the Russian and the Belarusian language on the territory of the Republic. The article also traces back the beginning of the Russification process enforcement in different spheres of public life.

The historian **Zmicier Kryvašej** in his article ««Literary Workers'» Daily Routine» considers how state censorship functioned in the postwar Belarusian province. The article is based on the example of the situation encountered in Pinsk region in 1951—1953.

An article by a Minsk journalist **Larysa Michalčuk** «Everyday Life of Minsk Citizens in the 1950s» is dedicated to a description of different aspects characterising the private lives of the citizens of the capital of Belarus at the given period of time: their living conditions, food, clothes, interpersonal communication means, and so on.

The subject of an article by a historian from Navapolatsk **Volha Sumko** «The Dvina Region's Columbuses» is diverse facets of the everyday life of the builders of one the youngest towns of today's Belarus — Navapolatsk — in the first years of its construction (1958—1959).

A Hrodna historian **Viktar Bielazarovič** in his publication «At a Turning Point» analyses the main tendencies in the development of the Belarusian collective farm village at the end of the 1940s and in the 1950s.

An article by a German researcher **Rayk Einax** «Soviet Religious Policy and Folk Religiousness in Belarus in 1953—1964» is concentrated on the course pursued by the then Communist authorities of the USSR, headed by Nikita Khrushchev, in relation to «religious vestiges». The main emphasis in the article is laid upon the way the policy was carried out and how it was

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perceived by the population of the BSSR, which was actually ascribed a role of a proving ground in creating the first atheistic Soviet republic.

A Hrodna researcher **Sviatlana Siłava** proceeds with the given topic in her article «The Orthodox Church in the BSSR during the «Khrushchev Thaw». She considers the problem on the example of the most western region of Belarus — namely that of Hrodna.

Art historians **Tacciana Malinoŭskaja** and **Natalla Malinoŭskaja-Franke** in their article «A Parallel World» consider the multifaceted and eventful artistic life in the Hrodna of the 1950s. The main emphasis is laid upon the general tendencies of the city's spiritual life during the period mentioned, as well as on the creative work of separate masters.

A publication by a historian **Tacciana Marżała** «School Education Development in the BSSR under the Influence of Party and State Politics in the 1950s» is centred on the attempts of the Republic's authorities to provide a universal schooling system, on the process of education polytechnicalisation, on a school curriculum, and on other aspects of the problem mentioned in the title.

An article by **Mikałaj Tokaraŭ** «The Academy of Sciences of the BSSR in the 1950s: Main Development Tendencies» considers changes that took place in the Republic's main scientific institution during the time mentioned under the influence of general social and political processes in the country.

The issue closes with a review by **Zmicier Kryvašej** «A View of Western Belarus through a Prism of Ideology», presenting a critical analysis of a monograph *Szumski, Jan. Sowietyzacja Zachodniej Białorusi. 1944—1953. Propaganda i edukacja w służbie ideologii.* — Kraków: Arkana, 2010. — 362 s.