Section Editors

Christopher J. Boes, MD

Kenneth J. Mack, MD, PhD

Media and Book Reviews

LURIA'S LEGACY IN THE 21ST CENTURY

edited by Anne-Lise Christensen, Elkhonon Goldberg, and Dmitri Bougakov, 192 pp., Oxford University Press, 2009, \$49.50

Alexandre Romanovich Luria was an early neuropsychologist in Soviet Russia whose published work spanned more than half a century beginning in the 1920s and whose influence remains strong on the field of psychological assessment and treatment for brain-injured patients. In *Luria's Legacy in the 21st Century*, Dr. Christensen, who worked directly with Luria early in her career, and 13 other authors link Luria's pioneering strategies for systematic evaluation of brain and mind with modern theories and technologies. As can be expected from a multiauthored work, the 10 chapters vary in the extent to which they look retrospectively at Luria's contributions vs prospectively at ways to guide future practice. Chapter 4, for example, makes minimal reference to Luria and seems out of place with its extensive review of fMRI data. Chapter 10, in contrast, offers a practical approach to bedside neuropsychological examination.

Luria's Legacy is written by and primarily for neuropsychologists, though one of the central lessons

from Luria and this text is that brain rehabilitation is a multidisciplinary effort in which the role of neuropsychologists augments all other members of the rehabilitation team. The book is most useful for experienced neuropsychologists looking for historical perspective on the origins of their field. Trainees in neurology may find the text less useful in their daily practice but should not miss the message that patients' psychological reactions to brain injury reflect the lesion itself as much as their reaction to it.

Luria's tenet that higher psychological functions are not localized to specific hemispheres or lobes but instead depend on interconnected and overlapping (but very specific) functional networks has stood the test of time and seems even more relevant in the context of modern-day tractography and functional imaging. *Luria's Legacy* is a thorough progress report on the field of neuropsychology in the terms of one of its major founders.

Reviewed by Jeremy K. Gregory, MD

Dr. Gregory is a member of the *Neurology*® Resident & Fellow Section editorial team. **Go to Neurology.org for full disclosures.**

Copyright © 2012 by AAN Enterprises, Inc.

Resident & Fellow Media and Book Reviews

See also the Resident & Fellow Media and Book Reviews at <http://tinyurl.com/6ufn5s9> for reviews of books, the latest apps, and other new media.

Note to Book Publishers: *Neurology*® provides reviews of books of interest to the clinical neurologist. Please send any books for possible review in the journal to: Robert A. Gross, MD, PhD, FAAN, Editor-in-Chief, *Neurology*, 201 Chicago Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55415. Inquiries can be directed to: Journal@neurology.org. Please note that not all books received are chosen for review. We do not return books.

Neurology[®]

Media and Book Reviews: Luria's Legacy in the 21st Century

Jeremy K. Gregory

Neurology 2012;79:e73

DOI 10.1212/WNL.0b013e3182662063

This information is current as of August 20, 2012

Updated Information & Services

including high resolution figures, can be found at:
<http://n.neurology.org/content/79/8/e73.full>

Permissions & Licensing

Information about reproducing this article in parts (figures, tables) or in its entirety can be found online at:
http://www.neurology.org/about/about_the_journal#permissions

Reprints

Information about ordering reprints can be found online:
<http://n.neurology.org/subscribers/advertise>

Neurology® is the official journal of the American Academy of Neurology. Published continuously since 1951, it is now a weekly with 48 issues per year. Copyright © 2012 by AAN Enterprises, Inc.. All rights reserved. Print ISSN: 0028-3878. Online ISSN: 1526-632X.