

**Axiological Dimension
of
(Multi)cultural Education
in
Diverse World**

What is axiological dimension?

- Axiology – philosophical study of values, Greek words „logos“ = word + „axias“ = worth, equivalent x equal ("Equal" and "equivalent" are equivalent, but they're not equal)
- at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries as a study

x
everlasting desire of human beings for values :
what is good, what is right, what is beauty?

Instrumental rationality – good/right/beauty vs.
usefulness (China, economic growth replaced
religion)

What is culture?

sharing of values



Set of knowledge, ideas, traditions and customs that characterize a people, a social class in a time



Everything created or transformed by human beings (material culture), all social norms and interactions, as well as art (non-material culture)



The "vibe" of a community or family. Developed through time and traditions and expressed.



It's everything relate to determiner group of people and the place they live in.



Basically, culture is the way of life of a certain group of people, ranging from how they act, to their language, what they eat and wear. Culture embrasses everything that identifies us as belonging to a certain group.



What is culture?

- From latin noun „cultura“ or verb „colere“ = cultivate („cultura animi“ Plato)
- CULTivate in religious way
- *What does it mean CULTIVATE?*



Cultivate

- Cultivate = take care of something
- Agriculture:
 - „ager“/“hortus“ + „cultura“
 - = take care of the soil/land/field
- to be responsible for, to respond to, to attend to it caringly
- To reclaim, be active →
- In Czech language *zemědělství*



Culture

- system of *doings* acquired by a member of a specific society: language, knowledge, religion, art, law, morals, tradition...
- not natural, one must be learnt to become a member of a society;
- not created by one;
- it is collective and anonymous, been created in long-term;
- kept by caring;
- units the society and makes it different from another culture;
- artificial, made by human beings

Culture

- *Cultura agri, animi* – culture with attribute/genitive
- Human doings since the 16th century – *homo faber* → humans dominate the world through culture (arts) and technology (land, sea, air, space)

Arts

- High culture
- Low culture (popular culture) since 18th
- nowadays mix of these (subculture)

Activity

- What do you think our European / Western society cares about?

Culture

Culture is linked with us = our culture

There are vertical levels:

- Family (home, relatives)
 - Neighbourhood
 - Village / town
 - Province / state / county
 - Country

Culture

There are horizontal levels of ours:

- Nation / ethnicity (now and then)
 - Race
 - Political views
 - Religion
 - Socio-economic class (competitive)
 - Gender
 - Language
 - Age

5 „Miracles“ of (our) Western Culture

Miracle 1

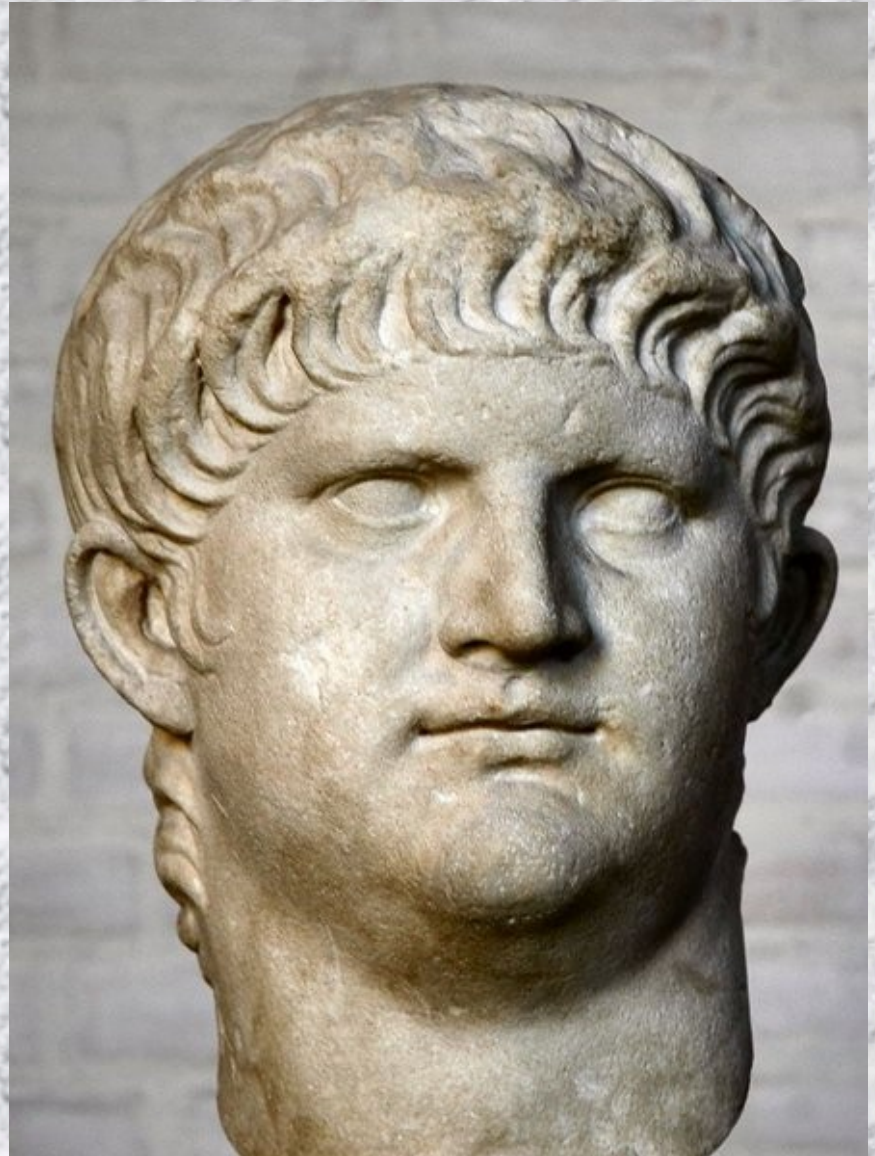
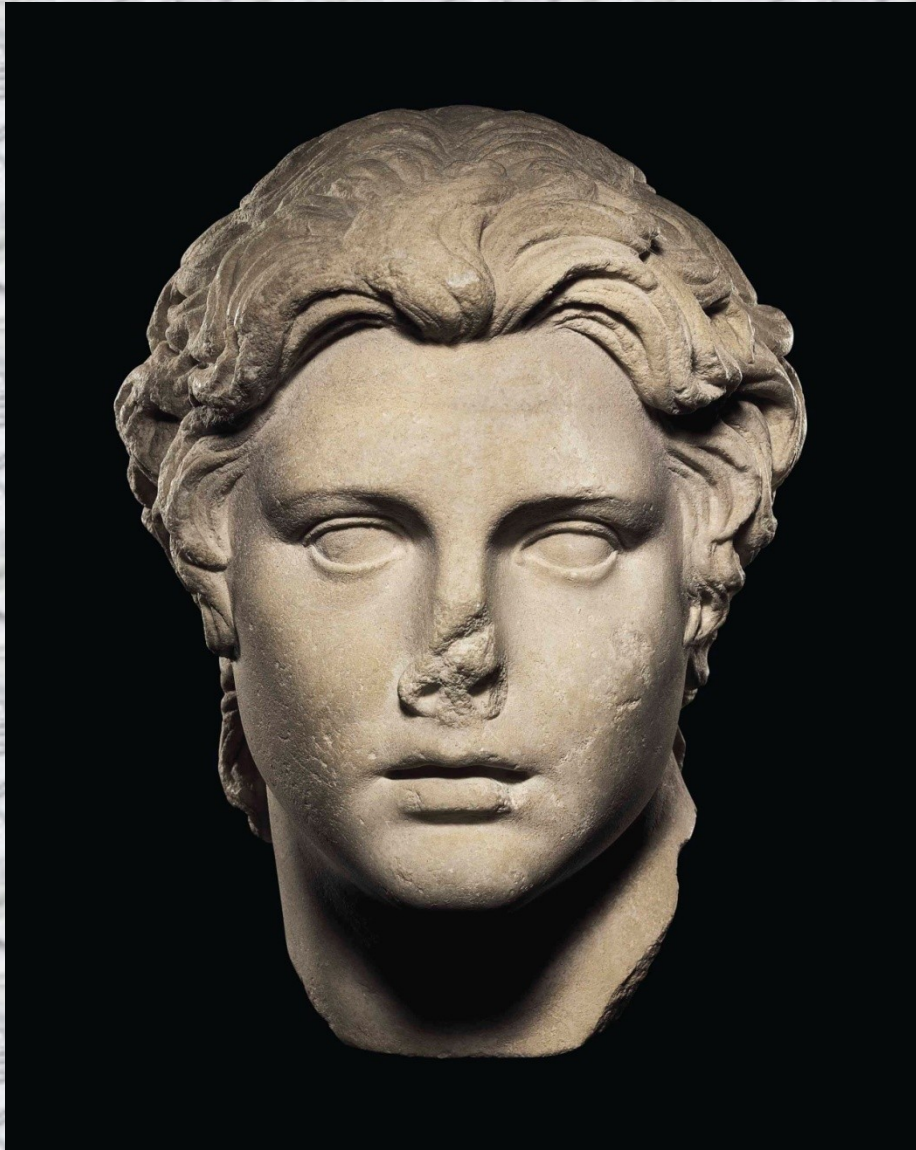
Ancient Greece gifted Western civilization with:

- The invention of Polis
Res publica x omnipotent ruler (in palaces)
 - **Public** space – agora
 - Rise of word and reason (collective laws)
 - Equality before the law (known by all) but not for all
 - Concept of „citizen“
 - Rule of Law which is modified by man (when consensus applied) not by gods
- Science-s (experiments x rituals, divination)
→ Schools (read, write, count) but no will/goal to change the world...
- Caring about soul (cultura animi) x privileges for the elite (physically and mentally) – Plato: „The weak shall no live, let alone have children.“

Miracle 2

Ancient Rome gifted Western civilization with:

- Rights (no magics, myths, but objective human nature)
- Civil Law (root of modern western law)
- Personal Ownership (mine → yours) →
- „The discovery of man“ – individual (NO to „all Jews/Romany“)
 - individual human *persona* – human nature and personal nature
 - Public (gr.) vs. Individual (rom.)...*





Miracle 3

Jewish-Christian gifted Western civilization with:

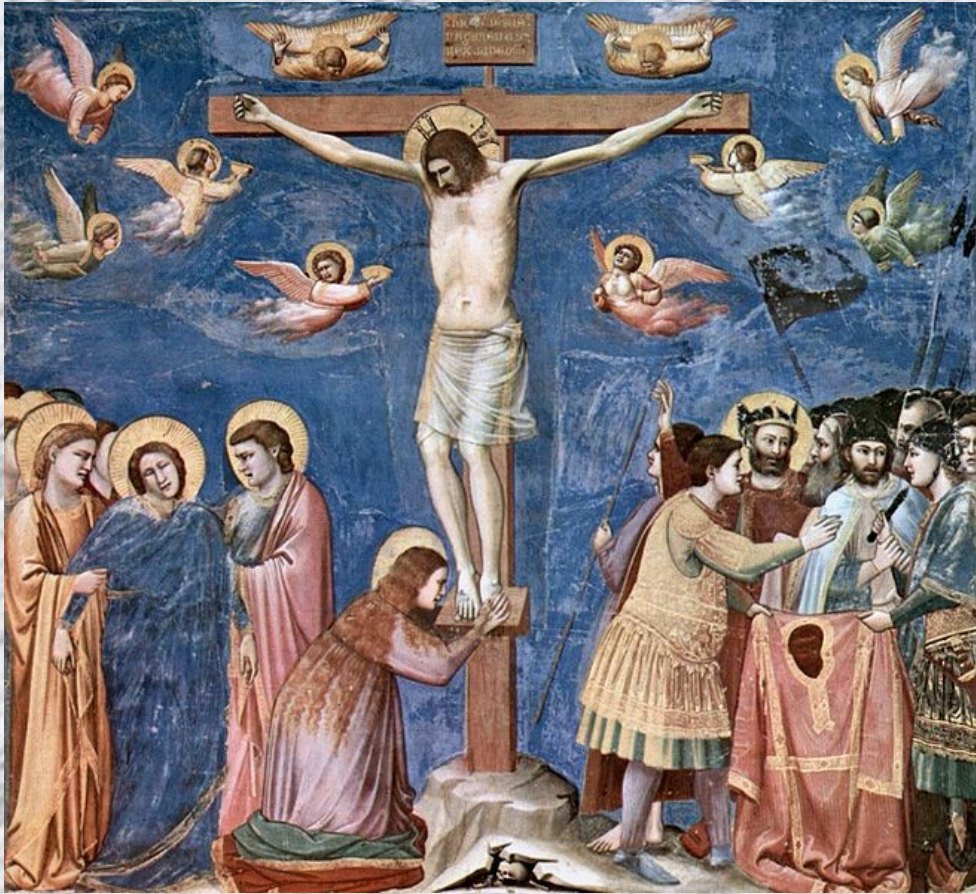
- Refused to consider evil as a normal part of life*^b
- Basis for ethics → justice (done from above) vs. compassion (coming from humans)
- Me ↔ You, responsibility for all/others (x overman; Roma ruler≠state≠god)
- Equality of men before God → before Law (x slavery) → human rights
- Put mercy above justice = injustice **^h
- Seneca and Nero (forgiveness vs *pardon*)
- Underdogs equal to elite (also in spiritual way) → JC came to invite sinners to repent → justice and morality make way to love and forgiveness***ⁱ
- Desacralisation of nature – no more sacred animals or god’s dwelling places
- Gn 1,28: „Subdue the earth and rule over (...) every living creature” – no other civilisations (NE, Asia, LA) did

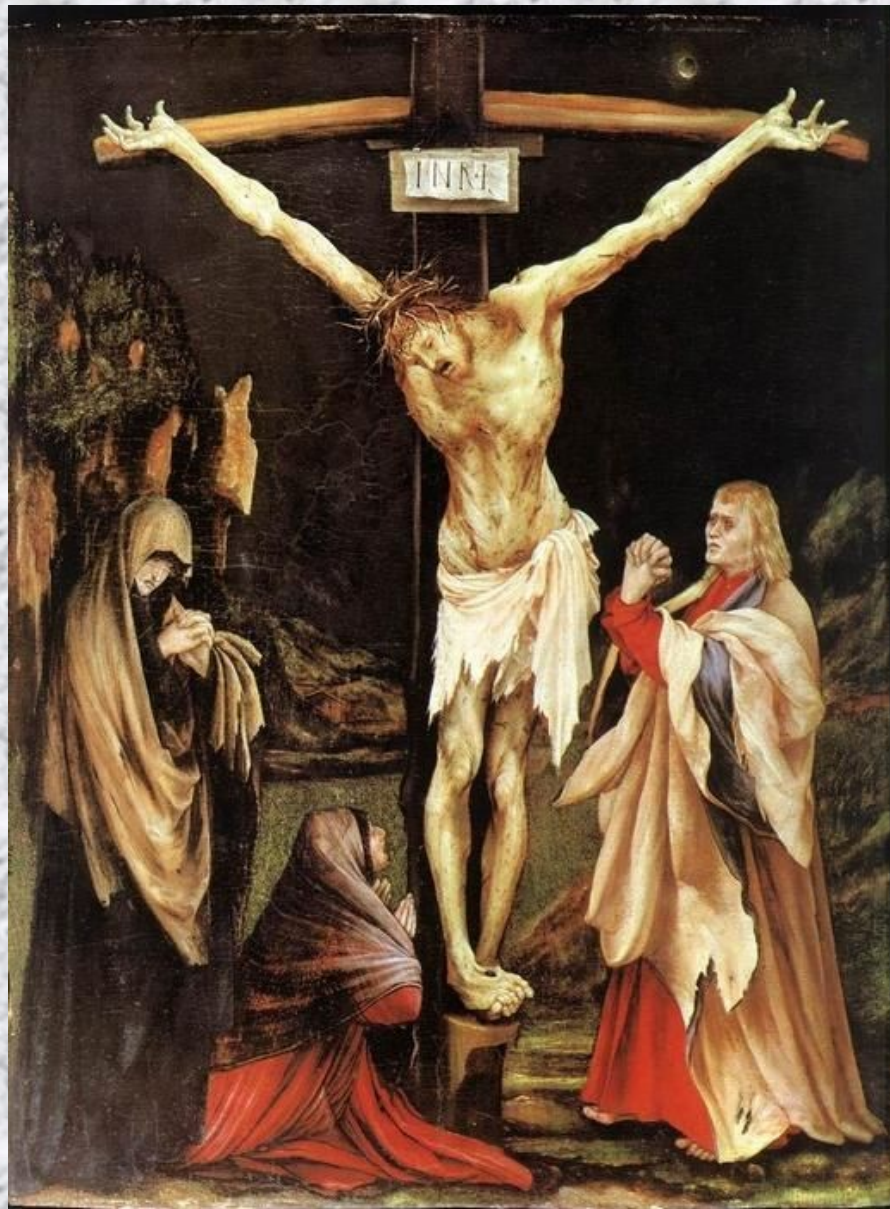
Eschatology:

- Cyclic (Myth of the Eternal Return) vs linear time
- History , presence , future (not to “nothing new under the sun“)
- Ethics could change tomorrow, otherwise what the ethics is for?

Miracle 4 – 11th -13th C.

- Gregorian reform: reorganization of **knowledge**, **values**, **laws** and institutions → progress (x Islam, China, India, Eastern Europe)
- Resurrection of **Roman Law** - the Roman law became more humane which resurrected and reconciled with **biblical ethics**, so ethics became less utopian but more oriented on real life
- consciously established the use of reason in form of Greek science and Roman law
- **University** – education (x Anc. individual)
- One is member of society, Anselm: **every deed is counted** (x monks=deserters from the world → Buddhism x Jesus “According to your faith let it be to you“ and Golden Rule)
- Work – curse and slavery in Ancient w. x changing world in the name of good (roots of economy); Benedict’s „ora et labora“ and „idleness is an enemy of the soul“
- Caring about poors and ill ppl in social institutes and hospitals (x Anc. ONE who cares and doctor)
- Western x Eastern(orthodox) Europe: horizontal – vertical way
Human responsibility, deeds, reason, work → organization of world → Economical and technological progress
X Eastern – God in the centre, and so Islam did-does since Averroes





Miracle 5

The birth of liberal democracy

- Industrial revolution
- de-sacralization of power (except 20th C.)
- rise of pluralism and modernity
- (representative) democracy
- Right to vote
- Independent justice
- Human rights
- Religious freedom
- Freedom of speech
- Diplomacy
- Freedom to think and criticize
- Economy
- agreement respect

Activity

- Pyramid of personal values