

RELIGION AND SCIENCE: AN INTEGRATED PERSPECTIVE THROUGH THE LENS OF A SCIENTIST

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ABSTRACT

This article explores the intersection of science and religion through the professional journey and reflections of dr. Rimantas Kodzius. It addresses how religion and science coexisted in various cultural and historical contexts while highlighting their evolution as independent and overlapping spheres. Combining historical analysis, contemporary examples, and the personal experiences of a traveling scientist, the article aims to demonstrate that science and religion, though distinct, are not mutually exclusive. The study discusses the role of scientific advancements, their challenges during religious dominance, and modern reconciliations between the two. It also highlights how cultures across the globe offer unique insights into this relationship, emphasizing the need for continued dialogue.

Keywords: science, religion, cultural contexts, interdisciplinary harmony, ethics.

Introduction

Relevance of the Topic

Science and religion represent two fundamental approaches to understanding the universe and humanity's place within it. While science relies on empirical evidence and observation, religion seeks answers through spirituality, moral guidance, and faith (Shults, 2001; Willemart & Marques, 2024). These domains have historically been viewed as antagonistic, particularly when scientific discoveries clashed with religious doctrines. For instance, the heliocentric theory proposed by figures like Copernicus and Galileo faced severe opposition from the Church (Heilbron, 2010).

However, history also shows periods of collaboration where religious institutions preserved and advanced scientific knowledge. During the Islamic Golden Age, scholars like Al-Khwarizmi and Avicenna made groundbreaking contributions under the patronage of religious leaders (Chaney, 2016). Similarly, many European scientists during the Renaissance saw their work as uncovering the divine order of creation (Burns, 2003).

In the modern era, this dichotomy persists in debates over ethical issues raised by technologies like artificial intelligence, biotechnology, and climate science. Religion often provides a moral framework for these discussions, emphasizing the need for a dialogue that integrates scientific insights with ethical considerations.

Modern advancements in AI have sparked ethical discussions globally. Religious institutions have stepped in to shape these conversations, emphasizing moral accountability. For example, the Vatican convened the "Rome Call for AI Ethics" initiative, promoting fairness, transparency, and inclusion in AI systems (Pegoraro & Curzel, 2023). The principles drawn from Catholic teachings highlight the responsibility to protect human dignity amid technological progress.

Religious leaders have been vocal in advocating for environmental stewardship. Pope Francis's encyclical *Laudato Si'* bridges ecological science and Catholic teachings, urging collective action to combat climate change (Francesco, 2015). Similarly, Islamic

scholars invoke the concept of *mizan* (balance) to advocate for sustainability. These movements illustrate how religious ethics can amplify the urgency of scientific messages about environmental conservation.

Advances in genetic editing technologies like CRISPR have raised ethical dilemmas regarding human intervention in nature. Religious organizations such as the Council for Responsible Genetics draw upon theological principles to question the moral implications of altering human DNA (Brokowski & Adli, 2019). Interfaith dialogues on these topics provide platforms for collaboration between scientists and religious leaders.

In regions like the Middle East, religious values shape the implementation of healthcare technologies. The King Faisal Specialist Hospital in Saudi Arabia integrates Islamic bioethics in organ transplantation programs, balancing scientific innovation with religious law (*Sharia*) (Alhasan et al., 2023). This integration demonstrates how religion can guide ethical decisions in complex scientific applications.

Organizations like NASA have engaged theologians to explore how humanity's understanding of creation might evolve with potential discoveries of extraterrestrial life. The Templeton Foundation funds research addressing questions at the intersection of cosmology, theology, and philosophy, fostering dialogue between scientific and religious communities (Waldrop, 2011).

The relevance of exploring the interplay between science and religion is further underscored by current global challenges. By understanding their historical coexistence and potential for harmony, society can better navigate ethical dilemmas and foster a more comprehensive understanding of human progress. The professional reflections of scientists like dr. Rimantas Kodzius offer valuable insights into how these two influential forces can coexist and complement one another.

Research Problem

The ongoing debate regarding the compatibility of science and religion highlights the need to examine historical and modern perspectives to understand their influence on human progress. This article investigates whether science and religion can function as complementary frameworks for knowledge and ethical progress.

Subject Matter of the Research

This article reflects on the coexistence and friction between religion and science, drawing on the career experiences of dr. Rimantas Kodzius (Bohannon, 2017), historical developments, and current observations. By analyzing examples across diverse cultural contexts, the article illustrates how both fields have shaped human civilization.

Research Aim

To analyze and argue that science and religion can coexist and complement each other, fostering a holistic understanding of human purpose and knowledge.

Research Objectives

1. To discuss the historical conflicts and coexistence between science and religion.
2. To explore cultural perspectives on religion and science across regions.
3. To highlight the contributions of scientists who navigated religious challenges.
4. To present contemporary examples of harmony between science and religion.
5. To integrate personal insights from the experiences of dr. Rimantas Kodzius.

Research Methods

The research methodology employed in this study adopts an interdisciplinary approach that combines historical analysis, case studies, and qualitative insights to explore the interplay between science and religion. Historical analysis focuses on examining primary and secondary texts to trace the coexistence and conflicts between these domains, with particular emphasis on transformative periods such as the Islamic Golden Age and the European Renaissance. This includes a comparative review of documented case studies involving influential figures like Al-Khwarizmi and Copernicus, highlighting their contributions to both fields.

Additionally, the study incorporates a case study approach to analyze specific institutions, such as the Vatican Observatory and the House of Wisdom in Baghdad, which exemplify the integration of religious and scientific pursuits across various cultures and epochs. Content analysis is applied to ethical frameworks derived from religious texts to explore their impact on contemporary debates around genetic engineering, artificial intelligence, and climate change. These analyses are further enriched by qualitative insights drawn from the professional journey of dr. Rimantas Kodzius (Bohannon, 2017), whose experiences in culturally diverse regions provide unique perspectives on how spiritual values influence scientific innovation.

Cross-cultural comparisons are used to identify universal themes and regional variations in the interaction between science and religion, focusing on contexts such as Asia, the Middle East, and Western societies. To address complex ethical questions, the study synthesizes interdisciplinary dialogues involving theologians, ethicists, and scientists, proposing integrative solutions that bridge empirical knowledge and moral guidance. Together, these methods offer a comprehensive framework to understand the evolving relationship between science and religion, emphasizing their potential to harmonize and address pressing global challenges.

1. The Historical Intersection of Science and Religion

1.1. Early Coexistence

In ancient civilizations, scientific knowledge often evolved under the umbrella of religion. Early astronomy, mathematics, and medicine were pursued as tools for religious rituals, governance, and understanding the divine. For instance, ancient Mesopotamian priests used astronomy to develop calendars crucial for agricultural and religious practices (Abusch, 2020). Similarly, Egyptian physicians, deeply tied to spiritual beliefs, pioneered medical procedures that laid the foundation for modern medicine (Elsayad, 2023).

The works of Jabir ibn Hayyan, regarded as the "Father of Chemistry," demonstrate this integration during the Islamic Golden Age. His studies of alchemy were motivated by religious quests to understand creation (Amr & Tbakhi). This early cooperation between science and religion shows that these domains were initially not in conflict but rather complementary.

In India, the development of Ayurveda as a medical system rooted in spirituality illustrates a similar intertwining of science and religion. Ancient texts like the *Charaka*

Samhita combined empirical observations with philosophical insights to offer holistic health solutions (Goswami, Islam, & jyoti Hajong, 2023). Chinese traditions, such as Taoist alchemy, also exemplify this integration, where scientific exploration of materials intersected with the pursuit of spiritual immortality (Wang, 2011).

1.2. The Medieval European Divide

The harmony between science and religion began to wane during the European Middle Ages. Theological dominance restricted scientific inquiry, particularly when findings conflicted with biblical interpretations. Figures like Giordano Bruno, who proposed a heliocentric universe, were persecuted. Bruno's ideas, which suggested that stars were suns surrounded by planets, challenged religious dogma and led to his execution for heresy in 1600 (Bruno, 2009).

However, religious institutions also played a paradoxical role in preserving knowledge. Monasteries became centers of learning where texts from antiquity were copied and safeguarded (Love, 2012). This dual role of religion, both restricting and fostering knowledge, characterizes the complexities of this period.

The emergence of universities in medieval Europe, often established under Church patronage, also illustrates this paradox. While these institutions upheld theological studies, they became spaces where natural philosophy (early science) could be explored. Scholars like Thomas Aquinas attempted to reconcile Aristotelian science with Christian theology, setting a foundation for more open scientific inquiry during the Renaissance (Pieper, 2011).

1.3. Bridging the Gap: Renaissance and Enlightenment

The Renaissance marked a significant shift as science gradually emerged from the constraints of religious orthodoxy. Figures such as Leonardo da Vinci exemplified the harmony achievable between science and spirituality. His anatomical studies and engineering designs were informed by a deep sense of wonder and appreciation for the natural world, which he viewed as a reflection of divine order (Gelb, 2004).

The Enlightenment further expanded this trajectory, emphasizing reason, observation, and empirical evidence as tools for understanding the universe. Scientists like Isaac Newton viewed their work as uncovering the laws of nature established by a Creator. Newton's writings reveal a profound belief in God as the ultimate architect, demonstrating that religious faith and scientific inquiry could coexist within the same intellectual framework (Iliffe, 2017).

Table 1. *Historical Examples of Science and Religion Interactions*

Period/Region	Key Figures	Scientific Contributions	Religious Context
Islamic Golden Age	Al-Khwarizmi, Avicenna	Algebra, Medicine	Supported by Islamic emphasis on knowledge (<i>ilm</i>) and intellectual pursuits.
European Renaissance	Galileo Galilei, Copernicus	Heliocentric theory, Celestial mechanics	Faced resistance from the Church but viewed science as uncovering divine order.
Ancient India	Aryabhata, Charaka	Astronomy, Ayurveda	Integrated empirical observations with Hindu spirituality.
Modern Middle East	Various	Biotechnology, Environmental Science	Research institutions like KAUST balance Islamic ethics and cutting-edge innovation.

2. The Role of Religion in Scientific Development

2.1. The Islamic Golden Age

The Islamic Golden Age (8th – 13th centuries) was a period of profound scientific, economic, and cultural flourishing. Under the patronage of Caliphs, scholars made groundbreaking contributions in fields such as astronomy, mathematics, and medicine (Hajar, 2013). Al-Khwarizmi, often called the "Father of Algebra," developed foundational mathematical concepts that are still in use today. His works were deeply inspired by the Quranic emphasis on order and balance in creation (Rashed, 2014).

Avicenna (Ibn Sina), another prominent figure, wrote *The Canon of Medicine*, a comprehensive text that became a cornerstone of medical education in both the Islamic world and Europe. Avicenna's integration of spiritual and empirical approaches to medicine demonstrated how religion could inspire scientific advancements (Aligabi, 2020).

The establishment of institutions such as the House of Wisdom in Baghdad reflects the support of religious leaders for intellectual exploration. These centers of learning fostered collaboration among scholars of different faiths, emphasizing a universal pursuit of knowledge.

2.2. The European Renaissance

The European Renaissance marked a shift where religion began to indirectly support scientific endeavors. Leonardo da Vinci, celebrated for his contributions to art and science, often described his work as uncovering the divine mechanics of nature. His anatomical studies were not merely scientific but also reflected a spiritual quest to understand the human body as a divine creation (Clayton, 2012).

Galileo Galilei, despite his conflicts with the Church, remained a devout Catholic and believed that his observations of celestial mechanics revealed the grandeur of God's creation. His work laid the foundation for modern astronomy and physics, demonstrating

that religious faith and scientific curiosity could coexist even amidst institutional resistance (Ref .20).

2.3. Religion's Role in Modern Science

In the contemporary era, religion continues to influence scientific thought and ethics. For example, the ethical frameworks surrounding genetic engineering, artificial intelligence, and climate change often draw upon religious principles. Many religious leaders advocate for environmental stewardship, emphasizing humanity's responsibility as caretakers of creation.

Institutions such as the Vatican Observatory highlight religion's ongoing engagement with science. The Observatory conducts cutting-edge astronomical research, demonstrating that faith-based organizations can actively contribute to scientific progress (Guy Consolmagno, 2020). Similarly, interfaith dialogues on bioethics and technology underscore the potential for religion to provide moral guidance in navigating complex scientific challenges.

3. Science and Religion Across Cultures

3.1. Asian Perspectives

Asian cultures exhibit unique interactions between science and religion, often blending them into cohesive worldviews. In Japan, the cultural maxim "*born Shinto, die Buddhist*" encapsulates a pragmatic coexistence of belief systems (Treat, 2007). Shintoism, with its reverence for nature and the divine, aligns seamlessly with scientific conservation efforts, while Buddhism offers a framework for introspection and understanding consciousness - an area also explored in neuroscience.

India exemplifies another synthesis, where Hinduism's philosophical insights intersect with advancements in mathematics and astronomy. Ancient Indian astronomers like Aryabhata contributed significantly to global science while operating within a deeply religious context (Ansari, 1977). Similarly, traditional medical systems like Ayurveda integrate empirical observations with spiritual practices to address health holistically (Patwardhan, 2014).

3.2. Middle Eastern Contributions

The Middle East serves as a historical cradle of science and religion working in tandem. Islamic traditions emphasize the pursuit of knowledge as a divine duty. During the Islamic Golden Age, cities like Baghdad and Cordoba became intellectual hubs where scholars of different faiths collaborated (Pua, 2016). This era produced groundbreaking work in fields such as optics, medicine, and algebra.

Modern Middle Eastern nations continue this legacy, though often within culturally conservative frameworks. Institutions like KAUST in Saudi Arabia highlight how advanced scientific research thrives alongside strong religious values (Elnozahy, 2021). Dr. Rimantas Kodzius' tenure in Saudi Arabia underscores the region's capacity to balance religious traditions with cutting-edge science, particularly in biotechnology and environmental sustainability (Aladwey & Alsudays, 2024; Bohannon, 2017).

3.3. Western Contexts

In Western societies, the relationship between science and religion has evolved from conflict to nuanced coexistence. Historically, tensions during the Enlightenment gave way to contemporary dialogues where religion often informs ethical debates surrounding scientific advancements, such as cloning, artificial intelligence, and climate change (Waytz & Young, 2019). Interfaith collaborations now emphasize shared values in promoting sustainable technologies and equitable healthcare.

3.4. Indigenous and Local Traditions

Indigenous cultures worldwide provide examples of how spiritual beliefs and empirical observations coexist harmoniously. For instance, Native American and Aboriginal Australian traditions incorporate ecological knowledge into spiritual frameworks, guiding conservation and sustainability efforts (Redvers, Aubrey, Celidwen, & Hill, 2023). These practices demonstrate that science and religion can serve as complementary tools for understanding and interacting with the environment.

Table 2. Cultural Perspectives on Science and Religion

Region	Cultural Context	Science-Religion Interaction
Asia	Shinto and Buddhist reverence for nature in Japan.	Harmony between ecological science and spiritual practices, e.g., forest conservation projects.
Middle East	Islamic emphasis on knowledge as a divine duty.	Institutions like the House of Wisdom historically and KAUST currently integrate religion with science.
Western Societies	Enlightenment ideals of reason; Christian ethical frameworks.	Religion informs debates on issues like genetic engineering and artificial intelligence.
Indigenous Cultures	Spiritual beliefs intertwined with ecological knowledge (e.g., Native American and Aboriginal practices).	Use of traditional ecological wisdom in biodiversity conservation efforts.

4. Personal Reflections: Science and Religion in Practice

4.1 Professional Journey of dr. Rimantas Kodzius

Dr. Rimantas Kodzius’ global career spans diverse cultural and religious settings—from Europe and the Middle East to Asia. His experiences demonstrate that science, while universal, is shaped by local cultural and spiritual contexts. For instance:

- In **Saudi Arabia**, dr. Kodzius led research on microfluidics and single-cell analysis while respecting local Islamic traditions (Kodzius & Gojobori, 2016a, 2016b). Research institutions like KAUST (King Abdullah University of Science and Technology) provided a unique blend of state-of-the-art facilities and a deeply rooted cultural backdrop. Dr. Kodzius observed how religious practices influenced daily life yet complemented the drive for scientific innovation.

- In **Japan**, his contributions to genomic sciences highlighted a society where ancient religious traditions harmonize with modern advancements. Shinto and Buddhist philosophies emphasize harmony and respect for nature, values that resonate strongly in Japan's cutting-edge environmental research.
- In the **Kurdistan Region**, dr. Kodzius observed the coexistence of multiple religions, including Yazidis, Muslims, and Christians, while engaging in health-related research. These diverse cultural and religious settings underscored the importance of mutual respect and ethical considerations in scientific collaborations.

Through these varied experiences, dr. Kodzius recognized the universal potential for science and religion to inform and enrich one another. He noted that fostering dialogue between these spheres can lead to innovative solutions that are not only scientifically sound but also ethically grounded.

4.2. Challenges and Observations

While navigating different cultural landscapes, dr. Kodzius encountered challenges that underscored the complex interplay between science and religion:

- In regions with conservative religious norms, certain areas of research, such as genetic modification or stem cell studies, faced ethical scrutiny. Dr. Kodzius found that engaging in open dialogue with religious leaders and community stakeholders often paved the way for acceptance and understanding.
- Political and religious ideologies sometimes influenced the prioritization of research topics. For instance, in post-Soviet Lithuania, the legacy of enforced atheism created unique dynamics in reconciling traditional religious beliefs with modern scientific endeavors.
- The ethical dilemmas posed by advanced technologies, such as artificial intelligence and biotechnology, often required a balance between scientific ambition and moral responsibility. Dr. Kodzius emphasized the importance of interdisciplinary approaches that include theologians, ethicists, and scientists.

Despite these challenges, dr. Kodzius observed that societal progress is best achieved when science respects cultural and spiritual values. He also noted that religion, when interpreted as a moral compass, can offer critical insights into the ethical implications of scientific advancements.

4.3. Lessons from a Global Perspective

From his extensive travels and collaborations, dr. Kodzius distilled several key lessons:

1. **Mutual Respect is Foundational:** Successful scientific endeavors in culturally diverse settings require respect for local traditions and beliefs. This respect fosters trust and facilitates meaningful collaboration.
2. **Interdisciplinary Dialogue Enhances Innovation:** Bridging the gap between science and religion through dialogue opens avenues for addressing complex global challenges, such as climate change and public health crises.
3. **Ethics Must Guide Innovation:** Religion often provides a framework for addressing the ethical dimensions of scientific advancements. Integrating these

frameworks with empirical research ensures that innovations are socially responsible.

4. **Shared Goals Build Bridges:** Whether in Saudi Arabia, Japan, or Kurdistan, dr. Kodzius observed that shared goals, such as improving human health or protecting the environment, transcend cultural and religious differences, uniting communities in pursuit of the common good.

These reflections underscore the potential for science and religion to coexist harmoniously, each enriching the other in pursuit of human progress.

5. Contemporary Relevance: Do We Need New Dialogues?

The rapid pace of technological advancement in the 21st century has brought humanity to the crossroads of unprecedented possibilities and existential challenges. Artificial intelligence, genetic engineering, and climate change present ethical dilemmas that science alone cannot resolve (Tai, 2020). Religion, with its long-standing role as a moral and ethical guide, is uniquely positioned to contribute to these discussions.

5.1 Technological Dilemmas and Moral Questions

The development of artificial intelligence has raised significant ethical concerns. Issues such as bias in algorithms, loss of privacy, and the potential for autonomous systems to make life-and-death decisions demand a framework for accountability and responsibility. Religious traditions offer principles that can inform these discussions, such as the sanctity of life and the importance of justice and compassion (Rachmawati, Harefa, & Zalfaa, 2024).

Similarly, advances in genetic engineering, including CRISPR technology, have sparked debates about the ethical limits of altering human DNA. Questions about "playing God" and the implications for future generations are often viewed through a religious lens. These debates highlight the necessity of integrating scientific knowledge with moral wisdom to guide decision-making.

Table 3. *Technological dilemmas, related ethical concerns, and potential religious perspective*

Technological Dilemma	Ethical Concerns	Potential Religious Perspective
Artificial Intelligence	Bias, loss of privacy, autonomous decisions	Justice, sanctity of life
Genetic Engineering (CRISPR)	"Playing God," implications for future humans	Moral responsibility, stewardship
Climate Technology	Geoengineering risks, unequal access	Environmental stewardship, equity

5.2. Climate Change and Stewardship

Climate change represents a crisis that transcends scientific and geopolitical boundaries. Many religious traditions, including Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism, emphasize the stewardship of the Earth as a moral imperative. This alignment provides a unique opportunity for science and religion to collaborate in advocating for sustainable practices and policies.

Table 4. Faith traditions and related environmental principles

Faith Tradition	Core Environmental Principle
Christianity	Stewardship of God’s creation
Islam	Balance (Mizan) and no waste (Israf)
Hinduism	Reverence for nature and interconnectedness
Buddhism	Compassion for all living beings

For example, interfaith initiatives such as the "Faith for Earth" campaign by the United Nations Environment Programme demonstrate the power of religious communities to mobilize action on climate issues (Programme, 2025). By combining scientific data with religious advocacy, such efforts can inspire individuals and governments to take meaningful steps toward environmental conservation.

5.3. The Role of Interdisciplinary Dialogues

To address these complex challenges, interdisciplinary dialogues that bring together scientists, theologians, ethicists, and policymakers are essential. Forums such as the Pontifical Academy of Sciences provide a model for how such collaborations can yield innovative solutions (Sorondo, 2003). These dialogues encourage mutual respect and understanding, allowing each discipline to contribute its strengths.

Table 5. Interdisciplinary forums, related focus, and impact

Forum	Focus	Impact
Pontifical Academy of Sciences	Science-religion ethics	Global ethical frameworks for AI, biotech
Faith for Earth (UNEP)	Climate action	Mobilization of faith-based conservation
World Economic Forum Ethics Panel	AI and global governance	Policy recommendations

Dr. Rimantas Kodzius, drawing from his global experiences, emphasizes that the integration of science and religion is not merely a theoretical exercise but a practical necessity. In settings ranging from academic conferences to community engagements, he has witnessed the transformative power of respectful dialogue in bridging divides and fostering cooperation.

5.4. Building a Shared Vision for Humanity

The challenges of the modern world require a shared vision that transcends cultural and religious boundaries. By fostering collaboration between science and religion, humanity can address ethical questions with both empirical rigor and moral clarity. This shared vision can inspire global efforts to tackle issues such as poverty, inequality, and environmental degradation.

Table 6. *Scientific and religious contributions to the global challenges*

Global Challenge	Science's Contribution	Religion's Contribution
Poverty and Inequality	Technological innovation, equitable distribution	Advocacy for justice and compassion
Climate Change	Renewable energy, conservation tech	Stewardship, communal responsibility
Health Crises	Biotech, vaccines	Moral frameworks for equitable access

In conclusion, the call for new dialogues between science and religion is not just relevant but urgent. These dialogues can provide the ethical and philosophical grounding needed to navigate an increasingly complex world. By working together, science and religion can contribute to a future that is both innovative and compassionate, ensuring that progress benefits all of humanity.

Conclusions

1. The historical interplay between science and religion demonstrates both conflict and cooperation. For example, the Islamic Golden Age and the European Renaissance highlight how religious frameworks facilitated scientific advancements, fulfilling the objective of discussing historical conflicts and coexistence.
2. Cultural perspectives significantly shape the interaction between science and religion. Contexts such as Asia, the Middle East, and the West reveal unique modes of coexistence, with examples ranging from Shintoism in Japan to interfaith collaborations in the Middle East. This supports the objective of exploring cultural perspectives.
3. Contributions of key scientists underline the possibility of reconciling science and religion. Figures like Galileo Galilei, Al-Khwarizmi, and Avicenna navigated religious challenges while advancing knowledge, addressing the objective of highlighting such contributions.
4. Contemporary examples, such as ethical debates surrounding artificial intelligence and climate advocacy inspired by religious principles, showcase harmony between science and religion in addressing modern challenges. This aligns with the objective of presenting contemporary examples of integration.
5. Insights from dr. Rimantas Kodzius's professional journey illustrate the potential for science and religion to complement each other across diverse cultural settings, reinforcing the objective of integrating personal reflections into the analysis.

6. These conclusions affirm the study's argument that science and religion, while distinct, can coexist and collaborate to foster a more comprehensive understanding of human progress and address ethical, existential, and technological challenges.

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RELIGIJA IR MOKSLAS: INTEGRUOTA PERSPEKTYVA MOKSLININKO AKIMIS

dr. Rimantas Kodžius

Straipsnyje nagrinėjama mokslo ir religijos sąveika istoriniame, kultūriniame ir šiuolaikiniame kontekstuose, remiantis dr. Rimanto Kodžiaus profesine patirtimi. Tyrimo problema yra mokslininkų ir religinių institucijų konfliktų ir bendradarbiavimo klausimas, kuris istoriškai įtakėjo žmijos progresą. Straipsnyje siekiama atsakyti, ar mokslas ir religija gali veikti kaip vienas kitą papildančios sistemos, kurios prisideda prie žmonių žinių plėtros ir etinės atsakomybės ugdymo.

Tyrimo tikslas – analizuoti mokslo ir religijos santykių istorinius, kultūrinius ir šiuolaikinius aspektus bei pademonstruoti, kad šios sritys gali harmoningai bendradarbiauti. Straipsnio uždaviniai yra:

1. išanalizuoti istorinius konfliktus ir bendradarbiavimo pavyzdžius;
2. aptarti kultūrinius mokslo ir religijos perspektyvų skirtumus ir panašumus;
3. pabrėžti mokslo pažangą, kuri buvo įkvėpta religinių idėjų;
4. pristatyti šiuolaikinius mokslo ir religijos sąveikos pavyzdžius;
5. įtraukti dr. Rimanto Kodžiaus patirtį kaip svarbų indėlį į analizę.

Tyrimas paremtas istorine ir lyginamąja analize, atvejo studijomis bei kokybiniu tyrimu. Istorinė analizė atskleidžia, kaip skirtingais laikotarpiais mokslo ir religijos santykiai kito nuo harmonijos iki konflikto. Pavyzdžiui, Islamo aukso amžiaus mokslininkų darbai (pvz., Al-Khwarizmi ir Avicena) parodė, kaip religija galėjo skatinti mokslo progresą. Renesanso laikotarpiu mokslo ir religijos dialogas atsispindėjo tokių mokslininkų kaip Galilėjaus darbuose.

Kultūrinių perspektyvų analizė išskiria Azijos, Vidurio Rytų ir Vakarų šalių patirtis. Pavyzdžiui, Japonijoje religija ir gamtos mokslai dažnai derinami per šintoizmo ir budizmo filosofijas. Hinduizmo įtaka Indijoje atsispindi tokiose srityse kaip astronomija ir ajurvedos medicina, kur dvasinės ir empirinės praktikos dera. Šiuolaikinėje Vidurio Rytų visuomenėje mokslas ir religija bendradarbiauja, pabrėžiant etinius aspektus sveikatos priežiūros srityje. Tuo tarpu Vakarų pasaulyje religija dažnai pasitelkiama aptariant genetinės inžinerijos, dirbtinio intelekto ir klimato kaitos klausimus. Vietiniai ir indėnų žinios apie ekologiją taip pat pabrėžia, kaip dvasiniai įsitikinimai ir mokslas gali papildyti vienas kitą.

Straipsnyje taip pat pabrėžiama dr. Rimanto Kodžiaus patirtis dirbant tokiose skirtingose kultūrose kaip Saudo Arabija, Japonija ir Kurdistanas. Jo pastebėjimai parodo, kad kultūrinės ir dvasinės vertybės dažnai papildo mokslo inovacijas, o abipusė pagarba ir tarpdalykinės diskusijos prisideda prie progresyvių sprendimų. Pavyzdžiui, Saudo Arabijoje mokslo tyrimai dažnai derinami su vietos islamiškais principais, o Japonijoje aplinkosaugos tyrimai inspiruojami šintoizmo ir budizmo harmonijos filosofijos. Kurdistanė daugiakultūris bendradarbiavimas skatina unikalius požiūris į mokslinius tyrimus.

Be to, straipsnyje pateikiamos šiuolaikinės technologinės dilemos ir moraliniai klausimai, pavyzdžiui, dirbtinio intelekto, genų redagavimo ir klimato kaitos srityse. Analizuojama, kaip religija gali suteikti moralinį pagrindą mokslo sprendimams. Pavyzdžiui, popiežiaus Pranciškaus enciklika „Laudato Si“ jungia ekologijos mokslą su katalikų mokymu apie aplinkos apsaugą.

Pagrindinės išvados:

1. Istorinė mokslo ir religijos sąveika rodo ir konfliktą, ir bendradarbiavimą. Pavyzdžiui, islamo aukso amžius ir Europos renesansas pabrėžia, kaip religinės sistemos palengvino mokslo pažangą, įgyvendindamos tikslą aptarti istorinius konfliktus ir sambūvį.
2. Kultūrinės perspektyvos reikšmingai formuoja mokslo ir religijos sąveiką. Tokie kontekstai kaip Azija, Artimieji Rytai ir Vakarai atskleidžia unikalius sambūvio būdus,

kurių pavyzdžiai svyruoja nuo šintoizmo Japonijoje iki tarpreliginio bendradarbiavimo Artimuosiuose Rytuose. Tai palaiko tikslą ištirti kultūrines perspektyvas.

3. Pagrindinių mokslininkų indėlis pabrėžia galimybę suderinti mokslą ir religiją. Tokios figūros kaip Galileo Galilei, Al-Khwarizmi ir Avicenna sprendė religinius iššūkius, tobulindamos žinias, siekdamos pabrėžti tokį indėlį.
4. Šiuolaikiniai pavyzdžiai, pvz., etiniai debatai, susiję su dirbtiniu intelektu ir klimato propagavimu, įkvėpti religinių principų, parodo mokslo ir religijos harmoniją sprendžiant šiuolaikinius iššūkius. Tai atitinka tikslą pateikti šiuolaikinius integracijos pavyzdžius.
5. Daktaro Rimanto Kodžiaus profesinės kelionės įžvalgos iliustruoja mokslo ir religijos potencialą papildyti vienas kitą įvairiose kultūrose, o tai sustiprina tikslą į analizę įtraukti asmeninius apmąstymus.

Raktiniai žodžiai: mokslas, religija, kultūriniai kontekstai, tarpdalykinė harmonija, etika.