

evola revolt against the modern world

Evola Revolt Against the Modern World

The concept of a revolt against the modern world, particularly through the lens of Julius Evola's philosophy, has garnered significant attention among scholars, spiritual seekers, and those disillusioned with contemporary societal norms. Evola, an Italian philosopher and esoteric thinker, championed a radical critique of modernity, advocating for a return to traditional values, spiritual awakening, and the preservation of transcendent principles. His ideas continue to influence various ideological movements and offer a provocative counterpoint to the pervasive materialism and egalitarianism of the modern age. In this article, we explore the core tenets of Evola's revolt against the modern world, its historical context, philosophical foundations, and contemporary relevance.

Understanding Julius Evola and His Philosophy

Who Was Julius Evola?

Julius Evola (1898–1974) was an Italian philosopher, esotericist, and political thinker. His work spans multiple disciplines, including metaphysics, spirituality, political theory, and traditionalism. Evola's worldview was shaped by a profound critique of modern civilization, which he saw as spiritually degraded and disconnected from higher transcendent realities. His writings advocate for a spiritual revolution rooted in ancient wisdom and aristocratic virtues.

The Core Principles of Evola's Thought

- Tradition as a Living Reality: Evola emphasized the importance of spiritual and cultural traditions as vehicles for higher knowledge.
- Rejection of Modern Materialism: He critiqued the reduction of human life to material pursuits and technological progress.
- Hierarchy and Spiritual Authority: Evola believed in natural hierarchies rooted in spiritual qualities rather than egalitarian ideals.
- Universal and Eternal Values: His philosophy champions eternal principles that transcend historical and cultural differences.
- Inner Revolution: Evola promoted personal spiritual development as a means to oppose societal decadence.

The Historical Context of Evola's Revolt

Modernity and Its Discontents

The 20th century witnessed unprecedented social, political, and technological upheavals. The rise of democracy, capitalism, and scientific rationalism challenged traditional structures and hierarchies. Evola perceived modernity as a decline from a golden age of spiritual aristocracy, leading to what he termed "degeneration" of the human spirit.

Evola and Fascism

While controversial, Evola's association with fascist regimes, particularly in Italy, reflects his desire to find a political expression for his spiritual ideals. He criticized the materialist aspects of fascism but also promoted a hierarchical, elitist vision aligning with his traditionalist views.

Philosophical Foundations of the Revolt

The Doctrine of the Three Ages

Evola adapted the classical idea of the three ages—Golden, Silver, and Iron—to describe the cyclical decline of civilizations. He believed modern society was entrenched in the Iron Age, characterized by decadence, chaos, and spiritual loss.

Spiritual Realism and the Ascetic Path

Evola's philosophy advocates for an inner ascent—an ascetic discipline that refines the soul and reconnects with transcendent truths. This spiritual realism involves:

- Detachment from worldly illusions
- Discipline and self-mastery
- Recognition of spiritual hierarchies

Traditionalism and Universal Principles

He posited that true tradition embodies perennial wisdom shared across cultures, emphasizing:

- Sacred kingship
- Heroic virtues
- Initiatic knowledge

The Revolt Against Modernity: Key Aspects of Evola's Vision

Critique of Modern Society

Evola identified several features of modernity that he believed contributed to spiritual decline:

- Democratization and Egalitarianism: Undermining natural hierarchies.
- Materialism and Consumerism: Reducing human life to possessions.
- Technological Dominance: Creating a mechanized, soulless society.
- Loss of Traditional Values: Diminishing spiritual and cultural continuity.

Call for a Spiritual Rebellion

Evola's revolt is not merely political but deeply spiritual. He urged individuals and elites to:

- Reclaim their spiritual essence
- Cultivate virtues rooted in transcendent principles
- Lead by example, embodying aristocratic virtues
- Reject superficial modern values

Methods of Resistance

- Inner discipline and meditation
- Study of esoteric and traditional teachings
- Reinforcement of cultural identity
- Support for political movements aligned with traditional values

Contemporary Relevance of Evola's Revolt

Modern Discontent and Search for Meaning

In an era marked by rapid technological change, cultural fragmentation, and economic instability, many seek alternative philosophies that offer stability and purpose. Evola's critique resonates with those yearning for spiritual depth amid chaos.

Influence on Modern Movements

While controversial, Evola's ideas influence various currents, including:

- Traditionalist and esoteric circles
- Right-wing and nationalist groups
- Countercultural and spiritual movements

Criticism and Ethical Concerns

Evola's association with fascist ideologies and his elitist worldview raise ethical concerns. Critics argue that his emphasis on hierarchy and spiritual elitism can foster exclusion and intolerance. Nonetheless, his call for a spiritual awakening remains a compelling critique of modern superficiality.

Practical Steps Toward a Personal Revolt

Embracing Traditional Virtues

- Cultivate discipline, courage, and honor
- Respect cultural and spiritual traditions
- Engage in meditative and contemplative practices

Reconnecting with Transcendent Values

- Study esoteric and philosophical texts
- Participate in rituals or initiations if possible
- Seek a community of like-minded individuals

Living Authentically and Consciously

- Reject mindless consumerism
- Prioritize spiritual growth over material gain
- Lead by example in personal and social spheres

Conclusion: The Enduring Spirit of Evola's Revolt

Evola's revolt against the modern world remains a provocative and influential philosophical stance. It challenges individuals to look beyond superficial progress and reconnect with timeless spiritual truths. While his political associations and elitist perspectives invite controversy, his core message about spiritual awakening, the importance of tradition, and the rejection of materialist decadence continue to inspire those seeking a deeper meaning in turbulent times. Ultimately, Evola's philosophy invites us to consider whether a personal and cultural renaissance rooted in transcendent principles can offer a way forward in an increasingly fragmented world.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the core philosophy behind the Evola revolt against the modern world?

The core philosophy centers on rejecting modern materialism, egalitarianism, and liberal democracy in favor of traditional, spiritual, and hierarchical values rooted in ancient and esoteric wisdom.

How does Evola's view of tradition influence his critique of modern society?

Evola advocates for a return to perennial, transcendent traditions that embody spiritual and moral authority, criticizing modern society for losing its connection to these timeless principles.

In what ways does Evola oppose modern technological advancement?

Evola views technological progress as a symptom of spiritual decline, believing it fosters materialism and superficiality, ultimately distancing humanity from higher spiritual realities.

What role does elitism play in Evola's revolt against the modern world?

Evola emphasizes the importance of spiritual and intellectual elitism, advocating for a ruling class of spiritually awakened individuals who can guide society away from degeneracy.

How does Evola interpret the decline of Western civilization?

He sees it as a result of the abandonment of traditional spiritual values, leading to decadence, moral decay, and the loss of hierarchical order.

What are Evola's views on democracy and egalitarianism?

Evola criticizes democracy and egalitarianism as manifestations of modern decadence that undermine natural hierarchies and spiritual authority.

How does Evola's concept of 'spiritual revolution' differ from political revolutions?

Evola's spiritual revolution aims at inner awakening and transcending material limitations, unlike political revolutions which seek societal or governmental change.

What influence has Evola's revolt against the modern world had on contemporary right-wing movements?

Evola's ideas have influenced various esoteric, traditionalist, and far-right circles, inspiring a worldview that seeks to restore hierarchical spiritual values and oppose modern liberalism.

Is Evola's revolt against the modern world associated with any particular spiritual or religious traditions?

While not aligned with any specific religion, Evola draws inspiration from Hinduism, Buddhism, and Western esoteric traditions, emphasizing a universal spiritual hierarchy.

What are some criticisms of Evola's revolt against the modern world?

Critics argue that Evola's ideas promote elitism, spiritual authoritarianism, and have been associated with extremist ideologies, raising concerns about their applicability and ethical implications.

Additional Resources

Evola Revolt Against the Modern World: A Deep Dive into a Philosophical and Cultural Resistance

The phrase "Evola revolt against the modern world" encapsulates a complex and multifaceted movement inspired by Julius Evola, an influential Italian philosopher and esoteric thinker of the 20th century. Evola's critique of modernity, grounded in traditionalism, spirituality, and metaphysics, has inspired a diverse array of thinkers, activists, and cultural critics who challenge contemporary values and societal structures. This article aims to explore the core ideas behind Evola's revolt against the modern world, examining its philosophical foundations, historical context, and ongoing influence.

The Philosophical Foundations of Evola's Thought

Julius Evola: A Brief Biography

Julius Evola (1898–1974) was an Italian philosopher, esotericist, and political thinker whose work traversed themes of spirituality, tradition, and metaphysics. His thought was influenced by a wide range of sources, including Eastern philosophies, Western esotericism, and classical philosophy. Evola sought to develop a "metaphysics of race" and a critique of modern liberal democracy, capitalism, and materialism, which he saw as signs of spiritual decline.

Traditionalism and the Rejection of Modernity

At the heart of Evola's philosophy lies a staunch traditionalism—an insistence on the primacy of transcendent, eternal truths over transient modern values. He believed that modern civilization was characterized by a loss of spiritual authority and a disconnection from higher principles.

Evola argued that:

- Modern society is rooted in materialism and rationalism, which diminish spiritual awareness.
- The decline of hierarchical and spiritual values leads to societal chaos and moral relativism.
- Humanity must reconnect with its higher, transcendent principles to restore order and purpose.

Key Concepts in Evola's Philosophy

- Radical Traditionalism: The idea that true tradition is rooted in perennial truths that transcend time and culture, serving as a foundation for authentic spiritual and social life.
- The Revolt of the Spirit: A call for individuals to transcend modern mundane concerns and reconnect with spiritual realities.
- Vertical Hierarchies: Emphasis on a hierarchical worldview where spiritual authority and wisdom are paramount, opposing egalitarianism.
- Spiritual Warrior: The archetype of the individual who embodies discipline, detachment, and spiritual strength in opposition to modern decadence.

Evola's Critique of Modern Society

Modernity as a Decadent Disease

Evola viewed modern society as a decadent civilization, characterized by:

- Materialism: An obsession with economic growth, consumerism, and technological progress at the expense of spiritual development.
- Egalitarianism: The erosion of hierarchical structures and natural distinctions, leading to societal leveling and loss of authority.
- Secularism: The marginalization of spirituality and religion, replaced by rationalist and scientific paradigms.
- Moral Relativism: The rejection of universal moral values, resulting in moral confusion and societal fragmentation.

He believed that these tendencies fostered a sense of spiritual emptiness and cultural decay, ultimately threatening the survival of higher civilizations.

The Crisis of Modern Values

Evola argued that modern values—liberty, equality, fraternity—while seemingly progressive, are fundamentally rooted in nihilism and weaken the social fabric. He contended that:

- Liberty without spiritual discipline leads to chaos.
- Equality erodes natural hierarchies that sustain social order.
- Fraternity is undermined when rooted in superficial individualism rather than shared spiritual bonds.

This critique aligns with his call for a return to hierarchical, spiritual values rooted in tradition.

The Role of Technology and Rationalism

Evola was skeptical about technological progress, viewing it as a symbol of modern materialism and disconnection from the spiritual. He warned that:

- Technology can serve as a tool for domination and superficial comfort, rather than genuine human development.
- Rationalism, while valuable, risks reducing human existence to cold logic, neglecting the mystical and intuitive dimensions of life.

He emphasized that genuine progress must involve spiritual awakening, not merely technological advancement.

The Historical Context and Evola's Political Engagement

Evola's Political Views

Evola's political thought is complex and controversial. He was associated with various traditionalist and right-wing movements and expressed admiration for certain authoritarian regimes, though he distanced himself from fascism and Nazism at times.

Key points include:

- Advocacy for a hierarchical, spiritual aristocracy.
- Criticism of liberal democracy and Marxism.
- Support for a spiritual revolution rather than a political one.

His work influenced various post-war movements that sought to revive traditional values amid the chaos of modernity.

The Revolt as a Cultural and Spiritual Movement

Evola's revolt was not merely political but deeply cultural and spiritual. It aimed to:

- Reawaken a sense of higher purpose.
- Reinforce the importance of spiritual discipline.
- Reject superficial materialism and the erosion of hierarchical structures.

His writings serve as a blueprint for individuals seeking to resist the dehumanizing effects of modern civilization and reconnect with transcendent truths.

The Influence and Legacy of Evola's Revolt

Contemporary Interpretations

Evola's ideas continue to resonate in various circles, including:

- Traditionalist circles: Advocating for the preservation of spiritual and cultural heritage.
- Right-wing and nationalist movements: Some adopt Evola's critique of modern liberalism and egalitarianism.
- Esoteric and spiritual communities: Embracing his emphasis on inner development and metaphysical truths.

However, his association with controversial political stances and movements has also led to criticism and debates about the ethical implications of his thought.

Criticisms and Controversies

Evola's work has been scrutinized for:

- Alleged affinities with fascist and extremist ideologies.
- Promoting elitism and hierarchical social orders that conflict with democratic principles.
- Potentially fostering exclusionary or supremacist views based on race or spiritual hierarchy.

Many scholars emphasize the importance of critically engaging with his ideas, distinguishing their philosophical and spiritual insights from political misuse.

The Enduring Relevance of Evola's Revolt

Despite controversies, Evola's critique of modernity remains relevant in discussions about:

- The spiritual crisis of contemporary civilization.
- The decline of cultural and moral values.
- The search for authentic meaning beyond material success.

His emphasis on inner discipline, spiritual awakening, and the importance of tradition continues to inspire those disillusioned by modern society's superficiality.

Conclusion: The Continuing Challenge of Evola's Revolt

Evola's revolt against the modern world is a profound philosophical challenge to the assumptions of contemporary civilization. Rooted in traditionalism, metaphysics, and spiritual discipline, it calls for a radical reevaluation of values, hierarchies, and the purpose of human life. While controversial, his ideas provoke essential questions about the direction of modernity and the possibility of restoring higher principles to individual and societal life.

Whether one agrees or disagrees with Evola's positions, his critique remains a significant voice in the ongoing conversation about the health, morality, and future of the modern world. As society continues to grapple with technological upheaval, moral relativism, and cultural dislocation, the question persists: Can a revival of spiritual and traditional values provide a meaningful alternative to the chaos of modernity? Evola's revolt challenges us to seek answers beyond the superficial and to explore the depths of human transcendence in a rapidly changing world.

Evola Revolt Against The Modern World

evola revolt against the modern world: Revolt Against the Modern World Julius Evola, 2018-07-13 With unflinching gaze and uncompromising intensity Julius Evola analyzes the spiritual and cultural malaise at the heart of Western civilization and all that passes for progress in the modern world. As a gadfly, Evola spares no one and nothing in his survey of what we have lost and where we are headed. At turns prophetic and provocative, *Revolt against the Modern World* outlines a profound metaphysics of history and demonstrates how and why we have lost contact with the transcendent dimension of being. The revolt advocated by Evola does not resemble the familiar protests of either liberals or conservatives. His criticisms are not limited to exposing the mindless nature of consumerism, the march of progress, the rise of technocracy, or the dominance of unalloyed individualism, although these and other subjects come under his scrutiny. Rather, he attempts to trace in space and time the remote causes and processes that have exercised corrosive influence on what he considers to be the higher values, ideals, beliefs, and codes of conduct--the world of Tradition--that are at the foundation of Western civilization and described in the myths and sacred literature of the Indo-Europeans. Agreeing with the Hindu philosophers that history is the movement of huge cycles and that we are now in the Kali Yuga, the age of dissolution and decadence, Evola finds revolt to be the only logical response for those who oppose the materialism and ritualized meaninglessness of life in the twentieth century. Through a sweeping study of the structures, myths, beliefs, and spiritual traditions of the major Western civilizations, the author compares the characteristics of the modern world with those of traditional societies. The domains explored include politics, law, the rise and fall of empires, the history of the Church, the doctrine of the two natures, life and death, social institutions and the caste system, the limits of racial theories, capitalism and communism, relations between the sexes, and the meaning of warriorhood. At every turn Evola challenges the reader's most cherished assumptions about fundamental aspects of modern life. A controversial scholar, philosopher, and social thinker, JULIUS EVOLA (1898-1974) has only recently become known to more than a handful of English-speaking readers. An authority on the world's esoteric traditions, Evola wrote extensively on ancient civilizations and the world of Tradition in both East and West. Other books by Evola published by Inner Traditions include *Eros and the Mysteries of Love*, *The Yoga of Power*, *The Hermetic Tradition*, and *The Doctrine of Awakening*.

evola revolt against the modern world: Summary of Julius Evola's Revolt Against the Modern World Everest Media,, 2022-05-02T22:59:00Z Please note: This is a companion version & not the original book. Sample Book Insights: #1 The fundamental doctrine of the two natures is that

there is a physical order of things and a metaphysical one. There is a mortal nature and an immortal one. There is a superior realm of being and an inferior realm of becoming. #2 The world of being and the world of becoming affect things, demons, and men. Every hypostatic representation of these two regions, whether expressed in astral, mythological, theological, or religious terms, reminded traditional man of the existence of the two states. #3 The traditional world believed that spirituality was something beyond life and death. It believed that mere physical existence is meaningless unless it approximates the higher world or that which is more than life. #4 Every traditional civilization has a class of people who, by virtue of their innate or acquired superiority over the human condition, embody within the temporal order the living and efficacious presence of a power that comes from above.

evola revolt against the modern world: Return to Evola Troy Southgate, 2020

evola revolt against the modern world: Aristocratic Voices Richard Avramenko, Ethan Alexander-Davey, 2024-12-15 In the 21st century, political debates appear to center on fundamental conflicts between "the people" and "elites." Most of these discussions emphasize strategies to protect and empower the oppressed masses against a predatory ruling class. Much of classical political thought, however, was written from an aristocratic point of view: that is, it ascribed paramount importance to the question of elite formation. Assuming inequality as a permanent feature of human associations, what virtues would elites need to have, what institutions and traditions would cultivate the best qualities in members of the ruling class, and curb their extravagances. *Aristocratic Voices: Forgotten Arguments about Virtue, Authority, and Inequality* consists of essays by political theorists who explore these questions in the works of aristocratic thinkers, both ancient and modern. The volume includes analyses of aristocratic virtues, interpretations of aristocratic assemblies and constitutions, both historic and contemporary, as well as critiques of liberal virtues and institutions. Essays on Plutarch, Nicholas of Cusa, Marsilius of Padua, Sir Thomas Elyot, John Henry Newman, Wilhelm Heinrich Riehl, Henry Adams, Friedrich Nietzsche, Irving Babbitt, Oswald Spengler, Julius Evola, and Robert Nisbet explore ways of preserving and adapting the valuable aspects of the aristocratic ethos to the needs of modern societies.

evola revolt against the modern world: Black Sun Nicholas Goodrick-Clarke, 2003-07 The *Unpredictable Constitution* brings together a distinguished group of U.S. Supreme Court Justices and U.S. Court of Appeals Judges, who are some of our most prominent legal scholars, to discuss an array of topics on civil liberties. In thoughtful and incisive essays, the authors draw on decades of experience to examine such wide-ranging issues as how legal error should be handled, the death penalty, reasonable doubt, racism in American and South African courts, women and the constitution, and government benefits. Contributors: Richard S. Arnold, Martha Craig Daughtry, Harry T. Edwards, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Betty B. Fletcher, A. Leon Higginbotham, Jr., Lord Irvine of Lairg, Jon O. Newman, Sandra Day O'Connor, Richard A. Posner, Stephen Reinhardt, and Patricia M. Wald.

evola revolt against the modern world: Ecumenical Perspectives Five Hundred Years After Luther's Reformation Gerard Mannion, Dennis M. Doyle, Theodore G. Dedon, 2021-05-04 This book offers ecumenical essays that focus on Reformation Christianity and on current Lutheran-Catholic understandings and relationships. It addresses important issues, including the meaning of the Reformation, the reception of Luther in Germany and beyond, contemporary ecumenical dialogues, and pathways to the future. There is also some inclusion of Jewish and Orthodox traditions as well as attention to global issues. Taken as a whole, the primary method of this book is theology informed by history, hermeneutics, ethics, and social theory. Within the structure of the book can be found the classic hermeneutical circle: What was the meaning of the Reformation for Luther in his own time? What are various ways in which Luther and the Reformation have been interpreted in history? How does knowledge of these things help us today to understand the Reformation and to move forward?

evola revolt against the modern world: Heidegger in Ruins Richard Wolin, 2023-01-06 What does it mean when a radical understanding of National Socialism is inextricably embedded in the

work of the twentieth century's most important philosopher? Combines close readings of Heidegger's key writings with a rich cultural, literary and political history. . . . Wolin's evidence-based work is its own riposte to the ludic mythomania of the philosopher's political fanboys.--Lyndsey Stonebridge, *New Statesman* Martin Heidegger's sympathies for the conservative revolution and National Socialism have long been well known. As the rector of the University of Freiburg in the early 1930s, he worked hard to reshape the university in accordance with National Socialist policies. He also engaged in an all-out struggle to become the movement's philosophical preceptor, to lead the leader. Yet for years, Heidegger's defenders have tried to separate his political beliefs from his philosophical doctrines. They argued, in effect, that he was good at philosophy but bad at politics. But with the 2014 publication of Heidegger's *Black Notebooks*, it has become clear that he embraced a far more radical vision of the conservative revolution than previously suspected. His dissatisfaction with National Socialism, it turns out, was mainly that it did not go far enough. The notebooks show that far from being separated from Nazism, Heidegger's philosophy was suffused with it. In this book Richard Wolin explores what the notebooks mean for our understanding of arguably the most important philosopher of the twentieth century, and of his ideas--and why his legacy remains radically compromised.

evola revolt against the modern world: Politics and the Occult Gary Lachman, 2012-12-16 The gritty business of politics is not something we usually associate with the occult. But esoteric beliefs have influenced the destiny of nations since the time of ancient Egypt and China, when decisions of state were based on portents and astrology, to today, when presidents and prime ministers privately consult self-proclaimed seers. *Politics and the Occult* offers a lively history of this enduring phenomenon. Author and cultural pundit Gary Lachman provocatively questions whether the separation of church and state so dear to modern political philosophy should be maintained. A few of his fascinating topics include the fate of the Knights Templar and the medieval Gnostic Cathars, the occult roots of America and the French Revolution in Freemasonry, Gurdjieff and the swastika, Soviet interest in UFOs, the CIA and LSD, the Age of Aquarius, the millenarian politics that inform the struggle with Islamic terrorism, fundamentalism, and more.

evola revolt against the modern world: Contending with Antisemitism in a Rapidly Changing Political Climate Alvin H. Rosenfeld, 2021-11-02 Today's highly fraught historical moment brings a resurgence of antisemitism. Antisemitic incidents of all kinds are on the rise across the world, including hate speech, the spread of neo-Nazi graffiti and other forms of verbal and written threats, the defacement of synagogues and Jewish cemeteries, and acts of murderous terror. *Contending with Antisemitism in a Rapidly Changing Political Climate* is an edited collection of 18 essays that address antisemitism in its new and resurgent forms. Against a backdrop of concerning political developments such as rising nationalism and illiberalism on the right, new forms of intolerance and anti-liberal movements on the left, and militant deeds and demands by Islamic extremists, the contributors to this timely and necessary volume seek to better understand and effectively contend with today's antisemitism.

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world, its major geographical sites, and its major celebrations. Unlike other works, the encyclopedia also covers the world of religious unbelief as expressed in atheism, humanism, and other traditions.

evola revolt against the modern world: The Philosophical Foundation of Alt-Right Politics and Ressentiment William Remley, 2019-10-04 Since its inception, America has laid claim to a liberal democratic style of government with various well-known philosophical tenets. Yet the underlying beliefs or political philosophy of one of the movements that opposes liberal democratic forms of government—the alt-right—are relatively unknown. The Philosophical Foundation of Alt-Right Politics and Ressentiment is a timely book that analyses how the principles of current American politics have developed. William Remley asserts that the philosophy of Traditionalism is central to the alt-right's understanding of itself and explores the perceived threat to social status that seems to have propelled the movement to its prominent place in American politics. Remley uses Social Dominance Theory and the philosophical work of Jean-Paul Sartre and Friedrich Nietzsche to look at how group formation and hierarchies have given rise to authoritarian leadership and how a tendency that can be best described and explained through Nietzsche's concept of ressentiment led to the anti-foreign sentiment that rules American politics today.

evola revolt against the modern world: Black Terror White Soldiers David Livingstone, 2013-06-16 Far too ignorant of the histories of the rest of the world, being aware of only the accomplishments of Greece, Rome and Europe, Westerners have been made to believe that their societies represent the most superior examples of civilization. However, the Western value system stems from a misconception that, as in nature, human society too is evolving. The idea derives from the hidden influence of secret societies, who followed the belief in spiritual evolution of the Kabbalah, which taught that history would attain its fulfillment when man would become God, and make his own laws. Therefore, the infamous Illuminati gave its name to the Enlightenment of the eighteenth century, which claimed that human progress must abandon superstition, meaning Christianity, in favor of reason. Thus the Illuminati succeeded in bringing about the French and American revolutions, which instituted the separation of Church and State, and from that point forward, the Western values of Humanism, seen to include secularism, human rights, democracy and capitalism, have been celebrated as the culmination of centuries of human intellectual evolution. This is the basis of the propaganda which has been used to foster a Clash of Civilizations, where the Islamic world is presented as stubbornly adhering to the anachronistic idea of theocracy. Where once the spread of Christianity and civilizing the world were used as pretexts for colonization, today a new White Man's Burden makes use of human rights and democracy to justify imperial aggression. However, because, after centuries of decline, the Islamic world is incapable of mobilizing a defense, the Western powers, as part of their age-old strategy of Divide and Conquer, have fostered the rise of Islamic fundamentalism, to both serve as agent-provocateurs and to malign the image of Islam. These sects, known to scholars as Revivalists, opposed the traditions of classical Islamic scholarship in order to create the opportunity to rewrite the laws of the religion to better serve their sponsors. Thus were created the Wahhabi and Salafi sects of Islam, from which were derived the Muslim Brotherhood, which has been in the service of the West ever since. But, the story of the development of these Islamic sects involves the bizarre doctrines and hidden networks of occult secret societies, being based on a Rosicrucian myth of Egyptian Freemasonry, which see the Muslim radicals as inheritors of an ancient mystery tradition of the Middle East which was passed on to the Knights Templar during the Crusades, thus forming the foundation of the legends of the Holy Grail. These beliefs would not only form the cause for the association of Western intelligence agencies with Islamic fundamentalists, but would fundamentally shape much of twentieth century history.

evola revolt against the modern world: The Serpent Symbol in Tradition Charles Dailey, 2022-01-24 Serpent and dragon symbolism is ubiquitous in the art and mythology of premodern cultures around the world. Over the centuries, conflicting hypotheses have been proposed to interpret this symbolism which, while illuminating, have proved insufficient to the task of revealing a singular meaning for the vast majority of examples. In The Serpent Symbol in Tradition, Dr. Dailey argues that, in what the symbolist Rene Guenon and the historian of religions Mircea Eliade have

called 'traditional' or 'archaic' societies, the serpent/dragon transculturally symbolizes matter, a state of being that is constituted by the perception of the physical world as chaotic in comparison to what traditional peoples believed to be the 'higher' meta-physical source of the physical world or 'nature.' In the course of Dr. Dailey's investigations into the meaning of traditional serpent/dragon symbolism, the following contributions have proved invaluable: 1) Guénon's interpretation of the language of traditional symbolism and the metaphysics that underlies it, as well as his interpretation of the terminology of the 'Hindu Doctrines,' 2) Eliade's interpretation of traditional/archaic societies by means of his concepts of chaos, creation, Axis Mundi (World Axis), and 'Sacred and Profane,' and 3) the insights of various other researchers of serpent/dragon symbolism. Beyond purporting to resolve some of the mystery of the ancient and varied symbolism of the serpent/dragon, *The Serpent Symbol in Tradition* strives to serve the related functions of interpreting the symbolic meanings of a wide variety of premodern artifacts and narratives as well as providing a study of the origination, and ancient human awareness, of the mentioned state of matter.

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Magic and Mysticism: An Introduction to Western Esoteric Traditions is a concise overview, from antiquity to the present, of all the major Western religious esoteric movements. Topics covered include alchemy, Gnosticism, Hermeticism, Rosicrucianism, Theosophy and many more. *Magic and Mysticism* is ideal for students of Mysticism and New Religious Movements, as well as for general readers of Metaphysics and Esoterica.

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