

MORAL BASIS OF ZARATUSHTRA TEACHING Rasulova T.S. Email: Rasulova17156@scientifictext.ru

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Abstract: *this article is devoted to the morality concept consideration in Zaratushtra teachings. It is known that the Prophet became a reformer of the religious doctrine that was confessed by his fellow tribesmen. It was Zaratushtra who introduced the good God Ahura Mazda, who should be worshiped, and his opponent, his twin brother Angra Mainyu, who should be avoided. Despite the fact that the Prophet lived thousands years ago, his teaching morality continues to amaze and delight with its humanity and striving for the man and mankind moral improvement. Therefore, the famous triad of the Prophet Zaratushtra about a good thought, a good word and a good deed remains not only in demand today, but also in many ways more relevant because of the difficult situation that all modern humanity is experiencing.*

Keywords: *morality, moral law, culture, good and evil, Divine judgment, interconnectedness of the Universe, Ahura Mazda, Angra Mainyu, Immortal Saints.*

НРАВСТВЕННЫЕ ОСНОВЫ УЧЕНИЯ ЗАРАТУШТРЫ Расулова Т.С.

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Аннотация: *статья посвящена рассмотрению концепции морали в учении Заратуштры. Известно, что Пророк стал реформатором религиозного учения, которое исповедовали его соплеменники. Именно Заратуштра представил доброго бога Ахура Мазду, которому следует поклоняться, и его противника, его брата-близнеца Ангра Майнью, которого следует избегать. Несмотря на то, что Пророк жил тысячи лет назад, его учение о морали продолжает удивлять и восхищать своей человечностью и стремлением к нравственному совершенствованию человека и человечества. Поэтому знаменитая триада пророка Заратуштры о доброй мысли, добром слове и добром деле остается не только востребованной сегодня, но и во многом более актуальной из-за сложной ситуации, в которой находится все современное человечество.*

Ключевые слова: *мораль, нравственный закон, культура, добро и зло, Божественный суд, взаимосвязанность Вселенной, Ахура Мазда, Ангра Майнью, Бессмертные святые.*

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*Maybe someone asks -Is it easy to go for those who bring Truth?
Of course, it is difficult to walk for everyone who brings,
and his fiery path can never be facilitated.
Agni Yoga, §167*

Zaratushtra's teachings moral foundations are not only a very interesting, but also his activity actual aspect, since moral and ethical norms are the basis of any human society, if it considers itself to be such. An indicator of relevance is that in the 21st century, military and civil confrontations, both between countries and within them, have not gone into the historical past. Terrorism and religious extremism have acquired an international character, and the misanthropic ideology is even becoming popular among a certain part of the youth certain modern states. Against this background, some artists' public statements who preach immorality as person's true freedom from any moral foundations and obligations are particular concern.

This statement absurdity is obvious to any sane person who understands that moral and ethical standards existed in any *proper human society*. They could change in different historical periods of human existence. This is due to the fact that people tend to interpret moral norms and philosophical and religious ideas based on their own, often selfish and momentary interests and goals. But these moral standards have always been, since they were brought to our planet by the Great Teachers of humanity for the development and advancement of human's immortal spirit by the steps of evolution and progress. For, a society, devoid moral foundation inevitably slides down to animal, or rather, bestial existence level. And, unfortunately, the human society development history has similar examples.

Prophet Zaratushtra was one of those Great Individuals who came to Earth from time immemorial to rekindle the fire of Divine Love in people. For, the fire began to slowly fade in human hearts under the priests dogmatized religious ideas influence, which in their rituals performed the letter, and not the Divine Law Spirit.

It is not by chance that Living Ethics says in this connection: “*The same unchanging Truth is given to humanity in various garments. Likewise, it has been perverted by restless crowds for less than a century*». [1, §178] Therefore, again and again there is an urgent need for the arrival of one or another mankind Teacher in order to cleanse the Truth from age-old layers, and to establish morality in society as the most important stage for man and human society spiritual development.

In other words, Zaratushtra tried to understand where evil comes from on our planet, and why there is so much cruelty and immorality in the world created by God? What leads a person to inhuman treatment of his own kind and animals? What awaits him in the posthumous existence, and is there anything waiting for him there at all? What is the Divine Truth, what is it and how is it manifested on Earth?

These unasked, but certainly arising questions led Zaratushtra to the search for Truth, as well as the realization of the need for a radical reform of the religious concept. For, according to the Prophet the religion that was professed by his fellow tribesmen, was clearly outdated, no longer meeting the needs of the modern era.

Thus, the real life of ordinary people, with its kindness and cruelty, righteousness and unrighteousness, wisdom and stupidity, morality and depravity, contributed to the tireless, purposeful search for the Divine Truth. In the process of this search, Zaratushtra saw in his vision Ahura-Mazda himself and his eternal opponent and antagonist, Angra Mainyu, who coexisted with him. Thanks to this vision, Zaratushtra understood where so much evil in the world came from. For, the original existence of two spirits, like twin brothers - Ahura Mazda (the Wise God) and Angra Mainyu (an evil, ignorant spirit, who, due to his ignorance, left the Path of Truth and Righteousness), led humanity to the need for a moral choice between them. This moral choice of a person between Good and evil, a righteous life and an unrighteous one, between the observance of moral standards and immorality continues to this day.

Moreover, the moral choice between good and evil, i.e. between the worship of Ahura Mazda and the worship of Angra Mainyu, the choice that a person must make every moment of his existence is not so easy or insignificant for him. This is due to the fact that a person, living in the manifested material world, as a rule, does not feel his original connection with all of Being, the entire Universe as a whole. That is why, in solving certain problems, people often proceed from selfish considerations of momentary profit, or self-interest, without understanding and without foreseeing the severe consequences of their wrong or immoral choice, which always leads to unrighteous actions. For, the unrighteous, immoral actions of a person not only harm the people around him, animals and nature, but also him, since they are always punished, if not by human, then by Divine judgment.

Moreover, immorality, vice, oblivion of the Cosmic Laws, the main of which is Love for All That Is, turns for a person into a spiritual degradation of personality. And spiritual degradation is accompanied by involutory processes of his spirit, which is more terrible than the earthly, human judgment. It is no coincidence that an ancient Indian tale says that by doing evil to another, you are doing evil to yourself, and by doing good to another, you are doing good to yourself. This is due to the fact that everything in the world is interconnected, like a mycelium (mushroom spawn), which binds all the mushrooms in the clearing into a single, integral organism.

However, despite the fact that all the Great Teachers of humanity preached this obvious truth, humanity stubbornly continues not to understand and recognize it. Thus, mankind adds up grave consequences not only for itself personally, but for the whole world as a whole, precisely because everything on Earth and in the Universe is interconnected. Living Ethics says: «*The freedom that so attracts a person is an illusion. In Immensity there is freedom of choice, and in this is all beauty. Freedom of choice affirms a person. And a man assigns for himself the world of consequences to himself. This is how a life of addiction is created*» [2, §193].

In other words, by his actions, a person creates for himself his own world of consequences, when good deeds impel his spirit towards true freedom and beauty. While immoral and evil deeds enslave him completely, leading to complete dependence on his base desires and selfish aspirations. But in order to come to an understanding of the importance of moral principles, one needs to have a sufficiently developed spiritual organization that allows a person to act in a highly moral manner, despite the obviousness. In other words, one often has to act to the detriment of oneself personally, one's material prosperity, or social position, but for the sake of the General Good, which, ultimately, turns out to be good for the individual himself.

Reforming the religion of his fellow tribesmen, Zaratushtra formulated concepts of the existence of the six Amesha-Spenta, i.e. Immortal Saints who play a huge role in the Teachings of the Prophet. For they contain spiritual and moral qualities that are the attributes of Ahura Mazda himself. Even the names of the six Immortal Saints indicate that morality and ethical standards were central to the religious teachings of the Prophet.

The religious and ethical teaching of Zaratushtra was revolutionary for his era. The Prophet spoke for the first time that the fact of a person's birth in a priestly environment, to which Zaratushtra himself belonged, as well as the formal performance of religious rituals and abundant sacrifices are not a panacea for a possible posthumous punishment for an unjustly lived life. Moreover, Zaratushtra did not deny the possibility of salvation not only to men from lower social strata, but also to women! He preached that every soul after its physical death will be judged for all its deeds, when all moral actions of a person will be placed on one side of the scales, and all his immoral deeds will be placed on the other.

It is quite natural that this Zaratushtra's idea was received extremely negatively by the priests. They believed that only a caste of priests could claim a Paradisiacal Abode, while all other people would vegetate and languish not at all in Elysian Fields, experiencing terrible torment and suffering. Meanwhile, the Prophet Zaratushtra argued that a

gloomy, joyless existence in a place of torment and suffering, which is "supervised" by the spirit of evil - Angra Mainyu, awaits only the person who commits evil deeds, thereby violating the Divine Law of Ahura Mazda.

Moreover, Zaratushtra formulated a moral law that had to be strictly observed and fulfilled by all his supporters, adherents and followers - namely, *a good thought, a good word and a good deed*. This triune moral and ethical code, proclaimed by the Prophet Zaratushtra, was not so much an abstract religious and philosophical as a moral and practical one. For, he asserted both doing good deeds necessity and the rigor in the use of good words and, most importantly, good thoughts.

Even more amazing is the fact that for thousands of years after the departure of Zaratushtra, the ideas he voiced have not lost their relevance. They even became more understandable and in demand right now, when the world is shaken by cataclysms and a pandemic. Therefore, humanity will have to make its vital choice: to profess a good thought, a good word and a good deed, or to follow the lead of its most base, animal instincts.

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