

Culture as a Universal Value in the Civilization of the 21st Century. Russian Trail

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ABSTRACT

This article is written on a very relevant topic since there is a dangerous process of escalating many world conflicts in modern civilization. This happens in the sphere of politics, economics, interethnic and interfaith relations. There is no single successful solution to these problems; however, in some areas, the world community has accumulated positive examples that, in our opinion, can be applied in other countries. It will focus on Russia and some other states' experience, where the historical experience of solving interethnic and interfaith problems with the help of culture has been accumulated. The article can be useful and interesting to historians, sociologists, leaders, and cultural figures.

Keywords: National relations, World socio-cultural problems, Muslims, Russia, Dagestan, China.

1. INTRODUCTION

Analyzing recent events in the world, one can conclude that modern civilization is about to reach the point of no return. Extremely aggravated political, interfaith and interethnic conflicts are acquiring a deeply antagonistic character and the chances are small that positive solutions can be reached.

Throughout its history, mankind has repeatedly gone through similar stages. Whole civilizations were lost irrevocably - many states tried to get out of the crisis through big wars, which gave a reprieve for their solutions. At the same time, it seems to us that the human community waging an eternal war between its two main genes - the gene for self-destruction and the gene for survival. In civilization's history, several important events and accomplishments aim to change the existing order and establish new relations. They set the task of resolving existing antagonistic conflicts, proposing ways to the possible happiness of humanity.

Within the framework of the article, it is not possible to consider the entire world experience in this regard, so we will focus mainly on Russian campaigns

in building interfaith and interreligious relations with the help of culture as they are illustrated in the works of A. Pavlenko [14], V. Vladimirov [3] and A. Patten [13]. Taking into account the alarming situation in the world community in this field, as well as the location of the scientific conference, we have focused on the analysis of the situation in Russia, where among 190 nationalities, ethnic Muslims make up 13.5% of the population [8,12].

The problems of Islamic revival before the collapse of the USSR, and then in post-Soviet Russia, the ethnopolitical context is reflected in the works of Yu.N. Abdulkadyrov, A.K. Aliev, E.S. Arukhov, J.I.A. Bashirov, V.O. Bobrovnikov, R. Gaynudina, K.G. Gusaeva, A.G. Guseinov, I.P. Dobaev, E.F. Kisriev, A.V. Malashenko, D.V. Mikulsky, S.I. Musaeva, S.I. Murtazaliev, R. Silantyev, K.M. Khanbabaev, G.I. Yusupova and others.

Regional socio-cultural features of Islam and Muslim culture in certain regions of Russia are studied in the works of M.A. Abdullaev, A.V. Avksent'ev, V.Kh. Akaev, A.K. Alikberov, A.3. Baglieva, S.E. Bereznoy, V.Yu. Gadaev, M. N. Emelyanova, M.M.

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Turning today to the salutary concepts of famous philosophers on the stated topic, one should definitely name the famous scientist A.V. Ivanov, who accompanied by a group of like-minded people, over the past decades has been successfully developing the concept of a spiritual-ecological civilization, justifying transition from a dead-end technogenic and consumer approach to a new type civilizational "noospheric approach" [4, p.128]. Without analyzing these views in detail and considering an extremely aggravating world situation, we will focus on the role of culture, which can play its salutary mission in the modern split world.

Assessing the state of socio-cultural processes in the world today, we can turn to several states that, according to Gagnon and Seymour, are quite successfully solving their difficult social problems not only by political methods [10] but also with the help of culture: Russia, China, Japan, South Korea, Kazakhstan, etc.

2. METHODS OF RESEARCH

Our research presents the analysis of Russian experience to solve multinational society's problems, which can be presented in the following diagram.

3. DISCUSSION

Russia became the initiator of this approach when after the 1917 revolution, it had to solve serious problems in building a new socialist society [2, p.84].

This process was challenging on the former empire's outskirts, where feudal-serf relations, national discord, and serious social conflicts dominated. It was in conditions of severe devastation, the civil war that the new government paid special attention to the role of culture, which was supposed to gather people of various nationalities, religions, cultures into a community and that in turn became the basis of a new powerful state - the Soviet Union. Needless to say, the political steps in this process were not always flawless. However, if we turn to Dagestan, right after the revolution in 1920, the classes of the initial music education were opened, which in 1926 was followed by the opening of the music school in Buinaksk (Makhachkala) [5]. However, the brightest sign of the new times, according to E. Abulaeva, was the work of a female composer, D.M. Dalgat, who graduated with honors from the Leipzig Conservatory, which would have been simply impossible before. [1, p.2-7].

It should be noted that the policy of the Soviet state in the field of culture was part of the party ideology and, therefore, was carried out with great energy and purposefulness. Young promising musicians, theatergoers, and artists were referred to study at Moscow universities and then returned and raised their people's national culture to a qualitatively new level. The flourishing of culture in the USSR was closely connected with the outstanding artists of the 20th century: Makhmud Esambaev (Chechnya), Muslim Magomayev (Azerbaijan), Rudolf Nureyev and Renat Ibragimov (Tatarstan), Yury Shevchuk (Bashkiria), et al. It is no coincidence that among dozens of famous musicians from the USSR's republics, we focused our attention on citizens of Muslim republics, as this, according to E. Abdulaeva et al., clearly testifies to those ultimate achievements of the national and

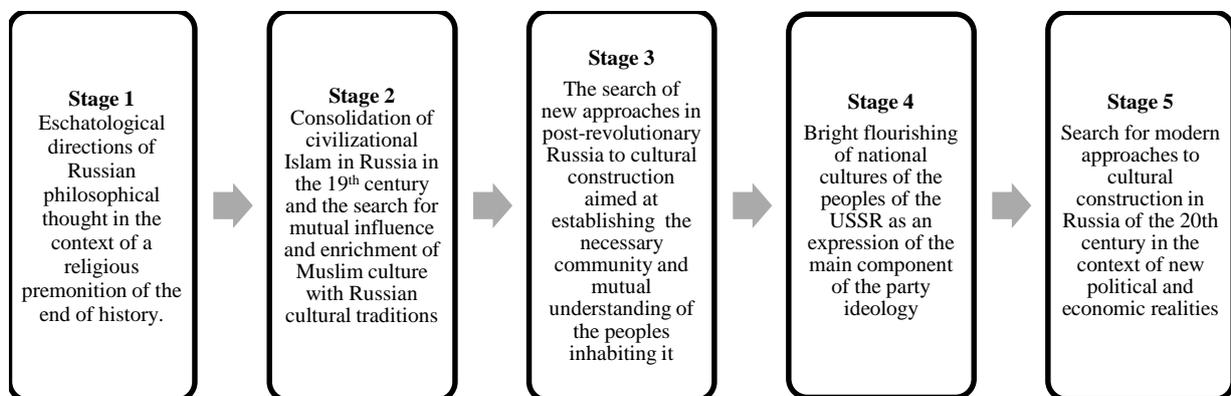


Figure 1 Formation of Cultural Policy in Multinational Russia.

interfaith agreement that was reached through culture. The named performers delighted millions of amateurs in many parts of the world, evoking a sense of pride in their own country [9].

In Russia, even at the legislative level, a magazine like the François "Charles Hebdo" could not appear. In our opinion, it was a severe blow to the entire Muslim world, and it might take a century for Europe with its idea of multiculturalism to regain face. If we turn to the figures, there are more than 2 billion Muslims in the world [8], and in France, for example, this diaspora accounts for 5.7 million people [11,12] (table 1).

Given the disintegration of patriarchal family values in Europe and a sharp decline in the birth rate, interfaith relations here need careful and purposeful settlement. Addressing these issues, some countries use various tools, including culture, which can be introduced in the whole European space.

Several effective approaches in this area were used in the USSR. This is the organization of Decades of National Art festivals, the awarding of honorary titles of the republics to famous performers who contributed to their culture's development. There are a lot of outstanding musicians who were awarded honorary titles and high awards from the republics. Among them is V. Spivakov, with his title of People's Artist of Dagestan, Y. Grigorovich - People's Artist of Bashkiria, Polad Bulbul Ogly - Honored Artist of Bashkiria.

The talented conductor Yuri Tkachenko, an Honored Artist of Dagestan, deserves special attention as he as a guest conductor did a great job at the 1st International Zinger Competition "West-Siberia-East" recently held in Novosibirsk. Thus, famous artists' names are heard at major international events, competitions, festivals, thus promoting the culture of the republics that have awarded them with their high titles. China, South Korea, and Japan are also following

this strategy sending their young performers to study at the conservatory in America, Russia, Europe. So, in these countries, due to a balanced and carefully thought out cultural policy, there are practically no serious social conflicts, despite the numerous population

Another important factor used in the USSR and new Russia in building a single spiritual space is cinema. Cinema in our country has always been a powerful means of fostering the best human qualities - patriotism, national harmony. It should be noted that even ahead of Hollywood, where subsequently an African American was necessarily included in the script as one of the heroes, since the 30s of the last century, Soviet directors in the USSR raised the question of including bright actors from the republics in the cast, especially in the films about the WW1 (1941-1945), where the victory was achieved due to the selfless efforts of all nationalities of the country.

It is difficult to overestimate the contribution made by our filmmakers to the creation of this single spiritual, interethnic space. Many famous film artists from the republics enjoyed the great love of the audience, and many films with their participation have become classics of Russian cinema. Radner Zinyatovich Muratov, a Tatar by birth, is one of the outstanding actors from this galaxy. He starred and voiced about 100 films, some of which were included in the Golden Fund of Russian cinema.

Speaking about all the components of the extensive work carried out in our country to foster internationalism, interethnic harmony and respect for other cultures, we can mention such an outwardly imperceptible factor as the existence in the conservatories of the Soviet Union of the special subject "Music of the Peoples of the USSR". Finishing their education, young musicians came up into the world with knowledge and understanding of the art of all the republics of their country.

Table 1. Muslim population by 2020

Country	Muslim percent	Muslim population
France	8.8	5,720,000
Germany	5.7	4,750,000
Italy	4.8	2.987.840
Russia	13.5	20.000.000
UK	6.3	4.130.000

Noting Russia's undoubted success in creating a favorable spiritual space to achieve peace and harmony among its peoples, there were serious erosion processes observed in our country in recent years. Russia has gone through a complicated process of establishing a new political and economic model of society. For decades, the state-guaranteed funding of cultural institutions in the 90s turned out to be helpless in this regard [7]. In the new economic realities, under the pretext of economic survival, new types of heroes and plots dominated the screen with erotica, violence, supermen and performers with a low sense of social responsibility being the most common.

The monopoly on the organization of cultural life in the country also collapsed. Russian capitalism without the checks and balances that have been developed in the West over the centuries has led to the flourishing of corruption and deep social inequality in society. In these conditions, well-known figures of culture, art, and teachers began to call for the introduction of at least some kind of censorship on TV, which historically ruled the people's minds and moods.

In recent years serious steps have been taken in Russia to remedy this extremely dangerous situation. Along with state funding of culture, which allows its institutions to survive, a wide flow of private funding opens up, which has significantly changed the cultural processes in society over the last 3-4 years. Dozens of new funds are being created, international competitions and festivals are being funded, and much attention is paid to young musicians, artists, and theater-goers. These are television contests, tours, performances with leading creative teams from Russia and foreign countries, and many others. Significant events are constantly held in the country with the participation of outstanding artists: V. Spivakov, V. Gergiev, D. Matsuev et al. Branches of the capital theaters are opened in Khabarovsk, Vladivostok, Kaliningrad and others. In August this year, in Moscow, "Days of Tatarstan Culture" to the 100th anniversary of the formation of the TASSR.

Of course, there are still several unresolved problems in primary art education, in the departure of secondary schools from upbringing tasks, the substitution of art for dubious shows, the lack of propaganda of the national art of Russia's peoples, and much more worries. Here you can refer to the thoughts expressed by the famous political scientist, economist M. Krugov. Reflecting on the ways to consolidate society, he noted, "It is necessary that the possible

number of citizens would adhere to common goals and have similar models of morality and ethics. This task (earlier) was previously solved by a common ideology that offered the same basic model of worldview, providing all members of society with the necessary level of similarity in terms of common goals and behavior models in their composition "[6, p.74]. Today, the absence of a Russian national idea model poses a serious threat to our multinational country; therefore, the role of art in creating such a community is growing immeasurably. "These problems were recently discussed in detail at an open meeting of the Council for Culture under Russia's President and with his participation, where they were given state significance.

4. CONCLUSION

Time will show whether modern society and government will be able to find and implement new civilizational approaches to achieve peace and harmony in the shortest possible time, as the basis for human survival in new conditions. When these problems were being solved by political and culture, the Russian experience in this direction can serve as a certain vector for other states, where these problems are becoming more and more alarming.

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