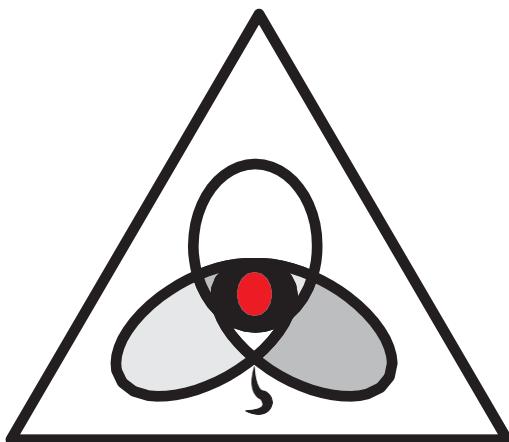


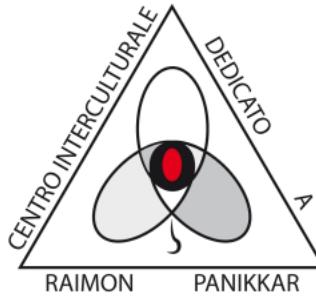
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MONASTERO DEL BENE COMUNE - COMUNITÀ STIMMATINI

La Carta della Terra

Preambolo

Ci troviamo ad una svolta critica nella storia del Pianeta, in un momento in cui l'umanità deve scegliere il suo futuro. A mano a mano che il mondo diventa sempre più interdipendente e fragile, il futuro riserva allo stesso tempo grandi pericoli e grandi opportunità. Per progredire dobbiamo riconoscere che, pur tra tanta magnifica diversità di culture e di forme di vita, siamo un'unica famiglia umana e un'unica comunità terrestre con un destino comune. Dobbiamo unirci per costruire una società globale sostenibile, fondata sul rispetto per la natura, sui diritti umani universali, sulla giustizia economica e sulla cultura della pace. Per questo fine è imperativo che noi, i popoli della Terra, dichiariamo la nostra responsabilità gli uni verso gli altri, verso la grande comunità della vita, e verso le generazioni future.

La Terra, nostra casa

L'umanità è parte di un grande universo in evoluzione. La Terra, nostra casa, è viva e ospita un'unica comunità vivente. Le forze della natura fanno dell'esistenza un'avventura impegnativa e incerta, ma la Terra ha fornito le condizioni essenziali per l'evoluzione della vita. La resistenza della comunità degli esseri viventi e il benessere dell'umanità dipendono dalla preservazione della salute della biosfera, con tutti i suoi sistemi ecologici, da una ricca varietà vegetale e animale, dalla fertilità del suolo, dalla purezza dell'aria e delle acque. L'ambiente globale, con le sue risorse finite, è una preoccupazione comune di tutti i popoli. Tutelare la vitalità, la diversità e la bellezza della Terra è un impegno sacro.

La situazione globale

I sistemi dominanti di produzione e consumo stanno provocando devastazioni ambientali, l'esaurimento delle risorse e una massiccia estinzione di specie viventi. Intere comunità vengono distrutte. I benefici dello sviluppo non sono equamente distribuiti e il divario tra ricchi e poveri sta aumentando. L'ingiustizia, la povertà, l'ignoranza e i conflitti violenti sono molto diffusi e causano grandi sofferenze. L'aumento senza precedenti della popolazione umana ha sovraccaricato i sistemi ecologici e sociali. Le fondamenta stesse della sicurezza globale sono minacciate. Queste tendenze sono pericolose, ma non inevitabili.

Le sfide che ci attendono

La scelta sta a noi : o creiamo un'alleanza globale per proteggere la Terra e occuparci gli uni degli altri, oppure rischiamo la distruzione, la nostra e quella della diversità della vita. Occorrono cambiamenti radicali nei nostri valori, nelle istituzioni e nei nostri stili di vita. Dobbiamo renderci conto che, una volta soddisfatti i bisogni primari, lo sviluppo umano consiste innanzitutto nell'essere di più, non nell'avere di più. Abbiamo la conoscenza e la tecnologia per provvedere a tutti, e per ridurre il nostro impatto sull'ambiente. L'emergere di una società civile globale sta creando nuove opportunità per costruire un mondo umano e democratico. Le nostre sfide ambientali, economiche, politiche, sociali e spirituali sono interconnesse, e insieme possiamo forgiare soluzioni che le comprendano tutte.

La responsabilità universale

Per realizzare queste aspirazioni dobbiamo decidere di vivere con un senso di responsabilità universale, identificandoci con l'intera comunità terrestre, oltre che con le nostre comunità locali. Noi siamo, allo stesso tempo, cittadini di nazioni diverse e di un unico mondo, in cui la dimensione locale e quella globale sono collegate. Ognuno ha la sua parte di responsabilità per il benessere presente e futuro della famiglia umana e del più vasto mondo degli esseri viventi. Lo spirito di solidarietà umana e di parentela con ogni forma di vita si rafforza quando viviamo con un profondo rispetto per il mistero dell'essere, con gratitudine per il dono della vita, e con umiltà riguardo al posto che l'essere umano occupa nella natura. Abbiamo urgente bisogno di una visione condivisa di valori fondamentali che forniscano una base etica per la comunità mondiale che sta emergendo. Per questo, uniti nella speranza, affermiamo i seguenti principi interdipendenti per un modo di vita sostenibile, come standard comune in base al quale le condotte di tutti gli individui, le organizzazioni, le imprese, i governi e le istituzioni transnazionali devono essere guidate e valutate.

PRINCIPI

I. RISPETTO E CURA PER LA COMUNITÀ DELLA VITA

1. Rispettare la Terra e la vita, in tutta la sua diversità

- a. Riconoscere che tutti gli esseri viventi sono interdipendenti e che ogni forma di vita ha valore, indipendentemente dalla sua utilità per gli esseri umani.
- b. Affermare la fede nell'intrinseca dignità di tutti gli esseri umani e nel potenziale intellettuale, artistico, etico e spirituale dell'umanità.

2. Prendersi cura della comunità vivente con comprensione, compassione e amore

- a. Accettare che al diritto di possedere, gestire e utilizzare le risorse naturali si accompagna il dovere di prevenire danni all'ambiente e di tutelare i diritti dei popoli.

- b. Affermare che con l'aumento della libertà, della conoscenza e del potere cresce anche la responsabilità di promuovere il bene comune.

3. Costruire società democratiche che siano giuste, partecipative, sostenibili e pacifiche

- a. Assicurare che le comunità a ogni livello garantiscano i diritti umani e le libertà fondamentali e forniscano a tutti l'opportunità di realizzare appieno il proprio potenziale.
- b. Promuovere la giustizia sociale ed economica, per permettere a tutti di raggiungere uno standard di vita sicuro e dignitoso, che sia ecologicamente responsabile.

4. Tutelare i doni e la bellezza della Terra per le generazioni presenti e future

- a. Riconoscere che la libertà di azione di ciascuna generazione è condizionata dalle esigenze delle generazioni future.
- b. Trasmettere alle generazioni future valori, tradizioni e istituzioni capaci di sostenere la prosperità a lungo termine delle comunità umane ed ecologiche della Terra.

Per potere realizzare questi quattro impegni generali occorre:

II. INTEGRITÀ ECOLOGICA

5. Proteggere e ripristinare l'integrità dei sistemi ecologici terrestri, con speciale riguardo alla diversità biologica e ai processi naturali che sostentano la vita.

- a. Adottare a tutti i livelli piani di sviluppo sostenibile e norme che integrino la conservazione e il ripristino ambientale in ogni iniziativa di sviluppo.
- b. Istituire e tutelare riserve naturali e della biosfera, comprese aree silvestri e marine, per salvaguardare i sistemi di sostegno della Terra, la diversità biologica e preservare il nostro patrimonio naturale.
- c. Promuovere il recupero delle specie e degli ecosistemi in via di estinzione.
- d. Controllare ed eliminare organismi esogeni o geneticamente modificati dannosi per le specie autoctone e per l'habitat, e impedire l'introduzione di questi organismi dannosi.
- e. Gestire l'uso delle risorse rinnovabili come l'acqua, il suolo, i prodotti forestali e la vita marina in modo da non superare la loro capacità di recupero e da proteggere la salute degli ecosistemi.
- f. Amministrare l'estrazione e l'uso delle risorse non rinnovabili, quali i combustibili minerali e fossili, in modo da ridurne al minimo l'esaurimento e impedire gravi danni ambientali.

6. Prevenire i danni come misura più efficace di protezione ambientale, e agire con cautela quando le conoscenze sono limitate.

- a. Agire per impedire la possibilità di danneggiare irreversibilmente o gravemente l'ambiente anche se le conoscenze scientifiche sono incomplete o non certe.
- b. Assegnare l'onere della prova a coloro che sostengono che una certa attività non provocherà danni significativi, e chiama i responsabili a rispondere di eventuali danni ambientali.
- c. Garantire che, nel processo decisionale, vengano affrontate le conseguenze cumulative, a lungo termine, indirette, remote e globali delle attività umane.
- d. Impedire l'inquinamento di ogni parte dell'ambiente e non permettere l'accumulo di sostanze radioattive, tossiche e comunque pericolose.
- e. Evitare le attività militari dannose per l'ambiente.

7. Adottare sistemi di produzione, consumo e riproduzione che salvaguardino la capacità rigenerativa della Terra, i diritti umani e il benessere delle comunità.

- a. Ridurre, riutilizzare e riciclare i materiali utilizzati nei processi di produzione e consumo, e garantire che i rifiuti residui siano assimilabili dai sistemi ecologici.
- b. Comportarsi con parsimonia ed efficienza nell'utilizzo dell'energia, privilegiando sempre di più fonti di energia rinnovabile, come quella solare o eolica.
- c. Promuovere lo sviluppo, l'impiego e il trasferimento equo di tecnologie ecologicamente sicure.
- d. Includere nel prezzo di vendita i costi ambientali e sociali dei beni e dei servizi, e permettere ai consumatori di identificare i prodotti conformi alle normative sociali e ambientali più severe.
- e. Garantire a tutti l'accesso a un'assistenza medica che promuova la salute riproduttiva e la procreazione responsabile.
- f. Adottare stili di vita che accentuino la qualità della vita e l'uso di quanto realmente necessario in un mondo in cui le risorse non sono illimitate.

8. Sviluppare lo studio della sostenibilità ecologica e promuovere il libero scambio e l'applicazione diffusa delle conoscenze acquisite.

- a. Sostenere la cooperazione scientifica e tecnologica internazionale sulla sostenibilità, con particolare attenzione alle esigenze dei Paesi in via di sviluppo.
- b. Riconoscere e tutelare le conoscenze tradizionali e la saggezza spirituale presenti in ogni cultura che contribuiscono alla tutela dell'ambiente e al benessere umano.
- c. Garantire che le informazioni di importanza vitale per la salute umana e la tutela dell'ambiente, comprese le informazioni in ambito genetico restino di pubblico dominio e a disposizione di tutti.

III. GIUSTIZIA ECONOMICA E SOCIALE

9. Eliminare la povertà come imperativo etico, sociale e ambientale.

- a. Garantire il diritto all'acqua potabile, all'aria pulita, alla sicurezza alimentare, al suolo incontaminato, alla casa, a condizioni igienico-sanitarie sicure, assegnando le necessarie risorse nazionali e internazionali.
- b. Conferire autonomia a ogni essere umano attraverso l'istruzione e le risorse utili per garantire uno standard di vita sostenibile, e fornire previdenza sociale e sistemi di sostegno a coloro che non sono capaci di mantenersi da soli.
- c. Riconoscere coloro che sono ignorati, proteggere i vulnerabili, aiutare coloro che soffrono e permettere loro di sviluppare le proprie capacità e perseguire le proprie aspirazioni.

10. Garantire che le attività economiche e le istituzioni a tutti i livelli promuovano lo sviluppo umano in modo equo e sostenibile.

1. Promuovere l'equa distribuzione della ricchezza all'interno delle nazioni e tra le nazioni.
2. Accrescere le risorse intellettuali, finanziarie, tecniche e sociali dei Paesi in via di sviluppo, e liberarli dall'oneroso debito internazionale.
3. Garantire che ogni attività commerciale promuova un uso sostenibile delle risorse, la tutela dell'ambiente e standard di lavoro avanzati.

4. Esigere che le corporazioni multinazionali e le organizzazioni finanziarie internazionali agiscano con trasparenza per il bene comune, e chiamarle a rispondere delle conseguenze della loro attività.

11. Affermare l'uguaglianza e le pari opportunità fra i sessi come prerequisiti per lo sviluppo sostenibile, e garantire l'accesso universale all'istruzione, all'assistenza sanitaria, e alle opportunità economiche.

- a. Garantire i diritti umani delle donne e delle ragazze, e porre fine a ogni forma di violenza contro di loro.
- b. Promuovere la partecipazione attiva delle donne in tutti gli aspetti della vita economica, sociale, politica e culturale, come partner a pieno titolo e a pari diritto nella presa di decisioni, come leader e come beneficiarie.
- c. Rafforzare le famiglie e garantire la sicurezza e la cura amorevole di tutti i loro membri.

12. Sostenere senza alcuna discriminazione i diritti di tutti a un ambiente naturale e sociale capace di sostenere la dignità umana, la salute fisica e il benessere spirituale, con speciale riguardo per i diritti dei popoli indigeni e delle minoranze.

- a. Eliminare le discriminazioni in ogni forma, come quelle basate su razza, colore della pelle, sesso, orientamento sessuale, religione, lingua e origine nazionale, etnica o sociale.
- b. Affermare i diritti dei popoli indigeni alla propria spiritualità, conoscenza, terre e risorse e alle relative pratiche di vita sostenibili.
- c. Onorare e aiutare i giovani delle nostre comunità, rendendoli capaci di esercitare il loro ruolo essenziale per la creazione di società sostenibili.
- d. Proteggere e restaurare luoghi importanti che abbiano un significato culturale e spirituale

IV. DEMOCRAZIA, NON VIOLENZA E PACE.

13. Rafforzare le istituzioni democratiche a tutti i livelli e garantire trasparenza e responsabilità nella governance, partecipazione allargata nei processi decisionali, e accesso alla giustizia.

- a. Sostenere il diritto di tutti a ricevere informazioni chiare e tempestive sulle questioni ambientali e sui piani e le attività di sviluppo che possano avere un impatto sulla loro vita, o essere di loro interesse.
- b. Sostenere la società civile a livello locale, regionale e globale e promuovere la partecipazione significativa nei processi decisionali di tutti gli individui e le organizzazioni interessate ad essi.
- c. Proteggere la libertà di opinione, espressione, riunione pacifica, associazione e dissenso.
- d. Istituire un accesso efficiente ed efficace alle procedure amministrative e giudiziarie indipendenti, compresi i correttivi legali e le compensazioni connessi a danni ambientali o alla minaccia di tali danni.
- e. Eliminare la corruzione da tutte le istituzioni pubbliche e private.
- f. Rafforzare le comunità locali rendendole capaci di prendersi cura del proprio ambiente, e assegnare responsabilità per la tutela dell'ambiente ai livelli amministrativi capaci di risponderne nel modo più efficace.

14. Integrare nell'istruzione formale e nella formazione permanente le conoscenze, i valori e le capacità necessarie per un modo di vivere sostenibile.

- a. Fornire a tutti, soprattutto ai bambini e ai giovani, opportunità educative che li rendano in grado di contribuire attivamente allo sviluppo sostenibile
- b. Promuovere il contributo delle arti e delle materie umanistiche, oltre che di quelle scientifiche, per l'educazione e alla sostenibilità.
- c. Rafforzare il ruolo dei mass-media nel far crescere la consapevolezza delle sfide ecologiche e sociali.
- d. Riconoscere l'importanza dell'educazione morale e spirituale per un modo di vivere sostenibile.

15. Trattare ogni essere vivente con rispetto e considerazione.

- a. Impedire la crudeltà sugli animali allevati nel seno delle società umane e proteggerli dalla sofferenza.
- b. Proteggere gli animali selvatici da tecniche di caccia, intrappolamento e pesca che causano sofferenze estreme, prolungate o evitabili.
- c. Evitare o ridurre il più possibile la cattura o la distruzione accidentali di specie animali che non sono l'obiettivo della caccia o della pesca.

16. Promuovere una cultura della tolleranza, della non violenza e della pace.

- a. Incoraggiare e sostenere la comprensione reciproca, la solidarietà e la cooperazione tra tutti i popoli, e all'interno e tra le nazioni.
- b. Applicare strategie articolate al fine di evitare i conflitti violenti, e risolvere i conflitti ambientali e le altre dispute attraverso la collaborazione.
- c. Smilitarizzare i sistemi di sicurezza nazionali, riducendoli a livello di semplice difesa e convertire le risorse militari a scopi di pace, compresa il ripristino ambientale.
- d. Eliminare gli armamenti nucleari, biologici e tossici e le altre armi di distruzione di massa.
- e. Garantire che l'uso dello spazio orbitale ed esterno sostenga la tutela dell'ambiente e la pace.
- f. Riconoscere che la pace è la completezza creata da relazioni armoniose con se stessi, con le altre persone, con le altre culture, con le altre forme di vita, con la Terra e con l'insieme più grande di cui tutti siamo parte.

LA STRADA IN AVANTI

Come mai prima d'ora nella storia, il destino comune ci obbliga a cercare un nuovo inizio. Questo rinnovamento è la promessa dei principi della Carta della Terra. Per adempiere a questa promessa dobbiamo impegnarci ad adottare e a promuovere i valori e gli obiettivi della Carta.

Questo richiede una trasformazione del cuore e della mente, un rinnovato senso di interdipendenza globale e di responsabilità universale. Dobbiamo sviluppare e applicare con immaginazione la visione di un modo di vivere sostenibile a livello locale, regionale, nazionale e globale. La nostra diversità culturale è un'eredità preziosa e le diverse culture troveranno percorsi specifici e diversi per realizzare questa visione. Dobbiamo approfondire e ampliare il dialogo globale che ha generato la Carta della Terra perchè abbiamo molto da imparare dalla collaborazione nella ricerca comune della verità e della saggezza.

La vita spesso implica tensioni tra valori importanti. Questo può significare scelte difficili. Tuttavia, dobbiamo trovare modi per armonizzare la diversità con l'unità, l'esercizio della libertà con il bene

comune, gli obiettivi a breve termine con mete a lungo termine. Ogni individuo, famiglia, organizzazione e comunità ha un ruolo vitale da svolgere. Le arti, le scienze, le religioni, le istituzioni scolastiche, i mass-media, le imprese, le organizzazioni non governative e i governi sono tutti chiamati a offrire una leadership creativa. L'azione congiunta del governo, della società civile e delle imprese è essenziale per una governance efficace.

Per poter costruire una comunità globale sostenibile, gli stati del mondo devono rinnovare l'impegno preso con le Nazioni Unite, adempiere ai propri obblighi in base agli accordi internazionali in vigore e sostenere l'applicazione dei principi della Carta della Terra attraverso strumenti vincolanti a livello internazionale in tema di ambiente e sviluppo.

Possa la nostra epoca essere ricordata per il risveglio di una nuova riverenza per la vita, per la risolutezza nel raggiungere la sostenibilità, per l'accelerazione della lotta per la giustizia e la pace, e per la gioiosa celebrazione della vita.

(marzo 2000)

<http://www.cartadellaterra.it/index.php?c=testo-carta-della-terra>

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LADY PHILOSOPHY

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Abstract

There is in human a feminine dimension which has been much ignored in the majority of philosophical reflections. This paper tries to address this problematic. The feminine dimension seems to come alive in our times, however, through a newly emerging orientation in Philosophy. We may perhaps call this orientation as “interculturality.” Intercultural philosopher-theologian Raimon Panikkar, all through his life, was a champion of this new orientation and much appreciated the “feminine receptive attitude” as the heart of any authentic philosophical activity. “Lady Philosophy” is indeed an elucidation of this endeavor.

* * * * *

We first learn of Lady Philosophy¹ in the medieval philosopher Boethius' book *The Consolation of Philosophy*. It recounts, in a literary style, an imagined dialogue between Boethius and a lady who personifies Philosophy.

"Love of wisdom" was proposed by Lady Philosophy to Boethius as a true good. Interestingly, "wisdom" which is a translation for the ancient Greek word *sophia* is feminine, and includes the intuitive dimension besides rationality, in its intellectual pursuit. Lady philosophy, as we shall elucidate, seems to embody not only the love of wisdom, but also the *wisdom of love* which appreciates the feminine intuition, receptive and creative aspect (a universal reality that is embodied by men and women alike) as the very heart of the intercultural orientation which has become the experience and imperative for our times.

Let us briefly spell out some aspects of the emerging intercultural orientation to highlight better the feminine receptive attitude required in our new way of philosophizing.

Interculturality, first of all, represents the conviction, that in our contemporary pluralistic and cross-cultural human situation, no single culture, religion, tradition or person is fully sufficient to face – let alone solve – any of our human predicaments single handedly. We need a collective and cross-cultural enterprise with a true spirit of humility which is only another word for the courage to receive and learn from the other.

For this reason, the intercultural orientation invites, and even expects us, to perform a philosophical activity that would exhibit a certain openness and intercultural validity in our new situation of the meeting of cultures. As Gerard Hall remarks,

If the task of philosophy is to understand reality, and reality is something *other* than myself or my specific culture or worldview, then philosophy needs to become an intercultural activity. This has not always been the case. If I assume that my culture is singularly gifted with access to truth, the philosophical task is primarily pedagogical and dialectical. However, once it is admitted that the other who does not share my cultural worldview is an original source of human understanding, traditional philosophy is called upon to unmask its pretensions of universal understanding.²

A consideration of all philosophical problems from an intercultural perspective, therefore, has become an imperative of our times. In this endeavor, no conceptual system can be unnecessarily privileged or allowed to assume the absolute position. Intercultural philosopher-theologian Raimon Panikkar's understanding of Philosophy becomes crucial here.

By philosophy, he understands that human activity which asks questions critically about the very foundations of human life under the heaven and on earth.³ And we increasingly realize that this activity can no longer be the monopoly of a single culture and be represented or carried out by anybody in splendid isolation. No philosophy, therefore, can claim to be *the* philosophy for the whole human kind.

¹ The basic inspiration for this paper springs from the seminal contribution of Michiko Yusa, "Gender, the Feminine and Cultural Disarmament in the Thought of Raimon Panikkar," Eds. Michiko Yusa, Young-Chan Ro, *Cirpit Review*, No. 5, 2014, MIMESIS, pp. 113-124.

² Cf. Introduction of a summary of the paper presented by Gerard Hall at the International Symposium on the Intercultural Philosophy of Raimon Panikkar, *Intercultura Centre pel diàleg intercultural de Catalunya*, Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain, 21-23rd February 2002. http://dlibrary.acu.edu.au/research/theology/ghall_panikkar.htm, visited on 15 February 2016.

³ Cf. R. Panikkar, "Religion, Philosophy and Culture," (para 10), *Polylog*. <http://them.polylog.org/1/fpr-en.htm>, visited on 1 March 2016.

Here, perhaps a consideration on the relation between Religion, Philosophy and Culture becomes important. Religion, Philosophy and Culture, Panikkar believes, are three “elements” of the human reality. If religion could be compared to the feet with which Man journeys towards his destiny, philosophy could represent the eyes that scrutinize that journey, and culture, the earth or the ground on which Man is walking his concrete pilgrimage.⁴

Interculturality, here, stands for the realization that our feet are not the only feet undertaking the journey, that they are meant for walking, preferably together and in coordination, and certainly not for kicking each other; that there are other scrutinizing eyes along with ours, perhaps more penetrating, kind or wicked, and there are a variety of grounds and boundaries on the face of the earth. Geography of knowledge is as important and valid as history of ideas.

Interculturality further implies that we are not expected to leave our culture and jump over our own shadow. We can never renounce our tradition and get into a neutral spot, as it were and philosophize. Really speaking, there can be *no no man's land*, in the land of man. Every land is possessed or occupied by someone. It only means that, standing within our house or tradition, we need to open windows and doors in an effort to communicate. We open ourselves, as much as possible, to the experience of the reality of other cultures, ever ready to learn from their wisdoms - in mutual dialogue and criticism. Panikkar characterizes as the *imparative* method of philosophy.⁵

Interculturality, in a way, is a kind of journey, a journey through a middle way: a mid-way between the *colonial mentality* which believes that we can express the totality of the human experience through the notions of a single culture, and the opposite extreme of *cultural apartheid* which thinks that there is no communication possible between diverse cultures.⁶ For Panikkar, avoiding *solipsism* without falling into *colonialism*, overcoming *monism* without falling into *dualism*, is the present intercultural task.⁷

In this sense, interculturality has to face a twofold temptation: monoculturalism and multiculturalism. Panikkar believes that monoculturalism is lethal and asphyxiates other cultures through oppression. Multiculturalism is impossible and it only leads us to a war of cultures (with the foreseeable routing of the weakest) or condemns us to a cultural apartheid which also in the long run, becomes stifling.⁸ Interculturality, therefore, recognizes both assertions and seeks a middle way.

Interculturality shows us that other civilizations, without denying their negative aspects, have had other myths which allowed them to live a full life; but we must immediately add here, that this is no way a matter of idealizing the past or of seeing only the bright side of other cultures.⁹

It is important to note that, all the elements of interculturality that we have described above, ultimately presuppose love as the ultimate basis of any authentic philosophical activity.

⁴ Cf. Ibid., Summary.

⁵ Cf. R. Panikkar, “What is Comparative Philosophy Comparing?,” *Interpreting Across Boundaries. New Essays in Comparative Philosophy*, eds. Gerald James Larson, and Eliot Deutsch (Princeton University Press, 1988), pp. 122-8. Here Panikkar argues that, strictly speaking, Comparative Philosophy or Religion is not possible, because we do not have any neutral platform outside every tradition where comparison may be drawn. We cannot compare (*comparare* - that is, to treat on an equal-par -- basis), for, there is no *fulcrum* outside. He further suggests that we can only *imparare* - that is, learn from the other by opening ourselves from our standpoint, to a dialogical dialogue that does not seek to win or convince, but to search together from our different vantage points.

⁶ Cf. R. Panikkar, “Religion, Philosophy and Culture,” (para 28).

⁷ Cf. Ibid., (para 34)

⁸ Cf. Ibid., (para 93).

⁹ Cf. Ibid., (para 87).

As we have already mentioned, This further implies that philosophy which deals with only structures, ideas, rational aspects of reality, shunning life is not only one-sided, since it leaves untouched other aspects of reality, but in addition it is bad philosophy. Reality or life cannot be apprehended, understood, and realized with a single organ, reason for instance, or in only one of its (rational) dimensions. This would make of philosophy another science but would destroy philosophy as wisdom—which is more integrative than reason.

Secondly, love is more than the will. Love cannot be confined merely to our choices. It “is given to us, it is a gift, we find it, we acknowledge it, we accept it or rebel against it, but it is there as *material prima*, that some will call divine, God or in some other way.”¹⁰ Therefore, love is not voluntary, it is natural, and a given.

Thirdly, love implies an interconnection and interdependence of one with the other. It ultimately points to a relation. As we have pointed out, reality is not merely reason. There are also other dimensions to reality such as Matter and Mystery to which the rational dimension has to be constitutively related. Reality is cosmotheandric (Cosmic-Divine-Human). Anything that is real is not without any of these dimensions. Reality is pluralistic and inter-independent. An undue stress on any of these dimensions would land us into innumerable problems as we have been presently witnessing. This perhaps leads us to reflect on the contemporary context of our lives.

One of the novelties of our times seems to the increasing meeting of people, cultures and world-views. Scholars tell us that we indeed live in a second mutation period. The first mutation period (6th century B.C) witnessed the birth and the blossoming of three important civilizations of the world: the Chinese, Indian and the Greek. After centuries of splendid isolation, there seems to be now a cross-cultural wind blowing. There is a growing realization that in our contemporary cross-cultural human situation, no single culture, religion, discipline or world-view is sufficient even to face – let alone solve – any of our human problems single handedly.

We witness more concretely, for example, the interdisciplinary mood that has emerged in the academic arena. No more biology and chemistry in splendid isolation, we have now biochemistry. Similarly, biophysics, excenomics, ecophilosophy, bioinformatics, genetic engineering, and so on, which indeed give witness to the fact that no single discipline is sufficient to capture the mystery of life all by itself, and that the universal range of human experience cannot be reduced to a single human phylum, however ancient, modern or alluring it may be.

And yet, we find ourselves still in a paradoxical human situation with an equally powerful tendency towards a radical divisiveness, fanaticism and absolutism of all sorts, with the destructive monomorphic attitude: *Truth is ONE, and I ALONE have it*. The manifestation of this monomorphic tendency seems to range from the slogans of “one truth,” “one God,” “one empire,” or “one king,” in times past, to the more contemporary slogans of “one culture,” “one religion,” “one race,” “one language,” “one ideology,” “one party,” “one science,” “one democracy,” “one world market,” or “one technological civilization.” What ultimately this implies is unity is uniformity and a homogenization of life and experience.

Sharers of this paradoxical situation and also the common global garden, the challenge and task before us, individually and collectively, is to minimize our experiences and practices of absolutisms, exclusions and fanaticisms of all sorts, and maximize and prioritize values of mutual learning and enrichment. “Unity in diversity” has been so much stressed and inculcated in the past. Our times indeed equally demand a discernment of “diversity in unity” with a greater spirit of

¹⁰ Cf. R. Panikkar, “Religion, Philosophy and Culture,” (para 119).

openness and receptivity to “not in spite of differences, but *because* of differences.” After all, it’s only in *receiving, conceiving* can take place!

We may, in this context, indicate two ways of experiencing and approaching reality, as insightfully pointed by Panikkar. These two ways are, experiment and experience, and they have direct repercussions on the contemporary eco-crisis.

Accustomed, dazzled and overwhelmed by the stupendous achievements of modern science we think that the most efficacious approach to know reality is the experiment. But by it, we may only do violence to the things experimented upon. The way of approaching the earth through experiment only seems to justify the patriarchic way, which is aggressive and masculine in character, best represented in power of the eyes in penetration. This way of approach represents a kind of hunter’s epistemology which is an active, aggressive and a readymade process to “obtain,” “acquire,” and “grasp” knowledge. The tool used here is “reason” and “rationality” where reason becomes not only the “tool” but also the “judge” in determining “truth” and “reality.”¹¹ But we know, shot by the rifle of reason, the bird only falls dead.

Behind this way of experiment, we may deduct a kind of reductionism that seems to be ultimately at work, where the entire reality is reduced to human being, human being to male, male to his thinking, his thinking to reason, and his reason to calculation, and therefore, life is ultimately reduced a calculus.

This reductionism has its origin and echo in philosophy too which may be traced to the Parmenidean equation of thinking with being, and which has reached its zenith in the dominant modern-western scientific world, which has ultimately reduced Philosophy which is supposed to be an experience, into an experiment.

Different from the way of experiment and even opposite is the second way, that is, experience. But this may require more time and even patience. It consists, first of all, in allowing the thing to unfold in a natural way so that we enter into another type of contact with reality, which is more feminine and receptive that allows the thing to penetrate and to unfold in a natural way. It is best represented in the power of the ears. This way of approach is a kind of farmer’s epistemology which is characterized by passivity, receptivity and patience in the process of knowing. While the hunter is actively and aggressively going out to “capture” the object, the farmer prepares the earth to receive the seeds, follow the way of nature and waits for the outcome.¹²

In other words, experience is basically to allow the thing to penetrate into us. Here we become not only “seeing” beings, but “hearing” beings, too. We listen, receive, keep ourselves in simple readiness, and allow the sound to penetrate into us. In a word, we understand by ‘standing under’ the thing to be so understood. We discover the Earth’s wisdom only by allowing the Earth to speak to us. Shooting is still done, but this time, by the crops themselves, by the act of shooting up, and not shooting down!

This reception, conception and, eventually, transformation only intensify and amplify Panikkar’s appreciation of the feminine¹³ for the enlightening, loving and healing task of philosophy, which in our times of conflict, is a task indeed for peace.

¹¹ Cf. Young-Chan Ro, “An Epistemological Foundation of Raimon Panikkar: A Mystical Approach,” Eds. Michiko Yusa and Young-Chan Ro, *Cirpit Review*, No. 5, 2014, MIMESIS, pp. 97-112.

¹² Cf. Ibid. The analogy of farmer, indicated by Young-chan Ro, is very educative.

¹³ For an insightful understanding and presentation of Panikkar’s appreciation of the feminine, see Michiko Yusa, “Gender, the Feminine and Cultural Disarmament in the Thought of Raimon Panikkar,” *op.cit.*, pp. 113-124.

Panikkar speaks of Philosophy that inspires peace as well is the effect of peace. But for this, he recommends the “feminine” attitude as a pre-requisite. It is evident that our predominant civilization has relegated the feminine to a position of inferiority, as it has done the earth. Hence it becomes paramount that we recognize, subscribe, integrate, and promote more and more the feminist world, experience, lives and perspectives for the promotion of peace.

Subscribing to the feminine, first of all, would imply that we entertain, inculcate and practice the receptive attitude toward life, things, and reality. After all, it is by *receiving*, con-ceiving, that a new being is created. It all implies the attitude that we are contingent and that we are not sufficient in constructing the entire picture of reality all by ourselves. Panikkar’s words are instructive here:

Peace may be deserved, but it surely is not given, nor won. Peace is received. We need a "feminine" attitude in order to receive it. Our predominant civilization has relegated the feminine to a position of inferiority. And in saying "feminine" I refer, not exclusively to women in our societies, but to the feminine attitude, of which evidently, women, generally, know much more than do men. But I should like to emphasize the fact that in every whole human being there is an androgynous dimension which, sociologically at least, has been ignored and even scorned in many climes. I refer to the receptive attitude toward life, things, reality; to the attitude, which, by receiving and embracing, transforms. I am thinking of reality's deepest trait—the one revealed to us in one of the most universal acts in the universe: assimilation, which ranges from the absorbing capacity of the orbit of eight electrons to the Eucharist; from the force that leads to organic growth (by receiving from without what is necessary for within) to the instinct that leads to a deeper sense of 'commensality' [sharing the dining table] with things, persons, and gods. After all, it is by receiving, con-ceiving [i.e., co-(re)ceiving], that a new being is created.¹⁴

It is this feminine attitude that forms the ultimate basis to open ourselves up to others. Once the realization of our limitation begins, once we are engaged in a genuine intra-religious or intra-cultural scrutiny, we will be able to be ready for Panikkar calls the “imparative method.” This method is the effort at learning from the other and the attitude of allowing our conviction to be fecundated by the insights of the other.¹⁵

Panikkar’s imparative philosophy ultimately stands for the inner preparation that is required by the self with a true sense of humility and contingency. It is a kind of “mental circumcision” or mental disarmament that is required for a cultural disarmament and it is this cultural disarmament that has to precede any military disarmament. Peace, therefore, begins with the self. It also transforms the surroundings as the self and environment are in symbiosis. Hence the call of Panikkar, “*Si vis pacem, para te ipsum*” (If you wish for peace, prepare yourself; it is translated as “would have peace? Prepare yourself.”) Peace, in other words, is not possible without a self-transformation, and at the basis of self-transformation, there has to be the feminine attitude of receptivity.

It is interesting and significant to note that Panikkar has all along expressed his intercultural insights with a kind of “humoural humility,” indicating and affirming that a sense of humour is essential to his method. According to him, it is a sense of humour which will allow one not be attached to one’s own ideas; it is a sense of humour which will permit the unexpected and the surprises; it is a sense of humour which will convince us that all our ideas only sketches,

¹⁴ R. Panikkar, *Cultural Disarmament, The Way to Peace*, trans. by R. R. Barr from Spanish, (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press 1995), pp.7-8.

¹⁵ Here Panikkar argues that, strictly speaking, Comparative Philosophy or Religion is not possible, because we do not have any neutral platform outside every tradition where comparison may be drawn. We cannot compare (*comparare* – that is, to treat on an equal-*par* – basis), for, there is no *fulcrum* outside. He further suggests that we can only *imparare* – that is, learn from the other by opening ourselves from our standpoint, to a dialogical dialogue that does not seek to win or convince, but to search together from our different vantage points. Cf. Panikkar, “What is Comparative Philosophy Comparing?” *op.cit*, pp. 122-8.

approximations, stammerings, provisional, symbolic and experiential expressions of the inexpressible; and finally it is a sense of humour which would stand for *humility* which is only another word for courage to express one's convictions boldly, without fear.¹⁶ In Panikkar's words:

We believe what we say and stand by our convictions, but know well that there are other ways of expressing what we want to say such that all our words (except formal terms) are mere approximations. We know well that all our insights and beliefs are only glimpses of the Real we do not absolutize ourselves, nor even knowledge... Humility is probably the highest intellectual virtue. It is not about despair, but rather about humour. Humour plays with words and so does the philosopher, and no play would be real if it excludes chance, the unexpected, the unknown.¹⁷

In a word, humour ultimately stands for humility and it is humility which should serve as the very basis of cultural innovation – the need of our times. Cultural innovation, in short, stands for a culture's willingness and ability to learn not only from *within*, but also from *without*. The feminine attitude of *receiving* is the key here.

Panikkar's "humoral humility" in the sense described above, indeed stands on Panikkar's sophianic approach to life and reality. Whatever the etymology of *Sophia* may be, its immediate meaning, for Panikkar, points to the ability to *orient* oneself in any given context, practical or theoretical. The sophianic approach, to be sure, is a fruit obtained not merely from the tree of knowledge, but also from the tree of life. To quote Panikkar:

This ability in the area of ultimate questions consists not in controlling or dominating but in orienting oneself, sailing into harbor despite sociological winds and philosophical waves. A variety of human cultures have called this wisdom the "vision" of the third eye, the power of faith or mystical experience. We are saying, in other words, that the sophianic approach tries to overcome the pretension of both the approaches, the historical (piecemeal) and the rational (formal). I should not emphasize that *Sophia* is feminine because in many languages it is not, but the attitude behind this approach is certainly not the typical masculine feature of wanting to grasp, apprehend, dominate, and even know, but rather of being grasped, known, assimilated. The underlying problem is that of thinking and Being.¹⁸

In a word, the sophianic and feminine approach to philosophy implies that philosophy is a passive participatory activity of acknowledgement before being an active acquirement of pure knowledge.¹⁹ Further, since humour is suggested as the method of philosophy, the feminine receptive attitude, first and last of all, enables us to receive and take ourselves lightly. After all, if we don't laugh at ourselves, it will be difficult to live with ourselves!

¹⁶ Cf. R. Panikkar, *The Rhythm of Being* (New York: Orbis Books, 2010), p. 36.

¹⁷ Ibid., pp. 13-16.

¹⁸ Ibid., p. 22.

¹⁹ Cf. R. Panikkar, "Religion, Philosophy and Culture," (para 39).

Verso l'ultimo fiume, sulla barca di Panikkar

Intervista a Luigi Villanova, Festival Biblico di Vicenza 2016

Prima domanda: qual è oggi la posizione dell'Occidente in merito alla pace?

La prendo larga. Nel febbraio 2002 il segretario USA alla difesa Donald Rumsfeld, durante una conferenza stampa, mostrò la sua presunzione professorale ai giornalisti lì convenuti e al mondo intero, lanciandosi in un piccolo esperimento di filosofia dedicato ai rapporti tra il noto e l'ignoto²⁰. Quell'esperimento, è quanto cercherò qui di illustrare, è costato al mondo molto caro. «Ci sono conoscenze note (*known knowns*) - disse -, ossia cose che sappiamo di sapere. Ci sono ignoranze note (*known unknowns*), cioè cose che adesso sappiamo di non sapere. Ma ci sono anche ignoranze ignote (*unknown unknowns*): cose che non sappiamo di non sapere». Il fine di questo esercizio era di giustificare l'imminente attacco USA all'IRAQ: ci sono cose che sappiamo di sapere (che Saddam è presidente dell'IRAQ); cose che sappiamo di non sapere (quante armi di distruzione di massa possiede Saddam); ma ci sono anche cose che non sappiamo di non sapere: e se Saddam possiede qualche arma segreta che neppure immaginiamo? Ma quello che Rumsfeld dimenticò di aggiungere era la quarta possibilità della casistica, una possibilità fondamentale: le **conoscenze ignote** (*unknown knowns*), ovvero *le cose che non sappiamo di sapere*. Se Rumsfeld pensava che il pericolo principale nel conflitto con l'IRAQ fosse l'ignoranza ignota, cioè le minacce di Saddam che neppure sospettavamo, la giusta risposta dovrebbe essere stata che il pericolo principale erano invece le “conoscenze ignote”, le credenze rimosse e i presupposti cui aderiamo senza nemmeno saperlo. Queste furono la causa remota principale dei problemi che gli USA incontrarono in IRAQ, e l'omissione di Rumsfeld dimostra che era un falso filosofo.

Quest'omissis, per così dire, fu la vera causa del dramma iracheno; ma probabilmente anche delle tragedie che ci stanno affliggendo oggi le quali, per larga parte, sono frutto di quell'avventura senza verità. Ma quali sarebbero state queste fantomatiche conoscenze ignote?

Per provare a sottrarle dall'ombra, non trovo idea migliore di ciò che Panikkar chiama **Mito**, che poi è forse anche il concetto più importante di tutto il suo pensiero. Cosa intende con questo termine? Non le narrazioni epiche (come i miti degli antichi), non l'apoteosi di un persona (“sei un mito!”), ma qualcosa di molto più profondo: il mito è **ciò in cui crediamo senza sapere che ci crediamo**. Quell'insieme di simboli soprattutto, ma anche idee, modi di vedere la realtà cui aderiamo senza saperlo e che nondimeno plasmano radicalmente i nostri giudizi e le nostre azioni. Tollerando qualche approssimazione, si potrebbe dire che il mito è la **cultura** cui una persona aderisce vivendoci. Espressioni quotidiane come “è così e basta!”, in molti casi rivelano un mito implicito che non si mette in discussione.

Perché evoco questa apparente astruseria del mito? Perché secondo Panikkar, e io condivido, il tema della pace inteso come *ordine mondiale*, ancor prima e più che una questione di (buona) volontà o moralità, è un problema di *mito*²¹.

Com'è possibile? Non ci è spontaneo pensare, infatti, che sia una questione legata esclusivamente alla *natura aggressiva* dell'uomo? Certo, l'uomo ha sempre conosciuto la *violenza*; ma la *guerra*, intesa come violenza istituzionalizzata, è possibile solo in determinati miti, in determinate culture. Non tutte le culture, quindi, sono terreno di coltura adatto alla guerra, ma solo quelle della carenza, e perciò dell'accumulo e del potere, offrono le condizioni necessarie per il suo sviluppo.

La guerra, insomma, non è un fatto di *natura*, ma di *cultura*.

²⁰ Desumo questo riferimento da S. ŽIZEK, *Evento*, Utet, Torino 2014, 18-20. La conferenza di Rumsfeld è rinvenibile molto facilmente in *internet*; a questo proposito è impressionante che, nel digitare il nome del segretario della difesa in questione, si sia rinvolti subito, e anzitutto, proprio a questo discorso lucido (e folle).

²¹ Straordinarie a questo proposito le riflessioni raccolte in R. PANIKKAR, *Pace e disarmo culturale*, Rizzoli, Milano 2003, cui qui mi riferisco abbondantemente.

Posto ciò, bisogna riconoscere che essa (e non la “semplice” violenza) può svilupparsi *solo* nel mito dell’Occidente che, se riesco a spiegarmi, ha la sua radice remota – e virtuale, beninteso – in Aristotele, il quale all’inizio della sua *Metafisica* avanza una considerazione apparentemente molto condivisibile: “Tutti gli uomini desiderano sapere”²². Egli intendeva sapere le cause delle cose, certo. Progressivamente però, all’inizio della modernità, il “sapere-le-cause-delle-cose” diventa “sapere-come-sono-fatte-le-cose” *in vista di un utile* (Bacone); inoltre, dopo Cartesio, la conoscenza della verità diventa sempre più la *certezza* della verità, che poi è ulteriormente degenerata in osessione della *sicurezza* (ma, come sappiamo dalla nostra esperienza, la verità è molto più della certezza).

Ora, l’intreccio di queste due categorie – utilità e sicurezza – genera quella visione di fondo (*Mito*) esclusivamente occidentale, dell’*evoluzione totale*, della crescita senza fine, dello *sviluppo* interminabile inteso come aumento dei capitali, dei consumi, delle conoscenze, delle risorse, degli *standard* di vita, delle rendite finanziarie e molto altro²³. Tale crescita infinita si regge sul presupposto mitico (culturale e, quindi, dato per scontato) che la materia (spazio e tempo) sia infinita (e quindi infinitamente utilizzabile): ma questo è un attributo *teologico* che non si può proiettare sulla materia, semplicemente perché *il cosmo* reale infinito non è! Tale presupposto, pertanto, genera necessariamente una competizione tra i popoli. Perché il mito dello sviluppo eterno si mantenga, quindi, è *strutturalmente* necessario che intere fasce della popolazione mondiale ne siano escluse; e per garantire ciò bisogna che pochi abbiano un potere tale da assicurargli questo sviluppo incontrastato: si tratta del potere tecnologico (per questo, ad esempio, solo alcuni stati detengono la bomba atomica).

Questo *mito* occidentale dello sviluppo infinito è strutturalmente malvagio e, alla fine, anche contraddittorio, perché si ritorce su se stesso mentre arma i poveri che esclude.

Si capisce così che la guerra è l’aborto di una madre “sbagliata”: quel presupposto creduto-non-saputo (*unknown known*) che conferisce follemente al cosmo proprietà che sono solo di Dio (e che, quindi, solo pochi possono sfruttare all’infinito). Comunque lo si intenda. O, anche, non lo si intenda. Insomma, è in ogni caso un problema teologico risolto male, prima che politico. E Rumsfeld questo non lo sapeva (o magari, più semplicemente, l’ha tacito....).

Seconda domanda: può il dialogo tra le religioni svolgersi nella pace e portare alla pace?

Vorrei prima commentare brevemente una bella considerazione di Panikkar che abbiamo sentito nel video²⁴: “Le religioni non hanno il monopolio della religione”. Essa ci suggerisce un’idea molto importante, che si pone a mio avviso come necessario complemento alle critiche che due grandi pensatori dell’Ottocento hanno rivolto alla religione e, in particolare, al cristianesimo. Il primo, Marx, il quale sosteneva che la religione è un anestetico utile ad addormentare le coscenze; e Nietzsche, che affermava che siamo entrati nell’epoca inquietante in cui “Dio è morto”, ovvero quella in cui i valori ultimi (e quindi *religiosi*) non hanno più, almeno in Occidente, forza di trazione. La critica è giusta, molto onesta, e va certamente ascoltata. Ma dice la metà del problema. Piegando forse un po’ impunemente la frase del video, mi pare che Panikkar controbatta a queste critiche affermando che gli uomini, anche nel nostro contesto che ci ostiniamo a definire secolarizzato, hanno bisogno di *consacrarsi* a qualcosa che sentono in grado di giustificare la loro vita, e per questo “qualcosa” sono disposti a *sacrificare* qualcos’altro (chi si consacra al lavoro, chi alla sua realizzazione personale, chi a un’idea, chi a un assoluto di qualsiasi foggia sia). Questa dinamica presenta i tratti di una religione, sebbene non istituita, perché rivela il voto di legarsi (e pare che il termine religione significhi anzitutto “legame”, appunto) a qualche senso *ultimo*. Certo, poi si tratterà di capire se tale religione sia veramente in grado di salvare. Ma questa è un’altra questione. In ogni caso, la religione non si può eliminare dall’umano.

²² ARISTOTELE, *Metafisica*, Bompiani, Milano 2011², 3.

²³ Stupefacenti, e purtroppo poco ascoltate – forse anche perché poco conosciute –, le riflessioni espresse in R. PANIKKAR, *La fine della storia. La triplice struttura della coscienza umana del tempo*, “Quaderni di psicoterapia infantile” 10 (1984) 16-109.

²⁴ Si tratta dell’unica videointervista condotta da Franco Battiato che si può trovare molto facilmente su *youtube*.

Questo fatto appare con una certa evidenza su larga scala, quando le religioni si trovano vicine. E dico “si trovano”, perché per secoli si sono sostanzialmente ignorate vivendo, tutto sommato, in un quieto isolamento. È un contesto inedito, lo sappiamo bene, in cui non è questione di “semplice” tolleranza. Panikkar suggerisce, infatti, che il problema del **pluralismo** nasce quando due o più religioni si trovano in uno stesso spazio nel medesimo tempo, e ognuna avanza la legittima pretesa di rivelare la verità ultima del tutto. Ultima, non penultima. Finché discutiamo se sia più buona la pizza piuttosto che il *kebab*, siamo nel dominio del penultimo. Ci si può accendere, certo, e magari anche restare divergenti. In ogni caso, ne andrà di mezzo tutt’al più l’esito di una serata, non il destino di una vita. Quando si varca la soglia delle questioni ultime, invece, qual è la “vera religione”?

Questo problema, ci dice Panikkar, è insolubile con la ragione, che oscilla tra la soluzione di ridurre tutte le parti a *una* (solo una è quella vera e le altre sono necessariamente false) e quella di impaludarsi nel conflitto infinito che alla fine, però, si deve risolvere decretando comunque la superiorità di una soltanto. Come se ne esce?

Egli suggerisce che si potrebbe iniziare a distinguere tra la **fede** (come tensione di ogni uomo al Mistero Ultimo dell’esistere) e la **credenza** (ossia l’espressione storica e concreta della fede). Se ci irrigidiamo sulle rispettive credenze, l’esito potrà essere al meglio una sorvegliata indifferenza (“noi stiamo sul nostro, loro sul loro!”); al peggio, l’intolleranza violenta. L’incontro vero, afferma Panikkar, può avvenire solo nel regno della fede, quando le due parti sono disposte a relativizzare le proprie credenze e, progressivamente, a *credere ciò in cui l’altro crede*, a capirlo come egli capisce se stesso (non come noi lo capiamo). Alla fine, si inizia a comprendere che la verità non è *una* (la nostra, ovviamente, e tutti gli altri sotto!), ma nemmeno *due* (conflitto infinito e ingestibile che invoca il ritorno all’unico), perché è la *relazione stessa dei due dialoganti*: relazione che progressivamente li cambia iniziando a cambiare anche, in un modo imprevedibile, le rispettive credenze.

Il futuro delle religioni, certo, ma, più radicalmente, il futuro pacifico dei popoli sulla terra dipenderà da quanto le religioni e le culture riusciranno a praticare il pluralismo culturale e religioso. E, a questo proposito, il cristianesimo potrebbe avere qualcosa di buono da dire.

Terza domanda: qual è lo sviluppo del Cristianesimo nel dialogo tra le religioni, e quale il suo contributo per la pace?

Il titolo del nostro incontro, *Verso l’ultimo fiume*, fa eco a quello di un articolo molto bello e originale che recita “*Il Giordano, il Tevere e il Gange*²⁵” in cui Panikkar, usando una metafora geografica/fluviale, si domanda se la corrente cristiana sia *una* delle tante, oppure se assorba anche tutte le altre.

In base alla risposta che si dà a questa domanda, discendono conseguenze enormi a tanti livelli.

I tre fiumi, allora, corrispondono a tre diverse epoche storiche e, al contempo, ad altrettanti atteggiamenti fondamentali.

Il **Giordano**, fiume di Israele, rappresenta la consapevolezza cristiana dei primi tre secoli. Il gruppo cristiano, chiamiamolo così, non si pensa ancora in termini di religione istituzionale, ma è piuttosto attraversato da un forte vena di testimonianza a un concreto evento storico. Il martire è la figura specifica di questo periodo/contesto, e l’atteggiamento di fondo è il *Cristianesimo*.

Il **Tevere** corrisponde al passaggio del cristianesimo nell’Occidente europeo e comprende tre momenti. Molto approssimativamente, potremmo far iniziare questa fase con l’editto di Tessalonica (380) che dichiara il cristianesimo religione dell’Impero e proibisce i culti pagani. L’opera della nuova religione, fino all’ottavo secolo, diventa anzitutto quella di *convertire* i pagani; in un secondo momento, che si estende dal termine del precedente sino al Quattrocento, quella di affermarsi politicamente. Questa opera rafforza molto l’identità, e il *cristianesimo* diventa sempre più *Cristianità*. Se prima il cristiano era un testimone, ora è un soldato, un *militante* (la struttura interna

²⁵ R. PANIKKAR, *Il Giordano, il Tevere e il Gange*, in J. HICK - P. KNITTER (ed.), *L’unicità cristiana: un mito?*, Cittadella Editrice, Assisi 1994, 186-226.

dell'AC fino a pochi anni fa, ricalcava nei suoi livelli quella di un esercito; così gli “ordini” religiosi e i loro “generali” derivano questi appellativi dall'universo simbolico militare; la catechesi sulla Cresima, nel presentare il candidato come “soldato di Cristo”, mutuava da questo contesto quel linguaggio). Qua il cristianesimo sviluppa l'idea di essere la sola religione. Un fatto infine sconvolge questo ordine assestato: la scoperta delle Americhe. In questo periodo, e siamo così al terzo momento, si sviluppa l'idea della *missione*, non più intesa come conquista, però, quanto di “guadagnare alla fede” altri popoli. Un vero cristiano è missionario. L'atteggiamento di fondo è la *cristianità*. Ma la fine progressiva del colonialismo, le due guerre mondiali, l'indipendenza di molti stati, ci fa entrare in un nuovo ordine, simboleggiato appunto dall'*ultimo fiume*.

Il *Gange*, simbolo di tutte le culture altre da quella occidentale, è la fase in cui stiamo entrando, nella quale i cristiani sentono che, forse, più che conquistare o convertire, hanno essi stessi da imparare. Si comincia a capire che le culture e le religioni non sono semplici *oggetti*, ma soggetti che ci arricchiscono. I cristiani non devono difendere una cultura particolare, né una religione istituita. L'atteggiamento è quello della *Cristianità*, in cui il cristianesimo assume la consapevolezza di essere *una* espressione del Mistero insondabile della realtà. Mistero che non è solo Materia, non solo Umanità, e non solo Divinità, ma abbraccio danzante di queste Tre. Realtà ***cosmo-te-andrica***.

Solo se si manterrà questa triplice armonia la pace mondiale sarà possibile.

Dal punto di vista cristiano, certo, questo Mistero ultimo si chiama **Cristo**.

Ma il Cristo non è proprietà di nessuno, nemmeno dei cristiani, perché è la meta di tutti.

Pour une éthique cosmothéandrique des vertus dans le contexte de la crise écologique²⁶

Juan Carlos VALVERDE,
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1. Introduction

Raimon Panikkar, scientifique, philosophe et théologien espagnol, invite, dans ses multiples travaux, à recouvrer la structure trinitaire de l'être humain et de toute la réalité et propose, en outre, comme possible solution à la crise écologique, de faire un pas de plus vers l'écosophie, c'est-à-dire, à prêter attention à la sagesse de la terre. Le point de départ est un changement radical de l'homme lui-même, mais aussi de la théologie. Car elle doit pouvoir répondre aux questions de la société contemporaine.

La première tâche et la plus urgente consiste, dit-il, à réaliser un nouveau pacte, une nouvelle alliance avec notre corps (notre Corps !), un pacte de fidélité avec nous-mêmes. A. Leopold proposait une « éthique de la terre » et M. Serres un « contrat naturel », Panikkar, lui, une « nouvelle conscience ». Le premier affirmait avec raison qu'il n'existe pas « [...] d'éthique chargée de définir la relation de l'homme à la terre, ni aux animaux et aux plantes [...] ».²⁷ Il faudrait peut-être élargir les frontières de la communauté de façon à ce qu'on tienne compte aussi de la terre (le sol, les montagnes, les plantes, les animaux, entre autres). Car tous les êtres ont le droit d'exister, indépendamment du bénéfice de l'être humain. Il nous faut une pensée plus relationnelle. Une telle vision ferait passer l'*homo sapiens* de conquérant à membre et citoyen de la seule communauté qui existe. La terre ne serait plus un adversaire, mais un compagnon de voyage. Car homme et nature ne font qu'un seul et même Corps.

Force est de constater que l'éthique théologique a été réduite à l'impératif moral de Kant, c'est-à-dire à la question de l'obligation.²⁸ Avec S. Pinckaers²⁹, nous affirmons qu'il faudrait compléter cet impératif moral avec la question du bonheur qui renvoie au sens de la vie. Il faudrait que nous nous demandions, dans les pages qui suivent et à la lumière de la proposition de R. Panikkar, si l'éthique que l'on a est suffisante pour apporter une réponse satisfaisante aux problèmes posés par la crise écologique ou bien s'il nous en faut une autre. Tenter de trouver une éthique écosophique sera le but de cet essai.

2. Remettre la théologie en chantier

La profondeur de la crise écologique dans laquelle nous sommes a mis en question tous les schémas, tant scientifiques que sociologiques, philosophiques et autres. La théologie doit aussi se sentir concernée. Nous affirmons que la théologie ne s'est pas encore (ou pas encore tout à fait !) rendu compte de l'urgence de la crise écologique. L'éventuelle disparition de l'être humain, tout au moins d'une partie de l'humanité – déjà en cours, hélas ! – devrait être l'objet d'une plus sincère préoccupation.

²⁶ Note sur l'auteur : Juan Carlos VALVERDE, doctorant de l'université de Strasbourg en Théologie et Sciences Religieuses, mention Philosophie de la Religion. Licence en Philosophie par l'université Catholique du Costa Rica. Licence et Maîtrise en Théologie Biblique par l'Institut Catholique de Paris et Master en Théologie par l'université de Strasbourg. Dernière publication : « Raimond Panikkar et Arne Næss en dialogue. L'écosophie, nouveau paradigme écologique », *Cirpit* 6 marzo 2015. Disponible sur <http://www.raimon-panikkar.com/index.php/raimon-panikkar-e-arne-naess-en-dialogue-de-juan-carlos-valverde-un-strasbourg/>

²⁷ A. Leopold, *Almanach d'un conte des sables*, Paris, Garnier-Flammarion, 2000, p. 257.

²⁸ A. Thomasset pense que le passage d'une morale du bonheur et des vertus à une morale de l'obligation a été opéré par le courant nominaliste. Ainsi, par exemple, pour Ockham, « seul importe le rapport des deux libertés humaine et divine, et ce rapport est pensé en termes d'obligation. La volonté divine s'exprime par une loi que l'homme doit connaître et appliquer ». Voir A. Thomasset, *Interpréter et agir. Jalons pour une éthique chrétienne*, Paris, Cerf, 2011, p. 157.

²⁹ Voir S. Pinckaers, *Les sources de la morale chrétienne. Sa méthode, son contenu, son histoire*, Paris, Cerf, 1990.

A la lumière de la pensée de R. Panikkar, nous croyons que trois aspects doivent être repensés, à propos d'une évolution de la théologie. Premièrement, la relation universel-particulier-singulier ; deuxièmement, la notion de territoire et, troisièmement, l'hypothèse de l'interfécondation des cultures.

Relation universel-particulier-singulier. Dans la société contemporaine l'universel, le particulier et le singulier se débattent constamment. Dans une approche plus « éco-théologique », un premier changement s'impose : l'universel ferait plutôt référence à la totalité (l'ensemble des êtres humains, des animaux, des plantes et des choses dites « inertes »), alors que le singulier renverrait de préférence aux individus (un être humain, un animal, une plante ou une pierre), tandis que le particulier ferait référence au milieu auquel ils appartiennent (social, culturel et historique, mais aussi géo-biologique). Une éthique éco-théologique doit tenir compte de l'ensemble, mais aussi des caractéristiques des individus et de leurs milieux de vie. « Aucune tentative de restauration écologique du monde ne triomphera tant que nous n'arriverons pas à considérer la Terre comme notre corps et le corps comme notre soi-même »³⁰, affirme radicalement Panikkar.

Reterritorialisation : décoloniser l'imaginaire théologique. En relation rigoureuse avec ce qui précède, un autre changement est exigé : reterritorialiser notre monde, physique et imaginaire. P. Shepard affirmait : « La pensée écologique implique une vision qui ne s'arrête pas aux frontières »³¹, car la pollution n'a plus de bornes. La nouvelle éthique devrait donc rayer les frontières physiques et intellectuelles qui la limitent tout en respectant les différences culturelles. L'éthique théologique traditionnelle témoigne d'une société qui n'existe plus, des structures géographiques et mentales qui ont changé. G. Casalis le dit fort bien : « [...] propre de la réalité familiale telle que la produit la société occidentale et telle que la reflète la morale prétendument chrétienne : un micro-organisme aussi clos qu'uniformisé, avec d'incroyables prétentions à l'universalité ».³² Il est alors impératif qu'un processus de reterritorialisation³³ voit le jour. Il serait un réapprentissage, une récupération des attitudes positives envers la vie. Pour cela, il faut tout d'abord « décoloniser l'imaginaire »³⁴, ce qui veut dire croire à la possibilité de construire un monde alternatif à partir d'autres valeurs. Comme disait A. Costa, il est question d'une « éthique de la suffisance pour tous et non pas seulement pour quelques-uns ». ³⁵ Pour Panikkar, décoloniser l'imaginaire en éthique théologique signifie ne plus vivre de l'espérance d'atteindre le ciel dans un « temps » inconnu et, entretemps, vivre de manière humiliante et inhumaine. Décoloniser l'imaginaire en théologie implique de reconnaître qu'une seule culture ne peut pas offrir la réponse aux complexités de la crise actuelle.

Pour une inter-fécondation des cultures. Le mot « fécondation » est très important. Car il n'y a pas de vie sans fécondation. L'être humain, le cosmos et le divin, pour vivre, ont besoin d'une fécondation mutuelle. Cela veut dire qu'il n'y a pas d'horizon possible sans relations constitutives. Il s'agit de reconnaître que l'autre a aussi le droit d'exister. Panikkar le dit ainsi : « [...] nous avons besoin de l'inter-fécondation des cultures. [...] nous devons apprendre à écouter ce que les autres cultures, celles qui ne dominent pas, ont à nous dire lorsqu'elles sont confrontées aux problèmes politiques [...]. Nous devons connaître ses propositions et les étudier. Il ne s'agit pas de proposer des réformes mineures, mais d'envisager d'autres solutions radicalement différentes ».³⁶

3. Faut-il une nouvelle éthique théologique ?

L'éthique théologique que nous avons reçue a été bâtie sur l'accomplissement des normes, sur le respect de la loi. Avec A. Thomasset nous croyons que la « loi et toutes les règles du

³⁰ R. Panikkar, *Ecosofía. Para una espiritualidad de la tierra*, Madrid, San Pablo, 1993, p. 151.

³¹ Cité par J. B. Callicot, *Ethique de la terre*, Marseille, Éditions Wildproject, 2010, p. 101.

³² G. Casalis, *Les idées justes ne tombent pas du ciel*, Paris, Cerf, 1977, p. 141.

³³ Ce processus de reterritorialisation implique de nouvelles relations sociales, la reconnaissance de l'autre et de la diversité, signifie retourner ce qui appartenait originellement à d'autres, tant leurs territoires physiques que leurs identités ; voir G. De Marzo, *Buen vivir. Per una nuova democrazia della terra*, Rome, Ediesse, 2009, p. 101.

³⁴ Voir S. Latouche, *Décoloniser l'imaginaire*, Lyon, Parangon, 2005, notamment son introduction.

³⁵ A. Costa, *El Buen Vivir. Sumak Kawsay, una oportunidad para imaginar otros mundos*, Barcelone, Icaria, 2013, p. 66.

³⁶ R. Panikkar, *El Espíritu de la política*, Barcelone, Ediciones Península, 1999, p. 133.

fonctionnement social ne suffisent pas pour susciter la solidarité nécessaire à la santé morale et politique des sociétés ».³⁷ Il faut quelque chose de plus que le « devoir faire ». Il est impératif que l'on récupère l'éthique du bonheur, que l'on s'intéresse à cette dimension essentielle de la vie quelque peu oubliée. La société ne peut fonctionner que si l'on recouvre le goût de vivre ensemble et le désir de viser le bien commun. Or, la vertu est étroitement liée aux notions de bonheur, de fin ultime, d'exercice et d'apprentissage.

Cette éthique ne se conjuguera pas au singulier, ce sera une éthique éco-théologique conjuguée au pluriel, elle s'intéressera à l'éducation personnelle dans le but de surmonter l'individualisme narcissique de l'individu contemporain. Comme nous le rappelle encore une fois A. Thomasset : « Face à une éthique qui, dans le christianisme, s'intéressait surtout à l'évitement du mal et au péché, s'ouvre à nouveau le souci de redécouvrir la visée positive du bien à faire, du bonheur à rechercher, du progrès possible ».³⁸

Pré-supposés d'une éthique cosmothéandrique

Trois pourraient être les piliers de notre proposition. Premièrement, la valeur relationnelle de tout ce qui existe ; deuxièmement, une nouvelle conception de l'être humain et troisièmement, une nouvelle approche épistémologique.

4. La valeur relationnelle de tout ce qui existe

L'être humain a été depuis longtemps considéré comme étant supérieur et extérieur à la nature³⁹ et celle-ci a été réduite au statut d'objet faisant face à un sujet. Il nous faudrait donc déconstruire cette détermination métaphysique, en vue d'élaborer une nouvelle proposition qui pense la réalité comme un ensemble de relations constitutives, autrement dit, formuler une hypothèse qui propose la « valeur relationnelle » de tout ce qui existe.

D'après un certain nombre d'auteurs, il suffit de prendre en considération les intérêts des générations futures à jouir des services écologiques et des ressources spirituelles que leur offre la nature pour justifier sa protection. Pour ces auteurs, le respect que l'on doit aux êtres humains est suffisant pour prendre soin de la nature. Pour d'autres⁴⁰, il suffirait d'être membre de la communauté de vie pour que toutes les entités aient une valeur intrinsèque. J. B. Callicot confirme la valeur intrinsèque des entités, humaines et non humaines, comme étant ce qui appartient à la nature essentielle ou à la constitution d'une chose. Callicot prétend ainsi rompre avec la distinction cartésienne qui fait la différence entre sujets et objets. Les choses doivent être valorisées pour elles-mêmes, en tant que fin en soi, affirme cet auteur. Il faut en outre montrer une valeur intrinsèque des entités non pas seulement dans les individus mais dans de vastes ensembles. Callicot propose de « valoriser des espèces, des écosystèmes, des océans, l'atmosphère, la biosphère – tous et chacun pour ce qu'ils sont en eux-mêmes ainsi que pour leur utilité ».⁴¹

Notons que chez la plupart de ces auteurs, défenseurs et opposés à ladite valeur intrinsèque, l'être humain et les êtres qui l'entourent sont tous considérés d'une manière isolée. L'expression « valeur intrinsèque des entités » renvoie aux individus et ne fait pas forcément penser à l'ensemble de la communauté. La valeur intrinsèque ferait donc partie de l'essence ou des attributs de tous les êtres, de tous les individus considérés isolément. D'après l'intuition de Panikkar, il faudrait plutôt faire l'énoncé éthique suivant : les entités non humaines, tout comme les êtres humains, ont de la

³⁷ A. Thomasset, *Les vertus sociales. Justice, solidarité, compassion, hospitalité, espérance*, Paris, Editions jésuites, 2015, p. 8.

³⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 21.

³⁹ Voir les intéressantes réflexions de C. et R. Larrère sur ce sujet dans l'ouvrage *Penser et agir avec la nature. Une enquête philosophique*, Paris, éditions La Découverte, 2015, notamment l'introduction et le premier chapitre.

⁴⁰ P. W. Taylor, « L'éthique du respect de la nature », H.-S. Afeissa (dir.), *Ethique de l'environnement. Nature, valeur, respect*, Paris, Vrin, 2007, p. 118.

⁴¹ J. B. Callicot, « La valeur intrinsèque dans la nature : une analyse métaéthique », H.-S. Afeissa (dir.), *Ethique de l'environnement. Nature, valeur, respect, op. cit.*, p. 219.

valeur parce qu'elles font partie d'un tout inséparable. L'intuition cosmothéandrique dit que Dieu, Homme et Monde sont en relation intrinsèque et constitutive. Panikkar reconnaît la valeur des choses non pas tant en elles-mêmes, mais davantage en tant que membres d'un ensemble indivisible. Il est clair que reconnaître l'importance d'une chose en fonction de l'existence des autres implique aussi reconnaître la valeur en soi. Il est néanmoins absolument nécessaire d'expliciter cette relativité.

5. Une anthropologie cosmothéandrique

Nombreux sont les auteurs qui croient que la crise écologique a révélé une profonde crise anthropologique. D'après eux, il faut repenser le concept de sujet, il faudrait « [...] un changement dans la manière dont l'homme se pense et pense son être à la nature »⁴², affirme C. Pelluchon. Pour Panikkar, le temps est venu d'un changement : « Notre temps est mûr pour cette mutation anthropologique ».⁴³ L'homme est remis en question par le monde lui-même, par une nouvelle relation avec les animaux, les plantes et les choses dites « inertes ». A la lumière de l'intuition de Panikkar, nous proposons le principe suivant comme base de cette nouvelle anthropologie : « L'homme est une réalité cosmothéandrique ».⁴⁴ Cela veut dire que l'être humain est en relation d'inter-in-dépendance vis-à-vis de Dieu et du Monde.

Le principe cosmo-thé-andrique fait reconnaître le divin, l'humain et le cosmique comme les trois dimensions de la réalité. Le *Theos* renvoie à la dimension divine de la réalité, c'est l'« impénétrable liberté »⁴⁵, le caractère inépuisable de tous les êtres, leur ouverture et leur incomplétude. L'*Anthropos* représente la dimension humaine de la réalité, c'est la conscience présente. Panikkar le dit ainsi : « [...] les eaux de la conscience humaine baignent toutes les berges du réel – même si l'homme ne peut pas pénétrer le *cælum incognitum* de l'intérieur – et pour cela même l'être de l'homme entre en relation avec la réalité tout entière ».⁴⁶ Finalement, le *Kosmos* désigne la dimension matérielle de la réalité. Tout être se trouve dans le monde et participe de sa singularité : « Il n'y a rien qui, en entrant dans la conscience humaine, n'entre pas en même temps en relation avec le Monde. [...] toutes les choses qui existent ont une relation constitutive avec le Monde de la matière/énergie et de l'espace/temps »⁴⁷, écrit notre auteur.

De ce principe général se dégagent trois affirmations que nous ne pouvons pas développer. Nous réaffirmons l'idée qui dit que l'homme est un : corps, âme et esprit, mais aussi qu'il est infini : en même temps transcendant et immanent. Nous soutenons que l'homme est avant tout personne, il est relation et les relations configurent son être au monde.

6. Une épistémologie perspectiviste

Panikkar rejette l'idée que l'homme puisse avoir accès à une réalité objective, sans tenir compte, par exemple, des différents contextes culturels. Car pour lui, il n'y a pas de faits objectifs ou en soi, tout comme il n'y a pas de connaissance d'une chose sans la perspective de celui qui connaît. Cela veut dire qu'il n'existe pas d'absolu métaphysique, épistémologique ou moral. L'objectivité ou connaissance objective est telle dans la mesure où il existe un sujet qui définit et qui donne les critères d'une telle connaissance. Pour atteindre la connaissance pleine, il faudrait plus que la méthode scientifique, affirme notre auteur. La science moderne, basée sur l'analyse et

⁴² C. Pelluchon, *Eléments pour une éthique de la vulnérabilité. Les hommes, les animaux, la nature*, Paris, Cerf, 2011, p. 143.

⁴³ R. Panikkar, *Paix et désarmement culturel*, Arles, Actes Sud, 2008, p. 49.

⁴⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 106.

⁴⁵ R. Hauser dit, suivant Luther, que « le Dieu occulte et mystérieux est entièrement impénétrable dans ses desseins » ; voir R. Hauser, « Poder », *Conceptos fundamentales de teología II*, Madrid, Cristiandad, 1979, p. 482-500 ; cité par J. L. Meza. *La antropología de Raimond Panikkar y su contribución a la antropología teológica cristiana*, Thèse doctorale, Bogotá, Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, 2009, p. 107, note 8.

⁴⁶ R. Panikkar, *La nueva inocencia*, Estella (Navarra), Verbo Divino, 1999, p. 58.

⁴⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 59.

les mesures, ne peut pas « sauver » l'homme. La totalité de la réalité, l'harmonie de cette réalité, ne peut pas être perçue que par la raison dialectique. Pour atteindre cette harmonie il faut une troisième dimension que Panikkar appelle « intuition », « troisième œil », ou simplement « amour ».

La notion d'amour chez Panikkar renvoie à une connaissance qui se produit grâce au fait que celui qui connaît sort de soi-même, en d'autres termes, il aime cela même qu'il reconnaît à travers l'amour comme étant sa propre connaissance. Cette sortie de soi-même est l'amour. Aimer veut dire se donner soi-même.⁴⁸ Il y a là un parallélisme explicite avec la Trinité Divine. L'amour ne peut pas être défini si ce n'est que par ses « fruits », il est un « saut centrifuge, hors de notre centre [...] ».⁴⁹ La vraie connaissance implique donc de sortir de soi-même.

8 Proposition d'éthique cosmothéandrique

Reprendons ici une expression chère à Panikkar, à savoir, « *Colligite fragmenta* »⁵⁰ tirée de l'évangile de Jean. Il faut ramasser les fragments pour que rien ne se perde. La sagesse consiste à (re)trouver l'harmonie perdue, car « la réalité est harmonie ».⁵¹ Il s'agit donc de réunir les parties dispersées, certaines même méprisées, voire négligées.

Le philosophe Ecossais A. MacIntyre considère que la morale dans nos jours est fragmentée : « [...] nous ne possédons plus que des fragments d'un modèle conceptuel, fragments auxquels manque le contexte qui leur donne sens. [...] nous disposons d'un simulacre de morale [...] »⁵². Pour lui, les philosophies d'aujourd'hui sont incapables de penser ce qu'elles étaient dans le passé et, le pire, c'est qu'il ne semble pas exister un accord moral possible dans le présent. Peut-on en dire autant pour la théologie ? La société contemporaine insiste principalement sur l'individu et ses droits. Il faudrait, suivant aussi bien MacIntyre que Panikkar, ramasser les débris et essayer de construire une théorie qui aille dans le sens contraire de l'individualisme.

Même si notre théologien espagnol n'a pas construit explicitement une éthique écosophique, à partir des éléments qu'il nous a livrés nous osons maintenant ébaucher une telle éthique.

7. Le point de départ : la communauté cosmique

Le point de départ de l'éthique, implicite dans la pensée de Panikkar, est sans aucun doute la notion de communauté, comprise comme corps total et cimentée sur les relations trinitaires. L'être humain et le cosmos sont insérés dans la vie trinitaire dans une relation constitutive.

La vie n'est plus conçue comme un espace limité à l'individualité, elle a maintenant des dimensions cosmiques ; notre corps individuel n'est plus isolé, ce n'est plus une chose solitaire qui se retrouve avec d'autres choses par hasard ; il n'y a pas de hasard, car ce corps fait partie d'un Corps plus grand qui le comprend et le complète. Panikkar affirme que l'on vit « [...] dans un cosmos, c'est-à-dire dans un ordre bien établi [...] »⁵³ voulant dire qu'il s'agit d'un grand organisme⁵⁴ qui fonctionne ensemble, même si chaque membre a aussi un fonctionnement particulier. La vie, bien évidemment, n'est pas le privilège de l'homme, celui-ci participe de la vie de l'univers.

Le point de départ de notre éthique éco-sophique implique une nouvelle cosmologie qui considère la terre comme un tout. Or, l'homme d'aujourd'hui a dévitalisé la terre, elle n'est plus que matière et énergie. Du coup, l'homme est devenu un être isolé, sans compagnons de voyage.

⁴⁸ Voir R. Panikkar, *Mito, fe y hermenéutica*, Barcelone, Herder, 2007, p. 304.

⁴⁹ R. Panikkar, *Mystique, plénitude de vie*, Paris, Cerf, 2012, p. 378.

⁵⁰ Quand ils furent repus, il dit à ses disciples : « Rassemblez les morceaux en surplus, afin que rien ne soit perdu » ; ut autem impleti sunt dixit discipulis suis colligite quae superaverunt fragmenta ne pereant ; Jn 6, 12 ; voir R. Panikkar, *La puerta estrecha del conocimiento. Sentidos, razón y fe*, Barcelone, Herder, 2009, p. 13; *La intuición cosmoteándrica, op. cit.*, p. 16-20.

⁵¹ R. Panikkar, *La intuición cosmoteándrica, op. cit.*, p. 13;

⁵² *Ibid.*, p. 4.

⁵³ R. Panikkar, *El mundanal silencio. Una interpretación del tiempo presente*, Barcelone, Ediciones Martínez Roca, 1999, p. 37.

⁵⁴ Cette idée renvoie sans doute à l'hypothèse Gaïa de J. Lovelock.

Panikkar croit que : « Le Ciel s'est transformé en un projet humain, un idéal plus ou moins heuristique ; et le cosmos n'est pas plus qu'une condition nécessaire pour l'existence humaine. Cependant, ni le Ciel ni le cosmos n'ont une réalité propre. C'est cela l'humanisme radical de notre temps. Il a converti l'homme en un Dasein isolé [...] ».⁵⁵

8. Une éthique cosmothéandrique du sens de l'existence

« Pourquoi y a-t-il quelque chose plutôt que rien ? » De la réponse donnée découlent autant la manière de se comprendre soi-même que celle d'être au monde. Aristote pensait à un premier moteur que Leibniz nommait Dieu, tout comme Descartes ; mais que peut-on ou doit-on en dire aujourd'hui ? Quel est le sens de l'existence ? Est-il important de se poser cette question ? La réponse n'est pas univoque. Panikkar, lui, reprend la vieille notion de bonheur et de sens de l'existence. Tout ce qui existe a un sens, une fin et doit donc l'atteindre.

Il importe de mentionner deux notions qui aideront à mieux comprendre la pensée de notre auteur. Il s'agit du « désir » et de l' « aspiration ». Le *désir* est défini comme la soif qu'a l'homme de posséder quelque chose, un objet, qui est justement l'objet du désir. Cet objet met l'appétit en mouvement dans le but de l'obtenir. Mais il y a aussi l'*aspiration*. Elle renvoie à un dynamisme intérieur, à une force qui vient vers l'être et qui ne recherche aucun objet spécifique. C'est l'*aspiration* qui nous fait rester vivants. L'*aspiration* est la « condition première pour le déploiement de l'espérance »⁵⁶ et suscite de surcroît la foi.

Aujourd'hui tout se passe comme si l'homme avait horreur du vide et utilisait, pour remplir sa vie et son temps, les moyens les plus variés : la recherche des richesses, le travail, le plaisir, la science, la politique, l'amour, entre autres. Panikkar propose, comme le fait Pinckaers, de définir la morale comme la « science qui enseigne à l'homme le sens de la vie ».⁵⁷ Ainsi, l'éthique devrait donc s'occuper de l'ensemble des actes humains et non seulement des obligations morales.

9. Une éthique cosmothéandrique de la vulnérabilité et du « care »

L'éthique écosophique dont nous parlons, basée sur les relations intrinsèques entre toutes les entités, doit se penser de deux points de vue, à savoir, la vulnérabilité et le « care ».⁵⁸ Tous les êtres partagent la vulnérabilité et ont donc besoin du « care ».

Le « care » dans la société occidentale a été assumé par les femmes. Nous croyons, à la suite de notre auteur, qu'il est impératif d'adopter un discours plus féminin d'amour et d'affection. Panikkar écrit : « Nous avons besoin d'une attitude 'féminine' pour la recevoir [la paix]. Notre civilisation dominante a relégué le féminin à une position d'infériorité. Et, en disant 'féminin', je ne me réfère pas seulement aux femmes dans nos sociétés mais à l'attitude féminine sur laquelle, évidemment, les femmes en savent beaucoup plus que les hommes. [...]. Je me réfère à l'attitude réceptive face à la vie, les choses, la réalité ; à l'attitude qui, en recevant et embrassant, transforme ».⁵⁹ Il est question d'une attitude plus contemplative ou réceptive et moins rationnelle ou « agressive »⁶⁰ de la vie. Pour trouver une adéquate solution aux problèmes écologiques, affirme C. Larrère, il faudrait changer de métaphore, il faut renoncer à la « wilderness » masculine pour faire place au « jardin » comme métaphore du féminin « qui n'implique pas de rapport immédiat à la domination ».⁶¹

⁵⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 178.

⁵⁶ *Idem*.

⁵⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 35.

⁵⁸ Théorie développée aux Etats-Unis par Carol Gilligan, dans les années 1980, dans le cadre d'une psychologie du développement moral.

⁵⁹ R. Panikkar, *Paix et désarmement culturel*, Arles, Actes Sud, 2008, p. 31-32.

⁶⁰ R. Panikkar, *La plénitude de l'homme*, Arles, Actes Sud, 2007, p. 31.

⁶¹ C. Larrère, « Care et environnement : la métaphore du jardin », S. Laugier, *Tous vulnérables ? Le care, les animaux et l'environnement*, Paris, Payot, 2012, p. 250.

Vulnérabilité, « care » et interdépendance s'opposent à l'abstraction d'êtres isolés et indépendants. L'écosophie de Panikkar est une invitation à s'engager activement dans et pour la vie ; il est question de « cultiver » l'amour envers tout ce qui nous entoure. « Cultiver » et « prendre soin »⁶² semblent aller à peu près dans la même direction. J. Tronto donne une définition intéressante du « care » :

[Le care est] une activité générique qui comprend tout ce que nous faisons pour maintenir, perpétuer et réparer notre ‘monde’, de sorte que nous puissions y vivre aussi bien que possible. Ce monde comprend nos corps, nous-mêmes et notre environnement, tous éléments que nous cherchons à relier en un réseau complexe, en soutien à la vie.⁶³

Le « care » est donc compris comme étant une activité dont tous ont besoin et qui doit être exercée par tous. Il est toutefois question d'une activité et non pas d'une réflexion ou d'une activité intellectuelle : « [...] ce n'est pas seulement affaire de connaissance ou d'affection, elle est affaire d'apprentissage de l'expression adéquate et d'éducation de la sensibilité ».⁶⁴ Panikkar aurait sans doute préféré le mot « expérience ». Le « care » serait ainsi non seulement une activité qui se fait et qui passe, mais une expérience qui jaillit du plus profond de l'être. Prendre soin de tous les êtres vulnérables fait partie de tous les êtres, même si « on ne naît ‘caring’, on le devient [...] par le travail ».⁶⁵ Le « care » s'apprend et peut devenir une vertu. Tout ce que nous faisons doit être fait dans le seul but de maintenir et perpétuer l'aventure de la vie.

Si nous pensons que la crise écologique touche de manière particulière le pauvre, il faudrait considérer le « care » comme étant le « pouvoir des faibles »⁶⁶, ce qui veut dire que ceux qui prennent soin des autres procurent une assistance essentielle à la Vie. Dans la chaîne de relations que la réalité conforme, tous les éléments doivent se soucier des autres, pourrait dire Panikkar. C'est le sens des expressions « se cultiver » et « cultiver » que notre auteur aime tant. Il affirme : « Le sens de la vie consiste à faire de chacun de nous une œuvre d'art. Pour réaliser cette création artistique nous avons besoin de la collaboration de tout l'univers, depuis le divin jusqu'à la matière ou jusqu'à nos prochains ».⁶⁷ L'éthique que nous proposons invite d'une manière toute naturelle à la sollicitude envers les plus faibles. Etre moralement bon signifie donc que chacun s'efforce de répondre aux demandes de soin.

On pourrait encore une fois se poser la question : quelle image doit-on se faire de l'homme de notre société industrialisée et développée ? Comment l'homme se perçoit-il lui-même ? M. Gaille parle de « miroir moral » et se pose une autre question : « qui voulons-nous reconnaître dans ce miroir ? Il s'agit de définir la personnalité morale que nous souhaitons incarner dans cette relation ».⁶⁸ Une éthique écosophique est telle parce que tous les membres de la communauté de vie se soucient les uns des autres. Ce n'est pas parce qu'il est un commandement qui exige la justice et le respect d'autrui qu'il faut agir, mais parce que cela surgit de l'intérieur comme un besoin. C'est un état d'esprit qui doit s'acquérir, tout en étant en même temps un don, une grâce.

Il est question sans doute aussi de responsabilité. Celle-ci ne peut pas être limitée à un ensemble de règles à respecter ou à accomplir. Ce n'est pas seulement ce qu'on a ou n'a pas fait. J'agis parce que l'autre qui est dans le besoin fait partie de moi-même, parce qu'il est *altera pars mei*, parce qu'en lui tendant une main, j'œuvre pour le bien et l'intérêt de tous, de la vie elle-même. La vie n'est plus une aventure solitaire. Disons-le avec les mots d'A. Comte-Sponville : « Il s'agit

⁶² Joan Tronto propose de traduire le mot « care » à la fois par sollicitude et soin ; voir J. Tronto, *Un monde vulnérable. Pour une politique du care*, Paris, La Découverte, 2009, p. 142.

⁶³ *Ibid.*, p. 143.

⁶⁴ P. Molinier ; S. Laugier ; P. Paperman, *Qu'est-ce que le care ? Souci des autres, sensibilité, responsabilité*, Paris, Payot, 2009, p. 24.

⁶⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 12.

⁶⁶ J. Tronto, *Un monde vulnérable. Pour une politique du care*, op. cit., p. 168.

⁶⁷ R. Panikkar, *Ecosofía*, op. cit., p. 147.

⁶⁸ M. Gaille, « De la crise écologique au stade du miroir moral », S. Laugier, *Tous vulnérables ? Le care, les animaux et l'environnement*, op. cit., p. 227.

d'habiter cet univers qui est le nôtre, ou plutôt qui nous contient, où rien n'est à croire, puisque tout est à connaître, où rien n'est à espérer, puisque tout est à faire ou à aimer ».⁶⁹ Comte-Sponville cite une phrase émouvante et tout à fait dans le sens de notre auteur espagnol : « Je ne désire rien du passé. Je ne compte plus sur l'avenir. Le présent me suffit. Je suis un homme heureux, car j'ai renoncé au bonheur »⁷⁰, ou bien, comme disait M. Eliade citant le Sâmkhya-Sûtra : « Seul est heureux celui qui a perdu tout espoir ; car l'espoir est la plus grande torture qui soit, et le désespoir le plus grand bonheur ».⁷¹ Le sage n'espère rien, dit la tradition orientale, car il ne désire plus que le réel.

10. Une éthique cosmothéandrique des vertus

L'homme contemporain a peur du silence, a peur de se retrouver seul avec soi-même. Or l'éthique cosmothéandrique est une éthique des vertus qui insiste, d'une part, sur l'importance de la sécularité et, d'autre part, sur l'intériorisation comme condition essentielle pour l'acquisition des vertus.

11. La sécularité

La sécularité, chez Panikkar, met l'accent sur le présent, si bien que c'est ici et maintenant que tout se joue et non pas dans un avenir inconnu. Sans rejeter explicitement l'eschatologie chrétienne traditionnelle, notre auteur souhaite dévoiler une spiritualité fataliste qui fait que le pauvre et ceux qui souffrent se résignent à leur condition en pensant au « futur » heureux dans le ciel. Or, le Royaume des cieux est ici. La vie heureuse ne doit pas être reportée ou renvoyée à plus tard, elle est possible même au milieu des souffrances, ici et maintenant. La sécularité, le *sæculum*, est ainsi le lieu où se joue le destin de tout ce qui existe, non seulement de l'homme mais de tout : « Les choses humaines sont divines, le ciel est sur la terre, la compassion et l'amour sont les vertus suprêmes, la quotidienneté est la perfection et le séculier est sacré ».⁷² Avec radicalité notre auteur affirme qu'il ne faut pas attendre un monde meilleur dans un endroit paradisiaque où il n'y aura plus de douleur ou de souffrance. Dire que ce monde est un lieu de souffrance et de douleur et qu'il y en aura un autre où tout cela sera dépassé invite au rejet du monde présent. Au milieu des maux de ce monde, il faut construire sa bonté. La temporalité a donc un caractère ultime. L'éthique écosophique insiste ainsi sur l'importance du présent. Elle ne le méprise, ni ne le présente comme un pas préalable ou inférieur à la vie bonne définitive. Il n'y a plus deux cités, les « dieux » sont ici engagés dans la seule aventure de la réalité. Ils ne nous attendent pas dans l'*Ouranos* pour y vivre dans la plénitude et le bonheur.

12. L'intériorisation

L'homme de la société contemporaine, avec la poursuite du plaisir et de l'avoir, cherche à remplir le vide en satisfaisant ses désirs ; mais sent en même temps le besoin urgent de retrouver l'unité perdue. L'homme de nos jours est un homme fragmenté, scindé, divisé ; dans sa recherche du sens, il a cru pouvoir remplir le vide en se tournant vers l'extérieur. Or, ce n'est pas en dehors de lui-même qu'il va retrouver la route. Panikkar croit qu'il faut plutôt se tourner vers l'intérieur.

L'intériorisation dont parle Panikkar renvoie à ce qu'il appelle la « quête du centre ». On pourrait rapprocher cette idée de celle d'Augustin lorsqu'il dit de Dieu qu'il est *intimior intimo meo*. Non pas que Dieu se substitue au moi individuel, mais dans le sens où Dieu, la transcendance, l'Absolu, l'Inachevé, se trouve aussi dans le plus profond de l'être humain, à l'intérieur et non pas en dehors de lui-même. Le centre dont parle Panikkar est une image pour indiquer l' « endroit » le

⁶⁹ A. Comte-Sponville, *Le bonheur, désespérément*, Paris, Editions Pleins Feux, 2010, p. 47.

⁷⁰ J. Renard, *Journal, 9 avril 1895* (Edition 10-18, 1984, tome I, p. 265) ; cité par A. Comte-Sponville, *Le bonheur, désespérément*, Paris, Editions Pleins Feux, 2010, p. 49.

⁷¹ *Sâmkhya-Sûtra*, IV, II ; cité par M. Eliade, *Le Yoga*, Paris, Payot, 1972, chap. I, rééd. 1983, p. 40 ; cité par A. Comte-Sponville, *Le bonheur, désespérément*, op. cit., p. 48.

⁷² R. Panikkar, *El mundanal silencio*, op. cit., p. 56.

plus profond ou significatif de l'être humain où se trouvent les stimulations, les motivations, les intuitions, enfin le lieu où tous les mouvements trouvent leur origine. Avec ses mots toujours surprenants, notre théologien espagnol écrit : « Le centre, d'autre part, n'a pas de dimension. Et finalement, il n'existe pas ; il est vide, et c'est dans la mesure où il le sera qu'il restera immobile pendant que la surface est agitée. Une autre façon de le décrire serait de dire qu'il est absolu, c'est-à-dire illimité, sans liens, libre et pour cela compatible avec tout dans la mesure où il reste détaché ».⁷³ Si ce centre est vide c'est parce que l'homme a opté plutôt pour l'extérieur, la vie alors n'aura pas de sens. Il faut donc remplir ce centre, il deviendra ainsi l'élan pour la mobilisation extérieure.

Intérioriser exige de « faire silence », se taire pour pouvoir écouter la voix intérieure. Non pas que les mots ne soient pas importants, mais qu'ils sont seulement secondaires. Et pour qu'ils soient remplis de sens, il faudrait qu'ils soient non pas précédés mais accompagnés du silence. Pour notre auteur, les paroles doivent être prononcées lorsque la conscience a été éveillée, ce qui permet « de voir que la parole est parole précisément parce qu'elle-même est incarnée par l'œuvre et la grâce de l'esprit ».⁷⁴

13. Les vertus

Il ne faut pas perdre de vue le contexte dans lequel cette réflexion a lieu : la crise écologique et la possibilité qu'elle implique d'une destruction totale de la vie sur terre. Dans ce sens, il n'est pas question ici de relancer la discussion générale sur les vertus, ni de proposer une nouvelle liste de vertus. Comme MacIntyre l'a bien démontré dans son ouvrage *Après la vertu*, celles-ci apparaissent et disparaissent en fonction de plusieurs facteurs, notamment du contexte historique et culturel.

Malgré l'importance que nous lui accordons, il faut dire que le concept de vertu est pour nous subordonné à celui de tradition et en relation étroite et dépendante avec la vie qui la précède. C'est pour cela qu'on donnera ici beaucoup d'importance aux récits, à la vie comme étant une unité de sens et non pas des fragments isolés. MacIntyre affirme avec raison que : « L'unité d'une vertu dans une vie n'est intelligible que comme la caractéristique d'une vie unitaire, d'une vie qui peut être conçue et évaluée comme un tout ».⁷⁵ Ce qui correspond très bien à la visée de notre théologien, R. Panikkar. La vie est un tout inséparable, elle n'est pas faite de moments décousus et sans rapport les uns aux autres. La vie est un récit enchâssé dans une multitude de récits interconnectés. Je suis le personnage principal de mon récit, mais le personnage secondaire de nombreux autres récits. Ainsi, les « morceaux » d'histoire se retrouvent dans une seule et même histoire, dans une seule et même aventure : la Vie.

La recherche personnelle du bonheur se fera toujours dans une communauté particulière laquelle favorise ou peut favoriser un certain nombre de formes institutionnelles qui aideront ou non à apprendre l'exercice des vertus. Aussi les vertus ne peuvent-elles être détachées ni de leur contexte historique ni des autres personnes. Cela veut dire qu'une éthique écosophique accorde beaucoup d'importance à la tradition. La société individualiste contemporaine a voulu rayer toute relation et toute tradition pour instaurer un nouveau style de vie dans lequel la seule chose qui compte est l'individu solitaire. Or, l'histoire de ma vie s'insère dans l'histoire d'une famille, d'une communauté, d'une tribu, d'un pays et, bien entendu, de la communauté planétaire, laquelle se glisse aussi dans une histoire plus vaste mais inconnue ou méconnue : la vie du cosmos. Vouloir supprimer les origines signifie donc couper les racines et déformer les relations.

Les vertus ne sont pas des qualités humaines figées pour toujours ; elles ne doivent pas non plus être considérées comme étant universelles ; nous proposons plutôt d'essayer de bâtir des formes locales de communauté dans lesquelles la pratique des vertus puisse être recouvrée et renouvelée.

⁷³ *Ibid.*, p. 33.

⁷⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 81.

⁷⁵ A. MacIntyre, *Après la vertu. Etude de théorie morale*, Paris, Puf, 1997, p. 200.

Dans le contexte d'une « révolution » écologique, et à la lumière de la pensée de notre théologien espagnol, nous croyons ne pas nous tromper en privilégiant les vertus que voici.

La justice

La justice est pour notre auteur « la reconnaissance du véritable ordre des choses et l'engagement d'une praxis qui soit en harmonie avec cet ordre [...] ».⁷⁶ Tout comme les anciens, Panikkar parle d'ordre, en opposition au désordre, à la disharmonie. Justice, ordre et harmonie deviennent dans la pensée de Panikkar des synonymes. Harmonie veut dire « un espace dans lequel il y a une place pour tous, sans réductionnismes unitaires »⁷⁷, ce qui veut dire aussi que rien n'est superflu. Cet ordre suppose la reconnaissance de ce qui est juste et une praxis en accord avec cette conviction. Panikkar croit à un véritable ordre cosmique.

Chez Panikkar, la justice inclut le concept oriental de *dharma*, c'est-à-dire ce qui maintient la cohésion de l'univers. Le *dharma* est l'ordre adéquat et le lieu naturel des choses. Si quelqu'un exploite un autre, cela rompt l'ordre des choses, tout comme si quelqu'un collabore à un système qui a pour fin l'enrichissement des uns au détriment des autres. L'injustice serait donc pour notre auteur le « péché foncier »⁷⁸ car il va à l'encontre de la réalité.

Le dialogue

Dialogue et hospitalité vont ensemble dans la pensée de notre auteur. On pourrait les prendre pour des synonymes. L'hospitalité est une notion d'une très grande actualité. Elle consiste à accueillir chez soi des visiteurs ou des étrangers avec générosité. Ce « recevoir chez soi » implique également passer du temps avec le nouvel arrivé, il suppose aussi un approfondissement de la relation, on quitte la superficie pour creuser plus profondément.

La Trinité Divine (Père, Fils, Esprit Saint) ainsi que la Trinité Radicale (Dieu, Homme, Monde) sont telles car il existe en elles un dialogue intrinsèque permanent, autrement dit des relations constitutives. Les différentes dimensions qui les constituent sont en tant que les unes « dialoguent » avec les autres. Même si Panikkar ne dit pas explicitement que le dialogue est une vertu, nous croyons ne pas nous tromper en le proposant comme tel. Il est indispensable dans notre contexte actuel. En effet, la société contemporaine individualiste a du mal à reconnaître l'autre comme un partenaire, comme un compagnon de voyage. L'homme contemporain a du mal à accueillir, il a du mal à recevoir dans l'hospitalité parce qu'il a peur. C'est inévitable, il faut dialoguer car l'autre fait partie de moi, de nous ; il est *altera pars mei*, il est « cette dimension cachée et inconnue qui fait partie de moi [...] ».⁷⁹ Panikkar parle du dialogue comme d'une vertu qu'il faut cultiver.

Ce dialogue est un art qui « suppose *technê* et *praxis*, gnose et théorie ».⁸⁰ Il implique aussi d'aller au-delà de nos paramètres pour nous submerger dans un processus participatif. Dans ce processus une « herméneutique diatopique »⁸¹ s'impose, c'est-à-dire plonger dans l'univers de l'autre pour essayer de le comprendre. Le dialogue implique d'abord de se connaître soi-même autant que l'autre. Il suppose aussi faire des efforts pour parler, pour comprendre et donner à comprendre. Il nous faut « une transformation héroïque »⁸², assure Panikkar, un changement radical, dans le but de s'ouvrir à une existence dialogale. Le dialogue est une vertu car il doit être appris et entretenu.

La confiance

La confiance chez Panikkar évoque l'espérance. Confier veut dire espérer et ce mot renvoie en même temps à la foi. Avoir confiance peut aussi être traduit comme avoir foi en quelqu'un.

⁷⁶ R. Panikkar, *Entre Dieu et le cosmos. Entretiens avec Gwendoline Jarczyk*, Paris, Albin Michel, 1998, p. 198.

⁷⁷ R. Panikkar, *Paix et désarmement culturel*, op. cit., p. 127.

⁷⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 199.

⁷⁹ R. Panikkar, *Pluralisme et interculturalité*, Paris, Cerf, 2012, p. 310.

⁸⁰ R. Panikkar, *Sobre el diálogo intercultural*, op. cit., p. 51.

⁸¹ *Ibid.*, p. 91.

⁸² R. Panikkar, *Pluralisme et interculturalité*, op. cit., p. 317.

L'auteur lui-même définit le mot : « Par espérance, j'entends cette attitude qui, espérant contre tout espoir, est capable de franchir les obstacles humains initiaux, notre faiblesse et nos adhésions inconscientes, mais qui est aussi capable d'aller au-delà de toutes les formes de visions profanes, au cœur même du dialogue, comme un appel supérieur vers l'accomplissement d'un devoir sacré ».⁸³ L'espérance, comme la confiance, est donc une attitude humaine, un élan particulier, une force qui mobilise.

Dans la société contemporaine évolue une progressive et cancérigène méfiance, implicite dans toutes les relations. Panikkar est convaincu que cela est dû à l'isolement dans lequel se trouve l'homme d'aujourd'hui. En supprimant les relations ou en les basant sur la méfiance, l'homme est incapable de vivre dans l'harmonie et la sérénité. La méfiance porte vers l'animosité et la guerre. On se méfie de tout, de l'autre, de la nature, des proches et des lointains. La confiance, elle, porte vers la paix et l'amour. Il faut commencer à croire au projet humain, à la collaboration entre tous les humains dans la seule et même aventure de l'être, dit Panikkar.

La confiance doit aussi s'apprendre, cela implique rompre avec le cycle de la violence que la société consumériste impose. Autrui n'est pas mon ennemi mais mon partenaire. Dans le contexte actuel, la confiance est aussi une vertu. Il faut croire non seulement en Dieu et en l'homme mais aussi au cosmos. Panikkar parle de faire confiance au « principe cosmologique »⁸⁴ qui a rapport à la question qu'on se posait avant : Pourquoi y a-t-il quelque chose et non pas rien ? Cela veut dire croire qu'il y a quelque part un fondement, un dernier fondement de tout : « L'ultime fondement pour cette confiance cosmique repose sur la conviction, quasi universelle, qui croit que la réalité est ordonnée, en d'autres mots, elle est bonne, belle et vraie ».⁸⁵

La collaboration

La solidarité est comprise dans l'actualité en relation aux pauvres, aux exclus, aux victimes. A. Comte-Sponville lie la solidarité à une sorte de socialisation de l'égoïsme : « Etre généreux, c'est se libérer, au moins partiellement, de l'égoïsme. Etre solidaires, c'est être égoïstes ensemble et intelligemment. [...] La solidarité est le contraire de l'égoïsme. La solidarité serait plutôt sa socialisation efficace ».⁸⁶ Chez Panikkar la collaboration est attachée à la solidarité. Etre solidaire signifie se sentir membre d'un ensemble plus ample. Il dit : « Aucune culture, religion ou tradition ne peut résoudre isolément les problèmes du monde ».⁸⁷ Comme toile de fond de la collaboration et de la solidarité se trouve le pluralisme. L'acceptation du pluralisme est ainsi essentielle. Il ne pourra pas y avoir de collaboration sans avoir accepté auparavant l'existence précieuse d'autrui. En effet, l'uniformité et l'unicité n'ont pas besoin de la solidarité. Un esprit unique n'a pas besoin d'autres. C'est dans le pluralisme que la collaboration et la solidarité ont du sens.

L'amour

Cette vertu, si l'on peut encore l'appeler ainsi, est celle sur laquelle la tradition – autant philosophique que théologique – s'est le plus longuement exprimée. Chez Panikkar, tout ce qui a été dit précédemment n'est pas possible sans amour. Comte-Sponville le croit aussi : « Sans l'amour, que resterait-il de nos vertus ? ».⁸⁸ Panikkar le dit ainsi : « Il n'y a pas de rapport humain sans amour, sans quelque passion, jusque, possiblement, la haine ».⁸⁹ L'amour est donc premier, il est le commencement et la fin de toute vertu.

Dieu, l'Homme et le Monde forment une communauté d'amour, une communauté de relations constitutives. L'amour est plus que le pont qui met en relation les uns avec les autres, il

⁸³ R. Panikkar, *Le dialogue intrareligieux*, Paris, Aubier, 1985, p. 90.

⁸⁴ R. Panikkar, *Sobre el diálogo intercultural*, op. cit., p. 142.

⁸⁵ *Idem*.

⁸⁶ A. Comte-Sponville, « Solidarité », *Dictionnaire philosophique*, Paris, Puf, 2001, p. 544-547.

⁸⁷ R. Panikkar, *Paix et désarmement culturel*, op. cit., p. 50.

⁸⁸ A. Comte-Sponville, *Petit traité des grandes vertus*, Paris, Puf, 1995, p. 296.

⁸⁹ R. Panikkar, *Pluralisme et interculturalité*, op. cit., p. 407.

est ce qui leur donne existence. Tout est fait de relations, rien ne peut exister ou subsister de manière isolée. Ce qui veut dire que sans amour il n'y a plus que l'absence d'être, la mort, la disparition, le néant. Renoncer aux relations avec notre entourage, c'est renoncer aussi à l'amour et cela représente la mort. Lorsqu'une vie est privée d'amour, elle n'a plus de sens. L'homme, ainsi que le monde meurent sans amour.

Chez notre auteur, l'amour pourrait se traduire de bien d'autres manières. Nous en retenons deux : l'amour est en effet synonyme de simplicité, mais aussi de renoncement. On pourrait dire, dans le contexte qui nous occupe, que l'amour n'implique pas une donation, mais plutôt un renoncement, c'est-à-dire une vie simple.

L'amour compris comme renoncement. Pour Panikkar : « Aimer son prochain comme soi-même ne signifie pas lui vouloir du bien comme à un être séparé, mais veut dire élargir mon cœur (amour) de telle sorte que l'autre devienne une partie de moi-même ».⁹⁰ Il n'est pas simplement question de donner quelque chose à autrui. L'amour est plutôt compris ici comme un saut hors de notre centre, autrement dit, comme un renoncement à soi-même pour regagner notre véritable identité : l'autre fait aussi partie de mon moi. Mais, pour que l'on puisse arriver à sortir (transcender) de nous-mêmes, il faudrait d'abord connaître « le noyau infini qui habite dans notre immanence ».⁹¹ Ainsi, de même que la foi est l'ouverture vers l'ineffable, de même l'amour est l'ouverture vers l'autre et la connaissance l'ouverture vers soi-même. Il faudrait donc comprendre l'amour non pas comme une donation des choses extérieures mais comme un renoncement. En d'autres termes, il faut passer du « donner » au « ne pas prendre ». Vouloir donner du surplus peut signifier prendre de ce qu'on a pour soulager les besoins d'autrui. Si cela peut bien être un acte d'amour, il le sera davantage si l'autre est considéré comme une partie de moi-même. Aimer est être catapulté vers l'aimé pour reconnaître ensuite qu'il n'est pas loin de moi, mais qu'il fait partie de moi. Car « connaître vraiment, c'est devenir la chose connue sans cesser d'être ce que l'on est »⁹², assure notre auteur.

Cette idée du renoncement peut être aussi rapprochée de l'idée de non-puissance défendue par J. Ellul, comprise comme récusation du ou renoncement au pouvoir. Il affirme : « Il n'y a de liberté que dans la conquête de la liberté. Aucun pouvoir ne peut donner de la liberté aux hommes. La récusation du pouvoir est la seule voie de l'actualisation d'une liberté ».⁹³ Dans ce sens, l'amour exige forcément de renoncer au pouvoir. Ellul ajoute : « C'est en combattant contre le pouvoir que se forgent les qualités humaines, la vertu, le courage, la solidarité, la loyauté... Encore faut-il que ce combat soit mené avec les armes de la vérité, de la justice, de l'authenticité (et j'ajouterais volontiers, de la non-violence) ».⁹⁴

L'amour compris comme simplicité. Panikkar rapproche la simplicité de la vie monacale dont le principe fondamental est la simplicité qui peut être aussi un principe de vie de tout homme. Le mode de vie des contemporains est devenu très compliqué. L'homme est préoccupé et angoissé parce que la vie accélérée et remplie de choses le domine et le déconcerte. La vie monacale dans le monde prêchée par Panikkar implique une réaction radicale contre cet état de choses. « Le moine est un anticonformiste »⁹⁵, dit Panikkar, il est celui qui va à contre-courant. Le moine est donc celui qui est arrivé à se libérer de ses fausses envies. Il sait donc mener une vie simple, simplicité qui est dans son cœur et qui se reflète dans son corps. Le moine habite la simplicité parce qu'il a été capable de reconnaître le véritable rythme de la vie. La vie monacale dans le monde est en elle-même une critique du temps accéléré. Panikkar comprend cette vie monastique ou monacale comme la recherche de l'absolu, comme la quête de l'ab-solu, c'est-à-dire de la libération de la multiplicité.

⁹⁰ R. Panikkar, *Mystique, plénitude de vie*, Paris, Cerf, 2012, p. 101-102.

⁹¹ *Ibid.*, p. 378.

⁹² *Ibid.*, p. 101.

⁹³ *Ibid.*, p. 223.

⁹⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 225.

⁹⁵ R. Panikkar, *Eloge du simple*, op. cit., p. 53.

14. Conclusion

L'invitation de Panikkar est à présent plus claire. Il est nécessaire que l'homme contemporain revienne sur lui-même, il doit retrouver son monde intérieur pour pouvoir aller vers les autres. Sans connaissance de soi, il n'y a pas non plus connaissance de l'autre et sans cette connaissance, il n'y a pas d'amour possible. L'intériorisation implique faire silence, faire taire tous les bruits extérieurs pour écouter la voix du cœur. Ce silence intérieur est également la condition nécessaire pour l'acquisition de toutes les vertus : justice, dialogue, confiance, collaboration et amour.

L'éthique que nous proposons, à la lumière de la pensée de notre auteur, est donc plus qu'un ensemble de normes à respecter, elle est une sagesse qui naît lorsque « l'amour de la connaissance et la connaissance de l'amour s'unissent ».⁹⁶ L'amour est le sommet de toutes les vertus, il implique une reconnaissance pleine d'autrui comme étant une partie de moi-même. Aimer l'autre veut dire aimer « l'étincelle qu'il y a en lui de l'Absolu qu'il est »⁹⁷, mais cette étincelle est aussi en moi, car l'amour est un courant qui circule en tous et qu'il faut reconnaître et maîtriser. L'amour peut être finalement compris comme la célébration de l'énergie qui est dans tous les êtres, c'est l'énergie de l'Absolu qui fait de tous une seule et même famille.

RÉSUMÉ

« La Terre est malade »⁹⁸, affirment aujourd'hui beaucoup de savants, fruit d'une vision du monde qui met par-dessus tout l'être humain, certains êtres humains, au détriment de la Vie comme un tout. Cette maladie n'est qu'un symptôme d'une autre crise plus grave, celle de l'être humain. La « crise écologique » pointe vers une « crise anthropologique » aussi tragique. Une société, avec le sens de la vie que les hommes se sont donnés, est en crise.

A la lumière de l'intuition cosmothéandrique de R. Panikkar, un renouveau semble s'imposer. La théologie doit aussi s'interroger : il faudrait remettre la théologie en chantier. Tout particulièrement l'éthique théologique. Il faudrait sans doute reprendre la notion de communauté et élargir ses frontières de façon à ce qu'on tienne compte aussi de la terre tout entière. Car tous ont le droit d'exister, indépendamment du bénéfice de l'être humain. Nous proposons, dans cet essai, de reprendre, à nouveaux frais, l'éthique des vertus dans le contexte de la proposition du philosophe et théologien espagnol, R. Panikkar, une éthique que nous appelons écosophique.

⁹⁶ R. Panikkar, *Invitación a la sabiduría*, Barcelone, Círculo de Lectores, 1998, p. 143.

⁹⁷ R. Panikkar, *Mito, fe y hermenéutica*, op. cit., p. 305.

⁹⁸ L. Boff utilisait cette expression en 1996 dans son livre *Ecología : grito de la Tierra grito de los pobres*, Madrid, Trotta, p. 13.

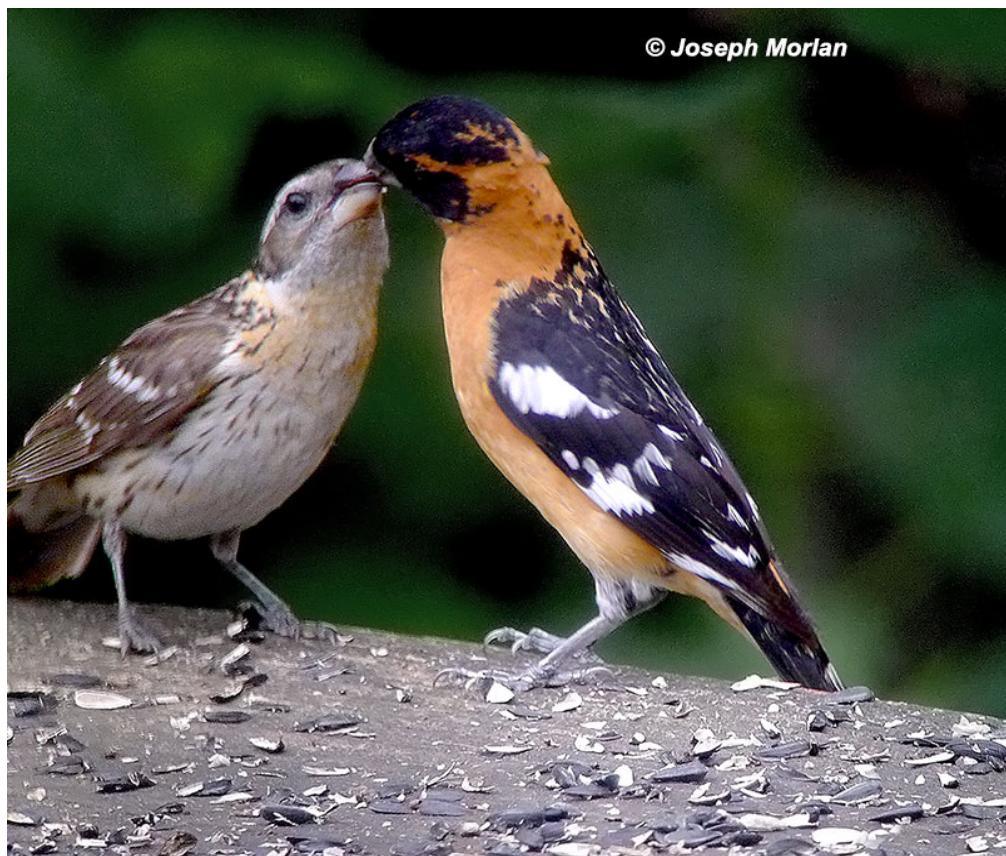
skyline **EARTHINES**

By Diane Pendola

What We Do Not Believe

We do not see what we do not believe. This was announced in a dream I had last night. I remember it this morning on waking to the first full day of summer. The calls of the migrating song-birds are among the first voices I hear as the dawn light of the morning draws my eyes open from the dark hours of sleep.

Among all of the variety of birds flitting and flying among the Pine and Oak canopy around my home lately, I have been watching the many Black-headed Grosbeaks that have made their nests close to the wild plum trees outside our deck and kitchen window. Listening, watching and observing them through binoculars they adeptly straddle—upside down, side-ways and all around—the stems and branches holding the not-yet ripe plums. The adults carry the treasured fruit to their calling young, delivering it from their thick sturdy beaks into the waiting mouths of their fledglings.



In the dream I recall the birds. In the dream I ask myself, *Do I believe the birds have something of value to reveal to me? Do I believe they are a revelatory experience of the Divine?*

I know my attention is absorbed most of the time in conditioned reality. By conditioned reality I mean those places I have been conditioned to attend to since childhood. I attend to my thoughts and my memories. I attend to my plans for the future. I attend to my projects and my emotional life. I attend to the story I tell myself about how I feel, or about what I think about things or other people. I listen to the news on TV, most of it bad. I listen to my human world in habitual ways. I give these objects of my attention the power of reality, because I give them the power of my belief.

Jesus said: *Not even a sparrow falls to the ground without the Divine Father/Mother knowing, tending, receiving...* Do I believe that? Do I believe that my attention can bring me to experience the preciousness of every life?

On this beautiful summer day in the foothills of the Sierra-Nevada Mountains bird-song is everywhere. Everywhere the birds are living their own bird lives among the trees and the border areas between woods and fields. What would it be to allow them to absorb my attention? How would this small shift change my experience? They would draw my conditioned awareness from the thoughts in my mind into direct experience of the present moment.

The moments when I get really present— which means when I become quiet enough to really listen to reality as it is— these are the moments when I know that there is infinite depth revealing itself. In those revelatory moments is the wisdom that can show me a healing way for myself and the planet. In this becoming quiet and receptive to the inner depths of “things” there is also the experience of their infinite depths, which implies a journey, don’t you think? An “always more,” since infinite means a kind of constant becoming or unveiling. So this deeper listening requires a discipline which is akin to learning a new language. Not only is there the aspiration to enter the mystery of the other, but there is also the labor. Not only is there the desire to commune but also the dedication to communicate in and through this language which is revelatory of the divine depths of every living subject whether flying, swimming, crawling or walking on this beautiful earth.

So I start here with the Grosbeaks: the males with their bright rust colored breasts, black heads, and striped wings; the females in their subdued tawny and grays; both tending to the constant *eee-youuu* calling of their young.

I’m reminded of a story I heard once. I don’t know if it is literally true but it is certainly symbolically true. When some of the first Spanish ships appeared on the horizon of the sea outside of the Native lands of South America, the indigenous people could not *see* the ships because they did not believe such a thing could *be*. These floating beings with great sails catching the wind and propelling them ever closer to their shores had no reality for

them because the people had no context for understanding them. The ships were outside their collective experience.

I feel, in some ways, how those people must have felt. Eventually they came to believe, and came to see, the impact of those ships on their lives and culture, their past and future. We have many things on our horizon that we cannot see because we do not believe. We do not believe we can destroy the life-systems of the planet earth any more than the indigenous people could believe those foreign ships could destroy their way of life. We do not believe that climate change will destroy some of the most beautiful expressions of life on earth. We do not believe the Polar Bear and the Salmon can go extinct because we cannot see how we might, even now, change that outcome.

The birds outside my window are awakening in me a belief that can show me a way... if I will take on the discipline of learning their sacred language, and inhabit the beauty of their song.

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PARTIDA DE LUZ

A Raimon Panikkar

El peregrino ha roto sus caminos.
Fue cruzando como fiel de Calcuta al misterio en Tavertet,
de Jerusalén la santa al árbol Bodhi de los iluminados.

“He visto el cielo alegre del amor divino
tras la sangrienta risa de las religiones,
he cortado mi corazón con fuego, mucho antes de la llama.”

El peregrino ha rotos sus caminos.
Del amor hacia el tiempo de la letra,
del espíritu a la realidad desnuda en que lo mismo es nada.

“Entonces vi que el resplandor de los lenguajes
brilla con idéntica hermosura, canción sagrada de los sonidos:
puerta que parte al origen de muchas las identidades”

El peregrino ha roto sus caminos.
Amó con pleno conocimiento el murmullo del pájaro
tras la exigencia teórica de cada día, conciencia- inteligencia: luz.

“Amar a Dios en el silencio

no es un juego de niños con fe de locura:
pone en deuda la sangre, y retuerce tu miserable oscuridad”.

El peregrino ha roto sus caminos.
Vivió la relación de la presencia en que la Trinidad se hace Palabra,
comunión efectiva de seres en el tiempo.

“Una cruz luminosa se me mostró en la carne del misterio,
sus maderos eran polvo de estrellas, sus clavos eran fuego:
Tres notas musicales resonaron en la noche de un Ser ya sin substancia.”

El peregrino
ha roto sus caminos.

No sabemos qué fue de su alma: sólo un rastro de sueño.
A lo lejos, a través del horizonte
se despliega la luz en arquetipos.

Milton Medellín

San Luis Potosí, S.L.P (Méjico). 1979. Poet and Translator. BA in Philosophy by the Universidad Autónoma de Tlaxcala in Mexico. Phd in Romance Languages & Literatures by the University of Cincinnati.

Festival dell’Oriente
Bologna Fiere, 27 Febbraio 2016

**La visione olistica di Raimon Panikkar e Madre Teresa di Calcutta.
Workshop ti Tai-chi**

Partecipano Gloria Germani, M. Roberta Cappellini e Giuseppe Cognetti

Il Cirpit desidera ringraziare il Festival dell’Oriente per l’invito rivolto in occasione della ricchissima edizione di Bologna 2016. Abbiamo accolto volentieri la tematica proposta relativa alla visione olistica facendo riferimento a due figure significative a tal riguardo: a Raimon Panikkar e Madre Teresa di Calcutta, cogliendo l’occasione di porle in dialogo a partire dalle loro esperienze vissute in India. Ne parleremo con Gloria Germani autrice di un libro dedicato a Teresa di Calcutta, edito da Paoline, la cui nuova edizione uscirà prossimamente per le Edizioni Mimesis.

Seguirà il Workshop di Giuseppe Cognetti: “Tai-chi-chuan sul Tatami”

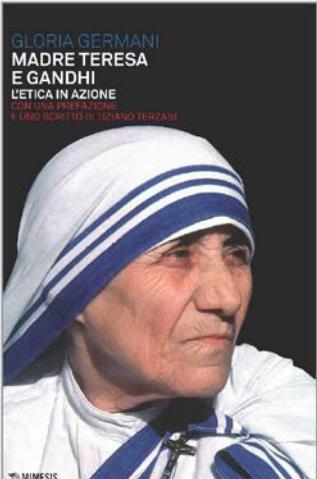
 **MIMESIS** NOVITÀ 2016

GLORIA GERMANI
MADRE TERESA E GANDHI
L’ETICA IN AZIONE

“Ho letto questo libro: è bellissimo. Soprattutto perché parla delle radici osmotiche di Madre Teresa, della compenetrazione della sua tradizione cristiana con la cultura induista [...]”, ma offre anche una delle migliori introduzioni a Gandhi e alla cultura indiana che mi sia mai capitato di leggere.”
(dalla prefazione di Tiziano Terzani)

Madre Teresa e Gandhi hanno incarnato i vertici di ciò che l’essere umano può raggiungere. I loro esempi hanno il potere di rischiarci la strada e di farci uscire da una impasse in cui la modernità è caduta, apparentemente senza via d’uscita, mostrandoci come l’azione disinteressata e la condotta etica si realizzino a partire da presupposti e da una visione del mondo che – come afferma Panikkar – “è fondamentalmente incompatibile con quella attuale”. Seguire il loro esempio è il salutare rischio a cui ci espone la vicinanza con culture diverse o lo studio di personaggi al confine che hanno vissuto in culture altre, proprio oggi che siamo di fronte a un impegno non rimandabile: quello di mettere in dialogo culture provenienti dai diversi angoli del mondo per far nascere un futuro più pacifico, più in sintonia con la natura e in armonia con le istanze profonde dell’essere umano. Il libro di Gloria Germani fa proprio questo: mette in luce il sentiero comune a Madre Teresa e a Gandhi, dall’intuizione che tutto è uno fino alla via per rimettere l’etica al centro della vita, contro l’abbaglio economico della modernità.

Gloria Germani, con un background in filosofia occidentale e orientale, si è dedicata soprattutto al dialogo tra Oriente e Occidente come chiave della rivoluzione culturale che ci permetterà di uscire dalla presente crisi ecologica, economica ed esistenziale. Tra i suoi lavori: *Tiziano Terzani: la rivoluzione dentro di noi, decrescita, digiuno, non-violenza* (Milano, 2012), *Terzani: verso la rivoluzione della coscienza* (Milano 2014), *A Scuola di felicità e decrescita: Alice Project* (Firenze, 2014), *Tiziano Terzani: la forza della verità: biografia intellettuale di un saggio dei nostri tempi* (Vicenza, 2015).



GLORIA GERMANI
MADRE TERESA
E GANDHI
L’ETICA IN AZIONE
CON UNA PREFAZIONE
E UNO SCRITTO DI TIZIANO TERZANI

CON UNA PREFAZIONE E UNO SCRITTO DI TIZIANO TERZANI

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La Fondazione Eranos è lieta di invitarLa al seminario

Spiritualità e scienza nella visione filosofica di Raimon Panikkar

In collaborazione con il CIRPIT



Sabato 29 e domenica 30 ottobre 2016
Casa Eranos, Ascona-Moscia

Il seminario intende offrire una riflessione approfondita sugli attuali esiti della cultura occidentale, ovvero sul ruolo svolto dalla scienza e dalla tecnologia e sulle forme di assolutismo in circolazione oggi – con il loro desiderio di sostituirsi a quel Dio di cui Nietzsche aveva più di un secolo fa annunciato la "morte". L'ambito della verità è solo quello sperimentato dalla scienza? Vi è spazio per altre forme di conoscenza che, senza voler competere con la scienza e contrapporsi a essa, fanno propria la preoccupazione di

pensare all'uomo nella sua interezza e nella sua relazione alla questione del senso? Esiste, come insegna Raimon Panikkar, una "porta della saggezza", dalla quale accedere a una diversa comprensione di sé? Possiamo ipotizzare un incontro tra scienza ed esperienza piena della vita? Attraverso un percorso tra gli insegnamenti di Panikkar, grazie alla presenza di studiosi insigni, nel corso del seminario ci chiederemo come spiritualità e mistica permettano di favorire questo incontro.

Programma

Sabato 29 ottobre

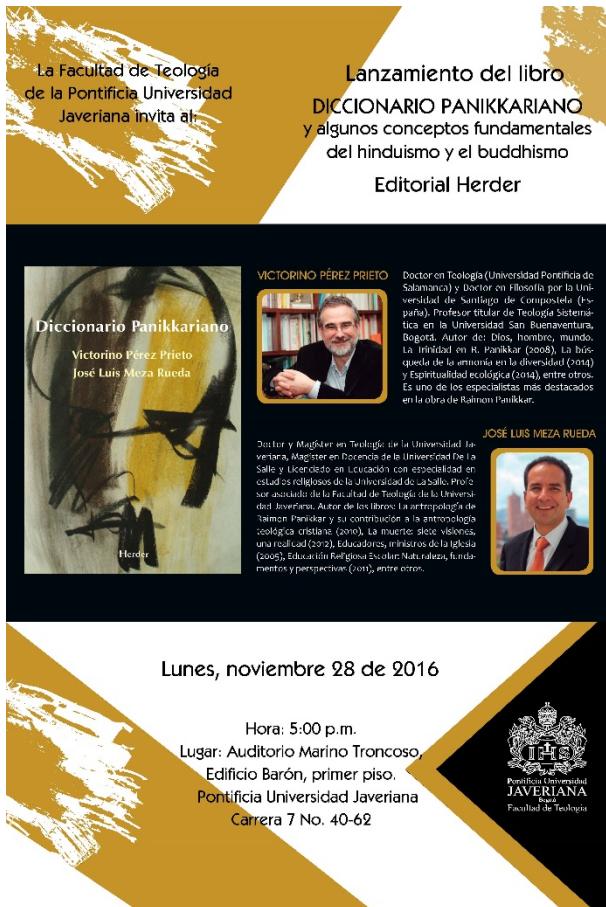
14.00-14.40	Registrazione dei partecipanti
14.40-15.00	Benvento (Fabio Merlini, Fondazione Eranos)
15.00-15.40	M. Roberta Cappellini (CIRPIT): "L'utopia della scienza nella visione di Raimon Panikkar"
15.40-16.00	Discussione
16.00-16.20	Pausa caffè
16.20-17.00	Jaume Agustí-Cullell (Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas – Institut d'Investigació en Intel·ligència Artificial, Barcellona): "Homo quarens. El nuevo paradigma de supervivencia"
17.00-17.20	Discussione
17.20-18.00	Giuseppe Cognetti (Università di Siena): "Una lettura de Il ritmo dell'essere di Raimon Panikkar"
18.00-18.20	Discussione

Domenica 30 ottobre

09.20-10.00	Luigi Verio Tarca (Università Ca' Foscari Venezia): "La mistica come esperienza piena della conoscenza scientifica"
10.00-10.20	Discussione
10.20-10.40	Pausa caffè
10.40-11.00	Werner Weick (regista e produttore, Lugano): "Filmare Panikkar"
11.00-12.00	Proiezione del documentario "L'arte di vivere" (W. Weick e A. Andriotto, "Il filo d'oro", RSI, 2001)
12.00-12.20	Andrea Andriotto (co-autore, Ferrara): "Raimon Panikkar e il suo contesto: memorie indiane"
12.20-12.40	Discussione
12.40-13.00	Tavola rotonda conclusiva e chiusura del seminario
13.00	Pranzo

Con il sostegno di Banca BSI, Repubblica e Cantone Ticino, Comune di Ascona, Organizzazione Turistica Lago Maggiore e Valli e Fetzer Institute

Raimon Panikkar (1918-2010)

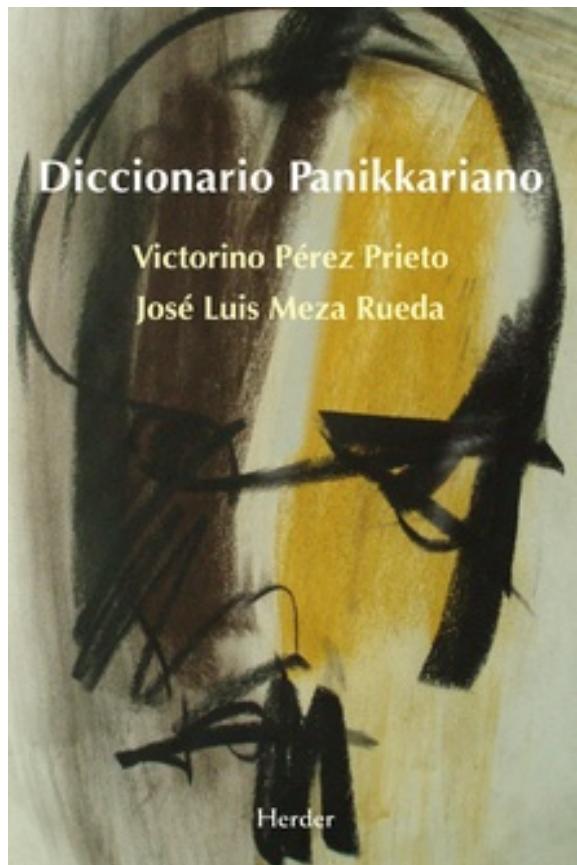


hermenéutica diatópica, equivalentes homeomórficos, tempiternidad, ecosofía...) o términos comunes a los que Panikkar ha ido otorgando una interpretación particular. Además, este diccionario incluye algunos conceptos fundamentales del hinduismo y del budismo que Panikkar utilizó abundantemente y que aportan una gran riqueza al diálogo intercultural e interreligioso.

Los autores de este diccionario son profundos conocedores del pensamiento de Raimon Panikkar; han realizado sus tesis doctorales sobre su pensamiento filosófico y teológico, tienen numerosas publicaciones al respecto y han gozado de su amistad y magisterio.

Fue uno de los grandes pensadores de nuestro tiempo. Su inmensa obra está reconocida internacionalmente como una de las más innovadoras del siglo XX en el campo del pensamiento filosófico, teológico, intercultural e interreligioso. Su pensamiento fue fecundado por las tradiciones cristiana, hinduista, budista y secular, por lo que se convirtió en puente privilegiado entre Occidente y de Oriente.

Este *Diccionario panikkariano* será de gran interés y utilidad para el lector de la obra de Panikkar. En primer lugar, porque ayuda a comprender su complejo pensamiento, elaborado desde unos conceptos propios expresados con términos creados ad hoc por él mismo (*ontonomía*, *cosmoteándrica*,



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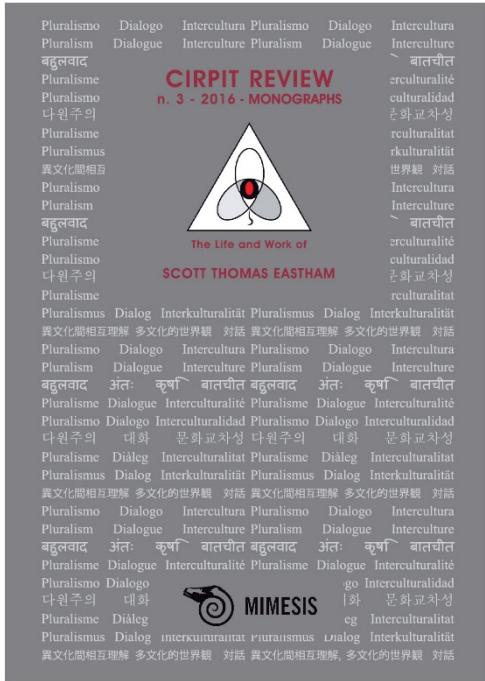
COMUNICATO STAMPA EUROPEAN ACADEMY OF RELIGION 5 DICEMBRE 2016, BOLOGNA, ORE 11 - AULA MAGNA DI SANTA LUCIA, VIA CASTIGLIONE 36

Il 5 dicembre 2016 nell'Aula Magna di Santa Lucia a Bologna si terrà l'evento di lancio di una European Academy of Religion: un consorzio di ricerca e scambio che ha l'obiettivo di federare centri di ricerca, dipartimenti, associazioni, editori e istituzioni che a vario titolo studiano le religioni, di rendere visibile il loro lavoro scientifico e valorizzarne le potenzialità. Sono oltre 400 i soggetti che, ad oggi, hanno raccolto l'invito, e altrettanti saranno gli studiosi presenti ai lavori, provenienti dai paesi europei, dalla riva sud del Mediterraneo e dal Medio Oriente, dal mondo slavo e caucasico.

I lavori si apriranno alle ore 11 presso l'Aula Magna di Santa Lucia con i saluti delle autorità: Francesco Ubertini, Magnifico Rettore dell'Università di Bologna; David Sassoli, Vice Presidente del Parlamento Europeo; Carlos Moedas, Commissario Europeo per la Ricerca e l'Innovazione; Stefania Giannini, Ministro dell'Istruzione dell'Università e della Ricerca; Ján Figel', Inviato Speciale per la promozione della libertà religiosa; Stefano Manservisi, DG alla Cooperazione Internazionale e lo Sviluppo; Kishan Manocha, OSCE/ODIHR, Senior Adviser sulla libertà religiosa e di credo; Martina Larkin, membro del Comitato esecutivo del World Economic Forum e Patrizio Bianchi, Assessore della Regione Emilia Romagna e Coordinatore del progetto Adrion.

Nelle sessioni parallele che seguiranno i saluti sarà definito lo Statuto dell'Accademia, sarà fissata la prima conferenza annuale (2017) e saranno gettate le basi di una piattaforma di ricerca che raccolga tutti i presenti e chi vorrà unirsi al progetto in futuro.

L'evento è patrocinato dal MIUR - Ministero dell'Istruzione, Università e della Ricerca, dall'Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna, dalla Fondazione per le scienze religiose Giovanni XXIII, dalla Cattedra Unesco sul Pluralismo Religioso e la Pace, dal Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale, dalla Regione Emilia-Romagna e dal Comune di Bologna. <http://www.europeanacademyofreligion.org/lists-1>



CIRPIT REVIEW n.3 -2016 – Monographs-

The Life and Work of Scott Thomas Eastham

INTRODUCTION

Miriam Lancewood

Wings of Flight

We begin this book with a poem written by Miriam who met Scott for the first time in July 2013. She and her husband, Peter Raine, popped in for a visit one afternoon when Scott was not very well, and yet the spiritual energy of that encounter transformed us all. Indeed, our beautiful afternoon with Miriam and Peter was one of the last entries Scott made in his daily journal. Miriam's poem conveys the ecstasy of engaging with a very realised human being: "He was the bird; We were the wings. His mind made us fly together. And upon return, Everything was different."

Part One: Scott Thomas Eastham, Family Man

Todd Robert Eastham

Beginnings.

Todd Eastham, a very accomplished journalist and writer himself, describes Scott's childhood and teen years. His chapter is absolutely charming -- light, witty and funny. Todd often uses the word "Magic" to recount Scott's early life in his beloved San Francisco with his family and friends. Todd presents the nucleus of every dimension of Scott's persona and scholarly life: Nature as gift and grandeur, Scott's love for trees and his insatiable curiosity to understand everything. We see also the great gift of being nurtured by wonderful parents and grandparents. To be sure, growing up with Scott could sometimes be a harrowing experience, but it was never dull.

Casey Eastham-Hazelton

The Echoes of my Father Ring Throughout my Life

Casey describes her father as a family man. We see his love for music and travel as well as his enduring influence on her life. We also see Raimon Panikkar's impact on Casey's life at a very young age -- three years old, when the family spent the summer of 1990 in Tavertet so that Scott and Raimon could collaborate to produce the first draft of *The Rhythm of Being* from Panikkar's 1989 Gifford Lectures. Our daughter, Alison, was only four months old at the time. Casey's portrait of her father becomes in fact the story of her own life.

Alison Eastham

"News In Two"

Alison's contribution is very different. Hers is the musing of a child observing her father's daily routine and wondering what it's all about. There is a rationale behind what seems to be a very 'arbitrary, but carefully observed routine,' and once she understands it, her father, the writer and scholar, become more clearly defined for her.

Part Two: Scott Thomas Eastham, The Scholar

Gerard Hall, SM

Scott Eastham, Raimon Panikkar and the Meeting of Spirits

Gerard Hall begins the section of the book dedicated to Scott's message. At the Catholic University of America, Gerard also took Scott's graduate seminar, "Religion and Culture 600," where he was introduced to the cross-cultural, inter-religious hermeneutics of Raimon Panikkar. Although Gerard met Scott as a graduate student, he very soon became a colleague and a prominent Panikkar scholar in his own right. Gerard and Scott deeply respected one another, as people and scholars dedicated to the search for truth, goodness and beauty. In his elegant tribute to Scott, Gerard describes Scott's creative collaboration with Raimon Panikkar as the meeting of interdependent spirits. He provides a masterful tour-de-force of Scott's interdisciplinary scholarship in philosophy, communication studies, literature and religious studies, and describes Scott's passionate search for truth as a template for communicating wisdom through depth engagement with one's tradition in the context of creative encounter with the insights of other traditions.

Samantha Kelly

"Say Not in Grief He is No More - But Live in Thankfulness that he was"

Samantha Kelly's poignant chapter describes Scott, the charismatic teacher, who encouraged her to find her own voice, and for whom an assignment provided the opportunity for *metanoia*/mutation of consciousness. For Scott, learning was about enhancing our relationships with ourselves, others and the world by igniting the divine spark within. In Scott's 100 level papers in Media Studies, Samantha was introduced to the 'integral' vision of Buckminster Fuller, for whom "technology is not merely a tool but that we form relationships with it, and the nature of these relationships can influence our way of thinking. Fuller was an advocate for "effective working relationships between humans, technology and nature." We see here Fuller's expression of the vision of the Whole, i.e., that everything is relational because Reality is interdependent.

Bridget Herlihy

"O Captain my Captain"

From Bridget Herlihy, we gain insights into Scott's work in the field of technology and human values. Bridget took Scott's course 'Science Fiction Cinema and the Technological Mythos' in 1999, as one millennium was coming to an end, and another beginning. Scott introduced her to the 'depth dimension' of the science fiction genre -- psychological, technological and scientific -- in both its literary and cinematic forms, and also directed her Master's thesis on Shelley's *Frankenstein*. *Frankenstein*, of course, is a classic statement about what happens when the three dimensions of the Real -- cosmos, divine and humanity in between -- are radically out of balance: "In the case of Shelley's *Frankenstein*, the tale warns against humankind's unrestricted pursuit of knowledge, defiance of the gods and the rules of nature through the creation of artificial life by man in the name of scientific exploration."

Christine M. Tracy

Teilhard as Integral Theorist: The Mystic as Everyman

Media ecologist Christine Tracy writes about the "integral awareness" of Pierre Teilhard de Chardin SJ, mystic and scientist. In her chapter, Christine discusses the integral awareness proposed by French paleontologist, Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, SJ, which enables every human being to experience life as profound interconnectedness. Christine brings together Marshal McLuhan's insights about the connective potential and power inherent in communicative media with the need for the integral awareness Teilhard possessed. If not, an "artificial noosphere" will be created, which will

bring “great psychic turbulence, opening fractures and fault lines in the collective unconscious.” Although Christine never met Scott face to face, they enjoyed a lively email correspondence in which Scott introduced her to Panikkar’s ideas, such as “The End of History.” Christine told me that she felt a strong intellectual bond with Scott who encouraged her interdisciplinary work and told her that her work on Teilhard was “great stuff.”

Adrian Heays

The Man Made of Words Revisited

For Adrian Heays, the extreme weather which devastated the Hawkes Bay in the late 1980s catalyzed his life long passion to heal the Earth. When he enrolled in Massey University’s Bachelor of Environment Studies in 1994, he took Scott’s 100 level papers in the English and Media Studies Department and came to understand the power and transformative effect of language and meaningful dialogue. Adrian’s chapter describes his integration of these insights in his professional life as a resource manager and regulator. Scott directed Adrian’s BA Honours thesis in Environmental Studies, Communication and Media Studies at Massey University, New Zealand.

Charlotte Helen Sunde

Flight From the Antipodes: The Journey of a Cosmotheandric Man

Scott referred to Charlotte as a gifted nondual thinker with a beautiful writing style. Her chapter illustrates how nondual thinking can shape and challenge creative research in both theoretical and practical realms. Charlotte responds to ideas that Scott laid out in the final draft set of notes for a conference paper he intended to deliver in November 2013, titled “Flight from the Antipodes (or, ‘Thinking in Threes’).” Her chapter illustrates “thinking in threes,” by referencing major themes in Scott’s work as well as her own in Environmental Studies and the ecosophy of understanding. Charlotte pays special homage to Scott as mentor and friend, and also acknowledges the key role that Scott played in introducing Raimon Panikkar’s works to the next generation of scholars.

Stephen M. Palmer

With Scott at my Shoulder: A Discussion of Science and Religion

Although Scott directed Stephen Palmer’s MPhil thesis in Media Ecology, Stephen chose to write about science and religion, a ‘modern problematic’ which has been an intellectual passion for many years. Stephen critiques the ‘modern scientific technocratic worldview’ and the ‘mechanistic cosmology of modern science’ with reference to the cosmotheandric intuition. It’s as though the more Stephen clarifies the issues for himself, the more he clarifies them for others in his very thorough and comprehensive discussion.

Peter Horsley

Scott’s Quest for Wholeness, Embodying Life’s Threefold Realities

Peter Horsley was Scott’s closest friend and colleague in New Zealand. Both lectured at Massey University. Peter once referred to Scott as a “taonga,” the Maori word for “treasure,” and a “rangatira” of the mind -- rangatira is Maori for wise leader -- which gives us some idea of the esteem in which Peter held Scott as a poet, a scholar, a teacher and a writer. Peter’s chapter explores the depth dimension of Scott’s life with reference to the themes defining Scott’s life’s work, and the scholars that nourished his intellectual and spiritual vision: Ezra Pound, Buckminster Fuller and Raimon Panikkar. He devotes an entire section to Scott’s article, “Making Peace with the Earth,” a passion they both shared. As a tribute to Peter’s significant contribution in New Zealand culture and society in the fields of resource management and environmental studies, Scott dedicated to him his book, *Biotech Time-Bomb: How genetic engineering could irreversibly change our world*, 2003.

Peter A. Raine

The Sheep Farmer's Son

The cosmotheandric intuition transformed Peter Raine's view of Reality to such an extent that he realised he must live it. Trusting in Cosmic Confidence became the cornerstone of his life. Peter's chapter is a moving tribute to Scott, the person and scholar. The question of technology's effect on the human mind was a major theme in Scott's life's work, as it was for his mentors, Martin Heidegger, Raimon Panikkar, and Iain McGilchrist. Peter draws on insights from these scholars to reflect on how human beings can experience the mutation of consciousness required today to move us beyond the 'calculating frame of reference' that traps much of Western thinking today.

Scott and Mary Eastham

Homage to Elder Brother, Robert Vachon

Scott honours the life's work of his revered friend and colleague, Robert Vachon, by making explicit Panikkar's hermeneutics of cross-cultural dialogue -- morphological, dialogical and diatopical -- with reference to Robert's internationally recognised dialogue with the Mohawk Elders in North America.



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Il tempo in cui viviamo è caratterizzato da un insieme di miti apparentemente indistruttibili che si chiamano *mercato globale, crescita, sviluppo, profitto, tecnocrazia*: la promessa che contengono è quella di un mondo di pace, benessere e giustizia, non oggi purtroppo ma in un futuro lontano.

La realtà del presente, quella che veramente conta, è però altro: l'assedio di un nuovo terrorismo creato in gran parte dalle politiche occidentali, la morte per fame e malattie di sei milioni di bambini ogni anno, l'aumento esponenziale del divario tra ricchi e poveri, l'imminenza del disastro ambientale, guerre, precarietà, disagio psicologico generalizzato.

Nell'enciclica *Laudato si'* papa Francesco ha sottolineato con forza la necessità impellente di un *nuovo umanesimo* non più esclusivamente antropocentrico, con un discorso ecologico che lega la protezione dell'ambiente all'urgenza etica di tutelare le vittime della storia dominante, delineando una nuova immagine dell'uomo e riscoprendo un Divino diversissimo dal Dio dei potenti venerato per millenni.

Occorre scegliere di situarsi, ha scritto Raul Fornet-Betancourt, nella diversità culturale distrutta, schiacciata o emarginata dalle imprese coloniali che hanno oppreso l'umanità specialmente nell'età del furore smisurato provocato dalla modernità capitalistica centroeuropea.

Questo nuovo umanesimo (che Raimon Panikkar ha chiamato *visione cosmoteandrica*) oggi vuol dire allora dialogo a 360 gradi, oltre ogni riduzionismo e visione parziale e unilaterale della realtà: dialogo interculturale e interreligioso, dialogo con le psicologie del profondo e con le scienze cognitive, salutare immersione nella nostra radice "naturale" e ridimensionamento dei miti storicistici, dialogo con il pensiero femminile, oltre la falsa neutralità del pensiero maschile, dialogo con le grandi tradizioni "esoteriche" occidentali, forme di pensiero interrotte e rimosse all'interno della nostra storia culturale e capaci di restituire agli esseri umani quella libertà creativa e quella gioia di vivere che i miti attualmente dominanti stanno distruggendo.

Giuseppe Cognetti insegna Storia della filosofia e Filosofia interculturale contemporanea presso l'Università di Siena. È docente della Scuola superiore di Filosofia orientale e comparativa di Rimini, vicepresidente del Cirpit, Centro interculturale dedicato a Raimon Panikkar, membro della direzione della "Cirpit Review" e consigliere dell'Asfer (Associazione per lo Studio del Fenomeno Religioso). Esperto di discipline orientali, conduce da molti anni a Siena un Laboratorio di didattica Yoga e Tai Chi Chuan associato al suo insegnamento ed è insegnante dell'Itcca (International Tai Chi Chuan Association). Tra le sue ultime pubblicazioni: *Oltre il nichilismo* (Milano, 2003), *La pace è un'utopia?* (Soveria Mannelli, 2006), *L'età oscura* (Milano 2014), e *Con un altro sguardo. Piccola introduzione alla filosofia interculturale* (Roma 2015).

ABOUT MANIPAL UNIVERSITY JAIPUR



The Manipal Education Group, with its heritage of excellence in higher education for over 60 years, launched Manipal University Jaipur (MUJ) in 2011. The permanent campus of the university is set up on 122 acres of land at Dehni Kalan village near Jaipur, and is by far one of the best campuses in India. MUJ has world class infrastructure, including state of the art research facilities and modern library. In line with Manipal University's legacy of providing quality education, the university uses the latest and innovative methods and technology to impart education. Manipal University Jaipur is situated on Jaipur-Ajmer Expressway (after GVK Toll Plaza). Jaipur railway station is 24 km away from the University and Jaipur airport is 27 km.

ABOUT JAIPUR

Jaipur is the capital and largest city of the Indian State of Rajasthan in Northern India. It was founded on 18 November 1727 by Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh II, the ruler of Amber, after whom the city is named. The city today has a population of 3.1 million. Jaipur is known as the Pink City of India.

The city is unusual among pre-modern Indian cities in the regularity of its streets, and the division of the city into six sectors by broad streets 34 m (111 ft) wide. The urban quarters are further divided by networks of gridded streets. Five quarters wrap around the east, south, and west sides of a central palace quarter, with a sixth quarter immediately to the east. The Palace quarter encloses the Hawa Mahal palace complex, formal gardens, and a small lake. Nahargarh Fort, which was the residence of the King Sawai Jai Singh II, crowns the hill in the northwest corner of the old city. The observatory, Jantar Mantar, is one of the World Heritage Sites. Included on the Golden Triangle tourist circuit, along with Delhi and Agra, Jaipur is an extremely popular tourist place in India.

THEME

Humans have the privilege of walking on earth under the sky. The three instruments of their knowing, that is, body, mind and heart indeed correspond to the three dimensions of their being—cosmic, human and divine. This three-dimensional knowing and being, long cherished in most traditions, has either been forgotten or ignored in our contemporary times, resulting in a kind of monomorphic reductionism of life and reality, where the entire reality is reduced to human beings, human beings to male, male to his thinking, thinking to his reason, and reason to calculation. Isn't life more than calculus? Perhaps what has become imperative for our global times, is a re-learning to be human not only through "love of wisdom," but also through "wisdom of love." It is this "wisdom of love" that will make the humans to walk on earth under the sky gently, integrally and in a feminine way, that is, with a spirit of receptivity to and mutual learning from all disciplines, traditions and peoples.

A proper understanding of culture becomes crucial here. Culture is not just one more dimension of society, alongside the economy, politics, science, technology, philosophy, religion, law, aesthetics, and so on. Culture is the very ground on which the humans walk and conduct their life journey.

It is the existential reality of peoples and communities in a society in which economics, politics, religion, and so on are different "cultural areas." Therefore, if an innovation (the ability to learn not only from within, but also without) is suggested/brought about in any of these cultural areas in a cross-cultural way, it would really and naturally contribute to the re-learning to be human.

A re-learning, therefore, is an intercultural task. In our contemporary cross-cultural human situation, the mutual fecundation of cultures has become a cultural imperative and in this new situation, cultures do influence each other and, therefore, a positive symbiosis is possible, through a mutual dialogue and criticism. A cross-cultural way, therefore, seems to be the way forward.

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National Seminar

on

Re-Learning to be Human for Global Times: The Cross-Cultural Way

December 26-27, 2016

Sponsored By

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SUB-THEMES

Papers that explore a cross-cultural orientation and enterprise in different areas of human life (like the ones given below) bring vitality to the seminar. Invitation has been extended to scholars to address the theme in the backdrop of their own disciplines/concerns with an interdisciplinary and intercultural orientation.

- ❖ Intercultural Philosophy
- ❖ Interspace (diaplotial) Hermeneutics
- ❖ Cross-cultural Economics
- ❖ Human Rights in an Intercultural Perspective
- ❖ Intercultural Foundations of Law
- ❖ Cross-cultural Communication
- ❖ Literature and Interculturality
- ❖ Interreligious Dialogue
- ❖ Cross-cultural Management
- ❖ Science from an Intercultural Perspective
- ❖ Technology in an Intercultural Perspective
- ❖ Ecology from an Intercultural Perspective
- ❖ Politics from an Intercultural Perspective
- ❖ Cross-Cultural Philosophy of Religion
- ❖ Cross-Cultural Aesthetics

OBJECTIVES

- ❖ To explore how in our contemporary cross-cultural human situation, the mutual fecundation of cultures has become a cultural imperative.
- ❖ To examine how in our new situation, cultures do influence each other and, therefore, a positive symbiosis is possible.
- ❖ To identify and suggest new ways of being and learning to be human for global times.
- ❖ To explore mutual learning in different cultural areas of human life.

PAPERS

Presentation of accepted papers will be 20 minutes in length followed by 20 minutes discussion. Selected and full papers (text not more than 3000 words) will be published by the Centre for Research in Values and Philosophy (CRVP), Catholic University of America, Washington, DC, USA.

DEPARTMENT OF ARTS, SHSS

Art is that by which we "articulate" our lives. The Department of Arts, consisting of Philosophy, Physical Education and Political Science, forms an integral part of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences (SHSS) of the Faculty of Arts and Law. The Department seeks to enhance and effect this articulation in unique and creative ways through its specially designed programs. Besides contributing vitally to the Undergraduate Programs of the SHSS and numerous other academic programmes of the University, the Department participates vibrantly in the life of the University through numerous other ways.

PHILOSOPHY AT MUJ:

Philosophy, as not only "love of wisdom," but also "wisdom of love," indeed endeavors to assist humans to participate in the walk on earth under the sky, integrally, lovingly and joyfully. The Department of Philosophy strives to provide a much-needed interdisciplinary and intercultural orientation in this journey, through the following:

- BA (Hons.) in Philosophy
 - BA (Hons.) Philosophy Subsidiary Courses
 - Philosophy Core Courses offered to Faculty of Law and Faculty of Science
 - Philosophy Open Elective Courses offered to all branches of UG, especially to Engineering
 - PhD Programme in Philosophy
- The SOPHIA - Philosophy Club of MUJ, supported by the Department of Arts.



Panentheistic Humanism: The Cross-Cultural Way

Professor Anthony J. Carroll

Department of Philosophy

Heythrop College, University of London, UK, and Fellow at the Max-Weber-Kolleg,
University of Erfurt, Germany

Abstract

The concept of ‘panentheistic humanism’ provides a philosophical anthropology for reflection on individual and collective spiritual experience, which I understand in terms of the notion of ‘ultimate reality’, and for tackling contemporary questions of social and political theory. I employ the concept of ‘panentheistic humanism’ here specifically to illustrate some current opportunities for enlarging intercultural dialogue and for promoting solidarity between peoples today.

I first define what is meant by the term ‘panentheistic humanism’ and then go on to outline its significance for cross-cultural relations. Sketching some of the background problematic issues, which have led to a crisis in our current attempts to understand ourselves as human beings and our relations to the natural environment, I illustrate how former binary thinking, which separated such concepts as the ‘religious’ from the ‘secular’, is no longer able to adequately communicate our current experience of human and cosmic reality today.

I conclude by suggesting that stereotypical images of ‘religious India’ and ‘secular West’ fail to appreciate that the mixing of cultures in globalisation has delegitimised these former imperialistic divisions and challenges us all to move towards a common agenda, even towards a global constitution of the future. Re-integrating plural conceptions of ultimate reality, which enlarge horizons of understanding of human persons and of communities will be necessary if we are to re-learn how to be human in global times.

Panentheistic humanism offers one way to frame this cross-cultural re-learning through drawing on both plural cultural and spiritual traditions, and on contemporary scientific understandings of human and cosmic reality.

* * * * *

Bridging Cultural Divides: A Critique of Psycho-cultural Prophylaxis Approach

Professor B.M. Jain
Visiting Professor, Cleaveland State University

Abstract

There is a set of dynamic paradoxes in an increasingly globalised world order. On the one hand, there are enormous opportunities for political, economic and cultural global integration. On the other hand, there is a growing tendency towards ethnic and societal fragmentation and the growing cultural clashes, which are becoming ever sharper and deeper. These contradictory trends inevitably lead to undermining the philosophical structure and ethos of the humane global order. Do we need a new cognitive revolution in search of a doctrine of human survival with dignity and justice? Can we achieve the goal of a better human survival through the application of psycho-cultural prophylaxis? The methodological and contextual issues involved in search of a humane global order demand new tools and techniques to be evolved to narrow down the growing cultural divides that we are witnessing today almost in every part of the globe.

This paper aims to explore the potency and feasibility of psycho-cultural prophylaxis (transformative in nature) both as a psychic repose to and a philosophical injection into the conscious and subconscious minds of the people with differential psycho-cultural mind sets. Secondly, this will focus on interrelationships and paradoxes involved in cultural divides within psycho-cultural paradigm given the contemporary human realities. The methodology adopted in this paper is to correctly diagnose the inbred malady that has vitiated the environment for co- existence of divergent cultures with diverse historical backgrounds, interpretations, and philosophical beliefs and ethical values that each culture has embraced, practised and calcified over centuries. Third, the paper attempts to provoke a critical and creative debate over whether it is feasible through relearning the tools and techniques in order to ensure survival of cultures when purblind ideologies and the myopic psychologies of self-appointed religious leaders and extremists are seeking an upper hand in weak and fragile states, for instance, in the Middle East. Finally, my concluding remarks will end up with reflecting on two basic tenets for a human global order i.e. justice and human dignity.

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On Being Human: The Existential Predicament and its Alternative Resolutions

Professor R.C. Pradhan

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Abstract

The human civilization is facing a crisis deep within its foundations in the present age because of a crisis in the very understanding of the human nature. Man has moved away from himself in search of an objective scientific understanding of reality which has led to the loss of the self of man. Man's mind and consciousness have been interpreted in reductive terms so that there remains nothing valuable in the human being. Human existence has been dis-enchanted so much so that man is unable to find any meaning in life except the one that has been increasingly appropriated by the so-called sciences of man.

What we need today is a philosophical re-appropriation of the human existence and its moral and spiritual meanings within the world that is globalized and reclaimed cross-culturally by turning to the spiritual roots of mankind. The inner essence of the human spirit needs a fresh look in terms of discovering the lost ground in our morals and spiritual ethos. Science itself needs a new foundation in the deeply phenomenological resources of meanings and values which go towards re-enchanting human existence.

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Diversity and Cross-Cultural Management in the Contemporary Workplace: An International Perspective

Prof. Vidu Soni

Principal, International Human Resources Consulting

Abstract

Diversity and cross-cultural management has become a 21st century human resource imperative. The globalization of economic activity and the laws enacted by many countries to provide equal opportunity and equal treatment to all the people in the workplace. Many countries, including India, have created affirmative action programs to integrate into mainstream those people who have historically been marginalized and excluded from educational and economic opportunities. To examine the current organizational practices in the light of creating greater workplace inclusion and equity is crucial to creating sustainable institutions, businesses and communities.

Most of the Western countries such as United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and Germany have highly evolved diversity management programs. This ideas is now also gaining visibility in other countries and is being recognized as a salient workplace issue. However the origin of cultural diversity in developed and developing countries is somewhat distinctive. The Western countries primarily have heterogeneous population due to their immigration policies and patterns. In countries like India, until recently, the diversity is mostly domestic. The ethnic identity, religion, cast, and class factors have created the many social divisions which are also carried over to the workplace. Many organization these days espouse to the ideal of merit in their hiring and retention of people, but in actuality, the differential treatment of people continues on the basis of social divisions. Furthermore, the public sector employment and higher education where representation of all the people has been made mandatory, problems of unequal treatment and exclusion widely exist.

This paper aims to shed light on the evolution of diversity and cross-cultural issues entering the human resource field and social dialogue. It will explore models of diversity management both in Western countries and more traditional societies like India. Finally, the paper will examine the significance and salience of this emerging model for creating the 21 century workplaces.

* * * * *

Constituting ‘Otherness’: An Enquiry into Constructionist and Non-Constructionist Accounts in Indian Philosophy

Dr. Ajay Verma

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Abstract

In my paper I would attempt to present an exposition of Nyāya, Buddhist and Samkara’s perspectives on the issues related to the object of knowledge. An important question that comes into relief when we consider any question regarding the epistemological status of the object of knowledge is the role of the subject in this process. Does the subject in any way contribute in the generation of knowledge in a given knowing instance? How would Indian schools of thought account for unity of apperception without assigning any role to the knower’s mind? These are some of the queries that I propose to focus on in my paper and juxtapose Nyāya, Buddhist and Samkara’s answers to these questions.

As a part of this enquiry, I wish to collect and glean out some cues from the Nyāya, Buddhist and Advaita theories of knowledge to draw upon issues relating to multiculturalism and globalization. Any debate on these issues would inevitably involve a philosophical analysis and theorization of our view of the ‘other’. Sociological and anthropological studies of the ‘other’ would focus upon the construction of the ‘othernesses in the arena constituted within the space provided by the traditional and religious specificities. Philosophical analysis of these issues on the other hand should involve digging out the epistemic foundations of the constitutiveness of the ‘other’ and analyzing its accompanying ontological presuppositions and then drawing upon and drawing out their implications on certain socio-political issues. These are some of the other concomitant issues that I propose to explore in my paper.

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Living Together: Cultural Identity and Difference

Dr. Alok Tandon
Hardoi, Uttar Pradesh

Abstract

Cultures are no longer ‘exotics’ situated in some remote corners of the world, they are Seeing Eye to eye, in the on-going globalization process. Due to the practical need of interaction, we are facing the problem: how to live together peacefully while being culturally different. Historically, two opposite strategies have been tried to answer this challenge, e.g., assimilationism and multiculturalism, without much success. A new set of ideas of interculturalism and transculturalism is being floated for some time now. It is pertinent to evaluate the claims of interculturalism and also the adequacy of transculturalism. This paper is a modest attempt in this direction so as to find a way in which we can retain otherness and yet go beyond otherness to avoid conflicts along cultural lines.

* * * * *

Modern Cultural Horizon and Cross-Cultural Way

Prof. Dan Chițoiu

Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iași, Romania

Abstract

My presentation will investigate some key ideas of the modern cultural horizon, especially the meanings of what we call `reason`. Modernity brings a certain understanding of reason, sought as the main human capacity. But this understanding took the shape of a belief, a fact visible everywhere not only in the scientific investigation but also in other cultural forms, among which were philosophy and theology. And also became an ideology. Yet, the last century, especially in its second half, provided interpretative instruments and paradigms which made possible the recovery of the cultural perspectives and especially of the spirituality from the Eastern area, like Eastern-Christian, Islamic or Hindu, which had other ground than the paradigm of the modern rationalism. The cross-cultural way, as a necessary mode of human existence, is something that must be re-learned today by developing a proper understanding of each culture's authentic spirit, and so discovering how to bridge them.

* * * * *

Religion and the Transfiguration of Inter-Human Violence

João J. Vila-Chã

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Abstract

At the core of this paper are the problems attached to the way Religion responds to the phenomenon of inter-human Violence. As such, violence constitutes a multifaceted problem, one at the core of which is not only a socio-political but also an ontological dimension. Even when considered as a political act, *violence* always represents a direct participation in the mystery of evil. Indeed, the least we can say about the phenomenon of *violence* is that it always refers to both an attitude in the agent that perpetrates it as well as to the evil consequences that such attitude produces on the part of whoever becomes a victim of it. In order to explain the nature of violence we need to consider how *power* presupposes *plurality* and how, as such, it can be established only through *non-violent* means. But we also need to recognize that the problem has a *metaphysical* dimension, something we shall explore by means of the ethical thought of Emmanuel Levinas and his criticism of those aspects of our traditions of thought that are based on the forgetfulness of the Other. Indeed, we consider that whenever the *ontology of war* becomes more important than the *ethics of hospitality* and of *respect* for the *otherness* of the other, the consequence can only be the destruction of that element that resides at the very heart of any authentic religion: Love and Justice!

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The Two Women Contemplatives: An Inter-cultural/Inter- Religious Dialogue

Dr. Kanchana Natrajan

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Abstract

The present paper makes comparative studies of the language, metaphors and experiences offered by two women contemplatives from two different cultures and religions traditions. St Teresa of Avila (Spain) from the sixteenth century was a great contemplative saint who perfected the contemplative prayer and experienced the union with the Lord. The saint “became exceedingly desirous that all men should understand thus Truth” and hence wrote down some pertinent and useful books for the aspirants of the contemplative tradition. The most significant text of her is the “Interior Castle or the Mansions” written in 1577 “with great speed.”

The present paper draws some of the salient features of this saint’s description of the Soul, the Lord the central Being of this soul, the extra ordinary metaphors (the soul compared to the Resplendent sun, Great Joy, crystal etc.), the means of entering the “Mansion” and the final state of the spiritual Union and juxtaposes with the contemplative woman sage by name of Avudai Akka (Tamil Nadu) 17th century (?) from the Southern India. The paper brings out the great similarity of the metaphors and description used by the saints to explain their spiritual consummation with the Supreme. Interestingly both the contemplatives use their works for their women followers. St Teresa wrote her text “Interior Castle” for the nuns of the Carmelite order while Avudai Akka sang profusely her songs of Advaitic sublimation for women and chiefly for the widows of her community.

The point that I wish to state through this paper is the possibility of inter-religious dialogues through such communication made by the saints. As an example St Teresa says: if we fill the palace with vulgar people and all kinds of junk, how can the Lord and His court occupy it? When such a crowd is there it would be great thing if the Lord were to remain for even a short time” Avudai says in the same in autobiographic vein:

“Father, Mother, daughter and sons Became like a crowd in the market place,
Like animals in a flock, like a mere number, While I became the Timeless
eternity.

Just as an object slips from the palm of one asleep, Despondency slid away from
me.”

* * * * *

The Integration of Two Asian Cultures: Ancient Wisdom for Today's Global Times

Dr. Hu Yeping
CRVP, Washington, DC

Abstract

This paper discusses how Buddhism from India can be integrated with the Chinese cultural tradition and eventually how it has become one of the main streams of the Chinese thought. The paper explores how this successful case of integration of the two ancient civilizations can be instructive for our complex and pluralistic global times.

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Imparative Philosophy for Our Cross-Cultural Times

Prof. L. Anthony Savari Raj,
Professor of Philosophy Manipal University Jaipur

Abstract

In our contemporary cross-cultural human situation, imparative (note, it's not "imperative") philosophy represents the effort at learning from the other and the attitude of allowing our conviction to be fecundated by the insights of the other. The paper presupposes that, strictly speaking, Comparative Philosophy or Religion is not possible, because we do not have any neutral platform outside every tradition where comparison may be drawn. We cannot compare (*comparare* – that is, to treat on an equal-*par* – basis), for, there is no *fulcrum* outside. The paper further suggests that we can only *imparare* – that is, learn from the other by opening ourselves from our standpoint, to a dialogical dialogue that does not seek to win or convince, but to search together from our different vantage points. It is here, an intercultural and a feminine receptive attitude become the heart of any authentic philosophical activity.

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Interrogating the *Humanus*: Raimon Panikkar the *Rṣī* and the Interlude between Advaya and Advaita

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Delhi

Abstract

The unique philosophical/darśanika framework that Raimon Panikkar inquired into while interrogating the *humanus* (used in the sense of being fundamentally Human Being/ *anthropos* and not in the sense of being anthropocentric), I argue, is advaita/advayalism. Dancing in the freedom of thought that is the indwelling of a *rṣī*, Panikkar weaves into his philosophic *samanvaya*-vision both the ecstasy and agony of predinating attributes to the metaphysical reality as well as arriving at dense and absolute epistemological claims in such an investigation. In classical Indian philosophy the former philosophical attempt can be seen as the praxis of advaita (as metaphorised by Ādi Śamkara's *Kevala-advaita-vāda*) and the latter can be viewed as advaya (as metaphorised by Nāgārjuna's *Nihsvabhāva-vāda*). If Advaita after Ādi Śamkara is seen as positing the very philosophical possibility of extremely subtle ontological exploration into Being as Reality, Advaya after Nagarjuna radically questions such a philosophical practice and renders it impossible by claiming that any attempt at conceptualization is an ontological fiction however pragmatically useful and instrumentally relevant it may be. To my mind, the distinctive feature of Panikkar the *rṣī* is that he plays the flute of advaita and advaya in synchronicity and takes us to the interlude as a *rṣī* does playfully to experience the dialectic of Being and Knowing. Such an interpretation of Advaita/Advaya, to my mind, though is not without problems, is at the same time significantly fundamental to interrogate the *Humanus* today meaningfully and thus enabling the human mind to move from the gaze of a fractured understanding to a more holistic vision of the human predicament. This in my view is the very core of the possibility of a radical as well as dialogical cross-culturality.

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Meaning of Being Human: Sources of Inspiration

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Abstract

1. Introductory Remarks

First we must know what it means to be human. I think, to be human requires, (i) Awareness of ourselves as rational human beings who are a complex of body and consciousness. (ii) Equal awareness of perfect equality of all human beings. (iii) Our mutual connectedness and interdependence. (iv) A sympathetic imagination.(v) Our obligation to live peacefully and harmoniously together, and help each other when needed.

2. Sources of Humaneness: Religion

Religions do uphold equality of humankind before God, etc; but they have mostly failed to incorporate their vision in actual life. At the same time, there are some aspects of religion, or rather some periods in them when our common humanity has been emphasized. Moreover, religions have always emphasized the need to transcend our limited egos which are the source of all immoral or inhuman actions. Bhakti tradition and Sufi tradition, and their message.

3. Enlightenment & its Contribution

The equality and dignity of all human beings was recognized and emphasized in the Enlightenment thought—from Lock, utilitarians, Kant and later on by some other Western thinkers as Hare, Baier, Stace, Williams, Nagel et al. Utilitarian's idealistic vision of each man is to count for one, etc.; as well as their emphasis on the need to try to achieve the good of maximum number of human beings express a conception of being “human” which is worthwhile. Hume has wonderfully pointed out our spontaneous sympathy for others, which is the source of our approval of all acts which lead to the good of mankind. But it was only in Kant that a perfect conceptualization of our “humanity” was presented. He emphasized two things: First that each human being is has an inviolable dignity qua his rationality-humanity, so that no one can be made a means of any other, including one's own lower desires. Second, that we have a reciprocal obligation to help each other. Hare and later on other thinkers have argued that universalizability is a necessity of all rational thought, and this implies perfect equality of all human beings. Hare also emphasized the need of sympathetic imagination. Later thinkers of Care ethics have underlined our mutual connectedness, and the requirement of “hearing” or understanding others' needs. If these ideas are systematically developed and may be combined with some insights of religion that would go a long way in helping and inspiring us to be more “human” in the present world of strife and disharmony.

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Contemporary Challenges for Moral Relativism

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Abstract

Moral relativism is the view that there is no right or wrong in ethics. We cannot get beyond belief (opinion) to knowledge and truth. The customs of different societies are all that exist. These customs cannot be said to be right or wrong, for that implies that we have an independent trans-cultural standard of right and wrong, and moral relativists deny such a standard exists: every standard is culture-specific. Standards can only be said to be right *for* a society. The only criterion for distinguishing right from wrong – and so the only moral standard for judging an action – is the moral code of the society in which the act occurs.

This essay will be devoted to rehearsing three general problems with relativism. In each case, examples from actual contemporary practices will be used to illustrate the problem. The problems, in brief, can be described as follows:

1) The problem of tolerance

Moral relativism appears to undermine any moral criticism of the practices of other societies. If two societies x and y disagree over whether a certain practice is just, the relativist cannot say there are facts or standards that we can appeal to in order to determine who is right or wrong, since he denies that such facts or standards exist. In particular, the laws or moral code of our own society have no special status; they cannot be used to judge the laws or moral code of other societies, or our own past moral codes. From this, it appears to follow that we must adopt an attitude of tolerance toward the moral practices of other cultures: if we have no right to judge them, we must tolerate them. So long as we concentrate on certain cultural practices (of which I will give examples in my essay) tolerance may be a virtue -- a sophisticated, enlightened attitude. But tolerance is not necessarily a good attitude to adopt toward all practices; in particular those involving gross violations of human rights. I will offer examples of contemporary practices where adopting such an attitude is problematic.

2) The problem of moral progress

A relativist has a tough time making sense of the notion of moral progress. Many things that earlier societies accepted as just we now think of as unjust. Even in our own history, we think that at least some changes have been for the better. But if relativism is correct, can we legitimately think that we have made *progress*? Progress means replacing an old way of doing things with a *better* way. But according to relativism there are no facts that we can appeal to by which we can judge the new ways as *better*. Thus we cannot say that our moral standards today are any more enlightened than moral standards were in the Middle Ages.

3) Problem with intra-cultural standards of right and wrong

According to the relativist, what a society says is right *is* right, but *only* for that society, not for any other. But how are the standards of right and wrong determined within a given society? I will, again, use contemporary examples to show how a various intra-cultural standards can lead to troubling results.

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Cross Cultural Ethics: Normative Moorings of Conflicts and the Promising Framework of Convergence

Dr. George K.J.

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Abstract

A distinctive feature of the present day world is the merging of several cultures which represent different faiths, intellectual traditions, socio-political structures, and normative commitments. As an inevitable outcome of this merging, there emerged pluralism, “a pluralism of reasonable, yet incompatible, comprehensive doctrines” (Rawls, *Political Liberalism*, xviii). No one of these doctrines is accepted by all; nor is it likely to be ever accepted by all. One prominent set in the above mentioned list of reasonable yet incompatible doctrines is moral norms. Therefore, no meaningful discussion of cross cultural human existence can omit ethical concerns that are associated. Focusing on the pluralistic face of the present day world and the possibility of conflicts that might emerge among ethical theories, the present paper analyzes the normative underpinnings of divergences in moral perspectives and proposes a normative framework which is found promisingly bringing convergence among mutually contentious moral positions. It is argued that the normative frame offered by the principles of common morality appears to a worthy candidate capable to bring convergence among incompatible theories of value. The four principles of common morality accommodate and represent shared moral beliefs prevailing among different societies that subscribe to different ethical theories, and therefore act as unifying links. Additionally, the normative framework introduced by the principles of common morality is found essentially pluralistic.

Keywords: Cross Cultural Ethics, Pluralism, Common Morality, Conflict, Convergence

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Happiness and Emotional Intelligence of Working Women: A Cross Cultural Study

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Abstract

It is important for women to work. They need to keep their independence, to keep earning and being challenges. Women have been working since centuries and their status has improved with time. Still in the nation like ours, due to the societal pressure and other familial expectations it is difficult for the women to work happily and freely. To find out the emotional intelligence and happiness of the working women, this study compares the variables for working women of India and Thailand. For this purpose, Emotional Intelligence Scale by Dhar et. al. and Subjective Happiness Scale by Lyuomirsky were used. The results showed that females of Thailand scored better on most of the variables of emotional intelligence and they were even found to be happier with their working conditions, as compared to Indian working women.

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Re-Learning to be Human for Global Times The Cross-Cultural Way

Prof. Thomas Menampampil
Peace Centre, Guwahati

Abstract

While all developing societies are eager for economic growth, they do not pay sufficient attention to holding on to their skills of remaining human and relating with others in a helpful way. Again, if neighbouring communities on the way to rapid development do not keep their expectations realistic and in complementary relationship, there is a possibility of a clash of perceived interests. Conflicts can also arise related to claims over natural resources, job opportunities, political disparities, or the rapid demographic growth of a particular community. What is important for all communities is to build up a consciousness of being called by nature to play complementary roles in human growth, promote healthy *reciprocal relationships*, and allow space for each other as individuals and communities.

Communities that may have had the advantage of early education or a specialized skill which has become a part of their heritage are quick in taking up financially rewarding jobs. Others can look at it as a threat. In fact diversity of natural talents, acquired knowledge, skills experiences and cultural heritage is in fact mutually stimulating, not threatening. If there are intelligent and sensitive leaders, who adopt a human and humane approach to each other in periods of tension to provide an inspiring and complementary vision, the communities concerned easily move forward with a great sense serenity and self-confidence to the advantage of all. The only way forward is, consciously cultivating at attitude of *reciprocity*: fostering a creative form of dialogue with others, listening, affirming, appreciating, questioning, and searching together. That is being human in contexts. Reciprocity pays.

A fact that we cannot afford to forget is that we belong to a cosmos that exists as a “**web of cooperative and symbiotic relationships**” and that everything is connected to everything else. When we forget this law we are on the path to self-impoverishment. Being committed to reciprocity means respecting the ‘other’; it means appealing to the humanity and natural goodness in the heart even of an opponent and not embittering him with denunciations. It means adopting a persuasive style of approach; it means changing one’s grievance into a stimulating message. It means being above partisan interests, cultivating sensitivity towards smaller and weaker groups and individuals, developing a common vision for the future. It means promoting ideas of collaboration, and fostering a natural sense of fairness.

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Philosophy Study, August 2016, Vol.6, n°8

Hermeneutics and the Empeiria of the Soul in Panikkar
Dr. M. Roberta Cappellini - CIRPIT

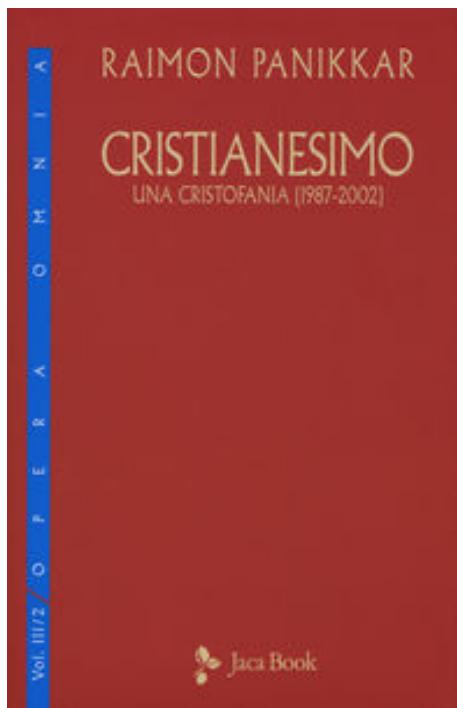
Abstract

Pathos, that “passion of life and thought,” essentially based on the profound aspiration to the beyond, to the unknown, to Mystery, characterized Panikkar’s entire existence and thought, always placed “beyond borders.” It is through this “empeiria of the soul” that the philosopher re-reads the complex issue of faith, connoting it as a constitutive, mystical dimension or ontomonical relationship and consequently as an orthopraxis. From this point of view pathos represents the foundation of his “philo-sophia” in its etymological meaning of “wisdom of love,” which opens to the pursuit of “the fullness of life,” an aspiration of every human being. Today, this generates challenges, which only an intra-inter-cultural dialogical approach, open to different perspectives and based on a diatopical hermeneutics, able to put in contact radically different human horizons, can respond.

News

News

Cristianesimo Una Cristofania (1987-2002) Jaca Book 2016



L'esperienza della maturità cristiana è, per così dire, triplice. È l'incontro con Cristo nel centro del proprio sé, nel centro della comunità umana e nel centro della realtà. Il compito umano, in linguaggio cristico, consiste nella «concentrazione» di questi tre centri, in modo che formino una triplice sfera concentrica, senza però ridurla a una sola. La fede cristiana non è allora propter tuam loquelas («per la tua parola»), come fu detto alla samaritana, non è per autorità, né tanto meno per testimonianza, ma per aver sperimentato. La Cristianità sorge come una nuova speranza. Però, come ho sempre detto: la speranza non appartiene al futuro, appartiene all'Invisibile.

(Dall'Introduzione dell'autore) Il secondo tomo del volume III, Una cristofania, riporta, sempre in ordine cronologico, altri

scritti che vanno fino alla piena maturità dell'autore, esprimendone l'evolversi del cammino spirituale e la testimonianza di fede che trova la completa espressione in La pienezza dell'uomo, un libro più volte pubblicato in diverse lingue. Il titolo, Una cristofania, si riferisce per lo più a una forma di religiosità, la Cristianità, che è concentrata sull'esperienza diretta del mistero cristico. Come appendice al volume vengono riportati estratti di alcune lettere scritte al vescovo di Varanasi (India), rev. Patrick D'Souza, con cui l'autore fu in costante corrispondenza fin dal 1968. Essi testimoniano il suo impegno sacerdotale, nell'ambito del rapporto personale, sacramentale e istituzionale con il capo della diocesi in cui rimase incardinato fino alla fine della sua vita.

9 aprile 2016 - Presentazione a Roma presso S. Gregorio al Celio, ore 16-19. Interventi di: Milena Carrara Pavan, Innocenzo Gargano (Univ.Urbiana), Emilio Baccarini (Univ.Tor Vergata), Raniero La Valle (giornalista), Roberta Arinci (coreografa e danzatrice)



**Firenze, 12 febbraio - 4 aprile,
Affratellamento e Cirpit
ore 17:30, via G. Orsini 73 (FI),**

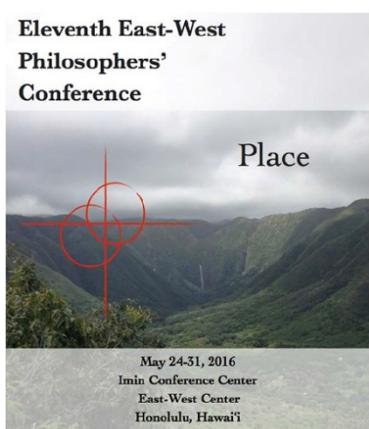
“CON UN ALTRO SGUARDO”

Ciclo di incontri sul dialogo interculturale e interreligioso a cura di Giuseppe Cognetti in collaborazione con l’Affratellamento e il Centro Interculturale d. a R. Panikkar.

Primo incontro: 12 febbraio - "PLURALISMO"

Secondo incontro: 26 febbraio - "DIALOGO"

Terzo incontro: 8 aprile - "INTERCULTURALITA"



Honolulu May 24-31 EWC East and West Conference

May 29, Raimon Panikkar Intercultural Dialogue and Interspace Hermeneutics Panels F and B

<http://www.eastwestcenter.org/events/2016-east-west-philosophers%E2%80%99-conference>

Raimon Panikkar, one of the pioneers of intercultural dialogue, developed the idea of “*dia-topical* hermeneutic” to explore the significance of “place” (*topos*) in understanding and interpreting religious and cultural traditions. For Panikkar, “place” or “space” plays a critical role in “understanding” and “interpretation” by crossing different geographical boundaries, cultural contexts, and religious traditions of the world. According to Panikkar, “*dia-chronical* hermeneutic,” interpretation across different periods of time through history within a socio-religious and cultural tradition, is commonly practiced, however, we are now facing a new challenge to cross the cultural regions, and geographical territories and relate different cultural “places” in order to engage in intercultural dialogue. In light of Raimon Panikkar’s “*dia-topical*” approach, the panel will discuss the following topics: 1. The significance of “place” in “understanding” and “interpretation” of religious and cultural traditions. 2. Finding the importance of “*dia-topical*” approach in engaging in the interpretation of different religions, cultures, and civilizations. 3. Discovering different cosmologies found in different cultures and religions, and engaging in a cross-cultural dialogue and a “*dia-topical*” interpretation. One’s way of relating to “space” shapes one’s way of understanding the universe or the cosmos, beyond a mere scientific cosmology, what Panikkar calls “*kosmology*.” 4. The panel will also explore a broader and larger implication of Panikkar’s thoughts in relating to how the idea of “space” shapes the concept of “time.”



Rimini, 11-12 giugno La prospettiva di Raimon Panikkar

Seminario di Filosofia Comparata delle religioni

a cura di Giuseppe Cognetti

Master in Studi Orientalistici e Comparativi

Presso Istituto di Scienze dell'Uomo, via Tonini 5, Rimini

Settembre 2016 Raimon Panikkar

L'Utopia Concreta, L'astuzia di Indra. Jaca Book 2016



Il testo qui proposto affronta la drammatica crisi in cui versa il mondo contemporaneo, una vera e propria «conflagrazione cosmica», secondo la definizione dell'autore, attraverso il mito della divinità hindù di Indra. Per Panikkar Indra assume un valore paradigmatico rispetto alla condizione umana attuale, un simbolo delle energie demoniache e divine che si contendono la supremazia

al fondo della nostra più invisibile interiorità. L'India ha ceduto alla tentazione di mettere la scienza e la tecnologia sul piedistallo di Indra andando nella direzione sbagliata: «... la via verso la modernizzazione che l'India ha preso non ha portato alla liberazione promessa. Non ha conseguito il suo scopo. Ha fallito!».

La prima parte di questo studio prepara lo sfondo per la tesi di Panikkar. Per questo la megalopoli Mumbai è un'illustrazione spaventosa, ma adatta. Nella seconda parte si presentano le cause più profonde del problema: le civiltà indiche sono incapaci di affrontare il complesso tecnocratico della modernità; il loro carattere autodistruttivo è inherente alle civiltà tecnocratiche. Da questo punto di vista il libro non si limita a descrivere ciò che accade nel sub-continente indico, ma ha l'ambizione di indicare al mondo intero una trasformazione radicale, una sorta di «Utopia» che ha tutte le risorse per realizzarsi, per divenire «concreta».



Europe talks to Europe al Festival di Conversano di Bari 15-18 settembre

INTERCULTURALISMO IN COLLABORAZIONE CON EUROZINE

Tavola Rotonda con:

GIUSEPPE COGNETTI, KENAN MALIK, ATTILA MELEGH,
ELŻBIETA KUZBORSKA. Conduce MARC-OLIVIER PADIS

La cultura degli altri è diventata ancora una volta una questione politica nell'epoca delle migrazioni di massa. Le politiche di integrazione e multiculturalismo sono state dichiarate sepolte sia da Angela Merkel che da David Cameron. Allo stesso tempo, le tendenze demografiche richiedono nuove risposte alle sfide della convivenza tra persone di razze, religioni, lingue e provenienze diverse. Qual sarà il futuro del mondo multiculturale dopo che l'idea stessa di multiculturalismo si è perduta?

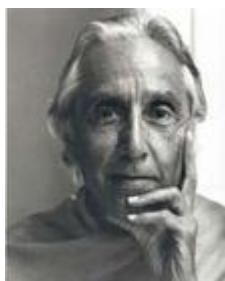


PHILOSOPHIA PACIS

Filosofia e spiritualità dopo Raimon Panikkar 7-8 ottobre 2016

Università degli Studi di Torino Facoltà Teologica di Torino
Arsenale della Pace – Centro Studi Sereno Regis, 9,30-19,00

[PHILOSOPHIA PACIS Filosofia e spiritualità dopo Raimon Panikkar](#)



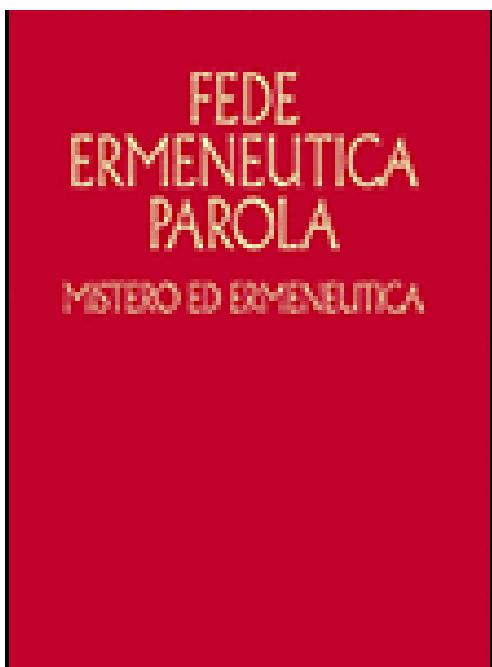
American Academy of Religions Sant Anthony Tx, November 18-22 2016

SACP Society for Asian and Comparative Philosophy

Theme:

Raimon Panikkar Symposium: Raimon Panikkar and His Intellectual and spiritual Legacy Friday, 2:00 PM–6:00 PM Grand Hyatt-Bowie B (2nd Level)

This symposium is to explore various aspects of Raimon Panikkar not only as a scholar but also as a profound thinker who was able to find his intellectual and spiritual sources of inspiration from medieval theology in the West to the major religious and spiritual traditions of the East. The panel will discuss specific issues and topics including ontology, eternity, gender, ysticism and spirituality that Panikkar had so profoundly expounded. The symposium welcomes anyone who is interested in Panikkar and his thoughts.



November 2016 Raimon Panikkar

Fede Ermeneutica Parola,

Vol. IX/2, Opera Omnia, Jaca Book

Mentre il primo tomo del volume *Mistero ed Ermeneutica* trattava di mito, simbolo e culto, tre forme attraverso le quali l'uomo si apre al mistero della Realtà, il secondo tomo è dedicato alla fede, all'ermeneutica e alla parola come espressione di questa apertura. La prima sezione si articola intorno alla fede, alla sua natura, e cerca di rompere la monopolizzazione della fede ad opera di una certa sua

interpretazione ristretta. Solo il carattere simbolico delle parole e il loro uso in senso mitico può vincere la tendenza della nostra ragione ad arrogarsi il monopolio sul significato delle parole. La seconda sezione cerca di applicare l'ermeneutica ad alcuni dei problemi presenti nell'odierno incontro tra religioni e nel confronto tra le varie visioni del mondo. Lo sforzo qui è di integrare le interpretazioni, dettate dalla situazione contemporanea, della cosiddetta teologia fondamentale. Da questa prospettiva ermeneutica viene esaminato un esempio fornito principalmente dalla religione cristiana. L'ultimo capitolo analizza un aspetto importante di ogni religione, che sembra essere stato spesso indebitamente trascurato. La secolarizzazione e la religione trovano certamente un punto di incontro nel sottolineare l'importanza non solo della liberazione, ma della libertà. La terza sezione è composta da quattro testi che affrontano il tema del rapporto tra Uomo, Realtà e Parola, ciascuno da una particolare prospettiva. Si tratta di testi pubblicati in differenti tempi e occasioni, e in differenti contesti culturali, dall'India alla Catalogna. Analizzano in modo sintetico e stimolante la problematica dal punto di vista filosofico, religioso e scientifico, facendo confluire in un'unica esperienza intellettuale e spirituale le intuizioni del pensiero dell'Oriente e dell'Occidente, in particolare il pensiero indico e la filosofia e il cristianesimo occidentali. Seguono altri articoli sulla filosofia del linguaggio.