

Einladung

zum

Vortrag

von

Valentina Kharitonova

Medical Traditions and Medical Pluralism in Contemporary Russia

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The presentation analyzes the modern health saving system that has evolved in Russia. It includes conventional methods offered by official health-care system (professional biomedicine), and non-conventional. The field of nonconventional medicine consists of traditional medicine - the practice of prevention and preservation of health, modern folk healing, as well as traditional medicine of the east and modern medical systems of China, India, Korea, etc., which are borrowed at different times. Both legal and practical situations will be considered, that is, the real situation of different medical systems, practices, methods.

Particular attention is paid to the phenomenon of "revival" of traditions associated with folk medicine and spiritual healing practices, including witchcraft and shamanism. The report will consider various techniques of shamanism - traditional for Siberia and the North, as well as borrowed from different sources (used mainly among urban shamans) over the past 30 years; The current situation of the distribution of shaman organizations and their official position is characterized. The problem of medical pluralism in Russia is presented taking into account the regional specificity of the spread of various traditional medical systems, practices and methods, on the one hand, and the state of the health care system, the transformation of medical institutions as a result of a modern healthcare reform, on the other.

Valentina KHARITONOVA - doctor of historical sciences, chief researcher and head of the Center for Medical Anthropology at the Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology of the Russian Academy of Sciences; President of the Russian Association of Medical Anthropologists; editor-in-chief of the scientific international journal "Medical Anthropology and Bioethics". Graduated from the Faculty of Philology of Lomonosov Moscow State University; defended her PhD (candidate) thesis on folklore studies in 1983. In 2000 she defended her doctoral thesis (Habilitationsschrift) at the Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology of the Russian Academy of Sciences, specializing in ethnography, ethnology and anthropology. In the 1990's - early 2000's she headed the Institute's Center for the Study of Shamanism and other indigenous spiritual beliefs and practices. Since 2005, she has led the work on the creation of "medical anthropology" in Russia. Since 1974, she has conducted field research in the Russian North and in central and southern Russia, in Russian, Ukrainian, Belarusian Polesye, in the Ukrainian Carpathians, in various regions of Siberia (Khakassia, Tuva, Buryatia, Yamal) and other regions. In the early 2000s she was in charge of an interdisciplinary group engaged in studying the characteristics of the personality of shamans and altered states of consciousness. Currently she leads several projects to study the integration of medicine in Russia.