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SOCIAL APPROACHES TO RELIGION AND RELIGIOUS IDENTITY

Abstract

Archeological remains and written documents say that familiar human societies have had religion, of course that is not one religion; it appears in different forms. Analyzing religion, which is general and human phenomenon, important characteristic of a human and his life, is approached in different ways. This paper deals with scientific approach to religion and religious identity in modern period and globalization era. The question is where the religions go at the beginning of 21st century, what the meaning of religion and religious identity in today's world is and what gathers modern society.

Key words: religion, religious identities, sociological theories, functions of religion, tradition, religion of mankind, secularization, secularism