

SUREŚVARA'S VIEW ON KNOWLEDGE (*JÑĀNA*)

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Abstract: *The article deals with the soteriologic function of knowledge (*jñāna*), according to the non-dualist school of Vedānta (with a special reference to its classic author, Sureśvara) and with its phenomenological and semiotic aspects, in the view of the same school of thought. In its first part, it stresses on the role of knowledge in liberation, both in the system of Advaita Vedānta and in comparison with other schools of Indian philosophy. The second part deals with the great formulations of the salvific knowledge and with the attempts to analyze their meaning. Hence, the study also approaches the semiotics and the epistemology of Advaita Vedānta.*

Keywords: *Indian religion, Brahmanism, Advaita Vedānta, Sureśvara, liberation, mokṣa, knowledge, jñāna, mahāvākya.*

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VAJRASŪCIKA-UPANIṢAD.
DENIAL OF THE NATURAL AND THE
„VERTICALIZATION” OF RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE

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Abstract: *Vajrasūcika-Upaniṣad is a more recent text, belonging to the line of the Sāma-Veda.*

The text demolishes all the religious claims of any phenomenal condition, arguing that spiritual pre-eminence is reached only through the direct realization of the ultimate reality (Brahman) as own-identity (ātman). The last paragraph of the text offers a presentation of this ultimate reality and of the condition reached by the one who gets dissolved into it.

Keywords: *Indian religion, Brahmanism, Vajrasūcika, Upaniṣad, caste-system, Brahman, liberated one.*

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THE WALLACHIANS IN THE *NIBELUNGENLIED* AND THEIR CONNECTION WITH THE EASTERN ROMANCE POPULATION IN THE EARLY MIDDLE AGES

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Abstract: *This article analyses the fragments in the Nibelungenlied that refer to the Wallachians, by their name (Adventure XXII, Stanza 1366 in manuscript C), the name of their country (Wallachian land), and/or of their leader (Ramunc – actually still a collective name, reaffirming the Roman origin of those Wallachians) (Adv. XXII, S. 1370 MS. C; XXXI, S. 1925 MS. C). The mentions above lead to the Romance population from Pannonia to the east, echoing the times of the first two crusades, when that particular people, the Romanians, were neighbors of the Poles, Russians, and “Greeks” (Byzantines), precisely as they were grouped by the lied (Adv. XXII, S. 1366 MS. C). The Wallachians were a Romance nation in the east of Europe, with leaders of their own, having a good cavalry and distinctive costumes. They represent the offspring of the Romance population attested in various sources, both north and south of the Danube, from the times the Roman province of Dacia onward.*

Keywords: *Nibelungenlied, Wallachians, eastern Romance.*

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**ATTITUDE OF PREMODERN ROMANIAN SOCIETY TO
„THE MARGINALIZED”.
PERSPECTIVES OF OBSERVATION AND
INTERPRETATION**

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Abstract. *This paper gathered a series of manifestations of Romanian society regarding to its interpersonal relationship who has development during Premodern centuries. Our observations present the relationships that determined different attitudes of the „majority” of people towards those incapable to realize physical activity or to pray. These social categories were positioned to outskirts of society, becoming the „marginalized” (for example, the mentally ill, beggar, incurably ill, cripple, mutilated physically, deformed etc.). Towards those „social marginalizes”, Romanian society was called to showing the "Christian pity". Its attitudes were encouraged by the religious and legal norms.*

In order to highlight these relations, we used a various types of documents, as representative of the problem analyzed.

By nature of the topic, the work was formulated some assumptions that could become landmarks reliable in the future scientific research.

Keywords: *mentality, Premodern history, Christian Orthodox religion, social attitudes, norms.*

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THE WALLACHIANS IN THE *NIBELUNGENLIED* AND GERMANY AND THE CHALLENGE OF MASS IMMIGRATION

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Abstract: *This article gives an insight into the problematic origins of the term multiculturalism, a brief summary of integration of foreigners in Germany by presenting certain debates about incorporation, assimilation and dominant culture in order to ultimately see the critique of the model of multiculturalism.*

Keywords: *multiculturalism, mass immigration, integration, disintegration, assimilation, core culture, pluralism, continuities and discontinuities.*

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