



After the Hun invasion three Eastern Slavic cultures emerged on Cherniakhiv culture fragments, though they incorporated non-Slav elements too. These cultures; Prague, Kolochino, and Penkovo—became a base that the Eastern Slavic tribes: White Croats, Volhynians, Derevlians, Tivertsians, Ulychians, Polianians, and Siverianians, shaped at. A significant contribution to the ethnogenesis of future Ukrainians-Ruses was made also by nomadic tribes of the Pechenegs, the Polovtsy (Kipchaks), the Turkils, the Karakalpaks (Black Hats) as well as by Alan tribes of the Rus, Ases, Yazyges, Roxolani. This ethnic patchwork is typical for steppe and forest-

*The monument to the founders of Kyiv – Kyi, Shchek, Khoryv, and their sister Lybed (2009, sc. A. Knoch)*

## Kyivan Rus

steppe parts of Ukraine. The steppe has always been a transit land for dozens of tribes that entered into a close contact with the sedentary Slavic population of the Ukraine-Rus forest part. But the key player in establishing Kyivan Rus was the Rus people. Some historians consider the Rus to be of Viking origin. However the traces of Vikings in Kyiv date back only to the late 10<sup>th</sup> c. when Prince Volodymyr called them in. There is no evidence of their being to the south from Kyiv at that time, while the Oriental Chronicles tell about numerous military campaigns of the Rus on the Black and Caspian seas in the 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> cc. The Rus lived on the plains (fields) of Northern Caucasus and Kuban. Fair-haired and blue-eyed Rus people may have been one of Alan tribes. The war with the Khazars forced the Rus tribe to move in the 830s-840s to the Ros



*St Nicholas' rotunda church (1810) at Asholdova Mohyla (Ashold's Grave) in Kyiv*



*The probable place of death of Kyivan Prince Sviatoslav in 972 AD on Khortytsia Island*

*The monument to Princess Olha, the Holy Apostle Andrew the First-Called, Sts. Cyril and Methodius Equal to the Apostles (1911) in Kyiv*



*The Christening of Princess Olha (the fresco of Novospashy Monastery, 1689)*





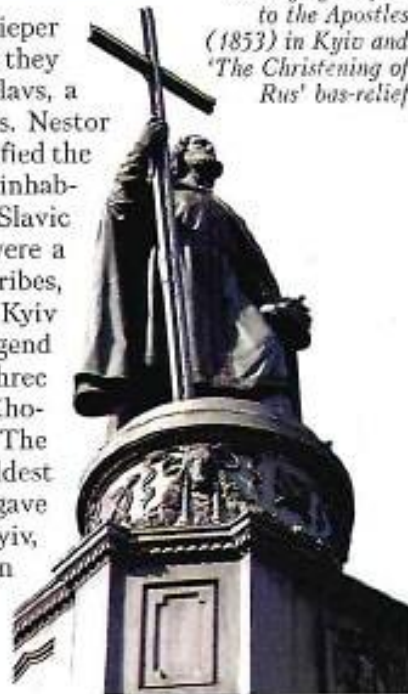


*Chelm (Poland).  
Lithograph  
by V. Hriaznov  
(19<sup>th</sup> c.)*



*St. Volodymyr's  
Cathedral in  
Chersonese  
(1861, 2004)*

River in the Middle Over Dnieper Land, south from Kyiv, where they formed, together with the Slavs, a war-like tribe of the Polanes. Nestor the Chronicler (11<sup>th</sup> c.) identified the Rus with the Polianians (i.e. inhabitants of steppes, as 'polie' is Slavic for 'field'). The Polianians were a leader among the Slavic tribes, with the significance of Kyiv growing at the time. The legend tells Kyiv was founded by three brothers—Kyj, Schek, and Khoryv—and their sister Lybed. The town was named after the eldest brother, Schek and Khoryv gave their names to two hills in Kyiv, and the river was named in honour of the sister. Historian *M. Braichevsky* supposed legendary Kyj to be Khan *Kubrat*. And names of Schek, Khoryv, Lybed have Adyge or North Iranian roots. The Alan-Bulgar origin of the Rus is indicated also by names of the first Kyiv *khagans* *Askold* and *Dir*, the formula of their title—*khagan*, and the princely symbol—*trident*. The trident traces back to Sarmatian royal dynasties of the 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> cc. Bosporian Kingdom. The name of Askold is of Alan origin. For example, the Alans named



*The monument  
to Prince  
Volodymyr Equal  
to the Apostles  
(1853) in Kyiv and  
'The Christening of  
Rus' bas-relief*



a tributary of the Siversky Donets—the Askol.

Kyiv rose quickly as inter-tribal integration centre of a cosmopolitan nature promoted by the growth of international trade. The Avar defeat favoured the trade way from Nuremberg to Atil via Regensburg, Vienna, Halych, Kyiv, Chernihiv. The trade with Prague, Korsun, and Bulgar on the Volga benefited. Kyiv became a key communication centre for trading outposts and a major crafts producer. The war with the Khazars made Kyivan princes lay down new trade routes, first of all, the famous one 'from the Varangians to the Greeks'. It was to link Gotland Island with Kyiv and Constantinople. In 860 Kyiv khagans *Askold* and *Dir*, with 200 ships, attacked Constantinople from the Sea of Azov side, then raided the Pechenegs and the Polovtsy, and the Volga Bulgars in 872, taking over the control of international trade routes with Byzantium, Khazaria, and Caliphate states.



*Volodymyr-Volhynsky. Dormition Cathedral  
(1160) and small bishop's castle (1494)  
as viewed from the 10<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> cc. ramparts*

*Dormition Monastery of Zymne.  
Holy Trinity Church (1479)  
and Holy Dormition Cathedral (1495)*





*Ellansky* called, 'Fire! Dynamite! Let the Past disappear for the sake of the Future! Ancient churches to be blown up! Cherry gardens to be cut down!' The education of illiterate peasants was limited to *likbez* (acronym for illiteracy elimination) groups, while those who could write might get education at *rabfacs* (acronym for faculties for workers), ersatz-universities. The motto of 'fighting for mastery' encouraged the people 'from plough' and 'from lathe' that graduated from *likbez*, to create the Soviet literature on the basis of own life experience. It was essential to present enthusiasm and own class hatred to the bourgeoisie, and the yesterday's illiterate peasants joined the cohort of Ukrainian writers in hun-



Poltava.  
The monument to  
T. Shevchenko (1926,  
sc. I. Kavaleridze)

Kyiv. 'Slavutich'  
Culture House (1933,  
archt. N. Shekhonin)

tika)' (I (Romanticism)) he described a ChK officer who shot his own mother in the name of Revolution. *Khvyliovyy* said, 'The best word in the world is *Che-Ka*', but when he tried to go against the stream, the only thing left for him was to put a pistol to the head. Thus the renaissance of the Ukrainian literature of the 1910s was replaced with its degradation in the 1920s and degeneration in the 1930s.

From psychological analysis of I. Franko,



dreds. The bourgeois psychologism was found harmful and subject to outrooting. 'Sex' was declared a bourgeois vice, and to keep the young people focused on building the communism, the female comrades-in-arms, if asked by male comrades, should satisfy their physiological wishes. As a result, the univariate 'proletarian culture' was created, with the triumph of red colour and elimination of all half-tints together with their holders. The peasants and the proletariat made one rank of anti-bourgeoisie fighters, and dissenters were exiled to the camps and shot later.

National Communist, writer *M. Khvyliovyy* (*Fitilev*) spoke against the 'suburbia massovism' of 'Pluh', idealization of peasantry and scribbling. But he himself, being a head of district Cheka (Extraordinary Commission), created this rank of communism builders. In his short story 'Ya (Roman-

Kyiv. The monument  
to K. Malevich (2008,  
archt. D. Antonuk)



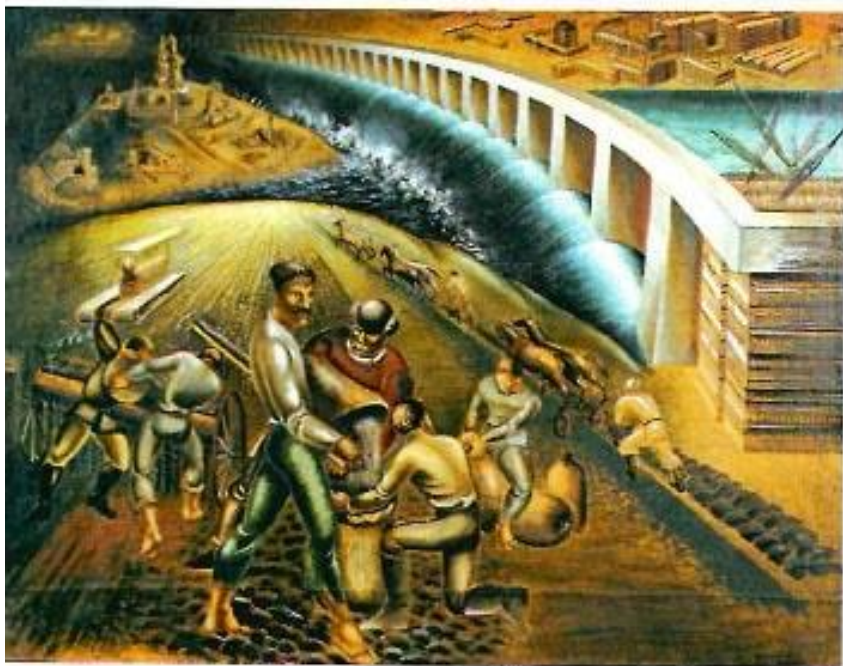
dramatic nature of *Lesia Ukrainka*, and symbolism of *P. Tychyna* the Ukrainian literature slid down to the primitive 'Party Leads' (1933) by the same *Tychyna*. This degradation of the society was brilliantly described by *Bulgakov* in the novel 'Dog's Heart' (1925) where the experiments of irresponsible Prof. *Preobrazhensky* (symbolizing *Lenin* and *Hrushevsky*) led to the transformation of the kind dog *Sharik* into the immoral man *Sharikov* who started inculcating his anti-culture together with primitive proletarian *Shvonder*.



Kharkiv. The building of Gosprom (1928,  
archt. S. Serafimov, S. Kravets, M. Feldger)

Sviatohirsk. The monument to Artem  
(F. Sergejev, 1927, sc. I. Kavaleridze)





In March of 1919, under Lenin's pressure, several Soviet republics that existed on the territory of Ukraine-Rus, joined into the URSR (Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic) headed by *Ch. Rakovskiy* with the capital in Kharkiv. 'Treaty on Borders between Russia and Ukraine' laid down a territorial principle of Ukraine. Though the name 'Ukraine' was discredited by UNR leaders, *Lenin* decisively supported it instead of common 'Rus'. Internationalist *Lenin* suggested the establishment of 'Union of Soviet Republics of Europe and Asia', excluding the name 'Russia', to fight against Great Russian chauvinism. Names 'Ukraine' and 'Zakavkazie' (Transcaucasus) represent perfectly well the 'Soviet' nature of the Union. This opened a door for proletariat of Poland, Hungary, Germany to join the Union, followed with the transfer of the capital to Berlin where the most advanced working class was. The name 'Ukraine' could refer also to the Polish Ukraine (Galicia and Podlachia). The Constitution of the USSR, established on December 30, 1922, provisioned the right of republics to secede from the Union freely.

In 1932, the Bolsheviks started *korenizatsiya* ('nativization')—a development of mother tongue education of various ethnic groups to involve them into the socialism construction. For numerous national com-

*Dneproges*  
(by D.I. Vlasuk,  
1932, NAMU)

*The small steam locomotive*  
(B-2062 series,  
1929, MDR)



*Tsirupynsk.*  
*The monument*  
*to the first tractor*

## URSR

munes in the URSR dozens of Russian, German, Polish, Jewish, Greek, and Bulgarian autonomous districts and village councils were created. In 1925, the Polish and the German Autonomous Areas were set up to the west from Zhytomyr. Dozens of Polish, Jewish, German newspapers were published, hundreds of national schools, theatres, culture societies were opened.

To speed up Ukrainization *Stalin* sent *L. Kaganovich*, who was born in Kyiv Land, to Ukraine in 1925. He was assisted by the closest Lenin's comrade *M. Skrypnyk*, a former head of the bloodiest Secret De-

partment, ChK (Extraordinary Commission, secret police). They engaged Galician national communists and started introducing the Skrypnyk (Galician) spelling and spreading Ukrainian chauvinism in the red terror style. But

this provoked such displeasure of urban residents that the Standard Ukrainian language was returned, and in 1938 *Khrushchev* included Russian as second language into the school curriculum.

By the end of 1927 over 92 % of first graders studied in Ukrainian groups, and in 1931 89 % of newspapers were issued in Ukrainian.

By 1921 the agriculture of Ukraine had been completely ruined. Ukrainian socialists and Bolsheviks, having defeated Hetmanate of Skoropadsky, destroyed

