

THE BIRTH OF THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL IDENTITY

Name of Student

Course

Name of Professor

University

Date

## The Birth of the Australian National Identity

The unique Australian identity has always been a question of great interest for many researchers. Influenced by many historical and cultural events, the country's national identity has a specific pattern, including cultural, collective moral, and experience factors. While discussing the Australian national identity, it is crucial to address the mythological and national elements of the identity concept. Many scientists address the question of Australia's national identity. Thus, Australians' identity is often considered from two perspectives: multiculturalism and cultural-historical peculiarities.

The first point is presented in the theoretical research held by Anthony Moran. The author analyses different ethnic, migration, and historical peculiarities to prove Australia has a multicultural identity (Moran, 2017). Another point of view on the same problem is presented in the book by Jim McKay. The author focuses on analyzing the impact of Anzac soldiers on the Australian cultural identity throughout the myths.

Even though the two mentioned studies discuss the same topic, there are similarities and differences in arguments, approaches, and overall conclusions. Thus, McKay (2018) analyses the remarks of the outstanding personalities about the Anzac's influence on the Australian identity. The author points out that the First World War gave the Australians the idealized image of the Gallipoli Campaign soldier, who readily sacrifices life for the mother country (McKay, 2018). Therefore, the author concludes that the Anzac plays an outstanding role in Australians' culture and self-identification.

Moran also uses comparative analysis to present the remarks of people who support or reject the theory of Australian multiculturalism. However, contrary to McKay, Moran (2017)

critically analyzes the proposed ideas and supports multicultural identification with the proper proof. Both authors present the historical events which influenced the national identity of Australians. Moran (2017) primarily emphasizes the migration and racial aspects, while McKay (2018) is concerned with depicting the historical events of the First World War. Thus, McKay used correlations primarily as a research method to show the Anzac myth relations. In contrast, Moran uses case study and observation methods to imply the national diversity as a reason for Australian multiculturalism.

Therefore, according to the analyzed research, Australian cultural identity's main factors are multiculturalism and the Anzac soldiers' image. The results are profound, but they are mainly concentrated on one point and do not cover the Australian national identity as a whole. McKay's and Moran's analyses have practical significance but lack statistical data. Thus, this question requires additional study and examination.

Reference List

McKay, J. (2018) 'National myths and Gallipoli', in *Transnational tourism experiences at Gallipoli*. Singapore: Springer, pp. 33-63.

Moran, A. (2017) *The public life of Australian multiculturalism*. Cham: Palgrave Macmillan.