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<sup>1</sup> Already in the introduction to the work, Eliade himself states that this is the sense he intends to give to his project whenever he undertakes an investigation of the fundamental conceptions of so-called primitive communities. Nevertheless, he refrains from entitling *The Myth of the Eternal Return* with the subtitle *An Introduction to a Philosophy of History*, judging that such a designation would convey excessive ambition and presumption.

<sup>2</sup> Mircea Eliade, *The Sacred and the Profane: The Nature of Religion*, New York: 1961, p. 165

<sup>3</sup> Mircea Eliade, *The Sacred and the Profane: The Nature of Religion*, New York: 1961, p. 167