

Scientific article

УДК 94(47)+94(092)+930.253

DOI 10.28995/2073-0101-2021-4-1217-1228

Madzharov, Alexander S.

Irkutsk State University, Irkutsk, Russian Federation

“File” on the Historian A. P. Shchapov in the State Archive of the Russian Federation
(1861–64): Novelty and Reliability of the Documents Collection

Abstract

The article analyses the scientific works of Afanasy Prokopievich Shchapov (3.10.1831-25.02.1876) and his contribution to the national scholarship of the 1850s. Despite extensive literature on the issue, its source studies aspect remains untouched upon. For

instance, documents of the file “On professor A. P. Shchapov in the State Archive of the Russian Federation” (1861– 64) were used selectively, out of the context, without analyzing the source features. The source-based approach involves, in addition to using the document in research, studying the collection as a whole. Taking into account the interdependence of documents in the file, the departmental and specific context of their origin expands the possibilities of establishing the degree of the source reliability. The article is to analyze the representativeness of the documents "On professor A. P. Shchapov in the State Archive of the Russian Federation" (1861–64)." It is based on studying the origin and content of the collection, its structure, internal connections and on comparison of individual documents and the “package.” The study has showed that the “file” as a “part of the past” objectively reflects content, forms, and methods of work of the ministries and departments, the role of the emperor in the decision-making. The materials of the dossier are the carriers of genuine clerical paraphernalia, facts of real activities of the departments, and plans of the Democrats in the 1860s. The social function of the “head” department, its ideological dominant determines the composition of the file. It includes sources of personal provenance, historical research of the scientist, and record management materials. They contain data on the life of the historian from February 1861 to March 1864. Each department aimed to obtain objective information, used document forms endorsed by personal signature of the minister. The materials are linked chronologically and thematically. The bureaucratic interest in accurate information and the inter-document context, as well as the direct comparison of documents testify to their reliability. The file of professor Shchapov, due to the specifics of the “ministerial” selection of documents, could not capture the history of Shchapov’s life and work in Kazan and St. Petersburg in 1861–64 in its entirety, but it preserved some unique elements of his biography.

Keywords

Source studies, archiving, origin of documents, reliability, Russian historian A. P. Shchapov, democratic reforms of the 1860s, III Department.

Download the article: [madzharov doi](#)

References

ARISTOV, N. Ya. Afanasii Prokop'evich Shchapov. Zhizn' i sochineniya [Afanasy Prokopyevich Shchapov. Life and writings. In Russ.]. St. Petersburg,

A. S. Suvorin publ., 1883, 192 p.

MADZHAROV, A. S. Afanasii Prokop'evich Shchapov: istoriya zhizni (183-1876) i zhizn' "Istorii" [Afanasy Prokopyevich Shchapov: His Life History (1831–76) and the Life of "History." In Russ.]. Irkutsk, obl. tip. № 1 im. V. M. Posokhina publ., 2005, 528 p.

MADZHAROV, A. S. Problemy istoriografii istorii Rossii XVIII-XXI vv. v materialakh odinnadtsatykh Shchapovskikh chtenii [Problems of the historiography of Russian history of the 18th -21th centuries in the proceedings of the 11th Shchapov Readings. In Russ.]. IN: Istoriya istoricheskoi nauki v Rossii XVIII-XXI vv. Odinnadtsatye Shchapovskie chteniya: Materialy Vserossiiskoi nauchnoi konferentsii [The history of historical science in Russia of the 18th -21th centuries. 11th Shchapov readings: Materials of the All-Russian Scientific Conference. In Russ.]. Irkutsk, Ottisk publ., 2018, pp. 9-15.

TSAMUTALI, A. N. Ocherki demokraticheskogo napravleniya v russkoi istoriografii 60-70-kh gg. XIX v. [Essays on the Democratic Trend in the Russian Historiography of the 1860–70s. In Russ.]. St. Petersburg, Nauka publ., 1971, 250 p.

About the authors

Madzharov Alexander Stanislavovich, PhD in History, professor, Irkutsk State University,

department of Russian history, professor, Irkutsk, Russian Federation, +7-914-941-68-74,
mas@home.isu.ru

Submitted 13.02.2021, published (for citation):

MADZHAROV, A. S. “Delo” istorika A. P. Shchapova v Gosudarstvennom arkhive Rossiiskoi Federatsii (1861-1864 gg.): novizna i problemy dostovernosti kompleksa dokumentov [“File” on the Historian A. P. Shchapov in the State Archive of the Russian Federation (1861–64): Novelty and Reliability of the Documents Collection. In Russ.]. IN: Vestnik arhivista / Herald of an Archivist, 2021, no. 4, pp. 1217-1228. doi 10.28995/2073-0101-2021-4-1217-1228

You can read completely article in the russian historic-archival magazine “The Herald of an Archivist”. Read more about terms of subscription [here](#) .

Полностью материал публикуется в российском историко-архивоведческом журнале ВЕСТНИК АРХИВИСТА. Ознакомьтесь с условиями подписки [здесь](#) .