

The Messianic Program for the Salvation of the World: The Specifics of the Soteriological Concept of the Wisła Esoteric Community (1918-1939).

The dissertation is dedicated to the reconstruction and historical-ideological analysis of the messianic program for the salvation of the world within the Wisła esoteric community, taking into account its specifics. The work is divided into four parts. The first part is theoretical and methodological, presenting the history of academic research on Western esotericism, both in Poland and globally, as well as the state of research on the Wisła esoteric community. It also includes the characterization of sources and the methodology of the work: Campbell's cultic milieu perspective, Western esotericism viewed as a research perspective, a specifically understood history of ideas, and the comparative method. It also discusses the research concept and the aim of the work.

The second part, titled "Esotericism in the World and Polish Lands at the End of the 19th and Beginning of the 20th Century," opens with terminological clarifications related to terms essential for my considerations—spiritualism, Spiritism, mediumship, Christian theosophy, modern theosophy, and Rosicrucianism. Then, to place the subject of research in a broader perspective, it references the history and significant soteriological themes of spiritualism, with particular emphasis on Spiritism, modern theosophy, and two Rosicrucian organizations: The Rosicrucian Fellowship and AMORC.

In the third part, titled "Wisła in Cieszyn Silesia – Geographical, Religious, Social, and Political Contexts," the history and specifics of the Wisła esoteric community are reconstructed and situated within a broader geographical, social, and cultural context. The biographies of the most important members and associates of the circle are reconstructed, along with the main sources of their inspiration (including previously unexplored connections between the community and Rosicrucian movements). This part concludes with a historical and ideological reconstruction of Wisła's magazines and publications and introduces a division of the Wisła esoteric community into factions.

In the final, fourth part, titled "Elementary Soteriological Ideas of Wisła Esotericists: From Individual Salvation to the Redemptive Mission of the Nation," the specifics of the soteriological concepts of the Wisła esoteric community and their messianic programs for the salvation of Poland and the world are discussed. The section on individual salvation covers the issue of free will, the understanding of the law of karma, the idea of progressive reincarnation, and the theory of evolution. In the section on collective salvation, the role of the teachers of

humanity and their participation in the process of salvation is presented, including the idea of Jesus Christ, which is central to the Wisła esoteric community, and the interpretation of his figure and teachings. The role of 19th-century Polish messianists as inspirers of the national vision of salvation developed within the Wisła circle is also discussed, with a focus on the messianic revival programs authored by Józef Chobot and Maria C. Przewóska. These considerations conclude with a description of the vision of the Kingdom of God on Earth, whose arrival would crown the soteriological process. Finally, the Brotherhood of National Revival is described as an attempt to implement the revival programs for Poland and the world.

Keywords: soteriology, salvation, Messianism, Wisła, Cieszyn Silesia, Western esotericism, esotericism, theosophy, Spiritism, spiritualism, Rosicrucianism, Christ, messianists.