

Jiang Yi, Wen Longjie

### **Shanghai Cooperation Organization: building regionalism through consensus (part 1)**

**Abstract.** The article is devoted to the theoretical analysis of regionalism as a general regional cooperation process in international relations and to examining the specifics of regional construction based on the example of the SCO. Looking back over the 20-year history of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, one can find that in terms of basic conditions, objective environment, interests and strategic orientation, its regionalism has both similarities with other similar regional organizations (such as OAS, OAU, League of Arab States, ASEAN, EU) and its unique distinctive characteristics. The article considers the regionalist attributes and regional consensus of the SCO, discusses the basis of the organization's structure and the reasons for its success, and analyzes the relationship between the collective “consensus” and the “interests” of the SCO member states. The problems involved in regional construction and cooperation in various fields are examined, the structure of the SCO is analyzed, and the features of the SCO's regionalism building and strategies for future development are summarized. The authors justify that this paradigm provides a new template for building regionalism, and in the context of the increasing challenges of globalization, the SCO needs to continuously deepen regional administration and building regional order. The common and continuous progress of regional subjects (member states), regional mechanisms (SCO) and regional building (cooperation in various fields) will help strengthen the influence of the SCO and serve as a starting point for new global management. The authors conclude that building a “community with a common future for humanity” has become the collective agreement of the SCO, which also means that the target of regionalism has been modernized in terms of concept and focus, The authors conclude that building a “community with a shared future for humanity” has become the collective agreement of the SCO, which also means that the goal of regionalism has been modernized in terms of concept and focus, which helps to strengthen the political, military, economic, cultural and other aspects of close ties, and in response to changes in international and regional situations, power structures and regional order are formed to guarantee this interconnection of people's lives. No doubt, creating a “community with a shared future” is an enormous project, and its realization requires more complex, long-term, and strenuous efforts.

**Key words:** Shanghai Cooperation Organization; regionalism: regional order; regional cooperation; summit; “community of a shared destiny for humanity”; “One Belt, One Road”

S. L. Talanov

### **The place of education in Russia's “soft power” policy: strategic directions and tools**

**Abstract.** The author attempts to study the place of education in Russia's “soft power” policy. In order to achieve this goal, a survey was conducted among undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate students at the leading Russian universities with the largest number of foreign students. In particular, the satisfaction of foreign citizens with living conditions, education, facilities and equipment of the universities was analyzed. In addition, it was found that when choosing a country (university), the citizens of the CIS countries, to a greater extent than the Chinese and Indians, were guided by the feedback of university graduates, advice from their close environment, and the conventional media (television, radio, and the press). It was also found that foreign students, when choosing a university in Russia to enter, rely on the resources of their family or family group (economic, symbolic, cultural, social capital), that is, they act rationally. If students cannot afford to be educated straight away at a prestigious university in the Russian Federation, they first enter the university in Russia that they can, and then plan to continue their studies at the master's or postgraduate level of the desired university. It has been proven that applicants from wealthy families are guided by the university's rating when choosing a university. Applicants from families that belong to the group of moderate means, when choosing a university, focus on such institutions of higher education, which are easy to enter, just to leave their country and never to return. It has also been found that applicants from neighboring countries seek higher education in Russia, as many of them know Russian, but do not know English, Portuguese, German, French at the appropriate level and cannot afford to study at the highly ranked Western universities and in developed East Asian countries. Most applicants evaluate the quality of education by the level of GDP growth, the higher the GDP growth, the more willing they are to enroll in universities in a given country.

**Key words:** soft power; internationalization; educational policy; recipient countries; donor countries; universities

V. I. Peftiev, G. N. Krasnova

### **The social state in Russia: a new agenda**

**Abstract.** The pandemic and recession convergence is shaping new trends and an extraordinary agenda for the social state in Russia. The recombination of social functions was also prepared by the constitutional reform of 2020, which, firstly, carried out the detailing of Article 7 of the Constitution (social state) and, secondly, it established the principles of social justice, the civilization of the state and society. The authorities responded to these challenges by developing an anti-crisis plan for the next three years (2020-2022), which is expected to break the negative trends and help achieve de-escalation of poverty, gradually adapt the Russian economy to the recession, restore growth (up to the level of 2019) and reach new frontiers of development and prosperity. As part of this strategy, the authorities help and assist: a) families with children, the unemployed and low-income people, and the creation of new jobs; b) small and medium-sized businesses; and c) systemic enterprises (tax benefits, investment, maintaining employment, etc.). The article examines the phenomenon of the social state, highlighting the most informative ideas expressed before and after the 2020 constitutional reform. The authors show diversification and intensification of the social mission of the state in Russia, the conditions for moving towards a social contract involving responsible business and active citizens (new partners). The contours of the precariat in Russia (groups in a precarious socio-economic situation) are outlined, and the need for increasing investment in human capital (medicine, education, culture, and sports) is substantiated. Social provisions and investments are needed before and after the 2021 election whatever the rate of economic growth.

**Key words:** social state; economic and social transformation; constitutional reform; humanization of society; political change; anti-crisis reform; pandemic

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## **PHILOLOGY**

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A. A. Zabiako, E Yanian

### **The story of eating ginseng and the ascension of the Immortal in the “Folk Tale of Ginseng” (Qilin magazine, 1943)**

**Abstract.** This article studies the folk tale of ginseng eating and ascension to the Immortal, which originated in the early 17th century and published in the Northeastern Qilin (Manchu-Digo) magazine in 1943, and its reception in modern Chinese culture and science. Phytolatry as an inherent feature of the north-eastern Chinese religious consciousness is inseparable from the healing characteristics of ginseng itself. Since ancient times, people have attributed miraculous qualities to ginseng, among them gaining immortality by eating the root. Phytolatry is associated with animism and anthropomorphism – in fairy tales, myths and legends of Northeast China, the miracle root takes on human form, turning into an anthropomorphic spirit (a baby, a boy in a girdle, a Wise Old Man or a Beautiful Virgin) that gives immortality to the worthy. Only a special person, who honors the Taiga Law, is honored with this kind of grace. This publication fills the lacunae in the folklore studies of northeast China, which in the 1940s was developing in spite of the Japanese occupation, and often under the patronage of pro-Japanese publications. The authors conclude that the 1943 analysis of the “expeditionary tale” allows to trace the continuous development of the ginseng folklore image in Chinese culture from ancient times to almost the present day, reflecting the syncretized religious views of the multinational North-East residents, while this text and its publication reflect the unknown and controversial pages of Chinese folklore proper, not yet fully explored to this day. On the whole, these materials together with Russian scientific, folklore, and literary texts create an overall context of Far Eastern literary ethnography.

**Key words:** image of ginseng; Taiga Law; phytolatry; animism; anthropomorphism; nyanhua; boy in a girdle; ascent to heaven; acquiring immortality

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Sun Wenjun

### **On the comparative study of N. V. Gogol's early prose and Pu Songling's short stories**

**Abstract.** The article provides a theoretical basis for a comparative study of N. V. Gogol's book *Evenings on a Farm near Dikanka* and Pu Songling's collection of short stories *Descriptions of the Miraculous from Liao's Study*, and also gives an example of such an analysis. To address these problems, the author undertakes a historical and theoretical review of the concept "typological connection" in comparative literary studies. There is a review of the main works of Russian and foreign researchers, as well as various theoretical concepts of comparative literary studies, which leads to the conclusion that the analysis of typological relations is not currently limited to the social context and involves a fundamental study of certain authors' poetics.

The article demonstrates that comparing the poetics of N.V. Gogol and Pu Songling allows us to better understand the uniqueness and originality of their work. From this point of view, the typological study of their fantasy prose – Gogol's "Evenings on a Farm near Dikanka" and Pu Songling's "Descriptions of the Miraculous from Liao's Study" – seems quite relevant. The article concludes that the experience of comparative literary studies in examining genetically unrelated texts shows the possibility of comparing the works of Gogol and Pu Songling in terms of reflecting fantasy and folk demonology in their works. The prospect of studying this problem is illustrated by the analysis of two texts by these authors. The results suggest that the comparative poetics of Gogol and Pu Songling will allow a deeper understanding of both these authors' originality as well as that of Russian and Chinese literature.

**Key words:** comparative literary studies; typological connections; historical poetics; Russian literature; Chinese literature; motif; plot; N.V. Gogol; Pu Songling

N. V. Lukyanchikova, N. V. Kiseleva

### **Cycle-forming motifs in N. L. Klyuchareva's work *The Wooden Sun***

**Abstract.** The article attempts to consider the work of the contemporary Russian writer N. L. Klyuchareva *The Wooden Sun* in terms of cyclization. N. L. Kluchareva's work, consisting of a number of small essays, was written at the beginning of the XXI century and presents a deep understanding of Russian realities. Analyzing the motive structure of *The Wooden Sun* on the basis of classical and modern literary concepts, the authors single out a number of cycle-forming motives that characterize such key concepts for the Russian national character as Motherland, road, home, loss, consider the ways they are implemented in the texts of essays, identify the role of these motifs in shaping the author's idea and reconstructing the author's holistic picture of the world. The system of motifs in N. L. Klyuchareva's work is an important means of combining essays into a cycle, building structural connections and relationships within the cycle, allowing at the same time to identify the sense and meaning of each of the essays under analysis. The authors of the article pay attention to the artistic uniqueness of the works that make up the cycle and create a contradictory image of contemporary Russia. Special emphasis is placed on the intertextual connections of the works included in N. L. Klyuchareva's cycle "The Wooden Sun". The analysis of cycle-forming motifs makes it possible to identify the main ideas of the work and draw conclusions about its artistic originality. The authors of the article believe that N. L. Klyuchareva's appeal to the motifs of Motherland, road, home, etc. indicates a serious interest of the modern prose writer to the values traditional for national literature.

**Key words:** N. L. Klyuchareva; cycle; cyclization; motif; motif structure; essay; intertextual connections

N. V. Nikolenkova

### **On forming the Russian scientific language in the late XVIII – early XIX centuries**

**Abstract.** Studying the history of the Russian language of science is necessary primarily to understand the trends and prospects of its development. The language of Russian science today is heavily influenced by English, which is due to the requirement to write articles for journals in English, and to numerous international conferences where even Russian scientists make reports in English, as well as to the spread of terminology in English, in place of the conventional Russian terminology, which for many seems a marker of "novelty" in approach. It is possible to change the approach only if we understand the tendencies in the Russian scientific language at different stages of its historical development. This article is devoted to one of the earliest periods in the formation of the Russian scientific language – the second half of XVIII – early

XIX centuries. It was during this period that the first Russian scholars appeared, writing in their native language. And the increasing translation activity leads to the appearance of quality works of a scientific nature (encyclopedias, academic books, and dictionaries) – and these works become a reference point for the emergence of original scientific texts. Finally, in 1783 the Russian Academy was founded, and its first work was the Dictionary of the Russian Academy (1789-1794). The article analyzes certain features of the scientific language at that period and their reflection in the current scientific language. The author concludes that the formation of the science language in XVIII – early XIX centuries was contradictory: the scientific language sought to avoid morphological and syntactic innovations and at the same time the vocabulary of the language sought imagery and vividness, which led to the formation of terminology with its internal form in the Russian language.

**Key words:** history of the Russian language; language of Russian science in XVIII – early XIX centuries; scientific terminology; Dictionary of the Russian Academy; M. V. Lomonosov; A. P. Sumarokov; N. M. Karamzin

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## CULTURALSCIENCE

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Evgeny A. Ermolin

### **The Russian-speaking writer in the socio-cultural collisions of the XX-XXI centuries: literary diasporality as a cultural trend**

**Abstract.** The article deals with the transformation of the status and priorities of Russian-speaking writers who find themselves in a diaspora. The cultural background of literature in Russian was originally historical Russia within the Russian statehood. In the 20th century, this literature divided into the literature of the metropolis and the literature of the Russian-speaking diaspora. Since the end of the XX century, due to historical and political perturbations, literature in Russian is produced in different countries of the world, resulting not only from literary migrations, but also from autonomous literary processes in these regions and countries. It is possible to speak of both global communications in the Russian-speaking world and the existence of local Russian-speaking literary communities. Literature is created by Russian-speaking writers on different cultural bases, it acquires specific features depending on this basis, but also in conjunction with memories of the Russian literary tradition and global literary trends. The subject of the study is not the diaspora community as such, but the historical and cultural situation in which Russian-language literature, originally based primarily within certain state boundaries, goes beyond them and exists independently of those state institutions that have traditionally been associated with it in one way or another. The article characterizes the cultural phenomenon of diaspora as “ethnic marginality”, an ethno-cultural community functioning in a non-ethnic context, and considers the main historical and cultural stages of the relationship between the metropolis and the diaspora. Particular attention is paid to the crisis situation in the writer's work. Being in an alien socio-cultural environment, the writer acquired a special cross-cultural writing experience as a condition and creative reflection, caused by a change of environment and the loss of the familiar, usual values of the native culture, and by questions about one's identity, when previous experiences became an attribute of memory and reflection.

**Key words:** historical and cultural basis; Russian culture; Russian-speaking writer; cultural diaspora; Russian-speaking literary communities; metropolitan area; cross-cultural writing experience

O. V. Pelevina, Yang Yunhao

### **Bei Cun's works as a manifestation of the cultural Christianity phenomenon in contemporary China**

**Abstract.** The article is devoted to the phenomenon of cultural Christianity in modern China. This phenomenon suggests the desire to explain the norms and values of Christianity to the Chinese audience through the prism of the traditional foundations of Chinese culture. Examples of cultural Christianity include Chinese intelligentsia's fascination with the history and philosophy of Christianity; Chinese masters' creating Christian images and scenes of the Virgin Mary, the Nativity, etc. in the traditional Chinese guohua style; Chinese deltiology with pictures of famous temples in Harbin; the folklore heritage of Harbin residents, etc. Sharing the idea of the existence of cultural Christianity phenomenon, the authors analyze the works of the contemporary Chinese writer Bei Cun. After 1992, when he converted to Christianity, a key transformation took place in his work. Bei Cun strives to convey to the Chinese audience the Christian categories of sin, redemption, guilt, forgiveness, love, etc. The main theme of the novel I Have a Covenant with God comes down to the Christian concept that all people are

born sinful and hope for redemption, and that confession of sin and repentance are the basis for forgiveness. According to the plot, the first chapters of the novel tell us that the main character, Chen Busen, has fallen into the abyss of sin. Being abandoned by his parents, he becomes a criminal and a murderer. In the final chapters, Chen Busen's soul finds redemption through comprehension, sincere repentance, and even love for the victim's relatives. Thus, by describing the contemporary realities of Chinese society in his works, Bei Cun introduces Christian ideas and values into the Chinese picture of the world and tries to bring Christianity and Chinese culture together.

**Key words:** cultural Christianity; sinicization of Christianity; Bei Cun; “I Have a Covenant with God”; religious philosophy; sin; love