

## **PSYCHOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL ASPECTS OF TOLERANCE DEMONSTRATION BY MILITARY PERSONNEL IN COMBAT CONDITIONS**

Nazaraliyeva Markhabo Khayitboyevna

Associate Professor of the Department of Military

Psychology and Pedagogy, PhD in Psychology

### **Abstract**

This article analyzes the psychological and social aspects of demonstrating tolerance by military personnel in combat conditions. It highlights the manifestations of tolerance at individual and group levels, its role in maintaining emotional stability in extreme situations, the importance of respecting cultural and religious diversity, and its significance in preserving harmony within military units. Additionally, the article examines the methods of military psychological training used to develop tolerance. The findings of the article can serve as a foundation for the development of practical programs in military personnel training.

**Keywords:** Tolerance, military psychology, combat conditions, stress, social adaptation, cultural diversity.

### **Introduction**

Strengthening the psychological preparedness of officers — the leadership corps of our national army — is considered one of the most important tasks facing the leadership of the Armed Forces. Within this framework, it is crucial to study the socio-psychological factors that may cause intolerance among military personnel. In our view, an essential aspect of fostering tolerance in military personnel is to encourage their acceptance of social diversity and differences, while promoting social activity and expanding interpersonal interactions to improve the effectiveness of communication with others and fellow unit members.

Modern military service conditions demand not only physical endurance and tactical readiness but also a high level of psychological resilience, social adaptation, and tolerance from military personnel. Tolerance, in particular, is a socio-psychological trait that ensures harmony within the military unit, helps

prevent conflicts, and promotes effective cooperation through respect for ethnic and cultural diversity. The concept of tolerance is being deeply studied within the fields of cultural anthropology, social psychology, and military psychology [1]. Tolerance is defined by UNESCO as “respect, acceptance and appreciation of the rich diversity of our world’s cultures, our forms of expression and ways of being human” [2]. It implies respectful attitudes toward the opinions, beliefs, and cultural approaches of others, as well as patience and willingness to compromise. In the context of military service, tolerance is not only a personal virtue but also a social tool essential for the stable functioning of the unit and the effectiveness of the group [3].

The expression of tolerance in combat situations depends on a service member’s emotional stability, ability to empathize, and behavior in tense conditions. Tolerance is especially important in preventing conflicts in units where military personnel of different ethnicities or religious backgrounds serve together [4].

Tolerance, through respect for cultural and social diversity, helps create a cohesive and trustworthy environment in combat units. For example, showing respect for each member’s religious beliefs, customs, and communication styles contributes to a positive overall atmosphere [5].

In military leadership, tolerance requires a specific strategic approach. A tolerant leader considers the opinions of each subordinate and incorporates diverse cultural and ethical standards in decision-making. This approach strengthens mutual trust between the leader and the unit and enhances cohesion. The development of tolerance is carried out within the framework of military psychological training. Through specialized training, it is possible to develop skills such as empathy, active listening, and intercultural communication. For instance, conflict resolution training or stress management techniques help increase levels of tolerance. Special endurance in officers will be focused on:

1. Speed-characterized by the ability of a person to move quickly for a long time without fatigue or violation of the technique. Usually this condition helps officers a lot when performing military training exercises.
2. Patience is characterized by performing actions with high strength for a long time. Usually, decision-making in training tactical processes is formed in officers so as not to lose the ability to think rationally in emergency situations.

3. Coordination is the skill of repeated repetition of complex technical and tactical actions. In this, officers are associated with the ability to adapt tactical actions to the situation.

4. Strength indicates the ability of muscles to perform heavy exercises for a long time without visible technical defects. This type of endurance indicates the ability of the muscles to contract again after a minimum period of time.

In the case of a corrective-adaptive effect on the cognitive component for the development of tolerance in military service personnel, the following aspects are emphasized:

1. Thinking: positive thinking in solving ethnic, group relations, constructive perception of the individual's own "I", achievement of those around him and develop the skills of rational thinking in order to accept as much of their shortcomings as possible, build constructive relationships;

2. Focus and concentration: tolerance in interpersonal relationships, the tolerant attitude of people towards each other often requires constant attention and concentration. The development of destructive information processing, the ability to direct focus in one place in achieving their transformation through constructive thoughts, can increase tolerance.

As a result, the skill of rational perception by officers of the complexity of the situation, the presence of the possibility of a different comprehensive assessment, ethnic harmonization of "me" and "US" is developed.

The next component is the affective component. As we know, on the basis of universal values lies social feelings. One of the social sensations that leads to the manifestation of tolerance in a person is empathy.

The effect of empathy on the manifestation of tolerance as a social feeling in prospective officers is characterized by:

- first of all, officers are observed in ensuring that their interlocutor receives, perceives his psychic state without any changes;
- officers, empathy, which requires the correct reception of his interlocutor for the right job, for his understanding, is manifested in harmony with the qualities of kindness;
- the sense of empathy in officers leads to a stronger manifestation of the nature of tolerance through the mechanism of identification in interpersonal relationships.

It is considered that an officer is able to adequately identify himself and others in his behavior, while having such emotional erudition as being able to anticipate various emotional experiences. In addition, in accordance with the content of the model, the cognitive, communicative, affective aspects that determine the manifestation of empathy as an internal factor in the behavior of officers are also considered important, in which the feelings of others formed in officers are characterized by the correct, without straying, semantic flexibility in thinking, as well as such characteristics as speech experience.

Another important aspect of the affective component of the psychological model is the emotional self – control skill in the individual. Providing situational causes to military personnel and training them to find a solution

1. Emotional regulation-the nature of tolerance in officers is harmonious with the control of experiences, feelings, control of emotions in interpersonal relationships. Emotion regulation learning to deal with stress and stay calm under pressure encourages the development of frustrating, social tolerance over time.

2. Self-education and management – overcoming difficulties and believing in the ability to succeed is an important aspect of the manifestation of tolerance in interpersonal relationships. Self-education and management of officers implies control over training and military assignments, their own experiences in disputes in interpersonal relationships.

The next component is the conative component. The purpose of introducing this component into our model is to form a constructive conflict resolution skill, assertive behavior. Because the level of tolerance of officers is a social layer with a heterogeneous character representative

It is required to clarify integrative aspects of tolerance in officers to personality traits. In order for a person to manifest a property of tolerance, to represent it in a behavior, the state of development of the following personality differential properties is important:

Social qualities - above all future officers in it, emotional stability, empathy, verbal and nonverbal-perceptual competence, reflection in communication are required. Because only officers with neuromuscular stability who are able to control their experiences can work in “hotspots” with individuals with different layers and worldviews, beliefs, and go through service activities.

Volitional qualities-a sense of purposefulness, endurance, national immunity have an important place in the procedure for working the professional activities of officers, their adaptation to training and military situations. Therefore, it is believed that the role of these qualities in the manifestation of tolerance is incomparable and it is believed to develop it.

Cognitive qualities-logical thinking, creativity, the skill of reflexive assessment of the situation are important in making decisions in case of emergency, being from a tolerant attitude towards the ethnic layer.

The development of these qualities in officers, the mutual harmonization of personal and professional masters on the basis of national values, leads to the manifestation of tolerance in interpersonal relationships.

In general, resilience and empathy in relationships with others are important in the manifestation of tolerance in officers. This is an important skill in managing difficulties and uncertainties in life with grace and peace of mind.[7]Research has shown that military personnel with a high level of tolerance experience lower levels of stress in extreme situations, feel stronger social support, and demonstrate higher motivation in their professional activities [6].

In conclusion, tolerance is one of the most essential personal qualities for the modern psychological profile of a military service member. It strengthens group trust, reduces conflicts, and contributes to the successful execution of combat missions. Tolerance should be considered an integral component of psychological training in military service.

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