"Reflections on Memory, Extractivism, and Religion in the Anthropocene" (online)

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The impact of human activity on the planet today has reached the scale of a geological force. The structures of extractivist capitalism are destroying habitats, environments, and spaces of memory. The processes triggered by this are often irreversible. They affect people, animals, and plants alike. Their catastrophic consequences confront us with the radical alterity of the planetary, which is beyond the grasp of modern notions of time, history, and progress. This has fundamental implications for our understanding of memory, politics, and religion. Confronted with the abyss of deep time, an alternative history of life flashes up before our eyes, leaving familiar distinctions between culture and nature behind. At the transition from a global to a planetary age, marginalized religious traditions can provide us with resources for the development of a post-anthropocentric relationship to the alterity of the planet, deep pasts, and a more than merely human future. A theology of the Anthropocene might take its starting point from these margins.