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The Problem of Methodological Principles in Psychology

An important part of the methodology of psychology are its principles – the basic source of the theory (doctrine, science, worldview), through the lens of which the object of knowledge is focused. In psychology, the principles are referred to explanatory because through them the essence of mental phenomena that are the object of research or practice are discussed. The principles defining the direction of scientific search and the interpretation of the obtained results are provided in this article.

Maintenance of methodological (explanatory) principles of psychology is analysed – philosophic and general-psychological. Conception of A. N. Tkachenko is fixed on basis of determination of basic principles (determinism, reflection, unity of psyche and activity, development, system); opening of their essence is based on analysis of scientific sources on the issue.

The author substantiates that the driving forces of psychological development are internal contradictions between the new needs, aspirations and the level of mastering reached with the means necessary for their satisfaction; between the achieved level of mental development and a way of life, a place in the system of public relations; public functions; between the tendency to inertia, stereotypes, sustainability and the trend towards mobility, fluidity, etc.

Contradictions are resolved through the activity, which leads to the formation of new properties and qualities. The driving force of evolution evolves it self gaining at each stage the new content and new forms of its manifestation.

The principle of development involves the understanding of the psyche as that becomes complicated both in procedural and substantive aspects; contains a unity of continuous and discrete, which is manifested in the following aspects: the selection of stages, clarity in the development of each mental process; the ability to kefine mental only in its dynamic development; the source of self-movement of the psyche is in itself and has the characteristics of contradictions

and heterochronic development (uneven, mismatch of the phases and areas of biological, psychological and social development, maturation and destruction). But overall psyche obeys the laws of self-increase of development; genetic principle of development in phylo- and ontogenesis; socio-historical development, and cultural and historical development of mind and consciousness.

Keywords: methodology of psychology; methodological principles of psychology; principle of determinism; principle of reflection; principle of psyche and activity unity; principle of development; principle of the system.