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STUDYING THE HERITAGE OF N.N. MIKLOUHO-MACLAY BY RUSSIAN AND ENGLISH-SPEAKING RESEARCHERS IN 1992-2017

Studying the heritage of N.N. Miklouho-Maclay by Russian and English-speaking researchers in 1992-2017

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The article provides an overview of studies on the ethnographic heritage of the Russian scientist and traveler of the 19th century, N.N. Miklouho-Maclay. The first section highlights the "classic" for the second half of the XX century. an approach characterized by a tendency to idealize and mythologize

the scientist. It is presented in the works of D.D. Tumarkin, as well as in the second edition of the Complete Works of N.N. Miklouho-Maclay (1990s). The second section examines the Russian-language articles of the 1990s – 2000s, with the goal of “demythologizing” or overestimating the established ideas about the scientist. Some of them are characterized by underestimation of the results of his work. The third part presents works in English dedicated to the legacy of N.N. Miklouho-Maclay. In most cases, this is a translation of the scientist's Russian archival texts with scientific comments. However, K. Ballard and E. Govor, continuing to study the Oceanic communities with which the Russian scientist worked in the past, they pay special attention to drawings as a form of dialogical cognition of culture. Consideration of the legacy of N.N. Miklouho-Maclay, on the basis of modern approaches to anthropological theory, will make it possible to create a more monolithic image of a scientist, not split into an “anthropologist”, “artist”, “humanist”, etc. In addition, the introduction of not only texts, but also the graphic heritage of N.N. Miklouho-Maclay will be an important step towards a dialogical study of the cultures of the peoples of Oceania. Miklouho-Maclay, on the basis of modern approaches to anthropological theory, will make it possible to create a more monolithic image of a scientist, not split into an “anthropologist”, “artist”, “humanist”, etc. In addition, the introduction of not only texts, but also the graphic heritage of N.N. Miklouho-Maclay will be an important step towards a dialogical study of the cultures of the peoples of Oceania. Miklouho-Maclay, on the basis of modern approaches to anthropological theory, will make it possible to create a more monolithic image of a scientist, not split into an “anthropologist”, “artist”, “humanist”, etc. In addition, the introduction into scientific circulation not only of texts, but also of the graphic heritage of N.N. Miklouho-Maclay will be an important step towards a dialogical study of the cultures of the peoples of Oceania.

Key words: Miklouho-Maclay, mythology, history of ethnography, dialogical research, Soviet ethnography

Miklouho-Maclay's Legacy in Russian- and English- Language Academic Research, 1992–2017

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This article provides an overview of recent scholarship dedicated to the legacy of the Russian scientist and traveler Nicolai Miklouho-Maclay. The first part deals with the so-called “classic” approach of the second half of the 20th century, which tended towards a mythologized and idealized portrait of Miklouho-Maclay, as evidenced by the publications of D. Tumarkin and by the second edition of the Complete Works of NN Miklouho-Maclay, published in the 1990s. The second part addresses articles published during the 1990s and 2000s that have sought to “demythologize” and reevaluate standard perspectives on Miklouho-Maclay. Some authors, rather than overestimating his achievements, tend to understate the impact of his work. The third part deals with English-language articles about Miklouho-Maclay's legacy. These are mostly translations of Miklouho-Maclay's archival texts from Russian, with scholarly commentary. However, an ongoing Australian research project conducted by Chris Ballard and Elena Govor has begun a sustained program of fieldwork with descendants of the Melanesian source communities with which Miklouho-Maclay worked, seeking new insights into his texts and especially his drawings as a form of dialogic approach to culture. We propose to study Miklouho-Maclay's legacy using modern approaches to anthropological theory. This will hopefully result in a unified image rather than separate images of an anthropologist, an artist, a humanist, etc. Also, the use of Miklouho-Maclay's drawings in addition to his texts will be an important step toward a dialogic study of Oceanic cultures.

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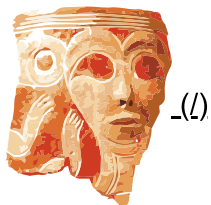
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