

## From the writings of Lajos Szabó (Notes 1947-1948)

What is an image and what is a form? Proportion and function.

All is a sign, that is not an end but points beyond itself. Sign is the functional intermediary between movement and reason.

I can only use a sign, a picture, a simile, a ratio, a function, if I am able to grab them at the precise moment of their crystallization from the subjective, immediate experience, from sensitivity.

A sign always points to differences. From the point of view of sensitivity: joy and suffering.

Joy: similarity. Suffering: difference, resistance.

Direct experience gives a direction: joy is spreading, universal in nature. The experience of self-evidence is born from joy.

The sign points at the solution: the whole, the existing, the reason.

What becomes a sign depends on the level of our sensitivity.

The relativity of being and signaling, their communal and universal character: this is the definition of human language.

A mark is the image of a natural sign. That which scratches harder, leaves a mark.

A sign signifies existence, existence is signalling, a sign is a being, a being is a sign, existence is the existence of signalling, the existence of signalling is a signal - beings are signals for each other.

Existence is the sign of existence. This logically requires a certain degree of splitting and branching of the One.

Observing and observed, sign and existing, reality and idea, being and image, being and strength, person and community, existing and existing, sign and sign, reality and phenomenon, me and the reality, me and All, existing and attribute, one and many, one and part – if one tears them apart, these dualisms lead to the consequence that the real, lived evaluation immediately gets turned on its head.

The possibility of infinite subdivision – the infinite activity – derives from the essence of man, created in the image of God. The boundaries of subdivision:

- how far do I wish to, and do I have the strength to, subdivide?
- subdivision has no quantitative nor qualitative bounds, back to the one and only mystery.

Diamond can subdivide glass, but glass cannot subdivide the diamond.

I need strength to divide one stick into two parts, but also to divide an abstract line into two parts: for that, I need spiritual strength.

Only with a concrete force and a concrete sense of direction can I divide a geometric line.

The point and the line are not simply abstractions, but mental-volitional-emotional realities: actions, productions, creations.

The meaning of a circle: it encircles me, it encircles all my projected moments: a horizon.

Every cause is a centre, acting in all directions.

An “image” appears to be a planar panorama, but in reality, it is a multi-dimensional, living entity. A planar image is not flat.

Poetry is axiomatics: the pondering of words.

Two does not exist.