



The Stalin Famine in Ukraine (1932-1933)

INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDIES

A Public Lecture by
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of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy
(NaUKMA), Ukraine

In 2005 the Orange Revolution in Ukraine made international headlines, with the streets of Kyiv teeming with people protesting the result of a presidential election that seemed far from democratic. The Ukrainian Famine of 1932-33, known as the Holodomor, or Stalin Famine, was a man-made famine, that some historians have estimated cost the lives of seven million people. Unknown to many in the West, the headquarters and spiritual nerve-centre for this protest movement was the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy (NaUKMA).

Founded in 1632 by Petro Mohyla (1596-1646), the Kyiv Academy was modelled on the Jesuit Schools of learning in Western Europe, established in order to counter the missionary work of the Catholic Church on Ukrainian soil. In a short time it became a focal point for Eastern Orthodox theological studies, with an outreach far beyond the political boundaries of Ukrainian ethnic territory. Educating local students primarily from Ukrainian Cossack families, the Academy subsequently became positioned as intrinsically involved with the Ukrainian nation's struggle for self-determination.

Thus the Academy boasts among its many famous graduates, Zaporozhian Cossack leaders such as: Philip Orlyk, Ivan Skoropadsky, and Hetman Ivan Mazepa; the latter who was to form an alliance with Charles II of Sweden in the hope of defeating the Muscovite Tsar, Peter I. Mazepa was later to be immortalized by the poet Lord Byron, as a champion of liberty against tyranny. The Academy also produced, Hryhorij Skovoroda, an enormous figure in the field of Eastern European philosophical thought.

Being primarily a place of theological study, the Kyiv Mohyla Academy was closed during the Soviet era, and many of its buildings razed. Re-established in 1991 after the fall of Communism, the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy has quickly earned itself a reputation for once more being a place of academic learning and excellence. The Academy has also strived to explore the tragedies that have befallen the Ukrainian people; in particular those which occurred under the Soviet era, and seeks to educate the world of these events.

Professor Serhiy Kvit is the current President (Vice-Chancellor) of the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy (NaUKMA). Professor Kvit was a Fulbright Scholar (2006) at Ohio University, a Kennan Institute Scholar (2009) at Woodrow Wilson Center, and a DAAD Scholar at the University of Cologne (2010).

Event Details

Date: Tuesday 8 May 2012

Time: 6-7pm

Venue: Webb Lecture Theatre (G21),
Ground Floor, Geography Building, UWA

Parking: P18 and P19, entry via Fairway
entrance No 1.

**This is a free public lecture, no RSVP
necessary.**

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