

# Education in China as a Topic of Russian Scientific Discourse

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**Abstract**— The article analyzes the activity of researchers in the field of education in China. The dissertations performed in the years 2002 – 2017 in Russia are considered. A thematic classification of dissertations was carried out taking into account the current passports of the specialty of scientific workers. On the basis of the content analysis, the main directions of pedagogical and psychological research have been clarified. These include problems of vocational education in universities, history of education and ethnic pedagogy, as well as comparative pedagogy. It is shown that the dissertation research was performed mainly by Chinese citizens. In general, the number of dissertations on educational problems in China performed in Russia has a downward trend.

**Keywords**— *education, China, catalogue of dissertations, general pedagogy, general psychology, education management, downtrend*

## I. INTRODUCTION

In a modern economic and cultural situation globalization trends are shown in parallel with tendencies to fragmentation of the modern world. The political, economic, ethnic, confessional and sociocultural heterogeneity of the European and Asian countries remaining in the 21st century is a significant source of destabilization of the world. It is noted that in modern philosophy of education the issue that the globalization trends promoting identification of educational systems, strengthening of cultural interrelations should not lead to reduction of a civilization variety is actively discussed. In spite of the fact that due to development of information and communication technologies the possibility of interaction between civilizations amplify, in modern conditions obviously shown tendencies are not observed for removal of the cultural mismatches characterizing mental installations and valuable orientations of residents of the countries of the West and East. Education systems in the countries of Europe and Asia have the significant differences characterizing features of their entry into the modern system of the global communications in the most various areas sociocultural the practices. At the same time some Asian countries relating to the region of East Asia set

Manchurian language in the grammatical relation.

As V.P. Borisenkov and B.L. Vulfson fairly note, "the relations between Russia and China were formed in the

a worthy example if not for imitation, then for a research of features of development of education systems and also factors which defined their positive dynamics. The research of education systems in cross-border regions makes the significant contribution to understanding of development trends of adjacent boundary territories that is very important for implementation of the strategy of development for science and education in the Russian Federation [1, 2, 3, 4].

Interest towards education problems in People's Republic of China from the Russian scientists is defined by a number of factors among which there is an existence of the deep traditions allowing to consider the Chinese culture the original civilization phenomenon, the indisputable fact of dynamic economic development which made this country the second economy of the world and also depth of historical links and geographical adjacency expressed that the border with China is the second longest (after border with Kazakhstan) a boundary of our country.

The questions connected with necessity of scientific studying of China at the academic level were mentioned at the beginning of the 19th century by the famous statesman count S.S. Ouwaroff, who developed in 1810 the little-known "Project of Asian academy" in Russia [5]. In this work written in French, future author of "the theory of official nationality" convincingly showed that Russia is not familiar yet neither with philosophy, nor with literature, nor with language of original adjacent China. Making the plan of studying China culture, S.S. Ouwaroff defined a mission of the Russian and foreign scientists, it will be entrusted to them to explore this country. Scientists of Asian academy, according to S.S. Ouwaroff, will have to be engaged not in the developing of their dissertations, but, having had an opportunity of access to unique artifacts, written and oral sources, to pay attention to the translation into the European languages of original manuscripts, books, folklore. It would dig out to both Russia, and Europe treasures of the Chinese philosophical thought and the world of poetry and also would allow to learn the most difficult Chinese on the basis of mastering related as S.S. S.S. Ouwaroff considered, but clearer and simple XVIII-XIX centuries, but gained qualitatively new character after emergence of the Soviet Union ... Many students and post-graduate students had training, defended master's and doctoral dissertations in the Soviet higher

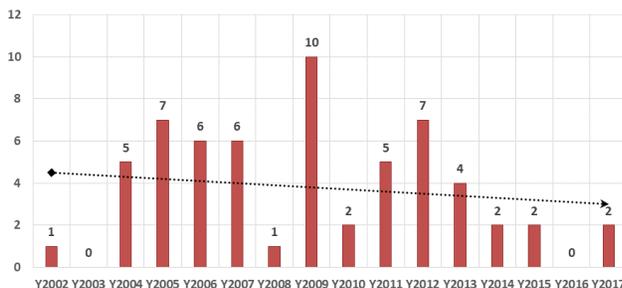
education institutions" [6, page 13]. Education problems in People's Republic of China are an object of research of domestic scientists-humanists. In this regard the research of a question about objective knowledge of an education system of China at the dissertation level is of a certain interest.

## II. METHODOLOGY AND SOURCES

The Uniform electronic resource of the Russian state library (section "Catalogue of Dissertations") which reflects the available abstracts and texts of dissertation researches [7] can serve as an empirical information array of a research of a problem of representation data on an education system of China. As research methods the content analysis was used allowing to fix reliably set semantic units of the studied contents and to carry out their quantification [8]. Also comparison, interpretation, analogy, generalization were used. Depending on statement of a specific objective of a research the category of the analysis and tally were defined. The obtained data were entered in the tables EXCEL that allowed constructing the bar graphs visualizing the received results.

## III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

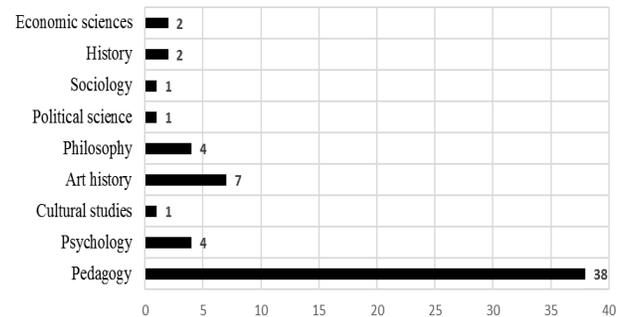
Solving a problem of determination of rate of representation of abstracts of a psychological and pedagogical perspective, we chose as semantic unit (category) of the analysis the concept People's Republic of China presented as the official name (including the form of an abbreviation), and the reduced China option. The explored information massif joined also the researches containing geographical names of certain territories and/or areas of the country. Besides, we adhered to the methodological accepted position in science according to which the concept can be presented by various working units of the analysis including both a direct mention of a lexical unit, and its use in the single-root phrases having distinctive force. Tally was the dissertation work presented in the explored empirical massif. The analysis of contents of the electronic catalog of the Russian state library on the positions defined above showed that the first mentions of education problems in China in dissertation researches belong to 2002, the last – by 2017. Results of a content analytical research are presented in Picture 1.



Picture 1. Distribution range of dissertation researches on a psychological and pedagogical perspective (China).

Distribution of dissertation researches during the period from 2002 to 2017 does not differ in uniformity. From the total number of the defended dissertations (51 works) their maximum number falls on 2009, minimum – on 2002, 2008, 2013. In 2003 and 2016 no dissertations on education problems in China were defended.

The psychological and pedagogical perspective was considered within many scientific directions of modern humanitarian knowledge. Dissertation researches are distributed according to areas of researches according to codes of specialties of passports of Higher Attestation Commission as follows (Picture 2).



Picture 2. Distribution of dissertation researches on branches of sciences

As it is visually shown on the bar graph, pedagogical researches dominate among all other areas of a research, which is necessary. The second place, by the number of the dissertations defended on a psychological and pedagogical perspective as it is paradoxical, belongs not to psychology, but art criticism. The substantial analysis of scope of these researches showed that it is possible to carry some of them with a certain share of convention to the category cross-disciplinary, having considerable pedagogical bias (if not purely pedagogical) researches. The works performed on the following subjects belong to their number: "Children's piano education in China and problems of its development" (2009), "Piano schools of the countries of the Far East region (China, Korea, and Japan). Problems of the theory, history, performing practice" (2015), "Modern and traditional methods of training of the scenic speech at the Chinese drama school: from experience of teaching in the Shanghai theatrical Academy" (2005), "Children's piano education in China and problems of its development" (2009) "The theory and practice of an actor's training at modern Chinese drama school" (2009), "Formation of a system of musical variety jazz education in modern China" (2015).

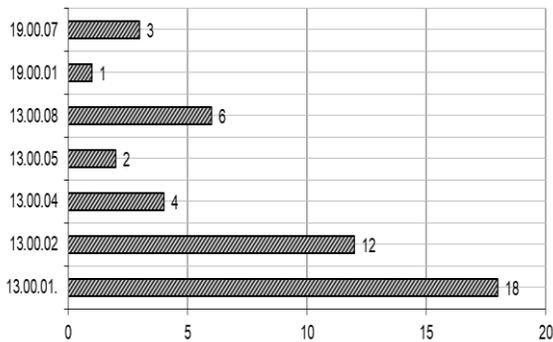
Aspects of a psychological perspective are presented in the research of N. B. Bokova "The political and psychological analysis of Russian image in mass consciousness of citizens of the People's Republic of China" executed on political science.

Data on rate of distributions of dissertation works according to years and scientific areas are provided in the Table.

TABLE DISTRIBUTION OF DISSERTATIONS ON THE THEMATIC LINE "EDUCATION IN CHINA"

Dissertation defense years	Distribution of dissertation researches on education problems in China (on the fields of sciences)									
	Pedagogy	Psychology	Cultural studies	Art history	Philosophy	Political science	Sociology	History	Economic sciences	
2002	1									
2003										
2004	5									
2005	3	1		1	2					
2006	3		1		1			1		
2007	4	1					1			
2008				1						
2009	8			2						
2010	1	1								
2011	2				1	1		1		
2012	6	1								
2013				3					1	
2014	2									
2015	1								1	
2017	2									

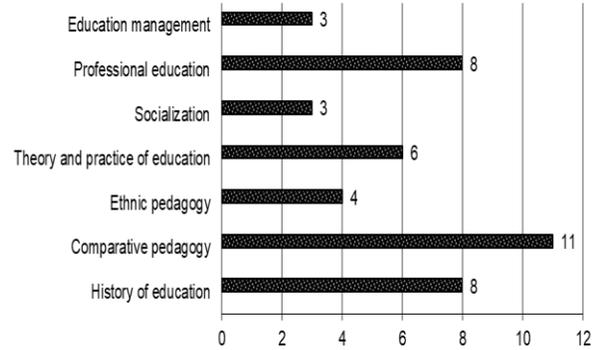
Dissertation researches of various aspects of psychological and pedagogical problems of education in China were systematized by criterion "The passport of profession of the scientist" and revealed the following picture of distributions (Picture 3).



Picture 3. Distribution according to specialty passports (pedagogical and psychological sciences)

On the Graph it is clearly visible that the number of theses, relating to the areas of a research designated by codes of specialty 13.00.01 – General pedagogy, history of pedagogy and education and 19.00.01 – General

psychology, psychology of the personality, psychology history, have the most wide spacing of values. Specification of thematic lines of researches on a pedagogical perspective (Picture 4) showed that the number of the researches prevails which are directly fixing a comparative vector in the names.

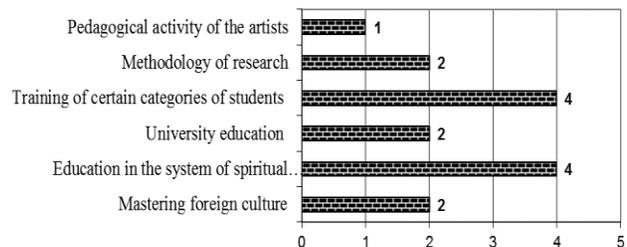


Picture 4. Distribution of dissertations on pedagogical sciences on the main thematic lines

Researchers paid much attention also to education history problems, including a subject of the Russian pedagogical abroad. The fact attracts attention that problems of musical education and piano pedagogy of China are of particular interest researchers. The qualitative originality of a social situation in China is reflected in the research "Family Education in China in the conditions of Policy Planned Birth" characterizing ethno pedagogical aspects of modern state policy and educational practice.

All psychological researches carried out within the codes of specialties stated above have a pronounced comparative mode and disclose features of personal development of pupils of high schools and students in modern China maintaining initiative and aspiration to achievements of the citizens. It will fully be coordinated with V.Ya. Surtayev's opinion that society will demand more and more "from young people of subjectivity in manifestation of initiatives ... in the sociocultural sphere in which they can self-actualize most fully the abilities and talents" [9, page 7]".

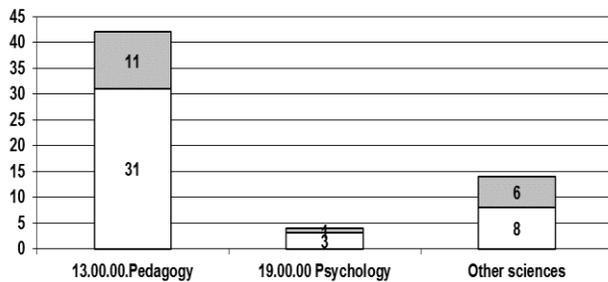
Pedagogically and psychologically significant perspective is reflected in the dissertations which do not relate to psychology and pedagogy according to the nomenclature of scientific specialties (Picture 5).



Picture 5. The subject of theses on education problems presented in the humanitarian researches which do not relate to pedagogy and psychology

In these dissertations approaches to interpretation of categories "education" and "training" in the context of the ethnic specifics and features of outlook of the population which are going back to religious bases of sociocultural practice are of special interest.

The analysis of the subject turned to problems of education and training, presented in dissertation works of the considered period updates a question of the one who possesses their authorship (Picture 6).



Picture 6. Ratio of the dissertation works performed Russian and Chinese researchers

On Picture 6 reflecting results of a content analytical research (tally – the surname of the researcher which is unambiguously carried to a certain ethnic group) showed that the pedagogical and psychological perspective is presented mainly by researchers from China while works on other humanitarian directions are performed on a parity basis.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

Thus, the downtrend characterizing the interest of Russian researchers in the most various aspects of problems of formation and development of an education system in China that does not agreed with the role which this country plays in the modern world by this great power is observed now. The geographical proximity in the presence of a qualitative originality of the cultural code, strategic partnership of our countries within the international organizations and associations causes the need for deep penetration into the mental bases of modern sociocultural practice of China and its actors. At the same time, it is

possible to conclude with a certain share of convention that the Russian researchers learn about the system of formation of China mainly what is offered by carriers of this culture and ideology. It is possible to state the careful assumption that these works were performed by researchers from the People's Republic of China within implementation of programs of the academic mobility of graduate students that is connected with certain thematic and temporary restrictions and also some share of enlightenment.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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