**Ilyenko I.**

**TARAS SHEVCHENKO AND MODERN TIMES**

Actuality of the topic consists in phenomenal personality of this poet that hasn’t found out yet, in spite of a big number of works on this theme. A lot of innovative researches go out into the world including works that try to damage the image of Kobzar. His image is presented as something remote for the Ukrainians, they write that “Shevchenko’s word” doesn’t pierce the present with its patriotic spirit.

But just now the Ukrainians must hear the words of the great genius who in spite of everything fought till the end for the national liberation and for the popular sovereignty of Ukraine. The poems of Kobzar are historical and philosophical; they are composed of symbols and bright characters that are the best forms of presenting literature and historical philosophy of that time. V. Shevchuk wrote that the poet “sees the future of Ukraine through poetical imagination”. T. H. Shevchenko speaks for numerous Ukrainian people, that’s why his language is simple and accessible for everybody. All Ukrainian history is full of allegory and symbols of the poet, that’s why his works can be called eternally moving, that is developing in consciousness of modern society.

So, the process of social consciousness of the Ukrainians doesn’t pass without influence of “Shevchenko’s word”. It’s necessary to mention words of N.V. Huyvanyuk: “Shevchenko’s word is a symbol of Ukrainian language unity and spiritual bond of generations. Eternity of our language is in Taras Shevchenko’s word”. T.H. Shevchenko is a person who excelled all famous Ukrainian writers and that is an essential reason for further research of his creativeness. Taras Shevchenko is an artistic creator of Ukrainian language and literature and still he is a modern figure, he was ready to defend national liberation ideas and even to hide “My poor Ukraine”.

As a result, comparing influence of T.H. Shevchenko’s ideas in his years of life and the present, we can draw a conclusion that they haven’t lost their significance and actuality, they still give answers to difficult questions concerning the Ukrainian people and formation of their self-consciousness.

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