THREE VISIONS OF INNER SELF AND HUMAN IDENTITY IN THE RENNAISSANCE PHILOSOPHY

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Abstract: To understand the multiple identity it is useful the primordialist approach in the area of anthropologic studies. According to this, the individual models his identity starting from the ontological premises represented by the grid of reality reading, offered by the appartenance to a certain cultural archetypology. The coercion of the archetypes differs from one person to another and from one epoch to another, being motivated by the historical context and by the dynamics of the relations with the others. The platonic and Christian model of the “unity with the self”, of the mind as unitary space is pulverized, the consequence being the assuming of multiple role identities and of interpersonal identities which protect the intimacy of the individual, but which produce distancing from the others and the “cult of authenticity”.

The study aim to offer three different paradigms of approaching the Inner self: the Classical paradigm of self knowledge and the Middle Age paradigm which implies the metamorphosis of identity, conditioned by ascetism as self work or by complicity with the self, in Renaissance and post Renaissance Philosophy. The main sources are Sebastian Brant, Pico della Mirandola and Michel de Montaigne.

Keywords: identity; metamorphosis; self-improvement; self-exploration; archetipology;

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