

Historiography of youth associations of Finno-Ugric people in Russia (at the end of 20th – beginning of 21st century)

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Abstract

This work gives an analysis of major resources concerning youth associations of Finno-Ugric people of the end of the 20th and the beginning of the 21st century. Resource base offers the possibility to study the process of development of Finno-Ugric people cooperation regarding youth policy, its characteristic features and set out questions that need further studying. The work has its practical implications. The main provisions of the work can be used as a base for further researches of this range of problems.

Key words: historiography, youth associations, Finno-Ugric people, national movement, cultural relations.

Introduction

Today studying of youth associations of Finno-Ugric people in Russia hasn't yet become the object of research. Nevertheless we can say that in historical science now certain traditions are being practiced in studying the subject. Thus, there are works addressing the history and origin and activity of national associations of certain regions. V.K. Abramov studies characteristic features of Mordovian National Movement and areas of activities of Mordovian public organizations. In his works he shows relation of these organizations with ethnical maturity of Mordvins (Abramov, 2007). The work by Y.P. Shabaev «Finno-Ugric cultural policy in the context of transregional and transnational relations» is very valuable for the problem that is under our analysis. His work is devoted to the research of the development of cultural relations among Finno-Ugric people in the period between 1989 and 2002 years; to find-

ing out what the achievements and complications of this process are and what the value of such relations is. Characterizing its value and content, the author comes to conclusion that cultural cooperation among Finno-Ugric people is developing and it becomes not only more dynamic but also more organized. In his opinion the problem lies in the fact that real processes of forming more widespread Finno-Ugric identity have not a long history and haven't yet covered those social layers that can maintain and develop this process (Shabaev U., 2011).

The problem of cooperation among Finno-Ugric young people as one of the aspects of All Finno-Ugric movement is studied by J. Prozes in his article. Author addresses to the origins of Finno-Ugric youth association YAFUP/MAFUN, its background, focusing on program views (Prozes J., 2000).

The timeline of events described in above mentioned articles is restricted by the beginning of 2000. It's explained by the fact that all the articles were written for the 10-th anniversary of MAFUN. Current condition and tendencies for development of Finno-Ugric youth movement are represented in reports from International Congresses of Finno-Ugric people (Youth associations..., 2007).

The process of youth communication of all Finno-Ugric people is represented in the article by E.V. Alexandrov and N.N. Osipov to the full extent. The most significant achievements of Finno-Ugric youth associations are outlined in the work. One of the achievements is finding the points of constructive cooperation with various government institution bodies (Alexandrov, Osipov, 2006).

Dissertation by O.S. Malinina «Ethnocultural and social and political cooperation of Finno-Ugric people in today's Russia» is devoted to studying

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of national movements of Finno-Ugric people in Russia. The process of intensification of relations among Finno-Ugric republics of Russia is shown in this work. Also the activity of Finno-Ugric youth association MAFUN is analyzed (Malinina, 2008).

Thus, the problem partially was represented in research and social and political literature including certain articles, however it was not fully expanded in historiography. Up to the present day in historiography there are no general works covering establishing and inner content of ethnocultural and social and political cooperation among Finno-Ugric people in today's Russia.

The aim is to study historiography of youth public associations of Finno-Ugric people in Russia in the end of 20th and beginning of 21-st century.

To achieve the aim the following objectives were identified:

1. To study historiography of origins and development of cultural relations of Finno-Ugric people of Russia;
2. To discuss historiography of national movements of Finno-Ugric people;
3. To analyze historiography of youth associations of Finno-Ugric people of Russia.

Materials and methods

During our studies general logic methods, including methods of analyses and synthesis, comparative method, historical approach and systematic approach were applied.

Results and discussion

The resource base that we currently have allows for objective study of the process of development of Finno-Ugric people cooperation, its characteristic features and set out questions that need further studying.

The foundation of resource base includes documentation and periodicals of current companies, funds, materials and resolutions of joint Finno-Ugric conferences, meetings, congresses both national and international.

The first group consists of documents and proceedings from science and research and practice conferences, meetings, symposiums that are held on regional, national and international levels in Finno-Ugric world and that are published in independent

collection of articles or in periodicals. The state and dynamics of issues under consideration are traced in these articles.

A broad spectrum of challenging social and political problems of Finno-Ugric people of Russia is presented by proceedings and documents from all-Russian conferences and International Congresses of Finno-Ugric people that comprise the second group of sources.

The third group consists of periodical materials. I examined all-Russian periodicals, those published by Finno-Ugric republics and regions as well as all-Finno-Ugric magazines and newspapers: «Mariyskaya Pravda», «Finno-ugrovedeniye», «Kudo+Kodu». These all gives overview of facts and information of events in Finno-Ugric world. Thus, social and political periodicals serve as a systematic source. The period of establishing mutual cooperation among Finno-Ugric associations was actively reported in press (Finno-Ugric world today, 1997).

During the research unpublished sources were used and they are introduced into scientific use for the first time. Collection and processing of this type of sources have certain complications because almost all of them are stored in current archives and are located in many Finno-Ugric regions and countries.

In this work I used current archive of the Fund of Finno-Ugric cultures development: «Regulation of the Fund of Finno-Ugric peoples' culture development. Yoshkar-Ola, 1990, October», «Agreement establishing the Fund of Finno-Ugric peoples' culture development, 1990, October»

Today events in Finno-Ugric world are widely covered in Internet. This type of source allows for access to some of the documents in electronic format, taking into account that document archives are scattered among several Finno-Ugric regions. For example, electronic archive of documents of Youth Association of Finno-Ugric people stored on the web sites of this organization mafun.org, mafun.ru: reports of proceedings at Association meeting, reports and plans, regulations, public resolutions of MAFUN; web sites of public organizations, movements, information agencies (http://www.mafun.org/index_ru.htm).

Conclusions

In conclusion, practical value of this research can be mentioned. Statements of the research can

be used for further investigation in this area and for learning and reading lectures, discussing sessions on the subjects as «The history of Finno-Ugric people», «Culture of Finno-Ugric people».

Thus, the following conclusions can be made:

In the article resources in historiography of youth associations of Finno-Ugric people of the end of 20th and beginning of 21st centuries were systematized. The following types of sources were outlined: materials and resolutions of research and practice conferences, meetings, symposiums; documentation of meetings and congresses of Finno-Ugric people, periodicals, unpublished sources, fund archives and Internet sources.

In this article materials about youth associations of Finno-Ugric people of the end of 20th and beginning of 21-st centuries that are stored in several resources are summarized.

This article has high value for students, candidates for a master's degree, Ph.D. candidates, professors as well as for people who are interested in this problem and wants to study youth associations of Finno-Ugric people of the end of 20th and beginning of 21-st centuries in Russia in more detail.

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