Death and work or: death by work? A classical case study: Marx

Abstract:

The communist future envisaged by Marx bears the characteristics of a happy eschatology. The famous author was a workaholic, had been writing about work from his beginnings up to the end of his life, but seemingly – and rather paradoxically – he hated his subject, was uncomfortable with it. There is nothing noble about work in Marx: on the contrary, work is gloomy, it destroys or reduces men to animals, is a source of mortification. Marx's main concepts, alienation and reification, are directly related to death: the paper investigates several occurrences of death in Marx's early writings, especially in the Economic and Philosophical Manuscripts of 1844

Keywords: *Karl Marx, work, death, Economic and Philosophical Manuscripts of 1844, 19th century.*