

François Jullien's Strategies of Comparative Studies: the Semantic Field of "Context" and "Intuition" Categories

Summary

The strategies and methods of comparative studies have gained new forms and opportunities in the context of research of comparative philosophy, the comparative studies of civilizations, as well as comparative cultural studies. The new millennium has brought new conceptual methodological distinctions as well as innovative views and interpretations that have substantially changed theories on which contemporary humanities are based. In order to find as methodologically reliable tools of comparative analysis and as accurate as possible equivalents in other cultures, civilizations and philosophical traditions, researchers need to rely on new tools of inter-civilizational studies. This is particularly important due to the context of dissemination of philosophical ideas: the becoming global metacivilization, in which the intense interaction between various Western and non-European thinking traditions is apparent more than ever before.

As new concepts in the field of the comparative studies of civilizations and comparative philosophy naturally emerge, their creators inevitably face the resist-

ance of the proponents of conventional in the academic world theories. Innovative scholars, protesting against obsolete perspectives, spread new "revolutionary" ideas as well as theoretical and methodological approaches, in an attempt to flexibly adapt to the "narrowing-down" world as well as discover deep meanings in ancient sources of wisdom that await to be brought to light to help us identify old truths and give birth to new future-oriented ideas. This article thoroughly discusses the outlined methodological and theoretical problems of the contemporary comparative studies of civilizations and comparative philosophy, employing the core concepts of "intuition" and "context" developed by one of the most influential French comparativists, extraordinary Hellenist, and sinologist François Jullien. To build up to the climax of the implementation of the objective, the comparative analysis will employ the critique of another renowned sinologist, one of Jullien's main opponents – Jean François Billeter, while the secondary sources are conceptual positions of renowned comparatist Ralph Weber and other influential scientists.

Keywords: the comparative studies of civilizations, comparative philosophy, comparative cultural studies, François Jullien, Jeanas François Billeter, context, intuition, thinking traditions, Chinese philosophy, Ancient philosophy.