

PSYCHOLOGY

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The level of affiliation as a factor of the social-psychological adaptation of Turkmen students who are studying in Ukraine

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Abstract. The article is devoted to the study of the actual problem of social-psychological adaptation of Turkmen students to the educational environment of Ukrainian higher school. Different views on the social-psychological adaptation and its preconditions are analyzed. Features of student age and factors of adaptation to the educational environment are revealed. Features of attitude to the Other, in particular the manifestation of affiliation, is defined as an important factor for the social-psychological adaptation of foreign students. Ethnopsychological features of Turkmen students are considered. The data of carried out empirical study of the level of affiliation as a factor of the social-psychological adaptation of Turkmen students who are studying in Ukraine are analyzed.

Keywords: *social-psychological adaptation, interpersonal interaction, level of affiliation, education of foreign students, Turkmen student.*

Relevance of research topic is determined by interests and intensifying international, including educational, relations. Nowadays interstate education is developing very fast, that affects the number of foreign students who wish to be educated in another country. Today in Kharkov universities enrolled about 17 thousand foreign students and most of them are from the Asian region. In this situation became more urgent the problem of social adaptation and intercultural interaction of students with both scientific-theoretical and practical points of view.

The primary purpose of this study is to investigate the level of affiliation as a factor of the social-psychological adaptation of Turkmen students who are studying in Ukraine.

Literature review. In the ethnopsychological dictionary [18] a social-psychological adaptation is defined as a result (and a process) of interaction between the individual and the social environment, which leads to an optimal agreement (the optimal value) between goals and values of the individual and the group.

A review of the previous literature found that different psychological concepts differently examines the problem of adaptation [4-6, 13, 14, 17]. In the Western European and American psychology become widespread the definition of adaptation according to the point of view of neo-behaviorism. For example, in the works of H. Eysenck and his followers. Adaptation they define two ways: a) as a condition in which the needs of the individual, on the one hand, and the needs of the environment, on the other hand, are completely satisfied, and b) the process by which this harmonious state is reached. According to the interactionist concept of adaptation, which develops, particularly L. Phillips, all kinds of adaptation are caused by both intra psychic factors and factors of environment. The main features of effective adaptation are: a) adaptation in "impersonal" socio-economic activity, where individual acquires knowledge and skills, acquires competence and mastery; b) adaptation in the personal relationships in which is establishing an intimate, emotionally rich communication links with other people, and for successful adaptation is required sensitivity, knowledge of

the motives of human behavior, the ability of subtle and accurate reflection changes in the relationship. H. Hartmann and other psychoanalysts differentiate differences between adaptation as a process and adaptedness as a result of this process. Successfully adapted is a person, whose productivity, ability to enjoy life and mental balance are not disordered.

Ukrainian and Russian psychologists and psychiatrists distinguish different aspects of social-psychological adaptation. Following K.A. Abulhanova, A.A. Rean, A.A. Nalchadzhyan [2, 13, 14], a social-psychological adaptation is a process and a result of internal changes characteristics of subject that manifests in the external active adjustment and self-changes to the new conditions of existence. The result is an equilibrium with the social environment. F.B. Berezin understand it as the process which allows the individual to meet the current needs and implement related meaningful goals, providing at the same time, compliance human activities and behavior with the demands of society [5]. Social-psychological adaptation of the individual is a dynamic process that leads to such state of relations between the individual and the social environment when young people without long internal and external conflicts efficiently performs leading activities, meet their basic sociogenic needs, take a constructive attitude towards those role-expectations, that makes a reference group, experiencing the state of self-realization and effective expression of personal potential [1].

Adaptation can go through the transformation and the actual removal of the problematic situation or place with preservation situation [12]. Depending on the individual skills and motivational sphere of the individual the speed and the outcome of adaptation will be different [5]. V. Gryschenko, N.E. Shustova note the satisfaction financial position, residence, living conditions, relationships with parents, friends, leisure, lifestyle as a criterion for assessing the level of social-psychological adaptation of immigrants [6]. Following A.A. Nalchadzhyan the main factors of the social-psychological adaptation is "self-concept" [13].

From the point of view of sociologists social interac-

tion between the representatives of different countries depends on different factors: mutual sympathies, antipathies, the nature of social, psychological, political, spiritual perception of the public relations and individual characteristics of immigrants [11].

Students as age category relates to adult stages of development, which is a "transitional period of ripening to maturity" and is defined as late adolescence - early adulthood (18-25 years). By definition, I.A. Zimnyaya students include people who purposefully systematically acquire knowledge and professional skills who differ highest level of education, active consumption of culture and high levels of cognitive motivation [8]. Student age, according to B.G.Ananyev is the sensitive period period for the development of basic sociogenic human potential [3]. At this age, people are trying to find their place in society, seeking to understand themselves and are more critical not only to themselves but to others. These features distinguish A.G. Asmolov, L.S. Vygotsky, A.N. Leontiev, D.E. Feldstein etc. Among the criteria of adaptation of students to universities distinguished: objective results of learning activity, the degree of integration of collective, the degree of realization intra-personal potential, emotional well-being (the tone of individual well-being) etc [17].

Thus, based on the perceptions of characteristics and factors of social-psychological adaptation that can be grouped into two major groups - objective and subjective, for our opinion, features of attitude to the Other is defined as one of the most important subjective factor for the social-psychological adaptation of foreign students.

The government of Turkmenistan is concerned about young people and this is reflected in the law of the country, which clearly indicates that the national youth policy is the system of social, economic, political, organizational and legal measures directed on the implementation of the rights, freedoms and supporting young people of Turkmenistan [7]. Turkmenistan is a Muslim country and Turkmen were among the first in the region who came to Islam. Turkmen differs unpretentious. They are modest in everyday life and tend to conscientiously refer to their professional duties. They seek a special attitude of managers of multinational groups. They are proud, sensitive, have active temperament, but are not too fast. They are willing to participate in public life and diligently perform assignments. In the character of Turkmen are used most opposite features. He is friendly, honest, true to his word in relation to the countryman, but believes that cunning, trickery and deceit are necessary in dealing with strangers. Turkmen tend to have ambition associated with high vulnerability [15].

In our opinion, among the subjective factors of social-psychological adaptation of Turkmen students can be highlighted the level of affiliation. Person with a high level of affiliation quickly learns social relations and needs to communicate with people, to interact with others, to be a member of a group [10]. The purpose of affiliation in terms of person aspiring to it can be defined as a search

if not for love by the partner of affiliation than at least friendly support and sympathy. However, this definition emphasizes in affiliation only one side - receiving and neglects return [16]. So, the contents of this motive is to communicate with others (even strangers) and support them brings pleasure, but the real purpose of affiliation should be to establish mutual trust, friendliness, friendly support, maintenance sympathy [4].

To test our hypothesis that high level of affiliation is associated with the social-psychological adaptability of Turkmen students, we conducted an empirical study.

Procedure and method. Empirical studies of affiliation as a factor of the social-psychological adaptation of Turkmen students was carried out using methods: "Diagnostics of social-psychological adaptation of K. Rogers and R. Diamond", "Questionnaire of affiliation of V. V. Boyko". The empirical sample consisted of students of II course of Faculty of International Educational Programs of Ukrainian Engineering and Pedagogical Academy (36 boys and 7 girls 18-26 years). Calculation of primary results of the method "Diagnostics social-psychological adaptation of K. Rogers and R. Diamond" was done using «Excel in the service of practical psychologist". Individually data were reduced in the group table and then subjected to statistical analysis with using Microsoft Excel and STATISTICA (version 10.0).

Data analysis and results. As indicated in Figure 1, the most pronounced among Turkmen students is affiliation at low level. It indicates strongly expressed internal conflict between the desire for people and their avoidance, that arises whenever the students have to meet with strangers that leads to an active avoidance of contact with people and finding solitude.

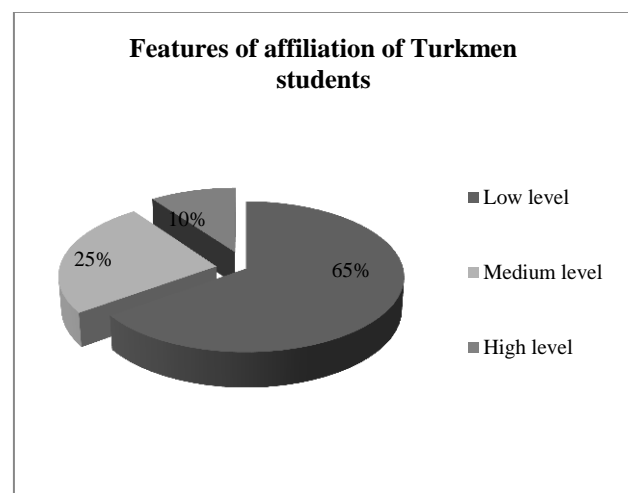


Figure 1. Features of affiliation of Turkmen students.

Data about the significance of differences in the expression of the internal control and adaptability of Turkmen students with different levels of affiliation determined using the criterion of the U-Mann-Whitney are listed in Table 1.

Table 1.

The differences in expression of indicators of the social-psychological adaptation among students with the different levels of affiliation

Indicators of social-psychological adaptation	Groups of studens with different levels of affiliation			The significance of differences. U, p		
	Low level	Middle level	High level	Low / high level of affiliation	Medium / high level of affiliation	Low / medium level of affiliation
Adaptability	132,15±16,41	134,76±18,46	148,92±18,19	36,5; p<0,01	59,5; p<0,05	99,00
Internal Control	43,69± 18,59	45,82±22,75	57,38±13,95	44,5; p<0,05	80,5	96,5

As indicated in Figure 2, Turkmen students with high level of affiliation versus Turkmen students with low and middle level of affiliation are expressing higher adaptability.

ity. However, as can be seen from Table 1, they have higher level of the internal control.

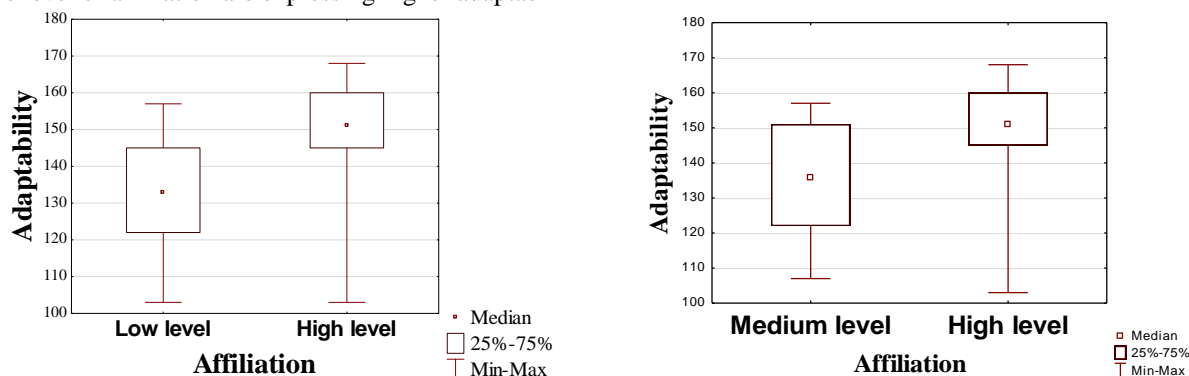


Figure 2. Box-and-whiskers diagram of expression adaptability among Turkmen students with various levels of affiliation.

Conclusions and perspective for the future research. Social-psychological adaptation is a complex holistic and systematic process that characterizes human interaction, especially with the social environment. Adaptation of foreign students in the university's environment can be understood as a multifaceted process of development and formation of personality of students in terms of the complex interaction of socio-cultural environment. Relevance of the research topic – diagnostic the level of affiliation as a factor of the social-psychological adaptation of Turkmen students who are studying in Ukraine is **represented** on scientific-theoretical and practical levels. For our opinion, features of attitude to the Other is defined as one of the most important subjective factor for

the social-psychological adaptation of Turkmen students. **Results of our research have** revealed that the most pronounced among Turkmen students is affiliation at low level that indicates strongly expressed internal conflict between the desire for people and their avoidance. Turkmen students with high level of affiliation versus Turkmen students with low and middle level of affiliation are expressing higher adaptability and have higher level of the internal control versus Turkmen students with low level of affiliation. So our hypothesis was confirmed. Perspective research is to define features of the level of empathy as a factor of the social-psychological adaptation of Turkmen students who are studying in Ukraine.

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Никитина О.П., Лозовой Д.А.

Уровень аффилиации как фактор социально-психологической адаптации студентов-туркмен, которые обучаются в Украине

Статья посвящена изучению актуальной проблемы социально-психологической адаптации студентов-туркмен к образовательной среде украинской высшей школы. Анализируются различные взгляды о социально-психологической адаптации личности и ее предпосылках. Раскрываются особенности студенческого возраста и факторы адаптации к образовательной среде. Особенности отношения к Другому, в частности проявление аффилиации, определяются как важный фактор социально-психологической адаптации иностранных студентов. Рассматриваются этнопсихологические особенности туркмен. Анализируются данные осуществленного эмпирического изучения уровня аффилиации как фактора социально-психологической адаптации студентов-туркмен, которые получают образование в Украине.

Ключевые слова: социально-психологическая адаптация, межличностные взаимодействия, уровень аффилиации, обучение иностранных студентов, студент-туркмен.