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USING ELECTRONIC RESOURCE IN MORAL EDUCATION OF MEDICAL STUDENTS

The important component in training of medical students is moral education. To improve its quality the usage of modern technologies and first and foremost of electronic resource is of great importance. On the one hand, information in non-legible form makes it possible to expand knowledge about life and activity of famous historical figures which are the examples of the best humane qualities. On the other hand, the usage of electronic resource helps to get out this information to the audience by means of presentations, audio and video-films, conducting on-line conferences on the preset topic. Suchlike work is carried out at the lessons on History of Medicine and Language Training. In that way, performed study of the life and creative work of the famous playwright and physician Anton Chekhov showed that he paid great attention to the issues of humanism in medicine.

Anton Chekhov was born on the 29th of January 1860, the third of the six survived children, in Taganrog, a port on the Sea of Azov in the Yekaterinoslav Governorate.

Chekhov attended the Greek School in Taganrog and the Taganrog Gymnasium (since renamed the Chekhov Gymnasium). In 1879 Chekhov completed his schooling and joined his family in Moscow, having gained admission to the medical school at I.M. Sechenov First Moscow State Medical University.

In 1884 Chekhov qualified as a physician, which he considered his principal profession though he made little money from it and treated the poor free of charge.

In 1887, exhausted from overwork and poor health, Chekhov took a trip to Ukraine, which delighted him with the beauty of the steppe. On his return, he began writing a novella-length short story "The Steppe," which he called "something rather odd and much too original," and which was eventually published. In the narrative Chekhov evokes a chaise journey across the steppe through the eyes of a young boy sent to live away from home, and his companions, a priest and a merchant. "The Steppe" has been called a "dictionary of Chekhov's poetics".

In 1887 Chekhov published a collection of short stories "Dusk" and in 1888 he was awarded with Pushkin Prize for it.

In 1890 Chekhov undertook an arduous journey by train, horse-drawn carriage, and river steamer to the Russian Far East and the katonga, or penal colony, on Sakhalin Island, where he spent three months interviewing thousands of convicts and settlers taking up census. The letters which Chekhov wrote during the two-and-a-half-month journey to Sakhalin are considered to be the best description of living on Sakhalin. His remarks to his sister about Tomsk were: "Tomsk is a very dull town. To judge from the drunkards whose acquaintance I have made, and from the intellectual people who have come to the hotel to pay their respects to me, the inhabitants are very dull, too. "

Later, the inhabitants of Tomsk repaid Chekhov by erecting the monument to him.

Chekhov witnessed much on Sakhalin that shocked and angered him, including floggings, embezzlement of supplies, and forced prostitution of women. He wrote, "There were times I felt that I saw before me the extreme limits of man's degradation." He was particularly moved by the plight of the children living in the penal colony with their parents. For example:

"On the steamer "Amur" which was going to Sakhalin, there was a convict who had murdered his wife and wore fetters on his legs. His daughter, a little girl of six, was with him. I noticed wherever the convict moved, the little girl scrambled after him, holding on to his fetters. At night the child slept with the convicts and soldiers all in a heap together. "

Later, Chekhov concluded that charity was not the answer, the government had to finance humane treatment of the convicts. He inspected sanitary condition of the hospitals and medical care

rendered to children. His findings were published in 1893 and 1894 as "Sakhalin Island", a work of social science, not literature, that is worthy and informative rather than brilliant. [2]. Chekhov found literary expression for the "Hell of Sakhalin" in his short story "The Murder". In this story Chekhov described hard life of people on the island Sakhalin.

In 1892 Chekhov bought a small country estate of Melikhovo, about forty miles south from Moscow, where he lived with his family until 1899. "It's nice to be a lord," he joked to his friend Ivan Leontyev (who wrote humorous pieces under the pseudonym Shcheglov), but he took his responsibilities as a landlord seriously and soon made himself useful to the local peasants.

As well as rendering relief for victims of the famine and cholera outbreaks of 1892, he built three schools, a fire station, and a clinic, and made charitable donations for medical services to peasants in the outskirts of the village, despite frequent recurrences of his tuberculosis.

Mikhail Chekhov, a member of the household at Melikhovo, described the extent of his brother's medical commitments:

"From the first day that Chekhov moved to Melikhovo, the sick began flocking to him from twenty miles around. They came on foot or were brought in carts, and often he was fetched to patients at a far distance. Sometimes since early morning peasant women and children were standing before his door waiting. "

Chekhov's expenditure on drugs was considerable, but the greatest cost was making journeys of several hours to visit the sick, which reduced his time for writing. However, Chekhov's work as a doctor enriched his writing because he delivered medical care all strata of society: on the one hand he described unhealthy living conditions of the peasants, for example a short story "Peasants". On the other hand Chekhov visited the upper classes as well. In spite of wealth, he considered that money not always bring health and happiness. He described the same end of life of the poor and the riches: the same ugly bodies, physical helplessness and disgusting death.

In 1894, Chekhov began writing his play "The Seagull" in a lodge which he had built in the orchard at Melikhovo. In two years since he had moved to the estate, he had refurbished the house, followed the plow, planting many trees, which he looked after as though they were his children.

The first night of "The Seagull" in the Alexandrinsky Theatre in St. Petersburg on the 17th of October 1896 was a fiasco. But the play so impressed the theatre director Vladimir Nemirovich-Danchenko that he convinced his colleague Konstantin Stanislavski to make a new production for the innovative Moscow Art Theatre in 1898. Stanislavski's attention to psychological realism helped Chekhov to restore interest in playwriting. The Art Theatre commissioned more plays to Chekhov and the next year staged "Uncle Vanya", which Chekhov had completed in 1896. In March 1897, Chekhov suffered a major hemorrhage of the lungs during his visit to Moscow. With great difficulty he was persuaded to be admitted to the clinic where doctors diagnosed tuberculosis of the upper parts of his lungs.

After his father's death in 1898, Chekhov bought a plot of land at the outskirts of Yalta and built a villa into which he moved with his mother and sister the following year. Though he planted trees and flowers, kept dogs and tamed cranes and received guests such as Leo Tolstoy and Maxim Gorky, Chekhov always enjoyed travelling to Moscow and abroad. In Yalta he completed two plays for the Art Theatre "The Three Sisters" and "The Cherry Orchard".

On 25-th May 1901 Chekhov married an actress Olga Knipper.

In May 1904, Chekhov was terminally ill with tuberculosis [1].

Despite that Chekhov was an optimist and full of the joy of living, on the 15th of July of that year he died at the age of 44.

He insisted on the human nature of a medical profession, urging doctors to careful and patient treatment of the sick people. In many respects thanks to A.P. Chekhov, literary type of a cultural doctor, a doctor-humanist appeared in the world literature.

Such literary works as "The Doctor's Visit", "The Misery" could be written not only by the writing doctor, but by a doctor who is well-informed about the human soul and can describe the best characters. [2].

In the story "Typhus" A.P. Chekhov described a portrait of a patient and a kind doctor who didn't leave a sick man at hard time and saved his life. [2]

In the story "Ward № 6" A.P. Chekhov considered the problem of improvement of medical care to rural population, the advancement of quality of medical care for the poor, humane treatment of mentally ill patients. [2]

The hero of Chekhov's story "Attack" gained mental balance and rest thanks to a delicate, responsive doctor. [2]

Problems of mental disorders and timely given medical care were described by Chekhov in the story "The Black Monk". [2]

Medicine not always can save people's lives. In the story "Doctor" A.P. Chekhov described humane feelings of a doctor who treated a hopelessly ill boy. Doctor considered that boy to be his own son. [2]

A big sorrow came into the family of the doctor Kirilov - his only son died (the story "Enemies"). The same evening the doctor fulfilling his duty went to save the life of another person. [2]

Many literary personages are devoted to doctors, their hard and dangerous work.

Doctor Dymov (the story "Jumper") was a talented and respected person, he always treated his patients selflessly. Having saved the life of a seriously ill boy he got infected with severe disease which led to his death. [2]

The image of an honest, selfless doctor who had not been on leave for decades was described by Chekhov in his story "Princess". [2]

Medical profession requires striking a chord with any person. Such a personage of a kind, merry doctor is presented in the story "Fugitive". [2]

A man has to work heartily, must be useful for the society. This idea was described by Chekhov in his story "A Boring Story". A well known doctor, scientist, professor knew that because of a grave disease he would close his days soon. He tried to be active till the end of his life, to benefit people. [2]

Doctor Sobolev (the story "Wife") told that he had been working hard during 10 years but sometimes he didn't have money to buy tobacco. He said that society had to be humane with respect to poor people and to help them more. [2]

In the play "Uncle Vanya" doctor Astrov tells that he has been working hard from the morning till the evening without day-offs. Even at night he could be called in. He told about tight situation of the poor, about spread of epidemics among them. [2]

As example of the honest, hard-working, humane doctor was doctor in Chekhov's story "Ionych".

Poor working conditions were the causes of many diseases. In the story "The case from the practice" Doctor Korolyov named that the living and working conditions of factory workers were unhealthy. He considered the problem of humane attitude to working people. [2]

Chekhov's literary works have become sources of the description of humanism in medicine. In these works the author described unforgettable portraits of the skilled doctors who were the great humanitarians as well. We use electronic resource in moral education of medical students and consider it to be of great importance for future doctors.

References

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