

**Рецензия на выпускную квалификационную работу Ли Цзыбо “Chinese students in Russia and South Korea: comparative analysis of adaptation processes”/ Сравнительный анализ процессов адаптации Китайских студентов, обучающихся в России и Южной Корее**

The thesis of Li Zibo “Chinese students in Russia and South Korea: comparative analysis of adaptation processes” is a professional and completed study. Moreover, it is a good example of comparative research: we can find comparative orientations in the research object: “Chinese students in South Korea and Russia”. The cases of South Korea and Russia are relevant for the study of Chinese students abroad because: Firstly, those two countries are influential neighbors of China; Secondly, the number of Chinese students in these two countries are similar; Thirdly, as Li Zibo’s research direction is the impact of culture distance to cross-cultural adaptation, these two countries meet the author’s demands as South Korean culture belongs to Oriental culture while Russian culture is an orthodox one. Also, the subject of the research is quite urgent because China has already become the biggest “students provider” for many studying destinations. However, the adaptation level of such a huge social group is not optimistic.

Li Zibo tried to use different approaches in his research. He combined quantitative and qualitative methods to study the adaptation and the perceived culture distance of Chinese students in both countries. He employed relevant questionnaires and took interviews to reach his research aim. In my opinion, the research design is good.

The paper has the following structure: introduction, four chapters, conclusion, a list of sources and appendices. In the introduction the research background, research design and main research questions are mentioned. The first chapter addresses the theoretical approaches comprising cross-cultural adaptation and culture distance. Also, the empirical findings relevant to the topic are presented. Chapter Two presents the general introduction of the methodology of this study. In Chapter Three detailed data and interview analysis are carried out. The results of analysis are presented in this chapter. Chapter Four answers the research questions and checks the validity of the hypothesis made by the author. The conclusion points out the main findings of the study and implications. Meanwhile, the limitations and improvements for further study are suggested by the author.

Despite the fact that this study is a completed comparative research, I have some comments and questions to the study.

1. The main research question is formulated as “To what extent can culture distance influence cross-cultural adaptation of Chinese international students in South Korea and Russia?” The author used data to show that there is a significant correlation between culture distance and adaptation. However, in what aspects, how to improve the situation had been seldom mentioned.

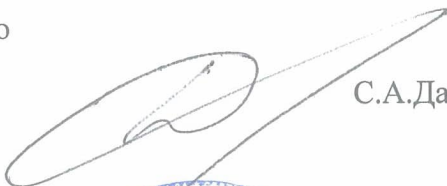
2. In the diploma, the author frequently used the term “culture distance”. Are there any differences in the author’s understanding of culture distance and perceived culture distance? In my point of view, in the diploma the culture distance is measured by the impressions of Chinese students in these two countries, it is more suitable to use “perceived culture distance” instead.

Therefore, I believe that the text meets the requirements for the MA thesis and Li Zibo deserves a positive mark.

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