

BOOK REVIEWS

Petrovsky (N. N.) *The Unification of the Ukrainian People in a Single Ukrainian Soviet State. State publishers of Political Literature, 1944. 88pp.*

This book deals with two problems — first, the common origins of Ukrainian Russ, Velikaya Russ and Belaya Russ and second, the involved historical destiny of the Ukraine, which after being partitioned was finally united under the Soviet power as an equal Union Republic in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. The author reminds the reader that the Eastern Slavs were the founders of modern Russ (Russ Ukrainsky — Rimland Russ, Russ Velikaia — Russ the Great; Russ Byelaia — Russ the White). He stresses the common origins of their religion, language and culture. As the author points out, Ukrainian political leaders referred to these common cultural roots in the seventeenth century and later. This unity was not only recognised as a historical fact but was influential in the common struggle against foreign invaders.

Manandiyar (Y.) *Brief review of the History of Ancient Armenia. Published by the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences, Moscow-Leningrad, 1943, 56 pp.*

This book, as the author indicates in the preface, is intended to assist authors writing textbooks on the history of the U.S.S.R. At the same time it can be of use to teachers, students and other readers interested in the history of the Armenian people.

The author has summarised the most important developments in the study of Armenian history from the formation of the Armenian state to the sixteenth century. Written in clear outline form, this book gives the reader sufficient facts of Armenian history to enable him to pursue the subject further in the list of recommended reading at the end of the book.

Zakhoder (V.) *The history of the Mediaeval Orient (The Caliphate and the Near East). Published by the Moscow University — Moscow, 1944. 152 pp.*

Prof. V. Zakhoder's book is an abridged version of his course at the Moscow University and a revision of the mimeographed edition which appeared in 1940, now very difficult to obtain. This is the first original study in the Russian language of the history of the Moslem middle ages. It is the result of the author's researches over a number of years. It presents a new interpretation of many problems connected with the medieval history of the Orient. In the pages of this book the author presents a number of facts, names and dates connected with the most important problems in the development of feudal society in the Orient.