

**HISTORICAL COURIER. 2020. No. 6 (14)****The Theme of the Issue:  
The Decembrist Movement in the History of Russia:  
On the 195<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Uprising on the Senate Square**

Among many phenomena and events of the social, political and cultural life of Russia, the Decembrist movement will always occupy a special place. The time has shown that the theme of the Decembrists' revolt retains its significance in the structure of scientific research and remains one of the promising fields of study in Russian history. The Decembrists' heritage, historical and cultural experience continue to influence the mentality of the Russian people. The historical memory of the Decembrists forms the basis for the Russians' national identity and patriotism.

The further study of the Decembrist movement, its results and consequences, analysis of the Decembrist ideology can help answer many key questions of national history. Nowadays the scientific approach towards the study of the Decembrist movement is more relevant than ever. It is no secret that this theme has served the basis for historical speculation and conspiracy theories distorting the overall picture of the Russian past. For this reason of great importance is the article by P.V. Ilyin which opens the issue and shows the vector of further research. It objects against the "new paradigm" in the Decembrist studies and adheres to the strictly scientific approaches aimed at the objective reconstruction of the Decembrists' history.

The theme of Decembrist movement is very popular in mass culture; therefore, its scientific analysis is even more important for the creation of proper stereotypes and values. Even today, the works of scholars specializing in the Decembrists' history must be "in-demand". The Journal's issue includes articles covering a wide range of issues – from the history of secret societies to preservation of the Decembrists' heritage nowadays. Several articles are devoted to the biographies of P.I. Pestel, E.V. Von Ruge, A.V. Poggio. The section "Open Archives" introduces to scientific circulation the new archival materials – letters of P.I. Pestel and his family members; F.P. Shakhovskoy's notes on the Turukhansk region; statistical data collected by A.N. Muravyov.

The Journal's authors include researchers from Moscow, Saint Petersburg, Tbilisi, Novosibirsk, Irkutsk, Chita, Kurgan, Yalutorovsk, Minusinsk.

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