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**S.O. SCHMIDT ABOUT THE PECULIARITIES  
OF THE HISTORIOGRAPHY OF SOURCE STUDIES**

Appeal to the Book «the Path of the Historian. Selected works on source studies and historiography» S.O. Schmidt is determined by the fact that his work in the field of preservation of historical and cultural monuments is a practical expression of scientific principles, approaches to sources and scientific formulation of research procedures in the field of historiography. The methodological provisions of this author are of great scientific interest both in the framework of historiographical research and for the younger generation of historians who need to refer to the works of major scientists and study their methods of source analysis.

The scientific heritage of the author has many methodological aspects. Some of them are of interest to us: interaction of historiography and **source studies**, historical research; logical procedures of cognition, i.e. its methods of analysis of sources; formulation of the problem of studying historiographical sources, historiographical tradition; continuity in source studies; expansion of the complex of historiographical sources; oral history as a historiographical source.

In the history of source studies, the study of the methods of work of authors with historical sources is important, since they are the basis of historical research and any form of popularization of historical knowledge.

**Key words:** historiographical source, research methods, historical source, scientific methods, historiography **source of studies**, methodological provisions, epistemological values, intellectual history

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**С.О. Шмидт деректану тарихнамасының  
ерекшеліктері туралы**

С.О. Шмидттің «Тарихшы жолы. Деректану және тарихнама бойынша таңдаулы еңбектер» атты кітабын ғылымда пайдалану оның тарихи ескерткіштерді сақтау және мәдениет саласы қызметіндегі тарихнаманың зерттеу технологиясының ғылыми қойылымы мен дереккөздерге қатысты ғылыми ұстанымдарының практикалық көрінісі ретінде анықталады. Осы автордың әдістемелік нұсқаулықтары тарихнамалық зерттеу шеңберінде де, сондай-ақ ірі ғалымдардың еңбектеріне қарап және олардың деректану талдауының әдістемесін зерттеу қажет жас тарихшылар тарапынан да үлкен ғылыми қызығушылық танытады.

Автордың ғылыми мұрасында көптеген әдіснамалық аспектілер бар. Біз үшін олардың кейбіреулері: тарихнама мен деректанудың, деректанулық және тарихи зерттеулердің өзара байланысы; танымның логикалық рәсімдері, яғни оның дереккөздерді талдау әдістемесі; тарихнамалық деректерді, тарихнамалық дәстүрді зерттеу проблемасын қою; деректанудағы сабақтастық; тарихнамалық деректер кешенін кеңейту; ауызша тарихты тарихнамалық дереккөз ретінде тану аса маңызды.

Деректану тарихында авторлардың тарихи дереккөздермен жұмыс жасау тәсілдерін зерттеу маңызды, өйткені тарихи зерттеудің және кез келген тарихи білімді көпшілікке таратудың негізі болып табылады.

**Түйін сөздер:** тарихнамалық дереккөз, зерттеу тәсілдері, тарихи дереккөз, ғылыми әдістемелер, тарихнама деректануы, әдіснамалық нұсқаулықтар, эпистемологиялық құндылықтар, зияткерлік тарих.

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### **С.О. Шмидт об особенностях историографии источниковедения**

Обращение к Книге «Путь Историка. Избранные труды по источниковедению и историографии» С.О. Шмидта определяется тем, что его деятельность в области сохранения памятников истории и культуры представляет собой практическое выражение научных принципов, подходов к источникам и научную постановку исследовательских процедур в области историографии. Методологические положения данного автора представляют большой научный интерес как в рамках историографического исследования, так и для молодого поколения историков, которым необходимо обращаться к трудам крупных ученых и изучать их методику источниковедческого анализа.

В научном наследии автора – множество методологических аспектов. Для нас представляют интерес некоторые из них: взаимовлияние историографии и источниковедения, источниковедческого и исторического исследований; логические процедуры познания, т.е. его методики анализа источников; постановка проблемы изучения историографических источников, историографической традиции; преемственность в источниковедении; расширение комплекса историографических источников; устная история, как историографический источник.

В истории источниковедения изучение приемов работы авторов с историческими источниками важно, так как они являются основой исторического исследования и любой формы популяризации исторического знания.

**Ключевые слова:** историографический источник, исследовательские приемы, исторический источник, научные методики, источниковедение историографии, методологические положения, эпистемологические ценности, интеллектуальная история.

## **Introduction**

According to Anna Clark, Maria Grever, «Western historians and philosophers of history are increasingly noting the changing attitude of people to the past and the emergence of a different historical consciousness. Studies of historical consciousness reveal the omnipresence of the past in modern culture and society. Such research not only helps us understand how people relate to history or how well they know it, but also shows that history is fundamental to how people perceive themselves. (Anna Clark, Maria Grever; 2018). Therefore, at the present stage it is important to form the historical consciousness of the achievements of historical science Martin Carrier also rightly pointed out that historical epistemology is «the diversity and change of epistemological values in science. The system of historical knowledge: «depends on epistemological decisions taken at certain historical moments. The epistemological authority of science is largely created by the rules of the scientific community» (Martin Carrier; 2012).

Therefore, a great epistemological value for modern historians is the Book of S. Schmidt «the Path of the Historian. Selected works on source studies and historiography», which helps to identify research trends in the history of source studies. To carry out the

correct scientific synthesis and analysis, the historian must know the scientific terminology and tools of research techniques and perform a number of tasks that the author has identified in his book:

«the first task of historians is to educate their readers and listeners in historical thinking, to promote the formation of a scientific worldview. Our works should help to understand not only the laws of the historical process, but also to understand the methods of studying the historical process and the life of society in all its specificity» (Schmidt, 1997; 15);

«a very important task is to care about the education of historical thinking in future professional historians (Schmidt, 1997; 16). In the preface to his book S.Schmidt: «the Path of the Historian» correctly noted: «D S Likhachev in an article with a significant title «History – the mother of truth» formulated: «the beauty of scientific work consists mainly in the beauty of research techniques and scrupulousness of scientific methods» (Schmidt, 1997; 80);

the most difficult task is «to comprehend the way of thought of the past time at the junction of historical science and psychology. (Schmidt, 1997; 181).

To determine the methodological provisions of this author, some chapters of his book are considered: Historiographical sources and literary monuments; Oral history in the system of source studies of

historical knowledge; Fiction and art as a source of historical ideas; source studies and historiography; Archival document as a historiographical source.

It is known that in the period of his scientific work in the 50-60s of XXth century source problems were studied in the context of the methodology of history. The researchers, including S.O. Schmidt, determine the study of the problems of sources in the most concentrated way. During this period, many aspects of theoretical and applied source studies were solved: the information nature of the source, the stages (phase) of research on written sources, the ratio of the source and social reality, the dialectics of subjective and objective in the process of social cognition, etc.

The many scientists studied the scientific legacy of S.O. Schmidt: A.N. Medushevskii (1991) «Source in the writings of S.O. Schmidt», A.Yu. Samarina «S.O. Schmidt as a historian of the book and the figure of book culture» (2007), and Efimov «Guardian of the source» (2013), scientific contribution to the theory of source V.I. Durnovtsev his role in creating the historical-archival Institute of the scientific and pedagogical school of T.I. Khorkhordina etc.

### Methodological approach

The study uses historiographic methods: the method of logical analysis allows to reveal the features and importance of methodological provisions in the study of S.O. Schmidt; the method of actualization, which makes it possible to determine the epistemological value of his work; a systematic approach that forms an integral system of all interacting elements of scientific productions of the author.

### The main part

In S.O. Schmidt's book «The Path Of The Historian. Selected works on source studies and historiography» the structure, the content of the methodology of **source studies** and the concept of the study of historiographical sources are given. In 1965, the author defined the research problem historiography of **source studies**. A. N. Medushchevskii notes: «self-direction of study is the analysis of sources for the history of science itself» (Medushchevskii, 1991; 9)

Sigurd Ottovich in 1976 formulated the concept of «source studies of historiography», which was based on a scientific approach based on the concept of historiographic source and formed information about the historiographic process. The author notes:

«the complexity of the problem of «relationship» of historiography and source studies. They cannot be identified, but they cannot be separated from each other either» (Schmidt, 1997; 119). The origin and development of historiographical sources and methods of their identification, study and use depend on the changes taking place: «in the modern science, and in the socio-political situation of the surrounding socio-cultural environment. All this, consciously or even regardless of the author's desire, is reflected in his work. At the same time, the historiographer should be seriously familiar with the «individual face of the era» (the expression of D. S. Likhachev), synchronous to the work of the historian, and avoid mechanical transfer of the current scale of assessments and the system of public representations to that period. (Schmidt, 1997; 180-181). Historical thought is changing under the influence of changes in historical and cultural values.

An important methodological position of Schmidt is the statement that in the study of historical facts and laws of historical development there is: «the closest interaction, or rather, even mutual influence and interpenetration of the source and historical research itself – that is undoubted.

.. The Historian usually, refers to the sources of different types and varieties and synthesizes impressions in his mind« (Schmidt, 1997; 35, 53). Herewith, the author notes two directions of scientific research: historiography of source studies and source studies of historiography, which are connected:

with the definition of the body of sources of works of historians;

with the development of knowledge of historians in the field of source studies;

with the study of the complex of historiographical phenomena and processes of the source base of each study, its structure and «the key to understanding the author's approach to the problem is the concept of the structure of the source base. Schmidt made an attempt to isolate, on the one hand, various information layers, and on the other – to establish the time sequence of their manifestations in various types of sources. Thus, the complex infrastructure of the source base is revealed. With this approach, it is possible to obtain valuable information even in situations where the sources themselves are lost, and their information reached us only in the reflected light of other, subsequent documents» (Medushevskii, 1991;13)

Another methodological position of the author is to determine the structural and systemic beginning of the cognitive process – interest in the theory and

logic of scientific constructions, the development of such a system of logical procedures by which a professional historian will have a holistic cognitive organism, i.e. the formation of a system of logical procedures for the cognitive ability of the scientist. In this respect Sigurd Ottovich gives an interesting opinion of O.L. Weinstein on the method of source studies that is a set of techniques and rules of identification, collection, systematization and formal study of sources. The author himself gives a slightly different understanding: «the method of source studies, determined largely by the presence of the source base and traditions of studying certain classes of sources, as well as the possibilities of source studies experiment, depend on the degree of perfection of the methodology» (Schmidt, 1997; 27).

In this regard it is also true opinion of James W. that «historical and structural studies have a broad purpose to identify historical and structural factors. Relevant contexts for historical and structural analysis include those in which historical and structural data are available or can be obtained as part of the study» (James W.; 2015). Therefore, when studying the historiography of source studies, it is necessary to study the «source-study methodology of those major researchers in which general characteristic or a detailed justification of their source-study methods aren't Round» (Schmidt, 1997; 54).

In addition, the history of science as noted by John F. M., Clark A «was seen as an outstanding embodiment of intellectual history, since its highest method contained the key to the unity of knowledge and humanity. (John F. M. Clark A; 2015). It can be started by revealing the position of the author that the work of the historiographer is the result of the study of the totality of historiographical sources, historiographical tradition:

«the scientist, like any creative person, is influenced by contemporary literature, art and other sciences, as well as the remaining traditions (including the traditions of transmission and assimilation of information) and his work is largely dependent on the «cultural environment» (Schmidt, 1997; 96);

the division of the history of historical thought into pre-scientific and scientific, where in the first period historical works are associated with literary «primary historical ideas, in any case about specific historical events and persons usually arise under the impression of acquaintance not with the works of historians, but with the works of fiction and art of historical subjects (Schmidt, 1997; 95);

the definition of the typology of research, namely of source studies, where the object of study: the source or a set of sources, methods of studying sources, then «with this approach, the historical source may be of interest to the historian not only as a «mediator» that retains data about the historical fact, but primarily as a historical fact itself, as a specific carrier of certain information» (Schmidt, 1997; 34). In research of this kind «special attention is paid to the location and number of sources, place of origin and authorship of sources, comparative features: the establishment and study of options and editions of sources, the characteristics of commonality and differences of sources, methodological methods of research sources, etc.

In the Chapter «Historiographical sources and literary monuments» the author defines methodological provisions on historiography:

«the sphere of interest of the historiographer is the history of accumulation of historical knowledge, development of historical thought and methods of historical research, creation of works by historians and biographies of historians, the influence of phenomena of social and political life on the work of historians and the impact of historical science on public consciousness, the dissemination of historical knowledge (including the history of scientific institutions and the organization of historical education);

the concept of the circle of historical facts determines the concept of the circle of historiographical sources. If it is permissible to recognize as a historical source everything that can source historical information (i.e. historical information useful for the historian's work), then any source of knowledge of historiographical phenomena can be recognized as a historiographical source;

works of historians – in a certain way correlate (within the framework of the socio-cultural system) with other types and varieties of cultural monuments, in particular with literary monuments;

literature and history are forms of self-reflection and self-expression of society. Finally their main theme– social studies, human knowledge, which determine the «adjacency», the conjugation of these spheres of culture; (Schmidt, 1997; 92).

Further, the author raises the problem of continuity in historiography notes S. O. Schmidt: «in General, it is time to create generalizing serious works on historiography of source studies. At the same time, it would be desirable to trace the extent to which certain scientists were the predecessors of modern source studies, whether they (sometimes spontaneously) used the research methods that

are currently being approved in science, and what impact the works of these scientists (often indirectly) had on the development of modern source studies methods» (Schmidt, 1997; 55).

In new contexts, the scientific problem of studying the historiographical heritage is posed, which is connected with the integration and differentiation of knowledge, the expansion of the source base and new tasks of historical science. To fully understand the science, the author believes that it is necessary to study «ordinary historiographical facts typical for a particular era: «forgotten» names and publications, scientific societies and institutions, the nature of teaching history in higher education and in secondary school, the system of dissemination of historical ideas» (Schmidt, 1997; 121). It is also necessary to investigate unpublished – archival materials.

In special historiographical research the author proposes to study a wider range of historiographical facts: «it is desirable to find out the characteristics of the personality and activity of the historian, to establish the features of his thinking, mental appearance, behavior, especially the perception and reflection in his work of the phenomena of the past and present (as N. M. Karamzin noted: «the creator is always depicted in the creation, and often – against his will (Schmidt, 1997; 121).

In addition, the author gives important methodological provisions on oral history, which was the foundation of culture and worldview for thousands of years. The author notes: «oral history is the basis of that complex of knowledge (including historical)» (Schmidt, 1997; 102). Schmidt shows how history develops and that it is an important historiographical source. So he quoted Karamzin about methods of mapping the past: «There are three kinds of history: the first modern, for example, Fukididov, where the obvious witness says about the incident; according to Tatsitova the second is based on fresh verbal legends in the time close to the described actions; the third is extracted only from monuments like ours until the XVIIIth century» (Schmidt, 1997; 102). Oral tradition is also present in the literature of the early middle ages, further, as the author believes: «a significant role in the preservation of evidence of the past begins to play mass magazines, weeklies and newspapers; the practice of interviews with witnesses of historical events is developed, but they need to be checked by other documents reflecting mass phenomena. In 1989, the Archaeological Commission of the USSR Academy of Sciences determined the place of oral history materials in source studies and «the form of

oral history are audiovisual sources, in particular, movies» (Schmidt, 1997; 107).

The author highlights the questions that should be put by the researcher during the historiographical analysis:

the study of factors that influenced the development of historical thought – external as social and political life;

critical assessment of the internal level of development of science in general, namely interdisciplinary approaches, continuity, the state of scientific discussions, research topics, source base;

analysis of theoretical and methodological principles, source-methodical methods and methodology of research;

consideration of the complex of data on the scientific creative biography and socio-political activities of the scientist, the personal composition and organizational design of groups of historians, the features of their work;

ways and forms of propaganda of historical knowledge, the influence of historical thought on the development of self-knowledge of the people, especially the relationship of historical thought and social consciousness, education history, etc.

## Conclusion

Today, with the increasing demands of society for historical science, of particular importance is the study of the history of historical science, the accumulation of scientific historical knowledge, the mechanisms of influence of science on the formation of a truly scientific picture of the past, the role of science in society's understanding of the lessons and experience of history. In this context, of great scientific interest is the scientific activity of S. O. Schmidt which is an example of the service of science, high professionalism, broad formulation and solution of theoretical issues of historiography of source studies.

Interesting from a scientific point of view are the following important methodological provisions in the research of modern foreign scientists, which are the conceptualization of the research of S.O. Schmidt:

The craft of doing historiography is described as a six-step process: (1) topic selection, (2) research questions, (3) central themes, (4) data sources, (5) theoretical frameworks, and (6) organization and writing (Alexander W. Pisciotta: 22 January 2014);

Historical reasoning is conceptualized as an integrative and socially situated activity. (Carla van Bortel Jannet van Drie. 02 March 2018);

Western historians and philosophers of history have increasingly noted the changing relationship of people to the past and the emergence of a different historical consciousness. Studies of historical consciousness reveal the ubiquity of the past in contemporary culture and society. More than simply helping us to understand how people connect to history or how well they know it, such research also reveals history as fundamental to the way people perceive themselves. Historical consciousness is both intuitive and learned (Anna Clark Maria Grever 02 March 2018);

The disciplinary access to the history of the theory of structures is defined through the history of science and construction, didactics, biographies, literary references, aesthetics and scientific theories, thus highlighting the multi-methodological approach to a historical study of theory of structures. (The tasks and aims of a historical study of the theory of structures: 28 May 2018)

A.N. Medushevsky correctly noted that it is important to refer to the scientific works of scientists who, as noted, consider «source studies as a necessary basis for the development of historical science and culture. (Medushevskii, 1991; 6).

The study of his conceptual approach to historiographical sources allows us to determine the directions of historiography of source studies: «the idea that without the study of sources of different origins and directions, and without their professional analysis, no science objectively can exist» (Medushevskii, 1991; 9).

This scientist defines different criteria for the principal evaluation of the historian's methods of work with historical sources: critical attitude to the sources; interdisciplinary approach in the study of the past by sources; their study in a certain social and cultural environment, traditions of document formation, verbal and artistic images, as they are a reflection of socio-economic and political relations and give psychological types of the era. When carrying out the source analysis it is necessary to consider time layers when authors act as contemporaries of events and when they comment on the historical past.

S.Schmidt in the book «the Path of the Historian. Selected works on source studies and historiography» considers: «theoretical problems in relation to historical contextualization, historical understanding and interpretation, and sources to study in connection with their historical context» (Branko Mitrovic. 2015). Eileen Ka- May Cheng correctly notes that historiographical analysis must recognize that «historians themselves are products of the historical process» (Eileen Ka- May Cheng. 2013).

The importance of this study lies in the fact that it will allow to carry out a successful scientific study in the study of the problems of historiography of source studies of the history of Kazakhstan, namely in determining the methods of organization of effective scientific thinking; mechanisms of critical evaluation of the source base.

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