

RELIGION FOUNDATION OF CULTURAL IDENTITIES

Trajce Stojanov

University "Goce Delcev", Stip, R. Macedonia, Email: trajce.stojanov@ugd.edu.mk

Abstract

Although the claim of S. Huntington that the world enters in a period of "clash of civilizations", might seem a little bit exaggerated, yet the actual historical moment is not far away from Francis Fukuyama's claim that we are on a threshold of the "clash of cultures". As we can see an urgent need for discussion emerges out of this "clash". Having in mind the importance of this "clash" we need to understand it on a theoretical level in order to solve it in practical. This paper aims to discuss some implications of religion as a key factor in creating cultural symbols and how this symbols are perverted on political level. We will use Clifford Geertz's ideas of "symbolism" and "meaning", to see how this political theology (Carl Schmitt) is reshaping political ideas and cultural identities bringing them to the brink of clash.

Keywords: *culture, religion, identities, political theology, symbols*