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Ivan Yatskanyn's contribution to Ukrainian translation in Slovakia

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## Introduction

**Topicality.** The relevance of the research topic is due to the need for scientific understanding of the Ukrainian literary process outside Ukraine, which will contribute to the deepening of the holistic concept of the development of national literature. The organic component of fiction is the Ukrainian prose in Slovakia (mainly on the lands of Pryashiv (now Presov in nowadays Slovakia) region), which is still little known to the national readers and scholars.

The last three decades among the leading writers of the Pryashiv region the work of Ivan Yatskanyn stands out. The artist's artwork presents the specifics of Ukrainian literature in Slovakia and provides valuable material for understanding the development of contemporary national literary process.

**The aim** of the course work is to study the problems and poetics of I. Yatskanyn`s prose.

The realization of this aim involves the following **objectives**:

- to investigate the evolution of the prose writer's artistic thinking and discover aspects of his literary, translation and editorial activities;
- to find out peculiarities of reception of writer's works in criticism and literary studies;
- to show main subjects of I. Yatskanyn`s translations;
- to determine I. Yatskanyn as Ukrainian writer of Slovakia.

**Research object.** Translation activities of Ivan Yatskanyn.

**Research subject.** The main Ivan Yatskanyn's contribution to Ukrainian translation in Slovakia.

**Theoretical framework.**

## **Chapter 1. Theoretical and methodological background**

Ivan Yatskanyn - now known as fiction writer, translator, publicman, and also a long-term editor of literary and nonfiction magazine “Duklya” and children's magazine “Rainbow”. During decades, he cares of the Ukrainian word in Slovakia. Except prosaic property, artist realized himself as well as publicist and master of artistic translation. Fills Ivan Yatskanyn`s creative personality editorial labor that underlines writer and personality internals of artist.

### **1.1. Biographical portrait of the writer**

For I. Yatskanyn memory and national identity have a deep meaning, since his birth (August 28, 1950 in the village of Rashiv, Bardiiivsky district in Pryashiv region), his whole life was devoted to the ministry of the word: and when he studied at the Pryashiv Pedagogical Faculty of Kosice University. P. Shafarik, specializing in Ukrainian and Slovak, and when he headed the editorial office of the Ukrainian studio of Czechoslovakian radio in Pryashiv, he taught at the village. Maltsev in the Bardiyiv region, was the editor of the district newspaper, and also the head of the fiction department of the Bratislava department of the Slovak pedagogical publishing house, worked in the field of book publishing, and taught at the Department of Slavic Philology at the University. Matthew Bela in Banska Bystrica. However, his most important contribution to the treasure trove of words is his prose work, which is composed of a series of small prose collections and the story "Angel over the City".

I. Yatskanyn's childhood years were spent in the field of farming with his parents. He grew in Ukrainian family, from little up spoke in Ukrainian language and considered himself only as Ukrainian.

## 1.2. I. Yatskanyn as a writer

On forming of Ivan Yatskanyn as a writer distinctly designated his national identity, id est belonging is to the Ukrainian ethnic group.

After initial rural school, a future writer studied in Bardiyev at Ukrainian school that, as said in his interview, named "Ukrainian Klondike" [17], but made off Ukrainian gymnasium in Pryashiv.

Memories of early post-war childhood formed the basis autobiographical story "And the field played clawing ...". Writer calls this period: "*It was a time when we were carrying more books in our bags, than bread*"[2].

Growing up, the author loved to read folk tales, and afterwards – classic examples of Ukrainian and foreign literature: Ivan Franko "Little Myron", "When More Beasts spoke ", Michael Kotsiubynskyi "Fir Tree", Stepan Vasylchenko stories, "Tarasovye Ways" by Oksana Ivanenko, "Schooner" by Columbus Nicholas Trublaini, the works of Jules Verne, Mark Twain and others. In fourth grade he submitted the first correspondence to the Ukrainian "New Life" newspaper [2].

Ivan Yatskanyn entered to the literature as a representative of a small prosaic genre, made his debut in a collection of works by young Ukrainian writers in Slovakia "Young Wine" (1982). The first edition of "Residence" was published in Pryashiv in 1987.

In the works, focus of authorial attention is sent to artistic embodiment "The truth of life." The author develops a rural theme, which has already given grounds the first researchers to attribute his achievements to "rural prose".

The first edition of I. Yatskanyn in Ukraine was the collection "Wooden sorrow"(1997). It contains 19 chosen works from previous prose books, that present his most ponderable achievements from 1982 to 1997. For this edition I. Yatskanyn was awarded the title of laureate Literary Prize named by Gregory Skovoroda.

Further period of creativity prose is characterized by a walking away from the pure peasant themes, although it is present in many works in the future. The greatest work of the writer by genre - the story "Angel over the City" (2001, Pryashiv).

The most complete collection of the chosen prose of author at the moment is "It is time for the narrow of the streets" was published in the Kiev publishing house "Press of Ukraine" (2013). It presents the story "Angel over the City" and 36 short stories [20]. His prose is up-to-date spiritual, philosophical and moral-ethical challenges of the 80's of 20 century. - 10's of the 21 century, which are important to the author.

The writer's artistic achievement presents in two periods: the first outlines the evolution of the author from everyday prose of "rural direction" to the beginnings of comprehension of existential motives of loneliness, flight, love and death. The second one outlines on the writer's philosophical understanding of the problem of the rootedness of a person in his native space, which imprints on his fate and in the professional sphere, and most importantly, in the possibility of establishing harmonious relations with the opposite sex. The problematic-thematic spectrum, deep psychology, attention to artistic detail, lyrical flow testify to the I. Yatskanyn`s neo-realistic way of artistic thinking.

### **1.3. I. Yatskanyn`s literary activity**

### **1.4. Ivan Yatskanyn`s editorial and translation activity**

It is worth noting that the interest of I. Yatskanyn in the field of translation is not accidental, because the writer fruitfully works in this field. Creates Ukrainian variants of works by Czech, Slovak and Polish writers, and presents Slovak achievements to Ukrainian artists. In his literary-critical articles, we can feel his theoretical and practical translation experience. Therefore, his literary-critical works are mostly problematic and debatable, which is convincingly confirmed by the article "Gains and Losses" [14].

The researcher focuses on the field of Slovak-Ukrainian literary relations and traces the most important translations of the works of Ukrainian writers into Slovak, which appeared in Czechoslovakia after 1948, namely T. Shevchenko, I. Franko, O.

Kobylyanska, V. Stefanyk, Lesya Ukrainka , O. Gonchar, O. Dovzhenko, Y. Yanovsky, M. Stelmakh, V. Sosyury, P. Tychyna, M. Rylsky, I. Drach, B.-I. Antonych, B. Oliynyk, V. Korotych, D. Pavlychko, L. Kostenko and others. The author convinces of the importance of the case and points to the progress of the Ukrainian mainland literature, the emergence of new works, which should also be communicated to readers of Slovakia through translation.

The writer also draws attention to the reverse process in the case of Slovak-Ukrainian artistic translation into Slovak and Ukrainian, traces the spread of works by Slovak authors in Ukraine. The subject of his interest is the problem of children's literature, since he claims that literature for children and young people is no less valuable than literature for the adult reader. In the literary-critical article "Slovak Children's Literature in Ukrainian Translation" [21], the researcher describes the stages of development of modern Slovak children's literature.

Ivan Yatskanyn's desire to acquaint Slovak readers with the works of the most famous Ukrainian writers is evidenced by his small volume, but filled with important information by the studio "Translation of one poem" [19], dedicated to the work and translation activity of Vasyl Stus.

In addition to analyzing translations of Ukrainian writers' works into Slovak, I. Yatskanyn also analyzes translations into Czech. The researcher informs the readers about the authors, points out the importance of their creative achievements in the Ukrainian literary process and the level of familiarization of the Czech readership with their creativity.

In the literary studies of I. Yatskanyn a significant number of reviews of new publications or translations of writers, which are considered mainly in the context of relevant literature of the time. It should be noted that in the Ukrainian cultural life of Slovakia, review dominated the critical genres, and during the second half of the 20 century the review tradition was most actively supported by the magazine "Duklya" [6], the active author of which is I. Yatskanyn.

Significant contribution of I. Yatskanyn to the sphere of artistic translation. Translations of Ukrainian works into Slovak and Slovak into Ukrainian appear from

under his pen and on the front pages of literary periodicals of Slovakia and Ukraine, and in separate books.

Thanks to I. Yatskanyn's translations, the Ukrainian reader can learn the literature of Slovakia, he has edited and translated into Ukrainian an anthology of a contemporary Slovak short story "Mitigating Circumstances" (1994) and an anthology of Slovak small prose "Taina" (2011), published in Uzhgorod [9].

Therefore, I. Yatskanyn reveals to the Ukrainians the culture of the near abroad, giving them the opportunity to understand others, and through them it is easier to understand themselves. He is interested in the best achievements of Ukrainian and Slovak literature: from the classics to the present.

A particular area of activity of I. Yatskanyn is his editorial work. As the editor-in-chief of the literary-artistic and journalistic magazine "Duklya" (since 1990), he is extremely demanding about the selection of materials and the aesthetic design of the magazine, and monitors the uniform representation in the journal of poetry and prose works. Each magazine has space for scholarly and non-fiction articles, interviews, book reviews, and art. Both Ukrainians of Slovakia and representatives of mainland Ukraine can be published in the journal. Therefore, what I. Yatskanyn made remains a significant trace in the cultural life of not only the Ukrainians of Slovakia but also of Ukraine.

Thus, the literary, editorial and translation activity of I. Yatskanyn attests to the attention to translation as a way of intercultural communication, expansion of the sphere of influence of the national word, integration of spiritual national culture into the aesthetic non-national space.

### **1.5. Reception of the work of Ivan Yatskanyn**



## **Chapter 2. Practical background**

### **2.1. Main subjects of I. Yatskanyn's translations**

A ponderable place among the genres of study of literature studios of I. Yatskanyn occupies review. Attention of researcher is concentrated foremost on the problems of Ukrainian literature, Ukrainian-Slovakia and Slovakia-Ukrainian mutual relations in the area of translation, on theoretical principles of artistic translation.

He also analyses the reception of Ukrainian literature the Czech reader environment. In translation reviews of I. Yatskanyn marks such aspects, as importance of comparison of translation with an original, responsibility of translator for translation accuracy, translation quality and others like that.

The structure of reviews is predefined an author purpose and tasks: one reviews are compressed, accordingly their purpose consists in presentation of the translated edition; other – more wide, with the detailed analysis of the stylistic, linguistic working of translation, with concrete examples which illustrate successful standards or, opposite, clumsy translations.

Different aspects of description Ukrainian-Slovakia literary connections look after in the articles «Above one translation», «Dialog of two cultures», «More creation and responsibility», «Ukrainian literature, on the pages of magazine of «Elan», at what I. Yatskanyn watches consisting of distribution and study of mainland Ukrainian literature of Slovakia.

In the article «Above one translation» a researcher examines translation Slovakia the novel of I. Grigurka «Channel», carried out Vlastoy by Ball, and decides on the question of accordance of translation semantic and to the form of original.

Comparing four editions a novel, among which two originals (vid-va is young «People», 1974 and «Dnepr», 1976) and translations by Slovakia (Bratislava, 1977)

and Russian («Molodaya of gvardiya», 1975), an author specifies on divergence of Slovakia translation and Ukrainian original («Dnepr», 1976).

He proves argued, that translator used Ukrainian not edition a novel, but abortively realizable Russian translation, that brought in a Slaovak variant to many inaccuracies over and even to admissions of whole indentions. I. Yatskanyn considers «translation from the second hand» tactless attitude toward readers and decline of aesthetically beautiful cost of work-original.

On importance of of translating business it is marked in the survey article «Dialog of two cultures» and opinion is expressed, after after And. By Franc, that «history of artistic translation in every literature becomes part of history of national culture, national literature» [17].

An author satisfies of importance of the done business and specifies on advancement of Ukrainian mainland literature, connection of new works which also it costs to carry to the readers of Slovakia through translation.

The article is «More creation and responsibility» sacred to the analysis of collection of translations «Lives sleeps» (Bratislava) of Natashi Pavulyakovoi-Dyurinovoy. Eleven stories of the modern Ukrainian writers entered in this book. Analysing done an author, I. Yatskanyn aims to «avoid strict or even slave comparison an original is translation» [17].

He examines the question of selection the translators of language means, namely replacements of common in the Ukrainian originals by dialekt accordances from the manner of speaking of language, which translate, whether the use of literary word-accordance, problem of arbitrary translation of stylistic figures and tropes, and influence of such operating is on ideological artistic maintenance of work.

From positions of this scientific method an author carries out consideration of translations, pointing illustrations of the so-called «changes». A researcher looks after the similar phenomenon in translation of story of V. Levytskoho «Poruga», the West Ukrainian manner of speaking is used in which.

According to his opinion, a translator does not represent this linguistic feature of work, what a colour, characteristic for prose, is lost as a result of. V. Levytskoho.

Bases the supervisions of I. Yatskanyn on theoretical principles of connoisseurs of of translating business, in particular S. Florina in relation to the necessity of knowledge of geography, history, literature, way of life and consuetudes of people, a translator, whose literature he translates.

Thus Ivan Yatskanyn in the of translating creation aims well to acquaint readers with works of authors. From it he uses original receptions.

## **2.2. Ukrainian writer of Slovakia**

About aspiration of I. Yatskanyn to acquaint the readers of Slovakia with creation of the most known Ukrainian writers testifies and him small on a volume, but a studio «Translation of one poem» [19], sacred to creation and of translating activity of Vasyl Stusa, is gap-filling important information.

A poet is presented as an intellectual-dissident for which creation was the method of existence. Such verge of his talent is selected, as translations, underline, that in this work of artist present, next to a poetry and prose, and drama. Among translations of Stusa from German, English, French, Russian languages it is selected and carried out them at the beginning of creation translation from Slovakia of poem «History of grass» of Myroslav Valeka.

I. Yatskanyn touches question about the arbitrariness of translation, considers that, who embarks on such business, must not be too tied to the original, however and his individuality must not score off above individuality of author. In connection with reasonings above this problem, I. Yatskanyn speaks to experience of the known masters of artistic translation — M. Ryl's'koho and G. Kochura.

Except for the articles mentioned above «From the classics for contemporaneity», «Ukrainian literature on the pages of magazine of «Elan», a few have informative character. Them basic task — to give reader public certain information about T. Shevchenko. Yes, in the interview of I. Yatskanyn with a great-grandson T. Shevchenko for lines of sister of Kateryna by Lyudmyla Krasitskoy «Branches of Shevchenkovogo of family», to the magazine «Duklya» fitted in a

sixth number for 1993, information is given about foundation related by blood of T. G. Shevchenko in Kyiv of Fund of his name, a primary purpose of which is «practical work on the walk of life of the Ukrainian spiritual and national revival» [18].

This book induced I. Yatskanyn to the reflections about the genre features of diary in literary creation. An author establishes: the records of S. Gostinyaka reflect literary a diary and nacional'nokul'turne life of Ukrainians of Slovakia. 17 study of literature studios I. Yatskanyna, in which ponderable aspects are traced Ukrainian-Slovakia-Czech literary intercommunications, were incorporated in a separate book «Dialog of literatures», given out a seal in 2008 in Pryashevi.

Translations of Ukrainian works by Slovakia and Slovakia Ukrainian languages appear from under his peer and on the columns of literary periodicals of Slovakia and Ukraine, and by separate books. In particular, into Slovakia language are the Ukrainian folk tales, given out in Uzhgorod under the name of «Majster Ivanko» (1985) translated, a writer gave out Slovakia translation of story of S. Ganuschina «Vysok é schody» (1989).

I. Yatskanyn acquaints the Slovakia reader with achievements of Ukrainian literature. In 2009 year did collection of stories of «Mesačný úsmev», what was made by translations Slovakia works of Victor Domontovicha, Olga Kobyljanskoy, Hryhorij Kosynky, Bohdan Lepkogo and Volodymyra Vynnychenka.

Due to translations of I. Yatskanyn the Ukrainian reader can get to know literature of Slovakia, in fact he put in order and translated Ukrainian the anthology of the modern Slovakia story the «Facilitating circumstances» (1994) and anthology of Slovakia small prose of «Taina» (2011), which went out a seal in Uzhgorod [14].

An anthology got approving reviews, in particular T. Likhtey paid regard to high level of translations, marking that I. Yatskanyn skilfully adopted the manner of letter each of authors, and also «method of exposition of ideas and senses, with enormous respect, belonging to to stylistically semantic filling of text» [9, p. 94].

In 2009 year did work of the Slovakia writer Yuliusa Balca «King of sparrows». Is surrealism prose of the modern Slovakia prose writer Mareka Vadasa,

book of which «Hotshot beautiful life» (2011) was in Uzhgorod, as well as book for the children of Stanislav Shtepki «Swallow's fairy-tales» (2012).

Last years a writer is obviously interested by literature of fact. In 2012 years the novel of the modern Slovakia writer Yozefa Banasha is printed «Area of inspiration».

## **Conclusions**

The Ukrainian literature in Slovakia is a component of the national literary process, but its study in domestic literary studies has received little attention, in particular, the modern literary process has not been studied.