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THE SYMBOLISM OF MODERN AMBER INSIGNIA WITH FIGURAL DECORATIONS FROM THE DRAPIKOWSKI STUDIO

The image of the dove on this crosier relates to the tradition of insignia with a similar motif in the volute. The oldest example known to me is an English crook dating from 1120–1130, made of walrus bone, with the dove of the Holy Spirit in the volute (Musée National du Moyen Âge, Paris). In Poland, similar iconography can be found in the crosier of the Abbess of the Benedictines in Toruń, Elżbieta Piwnicka, the work of Hans Herden dating from c. 1631, now in Benedictines cloister in Żarnowiec (Pomerania, Poland) [10, p. 240–246] (Figure 2b) and the crosier of Bishop Czesław Sokołowski (1877–1951) from the Warsaw workshop of the 'Bracia Łopieńscy' (Łopieński Brothers) dating from 1919, in the Archbishops' Palace in Warsaw [13]. The Gdańsk crosier was not inspired by

earlier insignia, although the dove was also shown frontally, with outspread wings. The idealized realism of the symbol of the Holy Spirit is reminiscent of the crosier from



Figure 3. (a) Idealized contemporary likeness of the dove as a symbol of the Holy Spirit; (b) Dove of the Holy Spirit, alabaster window, designed by Gian Lorenzo Bernini, c. 1660, Saint Peter's Basilica, Vatican City, the so-called: Cathedra Petri (1657–1665).

The contrast between the silver-white and gold tones, and also the symmetry of the dove, facing the viewer, has its source in the concept for the stained glass window which is in the central part of the so-called Cathedra Petri (Saint Peter's Throne) in Saint Peter's Basilica in the Vatican City (Figure 3b). The meaning of this particular model is due to the rank of the main Christian church, which is symbolized by the splendour of its architecture and art. As regards the decoration of the crosier, this association indicates the relationship between the hierarchy and the Church in Rome.

the Łopieński Brothers' workshop, and also relates to contemporary visual messages of a religious nature (Figure 3a).

[...more at](#)

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EDITORIAL: DECISION-MAKING GAP EITHER/OR IN THE LIFE OF A MAN

“Can the truth be learned? With this question we shall begin. It was a Socratic question or became that by way of the Socratic question whether virtue can be taught-for virtue in turn was defined as insight.” [1] We live in an uncertain world. The present is characterised by one certainty, and that is uncertainty. Governments fall across different political systems, continent - the voice on the street and the media decide. The most important thing today is information that discredits - who obtains it decides and rules. Only a handful of philosophers, humanists or theologians standing on the edge and vainly emphasise the importance of values [2]. One of them was the Danish thinker Soren Aabye Kierkegaard (1813-1855), who drew attention to the crisis of values [3], the hypocrisy of society and the insincerity of Church leaders. The thinker often began his writings with the phrase „To the Individual” and emphasised individual responsibility [4, 5]. This is why it’s becoming an inspiration for a person who is caught in a crisis of values and simultaneously looking for a path at the end of the tunnel. Man experiences with „Fear and Trembling”, not fulfilling their life while rejecting the Christian message. Kierkegaard also addresses a person in post-modern times which put a completely exposed person in their existential questions into essential confrontation with the reality of life by relativizing ethical and religious categories [6, 7]. Kierkegaard becomes the inspiration for the lonely; in his writings he finds an inner strength and a way of overcoming intrapersonal conflicts and limited situations. He becomes a beacon that tries to show the individual the direction to break away from the crowd and their dependence on consumerism. Therefore, you will find terms such as „choice, decision, truth, passion, suffering” in his writings, such terms are not only there, but Kierkegaard actually experiences these concepts directly with his readers [8]. It’s this passion that becomes the basic characteristic of this melancholic Dane, who personally experienced the problem of ego, and human existence [9]. Only then will one become free if they decide for themselves. He emphasises the personal experience of inwardness, personal existential situation and experience. [10, 11] It’s extremely interesting that Kierkegaard’s reader can see one of Kierkegaard’s qualities and that is his humility. Kierkegaard realises where he is - on Earth as a man - therefore he doesn’t claim the truth, he doesn’t teach and he doesn’t focus on the Church’s dogmatics [12]. Today, Kierkegaard becomes a challenge: he forces us through his parables to think about the meaning of life. He wants to place us at the crossroads - to make our own decisions and bear our own responsibility and to be able to decide with passion. So, come on man – decide!

VINEYARD FARMING ON A CAIRO GENIZAH FRAGMENT OF BAVLI ERUVIN 3B-4B

Abstract: The article refers to a Cairo Genizah fragment related to Bavli, Tractate Eruvin 3b-4b, identified as Cambridge, UL T-S F1 (1) 44. FGP No. C 96445. It deals with the work in the vineyard, measurements and distances related to planting vines in the vineyard, and various terms related to matters of vineyard farming. All these were first applied in ancient Jewish farming and continue to this day. These measurements and terms are associated with the strict biblical prohibition against sowing two species together (Kil’ayim, Deuteronomy 22.9). The meaning of the decree is that plants belonging to different species, for instance grains and legumes, should not be sown together, indistinctly. The paper opens with a description of the Genizah fragment and a reproduction of this fragment. It concludes with a reference to the content and with several comments that endeavour to characterize the fragment.

THE ROLE OF FAITH IN FORMING THE SLOVAK HISTORY THE CASE OF ĽUDOVÍT ŠTÚR

Abstract: The aim of this article is to discuss the presence and influence of faith in formation of Slovak history in the era of first attempts of forming the autonomous Slovak nation. It also focuses on the personality of Ľudovít Štúr, who represents one of the leading individualities in creating the Slovak history. At the same time, the paper refers to the forming of the present public image on the historical events and the personality of Ľudovít Štúr.

SOCIOLOGICAL RELEVANCE OF THE ECOLOGICAL THOUGHT OF ECUMENICAL PATRIARCH BARTHOLOMEW

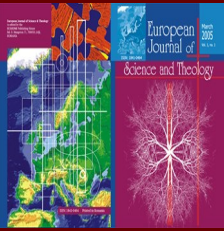
Abstract: Based on the documents published by the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew on ecological topics or on the speeches that he provided, but also on the practical attitude that he had towards the environmental problems, this research investigates his ecological attitude from the lengths of their sociological relevance. Topics as „ecological terrorism”, „integral ecology”, or „pilgrimage” that influenced also Ecumenical Movement, Pope Francis or other political and economic leaders, are presented and investigated in a research that wants to see how it can be evaluated from a sociological point of view the attitude of the Constantinople Patriarch who became famous for his activity in this area. The author also underlines the continuity that exists between his activities and the actions initiated by his predecessor, Patriarch Dimitrios.

THE SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT OF UNIVERSITY STUDENTS A FUNDAMENTAL ROLE OF THE HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Abstract: Modern society is marked by crisis of spiritual values among young people. However, young people can create happy families and a developed state on the basis of renewed mind. The problem can be solved by including spiritual component into the training process of university. Biblical values can be integrated into courses of the Humanities and Social sciences. The authors have conducted the research in four universities in Ukraine. In order to estimate the level of the development of spiritual values among university students, it has been used the method E. Pomytkin. The result of the study demonstrates that students give preference to family values. The challenge is that university students do not have enough spiritual knowledge to create good families. Therefore, it becomes necessary to develop and introduce a program for the spiritual development in the training process of higher education in Ukraine. Thus, the topics „The Bible as the Word of God”, „Good and Evil”, „Contemporary Anthropological Problems”, „The meaning of life in the context of political understanding”, „Gender problems and the Modern Family” and the trainings „Appreciate life”, „My words” and „Lifelong Marriage” are included in the course of „Philosophical Problems of Biology”, „Psychology”, „Ethics and Aesthetics”.

RELIGIOUS TOLERANCE AND INTOLERANCE

Abstract: The authors start with the presentation of the arguments for the thesis that there is no sufficient political justification for religious tolerance. They recognise their soundness but on the other hand, they argue that there are also other, non-political arguments for religious tolerance. They stress the argument from religious ecumenism, and arguments from the doctrines of certain religions themselves. Regarding the second, they focus on Christianity as the religion of freedom, which prefers acting according to one’s consciousness over the utilitarian reasons. In the second part of the article, the authors deal with the implementation of tolerance and intolerance. In this frame, they consider the issues of the agent of tolerance and intolerance, and of the compatibility of world religions with religious freedom and political pluralism. They draw the following conclusions: 1) we should avoid as much as possible the state of being the



agent of tolerance and intolerance; 2) the majority of the adherents of world religions are religious exclusivists. However, religious exclusivism doesn't imply political exclusivism, and world religions are compatible with political pluralism. Moreover, they have resources for being important origins and foundations of religious freedom, political pluralism and (thus) of liberal democracy.

ENGLISH RELIGIOUS SLANG IN SEARCH OF LINGUISTIC IDENTITY

Abstract: The research is concerned with English religious slang, i.e. substandard, familiar, and informal vocabulary which is employed by persons identifying themselves as believers with reference to their religious affiliation. The historical precursor of religious slang studies was the empirical evidence collected by W. Tyndale, J.C. Hotten, J. Redding Ware, and E. Partridge in the 16th - 20th centuries. As the core notion of this article, religious slang is differentiated from similar linguistic phenomena, namely general religious vocabulary and religion-related slang. The elaboration of a typology of religious slang allows for delimiting its three major types: Christian slang, Judaist slang, and Muslim slang. Christian slang is by far best represented, which is due to the worldwide spread of Christianity, the multiplicity of its denominations, and the longevity of the proselytizing tradition. Christian slang discloses 10 linguistic trends reflecting the on-going process of neologization of the English religious vocabulary, characterized by the emergence and synthesis of new notions, analogical and humorous word-formation, semantic change, and wordplay. Judaist slang contains a much more limited amount of empirical evidence, which has to do with its marked fixation on tradition, both linguistically and culturally, and manifests itself within two trends. Muslim slang is least represented among the three types, which results from the intrinsic conservatism of Islam.

'CULTURAL PHOTOSYNTHATES' NOTIONS RELATED TO BIOCHEMICAL ENERGY IN GUARANI COSMOLOGY AND POSSIBLE EQUIVALENT CONCEPTS IN CHRISTIAN LITURGY

Abstract: Ethnobiology has been defined as the study of the notions and concepts developed by any culture about life and living things. Such concepts and notions are often present in the religious beliefs of human groups, suggesting plausible articulations between Ethnobiology and Theology. As an example of such articulations, in the present paper it is proposed that if from ancient times the human being has been able to perceive the central role of the king star in the growth and diversification of the biosphere, for example observing or even influencing the differential growth of plants under good lighting conditions; then it is possible that notions about the bioenergetic flow are in some way represented in the theological conceptions or in the liturgical practices of the sun worshipping religions.

The practice of „Mborayu“ among the Guarani natives of South America involves the communal distribution and consumption of food among all the members of a village, including small game or harvested products. The foods distributed in this practice are understood as portions of the contemplative energy of the solar progenitor (their prime God), who is the first ancestor still alive and therefore the subject with the highest cultural influence. Sunlight is understood as the perception or creative wisdom with which this supreme being recreates daily life on Earth and that wisdom can be transmitted to the members of the community indirectly through the consumption of foods that are the result of his creative contemplation. Hence there is an equivalence between food and liturgical resources, which in turn explains why distributing food is also to distribute knowledge or cultural participation. In a lineage in which the first ancestor is the Sun, such equivalence suggests an evident notion of „chemical energy“ stored in the food and its distribution among the members of a community reinforces the social identity through communion with the supreme cultural authority. Based on these Guarani notions about life and living beings, a new approach is proposed to interpret transubstantiation, one of the most controversial topics of the doctrine of the Eucharist within Christian theology.

THE AS YET UNDETERMINED ANIMAL AUGUSTINE'S 'MEMORIA' AFTER COGNITIVE SCIENCE

Abstract: Augustine's exploration of memory remains fertile even today, not only for philosophical analyses of time but for the disciplines of Cognitive science and Experimental psychology as well. The article brings to light specific ways Augustine's richly narrative account of memory in the „Confessions“ books X and XI anticipates and challenges recent research on memory in the scientific literature. Augustine's relevance lays in his claims that memory involves not just the function of an „offline archive“ of past data but also the organic activity of a dynamic system that enables the embodied mind to anticipate the future.

INTRADENOMINATIONAL RELIGIOUS CONFLICT AND THE NEED FOR SELF-ASSERTION

Abstract: This paper analyses the extent to which it can be defined the intradenominational conflict as a special form of religious violence. The first part explores the definitions and the situations which can be described as religious violence. The second part of the study focuses on the tension between „orthodoxy“ and „heterodoxy“ as the main source of the intradenominational conflict and the arbitrary character of what can be defined as Orthodoxy. Finally we tried to see some past and current examples of this kind of tension and their violent potential.

DEVELOPMENT OF ORATORY BY ANCIENT THEOLOGIAN

Abstract: The purpose of the article is to determine the place of oratory in the Christian sermon of late antiquity, the significance of the works of John Chrysostom in the development of homiletic oratory and the peculiarities of the creative development of the ancient oratory tradition in Russia from a historical perspective. The study uses diachronic, comparative historical and biographical methods. The results of the study show that the Christian sermon in late antiquity began to be perceived as a literary work that requires preliminary preparation, as well as thoughtful verbal formulation, and has the author's attribution. The analysis of oratory development achieved by ancient theologians has shown the necessity of using rhetorical strategies in a sermon along with adherence to the main homiletic principles in order to enhance the verbal impact produced on the listener. The article analyses the activities of John Chrysostom as one of the eminent representatives of theological oratory, whose creative legacy represents the main tenets of Church eloquence. It has been concluded that at present, the oratory of homiletic eloquence together with secular oratory should join their efforts to form the spiritual culture of a personality and overcome hostile rhetoric.

ETERNITY BETWEEN A NOVEL THEOLOGY AND A NEW SCIENCE FROM GIORDANO BRUNO TO EMANUELE SEVERINO

Abstract: The article presents the continuity between two Italian thinkers who have undergone a Catholic Inquisition process: the modern Giordano Bruno and the contemporary Emanuele Severino. The aim of this essay is not to make a comparison between the two philosophers but rather to study how the former passed the baton through history to Severino, in a way that was useful in refunding the relationships between Theology and Science. In particular, it describes how Severino completed what Bruno had only sketched. The ideas of eternity are discussed with respect to God, and



they are related to the contraposition between Metaphysics and contemporary thought, from which the conflict between Theology and Science was derived in modernity, particularly after the immolation of Bruno. The article aims to address a number of aspects that unify many elements of Italian philosophy and the reasons why the Catholic Inquisition had to fight against it. The overall focus is on the originality of Severino and considers his philosophy as the basis of a possible „paradigm shift“ for both Theology and Science. The theoretical treatise shows how Severino’s indication of eternity can solve many aspects of the clash between Theology and Science, substantially refunding both of them.

MODERN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AS THE BASIS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW CONFESSIONAL RELATIONS

Abstract: Modern education is spreading beyond national boundaries and attracting an increasing number of people with various cultural perspectives. Educational institutions operate in a complex internally contradictory polyethnic and polycultural environment. A few aspects of the problem are considered in this paper. The main of them are, first, the government and religious organizations joining efforts in the sphere of education in order to develop spirituality and, second, determination of the acceptable limit of influence exercised by religious education on the general educational process in state educational institutions. The article identifies the role of modern education in the current multiconfessional environment and in the context of imbalance between interests involved. Implementation of religious education in the system of general secondary schools in Germany, Great Britain, Switzerland, and France is considered in the paper. The European context of providing religious education within the system of multiconfessional education is characterized. The article shows that foreign experience of developing religious education is varied and instructive. In each country, it is based on national cultural and political traditions. Therefore, it is necessary to develop religious education in Russia relying on national culture and traditions of the Russian society. Key characteristics necessary for the conflict-free implementation of religious education in state schools are identified in the article.

ASPECTS OF MANAGEMENT OF THE INSTITUTE OF MUSLIM CLERGY IN KAZAKHSTAN OVERVIEW OF THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE AND THE SOVIET UNION

Abstract: The research studies different regulations and aspects of management of the Institute of Muslim clergy in Kazakhstan during the two eras: the period of the existence of the Russian Empire and the former USSR. The main tendencies and changes of the policies towards the Institute of Muslim clergy on the territory of Kazakhstan have been analysed and compared. Two main institutions of Muslim clergy became a focus of study: The Orenburg Muslim Spiritual Assembly (OMDS in Russian) and the Spiritual Board of Muslims of Central Asia and Kazakhstan (SADUM in Russian). The study has three main goals: to investigate the main regulations of the Russian Empire and the Soviet Union towards Muslim community and Muslim authorities in Kazakhstan; to observe how these regulations have changed over time and to find out the positive and negative implications of these regulations for Muslim community. The comprehensive literature search has been implemented together with the comparative historical review of the published literature and considered as appropriate methods to address the abovementioned goals. The research found out that processes happening over that period of time were not homogeneous, but rather carried chaotic and fluctuating character. It was argued that the modern Spiritual Board of Muslims of Kazakhstan (DUMK in Russian) is a successor of OMDS and SADUM. Despite widespread opinions that the Russian rule and its constant persecution of Muslims had only negative impacts, it was claimed that it had a significance role in the development of institutionalization of the Muslim clergy in Kazakhstan. Moreover, it was revealed that there are some parallels and similarities between the approach of OMDS and the Russian Empire respectively in requirements for Muslim clergy and the approach of modern Kazakhstan government and DUMK.

THE TERMINOLOGIES OF TWO RELIGIOUS LEADERS RHETORIC ABOUT COMMUNITIES IN POPE FRANCIS’ AND DALAI LAMA’S TWEETS

Abstract: This study aims to investigate Pope Francis and Dalai Lama’s communication about communities on Twitter. Our primary research question is based on the idea that Pope Francis tweets about communities surrounded by religious contexts, while Dalai Lama does not focus on religious embeddedness in his tweets referred to communities. First, from rhetorical perspectives, we tried to examine whether the two leaders tweet about groups of people by using religious contexts. Second, we made an effort to seek whether they use explicit religious community rhetoric. Third, we sought similar potential patterns in @Pontifex’ and @DalaiLama’s Twitter rhetoric in the task mentioned above. This paper’s results support that both religious leaders focus on one universal goal in their tweets, namely the healthy co-existence in order to keep the planet as a liveable sphere. To promote that idea, they address the vital role of shared responsibility for every people regardless of whether or not they belong to religious communities.

THE HUMAN BEING IN THE MYTHOLOGICAL SPACE OF MEDIA CULTURE REALITIES AND PROSPECTS

Abstract: The author examines the special role of media culture as a phenomenon in the age of information, which has a serious influence on education and upbringing. Mass media have created a new sociocultural environment for a human being - a parallel, „virtual“ world. The author proves that the artificially created media reality is essentially mythological. This shows that myth remains a kind of control mechanism. Penetrating the inner world of a person, it „programs“ it and affects the conscious and subconscious spheres. Therefore, the „ecology of culture“ in the media space becomes a matter of great significance today. It has an important factor - the system of media education, whose object and subject are a „media person“ - a new type of personality in the 21st century.

INTERACTION OF HEALTH AND RELIGION IN THE MODERN WORLD WAYS OF RAPPROCHEMENT

Abstract: Spirituality is the fourth aspect of health, along with the physical, mental and social ones. At the same time, religiosity is a private manifestation of spirituality. The purpose of the study is to find out the relationship between health care on the one hand, and spirituality, religious life, a subjective feeling of happiness and good health indicators, on the other. A review of literary sources shows that positive values, beliefs, and the power of faith contribute to health and happiness. Religious participation and spiritual practices have a positive effect on the survival of the sick, low disease incidence, prolonged remissions of chronic diseases, lower anxiety and depression level, healthy lifestyle and compliance. At the same time, better results in treating patients are achieved when doctors and patients have common spiritual and/or religious attitudes.

THE ART OF RECOVERING PACE AND SOUNDS OF DEEP MEXICO

Abstract: The value of the fiesta in Mexico is anything but banal. A fissure that breaks into the horizon of consciousness in pursuit of the renewal of space and time. Each fiesta involves a suspension and an instantaneous rupture, in which the line of events and the stage where these reproduce end up dissipating or dying totally to commemorate thenew,

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communion and physical encounter with others. It is an escape to the primal stage in which each one merges with the whole, the great universal mixture, the bath in the waters of the beginning. This explains why civic celebrations, religious celebrations and mass demonstrations are so essential. They constitute the rule that confirms this fundamental need of Mexican social beings that has developed over the course of the centuries. Here, for being a millennial country of enormous cultural diversity, the festivities to celebrate the nation would adopt multiple meanings in that same sense: its cosmic-ritual components would mean at the same time a return to the Earth, a claim to invigorate the ancient symbols. An anonymous concelebration capable of simultaneously combining the exercise of theocratic power, love and respect for the ancestors, and the fulfilment of specific calendric terms.

THE SYMBOLISM OF MODERN AMBER INSIGNIA WITH FIGURAL DECORATIONS FROM THE DRAPIKOWSKI STUDIO

Abstract: In sacred art in Poland, amber began to be used more widely in the twentieth century, whereas the largest group of insignia for the ecclesiastical hierarchy was made in the latter period in the Drapikowski Studio in Gdańsk. Mariusz Drapikowski is the creator (either alone or in collaboration with his co-workers) of many sacred objects including the famous Jerusalem Triptych, the riza for the icon of Our Lady of Częstochowa as well as insignia for the ecclesiastical hierarchy. He gives them a modern form using amber and its properties as a material (differentiations in colour, the possibility of using it for carving as well as encrustation, combining it with other types of decoration and inscriptions). Using these means, Drapikowski exploits the symbolic potential of amber and gives his works a symbolism which carries both a traditional Christian message as well as one connected with the life of the contemporary Church. Using the combined methods from History of art and Social sciences - iconographic-iconological analysis, analysis of context, interview with the artist and analysis of Internet sources - allowed the author to show the symbolics and social context of the group of the prominent works of goldsmithery, which are able to express universal spiritual ideas in the way adequate to expectancies of contemporary recipients.