

SAUSSURE IN THE SOVIET UNION

—TRANSLATORS & COMMENTATORS—

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1. Purview in perspective

Since the posthumous appearance of Saussure's *Cours* (1916) by the editing of Charles Bally and Albert Sechehaye, who had not attended his lecture on general linguistics, a number of books, dissertations and articles have appeared which deal wholly or in part with Saussure, the man, and with his work by the scholars in the West as well as in the East,¹ but to the regret of Saussure scholarship little is known how Saussure has been received, reviewed, assessed and assimilated in the Soviet Union from the time of the first translation of his *Cours* (1933) to the time of the second enlarged translation of his linguistic works (1977)

This paper is an attempt at a ground work for this unexplored territory of Saussure scholarship. Though the theme is mighty I do not intend to present a rise and fall of Saussure scholarship in the Soviet Union, which in scope and extent requires volumes of books. This paper concerns with matters of Saussurean marginalia, and aims at filling a much needed lacuna in a biography and bibliography of those scholars who endeavored to introduce Saussurean discipline to the body corporate of Soviet scholars in the early 30's, who were ignorant but interested in titans and trends in linguistics in Western Europe.

Translation of Saussure's *Cours* was done by A. M. Sukhotin, and makes the first of the series of 'The Linguists in the West'. In 1934, that is, in the following year Sapir's *Language* was published in translation as the 2nd of the same series. Vendryes's *Langage*, which was brought out in 1937, was also an attempt by Soviet scholars at assimilating Western linguistic scholarship.

It is said that Saussure was introduced to the Soviet Union by Kartsevsky, who must have met Saussure and knew his linguistic ideas at about 1905.² There

* This is part of what little I have assimilated in my stay in 1977-78 in Moscow and Leningrad at the Institutes of Russian Language, of Linguistics, and at such educational institutions as Moscow and Leningrad Universities, Morris Tores Institute of Foreign Languages, and at Gelzen Institute of Foreign Languages. I offer heartfelt thanks to the Japan Society for the Promotion of Scholarship for Aid-in-grant which enabled me to stay at Moscow & Leningrad in the Soviet Union. I am also indebted to Aid-in-grant in Scientific Research of the Education Ministry for 1976 & 1977 for the preparation of this paper. [Grant Nr. 361185 (1977)]

has been much speculations and discussions on this date, and I had better refrain from advancing my version of the date with its justification. However it remains to speak at least that in the introductory article by Vvedensky or in the commentary by Schor in the first Russian translation of Saussure's *Cours* (2nd edition), this date 1905 was not mentioned. But the moral of this memorable date is that in the Soviet Union Saussure had long been known in the limited circle of scholars before the first translation of his *Cours* was brought out by Aleksej Mixajrovič Sukhotin.

It was one of the privileges of scholarship for me that I was able to obtain a copy of Sukhotin's translation of the *Cours*, a rarity in Saussurean bibliography. Through the pages of this book I hunted for the date 1905, and could not find it.

Since the publication of Sukhotin's translation of *Cours* in 1933 Saussure's linguistic discipline, along with its methodological bipartition for the diachronic and synchronic life of language has become gradually known to the Soviet scholars of linguistic persuasion who had been keen on what Saussure had had to say.

2. The book entitled 'Kurs Obščej Lingvistiki': the first Russian translation of Saussure's *Cours*³

My aim in this paper, as stated above, is Sukhotin the translator, not his translation. However De Mauro in his *Corso de Linguistica Generale (di F. de Saussure)* 1967, took trouble to state that Sukhotin's Russian translation of Saussure's *Cours* was little known to European scholars (p. 335). I have a feeling that I am bound to report of this rare book with concomitant details of its format.

The front cover of the book (15x22,8 cm) is egg-white in color, and green thin line runs in rectangular form to the width and breadth of the book, and encircles squarely the name of the author, Ferdinand de Saussure, the title of the book, *Kurs obščej lingvistiki*, and the name of the publisher, & the publishing Russian organization, with the date of publication. The title of the book is printed in bold-faced in black in three lines, but all the other printed matters in the front cover, such as the name of the author, of the publisher, and the publishing organization are of green in color, of the same color for the framing line. The frontispiece and the title page of the book are photographically reproduced and sent to the end of this paper. Therefore I have only to add that in the frontispiece as well as in the title page the name of the author, the title and all are printed in black as is the case with any frontispiece and title page of an ordinary book for a specialized subject.

In the frontispiece is reproduced the title page of the original book, excepting that at the bottom the name of publisher with that of publication, and the date of publication are printed in Russian (COTSEKGIZ, Moskva, 1933). On the title page is seen the name of the editor and commentator R. I Schor, and the name of Vve-

densky, who prefaced an introductory article to the body of translated *Cours*.

It is the tradition of Soviet linguistic scholarship that any translations that are literary or linguistic are invariably prefaced by an introductory article with a commentary appended to the end. The commentary ranges from a mere gloss to technical terms in the body of a book to a full-fledged article. In this translation of Sukhotin's, Vvedensky's introductory article, which is entitled 'Ferdinand de Saussure and his place in linguistics', runs from page 5 to 21. Schor's commentary at the end of the book consists of expository remarks in depth on words or passages in the body of the translation, and of the indexes for names and terms. The commentary sometimes takes a form of illustrative footnotes lumped at the bottom of the pages.

3. Aleksej Mixairovič Sukhotin, the first translator

Speaking of the first Russian translation of *Cours* by Sukhotin, there are no books on linguistics in the Soviet Union which are so much quoted by so many but are actually seen by so few. The book is, as mentioned earlier, a bibliographical rarity, and accordingly our knowledge of the book is scarce, and so is our acquaintance with the translator.

The name of Sukhotin appears in the title page of the translation which reads 'translation from second French edition by A. M. Sukhotin (*perevod co frantsuzskogo izdanija A. M. Sukhotina*)

The pages and footnotes of linguistic publication in the Soviet Union are bristled with references to this translated first Russian version of Saussure's *Cours* by Sukhotin.

Sukhotin's translation was sent to the publisher on 28th of June in 1933, and set in print on 25th of September in the same year. The number of copies for the first and also last printing is 3000, and was most probably sold out before one knew that it had ever been published.

Even in the Lenin Library, which stores 27,000,000 copies of publications there is only one copy of this translation of Sukhotin's, and the book, I was sad to find, is rebounded by greenish standerzized cover for protection against use by innumerable hands. This is the reason I had the front cover of the book in my personal possession photo-reproduced to the benefit of scholars even in the Soviet Union, not to speak of scholars in Eruope and in both Americas who have not had a chance to see the book in its entirety.

As the book is a bibliographical rarity so is Sukhotin the translator biographically.

After 43 years span of time A. A. Xorodovič brought out the 2nd Russian translation of Saussure's *Cours* plus other linguistic works, though he was not able

to see his monumental book published while he was alive. In his introductory article to this enlarged translation of Saussure's works he gave a sketch of Sukhotin's biography, and this is my main source of Sukhotin as a man.

3. Sukhotin, a man and his work, the first translator

Sukohtin A. M. is the son of an intimate acquaintance of Lev Nikorajč Tolstoy, the world-famed Russian writer in the 19th century, of Mixair Sergeevič Sukohtin who married Tatiana L'vovna Tolstoy, daughter of the great writer, on his second marriage.

Aleksej Mixailovič Sukhotin, the translator, was born in 19th of April in 1882. Having finished law school in Petersburg in 1914, A. M. Sukhotin worked in diplomatic service in Siberia, and in 1917, Sukhotin returned to European Russia, working for some time for the national commissariat for foreign affairs. After that he went to the Institute of Asian Studies. His speciality was the language of India, (Hindi and Bengali), which he pursued in the graduate course of the same institute under guidance of Professor N. F. Jakoblev,⁴ an eminent linguist and specialist in Caucasian languages. A. M. Sukhotin began to work from early 30's as a research associate in the Research Institute of Language (Naučno-issledovatel'sky Institute Jazykoznanija) and in Pan-Russian Central Commission for New Alphabet (Bčero-sysyskaya Tsentral'ny Komissiya novogo Alfavita). From about mid 30's He taught at the Faculty of Moscow City Education Institute, and read "Introduction to Linguistics".

In collaboration with R. I. Abanecov, Head of the Institute, V. N. Sidorov, P. S. Kuznetsov, and A. A. Reformatsky he became a founding member of the famous Moscow School of Phonology, and his scholarly publications appeared in Encyclopedia for Literature, and in the pages of the specialized journal, 'Russian Language in School' and in 'Culture and Letter'. His greatest contribution to Linguistic science in the Soviet Union is his Russian translation of Saussure's *Cours* based on its 2nd edition. This translation, as stated earlier, made the first of the series of The 'Linguists of the West' under the editorship of R. O. Schor.

He also translated, as a second book in the series for 'Linguists of the West', Edward Sapir's *Language*.

His bibliography, including Saussure and Sapir in Russian translation, follows. My chief source is *General Linguistics : An Bibliographical Guide. (Obsčee Jazykoznanie : Bibliografičeskij ukazatel' literatury izdannoj v CCCP s 1918 po 1962 g. M. 1965, c. 276)*

1. 'Problems of abbreviated words in the Languages in the Soviet Union', *Letters and Revolution*, vol. 1(1933), p.151-160.
2. 'Edward Sapir and His place in Linguistics', An introductory article to Sapir's *Language*,

- An Introduction to the Study of Speech.* (& a commentary to it.) M-L., 1934, c. X-XX. ('Linguists of the West', R. O. Schor, ed.)
3. Translation of Sapir's *Language*, the second of the series of 'The Linguists of the West', M-L., 1934. XX-223 c.
 4. Review of Polivanov E. D., *For Marxist linguistics: A Collection of popular linguistics* (1931, 183 pp.) in *Culture & Literature of the East*, No. 10, 1931, c. 132-136.
 5. Translation of Saussure's *Cours de Linguistique Générale* 1933 M., Cotsekgiz, 1933, 272 pp. with illustr. ('The Linguists of the West', R. O. Schor ed.) This translation is reviewed by G. K. Danilov in *For Comsomol Enlightenment* ('za komсомol'skoe prosveščenie' 1934, Sept. 26th.)

Sukhotin's preface to Sapir's *Language* is very illustrative of Shkhotin's view of language in general and of his view of Sapir's *language* in particular. Sukhotin said that Sapir's outlook of language is clear not in his conception of what language is but in his statement of what language is not. Sapir claims that language is not a biological function of mind, and in other places of his book, Sapir, in Sukhotin's view, argues that one must not identify language with its lexicon.

Sukhotin asserts that What Sapir achieved in his *Language* is indicative and characteristic of his peculiar personality, of his erudition, his ability for popularizing, clarity of reasoning and exposition. All these add up and make for Sapir's view of form and function of speech, that is, of language in action. On the other hand Sapir's shortcomings stem from a linguistic discipline in which he was nurtured. "The discipline of bourgeois linguistics," said Sukhotin in his introductory article, "accumulated facts, classified them, and traced these in a comparatively short span of historical times. This bourgeois brand of linguistics, however, was and has been inept at explaining these fact in social perspective, and incapable of framing comprehensive general theory of language." In this connection, in defense of Saussure I would like to quote Keith Percival and do justice to Saussure as sociological theoretician:

"We should not forget that semiology, the science of signs, was for Saussure an essential part of sociology." (*Lg.*, 53(1977) Nr. 2, p. 398) However that may be, what Sukhotin's criticism entails is that Sukhotin envisioned a full-fledged philosophy of a theory of language, which, Sukhotin claims, "will be built only by a class of peoples who, armed with Marxist-leninist theory of philosophy, have built a new society, a communist society first in the world. How large language materials are culled from what a large number of languages that have ever existed on earth, bourgeois linguistics is unable to frame a general theory of language because of the lack of methodology and philosophy of Marxist-leninism with its another side of the coin, dialectal materialism."

This sounds fantastic and laughable idle theorizing to the minds who are not accustomed to Soviet linguistics, especially in its methodological foundation, but if

one ever wants to delve into what Soviet brand of linguistics, and, for that matter, of any Soviet exact sciences have in store for us, one must have a sober look at this seemingly nonsensical catechism. One can not hope to put too much emphasis on the role played by this Marxist-leninist philosophy of historical materialism in the principle and practice of Soviet linguistics,⁵ because one never fails to encounter in the pages of scholarly publication references to pertinent passages in Lenin's works, and not infrequently to the works by Marx and Engels. But it is not for this paper to further illustrate or elaborate on this theme.

4. Danilov, A reviewer of Sukhotin's translation.

I have said above that there is no book of linguistics in the Soviet Union which is so often quoted by so many but is actually seen by so few. Such is Sukhotin's translation, the first Russian version of Saussure's *Cours*. Therefore it comes as a surprise to know that there is only one review article to this book during for the past forty years from the year of its publication in 1933 up to the year of A. A. Xorodivič's translation of Saussure's works with a translation of *Cours* (in its 3rd edition) inclusive. The only review was written by late Professor G. K. Danilov and the title of the article is 'Linguists in the West') (*Jazykovedy Zapod*). The article appeared in a weekly paper "For Commsomol Enlightenment" (*Za comsomol-skoe prosvěščenie*) for 24th of September in 1934. In the history of Soviet linguistics this review article is no less a precious bibliographical item than the book reviewed. The review is worthy of comment and quotation.

To my rummaging through of reference bibliographies and scrutiny of scholarly periodicals in the Lenin Library with the help of specialist-consultant I was unable to locate any obituary article or some such bibliographical item pertaining to Professor Danilov.

Professor Tchemodanov at Moscow University of Germanic Department, an eminent scholar in Germanic philology in the Soviet Union, told me in conversation that Professor Danilov was sometime vice-director of the Institute of Linguistics at about the early 50's when the Institute was founded on its predecessor, the Institute of Language & Thought, which Marr and Meščaninov had been running as directors. As it is at present I can only say that late Professor Danilov is one of the polemicists in Soviet school of linguistics in mid 30's, when Marr and his followers began their activities for fabricating a very chauvinistic Japhetic theory of language. This dominance of Marr's Japhetic theory, which tried to qualify itself as a genetic as well as a general theory of language, resulted in oppression and a subsequent banishment of comparative linguistics from the linguistic scene in the Soviet Union for about 30 years.

It was not until 1950 when Stalin went out of his way and participated in the

linguistic controversy that Marr's dominance declined, and comparative study of Indo-European by young grammarians in Western Europe was restored to its due place.

Professor Danilov's work follows, and my chief source is again from *General Linguistics: A bibliographical Guide. 1965.*

1. 'Outline of the history in linguistic science, with a program for "Fundamentals of linguistics"', 1931, 34 pp. M., 1st Moscow Univ.
2. 'Marxist Method in Lexicology', *Russian Language in Present-day School*, 1926, Nr. 6, p. 48-62.
3. 'Notion of word and object for lexicology', 1929, *ibid.*, Nr. 3, p. 47-58.
4. Review of Translation of Saussure's *Cours* by A. M. Sukhotin, "For Commsomol Enlightenment" (*Za komsomol'skoe prosveščenie*), 1934, 26th Sept. (a weekly paper)
5. Review of Polivano E. D. 's *For marxist linguistics: A collection of popular linguistics.* 1931, 183 pp. in *Russian Language in School*, 1931, Nr. 6-7, p. 162-165.
6. The editing with M. R. Votchatcher of Kyznetsov P. S. 's *Japhetic theory.* M-L., 1932, 56 pp. (an account in critical vein of Japhetic theory)

Danilov's review article, the only review of Sukhotin's translation of Saussure's *Cours*, begins with cursory look over the history of linguistics and its problems past and present, which correspond with the contents of the opening chapter of Saussure's original ('A look over history of linguistics'). Saussure's original in this chapter contains detailed analysis of the object of the science of language and the nature of language signs. After the outline of physiology of speech sounds comes an analysis of these in synchronic and diachronic aspects.

It is an ordinary way of review article that a reviewer goes on chapter by chapter after an overview of an author's stance toward the subject he deals with. But on the next paragraph of his review article Danilov took a different, and harsh attitude toward Saussure. He states that in spite of aspects which Saussure with cogency explicates concerning factual as well as methodological sides of linguistic phenomena *Cours* is defective on the whole. Saussure, Danilov admits, considers language as a social fact, and this claim of his charms and cheats several Soviet linguists into believing what he claims to be true and into taking his claims at their face value. But in point of fact, Danilov pursues, Saussure fails to recognize concrete historically attested side of language as a means of communication. In Danilov's version Saussure views society as a group for psychic activity, not for production activity. Through the book Saussure's leitmotif, to Danilov's view, is that the only and true object of linguistics is 'a language considered in itself and for itself' (*La linguistique a pour unique et véritable object la langue envisagée en elle-même et pour elle-même. Cours 1949, p. 317*), with which Saussure concludes his *Cours*. Danilov was persistent in his criticism against Saussure's 'anti-social view of language', which Danilov, to my view, had misconstrued. In support of his contention

Danilove quotes in disregard of context Saussure's statement that 'there is no need to know the condition in which language develops' (Sukhotin, 1933. p. 45)

Towards the end of his review Danilov come to his senses, and hastily congratulates Sukhotin on his fine translation of *Cours* and also applauds Schor's detailed commentary and Vvedensky's pertinent introductory. Danilove ends up his review with his cutting remark that Schor in writing her commentary cut up Saussure's *Cours* into pieces, thereby failing to present him in the light of confluence of influences he received from his precursors, that is, to present Saussure in the totality of his discipline. Pursuing his criticism of Schor further, Danilov winds up his review with a reproof that Schor separates Saussure from young grammarians, and concludes that she does not recognize what attracts both parties together.

6. Vvedensky, the writer of the introductory article to Sukhotin's translation

Vvedensky, the writer of the introductory article to Sukhotin's translation is not also exempt from Danilov's critical fire. In spite of his fine introductory article, Danilov contends, Vvedensky fails to reveal and made obscure inimical influence on Soviet linguists. Danilov takes Vvedensky by his word, "appearance of such linguistic work is indicative of a going out of a blind alley and marching forward" and Danilov concludes his review with "what a marching forward!"

Of Vvedensky I endeavored to locate his biography and bibliography in the reference room at the Lenin Library, but all I can gather is that he is also, like Danilov, one of those polemicists in mid 30's linguistic tributary which tapered into obscurity though it had its days, and that his only work in print is his introductory article to Sukhotin's translation.

7. Schor R. O., the editor and writer of the commentary⁶

Schor was also a leading member of 30's polemicists, but her influence on the direction in Soviet linguistics is that of contemporary relevance, not of historical significance. Her contribution to Soviet linguistics lies in the fact that she is a co-author of *Introduction to Linguistics* with her student, Professor Tchemodanov (*Vvedenie v Jazykoznanie*, ed. I. I. Meščaninova, M., 1945, 280 c.) The book, with few exceptional antecedents, initiated the making of an introductory textbook for linguistics in the Soviet Union.

Polemical but prolific scholar that she was, Schor died at the age of 45, at the height of her life and vigor, when she was Doctor of Philosophy, Professor and Head of the Chair of General and Comparative Linguistics at the Institute of History of Philosophy.

Schor was born in 11th of July in 1894 in Moscow. After graduating from Moscow Higher Women's college at Romano-Germanic Department of Historico-Philological Faculty, she went into Historico-Philological Faculty at Moscow University for further study of comparative linguistics and Sanskrit.

Schor studied history of Western literature in the class of Professor and academician Rozanov, and attended a course in linguistics jointly conducted by V. K. Poržezhinsky and an academician Pokrovsky. Schor finished Moscow University in 1920, and then remained at the faculty of comparative linguistics and of Sanskrit at Moscow University.

As early as at about the first year of her scholarly activity in the field of comparative linguistics as well as in that of medieval literature she was known for erudition among her seniors and colleagues.

It is natural that she soon acquired nomination of lectureship at Moscow University, and at other higher educational institutions. She taught 'Introduction to linguistics', 'Sanskrit', 'Comparative linguistics, Indo-European languages', and 'History of Linguistics'.

She was the first lecturer in the Soviet Union who conducted a course in History of Linguistics. She was also an editor of "Readings in History of Linguistics", which was a compilation out of classics of linguistics. 'The Course in History of Linguistics' she initiated herself in the curriculum of the University. She delivered as guest scholar in Leningrad first at the Institute of History, Philosophy & Literature, and then in the Philological Faculty at Leningrad University. On top of these teaching activities she served as Head of Linguistics Division at Great Soviet Encyclopedia in its first edition, and at Literary Encyclopedia in its first edition, and at Literary Encyclopedia. She acted as editor in chief of Linguistics Division at Socio-Economic Publishing House. She made the best of these positions she occupied and brought out translations of the giants of the twentieth century linguistics such as Saussure, Sapir, Vendryes, Meillet and Thomsen. She was also editor of Professor Bogorogitsky's *Course in Russian Grammar*.

She applied herself energetically to translating these giants in Western linguistics, to the editing and writing prefatory notes and commentaries, which sometimes was bulky to the length of a book-size. She has rendered great services to linguistic scholarship of the Soviet Union in the 40's.

These translations for which she worked in multifarious roles have immeasurably helped to popularize the ideas of these giants of Western linguistics at their best.

Schor was the first to orientate Soviet linguistics to Marxist-Leninist philosophy. She published an edition of Engels's articles on Frankish dialects, and wrote a commentary, a summary, and prepared maps for the dialects. It is sad to note that the book *Introduction to Linguistics* she had co-authored with her disciple Professor Tchomodanov was not brought out while she was alive.

In addition to General Linguistics and History of Linguistics Schor conducted seminars in languages of ancient India, and she wrote many insightful papers on the language of *Veda*, and published translation of *Panchatantra*.

In the field of Russian linguistics she applied method of experimental phonetics to Caucasian languages. On the other hand she had never ceased to take interest in and teach mediæval literature.

Toward the end of her short life she was teaching at Moscow Pedagogical Institute of History, Philosophy and Philology, and at Central Institute of Language and Literature at Science Academy of the Soviet Union. In respect to her educational activity she devoted herself to the work of National Commissariat for Education, and to that of the National Committee for Higher Education.

She wrote programs for textbooks and reference books. She served as administrator, coordinator and chairman of many scholarly conferences and meetings for educational purpose. Inately active Schor was an exemplary scholar working devotedly to the demand of her discipline and to the service of her country.

Professor Tchemodanov, a writer of the article entitled 'Germanic Languages' for the jubilee book *Soviet Linguistics for 50 years* (1967, pp. 112-129), told me that 'as a Greek poet Menander has it, those whom God loves die young, and Professor Schor was such. Her premature death was a blow and irreparable loss to the science of linguistics in this country'.

The bibliography of Schor follows.

1. 'For the sources of 'Dmitrij Karinina'', *Wreath for Belinsky*. 1924.
2. *Language and Society*. M. 1926.
3. 'On translation & translators', *Press and Revolution*. 1926.
4. 'Russian prose', *ibid.*, 1926.
5. 'From journey over Armenia', *ibid.*, 1926.
6. 'Of the art of writing a preface', *ibid.*, 1926.
7. 'Crisis of present day linguistics', *Japhetic Collection*. Academy of Science, USSR, V. 1927.
8. 'Expression and meaning (Logical directions in present day linguistics)', *Transaction of Inst. Lang. & Lit*, RANION, vol. 1, 1927.
9. *Bedic notes*: 1. Problems of principles of Bedic interpretation. 2. Problem of word order in old Indic (some stylistic figures in Rig-Veda), *ibid.*, 1927.
10. 'Formal method in the West', *Art poetica* published by Akadem city in *Lit. & Scienza*. 1927.
11. 'Über einige russische Märchenparallelen zu Barathadvatrimçika', *Asia major*. 1927.
12. 'On spoiling Russian language', *New World*. 1928.
13. 'Japhetidology (annotated bibliography)', *Bibliography of The East*. 1928.
14. 'On the problem of abbreviation of alphabets', *Culture & Literature in The East*. 1928.
15. 'On the problem of consonant system of Japhetic languages of Caucasas', *ibid.*, 1928.
16. 'Fundamental Problem of Japhetic theory', *Social Science in USSR for 10 Years*. 1928.
17. (under pseudonym, R. Rosh) 'On East-studies', *Press & Revolution*. 1928.

18. *Bedic notes*; 3. 'Meric structure of Bedic Gajatri', *Transaction of Inst. of Lg. & Lit.* RANION, 3, 1929.
19. 'On the problem of Tshubash consonant system', *Bulletin of Azerbaijan State Univ.* 1929.
20. 'The art of publishing classical writers', *Press & Revolution.* 1929.
21. 'On neologisms in the epoch of revolution', *Russian language in Soviet School.* 1929.
22. 'Folk anecdotes on fools in old Indic literature', *Folklore of Literature.* IV, 1929.
23. 'On the problem of the notion of individual word', *Russian Language in Soviet School.* 1929.
24. *Introduction to materialist Linguistics.* Pt. 1-2, 1929, 56 pp.
25. *Tales of Panchatantra.* By Institute of the Peoples in the East, 1930.
26. 'On the problem of consonantal system of Japhetic languages' in Southern Caucasus', *Transaction of the Institute of the Peoples in the East.* vol.1, 1930.
27. 'On the problem of Japhetic-Turkish cross-fertilization', *Reports of Academy of Science, USSR.* 1930.
28. 'Problem of semantics in contemporary West-European linguistics', *Russian Language in Present-day School.* 1930, Nr. 6, p. 32-38.
29. 'Linguistic discussion', *ibid.*, 1930 & 1931.
30. 'Urgent problem (on the construction of Marxist philosophy of language)', *ibid.*, 1931.
31. *On the road to Marxist linguistics.* 1931.
- 32-35. Articles for *Literary Newspaper* 1933-1924: 'On the scientific basis for translation'; 'On the struggle for purity of language and on purism (under pseudonym, R. Rosh)'; 'On the problems of organization of literary language on Poland'.
36. 'Relationship of editions of old Indic collection of tales "Vetalapančavimčati", *Collection of Academy of Science in Honor of Academician, Ol'denburg.* 1934.
37. The editing of the translation of Sapir's *Language. An Introduction to the Study of Speech.* (1921, 258 pp.), 1934.
38. 'Memories of great scholar', (H. Ja. Marr), *Foreign Language in School.* 1935.
39. The editing and a commentary to the translation of the book Ferdinand de Saussure's, *Kurc obščej lingvistikii.* 1935.
40. The commentary to the translation of the works of Engels's *Frankish Dialects.* 1935.
41. 'Semantics of Bedic aorist', *Collection of Academy of Science in Honor of Academician Marr.* 1935.
42. *On the problem of the so-called geminants in Japhetic languages of Dagestan.* 1935.
43. 'From instrumental-phonetic observations of the so-called voiced guttural q in Azerbaijan-Turkish language', *Soviet linguistics.* vol. 2, 1936.
44. *Readings in literature of medieval ages.* M., 1936, 2nd ed. 1938.
45. The editing & preface to the translation of the book, Vendryes, *Le Langage: Introduction Linguistique à L'histoire.* (1925,) 1937.
46. The editing of the translation of the book of Thomsen; preface & an introductory to *History of Philology to the Beginning of 19th Century.* 1936, 131 pp. (with a postscript entitled 'Short outline of the history of linguistic thought from the epoch of Renaissance to the end of 19th century,' 1938.
47. The editing and a commentary to the translation of Meillet's *Introduction to the Com-*

parative Study of Indo-European Languages. 1938.

48. *From the history of linguistic thought in the 18th century: Charles de Bross*. 1939.

R.O. Schor's review articles adds up to 50 items along with 54 items she contributed to *Great Russian Encyclopedia, 1st Edition*. They are too numerous to quote in a limited space of this paper, but suffice it to say that among her reviews are Jespersen (*Language*), Sapir (*Language*), Vossler (*Geist und Kultur in der Sprache*), Günter (*Grundfragen der Sprachwissenschaft*), all of which were written in 1924 and 1925.

8. A. A. Xorodovič, the editor & translator of Saussure's Works.⁷

The Review article by Leonard H. Babby on Xorodovič's *Tipologija passivnyx konstrukcij* concludes with laudatory remark for the book. 'This volume is one of the best reasons I know for urging American linguists to acquire a reading knowledge of Russian.' (*Language* 52 (1976) Nr. 3, p. 700)

One can not help taking interest in A. A. Xorodovič, the coordinator and contributor of the reviewed book, who has won such a praise from one of leading scholars in Russian language and linguistics.

A. A. Xorodovič was the first scholar in linguistics in the Soviet Union who made the first course in Japanese in Leningrad University. He was a very versatile scholar and was very much conversant with all the developments not only in Oriental studies, especially in Japanese and Korean, but with developments of linguistic theory in and abroad the Soviet Union.

After 40 years' lacuna from Sukhotin's translation of *Cours* the enlarged translation of Saussure's works was published, and Xorodovič wrote an introductory article, 'On course in general linguistics by Ferdinand de Saussure' (p. 9-29); 'Ferdinand de Saussure, his life & work'; 'The work of Ferdinand de Saussure'; 'Subject Index'; 'Table for Abbreviation' (650-694). The enlarged translation of Saussure's work includes *Cours de Linguistique Générale*; "Mémoire système primitif de voyelles dans les langues indo-européennes", 1879; "Une loi rythmique de la langue grecque" (*Mélanges Graux*, 1884); "A propos de l'accentuation lituanienne" (*Mémoires de la Société de Linguistique*, VIII, 1894, p. 425-446); "Accentuation lituanienne" (*Indogermanische Forschungen*, VI Anzeiger, Strassburg, 1896, p. 157-166); (J. Starobinski, ed.) "Les mots sous les mots. Les anagrammes de Ferdinand de Saussure" (Paris Gallimard, 1971, p. 35-37, 37-38, 38-39, 59-60, 126-127).

As in the case with Schor Fate has it that Xorodovič could not live to see this monumental translation of his making, the culmination in his life's work. This translation is based on Saussure's *Cours* in its 3rd edition, and it would make a whole monograph if one tries to make a comparing note between Sukhotin's first translation and Xorodovič's second translation, because Xorodovič, while

claiming that he worked on Sukhotin's translation, his version of *Cours* is a new translation in idea and execution.

Aleksandr Alekseevič Xorodovič was born on 24th of May in 1906 in the family of an official. He graduated in 1926 from the Faculty of Linguistics and Material Culture at Leningrad University, where at about this time Ščerba and Marr were teaching. He received his schooling in general linguistics at the Institute of Speech Culture, and from 1933 to 1937 he worked in Leningrad at Historico-philosophical Linguistic Institute.

As research worker at the Faculty of Historico-philosophical Linguistic Institute he gave a course and a seminar for 'Grammar of Contemporary and Old Japanese'. He had also courses in reading and translation of classical and contemporary works of Japanese literature. The Leningrad Historico-philosophical Linguistic Institute was enlarged and in 1934 became the Faculty of Far Eastern Language and Literature. Xorodovič became head of the Faculty and from 1938 to 1944 he was also in charge of the Chair of Oriental Languages at the Faculty.

Xorodovič showed himself talented as coordinator and moderator. In the days of almost 5 years' blockade of the city of Leningrad, Leningrad University had temporarily to move to the city of Saratov. In 1944 at the University, Far East Division was founded and in it was established Faculty of Japanese Philology. Xorodovič did his best and managed to maintain high standing of scholarly and educational activity. His first publication was 'The problem of Linguistic Method in Poetry' which was followed by 'Peter Schmidt and Japhetic Theory' in 1931. In 1935 He brought out *Grammar of Japanese literary language*, the first study of Japanese literary language in the Soviet Union. In the same year was also published his *Dictionary of Auxiliary Words of Japanese*. It stood alone until in 1962 when D. Ellegiers' *Vocabulary of Japanese Grammatical Idiom* was published. In 1937 his *Syntax of Japanese War Terms* (Japanese in warfare document) was written in the light of his syntagmatic theory. Xorodovič received his Candidate Degree from Leningrad University with this monograph, and this was again the first dissertation in Japanese philology in the Soviet Union for Candidate or Doctor's Degree. He never ceased to apply himself to the study of Japanese philology and brought out many works on various aspects of Japanese grammar, such as category of plurality, grammatical number, category of directionality of motion, attributive relation, whole and partial parataxis, syntax of complex sentence, modal syntax and others. These specialized works of Xorodovič's were frame of references in working materials of target languages in depth and incisiveness of analysis. In 1949 he received his PhD with *Outline of Structure of Japanese Language*, in which he made a study of many important problems of Japanese grammar and brought to light distinguishing characteristics of Japanese language.

He subjected morphological devices of Japanese language to systematic scrutiny

and showed that Japanese are too multi-variegated to fit into ready-made category for agglutinative language.

On the problem of particles Xorodovič showed that in Japanese there exists complicate relation between form and meaning, and that there are found many categories in this language, which have no counterparts in Russian language. He made a detailed analysis of category of contact with its relation with voice forms. For the first time in the field of Japanese philology researches were done in multi-farious variants of attributive relation, and in modality.

Xorodovič went out of his specialized field of Japanese to tackle the studies of Korean language, and of general linguistics, while pursuing his proper study in contemporary Japanese. His study of Korean language was done in the early 30's and in 1934 on his initiative at the faculty of Chino-Japanese in Leningrad Institute of Historico-philosophical linguistics Korean Division was established, where Korean language and other related specialized subjects were taught. Specialists in Korean were graduated from this division in 1939, and Xorodovič's *Grammar of Korean Language* were the fruit of his studies in this language in the 30's (1937). 'On latinization of Korean' (1935) was his first monograph on Korean language.

In 1947 at Leningrad University He organized Korean Division out of the Chair of Japanese Philology in The Oriental Faculty which he had been in charge.

From 1952 onward Xorodivič presided over the Chair of Korean Philology and read most of the theoretical as well as practical courses and seminars. His themes are 'Grammar of Present-day Korean', 'History of Korean Literature', 'History & Ethnography of Korean' & others. He read a course in 'Grammatical Structure of Korean Language in 15th Century'. This was such a difficult subject to deal with and deliver as a course that no other scholar in any institute or university in the field of Oriental studies had dared to offer.

In 1951 his *Korean-Russian Dictionary* (1958, 2nd enlarged ed.) was published, again the first of its kind in the Soviet Union, and the fruit of his lexicological researches. On the 3rd edition of the dictionary Xorodovič appended a prefatory note dealing with word formation of Korean language. Russian transcription for Korean alphabet which he had devised was adopted by all the specialists in Korean language and literature. In 1954 was published his *Outline of Korean Grammar*, the fruit of his many years' scholarly and educational activity. This is the only grammar of Korean language in the Soviet Union, and the book was presented award by Leningrad University. This book is being read by students and specialists not only in Korean language, but also was by scholars in other languages.

His abiding interest in literature was signaled by his studies in Korean literature. He wrote introductory articles and commentaries to *Korean Tales*, (1954) and to *Classical Korean Poetry* (1956), which he had edited.

As there were in these days no specialists in Korean whom Xorodovič

could recruit from the institutions in the Soviet Union, Xorodovič entrusted his senior students of the faculty with teaching younger undergraduate students, and in so doing he taught these student-teachers to do their researches on their own.

Encouraged by their teachers' guidance, aid and advice, in the fullness of time these student-teachers took their M. A. and Ph D.

In 1955 Xorodivič became head of the Chair for Chinese Philology of the Oriental Faculty at Leningrad University.

Under his editorship and guidance his students published collected works entitled 'Problems of Korean and Chinese Philology'. Insuperable coordinator that he was he expanded the Chair for Korean Philology and created and appended to it sectors of Vietnamese, Indonesian, Burmese and Txai languages. * (*population 275 thousand and living in the northern part of Vietnam. It belongs to Chinese-Tibetan group of languages)

As coordinator and also as participant Xorodovič has actively participated in theoretical seminars and assemblies of linguistics sponsored by the Oriental Faculty at Leningrad University. He invariably dealt with actual problems in his stimulating and incisive reports and presented many original solutions to theoretical as well as practical problems presented at these meetings. His talk never failed to attract large audience, and some of these works stemmed from the talks he had delivered at such occasions. Such are 'Category of modality'; 'Bounded and unbounded verbs'; 'Theory of subclass words'. Xorodivič opened several courses in the Oriental Faculty, which includes 'Introduction to Phonetics' along with classes for spoken languages. While serving for the Oriental Faculty at Leningrad University he joined the Chair of General Linguistics and read 'Introduction to Linguistics' and 'General Linguistics'. He conducted seminars in general linguistics for graduate and undergraduate students and acquired great popularity with his deep learning and brilliant delivery.

From 1941 he was fellow at the Institute of Linguistics, and theoretical problems of general characters was his constant concern, so that even in his work on grammatical phenomena of concrete languages he never failed to go from particular problems to problems of general theory of language.

One of his main interests in a general theory of language was a theory of syntax. He stated his first theorizing on it in the preface to *Syntax of Japanese Military Language*. In this doctoral dissertation Xorodovič introduced objective and modal syntax.

Towards the end of his research life, that is, later in 50's and 60's Xrodovič did thoroughgoing reserches in the relation of word and sentence. In his article of *Second Component of Sentence* (1959) first he traced history of the problem and then observed that most of the scholars who had done researches in the second component of sentence in Russian pigeonholed this component into parts of speech or reduced it to a category of morphological form of words. Only Šcerva,

academician and specialist in French, he added, opposed to making such categorizing of this component of sentence.

Standing Ščerba's shoulders Xorodovič widened the scope and extent of the problem and showed a line along which study of syntax be pursued. He argued that study of syntax should not be done in the line of taxonomic morphology. He put great emphasis on correlation with other constructions when eliciting syntactic meaning. He also stressed the importance of contrast in syntax among languages from his new point of view. He approached to this correlation problem in his paper entitled 'An attempt at Theory of Words' (1960). In this paper structure of sentence was studied as one of the basis on which to classify words. He put forth notion of configuration. Configuration, to his view, consists of nucleus verb and minimum number of words which give a semantic independence to a sentence with this nucleus verb and make the sentence significant without the help of context. Xorodovič proposed linearly successive operation which serves to elicit configuration.

In the article 'To the problem of Grouping of Words in Sentence' (1961) he compared various possible principles of eliciting syntagmatic groups of words. The most important of these groups are those elicited by features of immediate relations between words and groups elicited on the basis of features of relation.

The first group is similar to word-group in the widest sense of this word, and the second group is a configuration which Xorodivič had in mind. Xorodivič's configuration reminds me of Weinreich's key contrast between cluster (unordered set of features) and configuration (ordered set of features) (*Language* 53 (1977) 2, p. 471.)

Other aspect of general linguistics which Xorodivic took interest in was 'Meaning of Grammatical Category'. This aspect in a theory of syntax had hardly been explored because it had been rejected not as a problem for linguistics proper. Xorodovič made a penetrating analysis to such categories as plurality, number, tense, and modality.

In the papers dealing with the category for plurals in Japanese Xorodovič brought mathematical notion of set to bear on syntactic problems. This is one of the earliest paper in the Soviet Union in which mathematical method was pertinently applied to explicating linguistics phenomena. Another aspect of general linguistics which Xorodovič explored has resulted in 'History of an Agglutinative Theory of Japanese and the Problems of Genetic Relationship of Japanese with Other Languages of Asia, especially with Korean.' (1941) He made detailed analysis of the concept of agglutination and differentiated agglutination from other devices of language. He has made it clear that typological similarity which manifests itself in Japanese in the agglutinative structure is no criteria for classifying languages into families.

From 1961 Xorodovič was head of Research Fellow at Leningrad branch of the Institute of Linguistics of Science Academy in the Soviet Union. He conducted

seminars for younger researchers, and on a monthly meeting scholars and specialists in language came up to the Institute to discuss problems of linguistics under coordination and competent guidance of Xorodovič. These scholars under his guidance brought materials out of 30 languages and published a monograph entitled *Typology of Causative Construction* (1969). And in 1965 Xorodovič edited a book, entitled *Fundamental Problems of the Typology of Language*. His *Typology of Passive Construction* (1974), whose review in its concluding words was quoted earlier, was favorably reviewed by American linguist, L. H. Babby at Cornell University (*Lg.* 52 (1976) : 698-700). This was also a fruit of collective endeavor of this group of scholars.

On top of these joint works Xorodovič endeavored to publish translations of great linguists in Western Europe and brought out Hermann Paul (*Principle of Language*,) Troubetskoy (*Principles of Phonology* (in 1969 its English translation was brought out in California) and Ramsted's *Korean Grammar*.

He was editor of the books written by Korpakča, Kontevič, Cyromjatnikov. His interest in literature gave birth to *Korean Tales* (1954), which was mentioned earlier, and in corroboration with Anna Akhmatova he produced *Korean Classical Poetry* (1958, 2nd edition). He was a so-called universalist in language and literature in the Orient, a leader of Japanese and Korean language and literature in the Soviet Union.

He was notably wide in his interests. He was versed in and practiced painting, music, architecture, and was also conversant with contemporary Soviet and European literature.

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Postscript

In any treatment of intellectual history, for that matter, of history in linguistics, one can focus on the major thinkers, such as Saussure and Sapir, or one can pick out the chief issues or main sub-components of the discipline, for instance, the ebb and flow of structuralist current or Saussurean scholarship in the Soviet Union, showing how they developed over a certain stretch of time.

But in any such attempt at history of linguistic thought, or at a biography and bibliography of particular scholars it is important to give due weight not simply to the giants in the history of linguistics, but also to the professional lives and works of minor scholars.

The deluge of books on Saussure have successively appeared in recent years in Western Europe and America,* and one sometimes wonders if there really can be anything new in the field of Saussurean scholarship.

(*Engler Rudolf (ed.). *Cours de linguistique générale (de F de Saussure)*, edition critique vol. 1, 1968 (fascicles, 1-3): vol. 2, 1974 (fascicle, 4); Mauro Tullio (ed.), *Corso di linguistica generale (di F de Saussure)* (*Biblioteca de Cultura Moderna* 636); Mounin George, *Saussure, ou le Structuraliste sans le Savoir: Présentation, Choix de Textes, Bibliographie*. 1968).

However, perusal of Koerner's *Bibliographia Saussureana 1870-1970: (an annotated classified bibliography on the background, development and actual relevance of Ferdinand Saussure's general theory of language. 1972)* reveals that Western scholars and specialists in linguistics know very little about the inception, introduction and incorporation of Saussurean scholarship in the Soviet Union. This is partly because of political condition on the part of Soviet scholars, and partly because of the lack of reading knowledge of Russian on the part of most Western scholars.

This paper is an attempt at a bio-bibliography of linguistic scholars in the Soviet Union who have contributed to the Saussurean scholarship in that they served the cause, having worked as editor, translator and/or writer of an introductory or a commentary of Saussure's *Cours de linguistique générale* and his major works. (*Cours*, 1916, *Mémoire*, 1878, *Les anagrammes* (ed. by Starobinski, 1971) *et. al.*)

A. M. Sukhotin (1888-1942) is the first translator of Saussure's *Cours*. He was an official in diplomatic service and was not a specialist in linguistics when he

started on his professional carrier.

G. K. Danilov's review article of Sukhotin's translation, which appeared in *Komsomol'skoe Prosvěšćenie* for 26th of September in 1934, is the only review on Sukhotin's translation of Saussure's *Cours*. This review of Danilov's is a rarity in the history of Soviet linguistics and in Saussurean scholarship in the world. A photographic reproduction of this review article is appended to this paper in a reduced size.

Sukhotin's translation is a very rare book both at home in the Soviet Union and abroad in the world. The photographic reproduction of the cover and the double spread title pages of the book are also shown at the end of this paper. The capitalized name of the publisher ОГИЗ stands for "Oviejinenie gosudarstvennyx uzdatel'stv [Union of State Publishers' (1930-1949)].

R. O. Schor (1894-1939) is the editor and writer of the commentary to Sukhotin's translation, and A. A. Xorodovič (1906-1977) is a famous specialist in Japanese philology in the Soviet Union and a translator of Saussure's *Works* including *Cours* and *Mémoire*. He is one of the best theoreticians in Soviet linguistics and the books he coordinated and edited were favorably reviewed in the pages of *Language: Journal of the Linguistic Society of America*. (*Tipologija kauzativnyx konstrukcij*: by Vernard Comrie at University of Cambridge; (*Lg.* vol. 52 (1976) Nr. 2: 479-488.); *Tipologija passivnyx konstrukcij*: by Leonard H. Babby at Cornell University. (*Lg.* Vol. 52 (1976) Nr. 3: 698-701.)

Note

1. See for instance, footnote to Percival's review article of Koerner's *Ferdinand de Saussure* (1973, pp xI+428pp) and his *Bibliographia Saussurcana 1870-1970* (1970) and in the Soviet Union, N. A. Slyusareva's *Teorija F de Sosyura v Svete Sovremenoj Lingvistiki* (M., 1975, 112 c.)
2. Tullio de Mauro (ed.) *Corso di Linguistica Generale (di F. Saussure)* 1967. p. 338.
3. Ferdinand de Saussure, *Kurs Obščej Lingvistiki*. Tr. from 2nd French Edition by A. M. Sukhotin and edited by R. O. Schor with an introductory article by D. N. Vvedenskij, (Moskva, 1933, 272 pp.)
4. Jakoblev worked with Polivanov & others for constructing letters and elaborating grammars for the peoples who had joined the Soviet Union in 1930's.
5. See A. S. Mel'nitsuk, 'Filosofskie voprosy jazykoznanija' (*Voprosy Jazykoznanija*, 1975: 5, c. 10-17) and collection: *Leninizm i Teoretičeskie Problemy Jazykoznanija*, 1971. M., 383 c.
6. My chief source for her life and works is M. V. Sergievskij's 'Pamjati R. O Schor' & 'Raboty R. O. Schor', *Trudy: Moskovskij Institut Istorii, Filosofii i Literatury*. 1939, c. 307-314.
7. My chief source of A. A. Xorodovič (March 24/1906-March 20/1977) is G. E. Ratčov & C. E. Jakontov's 'Areksandr Aleksevič Xorodovič', (*Narody Azii i Afriki* (1966, 3:212-217) & 'His Main scholarly works published between 1966-1974' by A. K. Ogloblin (*ibid.*, 1976, 6: p. 229) and 'Pamjati Areksandra Alekseviča Xorodovitsa', edited by U. S. Khrakovskij & L. R. Kontsevič (*ibid.*, 1978, 2: 249-250).

