# Linguistic and Cultural Analysis of Marital Relations in Rus' in the Middle Ages

AKHMEDSHINA LILIA RAFAELEVNA
*National University of Uzbekistan, Uzbekistan*

ABSTRACT

*This study is an analysis of linguocultural and pragmatic attitudes towards spouses in Rus' in the Middle Ages. Through the study of language, rituals and cultural norms, the study reveals the complex relationships between spouses in ancient Russian society. The research methodology includes linguistic analysis of ancient Russian texts, a cultural approach to rituals and traditions, as well as analysis of historical sources. The results of the study emphasize the importance of studying marital relationships for a deeper understanding of the sociocultural dynamics of Russian society and its impact on modern family values. Linguistic features, rituals, traditions and sociocultural context are examined, covering a wide range of sources, including chronicles, literary works and historical documents. The results obtained help to better understand the evolution of marital relations in Rus' and their role in the formation of the cultural and social identity of the Russian people.*

**Keywords**: Family values, linguistic analysis, cultural approach, pragmatic aspect, terms "master" and "mistress", wedding rituals, traditions of family life, ancient Russian chronicles

INTRODUCTION

Marital relations are one of the most important aspects of the sociocultural life of any society. In medieval Rus', family values, customs and traditions played a special role in the formation of

the social structure and cultural image of society (Andreev 2015). To understand these aspects, researchers turn to various sources, including chronicles, literary works, historical documents and archaeological finds.

In this study we will focus on the linguocultural and pragmatic aspects of marital relations in Rus' in the Middle Ages. We will consider how language, rituals and cultural norms reflected views on family life and marriage in ancient Russian society. Consideration of these aspects will allow us to more deeply understand the sociocultural dynamics of medieval Rus' and its influence on the formation of family values and norms. Using this comprehensive approach will allow us to gain a deep understanding of family life in Rus' during the Middle Ages.

METHOD

To achieve the research goals, the following methods were used:

1. *Linguistic analysis of ancient Russian texts, including chronicles, literary works and folklore*
For the analysis, texts of various genres were used, including chronicles, literary works, chronicles and folklore materials. This method made it possible to identify specific lexical units, phrases, expressions and images associated with marriage and family relations in Rus'.

2. *Cultural approach to the study of rituals and traditions associated with marriage and family life in Rus'*
We analyzed various marriage rituals, traditions and customs associated with marriage and family life in Rus'. This included studying wedding rituals, accepted rules of behavior for spouses, as well as the role of relatives and social influences on family relationships.

3. *Analysis of historical research and sources describing the social and pragmatic aspects of marital relations in medieval Russia.*
The research also used historical sources such as chronicles, documents and scholarly research. This allowed us to deepen our

understanding of the socio-historical context and consider family relationships in Rus', taking into account their development in different historical periods.

RESULTS

The results of the study allow us to better understand the essence of marital relations in medieval Russia and their significance for the sociocultural development of society. They also emphasize the importance of studying language, rituals and cultural traditions for a deeper analysis of historical and sociological processes in Russian society.

Linguistic analysis of ancient Russian texts, including chronicles, literary works and folklore, allows us to understand what ideas and ideas existed regarding marital relations. Words, expressions, and images associated with marriage often reflected societal expectations and norms.

The pragmatic aspect includes factors such as agreements between families, material conditions, political alliances, etc. It is important to understand that in ancient Russian culture, marital relations were often viewed not only as individual happiness, but also as a means to preserve the family and strengthen power and ensuring social status (Ivanov 2017).

Let's look at a few examples:

1. The use of the terms "lord" and "mistress" to designate spouses in ancient Russian texts not only indicates their marital status, but also emphasizes the hierarchy and respect in relationships within the family.
2. In the Old Russian language, expressions such as "marriage union", "marriage bonds" are often found, which emphasizes not only the fact of marriage, but also its social and symbolic significance.
3. The use of the verb "to crown" to describe a wedding ceremony is also a characteristic linguistic expression reflecting the cultural norms and religious practices of the time (Vasiliev 2007).

In the Old Russian language there were phrases indicating the relationship between spouses and their relatives. For example, the expression "to give birth to children" or "to produce offspring" not only reflected the biological aspect of family life, but also emphasized the importance of procreation and responsibilities to ancestors.

In a religious context, Old Russian used the term "marriage blessed" or "marriage sanctified" to describe marriage, indicating that marriage was viewed not only as a sociocultural institution, but also as a spiritual commitment.

An important linguistic aspect was the addresses and forms of politeness used in relation to spouses. For example, the use of the forms "your honor" or "your mercy" when addressing spouses emphasized not only respect, but also the social status of each of them in society.

Reflection of a woman's status in addresses to her was also characteristic of the Old Russian language. For example, in religious texts it was common to refer to a wife as "mistress" or "mother of children," which emphasized her role as a housewife and mother (Rybakov 2006).

In ancient Russian culture, there were various rituals and traditions associated with marriage and family life. Some of them reflected the sociocultural norms and values of the time. Let's look at a few of these rituals and traditions:

1. **Wedding rituals**: The wedding ritual included a number of traditions, ranging from the engagement ceremony and the conclusion of the marriage contract, and ending with the wedding ceremony and wedding celebration. Each of these rituals had its own symbolic meanings and reflected the sociocultural aspects of marital relations.
2. **Rituals on the wedding day**: On the wedding day, various rituals were performed, such as ceremonies for welcoming the newlyweds, exchanging rings, festive feasts and dances. These rituals strengthened social ties and symbolized the beginning of a new life for the newlyweds (Kartashev 1988).
3. **Rituals after the wedding**: After the wedding, rituals continued aimed at establishing relationships between

spouses and their interaction in the family. These could be rites of initiation into spouses (matrimonial rites), rites of the first night, and others.

4. **Traditions of family life**: In ancient Russian culture, there were traditions associated with the daily life of the family, such as caring for the home, participation in family rituals, etc. These traditions formed the cultural identity of the family and society as a whole (Kuznetsova 2018).

In ancient Russian chronicles, literary works and historical documents one can also find descriptions of rituals and traditions associated with marriage and family life. For example:

1. **Chronicles**: Old Russian chronicles, such as the Tale of Bygone Years, contain information about wedding rituals, marriage alliances and other family traditions. These texts often contain brief descriptions of wedding ceremonies and rituals, as well as references to marriage contracts and other formalities associated with marriage.
2. **Literary works**: In ancient Russian literature one can also find reflections of family customs and traditions. For example, the Tale of Igor's Campaign describes a faulty custom associated with dowries and wedding gifts. In the literature one can also find images of family relationships and family life of ancient Russian society(Likhachev 1984).
3. **Historical documents**: In addition, historical documents, such as charters and charters, may contain information about marriage customs, legal rules governing family relationships, and other aspects of family life. These documents can give an idea of the legislative framework and norms that regulated marriage relations and family responsibilities in Rus' in the Middle Ages.

DISCUSSION

Based on the analysis, we have identified a number of key features of the linguocultural and pragmatic attitude towards spouses in Rus'. This includes specific terms, expressions and

rituals that reflect not only cultural norms, but also the social roles of spouses in society.

It is important to discuss how sociocultural factors influenced the formation of family relationships in Rus' in the Middle Ages. The discussion may concern the influence of Orthodox Christianity, military conflicts, economic conditions and other factors on family values and customs.

Questions are raised about the reliability and interpretation of various data sources such as chronicles, literary works, archaeological finds and historical documents. The discussion may cover the limitations of each source type and possible biases in the transmission of information.

The question may also be raised about what role was assigned to spouses in ancient Russian society and what were the responsibilities and rights of each of them. Opinions may vary from a strong patriarchal structure to a more equal relationship between husband and wife.

An important aspect of the discussion is the discussion of rituals and traditions associated with marriage and family life in Rus'.

CONCLUSION

The study of linguocultural and pragmatic attitudes towards spouses in Rus' allowed us to penetrate more deeply into the essence of medieval Russian culture and society. Analysis of language, rituals and cultural norms made it possible to identify not only the structure and organization of family relationships, but also their influence on the sociocultural context of that time.

We found that marital relations in Rus' were deeply imbued not only with religious and cultural traditions, but also with pragmatic considerations, such as political alliances and provision of lineage. These aspects were reflected in the language, rituals and social norms of ancient Russian society.

The study allowed us to penetrate more deeply into the essence of medieval Russian culture and society. Analysis of language, rituals and cultural norms made it possible to identify

not only the structure and organization of family relationships, but also their influence on the sociocultural context of that time.

## REFERENCES

Andreev A. Family and marriage in ancient Rus'. M.: Nauka, 2015.

Vasiliev L. S. Russian language of the 11th-17th centuries: An attempt to reconstruct the cultural and historical situation." St. Petersburg: Aletheya, 2007.

Ivanov I. Pragmatic analysis of marital relations in ancient Russian society. St. Petersburg: Publishing house "Piter", 2017.

Kartashev A.V. Family and clan in Russia: Essays on history. M.: Nauka, 1988.

Kuznetsova O. Married life in medieval Russia.SPb.: St. Petersburg University Publishing House, 2018.

Likhachev D. S. Russian culture of the 11th-17th centuries. M.: Nauka, 1984.

Rybakov B. A. Ancient Rus': history, culture, archeology. M.: Eksmo, 2006.

**AKHMEDSHINA LILIA RAFAELEVNA**
DOCTORAL STUDENT
NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF UZBEKISTAN,
TASHKENT, UZBEKISTAN.
E-MAIL :<AXMEDSHINA05@GMAIL.COM>