

EDITORIAL COLUMN

Mikhail Baidakov, Sergey Belkin

Unsolved problems – 4

The publisher and the editor-in-chief of the literary miscellany in the article which is an introduction to the topics of the volume, emphasize that the issue is the need to understand: what problems solved by the people during the Soviet period were “historical”, that is, posed by the process of our existence on earth, and the desire to fulfill the earthly mission, to realize the purpose? These problems should be realized in time to see their return in the new times: historical problems will not go away, unless solved.

THE USSR AND DEVELOPMENT

Interview with Vitaly Tretyakov

“The Soviet experience, the Soviet system should be seen as the greatest civilizational values” – 6

The famous Russian journalist, dean of the Higher School of Television of the Moscow University talks about his perception of the Soviet experience of Russian history and bonds of the Russian civilization. He discusses what is this civil society in Russia, and calls on not to try to reform Russia on the basis of models alien to its nature. Vitaly Tretyakov considers the Soviet experience and the Soviet system the greatest civilizational values. In his view, Russia moves with evolutionary leaps in the history and therein lies the specific model of development. One of these leaps was made, when Russia was trying to realize the Communist dream.

Spartak Nikanorov: the thinker and the era – 32

The editorial board of the literary miscellany introduces two analyses of Spartak Nikanorov’s ideas with a biographical sketch, which retraces the major milestones of his life and covers a range of problems he dealt with which are worked out by his disciples. It lists principal works by Nikanorov and his followers, who continue to publish his legacy in order to bring to the public his ideas, which are extremely relevant for present-day Russia.

Sergey Belkin

Reflecting on the “Lessons of the USSR” – 34

The editor-in-chief of the literary miscellany reflects on what the Soviet Union was in connection with the study of Spartak Nikanorov “Lessons of the USSR. Historically unsolved problems as factors of the emergence, development and decay of the USSR” published a few years ago. The concept of Spartak Nikanorov is reviewed critically in the article. His article is an attempt to justify the vital value of the “Lessons of the USSR”, without assimilation of which there can be no strategic planning of the development of modern Russia and the world in general.

Interview with Zakhirdzhan Kuchkarov

“Control cannot be restored without conceptual planning” – 54

The literary miscellany publishes an interview with the director of Company for innovations and high technologies *Concept* Zakhirdzhan Kuchkarov, in which he talks about working with his teacher – Spartak Nikanorov, – who was engaged in conceptual designing of complex systems and new social and economic forms in Soviet times. Zakhirdzhan Kuchkarov gives some results of the analytical interpretation of patterns of the Soviet system, its defects and problems, and expresses some observations on the current socio-political structure of Russia and possible potential of its development, stresses the need to reform administrative staff.

Gennady Bordyogov

Professionals and Soviet authorities: View from and for our time – 80

The author believes that the idea ingrained in the public mind that the main internal political conflict was the confrontation of government and society during the Soviet era, is inaccurate. In his opinion, it is much more correct to speak about the conflict of government and professional community. Such community largely assumed the functions of civil society, but at the same time did not distance itself from the government and cooperated with it. This article describes the features of such cooperation. The author points out the lessons that the government and society of modern Russia should learn from such a complex dialogue between the authorities and professionals in the Soviet era.

Sergey Cherniakhovsky

Romance and Hardness. Once, the country was significantly stronger... – 98

Sergey Cherniakhovsky offers his answer to the question: “What is the ‘Soviet’”? From his perspective, it is primarily the world of realized dreams. It is the belief that consumption is less important than creation, material well-being is a secondary side of life, friendship is more important than money, and a society where everyone is a friend is real. It is faith in the triumph of freedom and justice. It is an attempt to challenge the entire previous history and the rest of the world – and to create a special, never-seen world. The central point of the Soviet legacy and the Soviet world – is the belief that the world can be changed, experienced and created.

Lyudmila Bulavka-Buzgalina

The USSR – An unfinished project. Seven turns – 108

Lyudmila Bulavka-Buzgalina considers that the appeals to the historical and cultural practices of the Soviet Union not only did not stop, but are becoming more frequent. These turns toward the Soviet Union are dictated by the fact that today’s world, faced with the growth of social and cultural conflicts caused by globalization and the “clash of civilizations”, “market fundamentalism” and media manipulation, dehumanization and hegemony of mass culture, is looking for ways to overcome these and other challenges of the 21st century. The author also turns in the direction of the USSR, to see the vector of breakthrough from the pitfalls of the present into the space of the future development.

Yulia Cherniakhovskaya

In terms of Soviet science fiction. Scientific and technical romanticism as a form of political consciousness – 122

Yulia Cherniakhovskaya reflects on phenomenon of Soviet science fiction and characterizes the official doctrine of Soviet art – socialist realism – as opposing to, on the one hand, the romanticism, and the other to the critical realism. She shows by the example of Soviet science fiction that the type of Soviet political culture should be defined as a political philosophy and political culture of scientific and technological romanticism. The essence of this philosophy and culture lies not in the mix of classicism and romanticism, that is, the proper ideal with the intoxicating ideal, but of the rational, scientific and technically sound with the perfectly desired.

CONGRATULATION

Giulietto Chiesa’s 75th birthday – 132

The editorial board of the literary miscellany congratulate famous Italian journalist and politician, interviews with whom were twice published in this issue, with his 75th birthday. The collective of the literary miscellany notes the popularity of Giulietto Chiesa’s works, stresses that especially now the Russian audience is interested in unbiased analysis of contemporary global processes – both overt and secret, manifested only indirectly. The work of the Italian thinker devoted exactly to this topic, and it is impossible not to note the special analytical and journalistic skill with which he conveys judgments and estimates to his readers.

LAW AND DEVELOPMENT

Vladimir Karpets

Healing (from) of Law – 134

Vladimir Karpets argues that one of the results of perestroika was “legal reform”, which actually meant breaking of the whole legal system under the slogan of “Democratization of Soviet law”, the characteristics of which are considered by the author. “The breakdown of the paradigm” planned long before perestroika, was laid out in the official ideology of the USSR – Marxism – as part of the “Western Project”. From the point of view of the author, for Russia, the law, that is, that which is used to rule, is defied by allegiance to king, religious devotion, belonging to a nation and ethnic group, social (class) origin, age, marital status, occupation and vocational training.

Aleksandr Kovriga

The global crisis and reconstruction of state affairs: Let us recall cameralism? – 146

According to Aleksandr Kovriga, in today’s world, a full-scale sovereignty, significant civilizational initiatives and public policies of import substitution are possible only under condition of worldview and ideological independence, where heritage and historical lessons of cameralism will be very useful. Cameralism viewed society as an infinite task of socio-technical intervention and institution building, the purpose of which was to create common benefits and ensure the welfare of the subjects where the efforts of individual citizens could be insufficient, and in

cases when the citizens did not understand or did not see these problems.

ORGANIZATION OF LIFE AND DEVELOPMENT

Aleksandr Lyusy

Where are we to go by our own hand? The Soviet in the configurations and rhythms of space and time – 174

Aleksandr Lyusy stresses that the “crucial” movement of desovietization and churching of Russia goes along with economic, political and aesthetic process of enslavement of the country by commodity dependence. The author reflects on the Russian cultural space, the shift in contemporary art from production to consumption, on the political principle of compromise. He proposes to make the Russian representative democracy more representative, that is more corresponding to the aesthetic evaluation criteria and seek to ensure that the aesthetic gap between the represented and representing became wider.

Oleg Fomin-Shakhov

Russian way of life in the 21st century – 184

Oleg Fomin-Shakhov explains what the Russian way should be in the 21st century, that is, cultural and economic organization of Russia’s life. He notes that at the moment a large number of innovations in various fields has been accumulated. However, none of these innovations is integrated yet. The author also believes that their synthesis only will enable the country to make a qualitative civilizational leap to become a strategic winner in the cultural, economic, and eventually in a military confrontation of civilizations. In his opinion, Russia has a huge powerful, economic, cultural and demographic potential for this.

IN MEMORIAM

Oleg Timofeevich Bogomolov

(August 20, 1927 – August 14, 2015) – 220

The editor-in-chief of the literary miscellany remembers the recently deceased Oleg Bogomolov – milestones of his biography, writings, main directions of academic and socio-political activities. His cooperation with literary miscellany, where Oleg Bogomolov’s works were published several times from the very first issue, is discussed separately. The editor-in-chief stresses the importance of the ideas and works of Oleg Bogomolov for our days and for Russia’s development in the future, and quotes the scientist on the necessity of bringing the solid moral foundations in the economy, without which this branch of knowledge is simply unable to participate in the construction of tomorrow.

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ANNOUNCEMENT

Results and Perspectives – 224

Founders of the literary miscellany sum up the issue’s materials and announce the main themes of the following issue.