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Culture and civilization in philosophy of history by Oswald Spengler (140 anniversary since German thinker's birthday)

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Comparison of philosophical and historical views of N. Danilevsky and O. Spengler shows that both thinkers are related by the rejection of "one humanity" as a zoological concept or an empty word, a critical attitude to the generally accepted scheme of world history "Ancient world — Middle Ages — New time". Both thinkers revealed a colorful palette of a plurality of cultural organisms, each of which in its development goes through the stages of birth, maturity and old age. For the organicist O. Spengler, culture as an organism is an internal form of the creative life of people; at the stage of civilization, there is a sharp breakdown of all creative forces, a state of cold calculation, a numbness that turns culture into a mummy. Spengler's "Decline of Europe" is characterized as a biological and cultural forecast of the impending death of culture.

Keywords: world history, united humanity, progress, culture, civilization, typology of culture, organicism, Europe, Russia, N. Danilevsky, O. Spengler

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