SKILLED SEAPORT WORKER’S PROFESSIONAL VOCATION
MANAGEMENT AT THE ANTHROPOLOGICAL LEVEL
OF THE SEASHORE ENVIRONMENT

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Introduction

Relevance and novelty of the problem. We live in a contradictory time from the point of view of the higher education mission.

Higher education in Eastern Europe is more and more promoted to achieve the level of a narrow industrial school without a deep scientific base in the context of globalization.

However, higher education is politically characterized by the high requirements related to creativity, competences, valuable attitudes, vocational self-concept, ecological and political awareness, long-life learning etc.

So, the higher school is still preparing not ordinary seaport workers but skilled ones.

In order to achieve the mentioned level of higher education, we need to take into account the didactically important things as follows:
- Laws of the human nature,
- Structure of the personality,
- Motivation of ability to vocationally create oneself,
- Developing professional vocation,
- Free cognitive expression of the personality,
- Expansion of his/her horizons in general,
- Development of one’s own professional identity at conditions of democratic education.

One of possibilities to develop and naturally manage the professional vocation of a future skilled seaport worker is the knowledge of the natural vocation as an automatic expression of the human nature.

The environment of the seaport as a seashore helps the personality perceive oneself in his/her own natural existence, discover the anthropological similarities and human symbols of the seashore related to the natural human ambivalence (a tension of the body and soul, biology and techno-culture, as a relationship between the natural sea and the cultivated land) and try to ecologically harmonize oneself with oneself and with the environment.

Anthropological investigations are approaching to this scientific issue (Corbin 1994; Beresnevičius 2002; Schmid-Höhne 2006; Durkheim 2007; Tenzer 2007; Chiesa 2014; Lileikis 2011, 2015; Mega 2016; O’Connor 2016 etc.).

We can find some parallels in ancient mythology, Greek philosophy, modern sociology, modern and current psychoanalysis (Freud 1930; Wirth 2004; Kaufmann 2006 etc.).

Anthropology as a science of the human nature and its expression in personal and especially - socio-cultural and professional traditions, which are developed, can become the adequate methodological base to improve the personality of a skilled seaport worker and his/her professional vocation from the deep psychological point of view in reality of life.

The professional vocation of the personality in this case is valid as a natural personal expression and tendency to productively implement oneself in a chosen area.

Naturalness of the professional vocation of a skilled seaport worker is anthropologically characterized by the seashore, which symbolizes the human being at the deep psychological level. In this way the professional vocation can be not only traditionally recognized but also naturally strengthened by the natural environment, in which the
professional vocation of a skilled seaport worker will be eventually implemented.

The development and management of the natural professional vocation of a skilled seaport worker are not investigated usually from this important anthropological point of view.

The object of the research is an anthropological interpretation of the seashore in order to develop the natural professional vocation of a future skilled seaport worker.

The purpose of the paper is to conduct theoretical investigation of the anthropological level of a future skilled seaport worker’s natural professional vocation.

The objectives are as follows:
1. Revelation of dimension of the limit.
2. Consideration of dimension of the creative decision-making.
3. Characterization of dimension of the professional identity.

The main methods such as heuristic method and philosophical interpretation were used in the research.

The methodological principles are as follows:
– Existentialism, which emphasizes that the seashore is not only the work place of skilled seaport workers but also their existential state, in which semi-unconscious experiences of the natural and techno-cultural environment relate among themselves from the anthropological point of view;
– Humanism, which bases the commitment of a skilled seaport worker to act authentically according to one’s own natural professional vocation by implementing the humanistic nature, where biological and spiritual origins relate between themselves; the seashore symbolizes them as a relationship between the sea and techno-culturally developed land, and all their dynamic and creative tensions;
– Symbolic interactionism, which analyses the behavior that at the level of the seashore depends on the meaning of the seashore; perception of this meaning is the result of the social interaction (e.g. higher education) but meanings are applied and changed, depending on situations, in the processes of the interpretation;
– Psychoanalysis, which emphasizes the role of sub-consciousness, internal conflicts and defense mechanisms that are important factors regarding the interpretation of semi-unconscious relationships between the seashore and the personality of a skilled seaport worker.

Dimension of the limit

In narrow sense, the seashore can be simply considered as a limit that divides the land and sea. However, in general, reality of the seashore must be reflected in a broader context. The society goes from the seashore to the inland to create the civilization and culture but it comes back to acquire the origin of naturalness.

The seashore is like a station, where the wanderers stop because they are disabled to go further. The seashore is a place of meeting, of temporality and often of separation from seafarers, fishers or wanderers.

A future skilled seaport worker, by developing such kind of noble concept in the context of higher education, is able to nobly see one’s own profession and its quality.

The line of the seashore expresses a tension of two worlds or the relationship between two dimensions of the same world (Beresnevičius 2002). This is a tension of being here and moving forward. This is a place, where it is already no more and at the same time - not yet.

The seashore is an undefined conception, which expresses dualistic being, in which we are neither on the land nor at the sea. This is unclear existence between the land, that ensures supposed security, and the waters, that are characterized by the real dangers.

It is important to know the possibility of combining of contradictions. The human being exists in contradictions and doubts. However, contradictions can help achieve their harmony because it is solely possible to combine different things. There are great and deep psychological parameters of the human being, which are useful to get self-concept in the tension of the difficult professional life.

On the one hand, the seashore designates dualism because of two elements - the land and the sea. On the other hand, it expresses the integral and existential human identity. The seashore still is like the land but at the same time it is no more the land (Tenzer 2007).

The personality of a skilled seaport worker is unique because he/she professionally implements himself/herself in the tension of special natural relationships, which also show the dynamics of the body and soul of the human being. The goal of the human nature is fully undefined. However, the human being is pursuing the personal and professional goals by defeating psychological tensions and trying to implement the expression of naturally perceived his/her own identity.

We can state, that the seashore is neither a firmament of the land nor the huge sea. The seashore is also real and reliable, maybe a little bit mystical but necessarily metaphysical symbol of the limit.

It is a sign of the limit, limitations or restrictions. The land is limited. The sea is limited, too. They limit each other but also they both are inevitably bordered.

It should be explained as the most natural and universal school for them who:
- Reflect their existential modus vivendi in difficult situations;
- Become skilled seaport workers;
- Are able to make professional decisions needed here and now, e.g. by cargo handling, planning or controlling.

Moreover, the mentioned limit remains as some secrecy regarding the structure of nature and the work situations at the seaport, which require creative decisions.

The creative decision-making

The seashore is stable and temporarily reliable. However, the personality is freely looking to the sea horizon. The seashore is especially worth because it empowers to be (to coexist) the both forms of existence - the land and the sea.

There are a lot of similar forms of coexistence in nature, e.g.:
The human being, characterized by the metaphysical sense, is able to evaluate and use the indirectly expressed dualistically integral gifts from nature for his/her personal enrichment. The human being is a value, and he/she is experiencing different professional challenges. It is important to find a solution. Difficult situations are interesting because in them we can creatively find a solution. Nature itself is dynamic and universally symbolizing the existential and significant searches.

A skilled seaport worker must find the meaning and the way out and solve the problems. It is natural because the human nature is constructed regarding his/her existence in nature.

The human being, as a part of nature, reflects that, individually searches solutions, creates one’s own identity and develops one’s own creative professional vocation. There is also the question about some strange and beautiful ontological tension of relationships between the sea and the personality. People of all times have rushed to experience of this tension (Beckenhagen 1995).

This psychological tension gives reason to explain the social phenomenon when the people try to go hundreds of kilometers to be a little bit by the sea, to see, to calm down, to admire (e.g. the phenomenon of Palanga) and then to come back again to trivial gray of their daily life.

The land without the sea, and the sea without the land could not psychologically fully enrich the personality, which naturally wishes the experience of the mentioned existentially symbolical limit of the seashore.

When to compare a seafarer and a skilled seaport worker, we can find an advantage, which enriches namely a skilled seaport worker as the human being regarding his/her nature that is binary whole (composed by the body and soul). Although a skilled seaport worker is limited by his/her work and cannot be delighted with the seashore, however he/she is working at the seaport on the seashore and is able to perceive its limit (between the land and sea), which has based the creation of civilizations and their histories.

The educated seaport worker:
- Is not a primitive functionary;
- Is creative especially because of higher education;
- Becomes able to notice the spiritual products, which are created by the long-term culture of the world processes;
- As the personality creates the meanings;
- Is able to represent, e.g. his/her state, in any relationships because he/she is creative and characterized by a broad approach by experiencing the natural contradiction between the land and sea in his/her own nature. The mentioned limit between the land and sea marks the relationship between nature and culture. The landscape of many countries is characterized by the fact, that only the sea is a clear part of nature but from the seashore forms of expression of human techno-creative decisions already begin. It means the seaport buildings and technologies, urban artificial scenery and furnished districts. The land is overpowered by techno-culture of utilitarian needs. All that makes semi-unconscious impact on the ability of decision-making by working at the seaport, anthropologically characterized by experience of the creative tension regarding natural and cultural environments of the seashore.

**Dimension of the professional identity**

The human nature, which is characterized by ambivalence, naturally fits the dynamic duality of the seashore: the sea symbolizes the human biological nature; the land (with its seaport on the techno-cultural seashore, infra- and supra-structure, cranes, buildings, warehouses etc.) symbolizes the human spiritual nature, especially regarding knowledge. Both these origins compose a conflict and natural and professional challenge for a skilled seaport worker, which is characterized by semi-unconscious existential experiences of the seashore from the point of view of his/her professional identity (Fig. 1).

![Fig. 1. The anthropological relationship between sea-land and body-soul](image-url)
The model shows the relative tendencies in two main sections (sea-land and body-soul).

There is a natural conflict between the sea and land like between the body and soul by influencing of the factor of sub-consciousness.

So, a skilled worker, operating at the seaport (on the seashore), is experiencing the natural professional vocation when the natural dynamic limit of sea-land meets the natural dynamic limit of body-soul in the personality.

We can suppose that it naturally helps the skilled seaport worker creatively operate and create his/her own professional identity on the seashore because of mentioned natural and techno-cultural similarities between nature and the personality.

Nature is like the personality. The seaport symbolizes the human professional development from the anthropomorphic point of view. Technological development (from the seashore to the seaport) relates to the personality, which develops the culture of his/her professional competences.

The psychoanalytical approach allows to consider the relationship between the human consciousness and sub-consciousness.

Perception of unconscious motives and raising of them to the level of consciousness were compared with the drainage of the Zuiderzee of the Netherlands in order to protect the land from the North Sea flood (Goldschmidt 2003).

The tradition of symbolization allows to develop the additional parallel between ships, which connect different seashores, and intercultural competence, which helps collaborate the educated seaport workers characterized by different mentality.

Moreover, the human being at the transcendental level expresses as a mark of the limit between nature and culture. He/she naturally perceives that he/she is not only determined by nature, physiology or limits of his/her own materialistic nature.

The relationship to the sea opens freer and broader thought-horizons from the point of view of the personality’s development.

Feeling of transcendence characterizes the personality who abides by the sea. He/she symbolically rises above the visible material nature. It shows the potential nobler state of the personality and his/her most relevant need - freedom, which especially relates to the ability of creativity.

The personality, remaining natural one, at the same time can learn to separate oneself from limits of the nature and open for transcendental reality. It gives the personality great existential satisfaction.

The sea promotes the human consciousness to rise above trivial being, problems, slavery of the work routine, by combining physiological needs with the spiritual ones.

The mentioned self-separation as opposition to gray daily routine helps improve the personality and his/her identity.

The founder of psychoanalysis S. Freud (1930), according to ancient sources, reflections, researches and personal scientific insights, has considered the self-separation (like a contrast) as a priority of opportunity of human happiness (Freud 1930).

The seashore environment relates to the natural psychological tension of limits. However, the psychological harmony can be created at the same time, too.

The scientists and artists, e.g. F. Nietzsche, S. Freud, V. Mykolaïtis-Putinas, M. K. Čiurlionis etc., have productively reflected and created when being on the seashore. They appreciated the sea very much from the existential point of view.

During reflection the personality can use his/her natural and relevant allegorical thinking developed at the level of symbols. Experienced sea fear can be allegorically related to the worry of life as an ancient source of wisdom, and experienced joy can stimulate aspirations to solve problems or defeat professional difficulties.

Although the seaport and natural seashore are different things but the tension of relationship between both elements (the land and the sea) can be psychologically experienced.

This tension also means the productive creativity (e.g. the marine business on the seashore, where both elements causes the useful psychological tension, especially at the unconscious level) and helps develop the professional identity of a skilled worker.

So, we can suppose, that it is meaningful at the level of a skilled seaport worker, too.

**Ecological dimension**

The mentioned things also compose the anthropological base of the ecological development because of natural methodological commonality between the human nature and processes in nature. Nature itself is the great teacher of the human life style aesthetics who can enrich the personality with ecologically worth information of nature (Jovaiša 2001).

We cannot justify the pollution of the environment. However, we have to understand the psychological causes of the pollution in order to achieve educational changes in a field of the ecological consciousness. Insufficiently educated person, who unconsciously or semi-unconsciously feels dirty at the spiritual level, pollutes his/her own environment.

So, the personality is dividing himself/herself because of his/her narrow education, and he/she cannot love and appreciate oneself (his/her own life) and spiritually rise after inevitable frustrations at work or in life at all. The psychological projection can explain the self-pollution.

Spiritually miserable human being pollutes oneself by polluting his/her own natural environment. This is like a suicide.

However, when the person is aligning with nature and is searching for his/her own identity in his/her natural environment regarding his/her personal nature, he/she is able to resist the dividing and can create individual way of harmony by remaining in the existential and vocational harmony based on contrasts of nature.
All that is unavoidably experienced at the level of sub-consciousness and can be integrally united at least semiconsciously. Harmony of the personality naturally requires the comprehensive approach. Only the science and higher education can develop this approach and give meaning to it.

The development of the natural professional vocation of a skilled seaport worker relates to the existentially ecological improvement of all his/her personality’s powers, also including less obvious powers of nature, which are forgotten, suppressed, underdeveloped or not recognized in the popular culture of fast and superficial professional activity.

Conclusions

The environment of the seaport as a seashore helps the personality perceive oneself in his/her own natural existence, discover the anthropological similarities and human symbols of the seashore related to the natural human ambivalence.

The seashore marks dualism because there are two elements - the land and water. At the same time it expresses the integral existential individuality of the human being.

The personality of a skilled seaport worker is unique because he/she is professionally implementing himself/herself in the psychological tension of special own relationship with nature, which expresses the dynamics between the body and soul.

Although a skilled seaport worker is limited by his/her work and cannot be delighted with the sea-horizon, however he/she is working on the seashore and is able to perceive its limit, which has created civilizations and their histories.

The educated seaport worker is not a primitive functionary. He/she is creative because of higher education, which can enrich the personality, so that he/she becomes able to notice the products, which are created by the long-term culture of the world processes.

The seaport symbolizes the human professional development from the anthropomorphic point of view. Technological development of the seashore relates to the personality, which in oneself develops the culture of professional competences.

When the person is aligning with nature and is searching for his/her own identity in his/her natural environment regarding his/her personal nature, he/she is able to resist the personal dividing and can create individual way of harmony by remaining in the existential and vocational harmony based on contrasts of nature.

The results of the research can be applied by preparing skilled seaport workers at the anthropological, psychoanalytical and ecological levels.

References


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