



MEDICAL UNIVERSITY

First published on June 24, 1928

June 18, 2013
Special issue No. 6

THE NEWSPAPER OF KHARKIV NATIONAL MEDICAL UNIVERSITY ACADEMIC COMMUNITY

The newspaper was awarded with a silver medal of the "Higher School" Ukrainian Government Contest

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE GRADUATE OF KHNMU!

Congratulations to Dr. Jay King, the graduate of Kharkiv National Medical University on his appointment to the position of Vice President of pharmaceutical company Sanfori in the USA.

The staff of our University is proud of the achievements of Dr. Jay King, and offers sincere congratulations upon his appointment to a high position and wishes him new achievements and success in his career.



INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Bilateral cooperation

On February 7, 2013 Kharkiv National Medical University was visited by honourable guests: Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of India to Ukraine Rajiv Kumar Chander, Second Secretary of the Embassy of India in Ukraine Amit Verma and a graduate of our University in 1996 Alok Bansal.

An important part of the visit consisted in meeting the Rector of the University Vladimir Lesovoy, who emphasized that a good tradition was established at our university: students, the citizens of India, had been studying at KhNMU since 1974; the Rector expressed expectations that their number would increase annually. The first graduation from the Medical University took place in 1980, and more than 420 specialists for the medical field of India have been trained since.

During their communication the parties discussed issues of education, cooperation, postgraduate education, training of students, lecturers and clinical postgraduates (residents), who are citizens of India, and other matters.

In the end of the meeting, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary thanked for a warm and friendly welcome and said: "Kharkiv National Medical University has become our second home, because a lot of students, Indian citizens, study at this University. The fact that our students choose just your higher school is evidence of a high professional level of the University's staff."

Within the framework of the visit, the representatives of the delegation met with students from India and visited the Museum of History of Kharkiv National Medical University.



OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

KhNMU: "Higher educational establishment of Ukraine, the leader of staff training for African countries"



On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Organization of African Unity and for a high-quality training of specialists for African countries Kharkiv National Medical University was awarded the diploma of competitor "Higher educational establishment of Ukraine, the leader of staff training for African countries".

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

A friendly visit

On February 1, 2013 a delegation of the Embassy of the Republic of Tajikistan in Ukraine, which consisted of the Counselor of the Embassy of the Republic of Tajikistan in Ukraine Nematullo Emomovych Emomov, the Attache of the Embassy of the Republic of Tajikistan in Ukraine Parviz Sayfiddin Nazarzod, the Leader of the Tadjik diaspora in Kharkiv Region Nurullo Nurboboyovych Saydaliyev and his deputy Shovk Duktamovych Sadykov, paid a friendly visit to Kharkiv National Medical University.



The representatives of the Embassy and diaspora met with Professor Vladimir Lesovoy, Rector of the University, Professor Vladimir Markovskiy, Vice-Rector for Research and Education, and Professor Igor Zavgorodnii, Assistant Rector for International Relations.

"It is very pleasant to notice that more than 90 students from Tajikistan study at KhNMU this day, as training at the Medical University has deep historical roots and practical experience," said Nematullo Emomovych Emomov. In its turn, Vladimir Lesovoy expressed his sincere gratitude to the honourable guests and emphasized that our university had 200 years of experience in training doctors and for that period medical schools in different directions were established, and international links were widely developed. Our foreign graduates include outstanding scientists, statesmen and politicians.

During this meeting the parties discussed issues of the training of students, who are citizens of the Republic of Tajikistan, at the University, examined problems in the training improvement and various aspects of educational work, bilateral cooperation and friendly relations between our countries.

At the end of their visit the honourable guests had an opportunity to get acquainted with the historical past of the University at the Community Museum of History. After an interesting excursion, which was organized on the occasion of their visit, Mr Emomov wrote an entry to the visitor's book.

Traditions of cooperation



On February 6, our Rector, Professor Vladimir Lesovoy met with the Counselor of the Embassy of Turkmenistan in Ukraine Charymurat Atahanov.

Vladimir Lesovoy expressed gratitude to the honourable guests for their visit to the oldest medical educational institution in Ukraine, known for its long traditions and best medical schools. The Rector of the University stressed that our countries had developed long-standing friendly relations and our university was proud of prominent graduates from Turkmenistan, with whom we keep in touch even today.

During the meeting the parties discussed different issues concerning KhNMU students, who are citizens of Turkmenistan, the importance of interaction and cooperation of the Embassy with the University's administration.

The programme of the visit included Mr. Atahanov's meeting with students, citizens of Turkmenistan, where some important aspects of their education and residence in Ukraine were discussed.

A visit of honorable guests from Namibia



On May 24, an official delegation of the Republic of Namibia with the following members Franz E. Gertze, Director of Namibia Qualifications Authority, Mr. Alphonse Amoomoa, representative of Board of healthcare professionals of Namibia, Mrs. Eliza de Almeida, Deputy Director of Financial Affairs of Ministry of Education of Namibia, Dr. Haakuria Veytzhara, Dean of the Namibian Pharmaceutical University, Martin Mwaetako, Namibia students Financial assistance funds and Mr. Albert Lushetile, Counselor of the Embassy of the Republic of Namibia in the Russian Federation paid a friendly visit to Kharkiv National Medical University.

The honourable guests had a meeting with the administration of the university. Valery Myasodov, a vice-rector on scientific efforts, mentioned that the main goal of educational and pedagogical activities of our university is a qualitative education of our students. For more than 200 years, our educational establishment has trained highly experienced health care professionals. Valery Vasyliovych said that the priority of KhNMU is to take a merited place in the European educational space. "We are grateful that our university has not remained without your attention, and we are ready to make all efforts in order to take part in training of students from Namibia." Vice-rector also reported about the specialties that health professionals are trained at KhNMU.



In his turn, Mr. Franz Gertze made a point of the purpose of the delegation's visit - an interest in preparing their own doctors and governmental programmes aimed at supporting students, citizens of Namibia, have been created for this. Thanks to visiting the museum the members of the delegation had an opportunity to make sure that our university has a long and rich history.



During the meeting, the parties discussed issues concerning further development of bilateral cooperation, training of students - citizens of the Republic of Namibia and perspectives for expansion of their citizens in our higher educational establishment. At the end of the visit the honourable guests met with Namibian students who are studying at Kharkiv National Medical University.

SHEVCHENKO READINGS

TARAS SHEVCHENKO IS A GREAT UKRAINIAN POET



On March 9, 2013 the Ukrainian people, who are the true and only heir of the creative achievements of Taras Shevchenko, celebrated the 199th birthday of the Great Poet in the Ukrainian culture and an active participator in the revolutionary movement.

Shevchenko's literary heritage is regarded to be the foundation of the modern Ukrainian literature and, to a large extent, the modern Ukrainian language. Shevchenko is also known for many masterpieces as a painter and illustrator.

There are many monuments to Shevchenko throughout Ukraine, the most notable ones being at his memorial in Kaniv and in the centre of Kyiv, just opposite to Kyiv University that was named after Shevchenko. The Kyiv Metro station is also dedicated to Shevchenko. Among other remarkable monuments to the poet located throughout Ukraine are those in Kharkiv (in front of the Shevchenko Park), Lviv, Lugansk and many others.



Traditionally, staff members of our University's Department of the Ukrainian Language, Fundamentals of Psychology and Pedagogics organized a series of events dedicated to the anniversary of the birth of the Great Poet. Lecturers Skorbach T.V. and Kalinichenko O. V. together with first-year students took part in celebrations of the 199th birthday of the poet. Within March 12-17, first-year students and their teachers visited the exhibition of art works

dedicated to the momentous event. The exhibition was represented by such titles as "Works by T. Shevchenko", "The Literary Life of Modern Ukraine". Lecturers Kulikova I.I. and Samolysova O.V. delivered a lecture about the biography and creativity of Taras Shevchenko which revealed new aspects of Shevchenko's creativity for our first-year English medium students of the 6th Medical Faculty. The students of group 1 (1st year, 6th Medical Faculty) took an active part in a discussion about poems and paintings of the Great Poet, they also made short reports about this prominent person in the history of Ukraine. The Shevchenko Park with its monument to the outstanding person was visited by the students of groups 13-14 (1st year, 6th Medical Faculty). The students had a great opportunity to get some extra information about the history and culture of Ukrainians.

O.V. Samolysova, lecturer of the Department of the Ukrainian Language, Fundamentals of Psychology and Pedagogics

REFERENCE

Shevchenko's "Testament", (*Zapovit*, 1845), has been translated into more than 60 languages and set to music in the 1870s by H. Hladky. The poem enjoys the status second only to the Ukraine's national anthem.

Testament (Zapovit)

When I am dead, bury me
In my beloved Ukraine,
My tomb upon a grave mound high
Amid the spreading plain,
So that the fields, the boundless steppes,
The Dnieper's plunging shore
My eyes could see, my ears could hear
The mighty river roar.
When from Ukraine the Dnieper bears
Into the deep blue sea
The blood of foes ... then will I leave
These hills and fertile fields --
I'll leave them all and fly away
To the abode of God,
And then I'll pray But until that day
I nothing know of God.
Oh bury me, then rise ye up
And break your heavy chains
And water with the tyrants' blood
The freedom you have gained.
And in the great new family,
The family of the free,
With softly spoken, kindly word
Remember also me.

Taras Shevchenko,

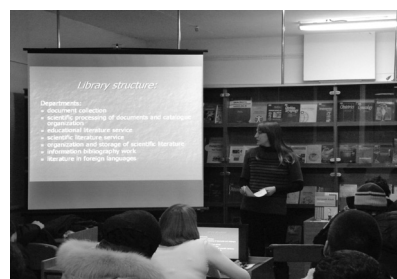
December 25, 1845, Pereiaslav.

Translated by John Weir, Toronto, 1961

SCIENTIFIC LIBRARY OF KHNMU

"LIBRARY LESSONS FOR ENGLISH MEDIUM STUDENTS"

On December 19 and 20, within the framework of its methodological work aimed at improving the information competence of library users, our Scientific Library organized and conducted for the first time the event called "Library Lessons for English Medium Students" for the first-year students who are trained in English. The goal of the event was to acquaint students with the work of the Scientific Library, tell them about its resources, search capabilities, an access to scientific information and assistance in the process of education.



Library lessons for foreign students were conducted in the English language. The Director of the Scientific Library I.V. Kirichok opened the lessons; introductory speeches were made by the Deputy Deans of the VI Faculty E.V. Kraynenko and O.V. Vasilieva.

Employees of the Department of Literature in Foreign Languages prepared two presentations. The first one was "Getting to know the Library", which provided general information about the Scientific Library, its structure and traditional resources (it was prepared and presented by the bibliographer of II Category T.A. Babak). The Head of the Service Department for English Medium Students O.A. Krasnyukova made a presentation "Electronic and On-Line Information Resources of the Scientific Library for English Medium Students", told about electronic and on-line resources of the library, including an electronic catalog, and ways to use them, as well as possibilities of an access to scientific and educational literature.

The event was attended by about 70 students. The Scientific Library thanks the staff of the Dean's Office of VI Faculty for assistance in the preparation of the meeting with students and the organization of this event, and looks forward to further cooperation.

We invite the students, who have not subscribed to the library yet, to visit it and register in order to receive textbooks.

The Scientific Library is planning to conduct annual "Library Lessons for English Medium Students" for freshmen, who study in the English language, and all persons interested.

We are always happy to see you and ready to assist you in the learning process.

O.A. Krasnyukova, Head

Service Department for English Medium Students

GRADUATION – 2013

Proud to be a graduate of KhNMU

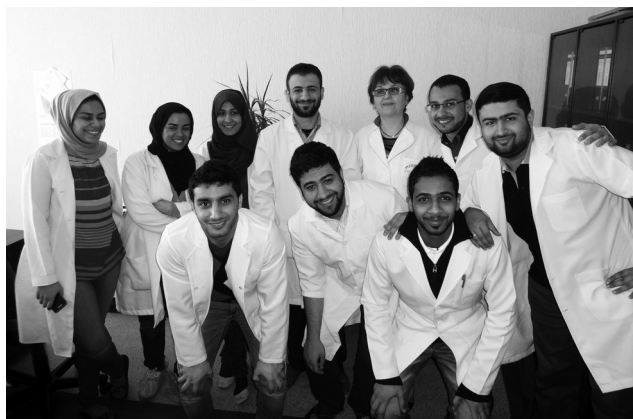
KhNMU will always live in my heart and soul! It is not just a place of studying, it is my second home. I can't explain in words how honored and proud I am to be a graduate of this great university. Six years ago I stepped over the threshold of KhNMU and a new page of my life story began. I managed to get through and overcome all the difficulties become a good doctor.

True reliable friends, brilliant teachers and their wise recommendations, profound knowledge, practical experience will always remain in my memory. I am grateful and blissful to all staff and dean office, especially to Dr. Dmitriy Katsapov and Oksana Vasylieva and all modest doctors for standing by our side in this prosperous journey of knowledge and thriving education. I enjoyed studying with fellow students of 6th course, especially with the students of my group which whom I shared unforgettable memories. Group 6 I am more than excited to see you living in prosperity and success. My dear fellows, take actions, follow your dreams, and reach your goals! Also I thank most of all to my parents for loving me and supporting me along this way!

My heart is full of warm words, I pour out my thanks to KhNMU!

Hope my University will never forget me!

Hamza Muneer Ali Mohamed Ali (Kingdom of Bahrain)



Last day in pediatric infection cycle



Manipulation on manikins



Exam on the theory



In hospital at the patient's side

HISTORY OF UNIVERSITY

Visit to the University museum

On April 9, 2013 my groupmates and I enhanced knowledge of our great university during a double-period of political science. We were invited to the University museum by our teacher Mr. Vadim.



Our minds were exposed to a vast history of the University. Several stories and philosophies about great men and women who at one time in their life studied at our university were told for us. We were also shown documents, various pho-

tographs and medical instruments dating back to the early 1800s. It was interesting to see that all the exhibits were carefully preserved. It was wide experience for everyone and all of us were inspired by the exploit of distinguished individuals such as Danilevsky V.Ya., Trinkler N.P., Vorobyov V.P., Girschman L.L., who are all alumni of the KhNMU. It is the experience I will not forget in a hurry.



Michael Ogunkoya Oluwole, first-year student, group 35

SWAN LAKE: a unique experience of classical musical therapy

My winter holidays were ending, preparations for a new semester had already started, and worries began to increase even before the beginning of classes. My teacher Nataliya Martynenko offered to go to the Opera and Ballet Theatre to see the ballet "Swan Lake". The libretto, initially in four acts, was fashioned from folk tales and told the story of Odette, a princess who turned into a swan by an evil sorcerer's curse.

The ballet performing was followed with classical musical orchestra; it was specific music, which was communicating emotions. Music does not pass through rationality to express its essence, it crosses right to our hearts.

Classical music, whether you love it or hate it, has been a powerful cultural force for centuries. While it no longer dominates the music scene, the argument for continued appreciation of the genre goes far beyond pure aural aesthetics. Classical music has been lauded for its ability to do everything from improve intelligence to reduce stress, and despite some exaggeration of its benefits, science shows us that it actually has marked an effect on the brain in a number of positive ways.

Over the past few decades, there have been numerous studies on the brain's reaction to classical music, and we have shared the most relevant, interesting, and surprising here, some of which may motivate you to become a classical aficionado yourself.

1. Emotional expression in music and speech affect the brain similarly.

Music is a very strong form of emotional communication across all cultures, but why? Research may have the answer. Studies show that music, including classical arrangements, has the ability to send chills down your spine or make your heart swell with joy through its use of different musical modes. The reason these musical modes have the ability to convey so much emotion is because they imitate the tonal characteristics of emotion in the voice, tapping into our innate communicative abilities and our cultural associations alike.

2. Classical music can help reduce pain and anxiety.

Certain medical procedures are not especially pleasant to undergo, eliminating the feelings of discomfort and anxiety in patients. Music, research suggests, can be a helpful remedy. Researchers at Duke Cancer Institute found that wearing noise-canceling headphones playing classical music (in this case, concertos by Bach) reduced the pain and anxiety of a prostate biopsy.

3. Classical music can make blood pressure lower.

Whether you choose Bach, Beethoven, or Mozart, classical music can have a marked effect on your stress levels and in turn your blood pressure.

4. Classical music can heighten and arise emotions.

Researchers found that the classical music affected not only the



emotional response and the kinds of emotional language used, but also affected the topics the participants chose to disclose, promoted greater expression, and actually caused an increase in the pleasure the participants got from listening to classical music.

5. Listening to classical music can help you battle insomnia.

Classical music is an effective sleep aid because it uses rhythms and tonal patterns that create a meditative mood and slow brainwaves. The most effective pieces in getting participants to sleep were works by Brahms, Handel, Mozart, Strauss, and Bach.

6. Classical pieces may actually alter brainwaves.

When children's brainwaves were monitored by an electroencephalogram,

Russian scientists found a significant difference between those who listened to music and those who did not. The study, published in Human Physiology in 1996, demonstrated that a group of children who listened to classical music for one hour a day over a six-month period exhibited changes in the alpha rhythm frequency band and greater coherence between different regions of the cerebral cortex, both indicating greater levels of relaxation. More striking, perhaps, is that these changes in the brain and brainwaves occurred in a passive listening setting where children were not required to pay attention to the music.

7. Classical music may foster brain development in children.

Studies have found that music listening and practice can help children develop spatial and verbal skills and can also foster self-control.

8. Some cities use classical music to reduce crime.

Classical music as a crime deterrent? Sounds crazy, but it has worked. Some believe it has a soothing effect, others suggest that it gives the appearance of order and civility that deters crime on its own. Whatever the reason, classical music seems to be a cheap and effective way for cities to improve the safety of their transit systems.

9. Classical music exerts a calming effect.

Need to relax? Try to listen to some classical music. An article published in the Journal of Clinical Nursing in 2008, showcased a study on pregnant women, who reported reduced levels of stress, anxiety and depression after listening to a 30-minute CD of classical hits. Dr. Kevin Labar of Duke University states that classical music produces this calming effect by prompting the brain to release dopamine (a hormone associated with pleasure) and inhibiting the release of stress hormones. Dr. Labar stresses, however, that if you do not like classical music, you will not get the same, and that other methods of relaxation might be a better effect fit.

Mariam Al Shaban, fifth-year student



Pearl of Arabian East

Iraq is situated in the Middle East, bordering the Persian Gulf, between Iran and Kuwait. Baghdad is the capital of this country. Iraq is inhabited by different nations. The Iraqi population includes a number of ethnic groups, about 77% of whom are Arabs, 19% Kurds, and the rest a variety of different groups, including Turkmens, Assyrians, and Armenians. There is also a distinct sub-group of Iraqi Arabs, called the Ma'dan or Marsh Arabs, who inhabit miles of marshy area just above the point at which the Tigris and Euphrates join together. People are mainly engaged in agriculture and cattle breeding, growing barley, cotton, and wheat. Oil, carpets and dates are exported to other countries.

Climate of this country is mostly desert; mild to cool winters with dry, hot, cloudless summers; northern mountainous regions along Iranian and Turkish borders experience cold winters with occasionally heavy snows that melt in early spring, sometimes causing extensive flooding in central and southern Iraq.

The official language of Iraq is Arabic. Many other languages are spoken by a variety of ethnic groups, most notably Kurdish. "Iraqi Arabic" (also known as Mesopotamian Arabic [Mesopotamian Qeltu Arabic, Mesopotamian Gelet Arabic, Baghdadi Arabic, Furati, 'Arabi, Arabi, North Syrian Arabic]) is a variety of Arabic spoken in the Mesopotamian basin of Iraq south of Baghdad as well as in neighboring Iran and eastern Syria.

Hospitality is an Arab and Muslim tradition deeply ingrained in the culture. Visitors are treated as kings and must always be fed and looked after. A tradition within Islam actually stipulates someone is allowed to stay in your home for 3 days before you can question why they are staying and when they will leave. Invitations to a home must be seen as a great honour and never turned down.



Iraqis consider family and honour to be of a paramount importance. The extended family or tribe is both a political and social force. Families hold their members responsible for their conduct, since any wrongdoing brings shame to the entire family. Loyalty to the family comes before other social relationships, even business. Nepotism is not viewed negatively; in such a culture it naturally makes more sense to offer jobs to family as they are trusted. It is common for large extended families to live in the same house, compound, or village. In urban areas, families do not necessarily live in the same house, although they generally live in the same street or suburb at least.

Etiquette and Customs in Iraq

Meeting People

-The most common greeting is the handshake coupled with eye contact and a smile.

-The standard Arabic/Islamic greeting is "asalaamu alaikum" ("peace be with you"), to which the response is "wa alaikum salaam" ("and peace be unto you").

-Good friends of the same sex may greet each other with a handshake and a kiss on each cheek, starting with the right.

-Expect to be introduced to each person individually at a small social function. At a large function, you may introduce yourself.

Gift Giving Etiquette

-If you are invited to an Iraqi's home, bring a box of cookies, pastries or a box of chocolates. A fruit basket is also appreciated.

-Flowers are being given more and more but only to a hostess.

-If a man must give a gift to a woman, he should say that it is from his wife, mother, sister, or some other female relation.

-A small gift for the children is always a good touch.

-Gifts are given with two hands.

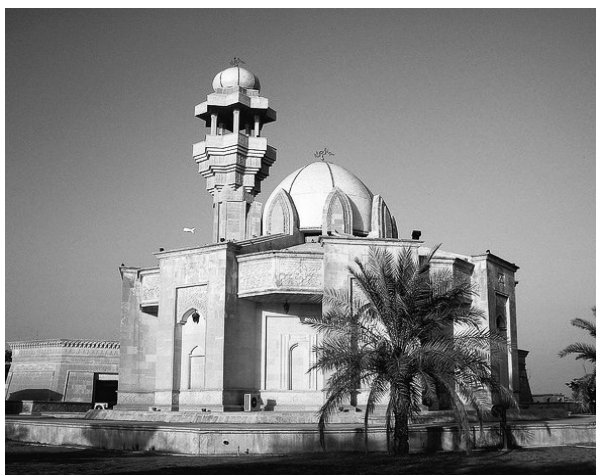
-Gifts are generally not opened when received.

Cuisine

Iraqi cuisine has a long history going back some 10,000 years. Similarly with other countries of Western Asia, chicken and especially lamb are the favourite meats. Most dishes are served with rice – usually Basmati, grown in the marshes of southern Iraq. Bulgur wheat is used in many dishes – having been a staple in the country since the days of the Ancient Assyrians.

To cut a long story short, Iraq is a unique country with its ancient history and hallowed traditions.

Associate professor **M.P. Kiricnenko**,
fourth-year student **Samer Mutlaq Hatem**



INDEPENDENCE DAY

GHANA'S 56TH INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION IN KHARKIV



On March 23, 2013 the Ghanaian Students' Association in Kharkiv hosted the 56th Independence Day Celebration of the Republic of Ghana at the Assembly Hall of Kharkiv National Medical University.

The Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Ghana to the Russian Federation and CIS countries, H.E Dr. Seth Koranteng, the Honourary Consul Designate of the Republic of Ghana to Ukraine, Dr. Albert S.L. Kitcher, the Head of Chancery and Second Secretary Consul at the Ghana Embassy in Russia attended this event.

Among the guests were the Vice-Rector of Kharkiv National Medical University (KhNMU), Prof. Markovskiy, the Dean of the VI Faculty for Training International Students of KhNMU, the Deans for International Students of Kharkiv National University of Radioelectronics and National University of Pharmacy, the Deputy Director of Bob Trade Educational Group, and the Director of YoungRF, as well as several invited guests from different parts of Ukraine.

The celebration was supported by BobTrade Education Group, Africa Network Marketing and YoungRF Social Network.

Ghana is a country on the West coast of Africa. It was the first country in Sub-Saharan Africa which became independent

on March 6, 1957. The Independence struggle was led by Dr. Kwame Nkrumah, who later became the first president of Ghana, and the famous Big Six. Before its independence Ghana was called Gold Coast because of its rich gold deposits throughout the country. It is also the world's second largest producer of cocoa, used for chocolate and several other products. The rich land of Ghana also produces petroleum oil, timber, diamonds, bauxite and manganese.

Ghana is located in the centre of the world. It lies between latitudes 4° and 12°N, and longitudes 4°W and 2°E with the Greenwich Meridian Line passing through the industrial city of Tema. The country covers an area of 238,500 square kilometers. Ghana has an estimated population of 24.2 million (2010 population census), drawn from more than one hundred ethnic groups - each with its own unique language. English, however, is the official language. Ghana has several religions; Christianity is the most popular, followed by Islam and Traditional religion, all of them coexist in a peaceful harmony.

The celebration was visited by Ghanaians from several cities in Ukraine including Kiev, Donetsk, Sumy, Simferopol, Lugansk, Cherkasy, Ivano-Frankivsk, etc.

There were several cultural performances showcasing the rich culture of the Republic of Ghana, which included the High Life Dance, Drama of the Reenactment of Independence by Dr. Kwame Nkrumah, the 1st President of Ghana, the Famous Azonto Dance of Ghana, Adowa Dance, Singing, etc.

There were also performances by the Nigerian Students' Association, Indian Students' Association and Eva, an 8-time Ukrainian Ballet Dance Champion.



■ OUR GRADUATES

Personal exhibition

On February 8, 2013 a personal exhibition of creative works by **Adnan Abdulahadovich Alias**, a graduate of Kharkov Medical Institute, was opened in the House of Architects. Adnan A. Alias arrived to Kharkiv from Baghdad (Iraq) in 1961. After training at the Preparatory Faculty he entered Kharkov Medical Institute and graduated from it in 1968. He worked in different countries of the Middle East. In 1980 he defended his Candidate's thesis. He showed an interest for drawing since his childhood. Throughout his life, he has never forgotten about his ardour, which became his second calling. In 1994 Adnan A. Alias joined the National Union of Artists of Ukraine.



Attributes of the arts



Egyptian



Ballet dancer



Grenade

■ UKRAINIAN TRADITIONS

MOTANKA DOLL



A cross is placed over the face. The cross over the chest guards the heart against bad feelings and thoughts.

The art of making motanka dolls and toys goes back 7,000 years. People used to make angels, rabbits, cats and other toys for their children. Being hung over the crib, a motanka guards the baby and keeps away illnesses, "bad spirits" and "the evil eye." Motankas / knotted dolls (a kind of handmade dolls) are old folk dolls, they are not just Ukrainian souvenirs, but also act as symbols of the hearth and the guardian of a Ukrainian family.

The motanka is a Ukrainian folk doll. It symbolizes female wisdom; it guards the home and the hearth; it is a great talisman against evil spirits and bad mood; it protects people from evil eye.

Motankas are made of winding tying cloth and thread. Scissors and needles are not necessary for making a motanka, it is never sewn.

The motanka's face is often left blank. Her face may never be painted, as it is considered that "evil spirits could enter the soul through the eyes".

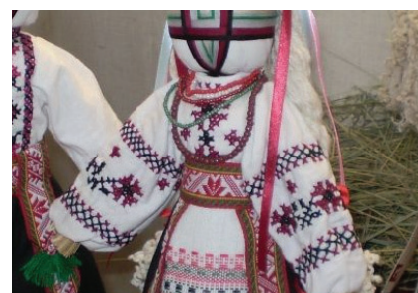


The cross on the face is a symbol of a rainbow, so it is made with colourful threads.

The face is a symbol of the sun. All vertical lines symbolize masculinity, horizontal ones are symbols of femininity. To make motankas, old clothing is used as it carries the energy of the person who wore it and is combined with love and warmth of the master's hands.

Mothers used to make motankas as wedding gifts for their daughters. For a newborn baby, its mother made a special doll. Ukrainians believed that motankas brought luck, peace and joy for all their owners!

Our first-year students found out much about all these things. They had a master class on the subject "History of the Ukrainian Culture". The students from Kharkiv Academy of Culture Omelchenko Boryslava, Oliynyk Oksana and Karakash Anastasiya offered this class for our foreign students. Each student had a chance to make his/her own variant of the traditional Ukrainian doll.



Nataliya Martynenko

«Medical University»

Certificate of Registration KhC №193 dated June 29, 1994

Founder — Academic community of
Kharkiv State Medical University.

Issued twice a year

Editorial office: 4, Lenina avenue, Kharkiv, 61022

Main building, 5th floor, phone 707-73-60

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www.knuu.kharkov.ua

Certificate of Registration №178 dated September 15, 2000

Approved for print 18.06.2013. Format 60 x 90/4.

Offset paper. Font Pragmatica. Offset printing.

Conventional print sheets 3. Publisher's sheet 4.

Circulation 500 copies. Order №12/3.

Printed at «Kontrast» Publishing and Printing Enterprise.

Lenin Avenue 40, app. 231, Kharkiv, 61166, Ukraine
phone (057) 719-49-13, 717-76-51

The editorial office holds no responsibility for information accuracy. Original manuscripts are not revised or returned. The opinions expressed are those of the writers and are not

necessarily the official view of

Kharkiv National Medical University.

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