

Summary

Subject matter: Zhu De: life of the commander and the party functionary.

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Topicality of the research is conditioned by the role that China plays in the modern world. Not to a lesser degree such situation is explained by the sufficiently effective elite that has been formed in the communist period of the country's history. Among those who were at the sources of the formation of the modern look of the PRC was its first marshal – Zhu De, whose life allows us to understand what professional and human qualities are valued in the leaders of present day China.

Objective of the research: the study of the role of marshal Zhu De in the history of the formation and development of the People's Republic of China.

Tasks of the research:

- to show the specific features of the socio-economic and political situation in China in the first half of the XXth century;
- to discover which factors influenced the personality of Zhu De, who devoted his life to the active participation in the revolutionary struggle for the victory of the Communist Party of China;
- to give the assessment of the socio-economic, political and ideological processes in China after the victory of the CP of China;
- to determine Zhu De's attitude to those transformations that were taking place in China in the 50s – first half of the 70s of the XXth century and analyze his contribution to the socialist transformation of China.

Theoretical and practical significance of the research is conditioned by the fact that the author reveals the peculiarities of the process of the replacement of the elite on the example of the Chinese history, displays the instruments that bring about the transformation and the replacement of one socio-political system by another one. This material can be used in the course of the preparation of the

teaching course in the history of china in XX century, in the writing of the reports and mini-projects related to the subject matter.

Results of the research showed that the revolutionary turmoil that China had endured in the first half of the XX century were connected with the lingering structural crisis that had paralyzed the socio-economic, political and cultural development of the country and by the increasingly complicated outside unfavourable factors. That was the background for the formation of China's new elite, whose bright representative was Zhu De. He, taking part in the national liberation movement, fought against the militaristic generals, defended the independence of his country in the struggle against the Japanese invaders, fought against the Kuomintang nationalists. Zhu De became the founding father of China's modern army. Simultaneously he was involved in his country's political life. But his principled position and the criticism of the campaigns conducted by Mao Zedong could not but end in conflict. As a result he endured the disgrace but did not waive his principles.

Recommendations:

1. In the further study of the theme it is expedient to focus on marshal Zhu De's associates, his sympathies and antipathies. This enables one to better picture the psychological portrait of this commander and statesman.

2. It is worth analyzing the creative legacy of Zhu De connected with his military activity and political practice. This will give a chance to appreciate the services of the marshal in the building of the modern People's liberation Army of China and the political system of China.