О. В. Гончарук
Коледж економіки та соціальної роботи
ОНУ імені І. І. Мечнікова
Науковий керівник: доц. каф. клін. психол.,
канд. психол. наук, О. С. Данілова

IMAGE OF SISTERS OF MERCY IN THE ARMY THROUGH THE PRISM HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL ASPECT

The relevance of the theme of the image of the Sisters of Mercy in the army, due to the close relationship with the history of the past and our modernity. For the first time the service of the Sisters of Mercy was organized during the Crimean War by the Englishwoman Florence Nightingale. Florence, together with her assistants, went to the field hospitals, first in Turkey and then in the Crimea. Then a stereotype formed: a nurse is a nurse who takes out the wounded from the battlefield or stands at the operating table. In the second half of the XIX century, the image of the nurse of the Mercy of a nurse was transformed into the image of the Woman of Mercy carrying the light in Christian truth. The Crimean War and its first Sisters of Mercy showed to the whole world how important it is precisely women's participation in the rehabilitation of the wounded. Women's especially tender hands caused less suffering, women's sensitive heart divined the slightest wishes and sufferings of the soldiers, who suddenly became completely helpless. These advantages of sisters of mercy, compared with male nurses, many eyewitnesses paid attention in official reports and memoirs.

World War I was one of the bloodiest wars in the history of the world. The use of chemical weapons led to a huge number of victims. But it was this war that was the peak in the development of charity and mercy. The Sisters of Mercy played one of the most important roles during the First World War. 20 thousand sisters of mercy worked on the

fronts. At the end of the first year of the war, there were 71 hospitals and about 120 infirmaries. The founder of the monastery of mercy is the Grand Duchess Elizaveta Fedorovna Romanova. Her courageous actions, determination in actions, generosity towards people forever made history, Elizaveta Fyodorovna is a colonizer of the Army of the Sisters of Mercy, for which she deservedly carries the title of Holy Elizabeth. Antonina Tikhonovna Palshina, Claudia Alekseevna Bogacheva, Rimma Mikhailovna Ivanova, Olga Eliseeva, Zinaida Mokievska-Zubok left the most important imprint in the course of the history of the First World War.

Since the Second World War, the image of the Sister of Mercy has transformed and adopted aspects of the image of the Woman of the Warrior, who bravely were ready to enter the battlefield and fulfill the function of protector. A great number of brave women showed heroism: Kashcheeva Vera, Marseva Zinaida, Natasha Kachuevskaya, Evdokia Rovnyagina, Ekaterina Kuzmenko, Valeria Gnarovskaya, Valeria Lebedeva, who went down in history for centuries.

The army of the Sisters of Mercy in our modern society has been supplemented by the international organization Red Cross. At the Odessa church in honor of the icon of the Mother of God «Joy of All Who Sorrow», the Sister's Charity was revived, which performs a very important mission of restoring communities.