

WHAT IS ZUISM?



The term “Zuism” derives from the Sumerian word *zu*, meaning “to know”. Zuism is therefore the “way of knowledge”, the way of knowing the appropriate modality of being human. It is the *gnosis* on how to appropriately stand in-between Heaven (*An* or *Dingir*) and Earth (*Ki*), by acting in accordance with the creative word (*utu*) and the measures (*me*) represented by the gods (*dingir*), all constituting the energetic *logos* (*lil*) of Heaven. It is a scientific and cosmic religion, open to the study of Heaven intended as the universe and the entirety of nature and to the reproduction of its laws, both in the macrocosm and in the microcosm.

The name “Zuism” has become the most common descriptor for the modern movement of Sumerian-Mesopotamian religion, being the name under which the religion has been recognised by the Icelandic government, since 2013. *Zu* means “to know”, as Zuism intends to be a new *gnosis* for a recoalescence of society, a re-socialisation according to the oldest religion of human civilisation. The Zuist Church of Iceland was founded years before, around 2010, and its history may be further traced back to a group of Icelandic believers who dwelt in Delaware, United States.

Decades before the recognition under Icelandic law, at least since the 1980s, there were already some groups of Sumerian-Mesopotamian religion, mostly small and informal, scattered throughout various countries, mostly Anglo-American countries. The term “Zuism” is synonymous of other descriptors which have been used by these groups, including “Sumerian-Mesopotamian Neopaganism” or “Sumerian-Mesopotamian Reconstructionism”, “Babylonian Neopaganism” or “Babylonian Reconstructionism”, and “Kaldanism” (“way of the Chaldeans”).[◇]

Zuism is an international religious movement, which intends to represent all the groups professing Sumerian-Mesopotamian religion. The Zuist organisation that is under the recognition of the Icelandic government, the Zuist Church of Iceland, intends to be a platform for all those who believe in Sumerian-Mesopotamian religion, and has already established branches in various countries since the mid-2010s. Many people are taking part in the development of Zuism, either within the Zuist Church or outside of it.



[◇] Note it well: Though seldom used, the term “Pagan” is accepted within Zuism in the original Latin meaning of *pāgānus*, that is to say “civilian”, related to the noun *pāgus* (“region/district/settlement/establishment/kinship” of a civilisation), to *pāx* (“peace”) and the verb *pācō*, *pācāre*, *pācāvī*, *pācātum* (“to make peaceful/appease”), and to the verb *pangō*, *pangere*, *pepigi*, *pāctum* (“to fasten/fix/set/establish”), all coming from the Indo-European root **pak-*, **pag-* (“to be firm/steady/standing”). In the Zuist usage, it means human society when it is divinely established in a celestial civilisation. Zuists reject the modern American distortion of the term as meaning any abnormal pseudo-“religious” movement, anything antisocial, uncivil, without normal civilisation. See: Pokorny, Julius (1959). *Indogermanisches etymologisches Wörterbuch*. Francke Verlag. p. 787 ff.