

Holovko O. M., Hrechenko V. A. Professor M. I. Khliebnikov (1840-1880) as a historian of the Kyiv Rus State and Law. Professor of Kiev University Nikolai Ivanovich Khliebnikov was one of those who actively worked out the problems of the history of law of Kyiv Rus and contributed to the development of historical and legal science in the nineteenth century. In 1872 he published a monograph «Society and State in the Pre-Mongolian Period of Rus History», where he outlined their understanding of the genesis of the Ancient Rus state.

It is this monograph that has become the subject of our analysis, as no publications on the scientific achievements of M. I. Khliebnikov we did not find. The article analyzes the views of the law historian M. I. Khliebnikov on the main aspects of the history of the state and law of Kyiv Rus. It examines a large layer of scientific problems of this era, from the origin of the Slavs and their formation of their state and ending with the state of ancient statehood in the period of fragmentation. The professor has developed his periodization of the history of Ancient Rus, it is original, but in some aspects it coincides with the modern understanding of this aspect of history. In the monograph by M. I. Khliebnikov notes that the cultural and political form of the early period of Kyiv Rus is explained by the mutual influence of three elements: Slavic, Varangian-Russian and Greek. The most important of these, in his opinion, was the element Slavic, which absorbed the element Varangian and in its own way reworked the element Byzantine. M. I. Khliebnikov stated that the influence of the Normans on the old Ancient Rus legislation was, but more significantly, it was in the legal process. The article focuses on its analysis of the main provisions of the Rus'ka Pravda, on criminal and civil law, as well as the judiciary. In many of his statements, M. I. Khliebnikov relied on the views of his predecessors, but in some cases argued with them, tried to substantiate his thoughts. He was able to show how the legal thought of Kyiv Rus evolved during the XI-XII centuries. What was the contribution of Yaroslav's successors to this evolution.

Keywords: History of Law, M. I. Khliebnikov, Kyiv Rus, «Ruska pravda», Ancient Rus Law, le-gal proceedings, legal biography, historiography.