Northern Civilization: the Present and the Future

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Abstract. The article is devoted to the study of the civilized development perspectives connected with global reorganization of the world. In this article, different points of view of the representatives of the philosophical idea are analyzed, considering the process of Northern civilization formation and its development perspectives. Interest to the problem of the Northern civilization is conditioned by the problems of the humankind’s future and high attention of the world’s community to the Arctic, owning unique natural resources. It is indicated, that representatives of the world’s power consider the Arctic as the world’s pantry of energy and natural resources and as the center of future geopolitics and economic development of the whole planet.

The author speaks out several suppositions about the Northern civilization as an ancient civilization and a future one as well. The realization of Northern civilization idea is possible on condition of formation the certain setting on the organization of the civilized center, based on the mind’s beginnings and justice, on the principle of humanism and noosphere.

1. Introduction
The modern civilization in the period of the world’s approaches global reconstruction following which humankind may develop in any direction. The future will depend on a chosen way, as the individual civilization and the whole humankind as well. In search of new civilized landmarks, the Arctic attracts attention of the whole world scientists to the Northern territories.

1.1. The urgency of this topic
is stipulated by the elaboration of the idea of the Northern civilization. The scientific significance of this topic is considered in recognition of the special status of the Northern civilization, which is capable to consolidate the whole humankind based on principles of humanism and noosphere.

1.2. Literature review
The source of the research paper are the works of V. E. Larichev, S. A. Parshikov, devoted to the search of Russian North and Siberia. The particular attention deserve the works of Ju. V. Yakovets, studying the Northern civilization as the historical and socio-cultural phenomenon.

1.3. Problem statement
The development of the Arctic and its territories is conditioned by the search of the new civilized landmarks, and the presence of various richest resources reserves, the unique nature as well, having a great importance in preserving the planet’s climate. The idea of the Northern civilization should be realized in the forming the civilized space cooperation of all states, nations for preventing all global
problems and the decision should not be delayed. The general scientific methods were used while writing the scientific paper: analysis, synthesis, generalization, socio-philosophical, comparative-historical methods, which let identify the main problems, connected with the realization of the Northern civilization idea.

2. Theoretical basement

The term “civilization” appeared in lexicon in the 18th century thanks to educators. They considered civilization as higher level of the society’s development. In the scientific literature the Scottish historian and philosopher A. Ferguson [Erasov, 2002] introduced the concept “civilization”. The term “civilization” gave an idea about the perfect society differing from the previous ones by the high level of material and moral culture, about society, where mind and justice were introduced as the basic. In the philosophical concept, an idea about civilization as the highest phase of the social development was set, following “the primitive phase of uncivilized state and barbarity” [Morgan, 1934: 29] as the ideal of the progressive development. Later other two approaches to the civilization definition were formed: stadial and local-historical. The supporter of stadial approach K. Marx described civilization as the history of humankind, introducing the united world-wide historical process, changing economic structures. He considered the final course of the humankind’s history as the communist formation, which differed qualitatively new level of system, high-organized way of production [Marx, 2011: 234]. Recognizing civilization as one of the society’s steps development, F. Engels considered the high level of “social labour division, cities growth, private property development” as basic development factors. [Engels, 1961: 178]

Within the limits of technological approach, V. Soloviev (Soloviev, 1989), S. Frank, attaching much importance to the culture development connect the development of civilization with the amplification of “Christian humanism” [Frank, 1991: 518], religious values, contributing to spiritual transfiguration. Sociological approach supporters confirmed that civilized development is directly connected with the cities development, the written language, knowledge and labour division [Barg, 1990: 26]. The peculiar vision was formed by the representative of ethno psychological approach L.N. Gumilev, who admitted self-consciousness and the national character of people, as basic factor of the civilization development, forming under the influence of “space impulses” and contributing to the origin of “passionaries”, and “new superethnos”, civilizations [Gumilev, 2011: 301]. L.N. Gumilev, as supporters of geographical determinism E.E. Mechnikov [Mechnikov, 1995], V.O. Klyuchevskiy [Klyuchevskiy, 1987: 79], connected the development of civilizations with nature-geographical environment.

Local-historical approach got a wide spread, as it considers the history of mankind as the development of culture-historical types [Danilevsky, 1995], or as a variety of local civilizations [Toynbee, 1999]. According to them, the main criterion of development of civilization is a progress. From our point of view, the certain role in civilized development play scientific and technical innovations, cultural development, information and knowledge.

Civilization presents a combination of societies, united by common spiritual values, ideals, aimed on creation of a single social, political, economic system and culture” [Isachenko, 2006: 158]. Civilizations differ with peculiar character, culture, traditions, language, but all of them are united by human values and principles of humanism. Losing spiritual braces leads to crisis as social and material resources might be exhausted. Crisis leads to instability and brings social explosions, causing extinction of civilization or conversion to a higher phase of development.

Global ecological problems orient modern scientists to search of new variants of development. At this stage of civilized development, introduction of information and communication technologies favor the occurrence of new theories, concepts, offering new approaches to the interpretation of the prospects of civilized development. In this regard in recent years, the interest to the territory of the Arctic is actual, as the unique place, possessing geopolitical, ecological, civilized, social peculiarities. Interest to the Arctic by different states appears because of its unique natural resources.
Exploration of the Arctic at interstate level began in the middle of the XX century. The Northern Council was formed, uniting Iceland, Denmark, Norway and Sweden and was aimed to the solution of different geopolitical questions. Later the Nordic cooperation was controlled by Helsinki’s agreement; within this agreement, social, cultural, economic questions were discussed. By the beginning of the XXI century the Arctic Council was formed and following countries as Russia, Denmark, Canada, America, Iceland, Sweden, Norway, Finland entered there. The activity of this Council was aimed to the environmental protection and the development of the region. In recent years, the Arctic transformed in the polygon of the strategic games, where interest of great world powers was intersected as they considered it as the pantry of biological and mineral resources.

The importance of the strategic role of the Arctic in the development of Russia was recognized at the state level. The Arctic is called one of the strategic important regions of Russia according to its geopolitical, socio-economical and historical significance. In 2009 the document “The basis of public policy of Russian Federation in the Arctic for the period until 2020 and for the further prospect” was adopted which determines the Northern region development prospects. The Arctic in this historic turning point becomes important transport artery, which connects Siberia, Far East European North and the USA. Thanks to this “cross-polar air link: appeared the possibility to get the shortest way across the Arctic and connect the North America with Asia. It remains an important problem for the northern people the unique territory and culture preserving.

At different levels, scientists were actively involved in the study of that unique macro-region. Under this topic in the XXI century the idea of the Northern civilization is being actively developed. As Ju. V. Yakovets wrote, at this stage of the development civilized revolution begins, at the end a new civilization with humanistic- noosphere orientation, which got the name “Northern” or “Arctic” civilization is being developed. Geographically Northern civilization unites three continents, Eurasian, West-European and North- American civilizations. Native people, who occupy territories near the Arctic Ocean “connect the same ethnic and historical roots, the same cultural heritage”. [Larichev, Parshikov, 2006], U.A. Vinokurova, Ju.V. Yakovets and many discovered artefacts (sculptures, bas-relieves, stone books, sunny and moon calendars and products made of bones) confirm the existence of the Northern civilization in the early stages of development. Scientists proved that the development of the Northern civilization began about 5 thousand years ago, passed on a special way, based on noosphere principle. V. E. Vernadsky wrote, that noosphere represents environmental sphere within which interaction of the people and nature is carried out on mind principles. Confirmation of it can be found in the character of the native population vital activity inhabited the Arctic territories, in their culture, traditions and relations.

The factor of existence of the civilization is the national gist. Representatives of the Northern civilization could keep the national gist, for which the following peculiarities are typical:

- ecological and natural-climatic (severe climate, virgin nature, tundra, Arctic desert, taiga); socio-cultural (peculiar culture, the system of values, based on humanism principle); demographic (national, ethnic peculiarities of people, their small headcount); economic (the economic way of life and economic relations peculiarity); geopolitical (location on the territory of three continents, availability of large natural resources reserves).

Distinctive feature of the Northern people civilization is their “noosphere” way of life providing “the harmonious coevolution of a man and nature” [Yakovets, 2011:37].

The desire to preserve the primeval of nature is basis of their existance; they are inseparable from the world of nature. Noosphere approach of living is being passed on to the younger generation; it is the fundamental factor of the survival of the Northern civilization in the process when techno genic civilization is coming on it.

Northern (Arctic) civilization represents the native people of the North (Evenks, Eskimos, Nenets, Khanty, Mansy) - is a sphere of the spiritual reproduction, united culture, science, education and system of values [Vinokurova, 2013]. It should be noted that for the Northern people priority is given to preserving the original culture, the system of values, morality, and coevolution. Of particular impor-
tance is preserving the principles of collectivism and mutual support is very important in severe climate.

The development of the Northern areas of the Tyumen region caused serious changes in the ecosystem of Arctic and influenced on the native people life way changing.

Innovations gradually included in the life of the northern people: technology, means of communication are threatening noosphere principle of their existence. In this regard, the idea of the Northern civilization becomes one of the actual problems of recent years. Scientists organize holding international congresses, conferences. So, participants of the 1st congress “Northern civilization: setting problems, opportunities, 2004 acknowledged that the availability of natural resources, autonomous formation of native North people, fruitful activity of the world community in the framework of the “Northern model”, gives reason to speak about a real possibility of setting or revival of the Northern civilization [Isachenko, 2007: 161]. The Participants of the conference “The History of studying and assimilation of the Arctic - from the past to the future”, carried out in September 2012 in Arkhangelsk, discussed the main projects concerning the development of Arctic and the problems of keeping cultural heritage of Arctic. The Participants of forum “Jamal Neftegas” (2016) discussed the strategic role of Arctic in the fate of Russia, shared experience on the use of advanced technologies and development process of natural riches of Arctic, taking into account environmental requirements.

Scientists solving the problem of the Northern civilization predict possible variants of Arctic development. The first variant is pessimistic one; its essence is “dissolution” of the unique Northern civilization in modern technogenetic under the press of technology and developing oil and gas complex, which have a negative effect on natural and climatic conditions and life of people. The second variant is optimistic one assumes bloom of the Northern (Arctic) civilization based on partnership of modern civilizations and Northern people on principles of noosphere and humanism. Therefore, the task of modern generation is to preserve the primacy, noosphere of the northern civilization for the future human civilization as this region has a great importance for the world ecology [Lazhentsev, 2010]. It is necessary to organize the fact of existence of the Northern civilization at the interstate level and its role in civilized development.

3. Practical significance
The study is determined by the fact that the materials of the study can be one of the sources for the round table, conferences on the problem of the Northern civilization. This material can be used for solving modern problems of social philosophy, sociology and political science.

4. Conclusion
Analysis of scientific literature gives us the reason for showing several motives for distinguishing the Northern civilization from the civilized environment in three dimensions. The presence of a number of civilized features (proto-cities, stone books, instruments of labour, sculpture) of the Northern people, does not give the bases for the denial of the existence of the Northern civilization in the past.

Junction of the Northern people to the Russian culture became inevitable in connection with the development of the northern territories. Today cultural heritage of the Northern people made deserving contribution in the prosperity of the national culture, enriching it. In the recent years. “Prosperity of the Russian civilization” is directly connected with the “prospects of development of the Russian North, the Arctic” [Isachenko, 2007: 160]. We can consider the Northern civilization in the Russian civilization studying context. As for the Northern civilization, we should study the Northern region which is a part of Russian civilization [Isachenko 2013] and possesses the unique natural resources and cultural and intellectual potential.

The Arctic, as the northern civilization may be the civilization of the special type the so-called “hybrid” civilization [Popkov, Tyugashev, 2006] which united all the world’s civilizations and became cooperation space of all states. The northern civilization is a civilization of future, existing on the principles of humanism, noosphere, ecosystem conservation [Isachenko, 2007: 161]. Representatives of world powers regard the Arctic as a global storehouse of energy and natural resources as a center of
future geopolitical and economic development of the whole planet. Realization of the idea of the Northern civilization is possible thanks to forming a global civilized centre, founded on justice and humanism, possessing physical decisions [Isachenko, 2013]. The priority should be the position on restoration historical justice in relation to native North people and in creation of appropriate conditions of their identity preservation.

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