

Opera Omnia

Volume VI Cultures and Religions in Dialogue

Part Two

Intercultural and Interreligious Dialogue

Raimon Panikkar

Edited by Milena Carrara Pavan

ORBIS  BOOKS
Maryknoll, New York 10545

Founded in 1970, Orbis Books endeavors to publish works that enlighten the mind, nourish the spirit, and challenge the conscience. The publishing arm of the Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers, Orbis seeks to explore the global dimensions of the Christian faith and mission, to invite dialogue with diverse cultures and religious traditions, and to serve the cause of reconciliation and peace. The books published reflect the views of their authors and do not represent the official position of the Maryknoll Society. To learn more about Maryknoll and Orbis Books, please visit our website at www.maryknollsociety.org.

Copyright © 2006 by *Fundació Vivarium Raimon Panikkar*, Tavertet
International Copyright handled by *Editoriale Jaca Book SpA*, Milan

English edition, copyright © 2018 by Orbis Books
Maryknoll, New York 10545-0302.
Manufactured in the United States of America.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or any information storage or retrieval system, without prior permission in writing from the publisher.

Queries regarding rights and permissions should be addressed to: Orbis Books, P.O. Box 302, Maryknoll, New York 10545-0302.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: Panikkar, Raimon, 1918–2010, author. | Carrara Pavan, Milena, editor.
Title: Cultures and religions in dialogue / Raimon Panikkar ; edited by Milena Carrara Pavan.
Description: English edition. | Maryknoll : Orbis Books, 2018– | Series: Opera omnia ;
Volume VI | Includes bibliographical references and index.
Identifiers: LCCN 2017052757 (print) | LCCN 2018006405 (ebook)
ISBN 9781608337460 (part 1 : e-book) | ISBN 9781626982802 (part 1 : cloth)
ISBN 9781608337675 (part 2 : e-book) | ISBN 9781626983014 (part 2 : cloth)
Subjects: LCSH: Religions.
Classification: LCC BL80.3 (ebook) | LCC BL80.3 .P36 2018 (print) | DDC
201/.5—dc23
LC record available at <https://lccn.loc.gov/2017052757>

CONTENTS

<i>Abbreviations</i>	<i>xi</i>
<i>Introduction</i>	<i>xiii</i>
An Emerging Myth	<i>xiii</i>
Isolation and Ignorance.....	<i>xiv</i>
Indifference and Contempt	<i>xiv</i>
Condemnation and Conquest.....	<i>xiv</i>
Coexistence and Communication	<i>xiv</i>
Convergence and Dialogue	<i>xv</i>

SECTION I: INTERCULTURAL AND INTERRELIGIOUS DIALOGUE

Part One: The Intrareligious Dialogue

<i>A Note to the Reader</i>	5
<i>Preface</i>	7
<i>Preface to the Original Edition</i>	11
<i>The Sermon on the Mount of Intrareligious Dialogue</i>	13
1. THE RHETORIC OF THE DIALOGUE.....	15
Five Attitudes	16
<i>Exclusivism</i>	16
<i>Inclusivism</i>	16
<i>Parallelism</i>	19
<i>Interpenetration</i>	20
<i>Pluralism</i>	21
Five Models	22
<i>The Geographical Model: The Ways to the Mountain Peak</i>	22
<i>The Physical Model: The Rainbow</i>	25
<i>The Geometrical Model: The Topological Invariant</i>	27
<i>The Anthropological Model: Language</i>	28
<i>The Mystical Model: Silence</i>	31
2. THE DIALOGICAL DIALOGUE	33
Background	33
Thesis.....	35

Dialogue and Dialectics	36
Dialectical Dialogue	38
Dialogical Dialogue	38
Thinking and Being	41
Subject and Object	42
I and You	43
Myth and <i>Logos</i>	45
3. FAITH AND BELIEF:	
A MULTIRELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE	49
Introduction	49
Ecumenism Today	50
The Province and the Parish	50
An Objectified Autobiographical Fragment	51
Universality and Concreteness	52
The Encounter of Beliefs	53
Kṛṣṇa and Christ	54
The Multireligious Experience	56
Interpreting Experience	57
Faith and Beliefs	60
4. THE RULES OF THE GAME IN THE	
RELIGIOUS ENCOUNTER	65
It Must Be Free from Particular Apologetics	65
It Must Be Free from General Apologetics	65
One Must Face the Challenge of Conversion	66
The Historical Dimension Is Necessary but Not Sufficient	66
It Is Not Just a Congress of Philosophy	68
It Is Not Only a Theological Symposium	70
It Is Not Merely an Ecclesiastical Endeavor	71
It Is a Religious Encounter in Faith, Hope, and Love	71
Some Practical Lessons	72
A Christian Example	73
Summing Up	73
5. <i>EPOCHĒ</i> IN THE RELIGIOUS ENCOUNTER	75
Prologue	75
Critique of the So-Called Phenomenological <i>Epochē</i> in the	
Religious Encounter	76
Thesis: The Phenomenological <i>Epochē</i> Is out of Place in the	
Religious Encounter	78
Toward a Genuine Religious Encounter	82

6.	THE CATEGORY OF GROWTH IN COMPARATIVE RELIGION: A CRITICAL SELF-EXAMINATION	85
	The Insufficient Methodological Approaches	86
	<i>Utilization</i>	88
	<i>Interpretation</i>	91
	Philosophies and Philosophy of Religion	93
	The Vital Issue: Growth	96
	Bibliographical Note	99
7.	INTRARELIGIOUS DIALOGUE ACCORDING TO RAMON LLULL	101
8.	SOME OBSERVATIONS ON INTERRELIGIOUS DIALOGUE	107
	The Risks of a Western Mindset	107
	<i>An Analysis of the Present Situation</i>	107
	<i>What Is at Stake in This Way of Thinking</i>	108
	The Task of Contemplatives in the Third Millennium	108
	<i>Embracing the Whole of Reality</i>	108
	<i>Consenting to Kenōsis</i>	109
	<i>Working Out a Method for the Dialogue</i>	110
	Recollections of Père Henri Le Saux–Swami Abhiṣiktānanda	111

**Part Two: The Encounter of Religions:
The Unavoidable Dialogue**

9.	THE ENCOUNTER OF RELIGIONS IS A VITAL NECESSITY	115
	<i>At the Personal Level</i>	115
	<i>At the Level of Religious Traditions</i>	116
	<i>At the Historical Level</i>	117
	Therefore the Dialogue Has to Be:	118
	<i>Open</i>	118
	<i>Interior</i>	120
	<i>Linguistic</i>	123
	<i>Political</i>	125
	<i>Mythical</i>	128
	<i>Religious</i>	132
	<i>Whole</i>	135
	<i>Unfinished</i>	137
10.	HUMAN DIALOGUE AND RELIGIOUS INTERDEPENDENCE	141

11. FOR A DIALOGUE AMONG CIVILIZATIONS	147
Politics.....	149
Religion.....	150
Science.....	150

SECTION II: EXAMPLES OF DIALOGUE

12. ŚŪNYATĀ AND PLĒRŌMA: THE BUDDHIST AND CHRISTIAN RESPONSE TO THE HUMAN PREDICAMENT.....	161
The Human Predicament	161
The Buddhist and Christian Responses.....	163
Nirvāṇa and Sōtēria.....	163
Śūnyatā and Plērōma.....	165
Religions and the Humanizing of Man	170
<i>Buddhism, Christianity, and Humanism</i>	171
<i>Homo Viator</i>	173
<i>The Crossing of the Ways</i>	175
13. ADVAITA AND BHAKTI: A HINDŪ-CHRISTIAN DIALOGUE	179
Introduction	179
A Letter from Vṛāṇḍāvan	180
Advaita	180
<i>Advaita and Love</i>	183
<i>Advaitic Love</i>	185
14. BHAKTI-KARUṆĀ-AGAPĒ: AN INTERCULTURAL CHALLENGE.....	189
<i>Glossary</i>	199
<i>Index of Original Texts in This Volume</i>	207
<i>Index of Names</i>	209
<i>About the Author</i>	211