

## Summary

**Subject matter:** Church reforms of the 18<sup>th</sup> century and church life.

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**Topicality of the research:** Reforms always exert considerable influence on church life and this influence lasts for long, over centuries. It is important to understand not only the negative sides of the changes in the church structure and its management, church life, but also the significance of reforms for the state, to correlate reforms with the modern state of church life. Of interest and topicality is the church life itself in the period of the reforms, the circumstances and factors influencing the clergy, its preaching efforts and wisdom needed to be displayed in the complicated conditions of the cardinal changes in the life of the society.

**Objective of the research** is the working out of recommendations related to the methods of studying the church reforms of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, the interrelationships between the Church and the state, and also the church life in the post-reform period.

### **Tasks:**

- to analyze the state of the Russian Orthodox Church on the threshold of the reforms of Peter I;
- to examine the essence and content of the church reforms of Peter I and the transformation of the Russian Orthodox Church;
- to study the processes that were taking place in the church life in the post-reform period;
- to conduct a comparative analysis of the traditions among the higher orders that existed after the realization of the reforms;
- to carry out the analysis of the people's attitude to the church reforms in the context of the problems of preaching activity;
- to formulate and design the project of a multimedia cycle of lectures.

**Theoretical and practical significance of the research:** Its results can ensure a better understanding of the ways of the interaction between the church and

the state, initiate the search for more effective directions of the harmonious co-working between the church and secular authorities, harmonization of the church life and its compliance with the general civil imperatives.

The diploma project “The course of lectures in ‘The state-church relations in the 18<sup>th</sup> century’” created on the basis of this paper can be used in the further studies of the church life in the 18<sup>th</sup> century before and after the reforms.

**Result of the research** is the working out of a course of lectures on the state-church relationships. So, it is expedient:

Firstly, to pay attention of the representatives of the analytical centres, political and social institutions to the conflict potential of the religious life in the 18<sup>th</sup> century;

Secondly, it should be remembered that in Russia the changes in the economic, social, political spheres are always substantial in nature. This is true of the church which historically was inseparably connected with the state structures;

Thirdly, extremely topical are the issues of the preaching practice, the Church activity in the conditions of the reforms, complicated moments in the country’s development. It is essential to study the experience of the existence and work of the Church to develop the positions and ways of interaction between the state and the church;

Fourthly, in order to improve the relationships between the state and the Church it is necessary to study the history of these interrelationships and carry out analytical work.