

Eschatological Ethnology.
The Fear of End within the Discourse of Romanian Ethnology
(Abstract)

Mircea PĂDURARU*

Keywords: theoretical imaginary, Romanian ethnology, eschatology, pathos, epistemology, intellectual tradition.

In this article I propose the concept of *eschatological ethnology* to characterize one of the dominant types of ethnological exercise that has been taking place in Romania. The proposal presents the three main ideas from the structure of the concept: the recurrent discourses announcing the imminent collapse of the traditional culture, the conversion of strong emotions into discursive instruments, and the political implications of a discipline which defines itself by the moral importance of its mission. Although the concept has a descriptive value, characterizing an intellectual tradition, the article deals also with its contextual political uses.

* PhD, Faculty of Letters, "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași, e-mail: mircea.paduraru@googlemail.com