

Folklore Reflexions on Modern Political and Historical  
Challenges: Struggle for a Sovereign Ukrainian State  
(Late 1980s – Early 1990s)

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Ivannikova Liudmyla

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## **Author**

Ivannikova Liudmyla

candidate of philological sciences, senior researcher of the department of Ukrainian and  
foreign folkloristics of the NAS of Ukraine Maksym Rylskyi Institute of Art Studies,  
Folkloristics and Ethnology

## **ORCID :**

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## **Abstract**

The article is about an important role of folk art in the struggle for Ukrainian independence. The authoress is making an attempt to follow the longevity of the tradition of the functioning of protest folklore during the 20th century, the history of origin of new folklore forms and phenomena. The problems of scientific terminology are also considered. A number of important functions in this process belongs to folklore, namely the national consciousness awakening, proclamation of historical truth about the events of the 20th century, consolidation of the society for the formation of own sovereign state, etc. The new works of the late 20th century tend essentially to traditional folk genres. At the same time, the process of re-actualization of epic and song genres forbidden by the Soviet authorities has started. These are, in particular, chronicle singsongs about the events of the 20th century, rifle and insurgent songs, kolyadky and hayivky with the idea of Free Ukraine. Simultaneously new, mostly paremic genres of folklore have come into being. They are the results of tumultuous political life, namely slogan, cheer, poem, kolomyika, chastushka, existing both in oral and written form. A political poster has become a dominating form of communication. Completely new, actional forms of folklore, such as performance, have started to appear. The times of three Ukrainian revolutions are considered as the period of its heyday.

**Keywords:** modern folklore forms, paremic folklore genres, protest folklore, slogan, poster, performance, political folklore.

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