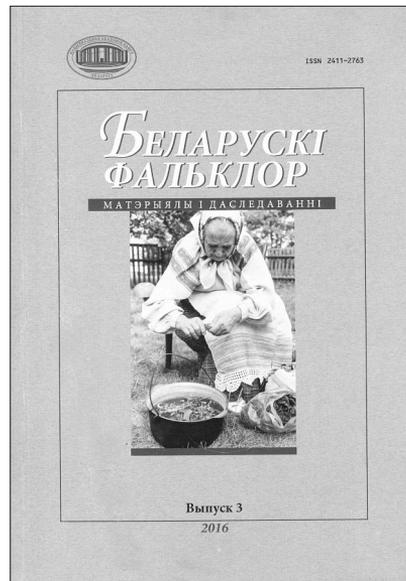


**Беларускі фальклор : Матэрыялы і даследаванні: зб. навук. прац.** [Belarusian Folklore: Materials and Research]. Галоўны рэдактар Т. В. Валодзіна. Вып. 1–4. Мінск: Беларуская навука, 2014–2017.

The academic publication *Belarusian Folklore: Materials and Research* has been issued since 2014 on the initiative of Belarusian folklorists. The collection was started by Таццяна Валодзіна/Tatjana Volodina and is put together in the Department of Folklore and Slavic Folk Culture of the Centre for Belarusian Culture, Language and Literature at the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus.



The four volumes that have been published to date introduce studies of Belarusian folkloristics and topical issues and try to find new approaches to Belarusian folklore. In addition to the researchers at the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus, the list of authors includes scientists from various Belarusian universities and neighbouring countries.

The publication contains the following: 'Studies', 'Ethnolinguistic atlas of Belarusian folklore', 'Belarusian folklore in foreign publications', 'From folklore collections', 'Records of expeditions', 'Belarusian folklore abroad', 'Reviews' and 'Our jubilarians'.

The 'Studies' heading is thematic. While the papers in the second volume were dedicated to Belarusian calendar rituals – the tradition of disguising oneself as the Bush during Pentecost – the third volume takes a look at Belarusian incantation traditions. The past few decades in particular have shown a notable increase of interest in this type of folklore, and in this publication too, Belarusian, Russian and Polish scholars highlight new aspects of spells and facts related thereto that have not previously been elaborated on. Authors include such names as T. Volodina and T. Agapkina.

The fourth volume presents papers focussed on ethnology. The theoretical section features an introduction to a novel research method employed by Belarusian researchers – the ethnolinguistic atlas of folklore. Readers can familiarise themselves with the giant that 'sprouted from the ground', names for the evil eye, traditions for St George's Day and the forms in which water nymphs can appear. Corresponding distribution maps have been added to the articles.

Readers can find important information under 'Belarusian folklore in foreign publications', which contains translations of rare publications. For example, the work of Bulgarian scientist F. Badalanavai-Heller on Belarussian folklore, originally published in *New Zealand Slavonic Journalis* (2003), has been re-published.

The subcategory dedicated to folklore anthologies publishes unique records from the archive on folklore and cultural heritage of Slavic nations of the Centre for Belarusian Culture, Language and Literature. This includes publications of the writings of A. Smolich, J. Drozdovich, A. Antsukevich and others.

Every issue also presents materials from expeditions. Works of experienced collectors (G. Lopatin, T. Kuharonok, T. Tjapkova and others) are accompanied by the recordings of beginners. Data saved from the Belarusian diaspora holds a prominent position: Białystok (G. Haritonjuk-Mihej), Pskov (T. Tjapkova), Brjanskimaa (P. Tsalka), Latgale (S. Sahharova) and Lithuania's Vileni municipality, which are primarily home to Belarusians. (J. Vnukovich).

The collection also publishes reviews and overviews of important scientific events. The section dedicated to jubilarians pays its respects to notable researchers of Belarusian folk culture former from the past (Paul Špilevsky, Maksim Goretski, Mihhail Grinblat) and present (Lii Solovei, Arsen Lisa).

The collection *Беларускі фальклор: Матэрыялы і даследаванні* has received favourable feedback from colleagues. The editorial board plans to expand the number of authors and publish archive materials that are not readily available and discussions on folkloristics.

Taácsiana Valodzina/Tatiana Volodina