

THE CONCEPT OF INTEGRAL STUDY OF MAN

The integral study of man arose from the urgent need to integrate the information about man provided by different sciences, from the need for scientific self-knowledge and for an understanding of man and his nature, culture and society as a whole. Being an allround study of man and his activity, it is not restricted to the natural history of man, but embraces also the environment of man, his ecology, ethology, genetics, psychology, psychotronic research, human engineering etc.

From the point of view of the integral study of man the primary task is not only to determine and foresee how the human organism develops in certain conditions, how it changes and adapts itself, and thus to draw up and create the optimal demands on human biology; the anthropologist must study at the same time the natural, cultural and social conditions in which modern man lives. The anthropological study of man covers these three basic aspects: the study of nature, of culture and of society. This study does not deal only with contemporary populations and research into living man, of *Homo sapiens sapiens*; it is also concerned with the study of human existence as it was in the past — in historical as in prehistorical times as well as with his prognostic trends in contemporary mankind.

In the first period, anthropology was separated from medical and natural sciences as an independent scientific discipline. Today it is dealing with man as an individual and also as a species, with his physical characters his racial and genetic characteristics and with his further development and place in nature and in the universe. This concept of the natural study of man can be specified as anthropology of the species *Homo sapiens*.

On the other hand there appear in anthropology new tendencies and methods studying and regarding man as a speaking and cultured animal or social being that means no longer as a mere working animal. Some cultural and social anthropologists for example characterise man in the first place as a moral being and see his main specific character in his behaviour. This is nothing new; as already at the beginning of this century Franz Boas characterised anthropology as the science of man and his work, of man as a mainly social and moral being. Actually there exist the anthropological-philosophical concept of human existence which has its foundations in Aristotle's definition of man as a social being — *zoon politicon* — and whose development has been characterised by Friedrich Engels as the transition of anthropology from the mere anthropology and physiology of man and his races to the history of mankind.

We have witnessed some efforts to unite both of these streams in anthropology and to achieve Goethe's „*Einheit von Somma und Psyche*“, which is characteristic for man and the whole of nature. As a result, man — *Homo sapiens* — is not classified in anthropology only as an animal making and using tools but in a much wider sense, as a social and cultural being, a social and moral creature *sui generis*. And almost simultaneously anthropology has ceased to be just an ancillary marginal science as it often was before and is becoming more and more one of the sciences essential for the full understanding of man.

In Czechoslovakia these general anthropological aspects of human life, and interpersonal relations generally, are dealt with by the founder of Czech anthropology, Jan Evangelista Purkyně, 125 years ago.

Jan Ev. Purkyně was the first to outline the teaching of anthropology as an introductory science and thus to place it on a broader scientific basis. He introduced anthropology as a general science of man and conceived it as an introduction to the study of science in general (*The concept of physiology...*, Prague 1851).

Today conceives anthropology, from the Purkyně's point of view, set of sciences of man including, according to its content, not only physical, cultural and social anthropology, but also ethnographic, psychological, pedagogical

and sociological studies. And so, for good reasons, we must declare Purkyně as the predecessor of the contemporary integral anthropology not only in this country, but also internationally for in his project of the scientific organization of the Academy of Sciences anthropology is classed not only with the natural sciences, but also with the social sciences as the seventh, final department (*National and World Academy of Sciences, Prague 1862*).

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In contemporary anthropology we can follow the beginning of certain integral trends based on the principle of polarity and sociability of man and on the need for integrated knowledge of human personality as a whole.

The specialization in anthropology gives us the chance of deeper knowledge of individual biological and social aspects. It does not enable us to make a complex study of human relations of the influences of natural and social selection in man, the laws of human behaviour in the history of mankind etc. What we lack in this situation is a complex science of man based on the synthesis and integration of all the knowledge of man from all fields of natural and social sciences.

THE CONCEPT OF INTEGRAL ANTHROPOLOGY

The urge to integrate anthropology arises from the simple fact that there are many anthropologies: physical anthropology, cultural anthropology, social anthropology, ethnographical studies, psychological anthropology, pedagogical anthropology, applied anthropology, philosophical anthropology — and inside each of these trends it is possible to distinguish nuances, usually of sharp polarity.

The very term integral anthropology is quite new and original and has not been used until now in the literature. But when we started with this concept at the beginning of our paper we were not aiming at originality, but anxious to contribute to the real integration of the sciences of man. For integral anthropology we can see two very important tasks — at first a theoretical one: to state and delimitate interdisciplinary problems in the social sciences, that means first of all the problems of social psychology, cultural and social anthropology as well as pedagogical, behavioral, psychotronic, human engineering's problems. Then there is a practical task: to find methods and ways of mutual cooperation and take part in the solution of complex questions concerning human relations, human behaviour and activity in different cultural and social conditions and environments — this is what is meant by integral anthropology in the widest sense of the word.

In Czechoslovakia today, integral anthropology is represented by a new section established by a Sociological Society in the Czechoslovak Academy of Science from 1966. First result of its work have appeared in the anthology *Integral Anthropology Today* (Prague 1968), in the *Studia Anthropologiae* (Charles University Press, Prague, 1971) and in the anthology *Actual Problems of the Integral Study of Man* (Sociological Society, Prague, 1974).

From this point of view is very important the establishment of new specializations in anthropology, for example the psychotronic anthropology: The concept of psychotronic anthropology, as well as the integral anthropology was expressed a hundred twenty five years ago by Jan Evangelista Purkyně, one of the authors of the nuclear theory in biology, who established anthropology as a general science of man, introductory to the whole study of mankind and founded the psychotronic research in medical anthropology and physiology. Today psychotronic and integral anthropology is represented by a new department established by a Scientific-Technical Society in 1973.

Psychotronic anthropology as well as biological, cultural and social anthropology as an integral part of inter-

