

Man in India 2017 vol.97 N9, pages 1-7

---

## **Ethnic identity and ethno-cultural needs of the modern Russian rural population of tatarstan (based on ethno-sociological research)**

Titova T., Kozlov V., Guschina E., Frolova E.  
Kazan Federal University, 420008, Kremlevskaya 18, Kazan, Russia

---

### **Abstract**

© Serials Publications. The relevance of the problem under investigation is determined by the following correlation activity: the degree of actualization of ethno-cultural needs and the overall level of ethnic mobilization define a comfort / discomfort level in the ethnic field. The paper aims at analyzing the degree of actualization of ethnic identity among the Russian rural population, identification and structuring of ethno-cultural needs, and the subsequent determination of the general level of ethnic mobilization of the given group. A polyparadigmatic approach is used to study the problem as the basic approach, supplemented by certain provisions of the theory of cultural boundaries and the theory of social construction, taking into account the historical and cultural component of a particular social reality. The following field methods are implemented within the study: mass semi-formalized interview and structured in-depth interview. The paper identifies "de-materialisation" of ethnic culture and its reformatting into a social construct with symbolic capital as the main content of modern ethno-social processes. In the meantime, these processes are less intense and have their own characteristic aspects in rural environment. It is proved that ethnic and cultural needs of the Russians living in Tatarstan are stable and have no tendency for further expansion. In this regard, one can speak of the absence of significant motivators of ethnic mobilization in the group. Data discussed in the paper can be useful for social anthropologists (ethnologists), sociologists, demographers, regional ethnographers when studying local and regional communities.

---

### **Keywords**

Ethnic history, Ethnicity, Ethno-cultural needs of Russian rural population, Identity, Multicultural region, Social anthropology

### **References**

- [1] Barth, F. (1989). 'Analysis of Culture in Complex Societies'. *Ethnos*, 4: 120-142.
- [2] Barth, F. (2006). *Ethnic groups and social borders. Social organization of cultural distinctions*. Moscow: New publishing house.
- [3] Berger, P.L. Lukman, T. (1995). *The Social Construction of Reality: A Treatise on the Sociology of Knowledge*. Moscow: Academia-Center-Media.
- [4] Drobizheva, L.M. (2006). 'Methodological problems of ethno-sociological studies'. *Sociological Journal*, 3-4: 89-101.

- [5] Gellner, E. (2009). Nations and Nationalism. Cornell University Press.
- [6] Hobsbawn, E. (1983). Invention of Tradition. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- [7] Khayrutdinov R. (2015). 'The System of the State Village Government of the Kazan Governorate in the Early 18th - the First Third of the 19th Centures'. Journal of Sustainable Development, 8(5): 1-11.
- [8] Khayrutdinov R.R., Karimov I.R. (2015). 'Development of science in the Republic of Tatarstan'. Journal of Sustainable Development, 8(7): 99-106.
- [9] Sadokhin, A.P. (2002). Ethnology: educational dictionary. Moscow: Gardarika.
- [10] Titova, T., Kozlov, V., & Guschina, E. (2014). 'Destructive Factors of Interethnic Relationships in a Multicultural Region: The Position of the Host Population of Tatarstan', Terra sebus. Acta mvsei sabesiensis, Special Issue: 275-281.
- [11] Titova, T.A. (2007). Ethnic minotities in Tatarstan: their status, identity, culure. Kazan: KGU.