CHERYL A. MADDEN (Warwick, RI, USA)


At a Holodomor Commemorative Event held in Montréal, Québec, in November 2007, I was the keynote speaker. Following my presentation, I was interviewed for broadcast by Radio Canada International by the journalist-producer, Mr. Platon Boyko, with most of the questions posed by Reverend Doctor Ihor Kutash. Mr. Boyko asked what I would say to the Russians and others, who claim that the Holodomor was not genocide against Ukrainians, because other groups also perished. My response based on sources examined for my ongoing bibliographic work for the Shevchenko Scientific Society of America, Inc. was that when one extends the search for an answer to this question beyond the realm of pure history, and includes areas of study, such as demography and migration studies, the genocidal nature of the Holodomor becomes clear. Many forms of primary and secondary source documentation by scholars, statisticians, historians, journalists, explorers, geographers, perpetrators, eye witnesses, Soviet diplomats, religious figures, foreign Communists working for the CPSU in Ukraine at the time of the Holodomor describe the severe demographic losses suffered by Ukrainian populations in their traditional homeland, and in areas of Ukrainian settlement in significant percentages of the populations in the Kuban and Volga River regions.

1. Cheryl A. Madden interviewed on the topic of the Holodomor by Platon Boyko, and Reverend Doctor Ihor Kutash, in Montreal, Quebec, for broadcast by Radio Canada International (November 10, 2007).
3. Boyko interview.
Various atlases and other documentary sources show the range of Ukrainian ethnicity through the ages and as it exists worldwide today. For the purpose of this study, we shall concentrate on the territory of Ukraine, its neighboring regions, and areas of exile in the Soviet Union to which Ukrainians were deported, exiled within the Soviet Union, or imprisoned as a result of forced collectivization, dekulakization, Ukrainian nationalism or faith, and so on. The timeline across which Ukrainian migration patterns will be discussed in order to give an assessment of the range of Ukrainian ethnicity before-during-after-the-Holodomor are: a.) the medieval period of Kyiv and the eastward migrations for trade along the Silk Road; b.) during the time of the domination of Imperial Russia; c.) the World War I and Russian Revolution era; d.) forced collectivization and deportation, exile, or imprisonment in the Gulag system of forced labor camps, where deportees and their infants and small children suffered an often-slower death from brutality, exposure, overwork, despair, cold, and hunger, or execution; e.) the World War II era; f.) the post-war Ukrainian S.S.R. and relevant areas of the U.S.S.R.; g.) the present day.

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