

CYCLE DE CONFÉRENCES MAPS 2012

RELIGION: RESSOURCES
ET TRANSNATIONALISATION

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**CREATING MAGIC:
EXTERNALIZATION
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**THE RETURN OF THE LOCAL?
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27 mars 2012

Prof. Jaan Valsiner, Clark University, USA

CREATING MAGIC: EXTERNALIZATION OF SYMBOLIC RESSOURCES

Cultural psychology brings to the MAPS discussion of religions in immigration experiences the focus on how human beings in any societal context organize their lives through semiotic resources. These resources are being internalized (to become personal symbolic action vehicles) and externalized (to lead to construction of sign systems of public reference) at the same time. Religious phenomena—affectionate beliefs, ritual practices, and relating with “generalized others” in the form of deities—are here treated as emerging semiotic resources that are created by persons’ symbolic actions in different settings of perceived existential uncertainty. While externalized the personal symbolic resources become collectively available semiotic resources that can be transported to new locations through missionary education (“out-migration”) or re-construction in new loci of personal existential crises (“in-migration”). The flexibility of the internal-and-external semiosis provides human beings with both personal-cultural uniqueness and arenas for collective belonging. The inconsistency of the creativity of the human mind is the necessary condition for the consistency of human survival as developing human beings.

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3 avril 2012

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TRANSNATIONALISATION DU JUDAÏSME ET ALTÉRITÉS URBAINES

La transnationalisation religieuse accentue la diversité des sociétés contemporaines, et cette diversité s'inscrit au cœur des villes.

Il s'agit de comprendre comment le fait religieux, de plus en plus transnational, marque l'espace urbain et intervient dans les processus d'identification contemporains. En particulier, la revitalisation

du judaïsme et le développement des tendances les plus rigoristes se traduit par l'apparition de nouveaux «quartiers juifs» dans les grandes villes de par le monde, rassemblant lieux de culte, écoles juives, commerces cashers. Ces quartiers naissent en raison de la pratique du judaïsme qui survalorise la proximité dans les usages quotidiens de l'espace.

L'exemple du commerce casher à Paris sera développé pour analyser plusieurs phénomènes : la réaffirmation religieuse à travers des pratiques de consommation ; le rôle de la religion dans la production et reproduction d'une identité commune ; la diversification interne du

judaïsme dans le contexte de transnationalisation religieuse ; et enfin la mise en scène de l'altérité par les façades commerciales.

8 mai 2012

Prof. John Eade, University of Roehampton, UK

THE RETURN OF THE LOCAL? ANGLICIZATION IN BRITAIN, TRANSNATIONALISM AND RELIGION IN THE GLOBAL CITY

During the last thirty years cultural diversity within West European countries has increased significantly through the increasing rapidity of global flows of people, information and images. Yet despite the emergence of extensive transnational and translocal ties and reductions in state welfarism, national borders and identities have remained significant. A complex interweaving of local, national, transnational and global processes has emerged where territorial allegiances and institutions have adapted to this increased complexity rather than drastically weakened or disappeared. This paper will explore the continuing relevance of national identity and institutions through an analysis of ‘Anglicization’ – a process where the state and the ‘Established Church’ organize religious pluralism by encouraging non-Christian groups to develop a denominational character through hierarchical modes of representation and ‘inter-faith’ engagement. The analysis will be pursued in the context of London – both a ‘global city’ and the national capital – and migrants from two other countries (Bangladesh and Poland) and two different religious traditions (Islam and Roman Catholicism).