

1

Contemporary
EAST

SCIENTIFIC, SOCIAL
AND POLITICAL JOURNAL
OF THE INSTITUTE
OF ORIENTAL STUDIES,
U.S.S.R. ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

JULY 1960

7

The July issue of *Contemporary East* opens with an article, *World Assembly of Orientologists*, by *Bobodjar Gafurov*, a prominent Soviet orientalist, Chairman of the Organizational Committee of the 25th World Congress of Orientologists in Moscow. Regular meetings of orientologists, he writes, with the purpose of promoting reciprocal acquaintance with the achievements and works of each and all, have long since become a fine tradition.

Western attitude towards the East, *Gafurov* points out, has always been characterised by two distinct methods of approach. One was prompted by an unselfish desire to study the cultural values of the East from a broadly humanitarian point of view. The other was motivated by a mercenary interest in its material wealth. Throughout the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries, these two tendencies have clashed constantly in world orientology.

In our time, when we are witnessing a renaissance of the East, with more and more countries of Asia and Africa achieving independence in all spheres of life, the first tendency is steadily gaining ascendancy over the second, which is bound soon to disappear altogether.

Soviet orientology, *Gafurov* writes, is guided by the best traditions of world and Russian science. Thanks to its progressive methods it has achieved considerable successes. A wide range of comprehensive works on history, economics, culture and linguistics have been published, which have won recognition far beyond the Soviet Union. The article mentions the names of *V. V. Struve*, *S. P. Tolstov*, *I. M. Dyakonov*, *I. A. Orbeli*, *N. I. Konrad*.

2

I. S. Braginsky and other celebrated Soviet orientalists whose works will be featured at the Moscow Congress. Gafurov also pays tribute to the accomplishments of scientists in the Republics of the Soviet East—Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Georgia, and others.

“Soviet scientists,” he writes, “are certain that the Congress will enable orientologists to get better acquainted with the achievements of each other, thus promoting the expansion of links between scholars in different countries. Soviet scientists, it should be noted, do not intend to force their point of view on any single delegate or the Congress as a whole. Nonetheless, they make no secret of the fact that in all their researches, as well as in their very approach to problems of oriental studies, they are guided by a Marxist-Leninist methodology and consider it the only correct one.

“Asian and African countries will be represented at the Moscow Congress much wider than ever before, which is bound to contribute greatly to its success.

“The forthcoming meeting of orientologists will facilitate stronger contacts between the scientists of East and West, the development of world orientology and the enhancement of its role in promoting progress and the peaceful co-operation of people.”

Several prominent Soviet orientalists comment on the Congress in this issue and express their best wishes concerning its work.

Professor *S. L. Tikhvinsky*, a well-known sinologist, writes that problems of sinology will occupy an important place in the Congress' work. “In recent years,” he writes, “many comprehensive treatises covering various aspects of Chinese history economics, language, literature, archaeology, law and art have come out in the People's Republic of China, the Soviet Union and other countries. In the course of their forthcoming meetings, scientists will be able to demonstrate the results of their studies and to acquaint one another with the progress of

science and the problems tackled in their works. We Soviet scientists look forward with great anticipation to the opportunity of meeting scientists from other countries who have made their contributions to various branches of sinology, which has developed tremendously in the last decade since the formation of the People's Republic of China."

"I hope," professor *Tikhvinsky* says, "that the international meetings of orientalists in Moscow will prove of high scientific value and will promote the further advancement of science and the rapprochement of scientists from all over the world."

This is not the first time that Uzbekistan orientalists participate in such international congresses, writes *Sabakhat Azimdjanova*, Director of the Institute of Oriental Studies of the Academy of Sciences of the Uzbek Republic. Scientists from Tashkent, she writes, will present at the Moscow Congress a complete Russian translation of the five books of the *Canon of Medical Science* by Abu Ali ibn-Sina (Avicenna), that all-embracing medieval treatise which played such an important part in the history of world medicine. "In recent years," *Sabakhat Azimdjanova* continues, "the scientists of our institute have produced a number of comprehensive works of considerable scientific value. Much is being done to study the scientific heritage of such outstanding scholars and thinkers of the East as Abu Reihan Biruni, Baikhaki, Abu Bakr al-Razi, Ulugbeg, Alisher Navoi, Abdul Razak Samarkandi, Mirkhond, Khandamir, Babur Munis, and Oghekhi.

"Of no less scientific and political importance is another aspect of our research work, namely, the study of the history, economics and culture of foreign countries of the East."

Sabakhat Azimdjanova expresses confidence that the developing centre of oriental studies in Tashkent will worthily represent the achievements of the orientalists of Central Asia at the Moscow Congress.

3

Professor I. I. Potekhin, Director of the African Institute of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences, addresses his best wishes to the scholars of Africa who will attend the Congress. "Nineteen sixty," he writes, "has been called the Year of Africa. It will go down in the history of African peoples as a year of outstanding victories in their struggle against colonialism and imperialism. At the time of the 23rd Congress of Orientologists in Cambridge, in 1954, there were only five independent countries on the African continent. When the 24th Congress convened in Munich, in 1957, there were nine. Now there are twelve, and by the close of the year there will be no less than seventeen!"

Professor Potekhin addresses the following wishes to the Moscow Congress: first, that African scientists take part in the deliberations of the African section alongside with European and American scientists. Second, that the work of Africanists at the Congress should give momentum to historical research which would reveal in its true light the rich and glorious past of the peoples of Africa. Third, that Africanists link their researches closer to the problems of our time, including the practical tasks of reshaping the social and economic structure of African nations.

"And finally," *Professor Potekhin* writes, "my wish is that the Congress promote greater co-operation between the Africanists of all countries and continents in the name of the great historic task of eliminating the last vestiges of colonial oppression of African peoples as quickly as possible."

This issue carries a short article, *Oriental Studies for Peace*, written by the outstanding scholar of Tibet and Mongol studies, the late *Professor Yuri Roerich*, shortly before his untimely demise. He stresses that our science is coming to the Moscow Congress in conditions of a new and great epoch. "In recent years," he writes, "Soviet orientology has progressed tremendously. The Soviet Union maintains multifarious relations with Asian coun-

tries based on equality. The Moscow Congress will serve as a review of scientific achievements in our country and abroad.

"Much is being said and written about the forthcoming Congress. People are preparing for it. This imposes great responsibility on us. Soviet orientology will demonstrate its accomplishments, as well as the richness of its museum collections. We have gained a leading position in many spheres of oriental studies. For foreign researchers engaged in Turkic or Altaic studies, for example, the knowledge of Russian is a must."

Professor Roerich dwells on the prospects of oriental studies in the Soviet Union. "The Institute of Oriental Studies of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences," he writes, "has become a major research centre with two branch sections, in Moscow and Leningrad. In the future, new comprehensive institutes will doubtlessly appear, which will study the history, culture and languages of Asian countries. The majestic tasks of the new era must be reflected in the structure and work of research establishments."

"The peoples of Asia arising towards a new life," *Professor Roerich's* article concludes, "cherish their cultural heritage and find in it a source of inspiration for new accomplishments. It is our duty to assist them in this in all ways. For such assistance promotes peace, serves science and facilitates the peaceful co-operation of scientists in all countries."

Professor M. A. Korostoutsev, a celebrated Soviet historian of ancient Egypt, writes of the achievements of Soviet scholars in that branch. "We Soviet egyptologists," he writes, "have all grounds to expect the Congress to be extremely interesting and fruitful. We look forward to hearing the reports of our foreign colleagues and, in turn, intend to present papers illustrating the progress of our science." *Professor Korostoutsev* regards as a major achievement of Soviet egyptology a collective work of a group of researches under *Academician V. V. Struve* to determine the nature of ancient Egyptian so-

4

ciety—a slave-owning system in an early stage of development. *Professor Korostovtsev* stresses the need of strengthening scientific links between Soviet scholars of ancient Egypt and their foreign colleagues. He also points out the urgency of discussing at the Congress the question of preserving the pricelees monuments of Egyptian culture from eventual flooding after the completion of the Aswan High Dam.

Professor E. A. Belayev discusses problems of Arabic studies at the Congress. He notes that many prominent arabists and islamists of Western Europe, countries of the Arab East and North Africa will take part in the Congress.

“Arabists from the European socialist countries,” he writes, “will doubtlessly play a significant part in the Congress’ work. Many outstanding scientists and their pupils in the German Democratic Republic, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary and Bulgaria are engaged in extensive, fruitful work in many fields of Arabic studies. The Congress is bound to show great interest in the results of their work.”

Professor Belayev notes that Soviet scholars have studied the history of the national-liberation movements of Arab countries and related problems for more than 40 years. Marked successes have been achieved in studying the history, economics, languages and literatures of Arab countries. Soviet arabists will present reports revealing the results of many years of fruitful research.

“We do not doubt,” *Professor Belayev* writes in conclusion, “that the forthcoming World Congress of Orientalists will contribute to the further development of oriental studies. It will promote the expansion and consolidation of international contacts and co-operation between orientalists. It is to be hoped that such co-operation will serve not only the progress of culture, but also the preservation of peace among nations, for which all democratic and progressive forces throughout our planet are working tirelessly.”

In August 1876, orientalists from many countries met in St. Petersburg, then capital of Russia. On August 9, 1960, the Moscow State University will hospitably throw its doors open to the participants in the 25th World Congress of Orientologists. The time that has lapsed between these two congresses was filled with events of tremendous historical importance to the human race. In his article, *Two Congresses*, P. Shastitko draws a comparison between them.

By 1876, *Vladimir Lenin* considered, "...the development of West-European capitalism in its premonopolistic stage could, on the whole, be regarded as completed." The intensive transition from the free competition of industrial capitalism to imperialism was accompanied by rapid colonial expansion and a fierce struggle for possession of the still undivided lands. This was clothed in the ideological garb of the West's "mission of civilization" with regard to the "barbaric" East. "The few works of real scientific value in Europe were swamped in a sea of compositions by conquerors, colonial army officers, civil servants and missionaries."

The second part of the article gives a historical survey of our time, when capitalism has ceased being a world system, when almost all former colonies in Asia have gained freedom and formed sovereign states, and when a number of African states have won national independence.

"Fresh, healthy juices are pouring into orientology, which was once the undisputed domain of European and American scientists. Scholars from Asian and African states engaged in comprehensive studies of the history, economics, cultures and languages of their peoples have occupied their worthy place in world orientology. Today, when the shameful system of colonialism is collapsing together with its pseudo-scientific theory of the 'inferiority' of Eastern peoples, the task of orientology is to reveal the tremendous part played by Asia and Africa in human civilization and in the mutual influence and enrichment of the cultures of East and West."

5

Soviet scientistists consider themselves by duty bound to study contemporary problems which life itself raises before them. To promote through their works the progress of the East, the peaceful coexistence of peoples, the greater mutual influence of Eastern and Western culture and to facilitate aid to Eastern peoples in overcoming economic and cultural backwardness—this is the lofty duty of scholars today.”

B. Snegov's article, *Subduing the Vakhsh*, tells of the construction of a 2.5-million-kilowatt hydroelectric station in Tajikistan, which will go into operation in 1965.

The new power plant will have several interesting features. Firstly, its huge dam will be 300 metres high—as high as a 100-storey building. It will hold back a water reservoir of 9,000 million cubic metres—almost half the annual discharge of the Vakhsh and one-seventh that of the Amu Darya, the biggest river of Central Asia. The high dam will make it possible for the plant to produce as much electricity as some hydroelectric stations on the Volga, whose discharge is 15 times greater than that of the Vakhsh.

Secondly, the Vakhsh plant will generate extremely cheap power—0.3 kopecks per kilowatt-hour, which is less even than the cost of electricity generated by the Bratsk Hydroelectric Station on the Angara. The reason for this is that the Vakhsh rises in the Pamir Mountains—often called the Roof of the World—with its tremendous reserves of hydraulic energy accumulated in glaciers.

Thirdly, the Vakhsh station is in the immediate vicinity of fertile, but arid areas of Central Asia. The cheap energy generated by the plant will supply water to irrigate 1.3 million hectares of land. Some two million tons of cotton and many other valuable subtropical crops will be grown on the reclaimed fields.

A feature by *N. Shmigol* tells about Loyan, a thriving industrial centre in China. In five years its population has

increased fourfold and topped half a million. A tractor plant built with Soviet aid produced more than 6,000 tractors last year. This January it reached its full capacity of 1,250 tractors per month—one every 12 minutes. Loyan also has a mining machinery plant, a bearing works and other factories. The mining machinery plant supplies modern ore concentration machines, machinery handling plant and steel rolling equipment to all parts of the country. The bearing works manufactures the bulk of China's ball- and roller-bearings for her engineering industry. From 1949 to 1959, gross industrial output in Loyan has increased 240-fold.

G. N. Bhoj, an Indian economist, comments on the article by Professor P. C. Mahalanobis about problems of economic planning in underdeveloped countries. Mr. Bhoj points out that the principles of economic development elaborated in industrialized capitalist countries are unacceptable to the economically underdeveloped nations. He considers that a study of the experience of economic development in the eastern republics of the Soviet Union would provide economists from underdeveloped countries, India in particular, with "the necessary examples to be followed." Mr. Bhoj supports Professor Mahalanobis's suggestion that a conference be called to discuss questions of economic development of the underdeveloped countries of Asia and Africa. He considers that in preparing for such a conference stress should be laid on a comprehensive and concrete study of the technical and economic aspects of planning.

Indian planning organizations and economists, writes R. Ulyanovsky in his article, *Keynesian Theories or the Experience of Socialist States?*, tend more and more extensively to study the experience of planning accumulated by the Soviet Union and the other socialist nations.

Acceptance of the principle of priority development of the heavy industry for India's second and following five-year plans are a result of this. The experience of the U.S.S.R and the other socialist states also suggests to India the need to industrialize through the development of state-owned rather than private industry.

At the same time, many Indian economists, while accepting certain ideas evolved in the socialist countries, also seek to employ modern bourgeois theories, notably the ideas of Keynes, in their theoretical and practical researches.

The main attraction for Indian bourgeois economists in Keynes's theory is the illusion it creates that its application in an economically underdeveloped country creates a basis for attaining complete employment.

From the point of view of Indian followers of Keynes, the primary consideration in a nation's economic policy must be to ensure full employment at whatever cost—even through stimulating investments by stepping up capitalistic or semi-feudal exploitation of the masses at large and through the reduction of the latter's real consumption and share in the social product.

Keynesian theories in India preach the need to solve the problem of complete employment through the introduction of the hand weaving loom and spinning wheel.

Finally, some Indian economists regard Keynesian theories as a new revelation because they are based on constant state interference in investment, which, objectively, corresponds to the requirements of the present period of industrialization on a bourgeois basis in India. These ideas are easily explained. Indian bourgeois economists substantiate them by the consideration that complete employment is a prerequisite for class peace and, consequently, all classes are interested in securing complete employment, which alone, they claim, can create a "welfare society".

The erroneousness of the Keynesian theories of Indian economists is apparant to all Marxist economists, and one might not have to dwell on this question at any length.

However, Indian bourgeois economic science exerts considerable influence on practical economics which is why the problems raised in this article by far transcend the boundaries of pure theory.

Soviet economists show keen interest in the works of their Indian colleagues. They are pleased to see that many distinguished economists, such, for example, as Prof. P. C. Mahalanobis and Prof. V. B. Singh, give a negative appraisal to the role of Keynesian theories in solving industrialization problems in India and other economically underdeveloped countries.

Marxist economists realise, of course, that socialist experience in solving the question of the sources of accumulation through the complete liquidation of private capitalistic and semi-feudal parasitic appropriation of the social product is unacceptable to Indian bourgeois economics both in essence and in methods. Nonetheless, there can be no doubt that, as far as concrete technical and economic aspects of development are concerned, economists in India and other underdeveloped countries have more to gain from the experience of the Soviet Union and the other socialist states than from all bourgeois economic theories.

S. Pevzner, curator of the Near and Middle East Department of the Museum of Oriental Culture in Moscow, describes a fine relic of medieval Indian culture and art — miniature illustrations to a manuscript of the Persian translation of *Babur-Nameh* — the memoirs of *Zahir ud-Din Babur*, founder of the Great Mogul dynasty.

The Museum of Oriental Culture, where the originals of these miniatures are on view, is one of the world's biggest research establishments and possesses many outstanding relics of Eastern culture and art. The museum was organized in March 1918, less than half a year after the proclamation of Soviet government. This is a significant fact which shows the great importance the Soviet government has always attached to the culture of Asian

7

peoples, and it is a manifestation of the interest towards the life and creations of these peoples, who for centuries had languished in colonial oppression.

The *Babur-Nameh* series of miniatures occupies an important part in the exposition of the Museum of Oriental Culture, as it does among other major monuments of Indian and Eastern culture. *S. Pevzner's* article is illustrated with four pages of reproductions from the *Babur-Nameh* miniatures.

In this issue we carry several reports of special interest to orientalists. *Z. Ganiyeva* writes of the 90th birthday of *Dr. Abdul Haq*, the celebrated Pakistani linguist and literary critic. The Institute of Oriental Studies of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences held a special session this April to mark the occasion. The Soviet public highly esteem the deserts of *Dr. Abdul Haq*, his social activities and his great work in expanding the cultural links of Urdu-speaking peoples and, in particular, in acquainting them with Russian and Soviet literature.

G. Serdyuchenko writes of the linguistic studies being carried out at the Institute of Oriental Studies of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences. The Institute has prepared for publication a series of essays on dead and living Eastern and African languages of various groups and families. The essays include historical outlines of various languages, descriptions of the territories where they are (or were) predominate, their dialects and principal written monuments. Already published are essays on the languages of India, Pakistan, Nepal and Ceylon and on Amharic. Essays on Turkish, Indonesian, Mongol, Japanese, Korean, Khmer and the Mongolian languages of China well come out shortly.

A brief feature in our book review section tells of foreign publications pertaining to the East in the U.S.S.R. State Lenin Library, one of the biggest book repositories in the world. These include a monumental Chinese ency-

elyopaedia in 10.000 volumes, a seven-volume Japanese Literary Encyclopaedia, the priceless *Kitab al-Aghani* (Book of Songs) by the medieval Arab poet *Abu al-Faraj al-Isfaghani*, several unique editions of the *Arabian Nights*, and the first edition of *Avicenna's Canon of Medical Science* published in Rome in 1953. The library also possesses many valuable medieval Arab and Persian manuscripts, as well as a comprehensive collection of contemporary publications of Oriental classics.

The participants in the 25th World Congress of Orientalists will be able to inspect the treasures of Eastern culture at the Lenin Library.

C O N T E N T S

B. G. Gafurov. World Assembly of Orientologists 2
 Disarmament—the Fundamental Problem of Our Time
 Distinguished Guest from Indonesia

COMMENTS ON THE CONGRESS

S. L. Tikhvinsky. International Gathering of Orientologists in
 Moscow 6
Sabakhat Azimjanova. Uzbek Orientologists before the Congress. 6
I. I. Potekhin. For Greater Scientific Co-operation Between Afri-
 canists 7
 The Soviet School of Orientalogy 7
Y. N. Roerich. Oriental Studies for Peace 8
M. A. Korostovtsev. Egyptology Before the Congress 9
E. A. Belayev. Towards the World Congress of Orientologists . . 10
P. Shastitko. Two Congresses 11

IN THE REPUBLICS OF THE SOVIET EAST

V. Snegov. Subduing the Vakhsh 14
 In the Land of Plenty 17

A STRONG ECONOMY—THE FOUNDATION OF
INDEPENDENCE

Sahib Singh Sokhei. Hopes and Hardships 20
A. Ananyev. The ECAFE Session in Bangkok 22
N. Shmigol. Visiting Loyan 24

COMMENTS ON PROF. P. C. MAHALANOBIS' ARTICLE

G. N. Bhoj. Against Unnecessary Expenditures 26
R. Ulyanovsky. Keynesian Theories or the Experience of Socialist
 States? 27
 15.

CULTURE OF THE EAST

<i>S. Pevzner</i> . The "Babur Nameh" Miniatures	30
<i>Z. Ganiyeva</i> . Doctor Abdul Haq (90th birthday)	32
<i>B. Potskhveria</i> . To Live in Peace and Friendship	33
<i>O. Baryshnikova</i> . Philippine Independence Day	35
<i>Tolen Shamshiyev</i> . In Afghanistan	36
<i>G. Drambyants</i> . At the Walls of Ancient Samara	38
<i>V. Katin</i> . Through the Lebanon	40

BACKGROUND FACTS

<i>Y. Fyodorov</i> . "Friendship"—American Style	43
<i>V. Shlyonov</i> . The Cambodian People Stand for Neutrality	44
<i>V. Yermakov</i> . Shifting the Blame	45
<i>O. Tsvetayev</i> . Exhorters from the Monkton Commission	46
<i>S. Gorsky</i> . Academy of National Betrayal	46
<i>Y. Romanov</i> . Reaction Rages in Iran	47

AT THE MAP OF THE EAST

<i>L. Korneyev</i> . Achievement of the Malagasy People	48
<i>D. Volsky</i> . The Fate of British Borneo	51
<i>L. Dmitriyev</i> . Police Terror in a Trust Territory	53

BOOK REVIEW

<i>E. Vainstein</i> . Treasure House of Oriental Publications	55
<i>G. Bondarevsky</i> . The Confessions of Anthony Eden (con- cluded)	56
<i>An. Kartsev</i> . The Mystery of the Tomb of Tutankhamen	58