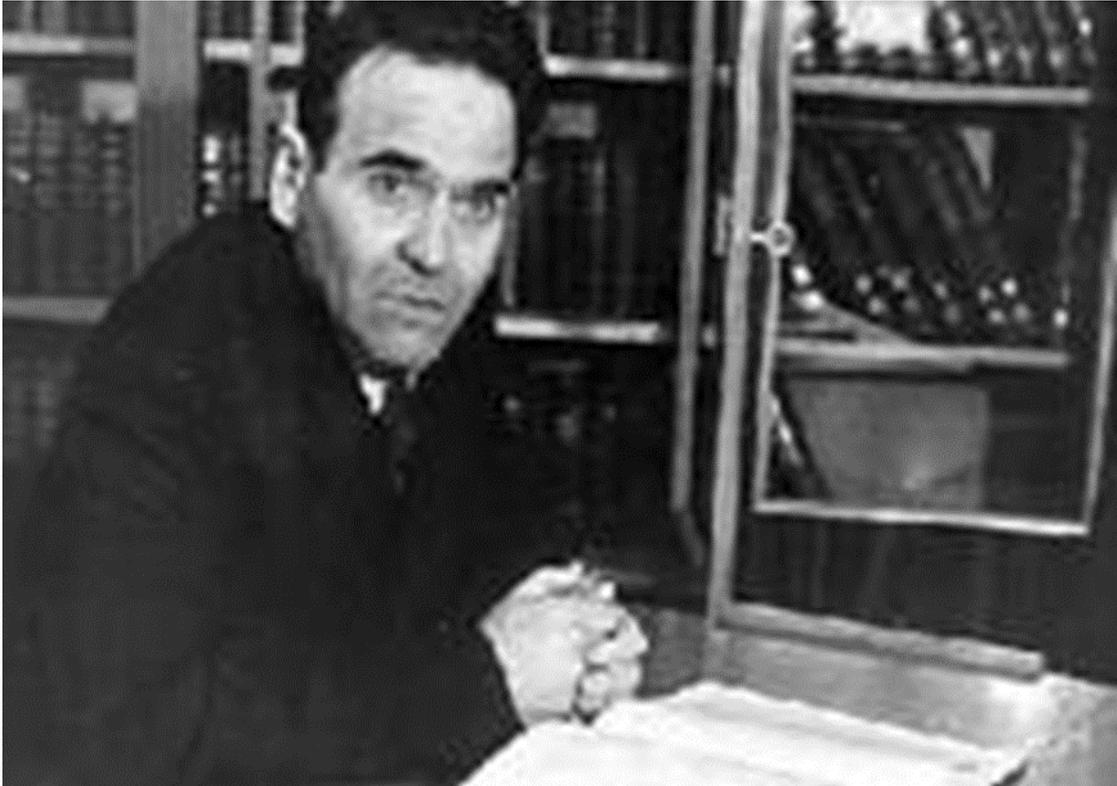


Volf Beilis



Man of honor: He fought on the front lines of the Great Patriotic War not for awards and not for them he led a grueling scientific quest till the end of his life. That's what they say about a distinguished scientist and a wonderful man of the soul - Wolf Beilis Mendelevich.

He was born on March 24, 1923 in the small ancient city of Vasylkiv, Kyivska oblast in the family of modest workers (father was an accountant, mother - a paramedic). In 1930 the family moves to Kyiv, where he settles in Podil.

In 1940, a future scientist brilliantly graduated from Kyiv High School # 19, finding a remarkable impetus for the study of languages and history, and in the same year joined the Faculty of History of Kyiv Taras Shevchenko State (now National) University. On the first course he learns Arabic and takes the first steps into science under the guidance of the famous Arabist Taufik Kavmi Gavrilovich. However, the training was interrupted by tragic events in the history of the state that left a heavy imprint on Wolf's personal life as well. V.M. Beilis graduated from the university only in 1950.

After the German's attack on the USSR, in July 1941 Wolf Mendelovich was called to service in the Red Army and sent to the Tomsk Artillery College. He showed his skills for studying here as well. In May 1942 he successfully completed the officer training course, received the rank of junior lieutenant and was first appointed as a platoon commander, then - the first battery of the artillery division of the 16th Motorized Rifle Brigade of the 25th Tank Corps. The corp was on one of the most important and dangerous areas of the front. In June 1942 - February 1943 Beilis participated in hostilities near Voronezh, on the Don, in Donbas. 21 February 1943 - during heavy fighting in the period of German counter-offensive against the troops of the Southwest and Voronezh fronts in the suburb of Pavlograd, in the Dnipropetrovsk oblast, he was wounded and found himself in German-occupied territory. His parents who were in the evacuation at Kuzbass, received a sign of their son's death.

From the inevitable death Wolf was rescued firstly by fighters of the Art Division, and then the undergrounds of the city Pavlograd. The wound on the body gradually healed, but subsequent events for many years left the wound in the heart of a courageous young man.

In August 1943, after the liberation of the occupied territory from the Germans, V.M. Beilis got to the NKVD camp for the so-called special check. Therefore, he was sent "to check combat qualities": Appoint a separate assault battalion III to the anti-tank gun commander of Ukrainian Front, one of those infamous battalions whose fighters were the first to attack the enemy. After going through a hell of bloody battles, including Yassko-Kishyniv offensive operation, having received three more wounds, V.M. Beilis ended the war in the same post, which he started as commander of a regiment of artillery regiment. In August 1946 he was demobilized from negative, because of the occupied territory, attestation and was finally able to return to studying at Kyiv University.

Immediately, the scientific work was resumed. Classes with Taufik Kezma have determined the future scientific path of the young man. However, he could not continue his research after graduation: staying in German-occupied territory imposed a taboo on all plans and dreams. Therefore, after graduating with honors in 1950 from the University, specialty "History of the USSR" V.M. Beilis was sent to work at the Chernobyl Secondary School # 1 in Kyiv oblast. There as a history teacher, head of training unit and finally director, he worked until August 1964.

But the indomitable scientist-researcher continued to live in him. He does not betray the Arabs that became his lifelong scientific choice. The main scientific problem was formulated: "Arab historical sources, their information on Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, connections of ancient Slavs with the East". During the Khrushchev thaw V.M. Beiliss, working at school and having family (his wife Eugeniia Markivna was also a teacher, in 1956 a son was born) which he had to hold on a meager teacher's salary, entered the graduate school of the Institute of History of the USSR Academy of Sciences (Moscow), where he studied part-time during 1955-1959 under the guidance of Professor Boris Wester. The result of the training was the defense of the dissertation for the degree of Candidate of Historical Sciences in the USSR Academy of Sciences of Asia in June 1963.

Even before defending his dissertation V.M. Beilis was already known in the Soviet Union as an Arabist. In the scientific world he was praised by his report at the International Conference on Issues study of eastern sources, held in Moscow in 1962, at the Second All-Union Meeting of Arabs (Leningrad, January 1963). It maintains close scientific connections with world-renowned scientists Lev Cherepnin, Andriy Kovalivsky, Mikhail Piotrovsky, Zia Buniatov, Aurora Falina, the best Arabist of the former USSR, Anas Khalidov. The scientist fluently spoke Ukrainian, Russian, English, German, French, Arabic, Persian, Polish, Bulgarian, Latin.

However, it was only in September 1964 that he was able to switch to teaching at Higher education institution - Luhansk Pedagogical Institute, where he worked until the last days of his life, never regretting it. The competition documents were submitted here because the candidate of science was provided housing here.

V.M. Beilis was initially appointed as a senior lecturer at the department, which was actually the only then. In a very short time, he develops lectures on ancient history and history of middle age, conducts seminars. He is charged with work at a party bureau of the faculty, and then the institute, are appointed by the student academic group supervisor. Later he headed the methodological commission of the Institute for distance learning, the commission of control over activity of the administration.

V.M. Beilis becomes a favorite teacher among students. His erudition, the talent of a brilliant lecturer, true intelligence, principality coupled with benevolence appealed to him all, who was pleased to study with him. At the same time, the scientist worked hard on his doctorate dissertation "The Works of Mas'ud ibn Namdar as a Source from the History of Arran and Shirvan in the Beginning of the XII Century and a monument of medieval Arabic literature », which was brilliantly defended in June 1975 in the Departments of Social Sciences, Academy of Sciences of

the Azerbaijan SSR. On May 13, 1977, the Supreme Court of the USSR awarded him and he held a PhD in History, and a year later he held the title of Professor in the Department of General history.

During 1978–1989, Wolf Mendelovich headed the Department of General History and a lot was made for its development. Under his supervision, since 1979, postgraduate studies have been fruitfully started to establish creative connections with the leading scientific centers of oriental studies of the former Soviet Union, in particular, the Leningrad branch of the Institute of Oriental Studies of the USSR Academy of Sciences. As Ukraine's leading orientalist, he has participated in All-Union Oriental Conferences, "Barthold's Readings", opposed the dissertation defense, he prepared numerous articles which were included in the Big Soviet Encyclopedia, the Soviet Historical Encyclopedia, "Ukrainian Soviet Encyclopedia", "Short Literature Encyclopedia" published in Issues of Oriental Studies, Nations of Asia and Africa, History of the USSR, Ukrainian Historical Magazine.

Totally, more than 100 scientific papers have been written by scientists. 1970 V.M. Beilis published at the Moscow Science Publishers, an Arabic text with research and storytelling, letters and poems by writer and politician of XII century Mas'ud ibn Namdar for the unique Paris manuscript. This edition was published in the series "Monuments of the Literature of the East". In the same series, which is considered one of the greatest achievements of the oriental studies of the former USSR and Russia and has received high praise in the world science, edited by the Arabic and Russian texts translations from the print of Az-Zahrawi's treatise on Surgery and Instrumentation (1983), and on Nasawa's The Biography of Sultan Jalal ad-Din Mankburn (1996).

Quality and depth of scientific works of Beilis were so tall that he, without exaggeration, became a classic of Ukrainian arabistics.

The recognition of the professor's scientific merit was his inclusion in the Scientific Council of the Institute of Oriental Studies of the NAS of Ukraine and the editorial board of the journal of this Eastern World Institute. He is universally recognized scientific authority at the Institute of Oriental Studies and the Institute of General History of Russian Academy of Sciences, scientific circles of USA, Canada, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Poland, Czech Republic. Since 1978 V.M. Beilis was a member of the academic board of our school.

He died on February 15, 2001.

In his life, he enjoyed the great scientific achievements, the respect and recognition in the scientific world, heartfelt love and sincere respect from colleagues and students and blows of fate, such as premature death of his son Mark in 1980. But he always remained humble, open to all people.

The main thing in his scientific life, Wolf Mendelevich believed that he worked for others, sincerely helped fellow scientists and valued their appreciation for it. That is the essence of the real school scientist, professor, Master - Beilis School, which, according to a world-renowned academician Omelyana Pritsaka, well known all over the world.