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Contribution of Yu. A. Kulakovskyi to the development of antique archeology in the Nestor Chronicler Historical Society

Abstract. In the history of Ukrainian archeology there are many names of outstanding researchers who have devoted their lives to the study of our antiquity. Among them – Yulian Kulakovskyi, a well-known domestic historian and archeologist. For many years of his life he devoted to the scientific and pedagogical activity at the Kyiv University of St. Vladimir, where he had worked at the Faculty of History and Philology. After moving to Kyiv, Yu. A. Kulakovskyi began interesting in the late Ancient Christian archeology of the Crimea. In 1883 Yu. A. Kulakovskyi had joined the Nestor Chronicler Historical Society. Since that time, his life and career have been closely linked to this scientific union. For many years he represented the Nestor Chronicler Society at the All-Russian Archaeological Congresses. In 1905, for his extraordinary merits, Yu. A. Kulakovskyi was admitted to the Honorary Members of the Society, and from 1907 to 1911 performed the duties of its President. Kulakovskyi’s presidency was one of the most productive periods of the Society's activity, meetings and public lectures were held during which scientific reports were read. The fascination of Yu. A. Kulakovskyi with archeology began after his move to Kyiv. For many years he was an active participant in archaeological research in the outskirts of Kerch, near Mithridat mountain. The results of these studies have been dedicated to a series of reports published on the pages of “Readings in the Nestor Chronicler Historical Society”. It is possible to consider that he initiated the direction of research in the field of Late Antique archeology of the Crimea in the Society. For the first time in the history of Bosporan archeology, the researcher not only conducted excavations of the most valuable early Christian funeral sites, but he also explored much of the necropolis, discovered unique burial sites, some of them are known for their wall paintings. Thanks to the efforts of the scientist it was possible to solve important questions of the borders of the ancient necropolis, chronology and cultural identity of the ancient population of Crimea. The researches of Yu. A. Kulakovskyi made it possible to begin systematic excavations of the ancient Panticapeus, which allowed to preserve the unique
archaeological materials, which later became the subject of careful study of modern scientists.

**Keywords:** Yu. A. Kulakovskyy; Nestor Chronicler Historical Society; history of archeology; Crimea

**Introduction**

The richest legacy of our historical science is the works of domestic historian scientist Yulian Andriiovych Kulakovskyy. The scope of his passions was extremely multifaceted. Yulian Kulakovskyy was a historian, archeologist, philologist and Byzantologist. Many years of his life he devoted to Kyiv University of St. Vladimir, and intense activity as a member of the Nestor Chronicler Historical Society (NCHS) which operated at the University. The purpose of our work is to illuminate the figure of Yu. Kulakovskyy as an archeologist and the founder of research in the field of antiquity archeology in NCHS, because, in our opinion, this area of his activity is the poor studied and described.

**Research methods**

During the preparation of the article, chronological, comparative methods of historical knowledge, classification, and systematization of historical sources and bibliographic material have been used (Pylypchuk & Strelko, 2019, p. 20).

**Results and discussions**

Famous scientist, historian and archaeologist yulian Kulakovskyy was born in 1855 in Kovenska province in the territory of Lithuania in the family of an Orthodox priest. He gets his primary education in the Vilnius gymnasium, from 1871 he studied at the Lyceum of Tsarevich Nikolai at Moscow University, which he graduated in 1873.

His passionate about history began quite early, during his school years, and was associated with the name of a talented history teacher of Vilnius Gymnasium – V. G. Vasilyevsky, in the future – a famous Byzantinist scientist. B. Kulakovskyy’s contemporary B. Warneke wrote: “Enrolling in the Vilnius Gymnasium, Kulakovskyy was highly fortunate to find among the teachers the famous byzantinist V. G. Vasilyevsky. If we take into consideration the special power of impressions at a young age, the influence of the appealing personality of the famous historian who produced a charming impression on everyone in contact with him even in the last years of his life…” (Varneke, 1907, p. 15).

From Vilnius gymnasium, Yulian as a talented student was awarded a scholarship, and in 1871, after graduating from sixth grade, he was transferred to a scholarship of the newly founded Imperial Lyceum Tsarevich Nicholas, an exemplary institution at that time in Moscow. Among its mentors was the first place took P. M. Leont'ev, who had broadened and deepened scientific training started by V. G. Vasilyevsky.

After graduating from the lyceum with a gold medal in 1873, Y. Kulakovskyy had studied at the university department of the same institution, this later helped him
to continue his studies at Moscow University, where he also taught P. M. Leont’ev. In September 1876, for the outstanding achievements Yu. A. Kulakovskyi was approved with the rank of candidate of Classical Philology Department. Yulian Kulakovskyi has begun teaching Latin.

In December 1877, Kulakovskyi was granted a business trip to Germany, where sense January 1878 until the autumn of 1880 he had been working at the largest European centres of historical and philological science. In Germany, Kulakovskyi attended lectures and scientific seminars of the famous German historian T. Mommsen that struck the young scientist. Yulian Kulakovskyi considered him as his teacher called T. Mommsen "world-famous", "the great and powerful king of science" (Kulakovskyi, 1904).

From 1881 Yu. Kulakovskyi began working at the Faculty of History and Philology at the Kyiv University of St. Vladimir. Yu. Kulakovskyi’s teaching activity began at the Department of Roman Literature at the University and lasted 38 years. In the first decade of his activity, Yulian Kulakovskyi outlined the range of scientific research that began the Kyiv period of his life. The young scientist, of course, had attracted by the idea of continuing to pursue classical philology and history. He was paying attention to the latest discoveries in the ancient history of Rome and Greece, was working on the problems of Roman history. In November 1881, Yu. Kulakovskyi obtains the position of a private associate professor at the mentioned department.

Along with his teaching, Yu. Kulakovskyi continued to work on scientific problems. In January 1883, at Moscow University, he defended his dissertation "Collegia in ancient Rome" and get a master’s degree in Roman literature. He continued to work at St. Volodymyr University, and at the same time began teaching at higher women's courses. For higher women's courses, Yu. Kulakovskyi composed a course of lectures on Roman literature, where had seen classical literature (Greece and Rome) and determines its importance in the development of Western European culture.

In 1884 Yu. Kulakovskyi was tasked to teach the history of Rome and during 1885–1886 he had compiled a course of lectures, which in 1886 was published in lithographic print. An important stage in the creative life of Yu. Kulakovskyi was the defence of his doctoral thesis at St. Petersburg University in 1888 and he obtained a doctoral degree in Roman Literature. At that time, he was known as a prominent researcher of classical history.

The main work of the last years of life is the three-volume "History of Byzantium" – for the first time composed by Yu. Kulakovskyi a meticulous chronicle of the central events of the Eastern Roman Empire. The last years of his life, the scientist spent in Kyiv, died in 1919 (Matvieieva, 1998).

Scientific achievements Kulakovskyi consists of a large number of works devoted to the ancient history of the peoples who inhabited the south of Ukraine and the Crimea. One of the first attempts at a universal historical interpretation of the final stage of Bosporus history in the 3–4 centuries belongs to him. The advantage of Kulakovskyi’s research was that he turned not only to written but also to
archaeological sources. In general, archaeological studies were a significant part of the scientific activity of the scientist.

Fascination with archeology began after Kulakovskyi moved to Kyiv, the historian had started interesting poorly studied aspects of archeology and epigraphy of the Northern Black Sea. Investigations were carried out on behalf of the Imperial Archaeological Commission, to which Yu. A. Kulakovskyi sent a letter, where he expressed a desire to take part in the study of the south of the country. At that time, the young researcher was already well known among epigraphists for his publications in Russian national and European journals devoted to classical philology (Nepomniashchyi, 2016, p. 126).

Stressing the importance of archeological methods in the investigation of the south of Ukraine and the Crimea Yu. Kulakovskyi wrote: “The light of history illuminated this land for a millennium before its rays dawned for the most ancient centres of our statehood. The connection of Crimea with the ancient world and the great Hellenic culture is a special charm of the history of this land and its consequence is the finding in its soil of inexhaustible archaeological wealth, the development of which is an important task of Russian science” (Kulakovskyi, 1906, p. 2).

For many years Yu. A. Kulakovskyi was an active participant in the All-Russian Archeological Congresses. He first attended the Seventh Congress, held in 1887 in Yaroslavl. He was a delegate from St. Vladimir University. At the Eighth Congress in Moscow in 1890, Yu. A. Kulkovsky stated a report entitled: “Elements in the legend about roman kings in relation to material artefacts”. On the next, ninth congress in Vilno, he was delegated to a preliminary committee as the member of Nestor Chronicler Historical Society and took a part in organizing work. Kulakovskyi was chosen as secretary of section VII: Antiquity classical and Byzantine. Besides, he made a report: “Kerch catacombs with frescoes” in which he gave a definition term of “catacombs”. In his report, Kulakovskyi also had paid attention to a problem of barbaric looting ancient Greek city Olvia, situated on the right bank of Buzky’s estuary near v. Parutino. He had offered appeal to the owners of this lands they’d let access scientists to excavation (Kulakovskyi, 1897). At the tenth congress in Riga Yu. A. Kulakovskyi except organizational work presented the report: “Excavation of Crimean tumulus in summer 1896” (Kulakovskyi, 1899).

Important contribution Yu. A. Kulakovskyi had made in the organization of eleven Archeological Congress which took place in Kyiv in 1899. He became a part of the preliminary committee since he had a big experience in organizational issues. One of the fields of work was the organization of the archeological exhibition, so Kulakovskyi was requested to pick up artefacts for Classical Antiquities division (Katalog vy`stavki XI arkeologicheskogo s`ezda, 1899). At sessions during the Congress meetings Kulakovskyi had represented two reports: “About painted skeletons” and “To the history of the Bosporus in XI–XII cent.”

In the second half of the nineteenth century began to develop a new direction in historical science – Byzantine. Initially, this course was taught within the history of
antiquity, but the subject of Byzantine studies was expanding, gradually becoming separate in its own direction (Hrytsiuta, 2018). The XII Archaeological Congress, which took place in August 1902, became a significant event for the Byzantine historians. It brought together the most reputable experts in this field. In total, more than a dozen reports were submitted. Kulakovskyi made a presentation “Byzantine Camp of the X Century”, the scientist submitted the results of the study of the newfound Byzantine source "De castrametatione" ("On the structure of the camp") (Kulakovskiyi, 1905). Besides he actively participated in discussions. After the report of V. G. Savva, there revived the debate about the pagan nature of imperial power in Byzantium, attended by M. A. Ostroumov, and M. I. Troitsky. This was the question about the borrowing of certain traditions by the Byzantine emperors from the Roman ones, who had a direct connection with paganism. Yu. A. Kulakovskyi considered that Byzantines emperor was a continuer of tradition Romans emperors which were identified with the idea of God and the influence of Christianity couldn’t blur this pagan tradition (Protokoly’ zasedanij XII Arkheologicheskogo s’ezda, 1905).

After moving to Kyiv Yu. A. Kulakovskyi was is plunging into scientific live in the local university community. In 1883 he joined to the Nestor Chronicler Historical Society (NCHS). Since that his life and career had been closely linked with this scientific association. During his acting as a member of NCHS Kulakovskiyi had performed on sessions results of his researches in the field of history of Byzantium and antiquity archeology. For extraordinary merits Yu. A. Kulakovskyi was promoted to honorary members in 1905.

Scientific activity researcher joined with organizational work. Every year, before the general annual meeting, a special Audit Committee checked financial resources of money, libraries and property. The member of the Audit Committee in different years most often was Yu. Kulakovskiyi, and also he became the part of the Bureau of the Society (Svedeniya o zasedaniyakh, 1903, 50). In October 1903 he was elected to the Council of Nestor Chronicler Historical Society (Yasinskij, 1904, 51). In 1904 he was the first time chosen as a President of the Society for next 2 years. In 1907 President of the NCHS N. P. Dashkevych, who had occupied this post since 1899, resigned. Yu. A. Kulakovskyi was appointed an interim president until the next election. Nineteenth of October 1908 elections were held, Kulakovskyi had become the President of the NCHS and staid on this post until 1911 (Loboda, 1909, p. 88).

Kulakovskyi’s presidency was one of the most productive in Society, meetings and public lectures were held during which scientific reports were read. September 20, 1909 on the proposal of the Yu. Kulakovskyi has started work on the finishing of the manuscript of the ancient Russian dictionary begun by P. Ternovsky. Was creating committee which included famous researchers: V. Ikonnikov as chairman, Iv. Kamanin, M. Istomin, P. Smirnov, A. Loboda, V. Zavitnevich, S. Maslov and others. (Svedeniya o zasedaniyakh, 1911, p. 31).

As we said before, one of the fields of research of Kulakovskyi was antiquity archeology. Major part of Kulakovskyi reports on sessions NCHS was devoted to his
archeological researches in Crimea. During 1890-s he had provided excavation on Mithridate mountain.

In the article “Excavation in Crimea in 1890” The author had written about the most important discovery on Mithridate mountain near Kerch. In the first season of excavation in the Mithridate Mountain, he managed to open several crypts with inscriptions and murals, including a unique Christian crypt with a date written on the wall 491. The walls of the crypt were covered with inscriptions, representing the psalms and prayers, according to the author, they corresponded to the ceremony of consecration of the cave, where the crypt was located. It was the only example of a funerary cave with a specific chronological date. Also was noticed, that the way of building a crypt is not different from pagan caves of the same time which has allowed to suggest that the burial belonged to local Goths who did not lose Christianity under the influence of the Huns. representing a single example funerary cave with the definite chronological date. Further excavations were continued, it’s results had great importance for studying the ancient history of Crimea (Kulakovskiy, 1891).

Next year, Kulakovskiy had continued his study in the neighbourhood of Kerch. He excavated necropolis near v. Hlinishche in Kerch area. On necropolis were discovered more than 20 tombs. They were situated into the ground and covered by stone overlap. In tombs were found rings, bracelets, buckles, ceramic and glasses tableware, the same type as were found before. According to the author which based on finding coins and other types of artefacts of the necropolis, it could be attributed to 1st cent. A. D. On the north side of the Mithridate was excavated 12 crypts dated 5th cent. A more interesting finding in this place was crypt decorated by fresco (Kulakovskiy, 1893).

In 1894 work on the archaeological study of the Mithridat has been continued. In 1894, the Archaeological Commission organized an archaeological expedition to the Crimea. Her leadership was entrusted to Kulakovskiy. The results of the expedition are covered in an article by a historian and published in the “Readings of the Nestor Chronicler Historical Society”. The aim of the study was to determinate the area spreading of crypts on the territory of the mountain. Another point, where excavation had taken place, situated on a coast of the Sea of Azov (cape Zuk). Unearthed into cultural layer coins and other artefacts had led Kulakovskiy to believe that from 1st to 4th cent. here was a settlement. He also made the assumption that in the time of emperor Zenon it could be the antique city of Khersones (Kulakovskiy, 1895).

In 1895, Yu. A. Kulakovskiy opened a new crypt in the proximity of the previously opened crypt, discovered in 1890. The new finding was located on the north slope of Mithridates mountain on Hospital Street. On the walls of the niches of the crypt chamber of 1895 the researcher found the text of Psalm 90 – “Holy God” prayer written in red and brown paint and crosses, by the nature of the inscription was determined the date – 491 year. The newfound painted crypt had a great historical significance, like a monument of Christianity on the Bosporus in the 5th century.
Analyzing the experience of the previous crypt researched at the Panticapaeum – Bospor necropolis, Yu. A. Kulakovskyi sharply criticized the analogies of open monuments with Roman Christian catacombs cited by A. B. Ashik and noted the illegality of his statement “on the primacy of the opening of structures of this kind on the Bosporus,” pointed out uncertainty about the location of open catacombs (Kulakovskyi, 1896).

For the first time in the history of Bosporus archeology, a researcher conducted excavations of the most valuable early Christian crypts. Yu. A. Kulakovskyi studied a significant part of the necropolis, discovered unique funerary sites, some of them are known their wall pictures, besides, he created important and significant for further study of the necropolis of publications and researches.

**Conclusion**

Thus, having researched Kulakovskyi’s life and career, was determined that the most fruitful period of his academic activity was related to his work at the Nestor Chronicler Historical Society. For many years he has been a worthy representative of the Society at the All-Russian Archeological Congresses. Yu. A. Kulakovskyi actively participated in solving important organizational issues, he was definitely among its most respected activists, as evidenced by his election to the position of President of the Society. The results of his scientific research were regularly published on the pages of “Readings in the Nestor Chronicler Historical Society”. Arguably to assume that he initiated the new direction of research in the field of late antique archeology of the Crimea in the Nestor Chronicler Historical Society. The researches of Yu. A. Kulakovskyi allowed to starting the systematic excavations of the ancient Panticapeus, thanks to his efforts it was possible to preserve unique archeological materials, which became the subject of a close study of modern scientists.

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Внесок Ю. А. Кулаковського в розвиток античної археології в Історичному товаристві Нестора Літописця

Анотація. В історії української археології є чимало імен видатних дослідників, які присвятили своє життя вивченню нашої давнини. Серед них – Юліан Андрійович Кулаковський, відомий вітчизняний історик та археолог. Багато років свого життя він присвятив науковій та педагогічній діяльності в

135
Київському університеті св. Володимира, де працював на історико-філологічному факультеті. Після переїзду до Києва Ю. А. Кулаковський починає цікавитись пізньоантичною ранньохристиянською археологією Криму. У 1883 році Ю. А. Кулаковський приєднується до Історичного товариства Нестора-Літописця. З цього часу його життя та кар’єра були тісно пов’язані з цим науковим об’єднанням. Багато років він представляв Товариство Нестора-Літописця на Всеосійських археологічних з’їздах. У 1905 році за надзвичайні заслуги Ю. А. Кулаковський був прийнятий до Почесних членів Товариства, а з 1907 по 1911 роки виконував обов’язки його Голови. Головування Кулаковського було одним із найпродуктивніших періодів діяльності Товариства, проводилися зустрічі та публічні лекції, під час яких читались наукові доповіді. Захоплення Ю. А. Кулаковського археологією почалося після переїзду до Києва, історик почав цікавитись слабо вивченими аспектами археології та епіграфіки Північного Причорномор’я та історією Боспорського царства. Протягом багатьох років він був активним учасником археологічних досліджень на околицях м. Керч, біля гори Митридат. Результатам цих досліджень присвячений цикл доповідей, опублікованих на сторінках «Читань Історичного товариства Нестора Літописця». Можна вважати, що саме він започаткував напрямок досліджень в галузі пізньоантичної археології Криму у Товаристві. Вперше в історії боспорської археології дослідник не тільки провів розкопки найцінніших ранньохристиянських похоронних пам’ятників, але й ним була досліджена значна частина некрополя, відкриті унікальні похоронні пам’ятники, частина яких відома своїми настінними зображеннями. Завдяки зусиллям вченого вдалося вирішити важливі питання кордонів давнього некрополю, хронології та культурної принадності давнього населення Криму. Дослідження Ю. А. Кулаковського дозволили почати систематичні розкопки стародавнього Пантикапея, що дозволили зберегти унікальні археологічні матеріали, які стали згодом предметом пильного вивчення сучасних вчених.

Ключові слова: Ю. А. Кулаковський; Історичне Товариство Нестора Літописця; історія археології; Крим

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Вклад Ю. А. Кулаковського в развитие античной археологии в Историческом обществе Нестора Летописца

Аннотация. В истории украинской археологии есть немало имен выдающихся исследователей, которые посвятили свою жизнь изучению нашей старины. Среди них – Юлиан Андреевич Кулаковский, известный отечественный историк и археолог. Много лет своей жизни он посвятил
научной и педагогической деятельности в Киевском университете св. Владимира, где работал на историко-филологическом факультете. После переезда в Киев Ю. А. Кулаковский начинает интересоваться позднеантичной и раннехристианской археологией Крыма. В 1883 году Ю. А. Кулаковский присоединяется к Историческому обществу Нестора-летописца. С этого момента его жизнь и карьера были тесно связаны с этим научным объединением. Много лет он представлял Общество Нестора-Летописца на Всероссийских археологических съездах. В 1905 году за чрезвычайные заслуги Ю. А. Кулаковский был принят в Почетные члены Общества, а с 1907 по 1911 годы исполнял обязанности его Председателя. Председательство Кулаковского было одним из самых продуктивных периодов деятельности Общества, проводились встречи и публичные лекции, во время которых читались научные доклады. Увлечение Ю. А. Кулаковского археологией началось после переезда в Киев, историк начал интересоваться слабо изученными аспектами археологии и эпиграфики Северного Причерноморья и историей Боспорского царства. В течение многих лет он был активным участником археологических исследований в окрестностях г. Керчь, возле горы Митридат. Результатами этих исследований посвящен цикл докладов, опубликованных на страницах «Чтений Исторического общества Нестора-летописца». Можно считать, что именно он основал направление исследований в области позднеантичной археологии Крыма в Обществе. Впервые в истории боспорской археологии исследователь не только провел раскопки ценнейших раннехристианских погребальных памятников ним, также, была исследована значительная часть некрополя, открытые уникальные погребальные памятники, часть которых известна своими настенными изображениями. Благодаря усилиям ученого удалось решить важные вопросы границ древнего некрополя, хронологии и культурной принадлежности древнего населения Крыма. Исследования Ю. А. Кулаковского позволили начать систематические раскопки древнего Пантикапея, и позволили сохранить уникальные археологические материалы, которые стали впоследствии предметом пристального изучения современных ученых.

Ключевые слова: Ю. А. Кулаковский; Историческое Общество Нестора Летописца; история археологии; Крым

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