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THE HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL BACKGROUND OF DEVELOPMENT OF THE VOLYN DISTRICT IN THE 18-20 CENTURIES

Having gone through the history of more than a thousand years, Volyn has preserved and consolidated its national-patriotic worldview. This happened despite its centuries-old affiliation with other states, which forcibly imposed anti-Ukrainian scenarios. Also, Volyn has strengthened the European vector of development, which foundation was laid in the last millennium.

In the northwest of Ukraine since ancient times, Volyn was a historically important and powerful region, which had a significant impact, especially its favorable location in Central and Eastern Europe and repeated redistribution of administrative boundaries and political regimes.

The history of Volyn dates back to the existence of the town of Velina, which was located on the left bank of the Western Bug at the confluence of the river Guzhva. It is believed that the name of the city also derives from the name of the whole region and the Slavic-Russian tribes of Dulibs, Buzhans, or Volynians who inhabited it. The first written mention of the densely populated region was the chronicle "Tale of bygone years". The formation of Volyn originates from the administrative-territorial affiliation to Kievan Rus, as the Ipatiev Chronicle evidenced in 981. Prince Volodymyr the Great founded the city of Volodymyr near the ancient settlement of Volyn, which became the capital of the Volyn and Halych-Volyn principalities. Thus, Volodymyr remained the state, administrative, trade, and cultural center not only of Volyn itself, but also of neighboring principalities.

The Galician-Volyn state, formed by Prince Roman Mstyslavovych, experienced its greatest prosperity during the reign of Danylo Halysky at the end of the 13th century. It included 80 cities – trade, craft, and defense centers on the western border – Lutsk, Kholm, Halych, Belz, Volodymyr, Ustyluh, Kamin, Turiysk, Chortoryisk, and others.

More than 200-year history of Volyn as part of Kievan Rus ended with its transition to the control of Lithuania and part of Poland in the middle of the 14th century. The Congress of European Monarchs stated that Lutsk became the second capital of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania and underwent considerable development.

In the 15th and 16th centuries, the cities of Volyn received the Magdeburg Law, which raised the region to a new stage of development. That page in the history of Volyn was the time under the auspices of free European economic development.

The signing of the Lublin Union in 1569 did not define Volyn as a separate independent statehood, but facilitated its entry into the united country, the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth.

Further cultural and religious oppression of the Polish nobility led to the uprising of the Ukrainian people, then to the National Liberation Struggle and the Haydamat movement. On June 28-July 10, 1651, near Berestechko the fiercest decisive battles took place between the Cossack and the Polish-noble armies. Thus, the population of Volyn had a firm and clear definition of their nationality, language, and religious beliefs.

At the end of the 18 century, Eastern Volyn became the part of the Russian Empire, and in 1795, after the third partition of Poland, Western Volyn also joined. At the same time, the Volyn province was formed including the Volyn, Rivne, and a large part of the Zhytomyr and Ternopil regions. The further development of those lands and the Right Bank of Ukraine was subject to the Russian tsar's decision.

The second half of the 19 century is characterized by significant industrial development of the region and the creation of new enterprises.

At different times, Volyn became an arena of hostilities. During the First World War, the front line between Russian, on the one hand, and Austro-German troops, on the other, passed through Volyn several times.

The result of the revolution and the overthrow of the Russian autocracy was the transition of Volyn to Poland for almost 20 years. With the outbreak of World War II on December 4, 1939, the Volyn region was formed as part of Russia with its subsequent political and cultural terror. The war brought incredible suffering and destruction to those lands.

The atrocities of the occupiers provoked an active resistance movement. In 1942, the fighting forces of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army were founded in Volyn. Liberation from the Nazi occupiers took place in 1944. In the postwar years, along with the reconstruction of the region, agrarian development first started "dekulakization" of the Volyn population and later the collectivization of agriculture.

Along with the development program of industry, construction, technology, and socio-cultural sector of the region, total persecution of the Ukrainian intelligentsia, language, and freedom of speech took place there. But the original desire of the Ukrainian people to restore their state led to the formation of a united independent Ukraine, and Volyn remains its integral part.

In the 18th century, the possessions of the great feudal lords grew: the Radziwills, the Sangushks, the Branytskys, the Potocki, the Chortory, and others. Also, Catholic orders began to build monumental architectural complexes, formed libraries, opened various educational institutions.

Decorative and applied arts were developing. This is evidenced by the preserved exhibits in museums – the monastery shawl, embroidered with satin, the church bell, decorated with artistic castings, utensils, costumes and other household items. Museums recreate the interior. Also, the photo business was developing. The monasteries of

Volyn, which became centers of the humanities and social sciences played a significant role in the development of culture. Today it is known that our compatriot assembled his own large library, he won the first place in the development of telegraph communication, in the arrangement of which "the Blessed Hieropheus really participated".

The famous Polish writer Kraszewski spent almost twenty years of his life in Volyn. He presented his observations in his work "Memoirs of Volyn, Polissya and Lithuania" in 1840. A significant contribution to the study of the history of Ukraine, in particular Volyn, was made by the historian, Ukrainian natural scientist, writer M. Maksimovich. In the 1860s, amateur local lore groups appeared, their well-known representatives were Olena Pchilka, who collected folklore from Volyn, her daughter Lesia Ukrainka, geologist H. Ossovsky, and archaeologist S. Gamchenko. The result of a great search in Volyn is the work of Olena Pchilka "Ukrainian carols" (1903). Lesya Ukrainka with her brother Mykhailo recorded many folk songs and transferred their lyrics and musical notation to M. Lysenko. Lesya Ukrainka used deep ethnographic knowledge of folk culture in her poetry, prose and drama. Another well-known figure connected with the cultural and educational history of Volyn is the Ukrainian historian A. Khoynatsky. He created numerous religious and theological historical works, many of which are devoted to the history of the Volyn region. F. Vovk, an anthropologist, archaeologist and ethnographer, studied the material and spiritual culture of the Ukrainian people. Based on the materials, he proposed to make a historical and topographical zoning of Ukraine, where Volyn is a separate region. The great merit of the scientist is the systematization of the material, comparative analysis and presentation of it according to the modern requirements of contemporary science. His works brought him worldwide recognition. In the early 1910's in the province there were 70 cultural institutions of various types (theaters, cinemas, clubs, NGOs, libraries, bookstores.) The theater was developing, a large number of spectators attended performances and were interested in the amateur art. The music achieved significant success in the postwar years, in 1956 Volyn composers created an organization of amateur composers. The regional philharmonic society played a significant contribution to the artistic life of Volyn.

The culture of Volyn perceived as a folk culture for a long time. Its customs and folklore were significantly influenced by geographical conditions and its special historical path. Interaction with other ethnic cultures on the one hand enriched it, but for the most part had negative and devastating consequences. Overcoming Russification, Polonization and other ideological principles, Volyn directed its cultural potential to statehood and freedom, preserving the language, customs and Ukrainian roots.

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