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On the Issue of Studying the “Jewish Question” in the Legacy of F. M. Dostoevsky. Rhetorical Aspect.

Summary

The report is devoted to analyzing the types of rhetorical arguments used in the studies dedicated to the “Jewish question” in the works of F. M. Dostoevsky, which most often tend to “cleanse” the writer from the status of an anti-Semite that has been assigned to him.

The work consists of several parts: historical, theoretical, and practical.

The first part briefly presents the “Jewish question” in Russia through a historical prism. The author of the report relies on studies touching on the topic of the relationship between the Orthodox and the Jews, the problematic use of the words *Jew* and *Yid* in different periods of Russian history. For instance, the possible reasons for not letting the Jews cross the border of the Russian Empire are presented and discussed briefly.

In the second part of the report the main points of Aristotle’s work “Rhetoric” are presented and three types of rhetorical arguments are shortly overviewed.

The third part of the work presents rhetorical arguments found in the texts of A. Z. Steinberg, L. P. Grossman, A. G. Altunyan, N. N. Nasedkin, O. A. Platonov, M. B. Podnos, and G. S. Morson—authors who studied the topic of F. M. Dostoevsky’s attitude to the Jews. Based on the comparative analysis, the arguments are divided into several groups in accordance with Aristotle’s treatise “Rhetoric”—arguments from ethos, from logos, and from pathos. The total number of rhetorical arguments studied, their percentage ratio are presented, and the dominant type of argumentation is highlighted.