

19th-century Latvia, when his great-grandmother was born—and converges at Hour Zero, a time of desperate scurrying for survival and numbed, stupefied silence.

The book is not so much about World War II as about the civilization that was profoundly altered by it. The concentration camps, the rapacious policies of Stalin, and the heavy bomber raids, Eksteins convincingly argues, were so destructive and cruel that they remain an incomprehensible, unbridgeable gap in Western civilization. Intellectual and cultural bridges have been rebuilt, but “despite the bridges, the chasm remains.” *Walking Since Daybreak* is about disintegration of lives, centuries-old communities, states, and the “gravely wounded... Enlightenment tradition.”

Eksteins does an excellent job of illustrating how Hour Zero was the final nail in the coffin of the tradition that believed in understanding, connectedness, and continuity. As he observes midway through his powerful book, “[his own] experience contradicted this tradition fundamentally.”

Grant Dawson

4039 Hrushevsky, Mykhailo. *History of Ukraine-Rus', Vol. 7: The Cossack Age to 1625*. Edited by Serhii Plokhy et al. Edmonton: CIUS Press, 1999. 548p. biblio. index. \$119.95. ISBN 1-895571-28-6. CCIP. DDC 947.7.

Hrushevsky's 10-volume history first appeared in Ukrainian between 1898 and 1937. Covering Ukrainian history from ancient times to the middle of the 17th century, it is a monumental work of scholarship that brings together and analyzes the most important documentary sources and scholarly commentaries. This history is being translated into English by some of the leading authorities in the field. The translated series supplements the author's original work with extensive introductions, as well as updates to the footnotes and to the already extensive discussion of bibliographical sources. The importance of the series lies not only in its panoptical view and critical approach, both of which have exerted an enormous influence on future histories, but also in its status as a foundational text within the development of a modern Ukrainian historical consciousness.

The seventh volume, which focuses on the

formation and early history of the Cossacks, expounds and explicates many myths concerning the origins of the Cossacks, the steppe colonization process, and relations with neighboring powers. It was during this era, Hrushevsky wrote, that “[f]or the first time in historical memory, the Ukrainian nation came forth actively as the architect of its own destiny and life” (lxiv). Here the author was attempting to provide an explanation of how a recognizable and powerful Ukrainian identity emerged at precisely this time in order to challenge competing schemes of Eastern European development. The contemporary polemical intention is at times unmistakable. By virtue of his scholarly achievements and intellectual stature, Hrushevsky was elected head of the Central Rada, the government of Ukraine, in 1917.

The period covered in the volume extends from the first appearance of the Cossacks in the early 15th century to the initial Polish-Cossack wars and the famous battle of Khotyn (1621). In interpreting the rise of Cossackdom as a social and political response to encroachments by Polish rule into Ukraine, Hrushevsky remains faithful to 19th-century Ukrainian historiography and to his populist sympathies. At the same time, he presents a wealth of detail (based on an unsurpassed familiarity with sources and on an astute awareness of Polish, Russian, and other historiographical traditions) that yields a rich, nuanced narrative. The hero of the volume, if there is one, is Petro Konashevych-Sahaidachny, who emerges as a statesman of great skill and vision, the individual who is able to control and direct the unruly elements that are to be found among the Cossacks in the lower reaches of the Dnipro. In fact, a dominant motif of the entire account is the struggle between the settled, more politically conscious Cossacks and the freebooting adventurers. This dichotomy in Cossackdom is observable in 19th-century histories and belles lettres, and has continued to affect contemporary representations. Hrushevsky produces a masterful description of the gradual evolution from freebooter to soldier.

The volume is superbly translated and edited, with excellent tables of hetmans and rulers, maps, and a valuable index. Like the rest of the series, it is an indispensable reference work for scholars of Eastern European history, identity politics, and culture.

Myroslav Shkandrij