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**POST-MORTAL SOUL AND ZOOMORPHIC CODE –
COMPARISON OF CROATIAN AND BULGARIAN ETHNO-TRADITIONS, AND
OVERVIEW OF THE PRESENT SITUATION**

Abstract

Račko Popov classifies the zoomorphic code (lat. anima – animalis) in Bulgarian burial customs into four groups: (1) animals manifesting as harbingers of human death, (2) animals that can influence the incarnation of the deceased, (3) sacrificial animals as offerings to the deceased soul, (4) zoo-metamorphoses (zoo-metempsychoses) of the human soul (cf. Popov 2002:322). In this paper, I trace all of the aforementioned groups of the zoomorphic code on the examples of Croatian folklore materials on the post-mortal soul.

I conclude the paper with a discussion of the specific attitude of the Christian dogma toward the status of the animal soul, the existence of which is disclaimed, as opposed to Anglican Church, for instance, that also introduces the deliberation on the animal soul, as exemplified by the Anglican priest Andrew Linzey.

Key words: post-mortal soul, zoomorphic code, Croatian and Bulgarian ethno-traditions, zoo-psychonavigation, animal soul