* **Ákos Pauler was a Hungarian philosopher of the early 20th century**
* His article was published in **Athenaeum**, a leading **Hungarian cultural and scientific journal**. The journal played a significant role in the intellectual life of Hungary from the mid-19th century onwards on topics such as politics, society, art, science, etc.

His article titled “New Culture Philosophy” is **an introduction to the Spenglerian idea and also a criticism related to his thoughts.**

**He kicked off by opposing Spengler to the classical Hegel philosophy** by saying **Hegel** sees history as a continuous process **towards the gradual unfolding of freedom and self-consciousness**. Oswald Spengler's is **radically different from Hegel's philosophy of history**, and he **argues that there is no objective, absolute truth or universal direction of development.** History is defined by **organic** cycles of independent culture’s “life” (which includes the notion of birth, life, and death).

According to Spengler, in the course of Western civilization, **three cultural systems have emerged so far:**

* **the Greco-Apollonian**
* **the Arabic-Magician**
* **and the West Faustian** (which is the third and which is now dying)

**These cultural epochs are characterized** not by their temporal sequence but by their “**soul,**” which, like living organisms, is born, grows, and dies. The soul itself is what determines the system of science, religion, social structure, and art. The latest **Western culture is currently in fall,** described by urban life**, expansion, imperialism, and the rise of technological civilization**. According to Spengler, the **decline is due to the replacement of internal religious depth by external technological progress.**

Pauler, most of the time, uses words that praise **Spengler's insights:**

* + "The author illustrates the timeless parallelism of different cultures in a very witty table."
	+ "Spengler reveals a great insight and an impressive intelligence."

**But Pauler highlights two main critical points:**

1. **Spangler’s relativism is logically self-contradictory**. **Spengler states universally valid theorems while claiming that there is no objective truth.**
	* Examples:
		+ All cultures are born and die in the same way
		+ In metropolitan civilizations, Spengler states, there is no longer any inner life, only "psychic processes"
2. This refers to **Spengler's dark prediction that Western culture will end in a few centuries.** This leaves out the idea of **'migration of cultures'**: cultures, although structurally closed entities, can change their ethnic basis and thus be passed on to other peoples.

**Pauler points out that cultures can die in two ways**: exhaustion of their ideal content (like Arab culture) or the decline of their ethnic basis (like Roman culture, which still survives in European civilization). Greek culture is special because of how it always searches for the truth, causing an endless process. Therefore, according to Pauler, European culture is immortal.

However, Pauler identifies two general theorems in Spengler's work with lasting value: one is the doctrine of the parallelism of cultures, and the other is the discovery and precise identification of the three basic cultural types that have emerged so far.