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Original article

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RELIGIOUS IDENTITY OF THE RUSSIAN POPULATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF TATARSTAN: DECONSTRUCTION OR LOCALIZATION OF TRADITION

In the article we examined the religious identity of the Russian population in the Tatarstan Republic, characterized its place in the structure of social identities and its role in the daily and spiritual life of different socio-demographic groups of Russians. We also revealed the preferences in religious practices and their interrelation with the ethno-cultural needs of urban and rural people. The theoretical basis of the research is the hermeneutic approach which allows to interpret the symbolic significance of the social reality phenomena. The theoretical generalizations are based on the data of a comprehensive ethno-sociological study of modern Russian population in Tatarstan conducted in the autumn of 2022 using both quantitative (mass survey) and qualitative (in-depth interview, focus group) methods. The results obtained show the complex nature of interaction between the religion, ethnic culture and the secularity in different social and demographical groups of Russians in Tatarstan.

Keywords: *religious identity, structure of identities, religious practices, ethnicity, ethno-cultural needs, interreligious relations, socio-demographic group*

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