



2011 (II)

Mircea A. Tamas

Recently, a book called “2012” was published.¹ The author, a journalist fond of New Age subjects, tries to prove, abusing the Maya and Hopi traditional data, that 2012 is a critical year when the end and a new beginning will occur. The author quotes René Guénon, “the French scholar,” once, but he quotes Aleister Crowley eight times, Rudolf Steiner over twenty times, and Evola’s metaphysics of sex seven times. He uses all kinds of information to promote the idea that starting with the year 2008 the socioeconomic system will suffer a drastic and irrevocable collapse and after the year 2011, we will progress into a “noospheric state,” a synarchy (Saint-Yves d’Alveydre’s term) based on trust and telepathy. The absurdity of this book is no surprise, since any method is accepted in order to suggest the “2011 terror.”

Yet, even authors interested in the study of traditional doctrines suggested that the year 2011 will be a year of crisis. Gaston Georgel, who developed a passion for the doctrine of cosmic cycles, published in 1937 the work **Les Rythmes dans l’Histoire**, about which René Guénon wrote a review, highlighting its limits and errors²; at the end of his review, Guénon said: “The author thought it was appropriate to make an attempt to «forecast the future,» otherwise in a rather narrow range; this is one of the great dangers in the case of such research, especially in our times, when the so-called «prophecies» are so popular; for sure, no tradition encouraged such things and in order to restrict them as much as possible, some parts of the doctrine of cycles were even kept in the dark.”

Gaston Georgel contacted René Guénon, listened to his advice and, in 1947, published a second edition, revised, about the rhythms of history, this one also reviewed by Guénon (**Formes**, p. 30), a soft review, since Guénon appreciated Georgel’s efforts to understand the traditional data.

In 1975, Gaston Georgel published a third edition, yet even in this one the author could not abstain himself from making a prediction of the future. The problem with the cosmic cycles is that the results of any forecast depends on the starting point, because, as Guénon was saying, “for different populations, the starting point must be different” (**Formes**, p. 29). Therefore, even though the subcycle duration of 2160 years is right from a traditional perspective, it cannot help to forecast the future unless we know the starting point of the subcycle; otherwise, almost every year from the past could be a starting point, since we

¹ Daniel Pinchbeck, **2012, The Return of Quetzalcoatl**, Jeremy Tarcher / Penguin, New York, 2006.

² René Guénon, **Formes traditionnelles et cycles cosmiques**, Gallimard, Paris, 1980, p. 28.

2011 (II)

can find an important event in almost each year. Gaston Georgel proposed as starting point the third Punic War, which took place between years 149 and 146 B. C. Adding 2160, we get the period 2011 – 2014, a period that Georgel described as apocalyptic, when wars will take place and the nations will fight against the nations.³

Of course, it is a question of profane preference to select the third Punic War as the starting point. However, his suggestion became today a best-seller and we can notice how the adverse forces operate.

³ Gaston Georgel, **Les Rythmes dans l'Histoire**, Archè, Milano, 1981, p. 192.