

Abstract

The thesis deals with the Neolithic religion focusing on those aspects of sacredness that may be classified as archaic thinking in accordance with anthropological literature. One of its main features is the belief in ability to magically influence something that cannot be influenced rationally. It includes symbolic categorizations such as magic, maintaining the “world order” or totemism. The summary of the Neolithic archaeological record concerning the sacred compounds from the territory of the Czech and Slovak Republic is followed by the characteristics of anthropological categories of religion. Examples of archaic thinking among the traditional societies show a great variability of its manifestations. One type of magic use is applied to an elaboration of a theoretical model in the Neolithic period. The questionnaire survey suggests to what extent the behaviour of contemporary man is influenced by the archaic thinking.

Keywords

Central Europe – Neolithic – religion – archaic thinking – quantitative survey