

НАУКОВА РЕЦЕНЗІЯ

Visn. Lviv. Univ., Ser. Zhurn. 2025: 56; 284–289 • DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.30970/vjo.2025.56.13280>

УДК 930.2:341.485(470+571)"08/20"

A CHRONICLE OF THE DESTRUCTION OF UKRAINIANS: FROM THE CHRONICLES OF THE PRINCELY ERA AND COSSACK TIMES TO CONTEMPORARY SOURCES

Ivan Krupskyy

*Ivan Franko National University of Lviv,
Generala Chupryny Str. 49, 79044, Lviv, Ukraine
e-mail: ikrupskyy@ukr.net
<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-3520-499X>*

The review reveals the content of the documents analyzed in chronological order, first of all, the anti-Ukrainian nature of Russia towards Ukraine from ancient times up to 2024, when the Russian Empire continues a full-scale war against our country, focusing on such forms of Russian aggression as genocide, ethnocide and linguocide, which are the basis of the modern policy of the “Russian world”.

Keywords: anti-Ukrainian policy of Russia, ethnocide, genocide, linguicide.

The basis of any journalistic work is a fact. Of course, in order to accurately reflect reality, it must be reliable, i.e., serve as a kind of document. It is on the basis of such facts that not only journalistic and public journalism texts but also works of fiction, such as V. Rizun’s “The Icebreaker” or V. Shkliar’s “The Black Raven,” are built.

However, carefully collected and well-systematized facts can independently serve as both fiction and passionate journalism. This is evidenced by the 2nd supplemented and corrected edition of the book “Genocide, Ethnocide, Linguocide of the Ukrainian Nation: A Chronicle of the Unbreakable Spirit” by Vasyl V. Lyzanchuk, a well-known Ukrainian scholar, Doctor of Philology, Professor of the Faculty of Journalism at Ivan Franko National University of Lviv, Academician of the National Academy of Higher Education Sciences of Ukraine.

Finally, the author of the book in the new edition has significantly expanded the scope of the study from the second half of the 9th century to the present day, up to 2024. The author’s substantial additions to the source list and literature review have significantly transformed the work, making it a new study rather than a revised edition.

A work of fiction, especially poetry, mostly affects the reader’s emotions; journalism, despite its emotionality, is more “rational,” as if it appeals not so much to the heart as to

the mind. Facts, which are indispensable for the “constructor” of any work of fiction or journalism, are capable of performing both the function of fiction and passionate journalism. This is evidenced by the 2nd supplementary and corrected edition of the book “Genocide, Ethnocide, Linguocide of the Ukrainian Nation: A Chronicle of the Unbroken Spirit” by the famous Ukrainian scholar, Doctor of Philology, Professor, Academician of the National Academy of Sciences of Higher Education of Ukraine V. Lyzanchuk.

For a long time, V. Lyzanchuk has been studying the historical background of the Ukrainian language and culture, and has established why our language is still a stepchild in some places on our native land, why our own foolish children shun it, and why anti-Ukrainian forces have recently intensified their activities, using the media to exert psychological pressure on the minds of Ukrainians. It is important to deeply comprehend the consequences of not only Russification, but also Germanization, Polonization, Magyarization, Romanization, and even Czechization.

To write and systematize the material presented in the book, the researcher worked through the collections of the largest libraries in Ukraine and Russia, and found many interesting documents in previously “closed” archival repositories.

This allowed him to create a book in which every fact and every figure has a specific scientific basis and is capable of convincing those who only want to hear, of opening the world to those who are not afraid of the light, who are ready to take off their black glasses in front of the truth and apologize to their native language, culture, and spirituality for having been involved in their humiliation and ignoring them, whether consciously or not.

This is not the first time that V. Lyzanchuk has come to Ukrainian readers with a new chronicle book, as he is known for his many monographs, documentary and journalistic articles, brochures, manuals, and textbooks on the theory and practice of journalism. In particular, readers have previously had the opportunity to read his works “O Native Word, What Am I Without You?”, “Shackles Forever Forged: Facts, Documents, and Comments on Russification in Ukraine”, “Out from Under the Yoke of Idols”, “Do Not Be Deceitful with Your Words”, “Shackles Are Still Being Forged”, “Let’s Create Ukraine Together”, and “Yes! I am a Ukrainian!”.

For his hard work in the field of Ukrainian state-building, the Presidium of the Main Board of Former Ukrainian Servicemen in Great Britain awarded V. Lyzanchuk the Golden Cross of Merit, First Class. The Presidium of the Academy of Sciences of Higher Education of Ukraine awarded Academician V. Lyzanchuk the Yaroslav the Wise Award for significant achievements in science and journalism. By the decision of the Ivan Ohienko Prize Committee, V. Lyzanchuk was awarded the All-Ukrainian Ohienko Prize in Science. The Volianyk-Shvabinsky Foundation of the Ukrainian Free University in New York awarded V. Lyzanchuk a diploma and a prize for his books “Always Remember: You are a Ukrainian!” and “hereby expresses gratitude for his valuable contribution to the treasury of Ukrainian culture”. For his hundreds of publications in the press, radio and television appearances, the President of Ukraine awarded V. Lyzanchuk the honorary title of “Honored Journalist of Ukraine”.

Professor V. Lyzanchuk is a laureate of the Vyacheslav Chornovil Prize in Journalism and Publicistics, and was awarded the Order of Merit of the III and II degrees.

In his writings, Vasyl Lyzanchuk exposes the Russian rulers who have unleashed and are waging a full-scale genocidal, terrorist, and ecocidal war against Ukraine, and reveals the insidious, malicious internal forces that are trying to stop the development and

establishment of Ukrainian Ukraine. To this end, a variety of tried and true methods are still being used, including the most insidious one – falsification of the history of the Ukrainian people, in particular the history of relations between Ukraine and Russia, which reveals an outright brutal policy that has been aimed at poisoning the Ukrainian mentality, assimilating Ukrainians, destroying Ukraine as a state and Ukrainians as an ethnic group for centuries.

Uniting by fire and sword under their heavy ferrule hosts of different peoples, the Tsarist-Russian and then the Moscow-Bolshevik empires for centuries developed distorted, fundamentally extra-national forms of their “patriotism”. Its sovereign was not the Russian people at all, but a cosmopolitan imperial administration that thought like Catherine the Great in German, spoke like Alexander I in French, and acted like all the Romanovs, from Mikhail to the last Nicholas, in Tatar. The paradox of Russian history is that its intelligentsia only sporadically guessed at its doom in the Moscow-Communist structure called “Russia” or “the USSR”, where even the Russian in terrible paroxysms of various kinds of imperial aggressiveness was mutilated no worse than the “foreign” or Ukrainian. At the same time, an equally black goal was achieved – the formation of a great-power, imperial psychology in Russians, which even today prevents many from coming to terms with the fact that the communist prison of the peoples, the USSR, has collapsed.

Having conquered Ukraine, Muscovites isolated and cut Ukraine off from the outside world for centuries. Ukraine was losing its intelligence and talent, turning into an anonym, and it cost it a lot of effort to avoid complete dissolution in the general imperial spiritual cauldron.

...Facts, facts, just facts. Sometimes apt explanations, the most concise comments. The book presents them in chronological order, in a clear sequence. Although these facts, figures, and excerpts from various official business, government, and party documents, primarily from acts of the Russian Empire and the USSR, are collected and interpreted accordingly, they all have different origins, but they have all passed the author’s “examination” for authenticity; are selected in such a way that they seem to deepen each other, contribute to the comprehensive disclosure of the topic, and together they form a vivid canvas of the hardships, bans, persecutions, and various oppressions that have befallen the Ukrainian people, their language, culture, spirituality, customs, and traditions over the past several centuries.

I am convinced that you, dear reader of this book, are not only surprised, but above all indignant and psychologically resisting the fact that for centuries the so-called “big brothers” with a kind of satanic savagery and stubbornness wanted to deprive us of our own roots, but the age-old enemies failed to destroy Ukrainianness! Would another nation have been able to survive this, would such prohibitions not have been fatal for it? Despite this, Ukrainians preserved their language, their culture, and their national identity.

Resistance fills the heart because even today there are many blinded, deceived, unable to understand the truth, ready to bow to anyone if only to gain some material benefit, most often the Russian ruble or the American dollar, and at the same time pretend that even today in Ukraine the Ukrainian language is so deeply rooted that it is necessary for it to give up, at least a little, for the sake of parity, its position in favor of the Russian language. Of course! Oh, poor Russian, even though Moscow is standing up for it. And who will help us, our language, if we ourselves in our own country cannot provide opportunities for the comprehensive development of our native word, culture, spirituality, and national economy?

...Years, decades, and centuries passed, old empires collapsed and new ones emerged, but Ukrainians had no relief. The shameful policy of Russification, Polonization,

Magyarization, Romanization, Germanization, and Czechization was aimed at poisoning Ukrainian national consciousness, crippling spirituality and mentality, and imposing on Ukrainians a complex of inferiority, inferiority, and a sense of inability to build their own nation-state.

The enslavers, colonizers, and assimilators committed a terrible sin because they deliberately destroyed the lifeblood of the Ukrainian nation: language, culture, and spirituality, creating fatherless children, janissaries who cynically and furiously crucified and plundered Ukraine together with foreigners. However, the most brutal and dangerous mark on the psyche, morals, deeds, and actions of millions of Ukrainians was left by the Moscow-Tsarist oprichnyky and Moscow-Communist internationalist inquisitors. Moscow's racism against Ukraine is the oldest, largest, and most insidious.

As V. Lypynsky wrote, the Ukrainian language is the last sign of Ukrainianness. However, centuries of direct bans and persecution have led to the fact that "for a long time, among many Ukrainians, Ukrainian has not performed the functions of a native language, in which they think, communicate in all spheres of life, dream, rejoice and grieve," emphasized Doctor of Philology, Professor Oleksandr Ponomariv.

Our enemies are still striving to destroy the Ukrainian language at all costs, without which there will be no Ukrainian nation. And then the aspirations of all Ukrainian eaters will be realized: Ukraine will finally become Malorossia, a province of the Russian Empire. As a result of the indifference or even hostility of many representatives of all three branches of government to the national face of the Ukrainian state, the Russian language still dominates in various spheres of public life. In order to fundamentally improve the situation, it is necessary to raise the level of linguistic and national education of the people, whose highest meaning of thoughts and actions would be love for the Motherland, selfless work for its development, and the establishment of the Ukrainian language as the main state-building force.

I am confident that this book, a chronicle of the destruction and, at the same time, the indomitable Ukrainian spirit, will help the Russified Ukrainians to understand and comprehend the truth about the reasons for what happened to them: they are victims of deliberate violence and forced Russification from above. The Ukrainian language is as tormented and long-suffering as our people. Russification, like Polonization, Magyarization, and Romanization, was deliberate, constant, massive, and methodical in both Tsarist Russia and the USSR.

Ukraine has endured incredible suffering. But Ukrainians have the right to be among the European nations because they are no worse than anyone else. The people who survived the Holodomor and preserved the memory of it, and who eventually preserved themselves, deserve, first, respect, and, second, to be among the European nations that should know about them.

This work by Vasyl Lyzanchuk, as you have seen, dear reader, presents facts and documents of genocide, ethnocide, and linguistic genocide that the Ukrainian people experienced, but this view of Ukraine's history does not create a depressive mood or social pessimism. On the contrary, it demonstrates the strength and immortality of the national spirit, the deep rootedness of Ukrainians in freedom-loving, charitable, and confident people who, despite the former and current villains, will build and establish a united, national Ukrainian Ukraine.

This book will help readers (to quote V. Lyzanchuk) to get to know their national self more deeply, to feel that love for Ukraine is an act of the highest active spiritual and national self-determination, to understand that a denationalized person loses access to the deepest national well of the spirit and the sacred fires of life, and is doomed to disappear.

V. Lyzanchuk's book reflects an objective, consistent chronicle of the destruction of Ukrainians, primarily by its closest neighbors-Russia, Poland, Hungary, and Romania. It is important to emphasize that the materials presented in it do not call for revenge, does not sow enmity between nations, but rather advise us to unite as closely as possible around the core that defines and shapes us as a people, as a nation-the Ukrainian language, culture, and spirituality. This work encourages us to reflect on Ivan Franko's words that there can be no close cooperation between neighbors if we are sitting in a swamp and our neighbor has taken a position on a strong bank.

For Ukraine to have a strong amulet and shoreline at the same time, it must establish the spiritualizing Ukrainian Word in every cell of the state and social organism, and build an effective economic and political system.

Ukrainians are an ancient nation. If our grandfathers and great-grandfathers, despite all sorts of troubles and tragedies, managed to convey to us our native language, culture, and spirituality, then it would be a sin for us not to develop them. We are called to do everything we can to ensure that our native Word sounds loudly in our land and takes its rightful place among the languages of the world!

In this work, as in his previous studies, Vasyl Lysanchuk emphasizes that, defending the natural, humanistic right to be born Ukrainians in an independent state, to be full masters of their land, to develop and establish the Ukrainian language, spirituality and economy, national education, culture and production in organic unity, to enjoy native songs and poetic words, and to observe folk customs and traditions. Ukrainians are sincerely grateful to all nations that help in the struggle for freedom and independence from the age-old Moscow invaders and destroyers, and support our noble, purposeful state-building work. We pray to God that the great historical justice will prevail and the Ukrainian language will sound loudly, so that a free, united, rich Ukraine will take its rightful place among the peoples of world civilization.

Let's work for this! Let's remember that the world respects a caring, hardworking, strong owner of his land, capable of protecting it, a true, sincere bearer of national and universal values.

This "Chronicle of the Unbreakable Spirit" also aims to give birth to pure thoughts and high life-giving impulses in every reader, so that every person in Ukraine and abroad may realize and felt in their hearts the Almighty's sanctified natural right of any people (numerous or not) to their free (large or small) state, native language, culture, spirituality, so that the aspirations, deeds, and activities. of every person, regardless of race and nationality, would establish mutual understanding, mutual respect, friendship, and national dignity.

REFERENCES

1. Lyzanchuk, V. V. (2024), *The Chronicle of Genocide, Ethnocide, and Linguocide in Ukraine*. Edition 2, supplemented and corrected. Ivan Franko National University of Lviv, Lviv, 374 p.

СПИСОК ЛІТЕРАТУРИ

1. Лизанчук В. В. (2024), *Геноцид, етноцид, лінгвоцид української нації: хроніка незламності духу*. Вид. 2-е, доповн. і виправл. Вид-во ЛНУ ім. Івана Франка, Львів, 374 с.

ХРОНІКА НИЩЕННЯ УКРАЇНСТВА: ВІД ЛІТОПИСНИХ ФАКТІВ КНЯЖОЇ ДОБИ І КОЗАЦЬКИХ ЧАСІВ ДО СУЧАСНИХ ДЖЕРЕЛ

Іван Крупський

Львівський національний університет імені Івана Франка

вул. Генерала Чупринки, 49, 79044, Львів, Україна

e-mail: ikrupskyy@ukr.net

<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-3520-499X>

У рецензії розкрито зміст документів, які у хронологічній послідовності аналізують передовсім антиукраїнську сутність росії щодо України від найдавніших часів до 2024 р., коли російська імперія продовжує повномасштабну війну проти нашої держави, акцентовано увагу на таких формах російської агресії, як геноцид, етноцид та лінгвоцид, що є основою сучасної політики «руського міра».

Документи, наведені в книзі, засвідчують: уже в 838 році повноцінно існувала високорозвинена, як для того часу, рання українська держава Русь, що була однією з найстаріших суспільно-політичних утворень у Європі, жителі якої послуговувалися українською мовою, тоді як угро-фінські і татаро-монгольські племена про російську мову навіть не чули.

Намагаючись бути об'єктивним дослідником, В. Лизанчук наводить факти, які не лише сприяли розвитку молодій українській державі, але й гальмували її розвиток. Це, зокрема, розкол християнства на Західну й Східну церкви 15 липня 1054 року, який призвів до того, що Україна опинилася між молотом і ковадлом, між Польщею і Росією, тобто між цивілізованим європейським світом і антинародним деспотичним режимом.

У книзі чітко простежується, як з угро-фінів (москвинів) і татарів внаслідок злиття цих етносів створився московський (російський) народ, в характері якого домінували азійські риси характеру, що з історичним поступом чимраз більше викристалізовувалися і донині залишаються домінантними у російській державі.

Читача книги зацікавить, чому нині в російській ментальності маємо історичний парадокс: московити, які перебували сотні років у монголо-татарському ярмі, запозичивши золотоординський стиль «державності», сьогодні настирливо відхрещуються від своїх древніх угро-фінських і татаро-монгольських коренів, чіпляючись за слов'янські.

Цінність книги у тому, що документи, наведені в книзі, здебільшого не знайомі масовому читачеві в Україні, бо їх замовчували усі режими росії – від царського і до радянського.

Ключові слова: антиукраїнська політика росії, етноцид, геноцид, лінгвоцид.