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ON SOME METHODOLOGICAL PROBLEMS OF ETHNOPSYCHOLOGY

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Abstract

Introduction: The object of the study of Ethnic Psychology as a branch of science is the ethnopsychological characteristics of peoples in all their diversity. **Methods and materials:** The historical-comparative method considered a whole range of parameters - historical, environmental, cultural, socio-economic in any possible combination. **Analysis:** At the level of general methodology, the general patterns of development of ethnopsychology are considered and studied. **Results:** The level of specific methodology is understood in ethnopsychology as a means of studying some aspects of science: the level of private methodology as research and analysis using various methods of specific phenomena studied by ethnopsychology.

Key words: *ethnos, nation, national character, ethnopsychology, methodology*

ԵԹՆՈՀՈԳԵԱՆՈՒԹՅԱՆ ՈՐՈՇ ՄԵԹՈԴԱԿԱՆ ԽՆԴԻՐՆԵՐԻ ՇՈՒՐՋ

Արմենուհի Սարգսյան

Երևանի Կոմիտասի անվան պետական կոնսերվատորիայի
Գյումրու մասնաճյուղ
Հայաստանի Հանրապետություն

Ամփոփում

Նախաբան Ուսումնասիրությունը նվիրված է էթնիկ հոգեբանության՝ որպես գիտության ճյուղի ուսումնասիրության մեթոդաբանությանը, որի առարկան ժողովուրդների էթնոհոգեբանական բնութա-

գրերն են իրենց ողջ բազմազանությամբ: *Մեթոդներ և նյութեր* Պատմահամեմատական մեթոդով դիտարկվել է պարամետրերի մի ամբողջ շարք՝ պատմական, բնապահպանական, մշակութային, սոցիալ-տնտեսական ցանկացած հնարավոր համադրությամբ: *Վերլուծություն* Ընդհանուր մեթոդաբանության մակարդակում դիտարկվել են էթնոհոգեբանության զարգացման ընդհանուր օրինաչափությունները: *Արդյունքներ* Հատուկ մեթոդաբանության մակարդակը էթնոհոգեբանության մեջ հասկացվում է որպես գիտության որոշակի ասպեկտների ուսումնասիրման միջոց. մասնավոր մեթոդաբանության մակարդակը որպես հետազոտություն և վերլուծություն՝ օգտագործելով էթնոհոգեբանության կողմից ուսումնասիրված հատուկ երևույթների տարբեր մեթոդներ:

Բանալի բառեր՝ էթնոս, ազգային բնավորություն, էթնոհոգեբանություն, մեթոդաբանություն

О НЕКОТОРЫХ МЕТОДОЛОГИЧЕСКИХ ПРОБЛЕМАХ ЭТНОПСИХОЛОГИИ

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Аннотация

Введение: Объектом изучения этнопсихологии, как отрасли науки являются этнопсихологические особенности народов во всем их многообразии. **Методы и материалы:** Историко-сравнительным методом рассмотрен целый комплекс параметров – исторических, экологических, культурных, социально-экономических в их любых возможных сочетаниях. **Анализ:** На уровне общей методологии рассматриваются и изучаются общие закономерности развития этнопсихологии. **Результаты:** Уровень специфической методологии понимается в этнопси-

хологии как средство изучения некоторых аспектов науки: уровень частной методологии, как исследования и анализа, с использованием различных методов конкретных явлений, изучаемых этнопсихологией.

Ключевые слова: этнос, нация, национальный характер, этнопсихология, методология

INTRODUCTION: Ethnos is a group of people naturally formed on the basis of an original stereotype of behavior, existing as a system that opposes itself to other similar systems. Ethnographic comparisons and studies that have been carried out since ancient times have shown a significant difference in the way of life, economic structure, and culture of various peoples. Trying to explain such different conditions of life, the first theoretical justifications proceeded from the natural geographical and climatic conditions of existence of various peoples. Such a conclusion followed, first of all, from the obviousness of this difference.

Naturally, climatic and geographical and natural conditions significantly affect the constitutional feature of the physique, metabolism and functional-adaptive mechanisms of adaptation to a specific environment of existence. The absence of such knowledge until the middle of the 20th century led to many erroneous theories in anthropology and ethnopsychology, and in solving practical problems it cost a large number of lost lives as a result of a discrepancy between the individual characteristics of adaptive processes and climatic and geographical environmental conditions during migration to new habitats [1].

Ethnopsychology is a fairly young and at the same time complex branch that arose at the intersection of such sciences as psychology, sociology, philosophy, cultural studies and ethnology (ethnography), which study national characteristics. Ethnopsychology is a science of ethnic, cultural, psychological characteristics of people, nations, which stand out in the process of their historical development and belong to certain ethnic entities. It classifies questions about the experiences of a certain phenomenon, authority, as well as the possibility of distinguishing it from other ethnic groups (peoples) by the given people.

Ethnopsychology, like any science, arose and developed from the social, socio-historical conditions of the society, and the content reflects the ideas and interests of the society that are characteristic of the given time.

Research methods used in the field of ethnic psychology are completely determined by its interdisciplinary connections.

The methodology of ethnic psychology is understood as “the most general ideas about the ideological positions of this science, the main patterns of its knowledge and understanding of the national psychological characteristics of representatives of special ethnic communities” [2, p. 45].

The cultural function consists in the ethno-psychological study of cultural processes in a certain ethnic group, as well as customs, rituals and features of folklore characteristic of a certain ethnic community. Communicative function includes the study of interpersonal communication processes and their characteristics of members of different ethnic groups. Ethnic psychology has its own special problems to consider

Ethnic communities represent dynamic formations that differ from each other, which have similarities and differences in the psychological characteristics of their peoples, as well as characteristic changes in psychological traits in the process of socio-historical development of people. The research methods used in the field of ethnic psychology are completely determined by its interdisciplinary connections. A special, key place in this regard is occupied by ethnography, which examines the problems of the national character, the ethnic identity of the individual, the consequences of interethnic contacts. Ethnopsychological problems are touched upon and largely revealed in philosophy, linguistics, sociology, history, demography, but the range of psychological problems can only be solved by psychologists and psychological research methods. Therefore, when referring to the methods of research in ethnopsychology, it is always necessary to take into account what exactly is being studied, and, depending on the interdisciplinary interaction, determine the appropriate methods of research [3]. However, the determining factor in the interpretation of the data obtained is the methodology that underlies the conceptual provisions of both the science itself and those interdis-

ciplinary disciplines with which it is associated, which fully determines the prospects for the development of any of the sciences, and ethnopsychology in particular.

An analysis of historical facts indicates that the formation of tribes has already marked the beginning of the dismemberment of a single multifunctional community. With the development of the productive forces of society and the further division of labor, indirect forms of communication and relations between people are becoming more widespread; the interethnic environment becomes more complicated. It becomes more diverse, such problem situations arise, the solution of which goes beyond the tribal community. In the conditions of the formation of a nationality, the ethnopsychological characteristics of people become qualitatively new. From the point of view of the development of psychology, the nationality is characterized by a change in the former kinship ties by territorial integrity, tribal languages - by a single language along with the existence of a number of dialects. Within each nationality, a common culture arises. The development of national feelings is closely connected with the system of material conditions and the corresponding social relations. Above the various forms of property, above the social conditions of existence rises a whole superstructure of various feelings, illusions, ways of thinking and worldviews. Any social stratum creates and forms all this on the basis of its material conditions and corresponding social relations.

In fact, the methodology for evaluating the results of ethnopsychological studies of the past did not take into account the fact of the unity of the laws of development of the objective world, in which a person and his psyche are an integral component. The comparative cultural approach is becoming increasingly relevant today [4]. The intensive development of ethnography, anthropology, linguistics contributed to the identification of many original and unique ethnic cultures that have significant differences in the sphere of psychological and, at the same time, much in common in the nature of the formation of cultural values. In the first case, the emphasis is on the high variability of mental manifestations in the conditions of different cultures, and in the second - on the universalism

of the unity of the psyche and its invariance in relation to the diversity of cultures. The belonging of ethnopsychology to an interdisciplinary field of knowledge does not need to be proved, however, its belonging to one or another field of knowledge significantly determines the prospects for its development as an independent discipline. A number of specialists determine the direction of its development, based on the etymology of the term "ethnopsychology". Ethnopsychology is a field of knowledge that combines psychology and ethnography. Nevertheless, ethnography is included in the system of historical sciences, and if we take into account all the interdisciplinary connections, then the status of ethnopsychology turns out to be excessively voluminous. In psychology itself, there is also a variety of independent disciplines, and it is difficult to differentiate which of the branches of psychology - general, child, social psychology - is the theoretical foundation of scientific ethnopsychology. The classification of the sources of ethnopsychology with the most complete coverage of them and the analysis of the contribution they make to its development constitute an independent field of research. An interdisciplinary field of knowledge is not a simple union of the original subject areas of knowledge and their research methods. It is practically necessary to create a psychological ethnopsychology corresponding to the present level of development of psychological knowledge. The classification of the sources of ethnopsychology with the most complete coverage of them and the analysis of the contribution they make to its development constitute an independent field of research. An interdisciplinary field of knowledge is not a simple union of the original subject areas of knowledge and their research methods. It is practically necessary to create a psychological ethnopsychology corresponding to the present level of development of psychological knowledge. The comparative cultural approach is becoming increasingly relevant today. The intensive development of ethnography, anthropology, linguistics contributed to the identification of many original and unique ethnic cultures that have significant differences in the sphere of psychological and, at the same time, much in common in the nature of

the formation of cultural values. In the first case, the emphasis is on the high variability of mental manifestations in the conditions of different cultures, and in the second - on the universalism of the unity of the psyche and its invariance in relation to the diversity of cultures. The extremes of the first approach are used by racism [5]. That is why it is necessary to show the scientific validity of ethnocultural differences in the sphere of the mental to exclude racial prejudice. Moreover, the racist ideology and practice use for their own purposes a wide variety of scientific facts and discoveries, as well as far-fetched facts. The very phenomenon of racism is an ethno-psychological problem and requires a reasonable psychological disclosure. The second extreme emphasizes the universalism of mechanisms that are not influenced by cultural factors. In historical terms, at first the first direction turned out to be dominant, at present the second direction is being developed more and more widely. In practice, the most promising is the synthesis of both directions. Today, in connection with the industrial and scientific and technical integration of society, research in the field of "interaction of cultures" is of particular importance, which can form an independent ethnopsychological focus of research. The second problem of this direction is the problem of ethnic stereotypes, prejudices, ethnic prejudices. A clear understanding of the psychological mechanisms that underlie the formation of stereotypes and determine their content, structural and dynamic features is required. Ethnographers and sociologists have done a lot with regard to the qualitative description and dissemination of ethnic stereotypes, but special psychological, and not other, studies of this issue using psychological means of analysis are needed. In this regard, it is important to develop the "contact hypothesis" direction, which studies the issues of reducing ethnocentrism and stereotypes in assessments and judgments, creating a climate of mutual understanding and trust [6]. This is especially important today, when in a number of cases the previous tension in interethnic relations, lack of information about each other, negative attitudes filled with ethnocentrism and prejudice, lead to increased antagonism and hostility.

It is important to correctly understand the psychological nature of the transfer of the behavior of an individual to representatives of the whole group, and on the contrary, the characteristic features of all its representatives on a separate person.

- revealing the features of socio-political, economic, historical and cultural development of nations and peoples, the originality of the origin, development and activity of their psychology;

- study of the features of the motivational-background sphere of people's national psyche: the manifestation of motivational and other similar qualities, the features of people's behavior as representatives of specific ethnic communities;

- study of the nationally differentiated characteristics of the intellectual and cognitive activity of people of a certain nationality, which is expressed by the degree of loyalty to logic, the speed of mental operations, the organization of intellectual processes, the depth of perception, the integrity and effectiveness of ideas, concentration and stability, unique behavior during work and other activities, attention and other properties;

- analysis and identification of activity patterns of national feelings, their dynamics and content; organization of research on the characteristics of emotional expression and emotional behavior of representatives of specific ethnic communities and generalization of the obtained results in order to find out the patterns of their emotional life;

- study of the characteristics of a special attitude towards voluntary activity in the national state of mind of a certain people or nation; on that basis, revealing the stability and specificity of the course of voluntary processes, the originality of the manifestation of voluntary efforts, which affect the behavior, actions and actions of the representatives of the nation;

- the study of the originality of the manifestation of the communicative sphere of the national mental formation of people, which acts in special ways of interaction, communication and relations and affects the course of socio-psychological processes;

- comparative (cross-cultural) study of the ethnopsychological characteristics of different peoples of the world in order to identify the most

common patterns of activity and manifestation of the national psyche, as well as to develop the content and methods; psychological characteristics of their representatives;

- classes, strata and religious groups of society in specific states, in order to study and generalize the patterns of their development and activity (national, political, sociological, cultural, etc.);

- the study of the impact of ethnic consciousness and self-awareness on people's national psychological characteristics, their worldview, social positions and value orientations;

- justification of the most important directions of taking into account and using the national psychological characteristics of people for the benefit of increasing the effectiveness of political, educational, social, cultural and mass, consulting work with them;

- the study of the national psychological prerequisites for improving the content and quality of the organization and implementation of work, educational, military and other activities of representatives of special ethnic communities;

- Development of practical recommendations for managers of enterprises, representatives of administrative and economic staff in order to improve their management and management of production and educational teams;

A comprehensive study of the peculiarities of the psychology of nations and nationalities, the peculiarity of socio-psychological conditions and inter-ethnic relations in its various regions, forms of economic, political and cultural cooperation between nations and nationalities [7].

CONCLUSION: Thus, modern ethnopsychology distinguishes the object of its study: nations, nationalities, national communities, the mental structure of peoples and ethnic groups. Ethnopsychological research is carried out in a whole range of methods: general, specific and private. Ethnos, nation, national character is the main concept of ethnopsychology, with the help of which ethnic psychology is characterized in theoretical and practical scientific aspects.

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Տեղեկություններ հեղինակի մասին

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