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**THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ORYOL REGIONAL ART GALLERY AND  
ITS ROLE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE REGION'S CULTURAL  
SPACE FROM 1957 TO 1990**

Abstract of the dissertation for the degree of candidate of historical sciences  
Specialty 5.6.1. National history

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## **Relevance of the topic of dissertation research.**

The relevance of the topic is determined by the goals and objectives of the modern strategy of the state cultural policy of the country, among which the priorities are the preservation of historical and cultural heritage, its use for education and upbringing, the transfer from generation to generation of values, norms, traditions traditional for Russian society, and ensuring civic access to cultural artifacts.

Museums play a leading role in these processes. It is they who, being cultural centers that carefully preserve the especially valuable heritage of different eras and peoples, delegate a unique spiritual code to future generations, interpret it for contemporaries. This study is especially important in the context of solving urgent scientific problems facing Russian history. The study of the process of formation and organization of museum activities in the Russian province of the second half of the twentieth century allows us to identify the nature of the national policy of the period under consideration, to form an objective view of the events of various stages of the history of the Soviet state, historical memory.

The most demanded today is the experience of art museums in the implementation of their socially significant function - aesthetic education and spiritual transformation of a person through the emotional impact of an artistic image.

The value and relevance of the study to identify the features of the historical development of the region is undoubted. Using the example of organizing an art gallery in Orel, it is possible to track the process of museum construction in the field in the context of general reforms of the management system and ideological tasks of that time. An analysis of the search and formation of the basic principles and directions of the Oryol Gallery's work, on the one hand, makes it possible to identify characteristic phenomena in the organization of the activities of provincial museums in the second half of the 20th century, and on the other hand, to identify new facts and features of the development of museum business in the region in the

most controversial decades of the last century, determine the socio-cultural significance of this institution for the city of Orel and the Oryol region, the museum sphere as a whole.

In the above context, the dissertation research of Chetverikova Alisa Sergeevna seems very relevant.

**Purpose of the dissertation research** – studying the history of the formation of the Oryol Regional Art Gallery and identifying the specifics of the main directions of its work in the period under study.

**Problems of dissertation research:**

- identify the prerequisites for the appearance of an art gallery in the Oryol region;
- analyze the stages of the activities of the Oryol Regional Art Gallery in conjunction with the national cultural policy of those years;
- to determine typical and distinctive phenomena in the formation of the main parameters of the Oryol Regional Art Gallery;
- trace the role of the Oryol Regional Art Gallery in creating the cultural environment and artistic space of the city;
- to reveal the significance of the Oryol Regional Art Gallery in preserving the historical and artistic heritage, its study and popularization.

**Objectives of the dissertation research** – Oryol Regional Art Gallery, the history of its creation and functioning.

**Subject of dissertation research** – features of the organization of museum activities in the Oryol Regional Art Gallery in the context of the development of domestic museum business in the middle and second half of the twentieth century.

### **Scientific hypothesis of dissertation research.**

The Oryol Regional Art Gallery is part of the general network of regional museum institutions of the second half of the twentieth century. It is advisable to assume that the specifics of its activities were determined by the specifics of the internal socio-economic processes in the region during the period under review. At the same time, institutional differences in the formation of the principles of her work did not contradict the general political and historical-cultural processes in the country. It is assumed that there are objective local factors that have had a significant impact on the role of the Oryol Regional Art Gallery in organizing the socio-cultural space of the region, determining the communicative level in the country's museum community.

### **Theoretical and methodological basis of dissertation research.**

The dissertation research was carried out on the principles of objectivity and historicism, the dialectical understanding of the latter. The principle of objectivity allowed the author to study the stated topic, given the multidimensional circumstances, as fully as possible. The theoretical research method ensured consistency and "evolutionarity" in revealing the stages of activity of the Oryol Regional Art Gallery, determining their time boundaries and forming intra-period historical concepts. The use of the problem-chronological method made it possible to build the structure of the study in accordance with the peculiarities of the development of museum work in the period under consideration. This was also facilitated by the use of a systematic approach in the work. The historical and comparative method helped to identify the specifics in organizing the main areas of the gallery's work in the context of regional social, economic and political factors, to identify typical and distinctive features in the activities of the Oryol Regional Art Gallery in comparison with other museums.

The applied method of classification of historical and cultural phenomena made it possible to create an event-based research matrix on a documentary basis.

Taking into account the emphasis made in the work on the activities of gallery leaders, government officials, and the cultural community, it became logical to use the biographical method, which made it possible to reflect the system of values, features of the inner world of specific personalities through an analysis of the life path.

During the study, the author also used other general scientific or universal methods of scientific research: synthesis, analogy, generalization, induction and deduction.

At the same time, objectivity, concreteness, integrity and consistency, dialecticism of the historical process were applied as basic principles.

#### **Empirical basis of the study.**

1. legislative acts in the field of museum business and related industries.
2. Clerical documentation of party, state, departmental structures, public organizations.
3. Museum stock documentation.
4. Materials of personal origin.
5. Reference publications - museum guides, catalogs, dictionaries.

#### **Provisions submitted for protection and having scientific novelty:**

1. The periodization of the historical stages of the Oryol Regional Art Gallery was carried out, which made it possible to trace the priority of the development of various formats of the institution's work in the context of the general political, social, economic processes in the Soviet state in the second half of the twentieth century, as well as the peculiarities of the cultural potential of the region (clause 11 "Social policy of the state and its implementation in the corresponding period of the country's development," clause 12 "History of the development of culture, science and education of Russia, its regions and peoples" of the passport of the scientific specialty 5.6.1. "National history").

2. The features of the stages of development of the main activities of the Oryol Regional Art Gallery have been identified, including: a) historical events, b) ideological attitudes of the leading party bodies, which is confirmed by the established relationship between the formats and indicators of the institution's work and the issued legislative acts, mainly regulating the propaganda and educational function of museums (clause 11 "Social policy of the state and its implementation in the corresponding period of the country's development," clause 12 "History of the development of culture, science and education of Russia, its regions and peoples," clause 19 "History of the development of the Russian city and village" of the passport of the scientific specialty 5.6.1. "National history").

3. It has been proven that the specifics and stages of the development of the gallery were in direct relationship not only with state cultural policy, but also determined by the professional and personal qualities of its leader. The dynamics and priority in the organization of various sections of the gallery's work, the stability of the material and technical base, personnel, which determined the periods and problems in its activities, were traced and correlated with the specific actions of each director of the institution (clause 11 "Social policy of the state and its implementation in the corresponding period of the country's development," clause 12 "History of the development of culture, science and education of Russia, its regions and peoples" of the passport of the scientific specialty 5.6.1. "National history").

4. It was revealed that the Oryol Regional Art Gallery had a leading role in organizing the cultural and artistic space of the region, based on active interdepartmental interaction with public creative organizations, including the creation of an inter-museum city lecture hall, the development of methodological educational programs with the Knowledge Society, the organization of exhibition and educational projects with the local branch of the Union of Artists. (clause 11 "Social policy of the state and its implementation in the corresponding period of the country's development," clause 12 "History of the development of culture, science and education of Russia, its regions and peoples," clause 19 "History of the

development of the Russian city and village" of the passport of the scientific specialty 5.6.1. "National history").

5. It was established that the policy of forming and preserving art collections during the 1950s - 1980s. was aimed mainly at identifying and memorializing local cultural heritage, which ultimately determined the originality of the museum collection. Actions to study and update the work of fellow countrymen are indicated, including a set of research, communication and commemorative practices, which made it possible to allocate a collection of works by Oryol artists in the structure of the collection, and replenish the museum archive with funds of personal origin (clause 11 "Social policy of the state and its implementation in the corresponding period of the country's development," clause 12 "History of the development of culture, science and education of Russia, its regions and peoples of the passport of the scientific specialty 5.6.1. "National history").

#### **Compliance of the topic with the requirements of the Higher Attestation Commission's specialty passport.**

The research corresponds to the scientific specialty 5.6.1. "National history", reflecting item 11. Social policy of the state and its implementation in the corresponding period of the country's development, paragraph 12. The history of the development of culture, science and education of Russia, its regions and peoples, p.19. History of the development of the Russian city and village.

**The reliability of the obtained results of the dissertation research is ensured** the complexity of the analysis of a large number of historical sources, including archival ones, as well as the use of the scientific method of collecting and studying information, the scientific argumentation of the main provisions and conclusions of the author.

**The theoretical significance of the research results** determined by the contribution to the development of theoretical constructions and definitions based

on the conclusions and generalizations obtained in the development of this topic: conducting a systematic analysis of the activities of the Oryol Regional Art Gallery, determining, by generalizing significant theoretical material, the role of the institution in the formation of general cultural trends, identifying management mechanisms, determining approaches when prioritizing work at a specific stage.

**Scientific and practical significance of the research results** first of all, the demand for historical experience in the implementation of modern cultural policy, as well as in the system of state sociocultural design in the development of Russian heritage: to create new museum practices, in the preparation of museum publications, regulatory documentation, compiling textbooks and conducting lecture courses of historical and cultural orientation.

This material can be useful in excursion and tourist activities, in the development of virtual museum products, in delegating the accumulated experience to other museum institutions.



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