

# **The Cosmic Tree Shrine - Discophoric Column, Christian Symbolist and Decorative Projections of Ancient Beliefs**

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## **Abstract**

In the medieval period, the road crucifixes were the most important elements of worship in rural areas, this aspect being perpetuated until modern times with active reverberations even today. This magical foray into the past of our history, particularly on the river valleys of the historic counties of Argeş and Muscel, will help us to understand not only the art, tradition or way of thinking of Romanians but the whole spectrum of values of the Romanian village from the past centuries. The crosses discussed in this paper emphasize in a way, we say explicitly, how the Christian faith managed to hold this people together and perfect them in what we know today as the Romanian nation. This study does not silence the story of the Romanian road crucifixes, on the contrary they deepen the mystical meanings of the local folklore, opening the door to new research in the field.