

MEETING ABSTRACTS

A THOUSAND AND ONE HEROES: PSYCHOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE IN THE STUDY OF HEROISM

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More than seventy years ago, a study entitled *The Hero with a Thousand Faces* was published, focusing on the hero archetype through the ages. Joseph Campbell's book became the „bible“ of the heroism and has been unsurpassed till nowadays. However, the demand for contemporary discussion can be fully met from the perspective of anthropology, ethnology, and cultural studies—but not from the perspective of other disciplines, including psychology. In the first decade of our century, Stanford University professor Philip Zimbardo identified the need for greater interest in heroism. The following decade then brought a whole series of studies in this area. In our contribution, we will attempt to define the current psychological perspective for the study of heroism. We will reflect on what needs to be done to see the „thousand and first“ face of hero.

Keywords: hero; heroism

References

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