

PHILOSOPHY

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Image arbor inversa in sacral spaces of northern Eurasia

The paper deals with the study of inverted tree image which may be found in some archaic cultures of the North. There are descriptions of various approaches to interpretation of it and also author's original point of view in the context of his research in the field of phenomenology and semiotics of sacred space. Rooting of cosmic tree in upper areas of the Universe and mirror contraposition of its various parts are considered as crucial moments for possible interpretation of Arbor Inversa image. Author also tries to formulate additional hypothesis where attention is focused on a liminal moment of the reversing which play center-generating role in genesis of cosmic order from position of religious-mythological consciousness. In the context of author's orientational model an inversion is considered as destruction of vertical orientations (directions) and subsequent genesis of a new horizontal structures of landscape where inverted shaman tree as a sign of outbreak of formless numinous principle generates central orientational point. This point is not subordinated by order but generates it around itself.

Key words: inverted tree, phenomenology of religion, cosmology, sacred geography, sacred space, orientation, traditional culture of people of Northern Eurasia

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