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The Theme of the Issue:

**80 YEARS OF THE GREAT VICTORY:  
RESULTS AND PROSPECTS OF STUDYING  
THE HISTORY OF THE GREAT PATRIOTIC WAR**

FROM THE EDITOR

Over time, the number of works devoted to the Great Patriotic War continues to grow, counting in tens of thousands. The upcoming 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Victory has traditionally increased public interest in the history of the Great Patriotic War.

However, the public demand determines not only the anniversary date, but the surrounding reality itself. The victory over fascism, which for many years seemed unshakable and final, turned out to be incomplete. In the context of the Special Military Operation, public interest in how Victory was achieved is steadily increasing. This makes practical sense, as the requirements of the military situation lead to the formation of similar state and public institutions, mechanisms and practices for solving problems. The study of historical experience can facilitate and accelerate their implementation.

The study of the Great Patriotic War remains relevant in a strictly scientific sense. Understanding the processes that took place during the war helps to identify patterns of development of human society in extreme conditions, and to understand the strengths and weaknesses, the very essence of the Soviet state, which won the most important Victory in Russian history. The work of scientists makes it possible to preserve and pass the sacred memory of the feat of the ancestors to descendants.

The painstaking work of hundreds of researchers and the introduction of thousands of diverse sources into scientific circulation make the knowledge of the war period more complete and multifaceted. More and more new issues stand on the forefront of study. The Victory Anniversary is becoming a tangible point that allows to summarize some of the results of this process and outline promising areas for further research.

The cover of the magazine contains research by scientists based from St. Petersburg to Vladivostok, representing a cross-section of the current state of affairs in the study of the Great Patriotic War.

The first section, “Life and Death in the Age of War”, contains works reflecting the most dramatic facet of the history of the war years – the impact of war on people’s lives and health. The block opens with an article by the founder of the school of Siberian historical demography, V.A. Isupov, in which the author summarizes the contradictory development of historical and demographic studies of the war and, based on the analysis of the source base, formulates new promising tasks facing them. V.B. Zhiromskaya and N.A. Aralovets in their article analyze the situation of people with disabilities during the Great Patriotic War, provide data on their number, the system of state policy measures aimed at this group of people. Two publications are devoted to the most important demographic process – mortality. In the publications of N.V. Chernysheva and M.A. Semenov, the peculiarities of mortality of the rear population of the USSR during the war years are considered, and the factors influencing its dynamics are analyzed. The work of S.A. Kuskova is focused on the results achieved during the study of the activities of rear evacuation hospitals, the existing difficulties in the further scientific development of this area.

The section “The Country of Labor Valor” reveals the processes that took place in the field of industry, agriculture, and science. A study by G.A. Tkacheva is devoted to the development of the land system in the Far East, showing a picture of the development of the communications system over a number of decades. The article by E.E. Krasnozhenova is devoted to the issues of the state of Leningrad’s working personnel and their transformation in the extreme conditions of the blockade. The development of the defense industry in the Novosibirsk oblast was the subject of research



by M.V. Shilovsky. S.V. Sharapov analyzes the economic side of the life of collective farmers. N.N. Melnikov focuses on the role of S.V. Kaftanov in the management of Soviet science during the Great Patriotic War.

Wartime childhood is attracting more and more attention from scientists. The section “Scorched Childhood” has been formed from the works on this topic. L.E. Mezit examines the importance of school in the daily life of a child, while S.A. Vlasov analyzes children’s labor, and N.M. Markdorff studies offenses committed by minors. T.G. Nedzelyuk and E.V. Materova attempt to stratify sources on the history of children’s evacuated institutions in Western Siberia.

The section “On the Fronts...” is devoted to research on the actual military aspect of the period. E.P. Mironichev presents an analysis of the role and place of the Arctic in the German military strategy based on the documents of the German command. The article by I.I. Khanipova is devoted to the reflection of the exploits of the natives of the Bashkir ASSR in the materials of frontline newspapers in the Tatar language.

Historiographical research is concentrated in the section “In the Writings of Descendants”. V.A. Ivanov and V.R. Shcherbakova analyze studies on the struggle of the Crimean underground, S.V. Kulik, A.G. Lagoiko, A.S. Prishchepa explore modern trends in the study of the siege of Leningrad, and S.I. Sivtseva deals with historical research conducted in Yakutia.

The traditional heading “The World of Books” presents M.N. Potemkina’s review of A. Kaganovich’s book “*The Tashkent Front: Jewish Refugees in the Soviet Rear*”, as well as a bibliographic list of regional encyclopedic and reference publications on the Great Patriotic War prepared by A.V. Kulikova, N.G. Pushkareva, and S.I. Trusova.

*Executive editor*  
*Candidat of Historical Sciences*  
*Mikhail Aleksandrovich Semenov*

*Executive editor*

**Candidate of Historical Sciences M.A. Semenov**

*Executive secretary*

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