

nomination of dolls helps to understand what motives underlie it, what functions dolls perform in the modern world.

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TURKMEN AND BELARUSIAN WEDDING: COMPARATIVE ASPECT

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There are several important stages in a person's life, among which the wedding ceremony stands out. Entering into a marriage union is marked by a number of mandatory rules, the implementation of which promises a young family prosperity for many years. The relevance of the research is to consider the main stages of the Turkmen and Belarusian wedding in a comparative aspect, which will allow us to see the common points and specific features of these folk rites. The purpose of the study is to identify common and distinctive features based on the comparison of key stages of the wedding ceremony in Turkmenistan and Belarus, which will complement the corpus of folklore studies of national traditions of the Turkmen and Belarusian people.

Material and methods. The research material is a traditional wedding ceremony presented in the Turkmen and Belarusian folklore. The research method is comparative.

Findings and their discussion. Wedding is the most significant holiday for any Turkmen family. In ancient times, marriages in Turkmenistan were concluded at a very early age, the elders of the family selected couples long before the newlyweds came of age, so the matchmaking ceremony was usually absent. At the council of relatives («GeneshToi»), the conditions for the ceremony were discussed, and a solemn date was set. Usually the wedding tried to make Monday, which was considered the Turkmen have a good day – «Sahetli gun».

Modern youth also include elements of ancient rites in the wedding ceremony, which allows adding new content and meaning to traditional stages. Global cultural integration has affected the features of the Turkmen wedding ritual: the bride's white dress, wedding cortege, and decorative ornaments have become traditional in Turkmen cities. However, the Turkmen craving for traditional rites is so strong that the new-fangled ceremonies did not completely

exclude the old customs. For example, all costs associated with the wedding fall on the shoulders of the groom's family. The tradition of mandatory bride purchase also remains relevant in the XXI century. In different regions of Turkmenistan, the amount of dowry is not the same, it depends on the education of the bride. The dowry traditionally includes gold jewelry, fashionable clothes (velvet, satin, silk, large shawls of different types and colors), clothing, carpets, video equipment and other household appliances. As a rule, Turkmen weddings are numerous, and relatives from both sides are invited here. Sometimes the number of guests reaches thousands (in large cities). Directs the festival master of ceremonies. Before registering a marriage in the registry office, the traditional stage is the performance of the «Nika» (engagement) rite by a Mullah priest. Preparation for the holiday begins in the groom's house. Traditional Turkmen dishes such as pilav and shurpa are prepared in the courtyard, and special tortillas (Katlama, chelpek, pishme) are baked. The groom puts on national clothes, boots, a Turkmen headdress silkme-telpek, belts a sash-belt and together with friends and relatives goes to the house of his future bride in festively decorated cars. The next stage of the wedding is «gelnalji» -the moment when the groom arrives at the house of his future wife. As a rule, by this time the bride is already in her wedding dress. The bride price begins. Then the young people go to the registry office and visit the memorable places of the city. An interesting element is throwing coins into an ever-burning fire, which symbolizes the Union of two elements-fire and metal. Interesting ritual Turkmen wedding ceremony is atgulak when guests are looking at gifts for the bride and her dowry. The weight of the bride's wedding jewelry sometimes reaches 30 kilograms. The bride's wedding dress is unique and very beautiful. The bride sits with the guests at the table, covering her face, and the guests try to open the bride's face and say good wishes. From the groom's house, the guests, having tasted the wedding dishes, leave. A few days after the wedding, the young wife must replace the girl's headdress with a woman's: the girl's skullcap was replaced by a woman's headdress «topby», and the bride's cap was given to the groom's younger sister. After all the above-mentioned celebrations, the rite of temporary return of the young wife to the house to her parents took place.

Belarusian wedding («Vaselle») — one of the oldest rituals of Belarusians. It has a deep sacred meaning, in which Pagan and Christian traditions are intertwined. It is believed that you can not arrange a wedding during lent: Christmas, Great, Peter or assumption. And also on Tuesday, Thursday, on the eve of major Church holidays, in a leap year, in May, and the year after the death of a relative. Traditionally, the Belarusian wedding ceremony was held in three stages: pre-wedding («zapyty», matchmaking, engagement), the wedding itself, and post-wedding (pies and «honeymoon»). The wedding ceremony began with matchmaking. They came to Woo on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. Usually it was five or six people: parents, godparents, brothers or sisters. The groom himself could not be present at the matchmaking. It happened

that matchmakers were refused, it was unpleasant for the groom's family. Therefore, before going to Woo, the groom's relatives looked closely at the chosen one. Note that in Polesie, in order for the matchmaking to be successful, another ceremony was held – «пярэпыты» a few days before the matchmaking, a woman was sent to the house of a potential bride, who had to enlist the consent of the young and her family. If the «пярэпыты» were successful, then they agreed on matchmaking, during which the young woman could no longer refuse the groom – this was considered a disgrace for the family. Among the many stages of a traditional wedding was a bachelorette party (farewell to friends). Most often, it was held on the Saturday before the wedding. This rite was called «суборная суббота». During the «суборная суббота», the bridesmaids wove the bride's wedding headdress-a wreath. The fate of the young woman depended on it, so they tried to make the wreath beautiful, even, round.

The Belarusian wedding started with baking a loaf. It was baked both in the house of the groom and in the house of the bride. It was baked by married women, it was considered a good omen if one of them was pregnant. Widows and childless women were never invited to bake a loaf. When the groom was ready to go for the young one, a table covered with a white linen tablecloth was placed in the center of the house. Bread and salt, a bucket of water and a strawberry candle were necessary attributes of this rite. The groom's father tied his hands with a homespun towel and circled the table three times, then led him to the door and gave him a small icon. The bride was supposed to be bought with noise and joking exchanges. Most often, the buyout was led by the brothers of the bride. As a rule, the young people were married in a Church. This tradition is still observed today.

Conclusion. Therefore, a comparison of the wedding ceremony in Turkmenistan and Belarus suggests that there are common properties of the ceremony: the ancient ritual of bride purchase is preserved, all stages of the wedding are tried to be carried out so as not to disrupt the harmony of the beginning of family life. A distinctive feature of the Turkmen wedding is the dowry, which in the Belarusian tradition has been preserved as a symbolic bride price. At the same time, the Belarusian wedding is focused on preserving Christian symbols, which is not observed among Turkmens. The Belarusian wedding has such a specific stage as baking a loaf, while the Turkmen wedding has a stage of the post-wedding ceremony of wishing the young the birth of their sons. For both people, the wedding retains its archaic traditions, which are closely intertwined with modern, usually Western influences, which creates a unique national wedding ceremony.

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