

سلطان ناجي بيروت، 1959م

ترجمة سبنجلر للتاريخ *

SPENGLER'S INTERPRETATION OF HISTORY

Oswald Spengler, (1880 -1936) was born at Blankenburg, Germany. He was the only surviving son, with three younger sisters.

Soon after Oswald's birth, his parents moved to Halle, where they were able to provide Oswald's with a university education. After graduation from a classical high school, Spengler attended three universities in turn: Munich, Berlin, and finally Halle where he completed his doctor's thesis. His major subjects of study were mathematics and natural sciences.

At the age of 24, Spengler received his doctor's thesis about Heraclitus after he had failed in his oral examination six months earlier! In 1908 Spengler received a teaching appointment in Hamburg Real-Gymnasium. He was a good teacher. Personally, he led a withdrawn life. In 1910 he gave up his teaching career and moved to Hamburg, then to Munich. In 1911 he resigned his teaching position and remained in Munich as a private scholar where he lived modestly on a small income inherited from his mother. He supplemented it by writing reviews and short articles. When the war broke out, Spengler was excused from military service because of his ill health. During the war years, he lodged in a dreary slum, took his meals in cheap working - class restaurants, and wrote much of The Decline by candle - light. In 1918 the first version of The Decline was published. It was followed by Prussianism And Socialism. In 1924 Spengler made trips to Sweden, Finland and Baltic states where he delivered lectures. In 1933 he published The Decline was Prussianism And Socialism. After that The Nazis boycotted his works. He died in Munich in 1936.

* بحث أعده المؤلف أثناء دراسته في الجامعة الأمريكية ببيروت، (بالإنجليزية، لم ينشر)

