

## **Difference and Haecities: On the Religious Foundations of Deleuze's Philosophy of Difference**

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**Abstract :** Although much has been devoted to Deleuze's ethics of difference, relatively little has been focused on how his political perspective is informed by his appropriation of religious ideas and theological concepts. The bulk of the scholarly works have examined his political views with the assumption that they have little or nothing to do with his ideas of religions at all. This is in spite of the fact that Deleuze has drawn heavily from religious and theological thinkers such as Duns Scotus, Spinoza and Nietzsche. This dimension can also be traced in Deleuze's later works, when he collaborated with Felix Guattari in creating an anti-Oedipal philosophy of difference after May 68. This paper seeks to reverse the tendency in contemporary scholarship ignore Deleuze's 'religious' framework in his understanding of the ethical and the political. Towards this aim, we will refer to key texts in Deleuze's corpus such as Expressionism in Philosophy, A Thousand Plateaus and others.

**Keywords :** difference, haecities, identity, religion, theology

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