

PORTUGAL E A RELIGIOSIDADE DO POVO PORTUGUÊS

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***Abstract. Portugal and the religiosity of the Portuguese people.** In this paper, we intend to analyze some cultural aspects that define the Portuguese people, as well as its religion and religiosity. For a better understanding of the contemporary society, we will have a closer look to some historical events that had a major impact on the daily life of the peoples living in Galicia in the 6th and 12th century. We will contextualize these events by taking into account the political situation in which the Iberian Peninsula found itself at that time. Then, we will analyze some important fragments from different versions of the Bible referring to the notion of time (days of the week). The versions were chosen in order to underline the differences between various translations and the manner in which they have been interpreted along the centuries. Finally, we will discuss some relatively more recent aspects characterizing the Portuguese society and its religiosity, such as the myth created around the figure of Dom Sebastião. From the point of view of some historians, this myth is related to the one of Divino Martle (Bendito), a brave man who defended the religion in which he truly believed, against his own emperor, with the price of his life.*

***Keywords:** religiosity, culture, history, myths, Portuguese society.*

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