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Abstracte și cuvinte-cheie

Jitianu Liviu

Religion and Church. Situation and Correction

Keywords: religion, church, phenomenon of religiousness, Transylvania

The present study, entitled Religion and Church. Situation and Correction, analyzes the phenomenon of religiousness. Its purpose is the presentation of the general characteristics of religion, and the analysis of the established parameters in the region of Transylvania. Christianity receives an outstanding importance in the field of religion and the phenomenon of religiousness, due to its aspiration to harmonization, and the assertion of the mature, dedicated attitude of the religious person.

The study points out the dangerous consequences of postmodernism for the tradition-based phenomenon of religiousness, and attempts to urge to an attitude against forgetting religious culture. The integrative inclusion of man into the field of religion is an important requirement in this context. Religion focuses on the complexity of the human phenomenon.

Takács György

The Angels Were Going That Way... Figures, Groups and Orders of Angels in the Archaic Folk Prayers of Former Csík County

Keywords: figures, groups, orders of angels, archaic folk prayer, Csík County

The folk prayers of the former Csík county show the ethereal figures, groups and orders of Angels. Their field of function in the prayers – just like in the traditional dogmatic comprehension of the Church – is twofold, first they're the army and the household of God (*angeli assistentes*), on the other hand they mediate between God and the human beings, as deputies or ministers (*angeli ministrantes*). In the latter case, their mission is to defend the humans and their houses, the temple and the altar, to teach the believers and prepare them for eternal life, to mitigate the sufferings of those about to die, to lead the blessed souls to the eternal homeland. From the seven or nine habitual orders of the Angels (*ordines angelorum*), in the Szekler and Csángó archaic folk prayers the angels and archangels are mostly

mentioned in the role of angels, while the other orders (cherubim, seraphim etc.) appear only by implication. Maybe it all results from the early genesis of the archaic folk prayers and their personal – basically soteriological – point of view. At the same time, in these prayers there is – even today as well – a vivid concept of the tenth order of Angels, which consists of people. After all, we could think, the desire of final “counting” into this tenth angelic order is the aim of every praying and its traditional “*imitatio Christi*”.

Peti Lehel

The Role of Dreams in Dealing with Death in Moldavian Csángó Villages

Keywords: dream, death, Moldavian Csángó

In Moldavian *Csángó* villages dreams are elements of private religiousness, and they have an outstanding role especially in fields that cannot be fully institutionalized by the church, such as the cult of the dead. In these Moldavian villages the communication with the otherworld and the dead, the frequency of dreams about the supplications of the dead highlight a norm-enforcing aspect of popular religion emphasized as well by Natalie Zemon Davis. The ritual efforts made for the sake of dreams on the supplications of the dead and the need to conform to them stand as evidence for the importance of social norms and within them, the institution of the family, the relatives, and the neighbours, seemingly surprising in the context of the intense modernization of the *Csángó* society. Observing the death rites which ensure the quietude of the dead, familiarizing with the dead person's otherworldly fate via dreams, the ritual efforts to carry out the requests of the dead and the impossibility to refuse these requests all prove an operational standard of social norms and traditional village institutions, as well as a level of individualization lower than expected. The ethnographic material presented yields the conclusion that dreams have an important role in the legitimation of norms, the operation of traditional institutions of rural society, and the sustenance of relationships.

The dreams about the dead generalize social relationships, reproduce the assessment and position of individuals or families in the symbolic network of the community. At the same time, dreams contribute to the interpretation of significant events in community life, putting the collective system of meanings to the test. They can induce religious actions and ritual behaviours (praying, crossing oneself, candle lighting, mass payment, vows, fasting, donations). Their invocation and the attempts to understand their meaning may assist one in his personal experience of the metaphysical essence surrounding the entire life.

Balatonyi Judit

Ring Ceremony of the Csángós at the Statue of the Virgin Mary in Csíksomlyó (Șumuleu Ciuc, Romania)

Keywords: ring, ceremony, Csángó, statue of Virgin Mary, Csíksomlyó

In the present paper I examine the organization of a special wedding ring ceremony of the Csángós, held at the statue of the Virgin Mary in Csíksomlyó. The rite has been in practice since the 1970's, but in the mid-2000s its function has changed significantly. 10-20 years ago the Csángós considered this rite as an abnormal strategy of deviant people – for instance of those living together without being married. In a sense, this ceremony was analogous to “official” church weddings, that is, the young couple exchanged rings and vows, but – as it has always been a kind of “makeshift” – without the presence of any priests or witnesses. Until the middle of the '90s the main/most important/basic function of the practice was to enable deviant people to emerge from their marginal position and get a new social status. Nowadays this ceremony is usually referred to as a kind of traditional betrothal; moreover the Csángós attribute important religious meanings and an improver-modernizing function to it – not to mention its economic aspects.

Czégényi Dóra

Sacred Texts – Profane Contexts. Love Magic – An Example of Verbal and Action Context

Keywords: sacred text, love magic, verbal and action context

When, where and why does a Hungarian Calvinist pray, kneeling down, in Romanian? – through this question I describe and analyze a contemporary example of love magic. I discuss here the activity of all the persons involved in diagnosing, averting and healing (seers, fortune tellers, healers, Romanian priests) visited by A₀ (1964/Calvinist/female) and I reconstruct this network of relationships and analyze the religious and magical aspect of praying ('on' someone), fasting ('on' someone), and serving a mass ('on' someone). In analyzing the various experiences accumulated in the social and cultural space and interpreting the world of human relationship representations, I reflect on the dimension of linguistic behaviour where the content of rules are as determining as the conditions amongst which they function.

Balássy Enikő

The Devil of Suicide in Popular Beliefs of Székelyhodos (Hodoșa, Romania)

Keywords: devil of Suicide, popular belief, Székelyhodos

The study presents the beliefs associated with the devil in Székelyhodos, a village in the Upper Niraj region. The appearance and deeds of this supernatural being are almost always associated with suicide attempts or suicides. In the second half of the 20th century the number of suicides increased in Székelyhodos. The causes of this phenomenon are not explicable exclusively on the basis of changing lifestyle due to the collectivization of agriculture, as this never took place in Jobbágytelke (Sâmbriaș), the village having the highest suicide rate. Individual and family problems, mental and physical illnesses, economic decline and alcoholism very frequently contributed to the amplification of this social phenomenon. Belief in the devil, discussing about the devil as mythical being is one of the possible explanations of this phenomenon.

Salánki-Fazekas Éva

The Structure and Functions of a Gypsy Woman's Beliefs from Berettyószéplak (Suplacu de Barcău, Romania)

Keywords: belief, Gypsy, Berettyószéplak

In my thesis I present the beliefs of A. V., a Gypsy woman from Berettyószéplak, identifying the importance of these beliefs in her life and view of life, as well as the functions of these beliefs. Further on, I analyze the occasions related to the beliefs' acquiring and usage. I examine the relationship between the beliefs and the strategy of life view??? EZ MAGYARUL HOGY VAN?. Moreover, I focus on the livelier part of her beliefs and the reason of their liveliness, as well as on the categories that have lost their functions and are fading away in her life. Data collection was made with a dictaphone / I made data collection with a dictaphone on the basis of the questionnaire prepared in advance. A.V.'s system of beliefs can be divided into 4 well distinguishable parts: 1. Persons with superhuman power. 2. Supernatural beings. 3. Animals. 4. Other beliefs (Magic). My informant has beliefs that are alive and mainly operable. A. V.'s set of beliefs influences her world concept; it affects her conduct of life and it is reflected in her activities and social relationships.

Boldizsár Zeyk Zsuzsa

Nineteenth-Century Village Schools as Ecclesiastical Institutions. A Research on Ecclesiastical Documents

Keywords: village school, ecclesiastical institution, ecclesiastical document, Kalotaszeg

This writing approaches, through the methods of cultural studies, the huge differences between new ideas of modern civil development and the real state in which nineteenth-century village schools were to be found. The study leads us through the presentation of a long process during which the church-managed small schools became detached and civil. Working on ecclesiastical documents of four villages of the Kalotaszeg region (Magyarlóna – Luna de Sus, Magyarfenes – Vlaha, Tordaszentlászló – Savadisla, and Magyarléta – Liteni) dating from 1850 – 1909, the study discusses four specific questions related to the problems of schooling and of the process of detachment: sustenance of church and school by the inhabitants, confirmation, Sunday schooling and annual public examination.

Daniel Rita

Áron Tamási's Cult in Farkaslaka (Lupeni, Harghita County, Romania)

Keywords: Áron Tamási's cult, Farkaslaka

Tamási's name is fused in our minds with the name of Farkaslaka. The consciousness of his own origin is an important part of his identity, which is proved in most of his writings. After his death the village began to present the author in different ways, pushing him into the foreground with various aims and exploiting his name for selfrepresentation and economic reasons.

In my paper I have focused on two aspects: firstly, on the process during which Tamási's literary cult has been created and then on the way he has become one of the "elements" of our national symbols. The fact that he wished to be, and was indeed, buried in Farkaslaka, offered a good possibility of self-legitimation for the intellectual layer. After 1989 tourism has increased and one of the most important parts of this development was visiting Áron Tamási's memorial house. Due to the pursuits of the intellectual layer and to the improving tourism, Áron Tamási's figure has gained its place in the consciousness of local people and he has become part of their identity. This part of the paper is then followed by the examination of the different "mediums" in which Áron Tamási appears, with a focus on the various means and fields used to exploit his name.

Lórincai Tünde

Church? Sect? Movement? Theories Regarding Research into Religious Communities

Keywords: church, sect, movement, religious community

In the present study I have overviewed theories regarding religious communities without the claim of comprehensiveness. I have been interested in the international theoretical approaches concerning the social and individual factors contributing to the emergence and functioning of certain religious communities, and furthermore, in analyzing how these approaches appear in the Hungarian literature. I have found it significant to discuss the technical terms used by the sociology of religion and the anthropology of religion, the ecclesiastical character of some of the theories, which constantly inspire the researcher.

Keszeg Vilmos

Gastronomy and Memory

Keywords: gastronomy, memory, popular writing practice

The present article is connected to the study of local memory and folk/popular writing practice, analyzing and interpreting closed down recipes of a family. The corpus, containing data from the 20th century, offers an insight into the gastronomic skills of a housewife belonging to a mason family, researching the source of this knowledge and its survival in the memory of those around her.