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# FEATURES OF SOURCE STUDIES ON THE HISTORY OF KAZAKHSTAN IN THE SECOND HALF OF THE 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY

This article examines the trends in the development of source studies on the history of Kazakhstan in the context of the historiography of source studies. This formulation of the question allows us to determine the specifics and relevance of classical knowledge in the second half of the twentieth century. Along with an extensive corpus of works of historians in this period, a worthy place is occupied by source studies on the history of Kazakhstan, which are built on the basis of methodological synthesis and determine the depth of source studies. The growth of interest in source studies is a natural phenomenon in the development of historical science. This was facilitated by the internal prerequisites for the development of the infrastructure of source studies and the decisive impetus was the formation of conceptual approaches in various aspects of the nature of the historical source and its criticism. The research procedures of scientists are based on the methods of analyzing historical sources and consistently contribute to the explanation of historical reality in fundamental research. Understanding the historian's research practice and his logical analysis makes it possible to find out the criteria for posing a scientific problem, explanatory models, and author's heuristics in general, and also to determine a unified concept of working with historical sources.

**Key words:** historiography of source studies, methods of analysis, classical knowledge, historical traditions, national identity.

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## XX ғасырдың екінші жартысындағы Қазақстан тарихы бойынша дереккөздердің ерекшеліктері

Мақалада Қазақстан тарихы бойынша деректану ғылымының даму тенденциялары деректану тарихнамасы контекстінде қарастырылған. Бұл зерттеу ХХ ғасырдың екінші жартысындағы классикалық білімнің ерекшелігі мен өзектілігін анықтауға мүмкіндік береді. Бұл кезеңдегі тарихшылар еңбектерінің мол корпусымен қатар әдістемелік синтез негізінде құрылған және деректану тереңдігін айқындайтын Қазақстан тарихы бойынша деректану ғылымдары лайықты орын алады. Деректану ғылымынан деген қызығушылықтың артуы тарих ғылымының дамуындағы заңды құбылыс. Бұған деректану инфрақұрылымын дамытудың ішкі алғышарттары ықпал етті және тарихи дереккөздің табиғаты мен оның сынының әртүрлі аспектілерінде тұжырымдамалық көзқарастардың қалыптасуы шешуші серпін болды. Ғалымдардың зерттеу процедуралары тарихи дереккөздерді талдау әдістеріне негізделіп, іргелі зерттеулерде тарихи шындықты түсіндіруге жүйелі түрде ықпал етеді. Тарихшының зерттеу тәжірибесін және оның логикалық талдауын түсіну ғылыми проблеманы қоюдың критерийлерін, түсіндірме модельдерін және жалпы авторлық эвристиканы анықтауға, сонымен қатар тарихи дереккөздермен жұмыс істеудің біртұтас тұжырымдамасын анықтауға мүмкіндік береді.

**Түйін сөздер:** деректану тарихнамасы, талдау әдістері, классикалық таным, тарихи дәстүр, ұлттық болмыс.

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#### Особенности источниковедческих изысканий по истории Казахстана во второй половине XX века

В данной статье рассматриваются тенденции развития источниковедения по истории Казахстана в контексте историографии источниковедения. Такая постановка вопроса позволяет определить специфику и актуальность классического знания во второй половине XX века. Наряду с обширным корпусом работ историков этого периода достойное место занимают источниковедческие исследования по истории Казахстана, которые строятся на основе методологического синтеза и определяют глубину источниковедения. Рост интереса к источниковедению – закономерное явление в развитии исторической науки. Этому способствовали внутренние предпосылки развития инфраструктуры источниковедения и решающим толчком стало формирование концептуальных подходов в различных аспектах природы исторического источника и его критики. Исследовательские процедуры ученых основаны на методах анализа исторических источников и способствуют последовательному объяснению исторической действительности в фундаментальных исследованиях. Понимание исследовательской практики историка и его логического анализа позволяет выяснить критерии постановки научной проблемы, объяснительные модели и авторскую эвристику в целом, а также определить единую концепцию работы с историческими источниками.

**Ключевые слова:** источниковедческая историография, методы анализа, классическое знание, исторические традиции, национальная идентичность.

#### Introduction

The logical-cognitive analysis of the procedures for the formation of historical knowledge within the framework of classical knowledge contributes to the development of theoretical reflection on the research practices of historians in various historiographic periods. In this regard, the statement of L.P. Repina is important: "A regularity is manifested in the history of science: periods characterized mainly by the accumulation (within a certain paradigm) of factual material are inevitably replaced by periods when the task of its scientific comprehension and generalization comes to the fore. The significance of such predominantly reflective moments in the development of each science is truly difficult to overestimate. This is the time of active self-knowledge, redefinition of the subject, change of goals and methods, categoricalconceptual apparatus. It is quite understandable that it is precisely when science becomes able to look at itself from the outside, re-checking, honing and generalizing its cognitive means takes place, the prerequisites are created for the transition to a qualitatively new stage in the development of the reality it studies" (Repina, 2004: 19). Attention is drawn to the formation of various historical traditions of social and national identity, the importance of the critical function of scientific

historiography, as well as the problems of historical consciousness, defined as a structure-forming part of social consciousness and the most important category of its analysis (Repina, 2011:19).

The study identifies explanatory trends in the development of the historiography of source studies in the classical period of development of Kazakhstani historical science based on the analysis of scientific discourse and unpublished documents.

#### Materials and methods

This study is based on the theoretical research of S.O Schmidt in the book "The Way of the Historian. Selected Works on Source Studies and Historiography", L.P. Repina's "Historiographic Revolution and Theoretical Searches at the Turn of the Century". The importance of these works lies in the fact that they will allow for a successful scientific substantiation in the study of the problems of historiography of the source study of the history of Kazakhstan, namely in determining the methodology for organizing effective scientific thinking, mechanisms for critical evaluation of the source base. Documents from the Archives of the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Kazakhstan are used to determine trends in the formation of the infrastructure of source studies and research topics.

#### **Results and Discussion**

Source study problems during this period were studied in the context of the methodology of history. In the classical period, researchers most concentratedly define the study of source problems. Many problems of theoretical source studies were solved: the problem of the informational nature of the source, the stages (stages) of research work on written sources, the relationship between the source and social reality, the dialectic of subjective and objective in the process of social cognition, etc.

In 1965, S. O. Schmidt defined the scientific formulation of the problem of source studies of historiography and for the first time under his editorship (1969) a collection of articles entitled "Source Studies. Theoretical and methodological problems", which is of great theoretical and practical importance.

S. O. Schmidt in 1976 formulated the concept of "source study of historiography", which was based on a scientific approach based on the concept of a historiographic source and forming information about the historiographic process. The author notes: "the complexity of the problem of "relationships" between historiography and source studies. They cannot be identified, but neither can they be separated from each other" (Schmidt, 1997: 119).

Consideration of the source study of historiography is associated with the development of historians' knowledge in the field of source study and methods of criticizing historical sources. Based on this, S.O. Schmidt notes two areas of scientific research: the historiography of source studies and the source study of historiography. It is important to study historical schools-historiographic, source studies. It is necessary to learn in the complex of historiographic phenomena and processes the source base of each study, its structure and levels.

In addition, S.O. Schmidt promoted ideological neutrality in the methodology of historical research. The methodological guidelines of S.O Schmidt are as follows:

"The closest interaction, more precisely, even mutual influence and interpenetration of source study proper and historical research proper is beyond doubt... A historian, as a rule, turns to sources of different types and varieties and synthesizes impressions in his mind" (Schmidt, 1997: 35, 53);

"A historical source may be of interest to a historian not only and not even so much as an "intermediary" that preserves data about a historical fact, but primarily as a historical fact proper, as a specific carrier of certain information" (Schmidt, 1997: 34);

"In general, the time has come to create generalizing serious works on the historiography of source studies. At the same time, it would be desirable to trace to what extent certain scientists were the forerunners of modern source studies, whether they (sometimes spontaneously) used those research methods that are now being established in science, and what impact the works of these scientists had (often indirectly) on the development of modern source study methods" (Schmidt, 1997: 55).

The object of source study of historiography is a system of types of historiographic sources. Among them, an important role is played by scientific works that perform the function of positioning and presentation of scientific, socially oriented historical knowledge. Proceeding from this, the subject of the historiography of source studies is the appearance and vital activity in scientific knowledge and social practice of a historiographic source.

The paradigm of the historiography of source studies is based on the comprehension of the historian's work, which demonstrates the process of cognition (L.N. Pushkarev (1980), A.I. Zevelev (1987), O.L. Weinstein, etc.), corresponds to the approach in source study, focused on the definition of "a historical source is everything from which historical information can be obtained", which corresponds to the paradigms of classical science, historical synthesis.

Historical epistemology is the diversity and change of epistemological values in science. System of Historical Knowledge: Martin Carrier emphasizes that "depends on epistemological decisions made at certain historical moments. The epistemological authority of science is largely created by the rules of the scientific community" (Martin Carrier, 2012: 55). An interesting statement by Eileen Ka-May Cheng that "historians are themselves products of the historical process" (Eileen Ka-May Cheng, 2013: 76).

Chekantseva Z.A. defines: "modern history/ historiography turns to the past not in search of identity, originality, and continuity, but, on the contrary, sign, difference, plurality. When historians study modernity (past or present), they seek to identify not only sequences, but breaks and continuity passing through the world today (Chekantseva Z.A., 2018: 14).

We observe this conceptual and methodological equipment and in understanding in the historiography of source studies in Kazakhstani historical science in the second half of the twentieth century, work was completed on the formation of the main links of historical research academic science.

During the period under study, historical science and education received research support in the form of an extensive network of archives and libraries, museums and historical monuments protected by the state, and scientific coordination centers. According to the documents of the Archive of the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic, the Department of the History of Pre-Revolutionary Kazakhstan is divided into two departments - the Department of Ancient and Medieval History of Kazakhstan and the Department of the History of Pre-Soviet Kazakhstan (ANAN RK, F. 2, Op. 1, D. 1361 L. 164). In addition, the Department of Oriental Studies was established on March 16, 1979, as part of the Institute of Uighur Studies. The head of the Department was appointed, Doctor of Historical Sciences – R.B., Suleimenov Corresponding Member of the Academy of Sciences of the KazSSR. The Department of Oriental Studies establishes contacts with the oriental centers of the country" (ANAN RK, F. 11, Op.1, D. 1396, L. 14).

Head of the department R.B. Suleimenov took part in the work of meetings of academic oriental centers held by the Institute of the Far East of the USSR Academy of Sciences. He was also a member of the organizing committee of the republican scientific-theoretical conference: "Problems studying and protecting cultural monuments of Kazakhstan." Currently, R.B. Suleimenov is included in the organizing committee of the All-Union Sinological Conference" (ANAN RK. F. 11, Op. 1, D. 1480. L. 15). R.B. Suleimenov in April 1982 took part in the work of the Scientific Council on the history of world culture, where he made a presentation on the historiography of cultural construction in Kazakhstan. He also participated in the work of the V All-Union Conference SADNA (Soviet Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries) (ANAN RK. F. 11, Op.1, D. 1629, L.23).

In the field of historiography, the leadership style and scientific creativity of R.B. Suleimenov showed a high level of a scientist who has to determine important trends in the development of oriental studies. R.B. Suleimenov paid attention to the selection of professional scientific personnel. So an interesting document was found for 1981, a letter, "in which R.B. Suleimenov asks G.S. Sadvakasov to give official permission to V.P. Yudin became a scientific consultant, on a voluntary basis, for a group of historians-Turkologists, Arabists, Iranianists "(ANAN RK. F. 11, Op. 1, D.

1563, L. 26). V.P. Yudin at that time was a junior researcher at the department of Uighur studies at the Institute of Linguistics of the Academy of Sciences of the Kazakh SSR. G.S. Sadvakasov, Head of the Department of Uighur Studies at the Institute of Linguistics.

70-80s of the XX century, the source base of the history of Kazakhstan is significantly expanding. In 1981, employees of the department took part in an archeographic expedition organized by the Kazakhstan Society for the Protection of Historical and Cultural Monuments to identify and copy oriental manuscripts. Unscheduled work: 1. The department is completing the preparation of a collection of articles "Kazakhstan, Central and Central Asia in the 16th-beginning of the 19th centuries." (ANAN RK. F.11, Op.1, D.1563, L.2]. The identification, collection, and processing of documents from Russian archives continued: AVPR (Archive of Russian Foreign Policy), TsGADA (Central State Archive of Ancient Acts), TsGA KazSSR, Omsk regional archive. Senior researchers translated materials from Chinese sources: "The History of the Pacification of Dzungaria", "Chronicle of the Great Qing Dynasty", "Records of Historians from the Donghua Pavilion". A search was made for sources in the Mongolian and Uighur languages. Microfilming and copying of the material was carried out. The work was carried out in contact with the China Department of the Institute of Oriental Studies of the USSR Academy of Sciences. A group of Iranianists, Turkologists and Arabists was formed in the department, headed by M.Kh. Abuseitova (consultant V.P. Yudin), which began to identify and collect oriental manuscripts, translate Arabic-Persian and Turkic sources on the history of Kazakhstan and its relations with neighboring peoples and states (ANAN RK. F.11, Op.1, D. 1564, L. 11).

December 1982 – January 1983 a group of employees of the department, on the instructions of the Society for the Protection of Cultural Monuments (OOPC) of the Kazakh SSR, went on an archaeographic expedition to Moscow, where they worked in libraries and archives. Photocopies of rare pre-revolutionary publications in Russian and Chinese were delivered to the Department. (ANAN RK, F. 11, Op. 1, D. 1 714, L. 11).

According to the plan of scientific research of the OOPC of the Kazakh SSR for 1983, the team of the archaeographic expedition, consisting of employees of the IIAE, in June-July 1983 went to Kazan, Tyumen and Tobolsk. Bibliographic catalogs of archives and libraries in Tatar, Arabic, Persian and Chinese were reviewed. In the archives and libraries of Kazan, about 50 funds were viewed. 1600 pages were microfilmed and delivered to the OOPC library. Material about Ablai and Ch. Valikhanov, old maps of Kazakhstan (ANAN RK, F. 11, Op. 1, D. 1714, L. 39) were ordered from the Tobolsk archive.

In the system of the Academy of Sciences of the Kazakh SSR, a new independent subdivision, the Institute of Uighur Studies, appeared. In 1987-88. agreements on scientific cooperation were concluded with the Tashkent State University of the Uzbek SSR, which trains specialists with knowledge of Oriental languages, the Institute of the Far East of the USSR Academy of Sciences, the Institute of Oriental Studies of the USSR Academy of Sciences, the Institute of Oriental Studies, and Manuscripts of the Academy of Sciences of the Uzbek SSR. Employees of these institutions took an active part in the development of the planned topics of the Institute of Uighur Studies. For example, scientists from Moscow and Leningrad such as Yu.A. Litvinsky (full member of the Academy of Sciences of the Tajik SSR), G.A. Shernova, L.A. Borovkova, S.G. Klyashtorny, M.A. Reshetov, A.A. Sviridov. By the Decree of the Bureau of the Presidium of the Academy of Sciences of the Kazakh SSR dated February 22, 1989, No. 23, postgraduate studies in the specialty "Turkic languages" were opened at the Institute. In 1991, 20 employees of the Institute went on foreign scientific missions, in turn, 5 scientists from the USA, China, and Turkey underwent training at the Institute (ANAN RK. F. 116, Op 1-6, L. 6). In 1993-1995, the research work of the Institute was carried out under the program "Problems of Uighur studies in the light of the concept of common Turkic unity."

The next step is the creation of the Center for Oriental Studies, which was formed in order to intensify and expand fundamental, theoretical and applied research on the history, economy, culture, and the current situation in the countries of the foreign East. Decree of the Presidium of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Kazakhstan dated February 13, 1992, No. 16 in the structure of the Institute of Uighur Studies on the basis of the existing Oriental departments and groups of institutes of the Department of Social Sciences (Institute of History and Ethnology, Institute of Uighur Studies, Institute of Linguistics, Institute of Literature and Art, Institute of Philosophy). R.B. Suleimenov academician of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Kazakhstan, became

the first director of the Center for Oriental Studies, in accordance with the order of the Presidium of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Kazakhstan No. 71 dated February 24, 1992, on the transfer of R.B. Suleimenov head of this center, he was appointed deputy director of the Institute of Uighur Studies from February 15, 1992 (ANAN RK. F. 116, Op. 1-6, D. 156, L. 28). According to the decision of the Directorate of the Center for Oriental Studies of the Institute of Uighur Studies - M.Kh. Abuseitova - Head of the Department, Deputy Chairman of the Section of the Academic Council, became the Deputy Head of the Center. (ANAN RK. F. 116, Op. 1-6, D. 157, L. 18, V. 2). In accordance with these areas, the Center for Oriental Studies solved the following tasks: a comprehensive study of the countries and peoples of the foreign East (China, Mongolia, Korea, Afghanistan, Iran, India, Turkey, the countries of the Middle East); study of the role and place of Kazakhstan in the regional system of international relations; studying the penetration and spread of regional and religious systems in Kazakhstan; research and development of the problems of modern Islam in the countries of the foreign East; study of oriental languages; coordination of oriental studies with other scientific centers of the Commonwealth of Independent States; assistance in strengthening and developing scientific ties and joint research with foreign oriental centers; training of highly qualified scientific personnel of orientalists (ANAN RK. F. 116).

In 1992, the Center for Oriental Studies established (became a co-founder) of the following publications: the newspaper "Gazhayyp Yndistan" ("Magnificent India"), the journal of the Center for Oriental Studies "News of Korean Studies in Kazakhstan and Central Asia" (published in Finland, Helsinki, the magazine "Questions Eastern Philosophy" (The Center as a member of the editorial board). The Center co-founded a number of international journals, for example, "Turk Dunyasi" (Ankara, Turkey), "Turkology" (Baku), "Yesevi" (Istanbul, Turkey) and others.

On the basis of the Center for Oriental Studies, on October 23-26, 1992, the first international conference on Korean studies and comparative studies was held: "The Universalization of Korean Studies." In 1993, together with the Istanbul University of the Republic of Turkey, a seminar on oriental studies was organized. Scientists of the Center have established promising scientific relations with leading foreign scientific centers in the USA, Mongolia, Turkey, Great Britain, Japan, Korea, China, Ireland, Denmark, Germany, as well

as Moscow, St. Petersburg, Tashkent, Dushanbe, Kazan (ANAN RK. F. 116, Op.1-6, D. 174, L. 2).

Employees of the Center M.Kh. Abuseitova, Zh.Kh. Dzhunusova, N.S. Pak, D.N. Nurtazinova, A.A. Galiev, K.L. Syroezhkin has received a total of more than 15 international grants from the USA, England, Germany, Poland, South Korea, as well as the Ministry of Science and New Technologies of the Republic of Kazakhstan. Since 1995, the Center for Oriental Studies of the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Kazakhstan has been a collective member of the International Association of Mongolian Studies (Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia).

By the Decree of the Presidium of the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Kazakhstan dated December 28, 1995, No. 93 Institute of Uighur Studies named after. G.S. Sadvakasov and the Center for Oriental Studies. R.B. Suleimenov of this institute were transformed into the Institute of Oriental Studies of the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Kazakhstan. The Institute of Uighur Studies entered the structure of the new research institution as a Center (ANAN RK. F. 116, Op. 1-6 L. 9). The issue of the Institute of Oriental Studies has a long history. In the 1960s, it was not opened (although everything was ready - a draft government order, staffing, premises and building) for political reasons, in subsequent years - for ideological reasons (ANAN RK. F.116, Op. 1-6, D. 34).

considered methodological Having the component of classical knowledge and the formation of the infrastructure of Kazakhstani source studies. it is important to assess the trends in Kazakhstani source studies. In the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. scientific schools were formed in Kazakhstani source studies, the relevance of the problems of scientific research, the degree of autonomy of the scientific community also changed. Their scientific work makes it possible to understand their scientific value, but also acts as a source for understanding the main trends in the development of the historiography of source studies.

During this period, a number of scientific schools of B.E., Kumekov, K.A. Pishchulina, Yu.A., Yudin, V.P. Zueva, A.Sh. Kadyrbaeva, M.Kh. Abuseitova, K.Sh. Khafizova, S.G. Klyashtopny, T.I. Sultanova, S.M. Akhinzhanova, A.Zh. Esmagambetova, K.M. Atabaeva, A.K. Kuryshzhanov, F.Kh. Arslanova, A.N. Garkavets, S.D. Kudasov, K. Saki, B. Batyrshauly, K.S. Anarbaev, N.E. Kuzembaev and others should be mentioned. Scientific interests were then mostly associated with the work of medieval historians. In their scientific professional research,

there is a high interest in the source and their critical analysis, the ability to correctly and firmly defend their views.

Scientific research of these scientists is a conceptual type of research in which scientific synthesis is carried out, and they relied on the accumulated theoretical and methodological experience of specific historical knowledge. In addition, a university tradition of academic research in the field of source studies is being formed. So in 1998 K.M. Atabaev opens the Department of Source Studies and Historiography at the Faculty of History at Al-Farabi KazNU. This department was the only one in the Republic of Kazakhstan, where the training of scientific personnel in source studies was carried out. K.M. Atabaev was the first in the Kazakh language to teach students, undergraduates, and young scientists the basics of criticism of historical sources, and also actively positioned the importance of source studies and its methodology in the study of the history of Kazakhstan on the pages of periodicals and conferences (Atabaev, 2002: 57).

An example of the most fruitful and promising type of research are the works of Kazakh scientists in this period. For their intellectual development, R.B. Suleimenov and connection with oriental institutions. The training of scientific personnel in these scientific institutions had a great tradition, and scientific interests were directed to the study of manuscripts.

Most scientists of this period can be considered classical historians, who, knowing languages perfectly, carried out source heuristics, selected and translated sources, criticized sources, and then, on their basis, investigated historical reality. The subject of scientific research is also focused on source studies: "The state of the Kimaks of the 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> centuries according to Arabic sources", Arabic sources on the history of the Kipchaks, Kumans and Kimaks of the 8<sup>th</sup> – early 13<sup>th</sup> centuries," etc.

There are many advantages in the research of scientists: a logical and complete structure, and the obligatory chapter "Sources", where a comprehensive source study analysis is given, and historical reality is determined. The systematic approach of the research procedures of Kazakh scientists aims to establish the informational, reliable potential of a historical source and, on their basis, determine the directions of scientific research.

It can be argued that a new background of special source study problems is being formed, a group of like-minded scientists – the scientific community in Kazakhstan's historical science, which demonstrate

the comprehensive nature of the historical search. Trends in the development of intellectual history, provides an introduction to scientific circulation of new types of sources, their critical analysis allows us to formulate a scientific problem that receives reflection as a novelty of historical research.

Thus, the professional activity of Kazakh scientists in the second half of the 20th century was carried out in a certain cultural and epistemological historiographical situation and corresponds to the following attributes: problematic; goal setting: reflexivity; objectivity; methodology; novelty; contextuality. Therefore, the study of the theoretical and methodological views of historians in this significant period expands the scope of historiographic research, but it was also of fundamental importance for understanding the history of historical science and the development of Kazakh source studies.

#### Conclusion

The historiographic practice of classical knowledge in the field of source studies in the second half of the 20th century brought great success to Kazakhstani science. restoration of the synthesizing potential of historical knowledge. Although in this period in historical science there is already a change in the scientific paradigm, we can state a new type of historical consciousness, within which the established forms of scientific reflection are being transformed.

The second half of the twentieth century was the crowning glory of the Soviet Kazakh historical science, based on classical knowledge. It can be stated that in these years a remarkable galaxy of Kazakhstani scholars of historians has grown up. The research practices of scientists of this period demonstrated the canons of the historical community. Their research was not only of great importance for science, but also aroused national feelings.

The source study of the history of Kazakhstan is developing on the basis of the oriental direction and the university environment. The individual scientific strategies of a number of scientists allow us to see the phenomenon of author's texts, the specifics of their functioning and consolidation as models in the science of this period. In their studies, Kazakh scientists set the task of building a unified concept of sources: its nature, forms of existence and mechanisms in the structure of historical knowledge. During this period, the formation of the subject field of Kazakh source studies takes place. Therefore, the subject of historiography source study is the formation and vital activity of a historiographic source in scientific knowledge and other social practices.

An important research procedure is a scientific synthesis, on the basis of which conceptual studies are created and allows you to better clarify the objects of knowledge and gives meaning and credibility to the results obtained and reveals the identity of the historian.

To understand history as a science, the idea of its documentary basis is fundamental (Chekantseva, 2018: 14), historians are more actively using the hermeneutic potential of sources to take into account differences in their information. At the same time, it must be considered that historians study societies that have been transformed, and sources are a document generated by a social system. This position of the authors makes it possible to explain social phenomena, rather than describe. The research practice of historians explains historical experience and the concept of historicity and historical dynamics.

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