

Tiedekunta-Fakultet-Faculty Valtiotieteellinen tiedekunta		Laitos-Institution-Department Department of Sociology	
Tekijä-Författare-Author Vishnjakova, Olga			
Työn nimi-Arbetets titel-Title The Old and the New: Myth as Reality in Contemporary Russian Mass Celebration			
Oppiaine-Läroämne-Subject Social and Cultural Anthropology			
Työn laji-Arbetets art-Level Master's thesis		Aika-Datum-Month and year 2004-05-03	Sivumäärä-Sidantal-Number of pages 120
<p>Tiivistelmä-Referat-Abstract</p> <p>This is a study of contemporary Russian urban celebration. Specifically, a highly popular celebration of a City Day – an event commemorating the birthday of a town or a city is analyzed. The general issues of celebration are examined through a prism of a local event, the 850th jubilee of a small mid-Russian town of Kasimov. Contemporary celebration is contextualised by looking at the historical development of mass urban festivity in Russia.</p> <p>This study is an attempt to reach an understanding of the character of collective Russian celebrations, the role they play in shaping of social relationships and reflecting the attitudes and values of society. The symbolic dimension of City Days is analysed to provide insights into a broader cultural framework. The study examines the different dimensions and genres of a spectacular celebrations, as well as the profound effects of the festivities both on the people and the town itself.</p> <p>Methodologically the study relies on participant observation and anthropological fieldwork that I have conducted in the town of Kasimov and utilises qualitative research methods. Main sources are unstructured interviews, local and regional press clippings, photographs, as well as video footage and local television programmes.</p> <p>Theoretically the study relies on anthropological discussion of collective representations, rituals, festivals, myths and symbols. Mass celebrations stress and define contemporary Russian values and embody the myths structuring the reality of the society. Contemporary celebrations are a syncretistic mixture of traditional, modern, pre-revolutionary and Soviet elements. Myths often present the actual in terms of the ideal, thus celebrations are mythologised and idealised collective representations portraying the local people as they themselves want to be seen.</p>			
<p>Avainsanat-Nyckelord-Keywords</p> <p>celebration cultural performance spectacle festival ritual myth symbols collective memory commemoration continuity change</p>			
Säilytyspaikka-Förvaringsställe-Where deposited			
Muita tietoja-Övriga uppgifter-Additional information			