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TOWARDS A GLOBAL CULTURAL LINGUISTICS/ETHNOLINGUISTICS?

Globalized scholarship certainly leaves room for national, regional, and other "local" idiosyncrasies (variety is a spice of life) but it mainly calls for a dialogue between local traditions. If Slavic (specifically: Polish) cultural linguistics/ethnolinguistics is to engage in a dialogue with Western (Western European? American?) approaches to language and culture, language in culture, but mainly culture in language – and I do believe that it should – it must both propose something unique and relate to what is unique in the Westerns traditions.

It is ut forward here that a valuable proposal of this sort may come from the Lublin Ethnolinguistic School, associated with the name of Jerzy Bartmiński. The problem at hand is the question at what stage (or if at all) metaphorical thinking and speaking yields to animistic/mythological thinking. That is, if *the earth is our mother*, do we "merely" view the former in terms of the latter or do we *believe* the earth to be mother? It is proposed that an informed solution might be sought in the system of determinants proposed by the American semiotician and logician Charles Sanders Peirce. In this way, Polish and American scholarship can engage in fruitful exchange of ideas to the benefit of both sides.