

Humanitarian and Ethical Values in the *Shahnama* of Wahab Parray Hajin

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Abstract

The theme and aim of this topic center's round to a burning question i.e. Humanism and universal brotherhood. It is indeed painful to see that this world full of the great personalities professing universal harmony and brotherhood is now riddled with fissiparous tendencies like fundamentalism, disharmony and intolerance. But it should be noted that without harmony, love and international understanding the cultural and economic growth and progress of any country cannot make any headway.

It is perhaps pertinent to look back and examine the works of Kashmiri intellectuals and poets who had advocated for generating a tolerant attitude in all matters of life and actions, in fostering goodwill, universal brotherhood and loving friendship among the people of the world because, 'literature has the supreme function of raising the quality of human beings'. When we study great classics of any literature, our mind become dyed to their thoughts. They gave us moral contentment. With a view to focusing on these humanistic values, I have selected the *Shahnama* of Wahab Parry Hajni where numerous instances and utterances of the poet echoing the spirit of ethics and universal brotherhood are to be found.

Introduction

The spirit of humanism, tolerance and universal brotherhood and concern for the social justice seem to have run through out the writings and sayings of the poets and sufis over the ages. Love for all irrespective of faith or land has been expressed again in the verses of poets and writings of the scholars of Kashmir. Quite in consonance with the spirit of the earlier 'sufis and poets' humanism and universalism were the main trends of their idealism and philosophy.

Kashmiri literature is multi-dimentional in its scope. It is the most powerful vehicle in propagating the message of love, mutual understanding, ethics and morality among the men of all climes and cultures. Poets and writers of this language had a world-view based on human out looks and literature has its edifice on fraternity and love.

Kashmiri stalwarts like Shaikh-ul Alam (R.A.), Lelled, Haba Khaton, Soach Kral, Mahmood Gami, Rasool Mir, Shams Fakeer, Wahab Khar and many others have made efforts to promote moral and human values. But Wahab Parray Hajin took firm and effective steps to champion the cause of humanity and uplift of mankind through his most effective and monumental work the *shahnama*. He extolled the virtue of friendship and

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loyalty, charity, benevolence and love towards all, honesty, righteousness, plain living and high moral thinking. Hence, besides being a book of historical and literary importance, the Shahnama has also been the ethical symbol for spiritual movement and holy aspirations which goes a long way to create awakening among nations of the world.

Ethics or moral philosophies are the hallmark of Islamic philosophical and aesthetic culture. The concept of humanism and universalism will be of no value without the assimilation of ethics in the character of a man. Only ethics and morality can create sense of universal brotherhood and mutual understanding among mankind. Islamic idealism pleads for high standard of morality and ethics in which there is no place of intolerance and hatred. A man of ethical virtues becomes moral in his relations to his fellow being and super among them by an easy control of the conflicts of his lower instinct and desires, and by superior excellence of character.

Wahab Parry has kept the standard of this very ethics and morality intact in his Shahnama. He had high regards for truth, virtue and morality. More over in his eyes religion occupied a high place, because it performs the most vital and crucial role in promoting mutual understandings, friendships, co-operations and morals among different nations. He is of the opinion that all men are the servants of God and they should not kill each other, not even shed a drop of blood. Instead they should pay full attention to the complete development of human personality. Human values develop from conviction and chastity, ethics and morality. The moral and ethical sensitivity of the verses of Wahab parry has inspired mankind generations after generations.

Wahab Parry teaches us moral lessons and wisdom through his sublime verses. If His episodes are carefully studied we will find that many of them have ethical and moral teachings. Ethics, morality, admonitions, counseling, bravery, honesty, love, chastity and purity looms large in the Shahnama.

The magic of Wahab Parry's teaching is that the people got the lesson of morality, universalism, and brotherhood and it was not was not limited up to kings and nobles but it has affected common people also. This is the reason that his popularity was spread from court to market. Let us find the essence of humanism and ethics in the verses of Wahab parry. It should be noted here that his ethical and moral teachings are based on Islam, especially knowledge, wisdom, justice, truthfulness and man's non tormenting attitude.

According to Wahab Parry main purpose of education is to rectify and correct man's moral and ethical conduct. He has tried to perform this pious duty through his verses. He

considered knowledge one of the most important qualities which help man in understanding importance of mankind and main purpose of his coming to this world:

ژکینڑھا کم و زیاد سرمایہ کر
پنن وقت اوقات موصایہ کر
چھ سرمایہ بوڈ فضل پروردگار
بفضل خدا روز وومیدوار
ولو ساقیو جام عرفان دم
مدا چم براہ خدا زان دم
سہ یدووے دیم اصلچی زان میے
تسنز زان چہم دین ایمان میے

Goodness and purity are the main elements of a good human being. The Shahnama has elucidated in its tales about evil and good; of how people can be directed towards goodness and taken away from wickedness. Wahab parray, with the help of an episode speaks about its importance.

To have good relations with one's neighbour and kinsman is one of the teachings of Islam. True humanity is but an aspect of true love for the neighbors.

بہ خلوت سہ گو پیش افرا سیاب کورکھ وار باہم سلام و جواب
کران اسی ملکن بندے گفتگوے دشے باے بارنی بہتھ روبرو

In short Wahab parray's Shahnama is enshrined the ideals and institutions of modern and universal religion as well as of an excellent and comprehensive

Ethical system has the entire human race, its welfare and uplift, in view and gives "the healing out look of life." It has brought fourth a new conception of ultimate reality a new vision of the universal man. Through the characters in his tales Wahab parray teaches men to display high morals and ethics, to speak the truth, to show sympathy even at the sacrifice of their own interest, to be good even to those who have done evil. He teaches men to be submissive, but not only by loosing self respect. He expresses his views that man should understand that life of a man is universal, his feelings are universal. Hence, he should believe in universalism and mutual understanding.

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