



EDITORIAL

Religion's changes in the cyberspace of digital media

...
A number of articles published now, either directly or indirectly, follow prior knowledge and research in the field of religious communication in media. Relationship between religion and digital media, especially the Internet, is generally distinguished as religion online and online religion.

The first one means religious information communicated via media, chiefly the Internet. There may be a variety of sorts of religious information, starting with formal information about when and where a religious service will be taking place and finishing with its live streaming. We can generally say that this means providing a new digital platform for practicing traditional religion. The second term describes rise of new forms of religion in the cyberspace of digital

media. Such religions may either be partially related to traditional religions or totally independent from them. New spiritual groups can be formed and spread through the Internet, or they can be founded in videogames in which spirituality is present either explicitly or just implicitly.

An example of this phenomenon can be seen in the videogame called World of Warcraft.

Apart from this standard classification of relation between media and religion (religion online and online religion), there is also a greater yet less visible influence of media on religion, which is what these articles in EJST address. Media has been shaping our perception, ideas, thinking and knowledge since the time of written word, through printed word and finally

digital media. Written word, for example, started to boost our visual perception and thus influenced our imagination and thinking. Written word was an external, visual form of media, it was especially its phonetic form that promoted linear reading and along with it also concentration and discipline in thinking.

This was a great Editorial/European Journal of Science and Theology 13 (2017), 6, 1-4 2

starting point for emergence of scientific thinking in the ancient times. This had a specific influence on formation of Christian religion. Firstly, there was a word (God's word and human word) and on the other side, there was writing.

[...more at](#)

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