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**Relevant issue of modern cartography**

**Abstract**

Cartography is represented with five aspects (forms) at its present stage of development: 1) Cartography as an academic science; 2) Cartography as a branch of production and a system of technological tools; 3) Cartography as a methodological system; 4) Cartography as a branch of military; 5) Cartography as a branch of art;

The scientific aspect of cartography is investigated i.e. there is studied its general theory - the doctrine of the subject, method and language (the big triad of cartography), and it has own defined place in the general classification system of sciences. There are relevant issues in the modern theory of cartography, such as: the problematics of the language of map, problem of scale, system of mapping concepts, conceptual-terminological system.

At the present stage of development of thematic cartography, such directions are considered as relevant: Geoecological cartography, landscape cartography, border mapping, sport mapping, sustainable tourism mapping, graphic software of cartography, military cartography, physiographic cartography, historical cartography. In accordance with these directions, the whole range of issues is presented at scientific forums (seminars, conferences, symposia, congresses) protected by commissions of the International Cartographic Association. This work presents the topic that is relevant in modern cartography and is widely discussed at the annual conferences InterCarto/InterGIS, which have been held under the auspices of the commission of the international cartographic association - "GeoInformation for Sustainability", since 1994.

**Keywords:** Theory of cartography,

Language of map,

Cartographic generalization,

Time scale,

Thematic cartography,