

Abstract

The term ARETE originated in Ancient Greece. It refers to intentional state of mind which leads to correct task-performing.

Prof. Patočka considered ARETE a classification of free life. It is a certain virtue of man who not only focuses on his life but also tries to build a space for his realization by perceiving the true nature of things and acting in harmony with it. In this sense Heraclitus had already spoken about ARETE and similar conclusions were drawn by taoists in China, too.

Education was highly regarded in Ancient Greece. A man could acquire ARETE through education.

However, a teacher could not teach in such a way we understand nowadays. The teacher must be rather a tutor who is leading a student up the right path to the good as Socrates used to teach in Athens. It is not about quantity of knowledge but it is important to know fundamental principles, to understand relationships, to know their background.

Sport was held in honour of the Gods, it was sacred. A winner of the Olympic Games proved his gratitude to Gods by achieving his success. The origin of the Olympic Games was then entirely based on ARETE.

Key words: ARETE, education, sport, harmony, Olympic Games