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The Ways of the Trickster. Meaning, Discourse and Cultural Blasphemy

Abstract: In this paper, I try to focus on some cultural consequences of the mythical figure of the trickster. Known as a complex mythological character, the trickster comprises contradictory traits, from intelligence to foolishness or perversity. The omnipresence of the trickster in religious myths and practices throughout this world may lead us to the belief that it serves certain cultural goals, has cultural functions beyond its necessary presence as key ingredient of folklore or religious explanations. The blasphemy as a cultural event is interesting from both the point of view of political and social challenge and the point of view of discourse change. The blasphemy is not just a religious issue, but a very versatile discursive tool used to criticize or attack the omnipotence of the dominant paradigms.

Keywords: trickster discourse, meaning, blasphemy, social change, transgression of social norms.