

PHILOSOPHY

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Religious fundamentalism and its place in Western European culture

It is considered the phenomenon of religious fundamentalism as an ideological and socio-cultural principle. Religious fundamentalism is understood not so much as a phenomenon of religious (spiritual) life, but as a factor influencing social and cultural life. Having originated at the beginning of the XXth century as a separate movement, fundamentalism is revealed (in culture) before the appearance of the corresponding term. Special attention is paid to the manifestations of religious fundamentalism in Western European culture: genuine Christian fundamentalism has manifested itself in the Middle Ages, while modern fundamentalism in Catholicism appears as a marginal movement. It is also noted that modern Europe faced an alien culture-civilization – the Islamic world. The characteristic features of the collision with Islamic fundamentalism are considered: European values (tolerance, political correctness, relativism in morality, etc.) are diametrically opposed to the ideals and values of Islam.

Key words: religious fundamentalism, modernism, Western European culture, Middle Ages, secularization, radicalism, Christianity, Islam.

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