

voluntary sacrifice on the cross and the sacrifice of the Serbian troops made on the battlefield of Kossovo. The battle of Kossovo is central to the folk epic, and the author points out that the Serbs take pride in this national disaster as no other people in the history of mankind do. "As Jesus Christ is glorified through his crucifixion, so were the Serbs glorified in their calamitous defeat on Kossove Poyle" (page 133). This Serbian spirit of sacrifice is present throughout the book as the Serbs sacrifice themselves here in the physical world for greater spiritual values and rewards in their afterlife.

Dr. Kotur concludes by drawing a distinction between the "divine man" as portrayed by the folk poet, and the modern materialistic man. The "homo divinus" is the man of culture. He seeks higher spiritual things. He sees this present life as a wonderful but fleeting arena in which he must exemplify those higher spiritual values of sacrifice and love for the Absolute, for God. The "homo faber," or man of civilization, seeks instead those material and technological entrapments by which he hopes to creat his own divinity—himself. Homo divinus is qualitative, organic, ontological, and complete; homo faber is anti-ontological, depersonalizing, atheistic, and exhausted from his "uninterrupted struggle with God." The Serbs have pride because, in spite of their sacrifice at the battle of Kossovo, they have maintained their position as men of culture—homo divinus. Dr. Kotur closes: "Holy is the path of the hero of the Serbian folk epic; holy is the path of homo divinus. The path of homo divinus is the path of the hero in the Serbian folk epic."

This book is recommended for students interested in history, cross-cultural anthropology, philosophy, literature, and theology. The author's religious conservatism may be frustrating for some, but others will find his courageous orthodoxy refreshing. As a Serbian writer writing about Serbian writers, Kotur is especially close to his material, and the benefit of this is reaped by the reader who keeps this fact in mind. Overall, this is a book well worth reading.

Eastern Illinois University

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