

A.V. Smirnov

Is a non-Western Philosophy Possible?

Philosophy is understood as an attempt to universalize the world by proposing its coherent description. Universal coherence and connectivity which overcomes the categorical split is expressed by fundamental ontology (in what regards the world) and copula (in what regards our speech). Two independent possibilities to universalize the world by constructing substance-based and process-based world-views are demonstrated, the first being realized within the domain of the Western, and the second – of the Arabic culture.

Keywords: substance, process, copula, being, philosophy

J. A. Barash

Why Remember the Historical Past

The past decades have witnessed the revival of radical skepticism in regard to our capacity to understand something of the “reality” of the historical past. This skepticism has found a most effective form of expression in comparative analogies that are drawn between historical works and works of fiction. Through examination of the variety of ways in which imagination is employed in historical narrative, this study presents critical analysis of the contemporary claims of historical skepticism. However biased and incomplete even the most impartial attempt to recover the vestiges of the past may be, this study advances the argument that its significance is hardly limited to the status of a fictive invention. Beyond a preoccupation with facts, historical interpretation is essentially concerned with the coherence of symbolic structures beyond the horizon of the present which not only serves to illuminate what preceded current times but, in so doing, enables us to identify what is timely in the present and to place its fluctuating horizons into perspective.

Keywords: historical past, historical skepticism, imagination, work of fiction, comparative analysis of historical works and works of fiction, historiography

S.V. Messiahs

Plato’s Concept of Discursive Knowledge

The paper discusses the role of discursive, i.e. dianoetic, knowledge in Plato’s philosophy. The analysis of the simile of the divided line in the *Republic*, Book VI, and of the content of such dialogues as the *Philebus*, the *Parmenides* and the *Sophist* yields important conclusions as to the method of such knowledge, the ontological status of its objects, and the way it differs from the dialectical mode of thinking. Particular attention is paid to the question, whether the discursive kind of knowledge extends to the mathematical disciplines alone or to other sciences as well, and why, according to Plato, the *dianoia* is separated from being by a distance as great as that separating sleep from wakefulness.

Keywords: Plato’s epistemology, two kinds of intelligibles, knowledge discursive and intellectual, hypothetic and deductive method, unhypothetical principle, dialectic, reflection of ideas in discursive thought (logos), idea as a number

A. A. Stolyarov

Towards a New Edition of the Fragments of Posidonius

This is the first part of the forthcoming publication of the first Russian translation of the fragments of Posidonius, the foremost representative of the Middle Stoa, containing the testimonies of his life and doctrine, with a general introduction. The collection of fragments will be arranged to an original pattern differing from the editions by both Edelstein-Kidd and Theiler.

Keywords: ancient philosophy, Stoicism, Middle Stoa, Posidonius

P. S. Gurevich

Arthur Schopenhauer as Philosophical Anthropologist

The paper offers the first ever analysis of Schopenhauer's ideas in philosophical anthropology. No historian of philosophy has ever considered the possibility of finding in this philosopher a consistent and an highly paradoxical doctrine of man. The author claims that Schopenhauer provoked a radical turn in the history of philosophical anthropology.

Keywords: man, human nature, individuality, character, philosophical anthropology, psychological types, destructivity, unconscious

J.-L. Nancy

Psychoanalysis

Freud – So to Speak

In these two brief papers written at different times, the author comes back to examining the problems of truth in psychoanalysis and of its greatest invention. By using his proper method, Nancy demonstrates that psychoanalysis has little to do with healing: it rather unveils an entirely new world, the alterity which is older than the Other and more fundamental than the Law. Freud invented psychoanalysis as a narrative, an endless narrative which, while involving the entire man in the game, gives an account of the man's origin and growth, owing to the initial 'push' which a man receives while entering the world and which continues to operate in him and, in many respects, to prevail over him.

Keywords: psychoanalysis, Freud, alterity, narrative

L. Hejinian

Rejection of Closure

The fragments published here from a book by one of the foremost representatives of the American school of 'Language poetry' describe a text all elements of which interact in such a way as to disprove the idea of it as a closed space. The author proposes the means that can serve the purpose of "opening up" of the poetic text; such means would be dependent on the elements of a given piece of poetry and on the intentions of its author. An open text is open to the world and, above all, to its reader; it invites participation. Given that any experience in the usage of language is an active one, the reader in order to find intertextual support (similar topics, motives, etc.) has to move from inside the text towards the outside, into the world which at any particular moment stands under the vertical and horizontal pressure of information, which is fraught with ambiguity, instability and significance.

Keywords: poetic text, closure, language, rejection

Yu. S. Morkina

The Use of Modelling in the Analysis of Discourse about Scientific Knowledge (Social Epistemology as a Non-Classic One)

In the recent time, the philosophical interpretation of the structure of scientific knowledge and its development has undergone significant changes. As is generally known, in the philosophy of the last quarter of the 20th century one can distinguish, alongside with the historic and the linguistic ones, the sociological turn. This makes necessary an analysis of the latest trends in the non-classic epistemology viewed in their dynamics and their opposition to the earlier style of thinking (the classic epistemology). The paper proposes a speculative model of opposition of the two schools of thought, the classic and non-classic epistemology. It is then examined to what extent this model is apt to describe the actual concepts by social epistemologists taken as empirical individuals (by way of example, the theories by David Bloor, Alvin Goldman and Helen Longino were chosen for the analysis).

Keywords: classic epistemology, social epistemology, science, knowledge, realism, Strong Programme in the sociology of knowledge, normativism, Contextual empiricism

A.V. Prokofyev

Moral Responsibility in Politics in the Light of the Lesser Evil Ethics

The paper deals with the specific means to avoid the negative consequences of applying of the normative logic of lesser evil which pertain to the moral responsibility of an individual. The author attempts to determine what could be a politician's proper emotional response to any morally disagreeable actions undertaken in order to prevent a catastrophic damage. He elaborates a theoretical and pragmatic justification of such phenomena as "moral reminder" and "dirty hands" and examines the possibility to institutionalize them. The basis of the latter project is the development of the Israeli judicial practice concerning the use of moderate physical pressure during the interrogation of persons suspected of involvement in hostile terrorist activities.

Keywords: political ethics, moral responsibility, logic of lesser evil, moral reminder, dirty hands

R.G. Apressyan

The Moral Change in Achilles: towards an Incipient Genealogy of Morality

Abstract: The moral change in Achilles is analyzed in regard to his relations with his fellow-general Agamemnon, the Achaean king of kings and with his rivals, the Trojan military leader Hector, and Priam, the King of Troy; it is further considered as a transition from discord to reconciliation and from hatred to magnanimous indulgence. The analysis of plot peripeties in the Homeric epic, based on the method of conceptual explication of the rudimentary normative content, allows to trace the main tendencies of the formation and the development of morality at the early stages of its history.

Keywords: archaic morality, Homeric ethos, reciprocity, hostility and reconciliation, evil for evil, the Golden Rule

S. N. Korsakov

The Institute of Philosophy during the War (1941–1945)

The paper offers the first systematic account of the activities of the Institute of Philosophy of the Russian Academy of Sciences during the War. Many new facts are examined with regard to the scholars of the Institute who went to the front and were killed in action, the evacuation of Institute and its division into the Moscow and the Alma-Ata branches, the work and living conditions of the scholars in war-time. Particular attention is given the history of preparation of the third volume of the *History of Philosophy* and of the textbook of logic for secondary schools.

Keywords: *Institute of Philosophy, Great Patriotic war, Moscow, Alma-Ata, history of philosophy*

A.E. Smulyansky

The *Parmenides*, a Text Both Timely and Untimely

It is taken for granted that every edition of an eminent and well-known author must be met with reviews in proportion to the reverence inspired by the ‘event’ such an edition represents. In the case of Heidegger’s work, however, this ritual comes under suspicion because it is exactly Heidegger who casts doubt on most of those conciliatory ways in which the philosophical texts are publicly dealt with. The present paper seeks to demonstrate that not only the *Parmenides* as such, but the very tradition of interpreting Heidegger’s reflections as well, together make part of a broader and, at the same time, a more specific approach which, starting from Heidegger himself, has to cope with the highly problematic genesis of modern public attitude towards truth.

Keywords: *Heidegger, historicity, publicity*