



## PRESENTATION<sup>1</sup>

### *APRESENTAÇÃO*

### *PRESENTACIÓN*

**Denis Cotta\***

**Jonathan Félix de Souza\*\***

INTERAÇÕES is very pleased to introduce to its readers another free thematic publication, marked by very important studies for the Religious Studies and Theology area. Aiming to embrace the diversity of ideas and analyses presented, the articles have been organized in three thematic blocks: (1) Philosophy of Religion; (2) Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue; and (3) Theology. Thus, we hope that everyone has a pleasant reading of the papers published in this volume.

Starting the block dedicated to Philosophy of Religion topics, we have the article *THE HERMENEUTIC CIRCULARITY BETWEEN THE UNUM ARGUMENTUM OF SAN ANSELMO AND THE PROBLEM OF GOD IN ZUBIRI*, where the author Jose Alfonso Villa Sanchez establishes a theoretical dialogue between the medieval Benedictine philosopher and monk Saint Anselm of Canterbury and the Spanish philosopher Xavier Zubiri. The dialogical interface that is proposed by the author is directed to the clarification that there is a hermeneutic relationship that unites the concept of the problem of God in Zubiri's worldview and the thesis of Unum Argumentum in Saint Anselm. Highlighting the theoretical aspects that approximate and separate the abovementioned philosophers, the

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<sup>1</sup> Translation made by Brasil Fernandes de Barros, Doctoral student, and Master of Religious Studies (2018), from the Pontifícia Universidade Católica de Minas Gerais, CAPES scholarship holder, as part of the teaching practice activities under the supervision of Prof. Flávio Senra Managing Editor of Interações. ORCID: 0000-0002-5285-4871. E-mail: brasil@netinfor.com.br.

\* Mestre e doutorando em Ciências da Religião pela Pontifícia Universidade Católica de Minas Gerais. Bolsista CAPES. Brasil. ORCID: 0000-0003-4413-8047. E-mail: cottadenis@gmail.com.

\*\* Mestre e doutorando em Ciências da Religião pela Pontifícia Universidade Católica de Minas Gerais. Bolsista CAPES. Brasil. ORCID: 0000-0002-6459-0543. E-mail: jonathanfelixadm@gmail.com

author warns that one of the main threads that permeate this hermeneutic relationship is concentrated in the notion of a theological dimension of the human being.

Newton Aquiles von Zuben and Carlos Olinto, in the article *AUGUSTINE'S RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE: the dialogues in the gardens and the extasis in ostia*, present to the readers an analysis of the religious experience of Augustine, based on the dialogues written in Casiciaco and a well-known and commented passage from book IX of the Confessions, the Ecstasy of Ostia. According to the authors, the passages reveal the vitality of Augustine's thinking where the "search for truth and life is conjugated, dialectically, to the truth as the experience of life and the experience of life as the desire, the search and the discovery of Truth, in the image of Christ.

In the article titled *THE PHENOMENOLOGY OF RELIGION ON HEIDEGGER IN THE LIGHT OF THE CONCEPTS OF LIVED EXPERIENCE AND EXPERIENCE*, Luís Gabriel Provinciatto presents a valuable contribution concerning the differentiation between the notion of living and experience in the Heideggerian's thought. The author presents some of the essential theoretical elements of the German philosopher, intending to clarify that the concept of the phenomenology of religion in Heidegger should be understood as a phenomenology of religious experience. In this manner, the theoretical-bibliographical path promoted by the author states that the analytical emphasis of Heideggerian phenomenology contemplates the religious experience from its connection with the factual experience of life.

The second block, dedicated to the papers on Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue, begins with Romero Carvalho's manuscript, entitled *BHAKTIVINODA THAKURA AND THE INTERFAITH DIALOGUE IN THE 19th CENTURY*, which deals with the spiritual legacy of one of the greatest Hinduist representers, more specifically of the Vaisnavism tradition. According to the author, Bhaktivinoda Thākura was one of the pioneers of inter-religious dialogue in the 19th century, who developed substantial contributions to the appreciation of religious plurality. From this perspective, it is elucidated that the dialogical vision adopted by Thākura is based on the real understanding of divine universality and the search for pure love, fundamental aspects to combat religious sectarianism.

Atila Kus and Wagner Lopes Sanchez are the authors of the paper *SHARIA, RELIGION AND SECULARIZATION: a possible dialogue?* The manuscript elucidates the notion of the Islamic tradition of the Sharia and its proximity to the concept of secularization. According to the authors, the term sharia, terminologically speaking, is used in the Islamic jurisprudence field to refer to the religious tradition itself, Islam. However,

the article also clarifies that the applicability of sharia goes beyond the legal aspects of Islam, it should be understood as a set of ethical, moral, practical, faith, and canon law values of this tradition. In other words, the authors reaffirm that the understanding of sharia must be enlarged. In this way, it will be possible to see that secularization and sharia are two distinct but compatible terms.

Entitled *THE LOYAL SUBJECT: ANTISEMITISM IN PRE-NAZIST GERMAN RELIGIOUS CULTURE*, the paper by Eliathan Carvalho Leite explores the antisemitic context rooted in the German pre-Nazi culture, taking the society presented in the mentioned work as a basis, through documentary analysis. Eliathan's paper points out that antisemitism is represented in satire as a cultural characteristic of pre-Nazi Germany and as well as a characteristic element of a positive expression of religiosity as an inheritance of the religious construction.

The last block, which is dedicated to theological themes, begins with the paper titled *SPIRITUAL RELIGIOUS COPING IN LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES IN THE NORTH OF PARANÁ – BRASIL* by Elaine Pinheiro Neves de Macedo and Mary Rute Gomes Esperandio. The manuscript discloses important results obtained through the field research, which was focused on coping techniques used in institutionalized elderly people. The authors emphasize the therapeutic bias of the applicability of Spiritual Religious Coping in long-term institutions for the elderly, also highlighting the problems and challenges of the implementation of this practice. Among the results achieved by the authors, it is worth mentioning that religiosity is central in the life of the institutionalized elderly person, with individual practices - such as prayer - being the most used as a means of facing stressful events.

The paper *OBSTACLES AND CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN BIBLE AND LITERATURE*, written by Fabrizio Zandonadi Catenassi, Osni Pavão dos Anjos and Ildo Perondi, highlights the possibility of analyzing biblical texts from a literary perspective, without, however, disregarding the value of classical biblical research. From this perspective, the authors underline one of the main obstacles for the development of literary analysis of the Bible, which is the prioritization of the spiritual reading of the text. Beyond this, the authors also point out that the literary analysis of the Bible is indispensable to establish the perception of the sociocultural, historical, and ethical bias present in each book of the Holy Scriptures.

Written by Aíla Luzia Pinheiro de Andrade and Solange Maria do Carmo, the paper *FROM THE EMPTYING OF FAITH TO SELF-EMPTYING* presents reflections for the study

of Christian tradition, especially concerning the Apostle Paul's exhortations to the Philippians. These Pauline warnings emphasize what the authors call the need for self-emptying, an attitude which, in this context, is characterized essentially by the breaking away from religious excesses. In this manner, self-emptying is defined by living out of the Christian tradition genuinely, immersed in love, and not by the inflation of dogmatic certainties.

Closing the articles session, we have *PEACE, HUMAN DIGNITY AND INTEGRAL DISARMAMENT: an understanding in the light of the Catholic social teaching*, by Elvis Rezende Messias. This manuscript highlights elements for thinking about peace based on the Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Catholic Church. Based on biblical and theological foundations, the author offers us a reflective and propositional path for the debate on the arming of the population. According to the author, "to expect that the culture of weapons is the path to the culture of peace can be a sign of despair and, perhaps, even a loss of the sense of transcendence and the integral/ontological/theological dignity of the human person".

In the book reviews section, we have the work sent by Ana Ester Pádua Freire about the book *O PRINCÍPIO PLURALISTA*. The author offers us an analysis of the complexity of the religious pluralist principle concept, which is permeated by several other elements and existential dilemmas that constitute the life of the religious subject. Moreover, the analytical focus is directed to the notion of between-places, that is, a mode of confrontation in which subaltern groups develop strategies of empowerment, as is the case of the struggle for the valorization of gender singularity and its interface with what is considered sacred.

Finally, in the Debates and Communications section, readers can read an exclusive interview with Suely Caldas, conducted by Professor Brasil Fernandes during his doctoral research at the Graduate Program in Religious Studies at PUC Minas. The interview entitled *A BIT OF CHICO XAVIER BY SUELY CALDAS SCHUBERT* points out unique elements about her relationship with the medium Francisco Cândido Xavier, from Minas Gerais, among them, we highlight the lessons learned during the nights of pilgrimage to assist the people in need.

We wish a good reading to you that follows INTERAÇÕES.