

## SCOUTING

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Who are the Scouts? What are they doing? What is scouting? This is a worldwide youth movement, dealing with physical, spiritual and mental development of young people so that young people can take a constructive place in society. This is achieved by non-formal education with an emphasis on practical action in the open air, called Scout method. Scout organization is voluntary, apolitical, and independent. This word (born scout) is translated into English as a scout (Fig.1). Therefore, the scouting is also sometimes called “razvedchestvo”. International and long distance scout gatherings is held every 3-4 years, and



Fig.1

are called “Jamboree”. Now this is a great scouting movement - more than 16 million people in 150 countries. What was the reason for such popularity? What fascinates millions of girls and boys in Scouting? Commandments Scouts have embraced the wisdom accumulated by mankind over history: to be honest and truthful, funny and humble, be a knight, defender of the poor and the weak, fight evil in the world to live for others, be better tomorrow than yesterday.

Life for others, life for themselves, traveling, adventures and tests that must be overcome only then - become a real person. The famous slogan of the Musketeers: “One for all and all for one”. Fraternal and mutual aid - that is the success of the brotherhood of Scouting. But even if there are a number of friends who can help in a difficult situation, do not despair, believe in yourself, and give up on the word is impossible. Anything is possible, just need to make efforts to work on yourself. Scouting is open to all regardless of creed or race. It does not represent and should not represent any political party or organization. However, Scouts are making a contribution to their society, their country. To become a scout or not - it's your decision, but remember - it is easy to become a scout, it is difficult - to stay.

The colonel sir Robert Stevenson Smith Baden-Pauell (Fig.2) based a scout movement in 1907 in Great Britain. It in 1907 founded the first camp on island Brounsi (Great Britain), and in 1908 the world famous book «Scouting for boys» was published. The idea of game scouting appeared at a siege of Mafekinga (Southern Africa) during the war (1899—1902) where Baden-Powell served as the brigade commander. On scout movement development have rendered a great influence of work of Ernest Seton-Tompsona and Deniela Carter



Fig.2



Byorda. In Russia scouting appeared in 1909. The founder the scout movement was Russian (and further Soviet)— colonel Oleg Ivanovich Pantjuhov (Fig.3) (since 1919 having title the Senior Russian Scout). The first scout fire was lit on 30<sup>th</sup> April, 1909, in Pavlovsk park. Approximate Number of Russian scouting in 2007 — 30 000.

Now in Russia there is no uniform in scout organization. It is possible to mention one of the largest Russian organizations: the Organization of the Russian Young Scouts, the National Organization of the Russian Scouts- Russian Union of Scouts, the Russian Association of girls-scouts. Education in scouting is conducted with the help of scout method.

Fig.3

The basis of the scout method consists in the following:

- Education on the basis of the promise. Each participant voluntary incurs the obligation to correspond to that image which is put in the promise and laws. Namely — comprehension of the debt to God, a civic duty and a debt before yourself.
- Patrol system or system of microgroups.
- Personal growth of participants (stimulating and developing programs) — the special programs calling participants to self-improvement, through development, performance of a civil and spiritual debt, through participation in local, regional national and international projects. Application of new and old forms, such, as specialities, digital system, design activity, cyclic games and so forth
- Activity on the nature. Constant practice of self-affirmation and development by means of the vigorous activity on the nature.
- Traditions (put in the start of motion, supplemented with participants).
- «Training through business» — a method introduced at the beginning of the last century from pedagogics where training basics obligatory realization of the theory in practice was meant.
- Support of adults. A general problem for giving of the organization the dynamically development and public character. System of a management of microgroups and courses of various levels, the international exchange of experience, turning of heads, steps of growth, rank and post.

The motto of scouts — «Be prepared»; in English it is reduced to the first letters the same as a surname of the founder of a scout movement (B.P.).The origin of this phrase is connected with initial patriotic character of a scout movement. Baden-Powell wrote on in 12 February, in 1908, an article in the magazine "Boy-scouting": «Be ready to die for the country if it is required; so when the moment will come, leave the house with confidence and without meditation about that, nevertheless will you be killed or not». One of the principles of a scout method — life on the basis of the promise and scout laws. Each person, entering scouts makes the promise. The scout promise: «Word of honor. I promise to do all my best the duty



Fig.4



Fig.5 – Scout’s emblems

to God and the Native land, to help people and to live under laws of the Russian scouts». Scouts live under certain laws. In each organization they are formulated differently. Scout’s emblem — a lily (Fig.4). The lily became a symbol of Skauting from the moment of its origin. Now it is used by 16 million scouts in many countries of the world. Three ends of a lily represent three elements of a scout oath: a debt to oneself, before people, before God. Scouts all over

the world shake left hands, instead of the right hand that is a sign of special friendship and belief. Scout salute is given at a full uniform and in solemn occasions, such as lifting and national colors descent, and at pronouncing of a scout oath. A variant of this symbol-salute is

the scout sign during which the right hand rises to the shoulder level, two fingers — big and a little finger are connected, two or three, depending on age of a scout, densely compressed (index, average and anonymous). Three fingers symbolize three main principles of scouting. The thumb and a little finger are connected together, to say that in scouting the senior helps the younger. The tie is obligatory and is a distinguishing element for each scout group; in color they can be various depending on the organization, a rank. It can have colors of a flag, municipal administration, region, country. The scout tie is fastened with special knot - bonds of friendship. Also, instead of knot sometimes is used a special clip. Special signs in the form of stripes which the scout carries on the uniform designate its achievement and this or that scout "specialty", for example, in cooking business, first-aid treatment, sports perfection etc.

I am a scout. At the given stage I am the leader. At my former school there was a group of scouts of "Zharky" (Fig.6) which was formed in 1994 and has been operating till the present time. In our group there is a tie, the uniform, there is a hymn. Two women and some instructors, who left school long time ago, supervise our group, but till now they remain in group, as well as me. There is a scouts saying - "If a scout, it means forever", and it is so! To be a scout it doesn't mean that you will be allocated in any place, it means to be



Fig.6

"in a soul", to have certain luggage of knowledge, experience, skills which always can be useful in life. I can confirm how exactly scouting has helped me to become a more open person, sympathetic, sociable. There is a set of examples when the children came to group being reserved, unsociable, hesitating, in a year they became other people. Scouting is a school of life which at the beginning prepares you for adult life, and then accompanies, helps you. I can confirm it by my own experience. It is easy to join the group but it is difficult to become a scout. In our group exists defined "sheet-beginners", in which points "knowledge and abilities" are reflected, which you should do to receive a tie. Dedication in



Fig.7

scouts occurs always in solemn conditions, the beginner makes a promise holding thus salute, the leader ties a tie on which there is a knot (knot of the first good deal) which the person to whom you have done good deal can untie it (helped somebody, does something good). During my study at school, I traveled with group almost in all corners of the small native land (Khakassia) and Russia. Also, each four years, our group went abroad, to Great Britain where took place international "meeting" of scouts from every corner of the globe.



Fig.8