**REPORT**

FROM PROF. YORDANKA GESHEVA, PHD, INSTITUTE FOR HISTORICAL RESEARCH AT BAS, SOFIA

**THESIS ON THE TOPIC**: KIRILA VAZVAZOVA –KARATEODOROVA: PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, ARCHIVAL RESOURCES

**Ph.D. STUDENT**: RADINA IVO BOZILOVA, Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”

THESIS FOR AWARDING THE EDUCATIONAL AND SCIENTIFIC DEGREE "DOCTOR"

In terms of structure, Radina Bozhilova's dissertation work includes an introduction, three chapters, a conclusion, an appendix, sources and literature, all of this collected in 236 pages. The structure is well thought out and corresponds to the nature of the research. The individual paragraphs are oriented around the family environment, education, creative path, professional and administrative growth of Kirila Vazvazova, her work in the field of archival work. The goals and tasks of the research are stated in the introduction: to present biographical data about the family environment and to show the professional development of Kirila Vazvazova. Some specific tasks are also indicated, through the implementation of which the doctoral student strives to achieve her goals. The doctorate was developed mainly on archival sources: funds of personal origin and, above all, funds of establishments and institutions where K. Vazvazova's professional path took place. In the introduction, the doctoral student makes the stipulation that the historiographic review, scientific contributions and evaluation of the monographs, studies and articles written by Vazvozova are not the aim of the dissertation.

In the first chapter of the doctorate, data on the place of birth, family, family environment where K. Vazvazova grew up, education, interests, first steps in the professional sphere are indicated and used.

In the second chapter, the organizational activities and administrative functions of Kirila Vazvazova are well shown. According to the preserved documents, the Ph.D. student tells about what involved Vazvazova's daily life and dreams, presents her participation in conferences, sessions, round tables, seminars. It focuses mainly on business trips abroad and what Vazvazova did there, mainly on the basis of the reports written at the time.

The documents left by K. Vazvazova in the archives reveal her views on the problems of archival work in our country. These documents show her high level in the field of building archival activity in Bulgaria, the help she received from various foreign archival institutions.

In the third paragraph of the second chapter, the Ph.D. student pays special attention to the documentary and reference editions produced by the National Library with the participation or under the leadership of Kirila Vazvazova. A number of publications are presented, on which Vazvazova worked alone or in a collective. The preparation, the specific work on these editions, the problems in reading and comparing documents, the difficulties, but also the results are shown.

The views of K. Vazvazova on the preparation of uniform archeographic rules, as well as rules for working with documentary materials, have been revealed. It is stated that Vazvazova paid special attention to the reference and scientific apparatus and this is also part of the principles in her work. Another object of Vazvazova's attention is also shown - the periodicals and the work with them, the assessment that is made of the publications.

In the dissertation, rather informatively, the studies, articles and monographs written by K. Vazvazova are shown, but the fact that they will not be the subject of research and historiographical analysis is already indicated in the introduction. In fact, it is not and was not set as the goal of the study.

The third chapter is entitled "Archival and bibliographic resources for Kirila Vazvazova - Karateodorova". It is developed in four paragraphs. The Ph.D. student focuses on the documents and bibliographic sources for Vazvazova's creative activity, career development and work as an archivist, archeographer and administrator in the National Library. Of interest is the third paragraph of the third chapter, which is actually an archival directory and aims to gather in one place all archival documents discovered about K. Vazvazova, regardless of which institution they originate from, who their author is, where they are stored, what the nature of the document. The documents are grouped on a thematic basis, indicating their claim data, whether it is an original or a copy, a specific date, a short annotation. Prepared in this way, the inventory becomes a contributing point of the research.

It is useful that the Ph.D. student provides information and partially uses the K. Vazvazova fund located in the Central State Archive, but still unprocessed. Thus, even without receiving many details, the reader gets an idea of ​​what can be expected from the archival units found in this fund. The last paragraph of the third chapter presents Kirila Vazvazova through the memories of her colleagues from the National Library. Undoubtedly, these interviews are interesting and useful. They show what kind of person Vazvazova was, how she treated her colleagues, the younger ones, how she performed her official duties, how she worked during business trips abroad. Information is given about the date of the interview, where it took place. It is explained how the information was obtained and how it was recorded - on a dictaphone or on paper. However, it is necessary to announce where these records are kept.

The abstract basically well presents the topic, the historiography, the goals and tasks of the research, as well as the methodology. I accept the contributions noted by the Ph.D. student. During the period of study, Radina Bozilova had five publications on the topic of the dissertation in various anthologies and magazines.

In conclusion, I would like to state that the work meets the criteria for scientific research. Based on the findings and assessments made in the opinion, I believe that Radina Ivo Bozilova has fulfilled the set goals and tasks and can be awarded the educational and scientific degree "Doctor", for which I will vote.

Sofia, 25 April 2023 Author of report:

 (Prof. Dr. Yordanka Gesheva)