



Editorial Policy

European Journal of Science and Theology is an international journal that accepts for publication reviewed original papers, short communications, reviews and conference proceedings on a broad range

of topics of interest for both scientists and theologians working mainly in the area of Science & Theology.

The aim of the journal is to serve the theological community with information provided

and arranged to help them better understand the new scientific discoveries and studies that may be connected by their relevance to their own field or in associated fields.

THE LATE ANTIQUE DONARIUM FROM BIRTHÄLM (BIERTAN) IN THE CONTEXT OF ROMAN RELIGION

The renowned piece from Late Antiquity (Figure 1), first discovered in 1775 and rediscovered in the archives of the Brukenthal-Museum in Sibiu/Hermannstadt in 1940 by Kurt Horedt, was considered for a long time an important prove for the continuity of a Romanized and Latin speaking population in today Romania during the Migration Period.

This hypothesis was used to claim that the Hungarians conquered in the Middle Ages a Proto-Romanian Transylvania with a population, descended from the inhabitants of the Roman Empire. This politically blurred view, endorsed by nationalist and later on communist leaders, was settled after 1990. As there is no ecclesiastical context, not even remains of a chapel or an hermitage at the spot where the

Donarium had been found, today most of the scholars,



Figure 1. The Biertan Donarium [Algos, Creative commons licence, Wiki Commons].

also in Romania, hold that we have to deal with an important piece which seems to have been part of the prey of a Germanic looter, who took this Donarium with him to his dwellings in Transylvania [1,

2]. For the questions touched in this paper mainly the attached text is of interest, and not the Christogram connected to it (which had itself a now lost candelabra attached below). The text in bronze reads EGO ZENOVIVS VOTVM POSVI (“I, Zenovius, offered this as fulfilment of my vow”) and represents a classical formula for votive inscriptions in Roman Religion. With this formula a dedicatator wants to thank a deity for a service for which he promised a solemn vow, which is fulfilled with the deposition of the object in a temple (or a temple area, temenos), or, as in this case, in a church.

[...more at](#)

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DIVINE IMMUTABILITY PERFECTION OR FLAW?

Abstract: Process theology stands in contrast to classical theism in its conception of God and the divine attributes. The crucial point in this confrontation is their way of interpreting „divine perfection“ (actus purus). The major point of disagreement – which is also the cornerstone in process theological worldview and is also the root of their different viewpoints in regard to all the divine attributes – is the idea of „process“. From this element of „process“ the idea of the „divine mutability“ is born. Therefore, one of the major differences between traditional/classical theology and process theology is the idea of divine immutability. In the Islamic tradition, too, this attribute has been very much highlighted. In this contribution I seek to criticize the doctrine of divine mutability, based on the Islamic tradition and from the Islamic speculative perspective. To achieve this goal, after having discussed the major divine attributes in process theology, then in the second part, I will explore and criticize from an Islamic perspective process theology’s conception of divine mutability. And finally and in the third part, I will critically study some of the main teachings of process theology.

INCORPORATING THE ISLAMIC AND JAVANESE CULTURAL PRACTICES TO PROMOTE SOCIAL COHESIVENESS AMONG THE ARDA ART COMMUNITY IN PEKALONGAN, INDONESIA

Abstract: This paper aims to explore the relationship between Islam and Javanese culture viewed from the way of life and social actions of Arda Art Community. Data collection method in this study includes observation and in-depth interviews to the leaders and members of the Arda Art Community. By using discourse and content analysis, this study links the findings obtained from the progressive discussion related to Islam and Javanese culture. This research concludes that the social interactions among Arda Art Community members are able to support their social cohesion. In addition, it is believed that the Javanese society is not syncretic as Clifford Geertz, Andrew Beatt, Niels Mulder, etc. said, and not acculturative as Robert W. Hefner, Mark Woodward, Marshall G. Hodgson, etc. assumed. There is similarity between Islam and Javanese culture, which is the recognizing of God (Tauhid), emphasizing the usefulness of life, the importance of politeness, and keeping the harmony among human being, animals, and Universe. Regarding the similarity, Javanese society accepted Islam rapidly without any conflicts as occurred in other areas, which assumed that Islamic and Javanese values originally are from the same sources.

THE THEOLOGY OF SAINT GREGORY PALAMAS INNOVATION OR TRADITIONS’ CONTINUATION?

Abstract: The article is devoted to questions of the relation of Saint Gregory Palamas to the issue of Theology. His doctrine is of considerable interest to Orthodox understanding of divinity, including the Orthodox ecclesiology. Besides, the questions important for philosophical, Church and historical science are revealed in the article as gives the chance to disclose the cultural and historical implication of theological concepts of the West and Byzantine East in the 14th century. This time is considered some kind of respite of East Empire and the period of its cultural blossoming after the Latin empire crash. It is created on the Rome empire fragments and before its disintegration in 1453 that gives the chance to pay attention to this historical period. On the basis of Saint Gregory Palamas’s doctrines, together with other theologian’s contemporaries, the authors of article solve the question of whether it is necessary to refer the divinity of Palamas as continuation of the Greek tradition, or it is an innovative discovery.

ON VALUES POPE JOHN PAUL II’S MESSAGE TO THE YOUTH

Abstract: The aim of the present article is to show to young people a vision of life which is based on a sound and healthy conception of life, a search for the truth, a realization of the ideal of love, and also a life in freedom, as expounded in the teaching of Pope John Paul II.

(RE)INVENTING SACRED PLACES IN THE CONTEXT OF CONTEMPORARY PAGAN

Abstract: Sacred places accompany humanity all over its history as an essential component of religious life. In the contemporary context, new religions and religious movements that appeared on the scene in the last century also need to claim or invent traditions to legitimize them. Among doctrines, rituals and priesthood, frequently these traditions include sacred places. Following a similar recipe, contemporary Druidism and Zalmoxianism invented their own sacred sites. Druidism reclaims Stonehenge, abusively assigning it with a Celtic origin and esoteric functions, while Zalmoxianism identifies the legendary Kogaionon in Bucegi or Ceahlău Mountains. In this context, two new sacred sites are brought to existence on the religious map of the world. Despite the multitude of arguments against their claims, hundreds and thousands of devotees does not experience a cognitive dissonance in this respect. It is to be seen if these places will pass the test of time and belief.

FROM EXTRINSIC DESIGN TO INTRINSIC TELEOLOGY

Abstract: In this paper I offer a distinction between design and teleology, referring mostly to the history of these two terms, in order to suggest an alternative strategy for arguments that intend to demonstrate the existence of the divine. I do not deal with the soundness of either design or teleological arguments. I rather emphasise the differences between these two terms, and how these differences involve radically different arguments for the existence of the divine. I argue that the term „design“ refers to an extrinsic feature that was in history understood to be imposed by God in nature, while one may argue for an internal tendency, what I call „teleology“. I first offer a historical tour of design arguments and how the basic notion of design was understood in extrinsic terms. I then briefly present three kinds of objections available in history to these arguments: philosophical, scientific, and theological. I finally move to discussing an intrinsic understanding of teleology, and how this notion differs from that of extrinsic design. I end the paper showing how this notion could be useful in interpreting processes in nature, in particular the reproductive tendencies in living beings.

ASPECTS TO BE KNOWN BY MARINE CARRIERS INVOLVED IN HALAL FOOD CHAIN

Abstract: Halal food (permissible nourishment) is the dietary requirement for the Muslims, defined and mentioned clearly in the Holy book of these believers, the Quran. Since the Muslim population is in growth, the halal food market is seen to be profitable not only for Muslim companies, but also for non-Muslim businesses worldwide. The truthness of halal food might be affected during transport services, being requested the segregation of workers and facilities. Muslim consumers are interested in knowing if these aspects are accomplished. The integrity of halal food is ensured by halal food chain – discussed in the paper. This study deals with aspects to be known by marine carriers from non-Muslim countries, interested in the profit resulted from this sector and involved in the halal food chain. Are described the specific features of halal food dedicated transport and principles to be adopted by marine carriers, when their business deals with halal food.



RELIGIOUS AND HALAL TOURISM ORGANIZATION PECULIARITIES IN MUSLIM REPUBLICS

Abstract: The research relevance of certain types of tourism dedicated to organizational characteristics in the republics in which Islam is predominant is explained by the high rate of Muslim population growth throughout the world. It is important to understand both Muslim tourists' requests and the factors determining local population attitude towards tourists visiting religious Islam sites. In this regard, the purpose of this article is to identify factors that have a positive and negative impact on tourism development, to determine the characteristics of halal tourism in the Muslim republics. Leading methods in the study of this issue were the bibliographic search method, theoretical and empirical method, i.e. consolidation method and generalizations of the research results, methods of expert assessment, complex issue analysis, the method of vector preferences. Also, a criterion method was used to study the religious phenomenon and the method of reconstructing the cultural and religious landscape in the Muslim republics. In the article, we explained the difference between religious tourism, pilgrimage, and halal tourism, factors that caused the rapid growth of halal tourism in the world. We present the results as religious and halal tourism organization features on the example of two countries - Republics of Uzbekistan and Tajikistan, as well as one of the subjects in the Russian Federation - the Republic of Tatarstan. The authors provided positive examples of religious and halal tourism development in the Republic of Tatarstan in the Russian Federation, formation of tourist services and products aimed at the Muslims (Muslim-friendly travel), and also identified problems that prevent the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Republic of Tajikistan from tourist flow increase in the direction of religious tourism.

DIVERGENCE OF SUPREME VALUES OF RUSSIAN WORLD AND WESTERN CIVILIZATION SOCIAL AND PHILOSOPHICAL ANALYSIS

Abstract: The relevance of the study is determined by growing tensions in the relations between the Russian Federation and the countries of the Western world, as well as the aggravating Russophobia and anti-Russian propaganda. One of the reasons for this is the divergence of the supreme values of these cultural and civilizational paradigms. Social and philosophical conception of the phenomenon of supreme values and differences in their meaning are important, because in the modern world, they are among the most crucial elements of the formation of national consciousness and civic identity, and, as a spiritual and social construct, can be understood using some philosophical methods with a glance to new realities of life. The article provides a social and philosophical analysis of various approaches to the understanding of the phenomenon of supreme values, their particular features in the framework of the Russian World and Western civilization historically and in the modern science. It is established that the divergences in the value orientations of the two modern global civilizations trace their origins to the contradictions of the Orthodoxy and Protestantism. It is found that in recent decades, the universal supreme values of the Western world have been undergoing a significant transformation due to the influence of postmodern ideas, while in the Russian world the traditional values continue to prevail.

TRENDS IN MEDIA GLOBALIZATION AND OLIGARCHIZATION

Abstract: This paper explores the trends of media globalization and media oligarchization in post-socialist countries with a special focus on Slovakia. The author builds her argumentation on several premises. Her assumption is that the globalization processes in the field of media have been, and continue to be, part of the strategy of media companies. The present paper points out a shift in media ownership in the central European region, including Slovakia. It is, the author maintains, a result of the 2007 economic crisis as well as the 'classical media' crisis, apparent from the drop in the numbers of readers, listeners and viewers and, subsequently, a decline in profits. In addition, the paper asserts that the media oligarchization process can be interpreted as a consequence of this crisis.

A PHILOSOPHICAL VIEW OF ORGANIZATIONAL CULTURE POLICY IN CONTEMPORARY UNIVERSITIES

Abstract: The identity and uniqueness of an educational institution, among other things, can be maintained through the creation and support of organizational culture. Due to team spirit created and maintained in universities they are able to compete not only in the Russian national education system but also confidently declare their projects in the world of global educational services. The purpose of the paper is to identify the features of organizational culture in the competitive environment of modern universities. The authors present their views on how the organizational culture of the university is created in this competitive environment. This process represents a well-planned policy that takes into account social demands, economic interests of the educational organization and its established traditions and values, continuity of human resources policy, and creation of conditions for further development of the academic staff professional interests and career paths. The practical implementation of the policy proposed will help create an educational corporation with the predominance and development of intellectual capital, academic freedom, thus providing further impetus for the development of Science.

FORMING A CHILD'S MORAL CULTURE IN A MULTI-CONFESSIONAL SOCIETY

Abstract: Moral education mostly aims to form an individual's moral culture. The latter can be called „morality in action“, i.e. morality that is realized in a person's daily behaviour. It is based on deep moral consciousness combined with moral feelings and human will whose bearer can make a choice and perform a deed in the reasonable and responsible manner. This research aims to review and analyse the concept of moral culture as one of the main components of an individual's spiritual culture, as well as to consider experimental studies on the formation of interreligious tolerance constituting the moral culture of children of the senior preschool age. The article analyses the conceptual and theoretical foundations of moral culture as one of the main components of an individual's spiritual culture. The authors have distinguished criteria, levels and indicators forming the interreligious tolerance of senior pre-schoolers in the experimental part of their study. They have also considered diagnostic methods for identifying personal qualities, the state of its formation and dynamics at the ascertaining and formative stages of the experiment in specific pedagogical conditions.

SUSTAINABLE LIFE CONDITIONS FROM THE VIEW OF LOGIC, PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY

Abstract: Scientists have always been interested in the question of conditions for emergence of life. The aim of the study is to show the possibilities of life outside of Earth in the logic of possible worlds and through the view of Physics and Astronomy. It is necessary to say that this is not a simple question. It is a topic related to many multidimensional issues relating mainly to Astronomy, Physics and Chemistry. The above topic is also related to logic and semantics of possible worlds and it has more levels. First of all, there is the level of semantics and logic. Then there is the second - empirical level. With respect to the empirical level there are several issues - the question of parallel worlds, the question of Ockham's razor and multiverses, the question of fine-tuning the constants, and the theory of dwindling probability. The aforementioned questions form a puzzle directly connected to the basic question of conditions for emergence



of life. Obviously, the said question correlates with the topic of anthropic principle. We are not convinced that the arguments for life in space are sufficient. In view of the anthropic principle, we believe that it is almost impossible to repeat similar conditions for life as in our Universe. If it were repeated for example in a parallel world, there would be no information link.

WORLDVIEW ORIENTATIONS OF RELIGIOUS LITERATURE AS AN AGENT OF SOCIALIZATION IN THE MODERN SOCIETY

Abstract: The article explores the concept and the essence of religious socialization as well as the role of religious literature in the socialization of individuals. The authors suggest a classification of religious texts and give recommendations regarding usage of religious literature as an agent of socialization in the modern society. The relevance of this topic lies in the fact that local cultures might lose their identities when borrowing the features typical for other world cultures. As a result, the process of individual socialization often includes the adoption of immoral and anti-spiritual ideas. However, religious literature, as one of the agents of socialization, can exercise a positive influence on this process. Scientific novelty of the paper consists in the analysis of factors involved in religious socialization and determination of the function of religious literature in this process.

V. Y. PROPP AND C. LÉVI-STRAUSS ON THE MYTH AND FOLKTALE

Abstract: The article contains a textual and historical-philosophical analysis of V.Y. Propp and C. Lévi-Strauss's debates regarding V.Y. Propp's book entitled „The morphology of the folktale“. This dispute showed the incompatibility of seemingly related morphological and structural analyses of folklore materials and attracted much attention of ethnographers, semiologists and literary historians. According to the hypothesis put forward in this article, the fundamental difference between the two approaches is not their methods, which is usually suggested, but their understanding of the research subject and its boundaries. C. Lévi-Strauss criticized V.Y. Propp's research model because it does not and cannot include the myth that is primary to the folktale. In his turn, V.Y. Propp reproached structuralism for not „seeing“ folktales. While analysing the debates of these scholars, the authors of the article have proved that the relationship of myths and folktales exceeds the scope of ethnography and can be considered as a philosophical problem.

RELIGIOUS IDENTIFICATION OF MODERN KAZAKHSTANI WOMEN

Abstract: This article considers the formation of religious identity of Kazakhstani women. Against the background of transformation of the entire social system, decrease in the role of basic traditional institutions, which ensure the socialization of the young generation, an increase in religiosity of the population and the predominance of religious rules and canons in the daily life of women has been observed. In academic circles, low interest in issues of women's religiousness, their social and political activity does not mean that the problems of this social group are insignificant. In light of this, the authors make one of the first attempts to study the social status of Kazakhstani women. In particular, they analyse the role of religion, religious canons, rituals and holidays in their lifestyle, career choices and family life. The article presents data from a sociological study organized by the authors.

CROSS-CULTURAL MANAGEMENT IN THE SYSTEM OF HARMONIZATION OF INTERESTS IN THE MULTI-CONFESSIONAL EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

Abstract: Despite the existence of numerous studies devoted to cross-cultural management in the area of public administration, nowadays, the formation of polycultural competence related to adaptive functions of cross-cultural management in the multi-confessional environment remains an unsettled problem. In the article, the essence of cross-cultural management as a factor of harmonization of interests in the multi-confessional environment is specified. Its content, character, as well as primary goal and objectives, are revealed. Since it is necessary to use cross-cultural management in educational institutions, the authors have determined and systematized the main indicators, which characterize personal cross-cultural features of a manager in the education sector. The characteristics of polycultural competence components, which education managers need to solve problems related to cross-cultural management have been presented as well. The authors note that it is reasonable to consider cross-cultural aspects in the field of education and the importance of including cross-cultural content into the preparation of future education managers.

THE LATE ANTIQUE DONARIUM FROM BIRTHĂLM (BIERTAN) IN THE CONTEXT OF ROMAN RELIGION

Abstract: This paper deals with the famous Biertan Donarium. The Donarium is a fourth-century Christian votive object found near the small town of Biertan, in Transylvania, Romania. Made out of bronze in the shape of a Labarum, it has the Latin text EGO ZENOVIVS VOTUM POSVI, which can be approximately translated as „I, Zenovius, offered this as fulfilment of my vow“. In this paper we put this important piece, which had been part of the décor of a church, into the context of early Christian religion, which was still much linked to the classical pagan ways of veneration in the context of Roman Religion. For ancient Roman religion as well as for modern Christians it seems that the relational framework of mutual gratitude between men and deities is quite the same.

HOW TO REVEAL THE INVISIBLE THE FUNDAMENTAL ROLE OF DIAGNOSTICS FOR RELIGIOUS PAINTING INVESTIGATION

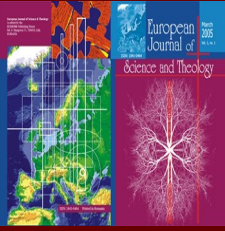
Abstract: This paper reports the study of a little panel painting, from a private collection, which represents a landscape with figures dated back to a period between 19th and 20th century. When the painting was observed for the first time it immediately appeared evident the presence of another painting under the visible surface. This evidence was supported by the observation of small traces of colour in correspondence of lacunae of the surface painting and by the presence of an ancient wooden support. For these reasons it was decided to perform a non-invasive diagnostic campaign in order to understand the stratigraphy of the panel paintings and consequently to choose if removing the landscape. Video microscope acquisitions, infrared reflectography, ultraviolet fluorescence photography, X-ray fluorescence spectroscopy, radiography and wood characterization were selected as non-invasive and micro-invasive diagnostic techniques able to supply information useful for painting investigation and detection. The combined use of these techniques revealed the presence of a beautiful and well-preserved painting, hidden by the landscape representation. The ancient painting shows the Virgin with the Child and Saint Catherine from Alexandria (16th century). Due to this extraordinary result, it was chosen to remove the contemporary painting and restore the old representation.

ESSENTIAL VALUES IN THE DESIGN OF AUGMENTED-REALITY APPLICATIONS FOR MUSEUMS

Abstract: Augmented-reality applications are rapidly making their way to contemporary museums. Can we draw a set of clear standards to define „excellence“ in this field? While technical standards have been discussed in other works, we want to address the intellectual and experiential value of these newly-formed hybrid spaces. We look at religious books as examples of museum exhibits that can become subject to augmentation and wonder what exactly can be won and

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what exactly risks being lost in the process of their „augmentation“. The values we discuss in this article as being essential to the users of this technology can be translated into a set of key-questions that need to be raised with regard to the design of any augmented reality installation with cultural purposes.

STUDYING LIGHT-CATCHING ELEMENTS OF QAJAR MOSQUES IN SHIRAZ

Abstract: Light is one of the factors affecting the space value of Islamic architecture and represents texture to the painted and brick surfaces in the form of quality. Light passes through wooden windows, plaster and marble walls, glasses of marble reliefs and makes the designs of interior places visible. Additionally, it creates a periodic coverage for colours and shades, and it reveals a strong presence at mosques from the two functional and mystic (a symbol of God's presence) aspects. This study attempts to investigate the light-catching elements for the Qajar era mosques in Shiraz in order to identify the abundance of them and also the state of taking advantages of these elements. Therefore, we aimed to categorize and detect the level of importance for each architectural element which is associated with the light in Iranian mosques. This study was conducted based on the hypothesis that implies the components of mosque architecture are able to be categorized from the aspect of dealing with natural light. In addition, these components and elements have been wisely located in the building with respect to the direction of radiation and intensity of the sunlight. In this research, by assistance of utilizing both methods of field and library studies, 10 samples of Shiraz Qajar mosques were classified and were selected by considering the well-known local mosques simultaneously (This is based on the library research and documentations which are cited by Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts and Tourism Organization of Iran). The findings of this study reveal that there is a significant relationship between skylight elements of Islamic architecture and direction of skylight, which, in turn, indicates that Iranian architecture has mixed functional and climate attributes of building with mystical and meaningful aspects.