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## The First Institute for the Humanities of Yakutia

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*Institute for the Humanities Research and the Indigenous Peoples of the North (IHR&IPN) of the Siberian Branch of the RAS is among the oldest academic institutions in Siberia. During its 75-year history it has become a leading center of the country in the integrated study of history, language and literature of unique ethnic groups inhabiting the North-East of Russia.*

*Keywords: Yakutsk complex expedition of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR, the first Institute for the Humanities of Yakutia, Indigenous Peoples of the North, research problems of indigenous ethnic groups of the North.*

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### **Academic study of Yakutia: first steps**

The potential of the academic sector in the region was being formed gradually, but with the transition from traditional society to an industrial-urban one the process became more active. This transition meant a shift of the center of gravity of the economic, geopolitical and social development of Russia in the direction of the eastern regions. Leading scientists of Russia clearly understood that the socio-economic development of the state at large depends on how quickly large areas and the Urals will develop. The statement of M.V. Lomonosov that "... the Russian power will grow due to Siberia and Northern Ocean..." was truly prophetic.

A systematic study of Siberia was initiated by the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Kamchatka expeditions of the Russian Academy of Sciences. The First one was organized under the leadership of V. Bering

in 1724, the second one led by the academicians G.F. Miller and I.G. Gmelin was called the Great Northern Expedition and lasted from 1733 to 1743. Their distinguishing feature was a comprehensive study of natural resources, the wide geographic coverage and diversity of goals set. Expedition units made new maps, described the mineral wealth, flora and fauna, conducted ethnographic research (*Historical Encyclopedia, 2009: 568-570*).

As for the academic study of the North-East of Russia, it has acquired a systematic feature with an establishment of a special department under the Commission for the Study of Natural Productive Forces (CSNPF) in 1918. The most extensive action of the Academy of Sciences was the Yakutia Complex Expedition 1925-1930. Its activities are extensively described in the special studies (*Ivanov, 1996; Ermolaeva, 2001; Vodichev*

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*et al.*, 2005). It was organized by the Commission for the Study of the Yakutia ASSR established under the CSNPF.

The initiator of the expedition was one of the national leaders and founders of the Yakut statehood M.K. Ammosov (1897-1838). The biography of Maxim Kirovich Ammosov is full of vivid and tragic events. The son of a peasant, while being a student of the Yakut seminary he joined the circle of “Young Social Democrats” under the direction of E.M. Yaroslavsky. He fought for the establishment of Soviet power in Siberia, took an active part in the creation of the Komsomol organizations in several Siberian cities. In April, 1924 as a permanent representative of the Yakutia ASSR under the Presidium of the All-Russian Central Executive Committee he sent a letter to the permanent secretary of the Academy of Sciences S.F. Oldenburg on the need to organize an expedition to explore the natural productive forces of the Yakut Republic (*Vinokurova*, 2007). Yakutia became the first national republic that brought a question for the Academy of Sciences of the need for the scientific study of the region. As a chairman of the Council of People’s Commissars of the Republic in 1925-1928, M.K. Ammosov fully contributed to the organization of the expedition.

The need for a comprehensive study of Yakutia was caused by several factors. Firstly, Yakutia due to unique climatic conditions, originality of flora and fauna, rich mineral resources has always been an attractive target for research in natural, engineering sciences and the humanities. Secondly, in terms of industrialization that began in the country, an objective need to identify available natural resources and justify the reasonability of their development occurred. Thirdly, without study of the productive forces of the region, it was impossible to develop its economy and culture. Therefore, the leading scientists were brought to develop scientific

programs of the expedition, such as S.V. Obruchev, A.P. Karpinsky, N.I. Vavilov, A.A. Borisyak, V.Yu. Wiese, L.S. Berg, A.A. Grigoriev, B.D. Grekov and others.

Specialized units of the expedition made an invaluable contribution to the study of the natural resources of the republic. The studies were conducted in a wide area – from the southern borders of the republic to the Kolyma, Verkhoyanie and New Siberian Islands. The obtained results formed the basis of fundamental research reports and monographs. It is natural that the materials of the expedition were used in determining the prospects for the economic development of Yakutia and other regions.

### **The establishment of the Institute**

The Yakut complex expedition of the AS USSR 1925-1930 gave an impetus to the growth of national intelligence and started the process of forming a network of scientific and educational institutions of the republic. The first university was Yakutsk State Pedagogical Institute founded in 1934 – an actual “smithy” of personnel for the young republic. The first National Research University was the Scientific Research Institute for Language and Culture of the Council of People’s Commissars of the Yakutia ASSR, founded in 1935. The initiator of its creation was a prominent statesman and a public figure, writer and linguist, P.A. Oyunsky (1893-1939) (*Oyunsky P.A.*, 2003).

Platon Alekseevich Oyunsky (Sleptsov) knew M.K. Ammosov from revolutionary activity – they created together the Union of laborers-Yakuts in 1917. After studying in Tomsk Teachers’ Institute P.A. Oyunsky combined a political activity with a literary work. In 1931 he took up the postgraduate program of the Institute of Nationalities under the USSR Central Committee and graduated it with thesis for the degree of candidate of linguistics. The thesis

titled “The Yakut language and ways of its development” was published as an introduction to the “Russian-Yakut terms and spelling dictionary” compiled with the participation of S.P. Kharitonov and G.S. Tarskoy (M., 1935). In 1934, Platon Alekseevich was elected as a chairman of the Yakutsk Branch of the Union of Soviet Writers.

In the summer of 1935 P.A. Oyunsky presented a report on the need to create the first research institute in Yakutia as a prerequisite for the development of national culture. The idea was supported at a meeting of the Yakut regional Communist Party Committee, and soon, in September 17, 1935, The Council of People’s Commissars of the Yakut ASSR passed a resolution to establish the first research institute in the republic under the leadership of P.A. Oyunsky. Initially three sections were organized in the Institute: Language and Literature (D.K. Sivtsev), Literature and Art (N.M. Zabolotsky), Education and History (S.N. Donskoy Jr.)<sup>1</sup>.

During his directorship in the 1935-1937, P.A. Oyunsky began to create a team of employees, define the main directions of research, and solve issues of material and financial support of the Institute. Through the efforts of P.A. Oyunsky, they managed to retain a substantial body of historical legends, songs and other types of folklore. He recreated the heroic epos – olonkho that had a huge impact on the emergence and development of literature and has now become a part of the world culture.

The Institute was focused on the organization of basic research. Staff began work on many problems of the Humanities and began to form the scientific concept of the linguistic, cultural and historical development of the Yakut people. G.V. Ksenofontov published works on the origin of the Yakuts, N.M. Zabolotsky published “Essays on the History of the Yakut culture”, S.I. Bolov wrote “The past of the Yakuts before the arrival

of Russians on the Lena”, and the first issue of the Proceedings of the Institute saw the light (Oyunsky P.A., 2003: 6-7).

In 1939, with the efforts of the corresponding member of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR S.E. Malov and the candidate of philological sciences E.I. Ubryatova attached from the center, the translation of Yakut literature from Latin alphabet to the Russian script was carried out. The staff of the Institute have developed “Basic rules of the Yakut spelling” and published a “Spelling guide of the Yakut language” and the first textbooks on grammar.

### **The Institute during the war and the postwar period (1941-1947)**

Since the beginning of the Great Patriotic War because of limited financial and human Resources, the Institute was closed and reopened only in 1943. Soon it was renamed into the Scientific Research Institute of Language, Literature and History (SRILLH) of the Yakut ASSR. The director of the Institute during difficult times of war and postwar years was Theodore Abramovich Shub (1907-1957). In 1936, after finishing Leningrad State University and postgraduate program in Leningrad, the young scientist came to Yakutia and worked in the Yakutsk Pedagogical Institute. In 1941 he defended his thesis for the degree of candidate of philological sciences, and soon received the title of the Associate Professor of Russian Language and General Linguistics.

In 1943, T.A. Shub was appointed as a director of the Institute. The staff consisted of ten people, including two scientists with PhD. In terms of lack of personnel, the director drawn to work part-time employees who were skilled researchers of Yakutia from Moscow, Leningrad and Irkutsk. An extensive network of correspondents (more than 60 people) was established to collect material throughout Yakutia. In two years, the Institute organized

seven folklore and folklore-ethnographic expeditions. During these years, the Lena historical archaeological expedition also conducted its work. Scientists from central institutions of the country provided tangible assistance in the organization of research that helped the Institute to establish cooperation with the central institutes for the Humanities and institutes of the national republics and regions.

In 1943-1947 under the supervision of the director T.A. Shub, some major works were published: "The social system of the Yakuts XVII-XVIII centuries" by S.A. Tokarev, "Essays on the history of the study of the Yakut language" by E.I. Ubryatova, "Distant past of Yakutia" and "Lena's antiquity" by A.P. Okladnikov and others. The efforts of Theodore Abramovich were focused on studying the language and folklore of the Russian old residents (*Scientists-researchers, 2005: 11-12*). His research were based on the results of the expeditions to the north of Yakutia that were led by himself. After his return to Leningrad T.A. Shub published several works on Russian old residents of Indigirka.

#### **Development of the Institute in the AS USSR (1947-1991)**

The entry of the SRILLH into the system of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR (1947) contributed to the institutional strengthening and expanding the range of studies on important issues of history, language, literature, folklore and art of the peoples of Yakutia. At the same time the academic status meant that the Institute had new tasks that the staff solved under its new director – Afanasy Innokentievich Novgorodov (1902-1983). A graduate of the Institute of Red Professors (1933), he actively participated in the state and party building of the republic, in 1937-1939 he led the Yakutsk State Pedagogical Institute, and in 1941 he defended his thesis for the degree of PhD.

In 1947, A.I. Novgorodov was appointed as a Deputy Director for Scientific Work of the Yakutsk Research Base of the AS USSR and at the same time as a the director of SRILLH. Under his leadership, the Institute began studying the history of the 1917 Revolution and the Civil War, the formation of the Yakut ASSR, preparing to write a five-volume "History of Yakutia". Later A.I. Novgorodov worked as the Vice-President of the Yakutsk Branch of the USSR AS, defended PhD thesis and became a professor, end taught at Moscow universities (*Kazarian, 2003*).

An extended period of history of the Institute (14 years) is associated with the name of Zakhar Vasilievich Gogolev (1911-1974), an expert in the history of Yakutia and Siberia. Born in Yakutia in 1940, he graduated from the Moscow Institute of History, Philosophy and Literature and took up a postgraduate program at this university, but his studies were interrupted by the war. He served in the Soviet army until 1948, and only after that Z.V. Gogolev was able to return to scientific work and to defense his thesis for the degree of Candidate of Historical Sciences at the Kiev State University. The defense of the doctoral thesis took place in 1972.

In 1949, Z.V. Gogolev was appointed as a director of the Institute of Language, Literature and History (ILLH) of the Yakut Branch of the USSR AS. Hereorganized the institute and adopted the structure of four sectors: language, history, literature and folklore. Considerable efforts were directed to the strengthening of workforce. In 1949, eight scientists worked in the team, but in 1963 – 32 people, including one doctor and 10 candidates of sciences (*Scientists-researchers, 2005: 15*). The range of problems of research significantly increased. Particular attention was paid to the preparation of general works such as "History of the Yakut ASSR" in 3 vols. A wide range of topics was studied in the monographs

of F.G. Safronov “Peasant colonization of the Lena and Ilim basins in the XVII century” and “Russian peasants in Yakutia”, the monographs of other researchers.

In the early 1950s with the arrival of professional literary experts to the institute: G.M. Vasilyev, G.K. Boeskorov, N.P. Kanaev, the development of scientific approaches to study the history of Yakut literature that were implemented in the preparation of the “Essays on the History of Yakut literature”. Fundamental studies of the Yakut language were carried out by E.I. Ubryatova and L.N. Kharitonov, a series of dictionaries was prepared by P.P. Barashkov. The opening of postgraduate study in the Yakutsk Branch of the USSR AS gave an opportunity to train linguists, among whom were N.K. Antonov, N.E. Petrov, M.S. Voronkin, E.I. Korkina.

A result of working on major publications was the qualifying staff development. One of the first scientists who prepared a doctoral dissertation on the history of agrarian relations in Yakutia until the middle of the XIX century was G.P. Basharin (1950). The results of research of staff in the 1950s were published in “Scientific Notes”, and later in the works of the ILLH. According to current estimates, the first attempts at systematic coverage of the historical and cultural ways of the peoples of Yakutia were generally successful, but in light of individual events in the history of society and the history of literature it was impossible to avoid the disadvantages of class-party approach (*Academic Science, 2009: 12*).

Since 1963, the Institute was led by Eudokia Innokentievna Korkina (1917-2009) for two decades. She was a specialist in the Yakut grammar, dialectology and lexicography. A graduate of Yakut Pedagogical Institute, she gained experience in the republican government. In 1960 she defended a thesis, and ten years later – her thesis for the degree of Doctor of Philology. During her directorship the Institute developed

quantitatively and qualitatively. In 1984, the staff consisted of 107 people, including 67 researchers, among them were three doctors and 45 candidates of sciences. There were changes in the structure of the Institute: the Department of Philology created from five sectors, the Department of History established from four sectors, and the Archaeology Laboratory (*Scientists-researchers, 2010: 14*).

The Institute continued the in-depth study of topical issues of language, literature and history of peoples of Yakutia, conducting comprehensive annual expeditions. The Institute acted as the organizer of several major conferences, with participation of scientists from Moscow, Novosibirsk, different countries of Europe and Asia.

In the 1960s-the first half of the 1980s by the efforts of linguists and literary experts, some major general works were published: a series of dictionaries, textbooks, “Grammar of Contemporary Yakut language. Phonetics and morphology”, “Yakut tales” in 2 vols., “Yakut folk songs” in 4 parts, “Essay on the Yakut folklore”, a new version of “Essays on the history of Yakut Soviet literature” and other publications. Studies of the Yakut language were conducted by the eminent specialists: I.E. Alekseev, M.P. Alekseev, N.K. Antonov, P.S. Afanasyev, P.P. Barashkov, M.S. Voronkin, N.S. Grigoryev, S.A. Ivanov, E.I. Korkina, A.G. Nelunov, A.N. Myreeva, N.E. Petrov, G.V. Popov, V.A. Robbek, A.V. Romanova, P.A. Sleptsov, E.I. Ubryatova, L.N. Kharitonov, etc. Problems of Yakut literature were studied by: A.A. Bilyukin, G.K. Boeskorov, G.M. Vasiliev, D.E. Vasiliev, N.P. Kanayev, V.T. Petrov, V.A. Semenov, G.S. Syromyatnikov, N.N. Toburokov etc.

Research interests of historians greatly expanded due to the preparation of major monographs. The contribution of Yakutia in the Great Patriotic War was summarized, the study of

the history of a unique area in various stages of its development continued. "Materials on the history of Yakutia in the XVII century (Documents of the tribute-paying duty)" in 3 parts, "Yakut ASSR in the period of developed socialism (Historical Overview)" and other works were published. The Lena archaeological expedition led by Yu.A. Mochanov discovered previously unknown cultures pertaining to the Paleolithic, Neolithic, early Iron Age. The Institute formed a group of scholars and historians: K.I. Gorokhov, V.N. Ivanov, V.F. Ivanov, R.K. Korobtsova (Litvinova), S.I. Nikolaev, A.S. Parnikova, D.D. Petrov, P.U. Petrov, F.G. Safronov, P.S. Sofroneev, M.M. Fedorov, M.M. Khatylaev, R.V. Shelekhova, D.A. Shirina, etc.

A notable contribution to historical ethnography was made by N.A. Alekseev, F.M. Zykov, I.V. Konstantinov, P.A. Sleptsov. Sociological studies were conducted by I.A. Argunov, N.V. Vasiliev, U.A. Vinokurov, R.A. Kuzmina, V.S. Pavlov, B.N. Popov. Together they studied religious beliefs, cultural traditions, changes in the society and the family of northern indigenous peoples under the influence of urbanization.

In 1985 for merits in development of philological and historical sciences, the Institute was awarded with the Diploma of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the RSFSR. It was the recognition of scientific achievements of the Institute staff headed by Professor E.I. Korkina, which contributed greatly to the development of science and culture of the peoples of the North-East of the country (*Academic Science, 2009: 119*).

In 1984, the Institute of Language, Literature and History of the USSR Academy of Sciences was headed by Doctor of Historical Sciences, Professor Vasilij Nikolaevich Ivanov (b. 1935), a specialist in the history and historiography of the North-East Asia. After graduating from the

Moscow Historical-Archival Institute (1957) he worked in archival institutions of Yakutia. During the postgraduate training at Yakutsk State University he prepared a candidate's thesis that he successfully defended in 1966. Doctoral thesis was defended in 1983.

Under the direction of V.N. Ivanov the Institute continued to work on basic scientific directions and reached the maximum number of employees. In 1988 it employed 123 people. Among whom 82 researchers are, included 7 doctors and 49 candidates<sup>2</sup>. Growth of highly qualified personnel was carried out by the work of two specialized councils of the Institute. Structural changes have affected the departments of ethno-sociology and linguistics.

#### **The division of the Institute in the 1990s**

Political events in the country in the early 1990s affected the fate of the oldest academic institute in Yakutia. The rapid process of sovereignty split the scientific community: some advocated to remain in the system of the Russian Academy of Sciences and others – to pass to the Academy of Sciences of the Republic. To save the potential of the Humanities accumulated by the Siberian Branch of RAS in Yakutia, with the support of the SB RAS Chairman, Academician V.A. Koptuyug a new institute was established in 1992 – the Institute of the Indigenous Peoples of the North (IIPN), of SB RAS. Its basis was the sector of Northern Philology of the ILLH SB RAS and the Department of the Institute of economics of integrated development of natural resources of the North, SB RAS.

IIPN's permanent director from 1992 to 2008 was Doctor of Philology Vasilij Afanasievich Robbek (1937-2010). After graduating from the Leningrad Pedagogical Institute named after A.I. Herzen (1966), he taught in the schools of Yakutia, finished postgraduate studies at the

ILLH, in 1974 he defended his thesis for the degree of Candidate of Philology. The degree of Doctor of Philological Sciences was awarded according to jointly published work in 1992. Under his leadership, the Institute staff focused on the implementation of projects: “Monuments of folklore of the peoples of Siberia and the Far East”, “Grammars and dictionaries of languages of the North”, “Ethnic culture and mentality of the peoples of the North”, “Indigenous Peoples of the North: ethnogenesis and history”, “Modern social and economic development issues of indigenous peoples”.

In the mid-1990s IIPN staff consisted of 86 people, including 47 researchers, among whom there were three doctors and 18 candidates. The department of northern philology was established at the Yakutsk State University that aimed to prepare the staff for the Institute. The structure of the Institute consisted of five sectors: the Even, Evenk, Paleo-Asiatic Philology, The sector of Socio-Economic Research, and the sector of History, Archeology and Ethnography (*Kupershtokh, 2006: 333-334*).

The IIPN employees made a great contribution to the study of languages, folklore, ethnography and history of the Evens, Evenks and Yukagirs. Under the framework of the project preparation and publication of the 60-volume series “Monuments of folklore of the peoples of Siberia and the Far East” the team of IIPN prepared three volumes: “Folklore of the Dolgans”, “Folklore of the Yukagirs”, “Ritual and folk songs of the Evenks”. This project was awarded in 2002 with the State Prize of the Russian Federation in science and technology. Among the winners is a researcher of the Institute A.N. Myreeva. A research program to study the indigenous peoples of the North was intensified. For the first time in the practice of RAS, the work on major dictionaries of the Yukaghir, Evenk, Even languages composed by native speakers was completed.

With the establishment of the Academy of Sciences of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia) in 1993, the Institute of Language, Literature and History of SB RAS became a part of it, and in 1995 it was renamed into the Institute for the Humanities Research – IHR AS SR(Ya) headed by V.N. Ivanov. In his view, the change in status had a positive impact on the activities of the Institute: it became more independent leaving the scientific and methodological guidance of the Siberian institutions (SB RAS – N.K.) (*Ivanov, 2005: 694*). But time has shown that it is not true.

The powerful potential accumulated earlier allowed IHR to conduct research on a high scientific level. In the system of the Academy of Sciences of Sakha Republic (Yakutia) the Institute focused on the study of history of Yakutia as a phenomenon of the Arctic civilization, history of Arctic exploration, nation-building, ethno-social development. The historians were given the task of preparing a new history of Yakutia from the standpoint of modern approaches to historical events and phenomena. A great work on the rehabilitation of famous artists, public figures, especially M.K. Ammosov and P.A. Oyunsky was carried out.

The Institute prepared a 36-volume series “History, culture, folklore of uluses and cities of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia)” – a kind of encyclopedia of Yakutia. The staff began to create a “Historical and cultural atlas of Yakutia” and the first edition of the All-Russia series “National holidays of the peoples of the Russian Federation”. Folklorists published four volumes of the 60-volume series “Monuments of folklore of Siberia and the Far East” and put in a scientific use a considerable amount of the new folk material with broad coverage options. Several major works on the folklore of Russian old residents of Yakutia saw the light. Literary scholars published essays on “Literature of Yakutia at the present stage”, focused on folklore and visual media of Yakut

poetry against the background of the samples of world literature, problems of the national and the universal in the Yakut literature, typology of multinational novel (*Ivanov, 2005: 695-698*).

### **The reunion of the Institute**

In 2007, the separate existence of two Institutes for the Humanities in Yakutsk was considered unwise. The Government of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia) handed the Institute for the Humanities Research, Academy of Sciences of Sakha Republic (Yakutia) to the SB RAS. By the decision of the RAS made on December 18, 2007 IHR united with IIPN into one institute – the Institute for Humanities Research and the Institute of Indigenous Peoples of the North, SB RAS. Doctor of Historical Sciences Nikolay Alekseevich Alexeev (1938-2010) was appointed as its director.

After graduating from Leningrad State University (1959) and postgraduate studies of the Institute of Ethnography of the AS USSR, he defended his thesis for a candidate (1967) and Doctor of Historical Sciences (1988). While working in ILLH he became an expert in the field of ethnography, folklore and religion. The long life of the N.A. Alexeev is associated with the Novosibirsk Institute of Philology of the SB RAS, where he took an active part in the project “Monuments of folklore of Siberia and the Far East”, becoming the winner of State Prize of the Russian Federation in Science and Technology in 2002 (*Scientists-researchers, 2010: 23*).

In 2008, the research areas of the IHR&IIPN were defined: integrated development of language, ethnicity, culture and history of the peoples of the North-East of Russia. The most important goal of the research held in the Institute is the preservation and development of the national (ethnic) identity and cultural heritage of indigenous peoples of Yakutia, identifying regional features of local and world transformations (*Alekseev, 2010: 7-8*).

Following the merging of the two staff, IHR&IIPN became one of Russia's largest academic research institutes for the humanities: total number of employees was 192 people. Among whom 118 researchers included 18 doctors and 63 candidates of sciences. The structure of the institute consisted of 12 sectors led by N.A. Alekseev, A.A. Borisov, S.I. Boyakova, G.I. Valaamova, N.I. Danilova, N.I. Ivanova, V.B. Ignatieva, V.D. Monastyrev, P.E. Prokopyeva, V.A. Robbek, E.N. Romanova, L.N. Romanova. The cultural center of the city is the Museum of History of Academic Science of Yakutia named after G.P. Basharin operating under the Institute (*Academic Science, 2009: 204*).

The Institute for the first time in Russian academic science raised the issue of preservation and revitalization of endangered peoples of the North, organizing research to develop the fundamental scientific basis for social and economic development of the North today. By the efforts of staff of the Institute under the supervision of Professor N.A. Alekseev for the first time in Russia “The Concept of Indigenous Peoples of the Russian Federation in the twenty-first century” was presented. It became the basis for the “State Target Program of Economic and Social Development of Indigenous Peoples of the North until 2011” (*Flagman, 2010*). In less than three years N.A. Alexeev has made a great contribution to the academic institution, the development of fundamental scientific activities of the institute and the strengthening of its material-technical base.

In 2011, Doctor of Sciences in History, Professor Anatoly Nikolaevich Alekseev (b. 1946), a specialist in the field of archeology, was elected as the Director of the IHR&IIPN. After graduating from Yakutsk State University and the Postgraduate School, defense of Ph.D. (1981) and doctorate (1994) thesis, he made a great



contribution to the training of Yakutia's personnel as head of the Department of History of Russia and the rector of YaSU. Now, in addition to the duties of the Director of the IHR&IIPN, he leads an interdisciplinary laboratory "The evolution of a man and nature in the North" funded within the framework of North-Eastern Federal University named after M.K. Ammosov (*Elected for the first time, 2011*).

### Conclusions

In the 75-year history the first Institute for the Humanities of Yakutia reached a qualitatively new level of development in all respects of its activity. Among the major achievements of recent years there are general works on the history of not only the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia), but the

whole northern Asia, ethnic and social history of the indigenous peoples of Yakutia, Yakut literary language development, documentation and recording of endangered languages of the indigenous peoples.

At present, specialists of the Institute focus on promising new areas of fundamental and applied science. Thus, one of the most important tasks of the Institute is to preserve and develop national identity and cultural heritage of the indigenous peoples of Yakutia. The personnel potential of the Institute is one of the largest among academic institutions for the humanities in Russia. Availability of highly qualified personnel allows IHR&IIPN SB RAS to participate not only in Russian, but also in large international projects.

<sup>1</sup> Archive of the YaSC SB RAS. Backlog 5. List 5. File 1. S. 4.

<sup>2</sup> Calculated according to the Personnel Department of the Presidium of the SB RAS.

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#### List of abbreviations

AS SA(Ya)	Academy of Sciences of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia)
AS USSR	Academy of Sciences of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
CPSU	The Communist Party of the Soviet Union
ARCEC	All-Russian Central Executive Committee
IHR	Institute for the Humanities Research
IHR&IPN	Institute for the Humanities Research and the Indigenous Peoples of the North
ILLH	Institute of Language, Literature and History
IPN	Institute of the Indigenous Peoples of the North
SRI	Scientific Research Institute
SRILLH	Scientific Research Institute of Language, Literature and History
RI	Research Institution
RAS	Russian Academy of Sciences
SR(Ya)	Sakha Republic (Yakutia)
CPC	Council of People's Commissars
SB AS USSR	Siberian Branch of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR
SB RAS	Siberian Branch of RAS
CEC	Central Executive Committee
YaASSR	Yakutia Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic
YaSU	Yakutsk State University
YaSC SB RAS	Yakutsk Scientific Center SB RAS

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*Институт гуманитарных исследований и проблем малочисленных народов Севера (ИГИиПМНС) Сибирского отделения РАН относится к старейшим академическим учреждениям Сибири. За более чем 75-летнюю историю он превратился в ведущий центр страны по комплексному изучению истории, языка и литературы уникальных этносов, населяющих Северо-Восток России.*

*Ключевые слова: Якутская комплексная экспедиция АН СССР, первый гуманитарный институт Якутии, малочисленные народы Севера, проблемы исследований коренных этносов Севера.*

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