OPINION

For the dissertation work of Denis Bogomilov Ivanov - a doctoral student in a professional direction - 2.2. History and archaeology

On the subject: "Ivan Drasov - the unknown and underappreciated actor of the Bulgarian national liberation movement"

Submitted for the acquisition of the of the educational and scientific degree "PhD" in professional direction 2.2 History and archaeology

* Scientific supervisor: Prof. Plamen Mitev, PhD
* Prepared the opinion: Assoc. Prof. Radoslav Stefanov Spasov, PhD - SU "St. Kliment Ohridski" / e-mail: radoslavspasov@uni-sofia.bg
* General presentation of the procedure and the dissertation

Denis Ivanov has submitted the necessary documents, which refer to the procedure for the defense of the dissertation work. He has attached: his development, which contains an expanded volume of 499 pages and has the following structure - an introduction, four chapters, a conclusion, a bibliography and a list of abbreviations. The scientific work meets the requirements of, as well as the regulations for the implementation of the Law of Development of the Bulgarian Staff and the regulations for the terms and conditions for acquiring scientific degrees, as well as for holding academic positions at SU "St. Kliment Ohridski". Denis Ivanov is a full-time PhD student at the History of Bulgaria Department - Faculty of History.

Ivan Drasov is one of the most notable personalities from the era of the Bulgarian Revival. With his enormous revolutionary and journalistic activity, he left a lasting mark on our history. In this regard, the dissertation work of Denis Ivanov should be considered as an important study, and the studies done up to this point can be supplemented with this remarkable study.

The PhD student has used a vast amount of archival material in writing his thesis, which gives the development a contributory character. He has dedicated a lot of time to search for and study a large number of historical sources that relate to the personality and work of Ivan Drasov, illuminating some of the aspects of the activities of our prominent revivalist that have remained aside from scientific pursuits.

In the introduction, PhD student has defined the goals, methodology and structure of his research. He has made the necessary overview of the historical sources and has examined the most important scientific studies on the subject.

The first chapter provides information about the life and socio-political activities of Ivan Drasov until the summer of 1872. His biography, his role in the committee case in Lovech 1871-1872 and the reasons why he left his hometown are traced.

The second chapter researches the first emigrant years of our historical person from September 1872 to June 1875. Here are studied in detail: his education in Pisek and Prague, his role in the national liberation movement from 1872 to 1875, revolutionary propaganda, participation in the struggle about an independent Bulgarian church, the enlightenment movement, Bulgarian-Czech relations and his private life.

The third chapter traces the activities of Ivan Drasov during the Eastern Crisis (1875-1878) and such important events of the era of the Bulgarian Revival as the formation of the BRC, the attempted uprising in the fall of 1875, the April Uprising and the Liberation in 1878 and analysis was also made of his journalistic activity.

The fourth chapter analyzes Drasov's role in the memory, which is related to the Bulgarian national liberation movement. This refers to the cooperation of the first chroniclers, the recognition by the public of the merits of the hunter as a participant in the revolutionary struggles and the places of memory that are connected with his activity.

In the conclusion, Denis Ivanov managed to make a critical analysis of the documents used in the work and present the biography, socio-political activity of Ivan Drasov until 1872, then the emigrant years until 1875 and the participation in the emigration activity during the Eastern Crisis.

It is necessary to point out the indisputable contributions to the study, such as new moments of the activity of the prominent historical person on the early years, education and activity. The doctoral student shows good professional training and knowledge of research, which gives him the opportunity to present Ivan Drasov in our revival society in an objective way, to show his role as a politician, revolutionary and journalist.

I recommend that in future printing of the work, PhD student should reduce the volume of part of the documents used in the text, in order to optimize it.

As a PhD student at the Faculty of History of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" Denis Ivanov has prepared eleven publications in various scientific publications, two of which are in print, as well as one popular scientific article.

It should be noted that the abstract accurately reflects the structure, content, main conclusions and contributions of the dissertation.

From what has been said up to this point, I can point out that I am inclined to cast my vote IN FAVOR the educational and scientific degree "PhD" to Denis Ivanov.

Date: Jury member:

10.04.2024 (Assoc. Prof. RadoslavStefanov Spasov, PhD)

Sofia