



## THE RITUAL OF CELEBRATING DEFENDER OF THE FATHERLAND DAY: THE EXAMPLE OF DIFFERENT COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD

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<b>Received:</b> 24 <sup>h</sup> March 2021	The article considers the celebration of the anniversary of the Defender of the Fatherland Day in various countries of the world as one of the main military rituals, the issues of their implementation, the category of participants and the procedure for their implementation. The significance of this ritual in various countries is also being studied, taking into account the historical characteristics and established traditions, the role in the education of military personnel, increasing their moral and combat component.
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In all countries, military traditions are actively promoted, the anniversaries of units are widely celebrated, their combat path is highlighted, military rituals are strictly observed: taking the oath, laying wreaths, lining up with weapons on significant days. Practiced military parades on anniversaries of national holidays [1]. Military rituals, their content and procedure, as a rule, in various armies of the world are determined by the corresponding charters, manuals and other normative acts.

The Armed Forces (AF) are an integral attribute of statehood. They are a state military organization that forms the basis of the country's defense, and are designed to repel aggression and defeat the aggressor, as well as to perform tasks in accordance with the country's international obligations. Therefore, all countries of the world are interested in creating a positive image of their army, directly or indirectly influencing the formation of an attractive image of the army. This statement is confirmed by the statement of the French military theorist A. Jomini: "A government that, under any pretext, leaves its army in disdain is ... worthy of condemnation, because it thereby prepares humiliation for its country and its troops, instead of to, by doing the opposite, prepare their success" [2].

The Armed Forces of the Republic of Uzbekistan include military formations, formations and units, as well as other military formations organized and maintained by the state to contain and prevent wars and armed conflicts, protect national interests, sovereignty, territorial integrity of the Republic of Uzbekistan and peaceful life of the population [3].

In many countries of the world there are official national holidays dedicated to the memory of soldiers who defended the sovereign interest of their Fatherland in various wars and military conflicts and those who are guarding the country's independence and sovereignty now.

In Uzbekistan, the Day of Defenders of the Motherland was established on January 14 by the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On Establishing the Day of Defenders of the Motherland" taking into account the importance of the Armed Forces in protecting the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the country, peaceful life and creative labor of the people on the way to strengthening independence, educating the young generation in the spirit of patriotism, and also the adoption on January 14, 1992, under the jurisdiction of the republic of military formations stationed on its territory [4].

This day in Uzbekistan is widely celebrated as a national holiday not only in military units and institutions, but also in all regions of the country by the population, conducting various military-patriotic events, especially military rituals associated with awarding servicemen in a solemn atmosphere, holding ceremonial meetings and passing solemn march of units, as well as other patriotic events.

At the same time, the annual holiday of the military unit is held in order to educate servicemen in the spirit of devotion to the Motherland, loyalty to military duty, military traditions and strengthening military camaraderie.

The annual holiday of the military unit can also be held on the day off closest to the set date. On this day, the military unit is lined up with the Battle Banner and the orchestra. Before its formation, in brief speeches, the commander of the military unit, other servicemen and veterans talk about the military history of the unit, achievements in peacetime. Then the military unit goes on a solemn march. Instead of building a military unit on the

eve of the annual holiday, it is allowed to hold a solemn meeting. On the day of the annual holiday, other solemn cultural and sports events are held. The celebration may be attended by representatives of other military units and the public, family members of military personnel and veterans of the unit [5].

In Russia, military holidays were already in the pre-revolutionary periods. Back in 1698, Peter I established the first order in Russia - the Order of St. Andrew the First-Called - to be awarded for military exploits and civil service. The Day of the Russian Army was celebrated on December 9 in honor of George the Victorious, on this day in 1769 the military order of St. George was established.

In Russia, this is February 23, Defender of the Fatherland Day. Historically, this date was established in the USSR in 1922 as the Day of the Red Army and Navy. From 1949 to 1993, the holiday was called the Day of the Soviet Army and Navy.

After the collapse of the Soviet Union, the former Soviet republics reacted differently to the festive legacy. Instead of a single Red Army, each new country formed its own army. Its Armed Forces Day - a professional holiday for all military and veterans - is celebrated in the post-Soviet countries [6].

Tajikistan, as well as in Russia, celebrates the day of February 23 as Defender of the Fatherland Day. South Ossetia also continues to celebrate February 23, remembering all the heroes of wars and military conflicts.

February 23 is not celebrated in Armenia, Georgia and Abkhazia. There are also military holidays in these countries, but they have been postponed to other days. In Georgia, Sun Day - April 30, is celebrated since the creation of the Georgian National Army in 1990. The Day of National Power is celebrated in Armenia on January 28. There are two similar holidays in Abkhazia on February 23: Abkhazian Armed Forces Day - October 11 in honor of the liberation of the city of Gagra in 1992 during the Georgian-Abkhaz war; Defender of the Fatherland Memorial Day - August 14.

Day of the Armed Forces of Ukraine - December 6, on this day the Law on the Armed Forces of Ukraine was adopted. In Lithuania, 23 November annually - Day of Lithuanian Warriors [7].

Traditions of celebrating similar holidays exist in other countries of the world, each with its own historical characteristics and national flavor.

National Day of Australia and New Zealand - ANZAC Day - Day of the Australian and New Zealand military corps - celebrated on April 25 [8]. This name was first used to refer to the soldiers who landed on the Gallipoli Peninsula in Turkey on April 25, 1915 - during the First World War. Officially, ANZAC Day began to be celebrated in 1916. This day was originally dedicated to the memory of the Australians and New Zealanders who died in the First World War. After World War II in Australia and New Zealand, this holiday was dedicated to all citizens who died in all wars and military conflicts with the participation of these countries. On this day, morning church services are held, after which all participants are offered a "fire breakfast" - a drink consisting of coffee and rum.

The Day of Courage and the Bulgarian Army or St. George's Day is the official national Bulgarian holiday - the Day of the Bulgarian Army. It is celebrated annually on May 6 and is named after Saint George the Victorious. Historically, the holiday has been religious. From 1946 to 1993, the holiday, as a religious one and not comparable to the communist regime, was not officially celebrated. On January 27, 1993, by a decree of the Council of Ministers of Bulgaria, the holiday was restored [9].

The holiday is celebrated solemnly: the central celebrations begin in Sofia with the consecration of the shrines and battle banners of the Bulgarian army at the Monument to the Unknown Soldier. After the consecration, a review of battle flags takes place, which is hosted by the President and Commander-in-Chief of Bulgaria and the highest military ranks. By tradition, the President and Supreme Commander of the Bulgarian Armed Forces takes the guard of honor and lays a wreath at the Monument to the Unknown Soldier. An obligatory component of the Day of the Bulgarian Army is the holding of a military parade in Sofia with the participation of servicemen from higher military educational institutions and academies of the country, the National Guard unit, different types of troops.

In 1949, the US Secretary of Defense announced the introduction of a new holiday - Armed Forces Day - to replace the three existing holidays - Ground, Naval and Air Force Day. This happened as part of the unification of all the country's military power under the control of the Ministry of Defense. Since then, on the third Saturday in May, America has celebrated Sun Day.

On this holiday, it is customary to hold parades in military academies and in military units of all branches of the US Armed Forces. Traditionally, parades and concerts are held in different cities of the United States in honor of those who defend the country, as well as honoring those who are already retired and, of course, veterans. Parades and concerts are the most colorful and popular events on this day.

Bremerton, Washington, hosts the annual US Army Day parade. The parade opens with a car with a huge plush lion, which is a symbol of the Lions Club charity. This organization, founded in 1917, is the largest national social assistance organization and sponsor of the parade. Immediately behind the Lvov car, there are military men with banners. The parade is attended by active military personnel, the mayor of the city, congressmen and other guests of honor. Despite the fact that this is a military parade, everyone who has applied in advance takes part in it: local clubs and schools. But the main characters of this day invariably become veterans of the Second World War, the wars in Vietnam, Korea, etc. At the end of the parade, a minute of silence recalls those who died in the line of duty.

Unlike other countries, ceremonies dedicated to this holiday in the United States are more modest, Veterans Day, Memorial Day, and Coast Guard Day are celebrated on a much larger scale.

In May, the Spanish Armed Forces holiday is celebrated, which lasts for several days. The holiday takes place not only in Madrid, but also in other cities of Spain. According to a long tradition, in one of the cities, members of the royal family are present at the celebrations dedicated to this day. The national flag of the country is raised in honor of those killed. Currently, the obligatory participants in the solemn events are the President of the country, the Minister of Defense, the Chief of Defense Staff and military representatives of the ground forces, aviation, navy, as well as other high-ranking officials of the state [10].

The history of the British army dates back to 1707. Despite this, the official National Day of the British Armed Forces began to be celebrated only in 2009. Previously, this holiday was called Veterans Day, but the government decided to rename it so that on this solemn day it would be possible to honor not only those who have already served their country with arms in hand, but also those who continue to do so in Her Majesty's Armed Forces.

The country honors British military personnel at the end of June. Throughout the country and at British military bases overseas, the Armed Forces flag is raised on this day, and celebrations are held in various parts of the United Kingdom. Flags on this day are hung on the buildings of the Ministry of Defense, the residence of the Prime Minister, the City Hall and the residence of the Lord Mayor of the City of London. The main military parade of the day begins with a cannon salute. British soldiers and veterans arrive to take part in the military parade. They march in a solemn march to the accompaniment of a military band. The festive ceremony is accompanied by a flight over the city of British Air Force planes [11].

On August 1, the People's Liberation Army of China (PLA) Day is celebrated. This day is considered a professional holiday for the Chinese military. The People's Liberation Army consists of the Naval, Air Force and Technical Forces, as well as the Land Army. This is one of the few public holidays that originated long before the formation of China in 1949 and today is one of the most revered and widely celebrated in the PRC and the Chinese people.

On the day of the creation of the PLA in all Chinese provinces, the military registration and enlistment offices hold various events for the military: solemn meetings, honoring veterans, military exhibitions, holiday concerts [12].

Thus, the tradition of honoring the defenders of the Fatherland has deep roots and the days of the armed forces are celebrated in many states. But whatever the history of the holiday in different countries of the world, first of all in the minds of people, it is associated with the glorious feats of ancestors in the struggle for the independence of the country and the integrity of its borders.

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