

World as seen by human being  
(notes about the anthropocentrism and anthropomorphism  
in Slavic languages and folk culture)

The goal of the paper is to clarify the concept of anthropocentrism and anthropomorphism in relation to Slavic languages and folk culture. The typical human properties as body parts, emotions, types of behavior and so on, which can be assigned to non human beings (to the phenomena of nature and elements such as the sun, the moon, stars, rainbow, wind, fire, the earth), are analyzed. The most specific features of them are language, name, laughter, tears, the relations of kinship, which distinguish human beings from animals, plants, nature and in particular from objects. The paper also touches on the problem of the relation between anthropomorphism and metaphorization, poetic figurativeness and mythologization.

Key words

anthropocentrism, anthropomorphism, Slavic languages, folklore, phenomena of nature