

## The system characteristic of polymorphic individuality psychology

The most significant scientific achievement of Pyatigorsk psychological Centre «System research of human individuality» is the proposition of existence of polymorphic individuality psychology, including the doctrine of integrated individuality psychology, integrative psychology of development and general individuality psychology.

At the same time we proceed from the peculiarities of V.S. Merlin's understanding of the system theory principles, who wrote that «the originality of principles of the system approach in our integral research of individuals... is specified by the general theoretical premise that there are two different types of determination – casual (single-valued or one-one) and teleological (many – many-valued)» [9: 45]. In the first case, we focus on the interconnection of one-level characteristics of individuality that defines the main point of one or another hierarchical level of integral individuality; in the second case – the interconnection of multi-level characteristics of individuality at large. By now the psychodynamic level of integrated individuality has been studied in detail [4]; the system workings of a personal level of integrated individuality have been carried out [6], and a successful large-scale system research of the inter-level connections of integrated individuality is still in progress. As is generally known, the intra-level aspect of integrated individuality touches upon its «horizontal» peculiarity, the inter-level aspect deals with its «vertical» peculiarity.

### INTEGRATED INDIVIDUALITY RESEARCH DIRECTIONS

#### *The single-level characteristic of integrated individuality.*

*Direction №1. The research of intra-level structures of integrated individuality (V.V. Belous and I.V. Boyazitova).*

About 40 years ago for the first time we applied the mathematical model of invariant to research the structures and types of the temperament [10]. It is known from the system sources that the functional invariant expresses one-one integration of constituents of a whole; it is an indicator of preservation and active adaptation of self-directed and self-organizing systems of reality to objective requirements of the activity. The hierarchical structures of typological and specific temperament invariants have been established by numerous experimental researches that allowed including the temperament doctrine in the general scientific view of the world or, according to S.L. Rubinstein's expression, «in the general interrelation of the material world phenomena». Moreover, as it has turned out, a functional temperament invariant exists irrespective of

sex, occupation, profession, social status and other parameters of the human factor.

After 30 years, i.e. in the late 1990s, one-one connections were found at another level of integrated individuality – at the personal level with all that it implies. One-one dependence type has been revealed between the levels of volitional regulation, peculiarities of voluntariness of behaviour and person's self-appraisal in ontogenesis [6].

In brief this is the specificity of the intra-level analysis of integrated individuality, touching upon its «horizontal» feature. However, integrated individuality has not only the single-level aspect, but the inter-level aspect as well.

#### *The inter-level characteristic of integrated individuality and the ways of its research.*

While working out the theory of integrated individuality V.S. Merlin was interested in three questions.

1. The substantiation of the mathematical criteria distinguishing the inter-level and single-level connections of integrated individuality.

2. The search of system-generating factors underlying the harmonisation of different level properties of integrated individuality.

3. The development of integrated individuality by the organization of a forming psychological and pedagogical experiment.

According to each formulated position under V.S. Merlin and his followers' guidance an extensive experimental material has been accumulated, and this fact has allowed us to state the idea of universality of the integrated individuality theory and start the accumulation of actual material from the position of unity of external and internal.

Thus, we consider external determination of integrated individuality in terms of priority and necessity, and internal determination – in terms of sufficiency as well as necessity.

For these reasons, the following directions of studying inter-level structures of integrated individuality have been developed in Pyatigorsk psychological centre, based on S.L. Rubinstein's interpretation of the principle of development and on V.S. Merlin's understanding of the problem of correlation between the external and internal.

*Direction №2. The display of structures of integrated individuality in societies of a particular activity (F.M. Shidakova, A.A. Osipova, K.V. Makarova, L.V. Mishchenko, G.P. Yuriev, L.A. Ivashneva, I.N. Drokina, S.M. Vétvitskaya, et al.).*

*Direction №3. The formation of structures of integrated individuality under the influence of modern*

psychological and pedagogical technologies (S.A. Nikulina, S.A. Klemeshov, G.P. Bylim, A.A. Ushakova, M.L. Shapovalova, et al.).

*Direction №4. Psychology of integrated individuality and properties of the subject of activity.* (S. Akur, A.F. Iordanov, Nguen Khan Than, J.J. Lazakovich, V.D. Poklonskaya, I.J. Shiryayeva, I.N. Zinik, et al.)

*Direction №5. The substantiation of system-generating factors in the interrelation of different level properties of integrated individuality* (F.M. Shidakova, N.V. Orlinkova).

*Direction №6. The simultaneous interaction of objective subjective determination in understanding of the development of integrated individuality* (T.V. Kopan-Belyh).

*Direction №7. The structural functional characteristic of integrated individuality.* The development of this direction has been carried out in theses of A.T. Naimanov, E.Y. Mihitaryants, A.A. Urusov.

#### RESEARCH DIRECTIONS OF INTEGRATIVE PSYCHOLOGY OF DEVELOPMENT

We study integrated individuality (age-related, of different sexes, professional, ethnic, etc.) in two main directions: element and system. The first way of giving a characteristic of integrated individuality reflects an additive research strategy (enumeration of separate variables, their summation or, at the best, correlation in pairs); the second way – a non-additive research strategy (the most complicated interaction, interference or interpenetration of constituents of a whole). Although both approaches to knowledge of integrated individuality are equally necessary, however, they differ in a theoretical sense. In case of the element expression of integrated individuality the different level properties exist and function per se, autonomously and independently from each other; in case of the system expression – different level properties form the hierarchical structure constructed under the laws of subordination and coordination. The analysis of textbooks on developmental psychology has only shown that practically in each book the age characteristic is based on the element or additive principle. During several years we have carried out a series of experimental research focused on the idea of non-additive consideration of an age portrait. We retraced this strategy from the preschool age to the second middle age by Ananiev [1]. At each stage of the age development the distinct diagnosis of the same age is registered according to separate and integrated criteria, and it has become the rational for the idea of integrative psychology of development. The subject of its research is intra- and inter-level connections of properties of the age-related psychological characteristics. Intra-level connections of properties characterise the essence of the given age; inter-level connections – the conditions of existence of the age structure of individuality at this or that stage of ontogenesis; the dialectic unity of intra-level and inter-level connections expresses the essence of a continuous life cycle of an individual as a whole. Only owing to the multiple-aspect analysis of interrelations of each age and disclosing of interage peculiarities of individuality there can be an original doctrine about integrative psychology of development. *The research of the problems of integrative psychology of development is Direction №8* (I.V. Boyaziova).

Later this issue has transformed into two independent directions: integrative psychology of age-related

individuality (*Direction №9 – I.V. Boyazitova*) and integrative psychology sex-age-related individuality (*Direction №10 – L.V. Mishchenko*).

#### RESEARCH DIRECTIONS OF PSYCHOLOGY OF GENERAL INDIVIDUALITY

The modern doctrine of individuality is characterised by the variety and diversity. One authors focus on finding out the functional role of integral individuality; other scientists – on studying its internal structure; others – on disclosing of interrelation and mutual relations of individuality with other systems of reality, etc. It has been proved in detail that integrated individuality as an integral formation carries out a crucial and profound role of an organizer and an integrator of numerous and versatile human sciences [5]. A.V. Brushlinsky pointed to the same function of the subject principle specified. In particular, he wrote that «the problem of the subject is a general issue for many public, humanitarian, partially biological and technical sciences» [11: 559]. B.G. Ananiev tried to solve the problem of unity of human sciences by a complex approach to individuality [1].

The greatest attention of the researchers has been reverted (and still has not weakened) on the analysis of the internal structural organisation of integral individuality. For example, S.L. Rubinstein considered as a main principle of construction of integral individuality the criterion of interrelation and logical combination of constituent parts in a whole. In this case the constituents were understood by the author as a subordinate dependence of the constituent parts of the whole, not as equivalent formations. In short, integral individuality in S.L. Rubinstein's interpretation was filled with different level properties, representing a hierarchical composition of biological and social [12]. B.G. Ananiev's complex individuality [1], A.V. Brushlinsky's subject-activity individuality [7], V.S. Merlin's integrated individuality [9], a special concept of V.M. Rusalov's integral individuality [13], E.A. Golubeva's structural-functional individuality [8], T.F. Bazylevich's evolutionary-system individuality [2], and in foreign psychology – H. Eysenck [15] and R. Cattell's [14] factorial model of individuality are based upon the hierarchical principle.

Hence, despite the variety of approaches to individuality, all of them have something in common, based on their functional role in the modern science, on construction principles, etc. Finally, this theoretical similarity in multiple structures of integral individuality has given a stimulus to the statement of an absolutely new problem – the problem of a general model of individuality. Its creation is based upon a diversity of human individualities in which it is fully or partially concretised and shown. Being an abstract formation, the general model of individuality possesses all the properties of a self-regulated and self-organizing system: relative autonomy, generality to forecasting of still unknown to us constructs of integral individuality, universality, dynamism, flexibility and functional invariance of the system as a whole, etc.

In real life the general model of individuality is typical for a small group of people, possessing over-individual or species-specific qualities: openness and independence of individuals' views and beliefs; ability to promote, work out and realise the main ideas; ability to express interests of polytypic individualities; generally recognised authority and spiritual leadership; scale of intelligence, its

globality and responsibility; experience and rationality of its use, etc. In our opinion, this is psychology of a wise man.

The general model of individuality has a hierarchical structure which «vertically» submits to subordination laws, and «horizontally» – to coordination laws. *Working out the problems of general individuality psychology is Direction №11 (V.V. Belous).*

### **Conclusions**

1. An attempt of the development of polymorphic individuality psychology is undertaken. Its today's components are integrated individuality in V.S. Merlin's interpretation, integrative psychology of development and psychology of general individuality. All components of the structure of polymorphic individuality are interconnected and form a united system coordinated by integrated individuality.

2. The suggested concept of polymorphic individuality cannot be recognized as unique and complete. On the contrary, owing to plurality of integral individuality types, an increasing number of system variants of psychology of development and a real possibility of other models creation (using other principles), general individuality has wide prospects for further development of the stated problem.

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