

welcome, but they are tolerated.

Besides all of the above, the Italians are very generous. But their generosity should be treated with caution, as they do not do anything without lying in wait.

In conclusion, I would like to say that the citizens of all countries of the world have in common is that they respect the foreigners to respect their traditions and customs. You may not know the official language of this country, but to get acquainted with the rules of conduct and etiquette you owe. And only by doing these conditions, you will be able to achieve respect for you from local residents.

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## ТРАДИЦИИ И ОБЫЧАИ НАРОДОВ МИРА

Статья посвящена актуальной проблеме – недостатку знаний о культурных традициях разных народов мира. Речь идет о традициях и обычаях людей из разных стран. Рассмотрены культурные традиции следующих стран: Польша, Нидерланды, Германия, Дания, Соединенные Штаты Америки, Греция, Швейцария, Италия.

*Ключевые слова:* культурные традиции, обычаи, суеверия, правила этикета.

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## SIGNS AND SUPERSTITIONS OF PEOPLE OF THE WORLD

It is impossible to neglect influence of superstitions and signs on cultural development of the people, formation of moral and cultural wealth and reference points, feeling of confidence in the future. Now, when there is a technical progress which covers everything without exception of the sphere of life, their quantity and force of influence on «destiny» of the person doesn't change, and sometimes even amplifies. Confirmation of the fact is result of this research that attraction of such sociocultural materials as proverbs and sayings, signs and superstitions can create the atmosphere of participation in history, allow to gain new knowledge concerning culture, language and history. Conclusions of article offers on studying of processes and features of perception of superstitions and signs by the modern person can serve.

*Keywords:* belief, culture, cult, mass culture, ethnos, cultural domination, language.

Signs and superstitions appeared many centuries, and even the millennia back. Ancient people tried to explain the world so what they imagined it. It served as the reason of emergence of numerous superstitions and beliefs. And, in spite of the fact that truth practically doesn't contain the majority of them, people continue by it to trust, and to this day. In recent years social, political and economic shocks lead to the conflict of cultures, and as a result, loss of a number of signs, superstitions, traditions and customs, i.e. historical memory of the whole people.

This work is devoted to research of signs and superstitions in different cultures, and also to their comparison. Their studying is closely bound with folklore, religion, history and culture of these people. The subject will accept and a superstition isn't finally investigated or clear, it is shrouded in secret and mysticism.

The understanding of cultural distinctions in the countries is an important subject. The biggest cultural distinctions exist generally in signs and superstitions of people of the world. Here some of the most widespread superstitions.

In the Netherlands it is considered that the broken dish allegedly brings good luck, and a pine, as a rule, plant for newlyweds. The pine symbolizes good luck and abundance [1].

Cats play an important role in the Dutch superstitions. The black cat who is stealing a march on the car has to bring something bad during your travel. If you saw it, the only decision, be more careful on the road.

Besides, cats it wasn't authorized to be in the room at discussion of private questions, in former times. Was considered that cats tend to distribution of gossips. In Russia were always afraid of cats of a black coloring. This religious prejudice about the black cat bringing misfortune arose many thousands years ago [2].

When people believed in existence of witches, they associated a black cat with the witch. They believed that black cats were the disguised witches. To kill a cat didn't mean to kill the witch as the witch could assume an air of a cat nine times. Exactly from here the myth that at cats nine lives went. A cat – a sacral being and at ancient Egyptians, connecting the terrestrial world with the next world [1].

Believed in the Middle Ages that witches and sorcerers used a brain of a black cat for preparation of a mysterious potion. Owing to all these associations the black cat in Russia and many other countries became a failure symbol.

In Great Britain consider that the horseshoe over a door brings good luck. To catch the falling leaves in the fall and you will have good luck. Each leaf means happy month next year [3].

To put money in a pocket of new clothes brings good luck.

After modernization and education which occurred, of superstition still remains in our society [4].

The difference of cultures is reflected not only in languages, but also in customs and traditions, mentality, we will give table 1 as an example.

*Table 1. The comparative analysis will accept also superstitions of the Russian and Anglo-Saxon cultures*

<b>Russian culture</b>	<b>Anglo-saxonculture</b>
Scratch of the left hand, promises big wealth	Scratch of the left hand, promises loss of money
Black crows are associated with something bad, powers of darkness, death harbingers	Black crows are considered as the birds bringing good luck
The black cat who is stealing a march – to failure	The black cat who is stealing a march – to good luck, to happiness
To sew up on itself clothes – to memory loss	To sew up on itself clothes – to loss of wealth
Spiders are associated with anything other as with evil spirit and diseases	Spiders are associated with anything other as with fast wealth
For the night nothing is taken out from the house It is considered that it attracts ruin on the house.	To open an umbrella indoors – to failures, losses
To be looked in a mirror if it was necessary to return To come back at Russians it is considered a bad sign, the premessenger of failure.	To go under a ladder – to failures, losses
Don't give money in hands Russians have many «monetary» signs. It is considered that energy of their owner, including the negative is transmitted through money.	Any true Englishman in senses won't open an umbrella on a threshold of the house and won't put new boots on a table – these actions, inhabitants of Foggy Albion are sure, call to the house death.
Don't spill out salt Salt is one of the most ancient food connected with superstitions. In Russia salt was considered as a symbol of eternity and long time was quite expensive.	British don't like to go under ladders. This superstition is very widespread. Perhaps, it is connected with that that in the 17th century criminals passed under a ladder on the way to the gallows.

Superstitions went a long way in the history and evolved in this process. In each known civilization which ever existed on the planet, there was something the general in them; it was myths and superstitions which were im-

portant part of their culture. The word superstition is intended for those beliefs which were as a result of ignorance and fear of the unknown. Many superstitious practicing's arose because of false interpretation of the natural phenomena.

The church rejects any prejudices, considering their heritage of paganism. Each country has the customs and traditions. It is necessary to remember that a superstition is result of fear and misunderstanding of the reason of some phenomena of the forgotten ceremonies which we inherited from our ancestors.

In the middle of the XX century began widespread custom to throw for brides the wedding bouquet through a shoulder that unmarried women during reception it caught the audience. The woman, who catches it, according to superstition, will be following the bride shortly. And the similar ceremony exists for unmarried men, her groom throws the bride's garter to unmarried men, and then the person who caught a garter, places it on a foot of the woman which caught a bouquet. This superstition and as well as many other wedding signs continues the existence, bringing hope and fun to people even in the 21st century. Superstitions cover values, the relations, and uneasiness, conflict-ness in the identity of the person, his internal fears and fear of the future.

Conditionally superstitions can be shared into five main groups:

1. The superstitions connected with conception of the person;
2. The superstitions connected with its birth;
3. The superstitions connected with wedding ceremonies (guessing on the promised, courtship, preparations for a wedding, wedding, wedding gifts, matrimonial life, etc.);
4. Superstitions as harbingers of fast death of the person;

So, the superstitions which are listed above reflect the main milestones and alarms in human life, as basic cuts of its mentality [5].

All of them reflect fragility and illusoriness of human existence in this frail world, his resistant desire to glance in the future, and to find rest about the stable existence [5].

Superstitions have interrelation with religion as they are united by the general basis — belief of the person in the highest forces.

It should be noted that the person isn't born, and becomes superstitious during life, thanks to his dependence on natural disasters, bad weather, epidemics, wars etc. Especially signs and superstitions in critical moments of life are important for it: during examinations, on the eve of operations, military operations, a sowing harvest season, harvesting, incurable diseases and many others.

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## **ПРИМЕТЫ И СУЕВЕРИЯ НАРОДОВ МИРА**

Нельзя пренебрегать влиянием суеверий и примет на развитие культуры народа, формирование нравственных и духовных ценностей и ориентиров, чувства уверенности в будущем. В настоящее время, когда происходит технический прогресс, который охватывает все без исключения сферы жизни, их количество и сила влияния на «судьбу» человека не меняется, а иногда даже усиливается. Результатом проведенного исследования является подтверждение факта, что привлечение таких социокультурных материалов, как пословицы и поговорки, приметы и суеверия, может создать атмосферу причастности к истории, позволить получить новые знания относительно культуры, языка и истории. Делаются предложения по изучению процессов и особенностей восприятия суеверий и примет современным человеком.

*Ключевые слова:* вера, культура, культ, массовая культура, этнос, культурное доминирование, язык.

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