

comparatively similar throughout the territory of Kazakhstan. Girls used to wear hats of two types: skull cap (*Takiya*) and a warm hat (*Borik*), decorated with otter, fox or beaver fur. A tuft of owl feather was often sewed to the top of *takiya* for decoration purposes, which also played a role of a talisman. Gimp, tassels, gold embroidery and even silver coins were also used for decoration.

Kazakh women's national bridal headwear *Saukele*, which is a high (70 cm) conical hat, is of particular importance. The most expensive of them were evaluated in a hundred selected horses. *Saukele* was a mandatory part of girl's dowry, and was prepared long before the girls reached the age of marriage, together with a wedding gown, which was often made of expensive fabric, usually red coloured. Bride was supposed to wear a *saukele* during the wedding ceremony, and then it was worn on holidays for some time after the marriage.

It should be added that the whole idea of a national costume is to express a dedication to a country, without having to say a thing. Also, when wearing it on occasions, to celebrate something related to national values.

Thereby, the national Kazakh women's costume can be considered as a very important part of Kazakh culture.

### **To the Question of Russian Traditions**

N.A. Kobzeva, M.V. Kuznetsov

[nadiatom@mail.ru](mailto:nadiatom@mail.ru)

(Tomsk Polytechnic University, Tomsk, Russia)

Doubtless, every country and every nation has its own traditions and customs. It's very important to know traditions and customs of different nations, because it will help us to know more about their history and life.

One cannot speak about Russia without speaking about Russian traditions and customs. Russians are proud of their traditions and carefully keep them up. A great number of customs and traditions date back to the early days of Russia and we can say that they are the reflection of the country's history and the people's psychology. To know the customs and traditions means to understand the people, their art and culture better.

The purpose of this report is to review some of the most important traditions of Russian people.

The Russians are known to be a hospitable and open-hearted people. They like to invite guests to their places; they like to give traditional souvenirs to their foreign friends as Matryoshka dolls, beautiful mugs, plates and spoons from the village of Khokhloma and Palekh boxes, Zhostovo tea-trays, Gzhel dishes, Pavlovo headscarves.

According to an old tradition a very important guest should be welcomed with the symbol of life giving food – bread and salt. Also when the newly husband and wife come to the groom parents' house, his mother meets them with the bread and salt. All guests watch attentively who takes a bigger piece of the wedding *caravay*. He or she is supposed to be at the head of the family.

Many Russians are religious people. When a new baby is born in Russia he or she is usually christened in a church. Christening is an ancient ceremony during which a new baby is dipped three times in to the water. After a baby has been christened they usually say that he or she became a man of God. It's common to invite relatives and guests after this ceremony and to have a festive dinner.

Russian people celebrate religious holidays such as Easter, Christmas, Christmas-tide, Shrovetide (or Maslenitsa) and others.

Easter is one of the most favourite holidays in Russia. It has no the fixed date. It's celebrated on the first Sunday after the first spring new moon. It usually falls on April. On the Easter day people greet each other by the words: "Christ is risen!" And the expected answer is: "He is risen indeed!" The traditional Easter food is kulich and coloured hard-boiled eggs.

The 6th of January is Christmas Eve according to the Orthodox Church. The days from Christmas to the Epiphany are called Christmas tide. Earlier people had carnivals, told fortunes, made snowman, rode troikas, played snowballs, wore fancy costumes and sang carols during this days. At present many people, especially young girls enjoy telling fortunes. The simplest way is to write down the name of the sweetheart on a sheet of paper, to put it on the plate and to burn it. If the sheet is not burned to ashes, the sweetheart will marry her.

Almost all Russians observe Old New Year which falls on the 13th of January. Until 1918 Russia had used the Julinian calendar which was 13 days behind the European (or Gregorian) one. In 1918 Russia accepted

the Gregorian calendar but the tradition to celebrate Old New Year remained. Many Russians stay at home on this day. They invite friends and relatives, have a festive supper, have fun and set off fireworks.

In conclusion, it is important to add that the Russians attach great importance to traditions and customs. Russia is indeed a unique country, which, along with highly developed modern culture carefully preserves the national traditions deeply rooted not only in the Orthodox religion but also in paganism.

### **Some Challenges in Modern Russian Engineering Education**

M.V. Kuimova, Satsuta A.E.  
mkuimova@mail.ru  
(Tomsk, Russia)

*Develop a passion for learning.  
If you do, you will never cease to grow.  
Anthony J. D'Angelo*

Nowadays the problem of engineering training becomes increasingly important. After Russia's accession to the Bologna process, national educational system faces with new challenges, there appeared new requirements which have to be met.

Undoubtedly, modern engineering education must be in compliance with international standards, degrees and qualifications. Thus current Russian engineering curriculums are aimed at education fundamentalization, innovative thinking shaping, special technology training.

To achieve these goals, the following technologies and approaches are used in engineering training:

- professional, personal, business-training activities;
- project-oriented teaching methods;
- interdisciplinary teaching approaches;
- contextual teaching approaches;
- experience approaches;
- case-study methods;