



On the occasion of Lyudmila Filippovna Obukhova's 85th birth anniversary

22 July 2023 marks the 85th anniversary of the birth of Lyudmila Filippovna Obukhova, an eminent Russian psychologist, Doctor in Psychology, Head of the Department of Developmental Psychology of the Faculty "Psychology of Education" at Moscow State University of Psychology and Education (hereinafter – MSUPE) from 1999 to 2016.

For several generations of Russian psychology students, from the mid-1990s to the present, her name is inextricably linked, first and foremost, with her textbook on developmental psychology¹. This is highly significant and honourable, but it is only one facet of her life, scientific and pedagogical creativity. To commemorate Lyudmila Filippovna, let us mark the unforgettable milestones of her life.

Lyudmila Filippovna was P.Ya. Galperin's ardent disciple. The image of her teacher, Piotr Yakovlevich, his ideas inspired her throughout her life. Under his supervision, she defended her PhD thesis, which was entitled "Developing Components of Scientific Thinking in a Child", in 1972. Later, in her doctoral thesis "Ways of Scientific Study of the Child Psyche in the 20th Century" (1996), she deepened the cultural-historical paradigm of child development research.

She was convinced of the great research and applied potential of the concept of the subject's orienting activity as a psychological discipline and consistently tried to make P.Ya. Galperin's method of mental actions and concepts gradual formation a compulsory part of the courses for MSUPE students and postgraduates and to implement it in young psychologists' empirical researches. The publication in 2022 of L.F. Obukhova's latest monograph "The Fundamentals of General (Genetic) Psychology. P.Ya. Galperin's Theory and Formative Experiment"², which had not been out of print during the author's lifetime, was a milestone event.

Let us highlight a few more facets of Lyudmila Filippovna's creative life.

In the 1970s, L.F. Obukhova mentored a group of deafblind students at Moscow State University. And later, throughout her professional life, the problems of children's mental development in conditions of sensory defects remained in her field of attention.

L.F. Obukhova worked for many years at the Department of Developmental Psychology at M.V. Lomonosov Moscow State University. In the 1990s, she participated in establishing the Faculty "Psychology of Education" at MSUPE and creating the Department of Developmental Psychology.

L.F. Obukhova has published over 70 scientific works, including monographs, textbooks and articles in German, English and French. Let us mention her basic works: "Stages of the Development of Thought in the Child" (1972); "Jean Piaget's Concept: Pro and Contra" (1981); "Contemporary American Developmental Psychology" (1986); "The Forms and Functions of Imitation in Childhood" (with co-authors, 1994); "The Development of Cre-

¹ *Obukhova L.F.* Detskaya psikhologiya: teorii, fakty, problemy. Moscow: Trivola, 1995. 352 p. This monograph was later used as the basis for a textbook which has been republished many times and has become a classic one. The newest edition to date is: *Obukhova, L.F.* Vozrastnaya psikhologiya: uchebnik dlya vuzov [Elektronnyi resurs]. Moscow: Yurait, 2023. 460 p. (Vysshee obrazovanie) // Obrazovatel'naya platforma Yurait [sait]. Available at: <https://urait.ru/bcode/510441> (Accessed: 18.06.2023).

² *Osnovy obshchei (geneticheskoi) psikhologii. Teoriya P.Ya. Gal'perina i formiruyushchii eksperiment: monografiya: nauchnoe nasledie / L.F. Obukhova; pod red. G.V. Burmenskoi, I.V. Shapovalenko, A.A. Shvedovskoi.* Moscow: FGBOU VO MGPPU, 2022. 292 p.

ative Thinking among Preschoolers” (with co-authors, 1995); “The Development of Divergent Thinking” (with co-authors, 1995); “Unfinished Disputes: P.Ya. Galperin and J. Piaget” (1996); “Jean Piaget: Theory, Experiments, Discussions” (with co-authors, 2001); “M.I. Lisina’s Concept and Modern Psychology: Exchange of Ideas” (2009); “The Socio-Cognitive Approach to Studying a Child’s Intellectual Development” (2010); “P.Ya. Galperin’s Theory – Formation of a New Branch of Psychology” (2010); “The Modern Child: Steps to Understanding” (2010); “Vygotsky and Developmental Psychology in His and Our Days” (2012); “P.Ya. Galperin – an Equal among Equals” (2012); “Developmental Psychology at the Beginning of the New Century” (2014); “L.S. Vygotsky under the Sign of Time” (2016).

L.F. Obukhova was the creator and supervisor of the first international master’s program “Developmental Psychology” at MSUPE. Enthusiastically and literally with her own hands, she implemented the idea of naming MSUPE classrooms after P.Ya. Galperin, D.B. Elkonin, J. Piaget and other psychologists. Now MSUPE has a classroom named after L.F. Obukhova.

L.F. Obukhova is the inspirer, organizer and welcoming “hostess” of five major all-Russian scientific and practical conferences on developmental psychology: “Child in Modern Society” (2007), “Another Childhood” (2009), “On the Threshold of Adulthood” (2011), “At the Origin of Development” (2013), “The Horizons of Maturity” (2015).

She is a laureate of the Russian Federation President’s Award for Education; author of several educational films on developmental psychology: “Child Psychoanalysis in Russia”, “Discovery of Childhood”, “Childhood in Different Cultures”, “The Child’s Image in Photography” etc.; she actively collaborated with colleagues from many Russian universities – from Arkhangelsk, Nizhniy Novgorod, Surgut, Samara, Saint Petersburg, Dubna, Sakhalin etc.

This list of Lyudmila Filippovna’s hypostases is far from being complete. For all who knew her, her most important characteristic was her sincere interest in people and their work, her attentiveness, cordiality and helpfulness. She was ready to discuss a second-year student’s term paper as attentively as a colleague’s doctoral thesis, as if she were never in a hurry. Not coincidentally, after her passing, many spoke of the role she had played in their lives, of the collaboration they had planned...³

For us, the staff of the Department of Developmental Psychology named after Professor L.F. Obukhova at MSUPE, Lyudmila Filippovna’s image is the best embodiment of Mentorship in psychological science and practice, setting in its entirety the “orienting basis” of our professional and teaching activities.

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³ *Kotliar I.A.* Lyudmila Filippovna Obukhova. The Person with the ‘Inner Child’ Inside. *Kul’turno-istoricheskaya psikhologiya = Cultural-Historical Psychology*, 2016. Vol. 12, no. 4, pp. 113–116. DOI: 10.17759/chp.2016120411. (In Russ., abstr. in Engl.); *Shapovalenko I.V.* Lyudmila Filippovna Obukhova: On the Crossroads of Destiny. *Kul’turno-istoricheskaya psikhologiya = Cultural-Historical Psychology*, 2018. Vol. 14, no. 4, pp. 88–93. DOI: 10.17759/chp.2018140411. (In Russ., abstr. in Engl.)