



DAYS OF RUSSIAN CULTURE IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA

THE EXCURSION PROGRAM ‘ABOUT RUSSIA WITH LOVE’ WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE PROJECT ‘DAYS OF RUSSIAN CULTURE IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA’

December 2019

TALKING POINTS

1. Introduction

Today we shall present you the wonderful world of Russian culture and also tell you about Russian historical ties with Papua New Guinea.

Russia is the largest country in the world, its area is more than 17 million sq. km. For example, New Zealand can fit almost 63 times on the territory of the country. Russia is located in Eurasia. On the territory of the country there are unique flora and fauna. Russia has the deepest and oldest lake – Baikal, the largest forest in the world – the Taiga and the highest mountain in Europe – Mount Elbrus.

In addition, Russia is a multinational country, as well as Papua New Guinea. There are almost 200 peoples who speak more than 150 languages in Russia.

Most of the Russian population lives in the European part of the country.

As we know, following the national traditions, history and culture is very important for the development of any country. Moreover, traditions and customs represent a unique link between generations. Russian culture is extremely diverse and Russians are carefully safe it.

Russia has a rich culture, many customs of different epochs and bright folklore.

2. Russian Dances

Russian dances have rich and deep history. It originates from ancient Russian times. Folk dances were an essential part of Russian lifestyle.

Russian folk dances have some features:

- accompanied by numerous jumps and dynamic;
- included national costumes;
- accompanied by a smile, laughter and positive emotions.

Folk dance is one of the most ancient ways of expressing our emotions associated with various expressions of life. Men's Russian folk dances differ in scale, dynamism, complex tricks and happiness. Dances of Russian ladies are often soft and elegant. One of the most popular folk dances in Russia is the round dance.

During the long history, Russia has absorbed the culture not only of many peoples on its territory but also the culture of the surrounding countries. For example, French-Italian ballet has become so popular in Russia that it has developed on a global scale in Russian theatres. Moreover, many Russian folk dances have been reworked for performance in a ballet performance.

3. Russian Winter

Everyone has ever heard about Russian frosts in winter, but not everyone knows the true value of winter. Even in the traditional culture of Russian villagers, snow was associated like positive phenomena and symbol of future prosperity. Moreover, the mid-autumn snow was served as a guarantee of a good harvest. The appearance of snow also marked the beginning of the marriage season in Russia, and most weddings were held in January or February.

Russian winter was glorified by Russians writers, which are famous all over the world. For example, by Alexander Pushkin, Nikolai Gogol, Mikhail Lermontov, Lev Tolstoy, Boris Pasternak.

We need to mark that the Russian winter is a wonderful time of year. Despite the cold weather, you will see sparkling snow that reflects the bright sun. Also, the masterpieces of Russian architecture have a magnificent and special image.

4. Wooden Architecture

Traditionally, Russian architecture is seen as a means of expressing the uniqueness and identity of the peoples living in the country. The origins of Russian architecture lie in wooden architecture.

Russian wooden architecture is a unique heritage of world architecture. Its origins lie in the architecture of the Slavic tribes. Wood was used as the main building material of the old Russian state until the end of the 17th century. Wooden architecture is the main style of Russian medieval

architecture. It implies an optimal combination of beauty and functionality of buildings.

Most of the buildings of Russian wooden architecture is located in the North of Russia.

5. Russian Holidays

Many traditional Russian holidays also have their roots in ancient times.

As we know, the holidays are extremely important for older and younger generations. The word 'prazdnik' came from the old Slavic word 'prazd', which means rest. Most part of holidays are associated with the change of seasons or harvest seasons.

Based on centuries-old traditions, festive culture constantly developed and new holidays appeared. For example, the holiday for school graduates and their parents – 'The Scarlet Sails' - has become a kind tradition in St. Petersburg. The holiday is celebrated at the end of June with fabulous fireworks and great celebrations.

6. Conclusion

Russian culture has been developing for thousands of years. It reflects the Russian character and mentality. For more than a thousand-year history of the development of Russian culture, it is based on morality, respect for the memories of ancestors, as well as love to the world.

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