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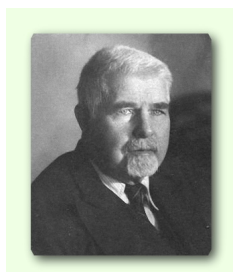
Sergei V. Bakhrushin at the Institute of Red Professors: Lectures on the History of the Indigenous Peoples of Siberia (1936)

Abstract

The publication is to introduce into scientific use two lectures read by the historian Sergei V. Bakhrushin to his students at the Institute of Red professors in 1936. The published document thematically falls within the field of history and ethnography of Siberia. Bakhrushin's contribution

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to this scholarship was significant: he provided a holistic view on the development of Siberia in the 16th–17th centuries and on situation of the peoples inhabiting it; and introduced into scientific use a rich body of archival documents. Thus, any unpublished materials from his heritage are of great interest, particularly, data on his work in the higher school. The document illustrates his manner of presenting historical material and his style of communication with his audience. Bakhrushin began lecturing to the “red professors” after his exile under the Academic Trial. In contrast to his published works and lectures, the document, being a written reproduction of oral speech, includes some errors and inaccuracies. The lectures are important for understanding historical geography and history of the indigenous peoples of Siberia. However, topical contribution of these lectures is greater: they reveal the foundations of the Marxist concept of colonization and economic development of Siberia, which turned into an interesting synthesis of Marxism and national concept of the Russian colonization of the 17th century. The document has been found in the Russian State Historical Archive (GARF). It is being published according to the modern rules of spelling and punctuation, but some errors and inaccuracies in the historical terms and toponyms are preserved and corrected in footnotes. Commentary preceding the publication of the document is of particular importance, as it brings the source up to date and characterizes the specifics of dialogue in the communist institute in the mid-1930s.



Keywords

Bakhrushin (1882-1950), lecture course, Institute of Red Professors, ethnography, indigenous peoples of Siberia, historical geography, colonization of the USSR in the 1930s, Academic Trial.

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