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Periods of Hegel's world history (250 anniversary since the birth of the great thinker)

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The article analyzes four periodization schemes of world history (three-member, four-member, five-member and six-member), presented in the philosophical and historical views of «Elements of the Philosophy of Right» and «the Philosophy of history» by Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel (1770-1831). The German thinker characterized the Eastern, Greek, Roman, and Germanic worlds on such a basis as the principles of maturity of self-consciousness of the World spirit in the course of its liberation. On such grounds as the degree of human freedom and forms of government, they have identified despotism in the East (one is free), democracy in antiquity (some are free) and monarchy in Western Europe (all are free). By analogy with the ages of life of the human body, Hegel saw five ages of world history — childhood, adolescence, youth, adulthood and old age, and on such a basis as the "geographical basis of world history "he studied the cultures of the peoples of China, India, Persia, Greece, Rome and Western Europe.

Keywords: world history, culture, united humanity, peoples, state, progress, East, antiquity, Europe, Hegel

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