

**Natalia A. Kupershtokh, Scientific centers of Siberian Branch of RAS. – Novosibirsk: Academic Press «Geo», 2006. – 441 p. (Editors: Corresponding Member of RAS V.A. Lamin and director of Science department of SB RAS V.D. Ermikov)**

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**Abstract**

The monograph of N. A. Kupershtokh is devoted to the history of foundation and of development of academic scientific centers of Siberian Branch of Russian Academy of Sciences in the XX Century and in the beginning of the XXI Century. The historic feature stories about scientific centers of SB RAS in Buryatia, Irkutsk, Kemerovo, Krasnoyarsk, Omsk, Tomsk, Tyumen, Yakutsk, and also about separate institutes in Barnaul, Biisk, Chita, and Kyzyl were prepared. The author used archival documents, recollections and interviews of scientists and materials of the periodical press. In this book, the history of foundation and development of schools of thought and fields of investigations is considered using the biographies of individual scientists. The appendix contains biographical articles arranged according to unified scheme about leaders of scientific centers and chronicle of main historical events. The book is destined for historians, specialists in science of science, teachers, and also readers that are interested in the history of Russian and Siberian science.

**Review**

The monograph of N. A. Kupershtokh (PhD in History, senior scientific researcher of the Institute of History of SB RAS, Novosibirsk) is the result of many years' investigations of the Siberian science history. These researches repeatedly received the financial support from the Russian Humanity Scientific Foundation (RGNF). In the last years, this allows her to concentrate the efforts on the study of history of scientific centers of SB RAS, including the Krasnoyarsk scientific center, and to create the complete narration about their development. The author shows that academic centers in Siberia appeared based on earlier existing potential. For example, the scientific investigations in the institutes of higher education located in Krasnoyarsk were continued in the first academic institute – Institute of Physics. This Institute was founded before foundation of the Siberian Branch of Academy of Science of USSR. Therefore, the present study is not bounded by the frame of Siberian Branch of RAS, but allows one to look wider at historical process of development of Russian science and shows the continuity in formation of scientific-educational potential of regions.

In present book, the wide set of sources of information was used. The biographies of scientists show that new scientific fields of investigations appeared as a result of interaction of representatives of different schools of thought. Some interesting information is adduced about enthusiasts of academic science (L. V. Kirenskii in Krasnoyarsk, P. I. Melnikov and Yu. G. Shafer in Yakutsk, et al.) by efforts of which the first institutes were founded. The book can be useful not only for specialists in history but also for lecturers in the institutes of higher education in preparing lectures and for teachers of schools in preparing courses on the history of regions.

The monograph of N. A. Kupershtokh on the history of scientific centers of Siberian Branch of RAS makes an important contribution to the regional history because it is focused on main processes of foundation of academic institutes and their influence on growth of economic potential of territories. Since academic centers were founded in different conditions and in the different autonomous republics, territories and regions of the Soviet Union, the several models of scientific centers were used. The experience of agreements between scientific centers and subjects of Russian Federation (Republic of Sakha (Yakutia), Republic of Buryatia) is interesting and can be useful in modernization of regional policy.

The expansion of international cooperation of academic scientific centers of Siberia, especially in 1990s, creates the interesting forms of cooperation of scientists in elaboration of the actual problems of world science and promotes to closer integration of Siberian scientists into the world scientific community. The international cooperation was based to a considerable degree on the activity of international scientific centers founded in form of open laboratories using the potential of leading Siberian institutes.

The book written by N. A. Kupershtokh shows that the integration of academic institutes and institutes of higher education in form of scientific-educational complexes such as Siberian Federal University realized in Krasnoyarsk leads to the elimination of existing bureaucratic barriers, to the formation of united scientific-educational space, and to the appearance of new organizational forms of interaction of these social institutions.