

The thesis deals with the topics of visual light and light of knowledge by Plato, and it attempts to interpret Plato's conception of the light of knowledge.

In the first part, the main texts written by Plato on these topics are summarized. In the following part of the thesis, the author proposes her own interpretation of Plato's light of knowledge based on the analogy of visual light and light of knowledge in Plato's Republic. The author then formulates a conjecture concerning the meaning Plato's light of knowledge, and applies it to backtrack connections of the light of knowledge to the visual light. In the thesis, various meanings of Plato's light of knowledge are demonstrated. They are summarized at the end of the second part of the thesis.

Plato's metaphors of light have been of great importance through the history of European intellectual tradition. Therefore, the author discusses meanings of these metaphors in pre-platonic works in the introduction, and outlines the impact of Plato's light of knowledge on the subsequent development of religious and philosophical thinking.