

The Restoration of Old Lithuanian Thought: Different Forms of Time

Summary

Myth has a specific kind of reflection that allows one to grasp not one-sided, but multifaceted rich relationships of phenomena constituting a dynamic lifeworld. Also, it is worth to note, that mythical consciousness has a distinct, musical logic. Myth is based on the perception of the whole in contrast to modern metaphysics, which is limited to the perception of isolated domains and mathematically restrained understanding of nature, space and time. However, if we are looking for a more reliable knowledge, we will quickly notice that methods of modern sciences are restricted by the principles of strict causality which reduce not only nature but also the human itself as results of causal forces. Those modern scientific techniques can be effectively used as tools in different spheres, but only there, and only to the extent that the validity of these tech-

niques is pragmatically justified. Modern Western science is founded on an a priori postulated causal logic and on the concept of linear time borrowed from theoretical considerations. Consequently, the reality is converted into a sum of manipulative parts, arranged in a temporal sequence of past, present and future, articulated in quantitative logic. But the qualitative concepts of the beginning, present, and future are extremely significant for mythical consciousness. Unlike a modern Western subject who lives only for himself, the mythical person lived in a relationship with the community, with his ancestors, with nature, with the cosmos. Therefore, in this paper, we are carefully analyzing different time dimensions, which are extremely important both for today's man and for human sciences, especially for hermeneutics and phenomenology.

Keywords: phenomenology, hermeneutics, ontology, mythical time dimensions, archaic Lithuanian consciousness, mythical consciousness.

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