Summary


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Topicality of the research is that in the recent decades the role of the Far-East region in the world policy is growing. Russia by virtue of its political and economic specific features regards the Far East direction as one of the strategic aspects of its foreign political program. The most important partners for Russia in the Far East are Japan and the People’s Republic of China. The Russian Federation has to balance between these two subjects in the international policy due to their complicated relations where the historical aspect makes a great difference. The key issue in the Chinese-Japanese relations are the tragic events of World War II, when the Japanese occupation authorities started on the occupied Chinese territories mass terror campaigns that entailed mass victims numbering millions of people. It goes without saying that the Japanese occupational regime and its aggressive policy were not unique neither during World War II, nor in world history. So, it is important to track all the stages of the Japanese occupation of China and find out what caused the repressive measures without making an attempt to justify the actions of the Japanese side. Either it was an act of intimidation or the retaliation activities regarding the military activities of the Chinese patriots who were fighting for their independence.

Objective of the research is the study of the atrocities committed by Japan against China during the 1937-1945 Chinese-Japanese war and also its analysis from the historical viewpoint.

Tasks:
- to analyze the peculiarities of the formation of Japanese militarism;
- to examine the specific features of the Japanese occupation of the PRC, the repressive methods, terrorist actions;
- to interpret the role of the Japanese repressions regarding the Chinese society;
- to explore the specific features of the legal processes over the Japanese military criminals.

**Theoretical and practical significance of the research** is that it includes the interpretation of the problems connected with the peculiarities of the development of Japan’s militarization, with the outcomes of the military crimes of this country as regards the PRC. It is believed that the materials of this graduation qualification paper will be used to prepare teaching aids in the history of China and Japan, which is a required discipline for the students of “Oriental and African studies”, to write students course papers, to develop innovative projects and mini-projects in “The history of the target country (China)”.

**Results of the research** showed that the events of the Japanese-Chinese war and World War II made an unbelievable impact on all the levels of the life of those countries that participated in them. It is also worth noting that in the conditions of the open struggle the true goals of many countries were revealed. In the context of the issue under study the goal of Japan was evidently world supremacy. The aggressive policy conducted by Japan included a forced capture of the territories with the subsequent enslavement of the population that lived on those territories. At the same time the events studied opened up quite a new page in the history of China and Japan.

**Recommendations:**
- The origin of the regular armed forces in Japan in the late 19th – early 20th centuries.
- The outlook for further research: to add more information about the modern assessment of the events of the Japanese-Chinese war.