
Education system formation and development and the war against illiteracy in Russia in the XVIII — first half of the XX centuries: trends, obstacles, results

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The article considers the education system formation and development and war against illiteracy in Russia in the 18th — first half of the 20th centuries. The main stages in the development of all the levels of the education system existing at that time are highlighted in accordance with the essential characteristics of these levels, the institutionalization of educational structures, and the established value and pedagogical standards. The evolution of basic axiological attitudes in the approach to the process of knowledge transfer to subsequent generations is traced, and the transformations of educational institutions and educational programs are analyzed step by step. In the era of Peter the Great in Russia, the formation of the education system began: parish schools were created, private general education schools and specialized secondary schools were set up. In the second half of the XVIII — early XIX centuries the first universities appear in the country. In the second half of the XIX century a complete education system was formed, including higher, secondary and primary educational institutions, represented by universities, gymnasiums, county and parish schools. Finally, in the 1920–1930s, the war against illiteracy unprecedented in world history, unfolded in the USSR ending with its complete eradication. It is noted that the Cultural Revolution left an ambivalent mark in the pedagogical history of the USSR: on the one hand, the successes of the Soviet government in the total eradication of illiteracy are indisputable, on the other, a complete rejection of religion and attempts to impose a single ideology of Marxism-Leninism, materialistic dialectics are obvious.

Keywords: education system, pre-revolutionary Russia, reforms of Peter the Great, illiteracy, education reforms

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