



European Journal of Science and Theology

European Journal of Science
and Theology

Q1

History and
Philosophy of
Science
best quartile

SJR 2020

0.49



powered by scimagojr.com

EUROPEAN HISTORICAL EVIDENCE OF THE SUPERNOVA OF AD 1054 SKY ABOVE EUROPE ON 4th JULY 1054

...At this time, Science in East Roman Empire (south-eastern Europe) was dominated by the middle-age doctrine which in essence supports a flat Earth in the centre of Universe - a doctrine which the dogmatic Christian Church adopted as its official view of nature. This is all despite a number of experiments such as Hermannus Contractus (ca. AD 1013-1054; a.k.a. Hermann of Reichenau Abbey) who estimated the circumference of Earth with Eratosthenes' method as well as possibly the designer of one of the earlier medieval astrolabes. In this view, the planets moved in epicycles, to account for the Earth being at the centre of the Solar System, and there existed lunar and sub-lunar spheres that extended to the Moon, beyond which were the heavens where nothing ever changed. European historical evidence of the super-

nova of AD 1054 149 According to this philosophy, all transient phenomena such as comets, novae and SNe therefore occurred within the lunar and sub-lunar regions. For the astronomer/astrologer of the time it was very dangerous to question such well-established „laws”, since they faced death for such „blasphemy” - especially if it is coupled with the poisoned political affairs of the ruling Church clergy [6-9] and/or Horoscopy. As a testimony of this danger, Greek philosopher Psellos himself writes: „...but if he (Emperor) discovered men going so far as to utter blasphemies against the Lord Himself, he punished them by exile, or restricted their movements to a circumscribed area, or kept them in close confinement in prison, and he used to bind himself by secret oaths never to release them” [5, p. 69].

And then confesses himself: „...Because of my interest in horoscopes, I find myself inevitably subjected to troublesome inquiries about them. That I have applied myself to the Science in all its aspects I admit but at the same time none of these studies, forbidden by the leaders of the Church, has been put to improper use.” [5, p. 76] So, when SN 1054 occurred on 4th July 1054 in the northern constellation Taurus and was apparently visible in the daytime sky for 23 days, why was it not recorded in European history, when it was recorded in East-Asian [10-13] and Arabic records [14-16]? The Crab Nebula ($\alpha_{J2000} = 5^h34^m31.94^s$ and $\delta_{J2000} = +22^\circ00'52.2''$, Figure 1) was first associated with the supernova of AD 1054 only in the XXth century [17, 18].

[...more at](#)

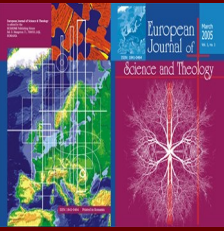
INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

THEOLOGICAL AND RELIGIOUS STATEMENTS IN ISAAC NEWTON'S QUERIES/QUAESTIONES TO THE OPTICKS/OPTICE, 1704-1730	1	THE PERFECTION OF MAN FROM A RELIGIOUS PHENOMENOLOGICAL AND CHRISTIAN THEOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE	115
TERRORISM, POLITICS, RELIGION: CHALLENGES FOR NEWS MEDIA IN THE MIDDLE EAST	11	EVANGELICALISM AS A PROTESTANT MOVEMENT IN LATIN AMERICA: CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES	125
IN DEFENCE OF RELIGIOUS PRACTICALISM	27	FEOFAN PROKOPOVICH AND BENEDICT DE SPINOZA: THOUGHTS ABOUT GOD AND THE ESSENCE OF NATURE	137
MODERN SCIENCE AND SAINT GREGORY PALAMAS	39	EUROPEAN HISTORICAL EVIDENCE OF THE SUPERNOVA OF AD 1054: SKY ABOVE EUROPE ON 4TH JULY 1054	147
THE DEBATE ABOUT SOPHIOLOGY YESTERDAY AND TODAY	47	CORRELATION BETWEEN RELIGIOUS AND LEGAL NORMS AT THE STAGE OF POSTSECULARISATION	161
INTELLIGENT DESIGN, PHILOSOPHY AND THEOLOGY: REFINING THE MODEL OF INTERACTION	57	ISLAMIC STUDIES AS DIALOGIC PROJECT: PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS	171
EDUCATING FOR PEACE: COMPLEMENTARITY OF THE PAPAL MESSAGES IN THE CONTEXT OF THE WORLD DAY OF PEACE	65		
EXTERMINATION OF ANT NESTS IN AGRICULTURAL FIELDS AS REFLECTED IN TALMUDIC LITERATURE	77		
THE SYSTEM OF KEY RISK FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO RELIGIOUS TERRORIST ACTIVITIES IN THE 21ST CENTURY	91		
THE DECLINE OF CIVIL ISLAM: ISLAMIST MOBILIZATION IN CONTEMPORARY INDONESIA	103		

**Contact,
subscription:**
• eurjstheol@yahoo.com

WEB page:
• <http://www.ejst.tuiasi.ro>

NewsLetter:
• ejst@tuiasi.ro



THEOLOGICAL AND RELIGIOUS STATEMENTS IN ISAAC NEWTON'S QUERIES/QUAESTIONES TO THE OPTICKS/OPTICE, 1704-1730

Abstract: In this essay, we provide a thematic editorial history of the theological and religious statements in the Queries/Quaestiones to the Opticks/Optice. Based on our editorial history, we document and discuss a number of important changes in Isaac Newton's theological thought.

TERRORISM, POLITICS, RELIGION CHALLENGES FOR NEWS MEDIA IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Abstract: This article focuses on the role of TV stations in Muslim countries on the Middle East in the coverage of terrorism among Arab public opinion. The main goal of the article is to answer the following questions: (1) How important is the role of TV stations in forming Arab public opinion on particularly sensitive issues such as terrorism? (2) Is it possible to maintain objectivity towards events that directly affect Middle Eastern societies or are related to Islamic principles? (3) Is it possible to cover events without applying a „filter“ of religion or culture? (4) What is the contribution of new media? Key findings of the research: at present, the power of new media to fully shape Arab public opinion is not important when compared to the overwhelming role played by pan-Arab TV stations. In the Muslim world, there is a lack of a single, common position defining the relation between religion and terrorism. The highest state authorities of individual Muslim countries condemn terrorism and expressing compassion for the victims. There is a need for research that explains the correlation between religious beliefs, and aggression perpetrated in religion's name.

IN DEFENCE OF RELIGIOUS PRACTICALISM

Abstract: Religious fictionalism holds that religious sentences are false, that religious practitioners accept rather than believe religious sentences, and that it is justifiable for them to act on religious sentences. I develop an alternative to religious fictionalism, which I call „religious practicalism“. It holds that we do not know whether religious sentences are true or false, that religious practitioners believe rather than merely accept religious sentences, and that it is justifiable for them to act on religious sentences. I argue that religious practicalism has intellectual, moral and practical advantages over religious fictionalism.

MODERN SCIENCE AND SAINT GREGORY PALAMAS

Abstract: The dialogue between Science and religion is a thorny issue. On the one hand, Science is an 'objectified' knowledge, verified on a permanent basis by experiment. On the other hand, religion is highly personal. Under these conditions the dialogue appears almost impossible. Yet there are questions and open issues which require a broader perspective, to search for a context involving Science, Philosophy and Theology.

On historical grounds different answers have been offered for our relationship to Nature. According to an ancient Greek proposal, Nature itself is endowed with logos and harmony. Somehow we are met with a deification of Nature. Modernity considers that the human being is the sole source of knowledge and authority (res cogitans) and Nature is debased to an object of study. We explore another option, where the emphasis is on the relation, the interaction which brings together into a communion the different entities. We focus our attention to Modern Science: the Special and General Theory of Relativity, Quantum Mechanics, Cosmology. We realize that a new paradigm emerges, where Nature embodies relational principles. All dualisms are abolished and they are replaced by genuine triadic relations. Our findings resonate with the ideas and notions developed by C.S. Peirce (on evolution, semiotics, relational logic). Furthermore, the new paradigm converses with the old Sophia and gnosis of the Patristic Tradition, notably the methodology of Saint Gregory Palamas. Starting from the fundamental philosophical terms οὐσία (substance) and ενέργεια (energy-action-relation), Palamas reversed the usual ordering (substance precedes and energy follows) and he suggested that energy is the primary notion and the one which is revealing substance. The whole Universe appears as a dense web of relations, much in accordance with our present view. Palamas suggests also in a subtle statement, that because of the energy-relation we cannot distinguish the „observer“, the „medium through which we observe“, the „observed“ and „what is the observed“. It seems that there is an underlying dialogue between Palamas thoughts of the 14th century and the current ideas in Science and Philosophy of the 20th century.

THE DEBATE ABOUT SOPHIOLOGY YESTERDAY AND TODAY

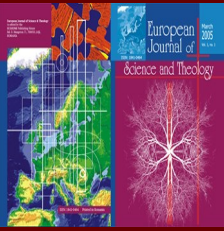
Abstract: The purpose of this study is to present as objectively as possible various approaches and positions on the problem of religious philosophy, such as the problem of sophiology. Taking into consideration its already long history, an attempt has been made to make some generalizations about this dispute. The authors of the study concluded that the desire not to establish the essential gap between the Creator and the Created world, but to find as many connecting threads as possible between God and man, the emphasis in the character of „similarity“ is not on otherness, but on coincidence, forms intellectual schemes of speculative syntheses and harmonic systems from the structures of the heavenly and earthly in Russian religious thinkers. The modern attitude to the analysis of the nature of the dispute is as follows: 1) from a sharp demarcation, there has been a steady tendency to a more balanced and cautious position regarding estimates; 2) more sources are being put into circulation; 3) the historical and creative contexts of the emergence of sophiology are being clarified. The authors of the study identify and analyse two interrelated themes that underlie the dispute about Sophia and largely determine the nature of its development. These are topics that focus on the concept of theology and the real innovation of theology of the Father S. Bulgakov, which, in its turn, „pulls“ the theme of the originality of Russian religious philosophy in a specific way, which originates in the concept of vseedinstva (all-unity) of V. Solovyov. The authors do not come to any final conclusions, but agree with the idea that the Church should be the only judge in this matter.

INTELLIGENT DESIGN, PHILOSOPHY AND THEOLOGY REFINING THE MODEL OF INTERACTION

Abstract: In an article published in this journal in 2016, I have argued that the theory of Intelligent design is best understood as a multidimensional phenomenon which comprises three dimensions: scientific, philosophical and theological. In the current paper, the previous model is refined and expanded. A fourth dimension, a biological one, is added and its connections to the other three are explicated.

EDUCATING FOR PEACE COMPLEMENTARITY OF THE PAPAL MESSAGES IN THE CONTEXT OF THE WORLD DAY OF PEACE

Abstract: The goal of the following text is to analyse papal teachings in the context of their messages for the World Day of Peace. The popes' universal messages addressed to people of goodwill throughout the world are related to the Catholic Church's mission. Educating to peace demands a multi-dimensional view and action in the areas of political and



social life. The undertaken analysis of documents and an overview of the literature points to complementarity in the popes' messages, an interdisciplinary approach to peace mainly present in the area of social teaching, including political theology. In achieving the research goal, the author systematized the popes' messages into four thematic areas. Every instance of the messages was tightly related to the actual problems facing humanity. The popes' words contained, on the one hand, hope for the world, yet on the other hand, they were a real indication for all people to take on concrete tasks, both rulers and the ruled.

EXTERMINATION OF ANT NESTS IN AGRICULTURAL FIELDS AS REFLECTED IN TALMUDIC LITERATURE

Abstract: The current study discusses the damage caused by ants to agricultural fields and the elimination of ant nests according to the Talmudic sources. The Jewish sources describe two methods of extermination of ants' colonies. The first one is by earth taken from another ants' nest. This method is based on the understanding that distant ants' colonies develop different scents, and that strange odour originating from another nest might cause a fright and generate a battle between the local ants. The second method is by inserting ants from a foreign nest and generating a battle between the ants in the colony and the invading ants. The practice of using ants is based on the fact that in the case of invasion by foreign ants, ants secrete alarm pheromones and consequently the ants in the nest under attack fight the invaders.

THE SYSTEM OF KEY RISK FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO RELIGIOUS TERRORIST ACTIVITIES IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Abstract: The purpose of the article is to identify those factor in the system of religious terrorism that play a key role in introducing an individual to religious terrorist activities in the 21st century, to classify them according to social and group characteristics. The research methodology is a retrospective analysis of the essence and content of religious terrorism, as well as the socio-psychological characteristics of militants of religious terrorist organizations. A holistic system-integrated approach allows identifying the key factors that are leading in the process of radicalization of an individual. The main results of the study are identified key risk factors that contribute to the radicalization of the individual, their classification as well as the creation of a manageable system that contributes to becoming a member in a religious terrorist organization. The obtained results will provide significant assistance in organizing anti-terrorist activities. They will also help to build a system of counteracting the existential threats of an individual, adequate to religious terrorism.

THE DECLINE OF CIVIL ISLAM ISLAMIST MOBILIZATION IN CONTEMPORARY INDONESIA

Abstract: The massive Muslim mobilization having occurred since 2016 and intertwined with the issues and process of Indonesia's Presidential Election in 2019 has led to a discourse on the rise of political Islam. Fear of the emergence of radical Islamism was obvious that the state set an illiberal policy and made counter-religious politics through religious moderation. This study aims to investigate factors that have helped cause the Islamist mobilization and threaten civil Islam in contemporary Indonesia. By employing a social movement approach, the study argues that the explosion of Islamism in Indonesia is influenced by three factors. The first is the political opportunity referring to the relative stability and instability among those controlling the power. The second is the structure of social mobilization where Islamism also involves a number of mobilization processes including financial and socio-cultural resources. The third is the issue framing, suggesting that Islamism utilizes ideological and religious means to define situations, legitimize actions, and persuade supporters. Further, the combination of these three factors would determine the character and the future of Islamism in Indonesia.

THE PERFECTION OF MAN FROM A RELIGIOUS PHENOMENOLOGICAL AND CHRISTIAN THEOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE

Abstract: This is an interdisciplinary study. On the one hand, it briefly investigates the fundamental and theological structural aspects of man that make possible the process of his perfection. And on the other hand it tries to capture the mystery of the deification of man that can be fulfilled in Christianity, also taking into account the general religious phenomenological perspective on the same topic.

EVANGELICALISM AS A PROTESTANT MOVEMENT IN LATIN AMERICA CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES

Abstract: Over the last 100 years, the Evangelical movement has shown an unprecedented capacity for globalization. The authors analyse the causes and consequences of the development of Evangelicalism in Latin America. Based on academic literature analysis, the notion and essence of Evangelicalism as a Protestant movement are revealed. The authors provide classification models of Latin American Evangelical Churches and analyse the number of Evangelical Christians in Latin America. The authors study researchers' opinions on the causes and consequences of Evangelical growth in Latin America within the study. It is concluded that the socio-cultural influence of Evangelicalism in Latin America has increased.

FEOFAN PROKOPOVICH AND BENEDICT DE SPINOZA THOUGHTS ABOUT GOD AND THE ESSENCE OF NATURE

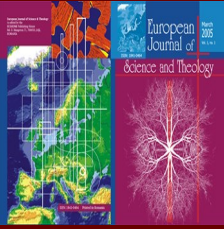
Abstract: The 18th century was marked by extremely dynamic changes and reformatting of the European intellectual space, namely by the foundation of new educational institutions representing different denominations, which was reflected in the works of Russian and Western European thinkers. This article aims to conduct a comparative analysis of the philosophical content of the thoughts about God and the essence of Nature expressed by Feofan Prokopovich and Benedict de Spinoza. It is shown that the relationship between the philosophical beliefs of Feofan Prokopovich and Benedict de Spinoza represents a cross-section of the European philosophical landscape of the time when the commonality of initial premises did not at all guarantee similar conclusions; on the contrary, it created favourable conditions for a diversity of philosophical ideas. The conclusion drawn in this article suggests that the views on the essence of Nature and existence of God expressed by Feofan Prokopovich and Benedict de Spinoza if not do not fully coincide, then at least can be considered not contradictory. Besides, the criticism of Spinoza's views in Feofan's works can be fully explained by the religious mind-set that largely influenced Feofan's worldview as opposed to Spinoza.

EUROPEAN HISTORICAL EVIDENCE OF THE SUPERNOVA OF AD 1054 SKY ABOVE EUROPE ON 4th JULY 1054

Abstract: We investigate possible reasons for the absence of historical records of the supernova of 1054 in Europe. At the same time, we search for the new evidences as well. We establish that the previously acclaimed „Arabic" records

Volume 17, no 3

JUNE 2021



EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF SCIENCE AND THEOLOGY

Newsletter 17.3

from ibn Butlan originate from Europe. As one of the most prominent scientists of the era, he was in Constantinople at the time of the supernova and actively participated in the medieval Church feud known as the Great Schism. Next, we reconstruct the European sky at the time of the event and find that the „new star“ (SN 1054) was in the west while the planet Venus was on the opposite side of the sky (in the east) with the Sun sited directly between these two equally bright objects, as documented in East-Asian records.

CORRELATION BETWEEN RELIGIOUS AND LEGAL NORMS AT THE STAGE OF POSTSECULARISATION

Abstract: The article describes the main stages of interaction between the law and religion. Based on the research into the religious orientations and legal consciousness prevailing among students in Kazakhstan, a conclusion has been drawn that the socio-cultural characteristics of the modern youth should correspond with legal regulations that make possible the very existence of society as a certain integral formation. Meanwhile, religion serves as a moral stabilizer of social life. The authors have conducted an analysis of the current stage of postsecularisation in terms of the correlation between the law and religion in Kazakhstan. Based on the results of sociological research into the religious views and legal consciousness of students in Kazakhstan, the authors have made conclusions about the trends in the development of religiousness in students and its correlation with the development of legal consciousness.

ISLAMIC STUDIES AS DIALOGIC PROJECT PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS

Abstract: The purpose of this article is to consider Islamic Studies as a dialogue between the Islamic and Western Worlds, which forms the cultural identity of a modern human and his attitude to religious cultures and traditions. The authors of the article adhere to an objective position in Islamic studies, which allows us to reveal the dialogical content of Islamic studies.