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FREEDOM AND DIGNITY: A BOOK REVIEW

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Abstract

This review focuses on a synthesis book on human freedom and dignity. Contributors are reputed specialists in theology, philosophy and law. The issue is centered on freedom, dignity and the model created by the sacrifice of Martir Constantin Brancoveanu, but it has inductions and in related areas such as education, human value in theology, cultural policies. The research methodology that is largely used is inter-, multi- and transdisciplinary; the perspectives of the approach are varied: the perspective of the monotheistic tradition, the Lutheran perspective, the anthropological perspective, the philosophical perspective, the legal perspective, the epistemological perspective. The ideation of the studies finds convergence in the polyvalent and polyhedrical irradiations of the concepts of freedom and dignity. The book is remarkable by its high scientific and theological endowment and represents a significant cultural event.

Keywords: freedom, dignity, theology, philosophy, law

JEL Classification:

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1. CONTENT

United Europe's society is one of the values of freedom and dignity. Therefore, a book like „The Dignity and Freedom of the Human Person: Interdisciplinary Approach" (Editor Nicolae Răzvan Stan) (Craiova, Publishing House / Publishing House of the Metropolitan of Oltenia, 2016) is a vehicle for the promotion of these fundamental values, and a proof of opening to multiculturalism and progress. The volume of a high scientific and typographical content includes the communications held in the framework of two international symposia organized by the Faculty of Orthodox Theology of the University of Craiova through the Center for Theological and Interreligious Studies and carried out under the blessing of the High Priest Prof. univ. Dr. Irineu Ion Popa, Archbishop of Craiova and Metropolitan of Oltenia. It is the international symposium „The Paradigm of Human Dignity, Between Simplification and Mystification: Theological, Philosophical and Legal Analysis" (Craiova, October 6, 2014) and the symposium „Human dignity and freedom, reality and ideal. Model of the Holy Voivode Martir Constantin Brâncoveanu „(Tismana Monastery, 7-10 October 2014).

The book has an explanatory preface signed as editor of the Conf. Dr. Nicolae Răzvan Stan and a modeling introduction made by His Eminence Prof. Univ. Dr. Irineu Ion Popa; It is structured in three parts: „Human dignity and freedom: the theological paradigm" (18 communications), „Dignity and human freedom in interdisciplinary analysis" (18 communications) and „The Holy Martyr Constantin Brâncoveanu - model of dignity and freedom").

The study with which the High Priest Prof. Dr. Irineu Ion Popa, Archbishop of Craiova and Metropolitan of Oltenia, opens the volume, entitled „Human dignity and freedom, reality and ideal. The model of Saint Voivode Martir Constantin Brâncoveanu", is of great theological, methodological and

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synthesis relevance. In this, it defines the thematic and methodological framework in which the other 42 studies are generically subsumed as a sign of cohesion and spiritual altitude. The irradiating themes, the major issues in the debate are clarified to be the freedom, dignity and model of the Martirian Voivode Constantin Brâncoveanu. On the other hand, the methodological working principle is incidentally specified: „The explanation of these problems is done through a reasoned argumentation of practical examples and reasons" (Popa, 2016, p. 25).

Although it is made up of research from areas, and tremendous fields of thought, knowledge, spirituality and faith, the volume has an admirable convergence and consistency that make it unitary and homogeneous. What gives first of all and obviously the cursivity, compactness and cohesion of the book is thematic. Each of the nuclear themes gets comparative, analytical and synthetic developments and extensions. In the painting of freedom and dignity are called: the knowledge (in the study „Knowledge and freedom from a philosophical perspective, by Prof. Dr. Ion Popescu), the martyrdom („The Martyrdom as an Affirmation of Freedom and Love in Christ", by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Teofan Mada), the destiny („Freedom and destiny at Plotin", by Prof. Dr. Adriana Neacşu), the responsibility („Freedom of choice as a gift and responsibility, according to the teachings of Philocalia" by Assoc. Prof. Nicolae Răzvan Stan).

The methodological framework includes a multitude of research perspectives: the anthropological perspective (in „Anthropological Mutations in the Context of the Ideologies of Modernity", by Prof. Dr. Cristinel Ioja), the Lutheran Perspective (in „Religion and Human Rights: a Lutheran Perspective", by Prof. Dr. Gunnar Heiene), the patristic perspective (in „The Patristic Study of Man", by Metropolitan Hilarion Alfeyev), the perspective of the monotheistic tradition (in „The issue of freedom in monotheistic tradition", by Assoc. Prof.

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Dr. Nicolae Morar), the philocalistic perspective (in „Freedom of choice as a gift and responsibility, according to the teachings of Philocalia", by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nicolae Răzvan Stan), the philosophical-legal perspective (in „Human Freedom - Philosophical-Legal Aspects", by Prof. Dr. Gheorghe Dănişor), the Epistemological Perspective (in „The Crisis of Society and Human Dignity: an Epistemological Perspective", by Prof. Dr. Ana Bazac), the perspective of criminal regulation (in „Protection of Human Freedom is through criminal regulations", by Assistant Prof. Dr. Raluca Voinea), the historical perspective (in „The Brâncoveni Holy Martyrs - the Lord's Family and Her Sacrifice for Belief in God", by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Emilian Lovişteanul), the ethical perspective (in „Pride, pride, dignity", by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ioan Lascu). These perspectives are underpinned by theological hermeneutics, theological hermeneutics and legal hermeneutics (Федотова, 2016; Ланцова, 2017) .

2. CONCLUSION

The book is of high scientific, theological and typographical importance and is a cultural event. It is instructive and productive; that is why it is read with pleasure.

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