

The relationship between the concepts «religion» and «religious organizations»

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Within the frames of social sciences each concept is put into a certain circles and is given definitions to the latter. However, there are abstract concepts that are not easy to define and determine their scope for action. Likewise it is difficult to give a precise definition of the term religion.

What is religion? If an economist can say for sure that the trade is the integrity of import and export, then the specialist of religion or theologian should be clear to the reader for defining religion. To understand what the essence of religion is we should examine the monotheistic religions' ideology.

Namely Christianity, Islam, Judaism and other religions believe that God created the earth, but they are very vary according to their belief perceptions, from here we can conclude that the concepts of religion and faith though being so close to each other, are significantly different in terms of defining both of them.

In addition, if each religion begins to emphasize its uniqueness and distinctive character towards other religions, then we will have to agree with the ideology of atheism, which asserts that religion arises in the certain level of development of human origin and people originally did not have religions, therefore "religiousness" is another way of being acquired human quality and that religion is a delusion, which arises in the certain level of human being, hence it will come the time when religion will disappear as that everything in life has a beginning and an end.

Though, we need to take a moment to forget about these differentiations and talk about the meaning of religion itself, but in Europe as well as throughout the world, conflict between Christianity and Islam is exacerbating more and more, and each of them tends to prove its veracity.

If we are guided purely by Christian principles, then we should believe in the claim from Bible that humans are created by God's effigy and likeness, thus in any religion there should be a component that binds human beings to God.

However, the following question arises; whether we can give a definition of religion?

In ancient Rome there were four approaches of an explanation about the origin of the word religion. According to Cicero's approach the word religio is derived from the word relego, which means «reread carefully, ponder, to put aside»: Thus, Cicero said, «Those who are thinking and rereading (relegerent) about all that comes to honoring the gods called religious (as religiosi comes from relegere, elegantes from eligoro, diligentes from diligere, intellegentes from intellegere), as the root of all these words is the same (vis legendi), like the word religious»[1]: In the explanation of the term religion Cicero maintained well spread concept in Rome according to which «the essence of religion is to revere the gods»[2]. Many Christian authors were agreed with Cicero. Arnobin being agreed with the explanation of the meaning of the word religion, at the same was introducing distinction in the explanation of the term. «The essence of religion is not implementing clearly pious rituals, as the true revere applies not only the external form, but reveals in the human heart»;

Laktantsi put forward his point of view, which is now considered to be the most popular. According to his belief the word religio is derived from the verb religare, which means to join,

unite. "We expressed due to this word in order to demonstrate our true and bound conjugation to the God who creates us". Being in devout relationship with God, we are in direct union with Him (*Deo religati sumus*), where the word religion got its sense from, but not from the word *relegendo*, as had stated Cicero. Thus the word religion (*religio*) emerged from the pious connection that exists between man and God".[3] Servi Sulpitsin puts forward the view that the word religio is derived from the verb relinquere which means to envelop with silence. Religious people tend to not make lower domestic level all that is holy, which refers to God, and bypasses it with the holy silence[4].

However it is not still clear what does mean the word religion and what its today's explanation. Many scientists based on historical facts and subjective opinion had given many definitions to this concept. Particularly as states Engels' any religion is nothing more than the expression of a fantastic chapter of the forces that dominate human's everyday life, a reflection when the earthly forces receive no earthly form[5].

It is said that religion has two aspects, external; how it presents to the foreign researcher, and internal, which is opened to the believer, who lives consistent towards the spiritual and moral principles of religion. Religion by its external manifestation first of all represents outlook, which includes theories (truth), without which (even without one of them) it loses itself into and becomes some kind of witchcraft or an akultizm or such phenomena, which are the results of religious fragmentation or philosophical understanding of religion. Religious outlook always has social form in nature and is being reflected by the more or less developed structure which is called church. Through its internal perception religion is a direct experience of God. Thus we can give the following definition of religion; it is the way of mind in the seeking of truth[6].

Generally, we can clearly declare that religion is a relationship towards the Perfect, whom we call God. As such kind of relationship exists even among atheists' then we can emphasize that each of us has a religion[7].

I. A. Ilin has written "Religion is the permanent (in the sense of inclusion) and living (in terms of activities) relationship between man and God, in essence, the subject of human being and divine existence"[8].

German famous philosopher F. Shleyermakhere confirms that the essence of being religious exists in complete dependent. American ethnographer E. Taylor has said that the belief in spiritual beings is the minimum that is common to all religions[9].

Trubetsky has given the classic definition of religion, according to his "Religion is the systematic bending of the top powers"[10], in which necessarily exist appropriate elements of religion such are the church, the worship and the transcendental world of "gods".

One of the classics of sociology Dyurkeyme has written "Religion is a sacred system of experience of beliefs unified; beliefs and practice which are separated and forbidden, are united in a one moral point, which we call the church[11].

Russian theologian Vladimir A. Garaja has noted "Religion is an outlook and prospect, as well as relevant conduct and specific practice, worship, which is based on the one or more gods existence's belief[12].

According to Tolstoy, the religion is not the result of ancient superstition, as thought the scientists, but it is an stated relationship (with the mind and modern sciences) between man and God. "The human spirit is the lamp of God," as says the Jewish interpretation. A human being is weak, wretched until the moment when the light of God is burning in his heart, and when this light is burning brightly that person becomes omnipotent, because from this very

moment inflames the strenght of God, but not in his own, which is the very essence of religion.

Based on the foregoing, we can truly state, that there is no man who does not have a religion because there is no man who does not consider himself bound to some transcendental nature and does not believe the existed connection between the latter and himself. Religion is understood to mean the connection between a human being and a substance which is considered a "god" from the point of view of the latter, whose expressions are prayer, the church and rites. According to this interpretation of religion all religious organizations could be called religions, which according to orthodox Christian, Islamism, Buddhist and followers of other religions have deviated from the acceptable true path of their religion.

Religious organizations are the unions of the followers of any religions, which are derived on the basis of beliefs and rites. The functions of religious organizations are; to meet the needs of followers, to handle religious activities, to ensure the sustainability and commitment of the organization.

In fact, in the formal definition of both religion and the religious organization there are obvious similarities, so anyone is free to choose and follow any religion he needs.

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