



Alexandra Vladimirovna Kvachevskaya (December 19 (06), 1903, village of Znamenskoye, Penzenskaya gubernia – 1999, Roslavl, Smolenskaya oblast). From the family of a high school teacher. In 1922 she began studies at the Russian Institute of Art History (Petrograd). She took part in Yuri Krinitsky's anarchist circle. On November 1, 1924, she spoke out against the communist faction during elections to the Institute's student council. She was elected to this body. During the night of November 3-4, 1924, she was arrested in Leningrad. On January 16, 1925, she was sentenced by a special collegium of the OGPU to two years of exile in Kazakhstan. In 1927 her sentence was extended by three years, and in 1930 she was exiled to Biysk [Altai region of Siberia] for three more years.

After her last term of exile, she continued living

in Biysk, where she worked for a statistical agency. While in exile, she married the social-democrat B. L. Joffe. In the 1940s she completed studies at the Novosibirsk Pedagogical Institute, apparently by correspondence. In 1948 she moved to Roslavl [a city of about 40,000], Smolenskaya oblast, where she worked as a teacher of literature. In the early 1950s, local organs of the MGB tried to work up a case for her arrest. In the 1970s she had connections with the dissident movement. In the 1990s she wrote memoirs that were published in the newspaper *Roslavlskaya Pravda* as well as in the Memorial Society's *Katyn* collections. In total she wrote 13 notebooks of memoirs.

In the photo: A. V. Kvachevskaya (sitting in the second row, second from the left) with colleagues and students at her Roslavl school in 1956.

— Sergei Ovsianikov (translated by Malcolm Archibald)