

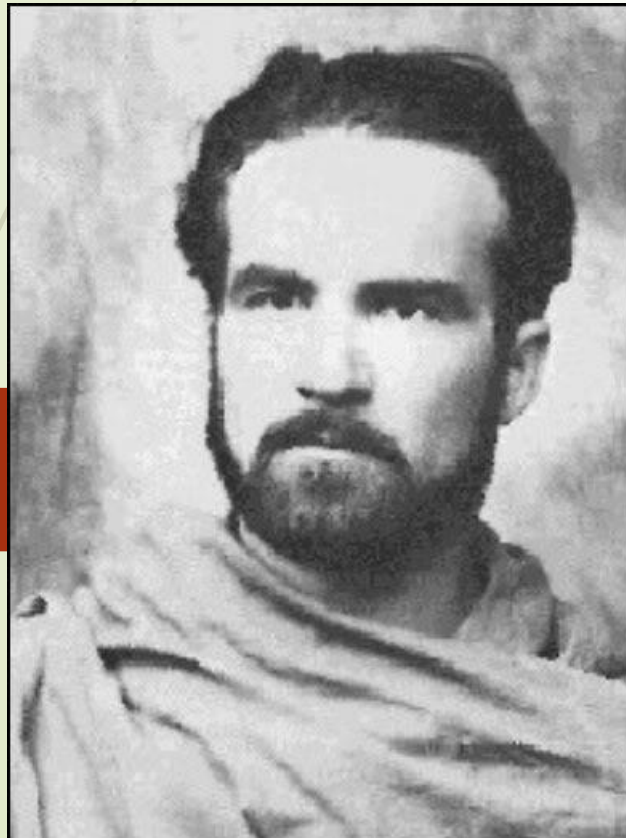
The major event in the XX century is not a proletarian but a discovery of a Non-European man and his spiritual world.

Mircea Eliade





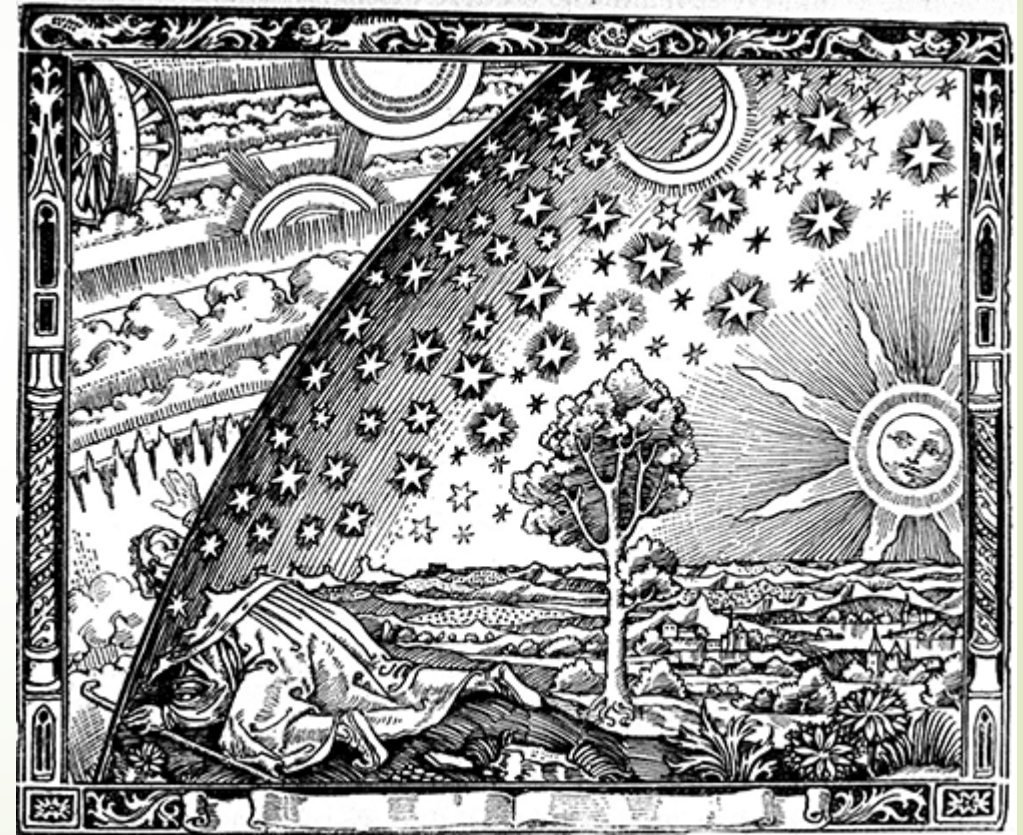
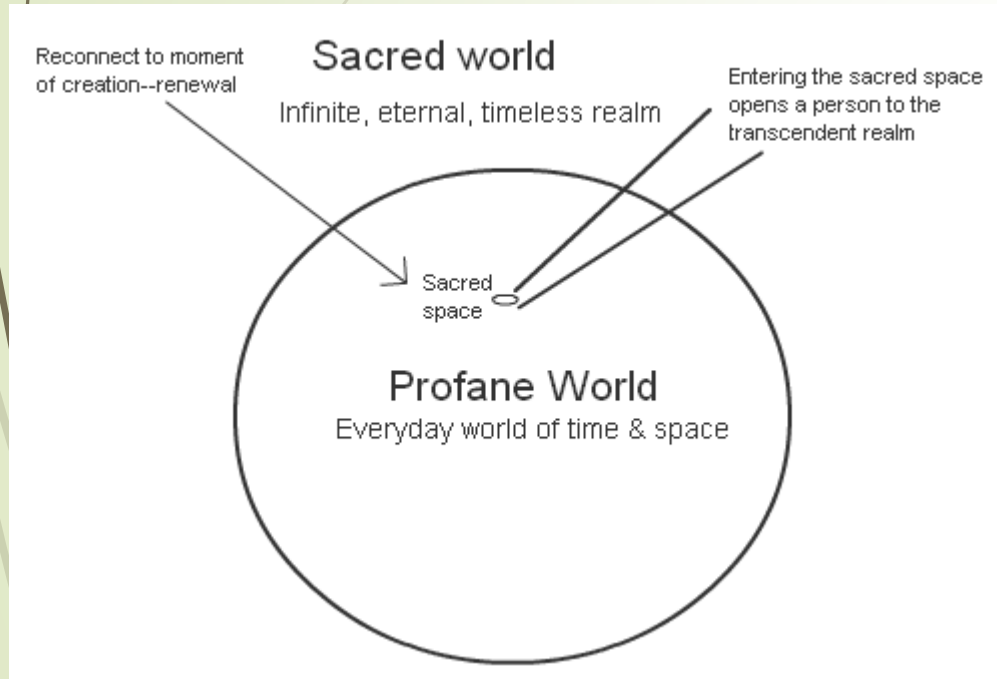
Mircea Eliade (1907-1986)
***Religious is in every man (hierophant), hence
understanding religion leads to understanding
human nature.***



Each person is characterized by conscious activity and irrational experience

- The main difference between a person of an archaic and traditional society and a modern person is that the former feels himself linked with the cosmos and cosmic rhythms, while the essence of the latter lies in his connection with history;
- history of the cosmos and human society is a "sacred history" established and propagated through mythology. This story can be repeated endlessly as long as the myths serve as models for the ceremonies that periodically re-create the great events at the beginning of time. The myth becomes a model for "the whole world" and a model for eternity. The myth is perceived by the whole being of man; it is not addressed only to his intellect or imagination;
- At the level of individual perception, the myth never completely disappeared: it manifested itself in dreams, fantasies, aspirations of modern man. Myths preserve and transmit paradigms - patterns, in imitation of them, the whole set of actions is carried out, for which a person takes responsibility. Through the power of these exemplary prototypes, witnessed by people of mythical time, the cosmos and society are periodically recreated;
- Plato could be regarded as the outstanding philosopher of 'primitive mentality,' that is, as the thinker who succeeded in giving philosophic currency and validity to the modes of life and behavior of archaic humanity.

Sacred vs Profane



Axis Mundi/The Cosmic Tree/The Center of the World



Cosmos vs Chaos



It is the ritual orientation to the holy space that transforms Chaos into Cosmos, and therefore makes human existence possible - does not allow it to descend to the level of animal existence;

Any territory occupied for the purpose of living on it or using it as a living space is first transformed from chaos into space, by means of a ritual it is given a certain form, thanks to which it becomes real;

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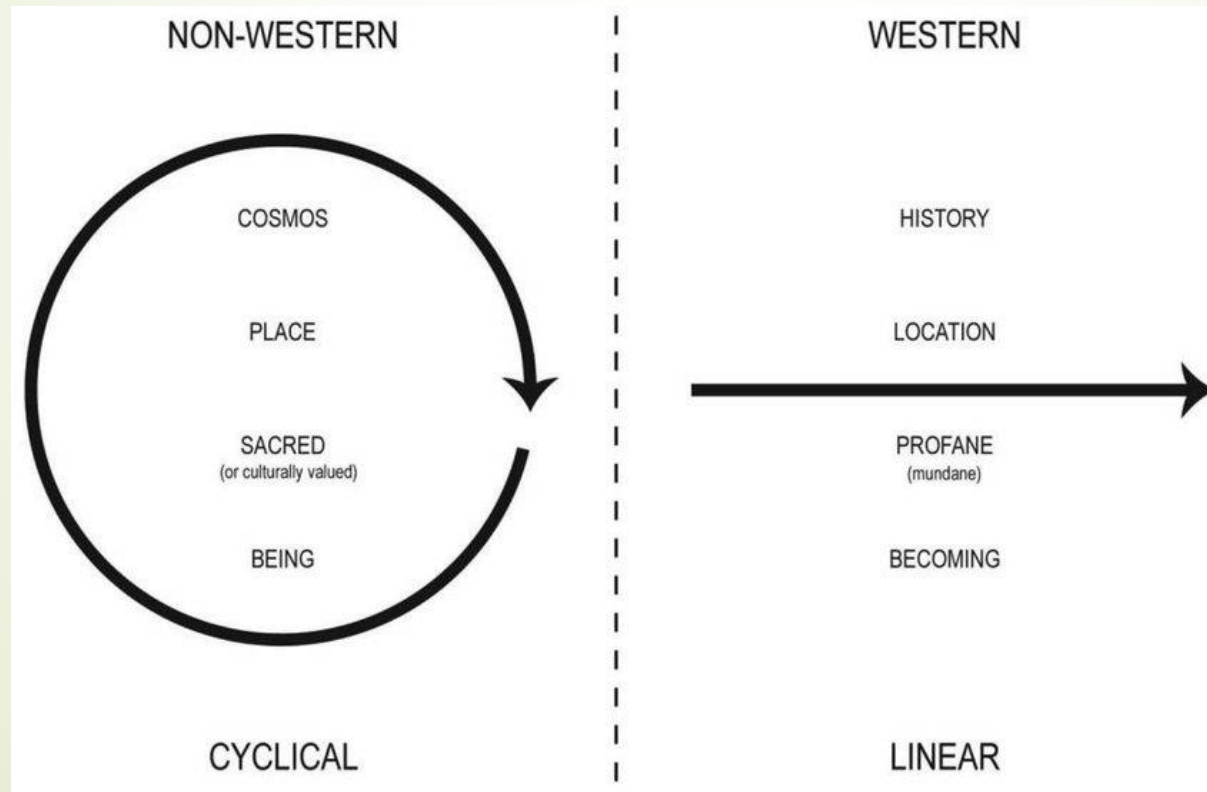


2 concepts of Time: Eternal Return and Progress

**IN IMITATING THE EXEMPLARY ACTS OF A GOD
OR OF A MYTHIC HERO, OR SIMPLY BY
RECOUNTING THEIR ADVENTURES, THE MAN OF
AN ARCHAIC SOCIETY DETACHES HIMSELF FROM
PROFANE TIME AND MAGICALLY RE-ENTERS THE
GREAT TIME, THE SACRED TIME.**

- MIRCEA ELIADE -

Two types of time perception - the time of modern culture and the time of archaic culture. There is historical and mythological time, profane and sacred, and hence two concepts of time - linear and cyclic. Mythical time is a sacred epoch. Its symbols are a circle, a pendulum. Symbols of historical time - a line or a chain. A return to the sacred time is possible through a ritual. The time of the beginning, sanctified by the Divine presence, does not flow, because it does not participate in the historical process. It is eternally present. A holiday, like any ritual, lies outside of real time



Shamanism and the Techniques of Ecstasy/Trance



Eliade points to the healing properties of the myth. Appeal to the beginning of the beginnings, the re-actualization of mythological "eternal" images is absolutely identical to psychoanalysis. In an archaic society, the shaman plays the role of a psychoanalyst, and his methods are close to the technique of modern analytical psychology.



Myth of the Modern Man

- Communism;
 - Nazism;
 - Psychoanalysis;
 - Myth of Elite;
 - Myth of the Damned Artist;
 - Return to the Innocence.
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