

“Viewed Etymologically, the word sacred reveals its origins in restriction and prohibition. To be set apart from the world. Defining objects and places removed from individual use or ownership. In ancient Rome *sacratio* - the process of making sacred places, things - was often used as a political instrument used to alienate private possessions.”

“Religion stems from the latin *religiare*, “to bind together”. In a way religion is a form of canonisation of the sacred through the practise of rituals, that provide means to experience a revealed truth which cannot be experienced in any natural way.

Religion crystallises the sacred into a defined set of rules that bind together a member of the community and impose on them an ethos. As such, religion is always a paradox. Religion refers to a symbolic order that is meant to transcend reality, though its precise includes concrete experiences involving objects and places. Moreover, religion is always a social condition because its existence can only be recognised and thus shared by a collective body.”

“Walter Burkert analyses the social significance of religion...in terms of an exchange between biology and culture. According to him religion has historically played a fundamental role in reducing language potential for infinite complexity by providing an orientation for meaning, codifying reality as a series of oppositions - good and evil, normal and deviant, right and wrong, inside outside.

Within a community religion thus manifests itself as a limit, and ethical boundary that defines what is and is not acceptable. This possibly of reducing complexity into a binary dialectic can also be expressed spatially... - a religious space whose main features is its boundaries. In western civilisations, one of the most important models of a city was a sanctuary, built as a space enclosed by walls. At time populations moved across vast boundless territories, sanctuaries were sacred spaces places where normal rules were suspended - no carrying weapons, no killing allowed, otherwise hostile tribes would share the common place rules by the same authority...”

*Aureli, P,A, and Guidici, M, S -“ Rituals and walls, the architecture of a sacred space” pages 15-17 (2016) - AA publications * The quote has been condensed and edited down to accommodate the content*