
The path to the mentality category in the history of social cognition

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The article traces the formation of the mentality category from the perspective of the history, theory and methodology by analyzing the views of Sh. Montesquieu, J. Herder, F. Chateaubriand, F. Savigny, G. Hegel, R. Emerson, E. Durkheim, L. Levy-Bruhl, P.Ya. Chaadaev, A. de Tocqueville, N. Berdyaev, N. Lossky, G. Le Bon, E. Fromm, V. Wundt, L. Febvre, M. Blokh, P. Dintselbahekr et al. On the basis of synthesis of rational ideas of these thinkers, the author's interpretation of the category of mentality is given as the characteristics of the system of social and psychological features of the individual and group subject, determining the specific nature of perception, thinking and activity of the subject.

Keywords: spirit of the nation, soul of the nation, public character, national character, national spirit, psychological state, social character, mentality.

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