

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

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**MILESTONES OF O.V. KORCHAK-CHEPURKIVSKIY'S
YOUNG LIFE: UNKNOWN PAGES OF BIOGRAPHY**

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Summary. In this work we presented some unknown questions of O.V. Korchak-Chepurkivskiy's biography devoted to the early periods of his life. We proposed historical background of the birthday, origin, education. A lot of archival documents were shown at first and weren't discussed in previous scientific researches. Ovkseintiy V. Korchak-Chepurkivskiy was born in 1857, 14th (26th) of February. For determining of the date in the Gregorian (new) style we should add 12 days to the date in the Julian (old) calendar (in the case that date took place in the XIX century) using the formula $n + 12$ (i. e. $14 + 12 = 26^{\text{th}}$ February). Ovkseintiy belongs to the kind of priests. Ovkseintiy's father Vasiliy was a deacon. But after studying of archival data we can say that his mother Mariya Volodymyrivna was a daughter of priest as well. O.V. Korchak-Chepurkivskiy received theological secondary education. We have found that he had been studying in Poltava Theological Seminary from 1873 to 1877. Perhaps some ideas of Christianity and Orthodox tradition formed his point of view and beliefs. In any case such questions haven't been discussed yet and might be thought as original results of our research.

Key words: biography, metrical data, date of birth, origin, education.

Introduction. Preventive medicine in the health system of Ukraine in today's society does not lose its value. Public Health at the beginning of XXI century is considered in the plane of planetary scale. Improving quality of life and promoting health relates to key areas of policy. One the most influential person in Ukrainian medicine of the early XX century was a Minister of Public Health and Guardianship (1919) O.V. Korchak-Chepurkivskiy.

In the study we have analysed youth of academician O.V. Korchak-Chepurkivskiy, whose experience is relevant at the moment. His figure is critical in shaping the sanitary epidemiological service in Ukraine. Unfortunately, the academic contribution to medical science and biography was not fully understood at present and requires modern evaluation and rethinking.

Objective. The idea of this work is to present original research data received from archival documents. We tried deeply analysing origin and youth of O.V. Korchak-Chepurkivskiy who became a Minister of Public Health and Guardianship in 1919.

Materials and Methods. We used historical, analytical and biographical methods. Due to archival documents and autobiography (curriculum vitae) written by O.V. Korchak-Chepurkivskiy we faced with some unknown facts of his life that hadn't been presented before.

Results and Discussion. Studying the role of academician O.V. Korchak-Chepurkivskiy in the development and formation of Sanitary and Epidemiological Service of Ukraine, the assessment of his heritage as a hygienist, demographer, scientist and epidemiologist is very important in the historical context of preventive medicine in modern Ukraine.

But there are a lot of questions devoted to his early life that were not analysed.

Ovkseintiy belongs to the kind of priests. There are references relating to the early nineteenth century, in which the name of priest Jacob Korchak-Chepurkivskiy, abbot of the St. Myron church in St. Petersburg (1825 – 1828 years) was named [1]. Was he a relative of O.V. Korchak-Chepurkivskiy? It isn't known reliable enough. While there

is every reason to think that Korchak-Chepurkivskiy's family had priests. After studying of archival data we can say that there are materials about origin of his mother Mariya Volodymyrivna that she was daughter of a priest, and Ovkseintiy' father Vasiliy was priest as well (he was a deacon).

So Ovkseintiy Korchak-Chepurkivskiy was the 11th child in the family of deacon Vasyl and Mariya Korchak-Chepurkivski. He was born on the 26th February (14th by Julian style) 1857 in the small provincial city Kostyantynohrad, Poltava region (now the city Krasnohrad in Kharkiv region) [2].



Figure 1. Ovkseintiy Korchak-Chepurkivskiy

This study found inaccuracies in the materials of some scientists dedicated to the study of biography, including the birthday of academician. Ovkseintiy Korchak-Chepurkivskiy was born on the 14th February by Julian style. It is well known that for determining the date of the Gregorian style we should add 12 days to the date in the Julian (old) style (in the case that date took place in the XIX century) using the formula $n + 12$ (i. e. $14 + 12 = 26^{\text{th}}$ February, not 28th). Interesting thing that in Korchak-Chepurkivskiy's autobiographies birthday was presented in different ways: as February 14th/26th and February 14th/27th as well [2, pp. 26, 28, 63; pp. 64, 67].

But we should know another explanation of the likely date of birth of Ovkseintiy's date of birth. February 14th, by Julian Style, Orthodox Church celebrates the memory of St. Ovkseintiy. It was known by his relatives, especially father should know that as he was at that time a deacon. The child was born on the day of St. Ovkseintiy and therefore got his name. A new (Gregorian) style this date nowadays corresponds to February 27 (or the night of 26 to 27 February), but not 28. Still believe methodologically correct determination date of birth February 26th, 1857 (according to historical methodology of transforming the date in XIX century from old (Julian) to new (Gregorian) calendar). So, given in encyclopaedias and articles date of birth (28 and 27 as well) are not true. Much better to say that Ovkseintiy V. Korchak-Chepurkivskiy was born in 1857, 14th (26th) of February.

It is noteworthy that his name is symbolic. It comes from the ancient Greek "βουβωνιζ", which means "extol", "enhances", "multiply", "expands". In fact Ovkseintiy entire life has been a pioneer in preventive medicine, increasing (multiplying) his God given talent (Matthew 25: 14-30).

МЕТРИЧЕСКОЙ КНИЖИ НА 1857		ГОДА, ЧАСТЬ ПЕРВАЯ О РОДИВШИХСЯ		
Имя ребенка	Знамя, год, отчество и фамилия родителей и место происхождения	Знамя, год, отчество и фамилия родителей	Кто крестил, таинство крещения	Гукарические сведения отца и матери
25 25 Шевченко	Владимир Иванович Шевченко, сын Василия Ивановича и Марии Ивановны, уроженец и житель села Костянтиноград, Полтавской губернии, Киевской епархии.	Владимир Иванович Шевченко, сын Василия Ивановича и Марии Ивановны, уроженец и житель села Костянтиноград, Полтавской губернии, Киевской епархии.	Священник Василий Иванович Шевченко	
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Figure 2. Metric-book

February 14, Old Julian Style, Orthodox Church commemorates St. Ovksentiy Vifinskiy, in memory of whom Korchak-Chepurkivskiy was named as Ovksentiy. St Ovksentiy Vifinskiy lived in the V century in Syria and became famous as a moral and wise man. He was thought that received from God the gift of healing and successfully treated people that asked him for help [3].

According to the State Archive of Poltava region, in the metrical data (special register for recording births, marriages and deaths) of the Annunciation Church in Kostyantynohrad, Poltava province (1854 – 1861), which is stored in the State Archive of Poltava region, recording the birth and baptism in 1857 of Ovksentiy Korchak-Chepurkivskiy is not present. Metric-books of Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary church in Kostyantynohrad for 1857 are not stored in the State Archive of Poltava region [4]. Much of the documents of pre-war period were lost in the period of Nazi occupation in Poltava region (1941 – 1943). Given this fact, it is likely that the Sacrament of Baptism of child Ovksentiy was held in the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary church.

There are some questions about Korchak-Chepurkivskiy's secondary education as well. He was a student of district school in Kostyantynohrad (1865-1869), and then continued his studies at a theological school (1869-1873) and seminary (1873-1877) in Poltava [2]. We have found that Ovksentiy V. had been studied in Poltava Theological Seminary since 1873 till 1877 (but not till 1874, as it was noted in studies of some researchers [6]. This fact is confirmed on the basis of archival documents (particularly in the archival data of academic autobiography (curriculum vitae)) [2, pp. 64, 67]. Interestingly, this is one of the last vivo autobiographies written in the post-war years. With that in previous documents of 1930 the date was roughly changed (crossed by pencil) since 1873 till 1874 or till 1883. The 1883 year of graduating from the Seminary is illogical at all, as in 1883 O.V. Korchak-Chepurkivskiy graduated from the Medical Faculty of Kharkiv University. In all CVs states that O.V. Korchak-Chepurkivskiy passed 'seminary general course (without theology)'. A full course of study at the seminary had to be lasted 4 years (until 1877). Upon completion of the 4th year seminary's study (course) graduates continued their education and usually studied theology during the 5th year. It is likely that the absence of theology in the seminary in curriculum vitae deliberately underlined. In 1930th the presence of theological education could be an occasion to put in the list of "politically unreliable". After the Second World War there was a radical change of attitude of authorities to the Orthodox Church, as a result it was allowed to open churches, decreased oppression of believers because of their religion. At this time in his CV appeared information about studying at the seminary since 1873 till 1877.

According to archival information provided by the State Archives of Poltava region to our request, in June 1877 O.V. Korchak-Chepurkivskiy successfully passed the exams and was allowed to be a student of the fifth year study of the Seminary. "The list of students of Poltava Theological Seminary, compiled by the Board of Poltava Seminary after exams 1876 – 1877 academic year (25th and 27th June 1877), was listed student Ovksentiy Korchak-Chepurkivskiy as a

student of the fourth year of study, he received the first level and was recommended to the fifth class" [6, P. 429].

Thus, in the seminary, he had studied for four years, that made possible to enter the university successfully. In 1877 he became a student of natural department of Physics and Mathematics Faculty of the University of St. Vladimir in Kiev. However, to complete a full course of study at the Kiev University Ovksentiy wasn't able, because in March 1878 he was expelled for participating in the political students' meeting (so-called "March Story") [2, p.70]. But then he continued his studies at Kharkov University (1878 – 1883) at the Faculty of Medicine.

Conclusions

1. In this work we presented some unknown questions of O.V. Korchak-Chepurkivskiy's biography devoted to the early periods of his life. We proposed historical background of the birthday, origin, education. A lot of archival documents were shown at first and weren't discussed in previous scientific researches.

2. Ovksentiy V. Korchak-Chepurkivskiy was born in 1857, 14th (26th) of February. For determining of the date in the Gregorian (new) style we should add 12 days to the date in the Julian (old) style (in the case that date took place in the XIX century) using the formula $n + 12$ (i. e. $14 + 12 = 26^{\text{th}}$ February).

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4. O.V. Korchak-Chepurkivskiy received theological secondary education. We have found that he had been studying in Poltava Theological Seminary since 1873 till 1877. Perhaps some ideas of Christianity and Orthodox tradition formed his point of view and beliefs. In any case such questions haven't been discussed yet and might be thought as original results of our research.

Reviewer: professor I.V. Vasylieva

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ОСНОВНІ ВІХИ МОЛОДОСТІ О.В. КОРЧАКА-ЧЕПУРКІВСЬКОГО: НЕВІДОМІ СТОРІНКИ БІОГРАФІЇ

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Резюме. Автором були виявлені неточності у матеріалах деяких науковців, які раніше досліджували життя та діяльність вченого. У даній роботі розкрито деякі невідомі сторони біографії О.В. Корчака-Чепурківського, присвячені ранньому періоду його життя. На основі архівних документів було суттєво доповнено біографічні дані, зокрема дату народження, відомості про освіту. Було запропоновано оригінальний погляд на дату народження, походження, освіту вченого. Багато архівних документів були представлені вперше і не розглядалися в попередніх наукових дослідженнях.

О.В. Корчак-Чепурківський народився 14 (26) лютого 1857 року. Для визначення дати за новим (григоріанським) стилем слід додавати 12 днів до дати за старим (юліанським) календарем (у тому випадку, якщо дата мала місце в XIX столітті), використовуючи формулу $N + 12$ (тобто $14 + 12 = 26$ лютого).

Овксентій походив із роду священиків. Його батько Василь був дяконом. Але після вивчення архівних даних можна сказати, що і його мати Марія Володимирівна була дочкою священика. Є посилення, які стосуються початку XIX століття, в яких священик Яків Корчак-Чепурківський згадується як настоятель храму Святого Мирона в Санкт-Петербурзі (1825 – 1828 рр.). Чи був він родичем О.В. Корчака-Чепурківського достовірно невідомо.

О.В. Корчак-Чепурківський отримав богословську середню освіту. Доведено, що він навчався в Полтавській духовній семінарії з 1873 по 1877 р., і, можливо, деякі ідеї християнства і православної традиції сформували його світогляд і переконання. У будь-якому разі питання біографії Овксентія Васильовича ще не обговорювалися і можуть розглядатися як оригінальні результати нашого дослідження.

Ключові слова: біографія, метричні дані, дата народження, походження, освіта.

ОСНОВНЫЕ ВЕХИ МОЛОДОСТИ А.В. КОРЧАКА-ЧЕПУРКОВСКОГО: НЕИЗВЕСТНЫЕ СТРАНИЦЫ БИОГРАФИИ

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Резюме. Автором были выявлены неточности в материалах некоторых исследователей, ранее изучавших жизнь и деятельность ученого. В данной работе раскрыты некоторые неизвестные стороны биографии А.В. Корчака-Чепурковскогo, посвященные раннему периоду его жизни. На основе архивных документов было существенно дополнено биографические данные, включая дату рождения, сведения об образовании. Был предложен оригинальный взгляд на определение даты рождения, происхождения, образование ученого. Многие архивные документы были представлены здесь впервые и не рассматривались в предыдущих научных исследованиях.

А.В. Корчак-Чепурковский родился 14 (26) февраля 1857 года. Для определения даты по новому (григорианскому) стилю следует добавлять 12 дней к дате по старому (юлианскому) календарю (в том случае, если дата имела место в XIX веке), используя формулу $N+12$ (то есть $14+12 = 26$ февраля).

Авксентий происходил из рода священников. Его отец Василий был дяконом. Но после изучения архивных данных можно сказать, что и его мать Мария Владимировна была дочерью священника. Есть ссылки, относящиеся к началу XIX века, в которых священник Яков Корчак-Чепурковский упоминается как настоятель храма Святого Мирона в Санкт-Петербурге (1825 - 1828 гг.). Был ли он родственником А.В. Корчака-Чепурковскогo достоверно неизвестно.

А.В. Корчак-Чепурковский получил богословское среднее образование. Доказано, что он учился в Полтавской духовной семинарии с 1873 по 1877 г., и, возможно, некоторые идеи христианства и православной традиции сформировали его мировоззрение и убеждения. В любом случае вышеперечисленные стороны биографии Авксентия Васильевича ранее не обсуждались и могут рассматриваться как оригинальные результаты нашего исследования.

Ключевые слова: биография, метрические данные, дата рождения, происхождение, образование.