

Evolution of ancient Russian wedding rites, customs and traditions

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INTRODUCTION

The ancient name of the wedding is [sviatba]"святъба" means binding [svijatiŋjə] (святие). Bindings carried out a ceremony after which it was possible for a man and a woman from different families to live together. The ceremony of binding began to be followed by various wedding rituals. The Russian wedding rituals appeared at 18-19 a century, it is one of the most important family ceremonies consisting of a huge number of elements. Among them it is possible to note ceremonial songs, причеты, obligatory ceremonial actions of the bride, friends and other participants. This research will give insight into the evolution of Russian wedding rituals, customs and traditions.

PURPOSE

In intercultural communications, it is important that students of Russian Language and Culture see the differences and similarities between Sri Lankan and Russian cultural practices. This is a comparative study and will help future researchers to lead similar researches with the perspective of developing studies on culture and civilization.

METHODOLOGY

Since this is a literary survey every accessible related website, online versions of old books, dissertations were used to gather information. After going through all definitions of the term marriage/wedding it can be assumed *“it is a religiously, socially and legally accepted union between a man and a woman and abide by the laws, rules, customs, beliefs and attitudes of that society and the way of thinking who enter to this union.”* Since the very ancient time there have been various type of marriages in the

world: opposite marriage, same-sex marriage, monogamy, polygamy, polygyny, polyandry, plural marriage, child marriage, same-sex and third-gender marriages, temporary marriages, cohabitation, common law marriage, open marriage, polyamory. Now the nature of marriage had begun to change. Netherland is the first country to legalize same sex marriage in 2000. In Belgium and in some states of USA similar laws have recognized. The facts relating to the marriage are interesting and very important because it preserves the existence of mankind.

ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES

The anticipated outcomes would be gaining a clear idea about similarities and differences between the two far away cultures: Sri Lankan and Russian. Despite the geographical distance we expect to show that sometimes, some practices and concepts are common to human nature. Language and behaviour could be mere accessories to carry out practices that are at the base, analogous and comparable.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, we would like to state that a comparative study on two cultures and their practices will make us ponder upon the fact that human needs and behaviour are very similar and that they have evolved throughout centuries making them more adapted to the needs of the human beings that have changed with the change of times and concepts.

KEYWORDS

Intercultural communication, Russian as a Foreign Language, Russian wedding rites

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