

Summary

Subject matter: The phenomenon of dual faith: orthodoxy and paganism in the Republic of North Ossetia-Alania.

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Topicality of the research is conditioned by the studies devoted to the issues of the phenomenon of dual faith – orthodoxy and paganism – in the Republic of North Ossetia-Alania.

Objective of the research is the conduct of the scientific analysis of the processes of the origin and development of the dual faith among the Ossets.

Tasks:

- to determine the theoretical and methodological principles of the peculiarities of the dual-faith phenomenon;
- to examine the philosophic principles of the origin and development of the dual-faith phenomenon among the Ossets;
- to analyze the indigenous religious faiths of the Ossets, to examine the causes of their syncretization with orthodoxy;
- on the basis of the scientific analysis to determine and identify in the religious-syncretic complex the elements of paganism and orthodoxy;
- to generalize on the example of the Ossets the evolution of the problems and the prospects of the development of religious faiths in the context of the formation of a single religious-syncretic complex;
- on the basis of the study of the transformation of the religion to spot the tendencies and prospects of the development of the dual-faith phenomenon in modern conditions.

Theoretical and practical significance of the research: The results of the research enable one to open in the process of the theoretical analysis new opportunities of the prevention of religious syncretism. Also the material can become a methodological and practical basis in theologians' professional activity.

Results of the research:as our research showed the problem today lies in people's religious illiteracy which leads to syncretism of such different religious doctrines as orthodoxy and paganism.

Having examined the problems and prospects of the religious situation in the Republic of North Ossetia-Alania, and also the impact of syncretism of paganism and orthodoxy on the culture and lifestyle of the Ossetian people, one can note that orthodoxy and folk beliefs are an integral part of the Ossets' spiritual culture and philosophy.

Recommendations: As this paper is strictly theoretical, its materials can be used to prepare the information material on the dual-faith phenomenon on the example of the Republic of North Ossetia-Alania, and to develop the appropriate course of lectures within the framework of the directions of training such as: higher professional education, master's degree course, by teachers of secular and summer schools.