

Ethno-confessional group of the kryashens: Transformation of identity and modern ethno-cultural processes

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Abstract

© 2015 the author(s). The research problem appears to be relevant due to the current mobility of ethnic and religious boundaries. It requires rapid response from the researchers for the purpose of obtaining objective knowledge and implementation of the received information into the public discourse. The aim of this study is to identify the current ethno-social and ethno-cultural needs that are present in the environment of the modern Kryashen population of the Republic of Tatarstan. The analyzed materials were obtained through the methods of large-scale survey, as well as in-depth interviews and focus groups. As a result of the data structuring, the elements of ethnic identity of the representatives of the Tatarstan Kryashen population were formalized and ranked. Furthermore, the author's interpretation of the studied phenomenon is introduced. The article can be useful for ethnologists, social and cultural anthropologists, political scientists, and representatives of the authorities and institutions responsible for the management of interethnic cooperation.

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Keywords

Ethno-cultural practice, Identity, Orthodoxy, Tatars, The invention of the tradition, The Kryashens, The transformation of identity