

ABSTRACTS

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ABOUT THE ROLE OF ALEXANDER PUSHKIN IN MASTERING SHAKESPEARE'S HERITAGE BY THE RUSSIAN CULTURE

The contribution of Alexander Pushkin in the perception and understanding of Shakespeare in Russia can hardly be considered as insufficiently studied. Review of the literature, more or less investigating into the given problem, would take numerous lines. In terms of the given topic we should mention the most well-grounded summarizing works of M.P. Alekseev and Yu.D. Levin. There are a lot of works about the particular questions which can be studied in terms of the general problem known as "Pushkin and Shakespeare".

It is well-known that Pushkin was not the first in discovering Shakespeare for Russia, if to compare the contribution of Voltaire to France. Many literary historians considered N.M. Karamzin to be the first in this field as he transformed the literal translation of tragedy "Julius Caesar" from German presented by I. Eshenburg into the literary form. When he published it in 1787, he added a preface serving as a critical essay. Moreover, there are some references to Shakespeare as well as some quotations from his works in «Letters of a Russian Traveler» («Письмах русского путешественника») by Karamzin.

Hardly can we find anyone, apart from Pushkin, who tried to cognize and learn the lessons of Shakespeare's heritage in many fields and genres simultaneously, for example, literary criticism, poetry, literary translation, versification and dramatic works.

The unique role of Pushkin in mastering Shakespeare's heritage by the Russian culture can be determined not only by the achievements in each field mentioned above, but also by the scale of these fields as well as their correlation.