

ARTISTIC INTERPRETATION OF HISTORICAL PERSONALITY IN PENTALOG “MAZEPA” BY BOHDAN LEPKIY

The history of interpretation the person of Ivan Mazepa shows that his figure was not objectively assessed. Some scientists and writers saw him as a patriot, others – as a traitor.

Ivan Mazepa was the first Ukrainian hetman, who consistently kept the hetman's mace for almost 22 years (8081 days). This period was characterized by economic development of Ukraine, stabilization of the social situation, the rise of the church and religious life and culture.

There are, probably not find figures similar to Mazepa, the interest of which is not lost through three centuries in the world culture. During the life of the hetman his name not disappear from newspapers of England, France, Holland, Sweden, Germany and Poland. The impression from meeting with him was recorded in the diaries of European diplomats, correspondence, memoirs. Even after the death of Mazepa his name appears in the letters, memoirs, diaries and numerous historical documents in Europe.

Despite the considerable number of works, only a few events of the life of Hetman shown in the literature. It is love adventures (especially popular love story of Mazepa and Motrya) and political activity in recent years, which often combine relations between Mazepa and Paliy. It should be noted that at various times and in various works were extremely unequal ratio of fabulosity and historicity of Mazepa. In the XVIII century dominated the historical principle, directed at creating a real image of the historical figure, but there are also elements of myth. At this time the image of Mazepa goes beyond national and acquiring European status.

Bogdan Lepkiy gave his version of the figure of Ivan Mazepa. Pentalog “Mazepa” by Lepkiy still remains the most substantial work of art about Hetman, who ventured to break the shackles that paralyzed Ukraine. Bohdan Lepkiy understood the logic of Mazepa's behavior, who was forced to placate Peter I to a certain time, send Cossacks army beyond Ukraine to Russia for hard fortification work and look for ways to break the military alliance with tsarist government in the same time.

In polemical confrontation between those who blackened Mazepa Bogdan Lepkiy tried to present him as a national hero, sometimes falling into apologetic tone.

Bogdan Lepky has perfect well studied XVII–XVIII centuries of Ukraine from documentary sources, books and letters.

Today scientists can discussed some actions of Ivan Mazepa. The only thing which stay undeniable is fact that political step of Hetman in 1708 reflected hidden moods of the majority of the Cossack society which was trying to see Ukraine as an independent state. The action implemented by Ivan Mazepa scored blame on all socio-political organism of Ukraine not only eighteen, but later centuries.

Keywords: hetman, pentalogie, mazepiana, Bogdan Lepkiy.