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Література:

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PUBLIC ACTIVITIES OF IVANNA BLAJKEVYCH (1886-1977)

Ivanna Blazhkevych (1886–1977) was a Ukrainian children's writer, educator, public figure, author of numerous poems, educational manuals, articles on economics and ethnography, and memoirs about Ivan Franko, Vasyl Stefanyk, Olha Kobylianska, and others. Despite her considerable achievements in the social and political sphere, this woman remains little known.

The writer was born on October 9, 1886, in the village of Denysiv (now Kozivsky District, Ternopil Region), where her father, Omelian Borodievykh, taught from 1867 to 1898 [2, sh. 1]. She finished elementary school in her native village (1893-1896), three grades of the Ternopil district school (1896-1900), and then continued her education on her own due to her family's financial difficulties. The girl quickly gained the support of local youth and in 1904 created a women's section at the sports and firefighting society. She personally organized courses for the illiterate and by 1909 had virtually eliminated illiteracy in Denysiv. At the same time, she

joined the temperance movement in Galicia and initiated a boycott of taverns, founding the anti-alcohol society «Vidrodzhennia» [2, sh. 8, 15].

During this same period, Ivanna Blazhkevych began her literary career. On February 4, 1911, she married Ivan Blazhkevych, a village teacher, and in September of that same year, she began working in the village of Subotiv (now in the Ivano-Frankivsk district of the Ivano-Frankivsk region) [1, sh. 2]. In 1914, her husband was transferred to the position of school director in the village of Zalukva, and later mobilized to the front. It was in this village that the teacher, together with her two young children (her son Bohdan was only two years old, and her daughter Lyuba was ten days old), had to endure the difficult years of World War I. At that time, she supervised the Zalukva school herself.

Despite constant hardship and the sudden death of her daughter, Ivanna Blazhkevych focused on saving orphaned children, prisoners of war, and the sick from starvation. In 1917, she established the organization «Syritskyi zakhyst», and in 1918, at the local branch of the society «Silskyi hospodar», she established a committee to help those returning from Russian captivity and war refugees. During this difficult period, she paid considerable attention to the economic recovery of the Galician countryside. In the fall of 1915, she founded and headed the «Vlasna pomich» cooperative, and in 1917, she resumed the activities of the district cooperative «Pomich» in the city of Halych [4, p. 79].

I. Blazhkevych's organizational skills were particularly evident in 1918-1919, when she took an active part in the national liberation struggle and state-building processes of the West Ukrainian People's Republic (ZUNR). On November 1, 1918, she took an oath of allegiance to the newly created state in Lviv, and on November 2, at her call, a hundred peasants from Zalukva took power in Halych. In addition, she was the only woman in the district Ukrainian National Council in Stanislaviv, founded by Ambassador L. Bachynsky for the socio-political protection of the population of the Stanislaviv district. During the escalation of the Polish-Ukrainian war in May 1919, I. Blazhkevych, together with the commandant of the Galich

railway station, organized a medical station for wounded and sick UGA soldiers who were traveling by train to Stanislaviv. Seventeen girls from Zalukva volunteered to work there [5, p. 213].

After the defeat of the Ukrainian national liberation struggle, the teacher was repeatedly persecuted by the Polish authorities, who organized constant searches and interrogations. Only in 1920 did she manage to find work in the pedagogical society «Ridna Shkola» (Native School). In October 1921, her husband returned from captivity, and from 1923 the family lived in the village of Denysiv in the Ternopil region. During the interwar period, her poetic plays were published in separate editions for children. At the same time, the teacher was involved in organizing kindergartens, cooperatives, evening gatherings, concerts, performances, and public holidays, and fought for women's rights. However, this period was also marked by personal tragedy, as her two young daughters died unexpectedly on September 14 and 17, 1928. On November 11, she received a letter in Polish signed «Those who took revenge» [6, p. 267].

Despite her poor health, I. Blazhkevich continued to work during World War II and under Soviet rule. Thanks to her efforts, a kindergarten and a hospital were opened in Denysiv in the late 1940s, a local history museum was established (1967), and a monument to Taras Shevchenko was erected [3, p. 215]. After the writer's death in 1977, a memorial museum was created on her estate and a memorial plaque with a basrelief was installed. In 1997, the museum was granted the status of a national museum. The memory of the public figure is also honored in the village of Zalukva in IvanoFrankivsk region.

Thus, Ivanna Blazhkevych made a significant contribution to the cultural, educational, and socio-economic advancement of the Galician village. She belonged to a group of the most active figures of her time, who often sacrificed their personal lives for the sake of public interests. Her activities included not only the creation of trade cooperatives, but also the organization of economic courses aimed at improving the socio-economic living standards of peasants.

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