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The Impact of the Revealed Ontological Basis on the Design of the Utopian City: Sadra's Perspective

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Abstract

The present study seeks to explain Sadra's utopian city by examining the foundations of Mulla Sadra's ontology based on revealed propositions. According to Sadra's Utopian Medina, which is based on the theory of gradation of existence and the motion in essence all beings except God are in motion pursuing their evolution and perfection. On the basis of revealed legal system, human beings are moving toward evolution too. Human prosperity and development can be achieved if he is placed in the proper context, namely, the utopia. Mulla Sadra, holds that considering the best cosmological plan as the real feature of the world, it is senseless to deny the existence of best revealed legal system for human happiness and development. It means that the theory of best design as God- given natural feature of the world contains the theory of the best God- given legal system for human salvation and it is impossible to reject it. This Medina has three pillars: people, the law and the ruler. The prophet is the ruler and after the prophet the infallible Imams are the ruler of Madinah. According to Sadar's view in absence of Imam the political leadership is not interrupted and the Hakims are charged for ruling the Muslim societies. He holds that a true jurisprudent is as the mystic and wise mystic.

Keywords: Ontology, Utopia, Mulla Sadra, Transcendental Law, Ruler.

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Problem Statement

From ancient time, many philosophers and thinkers have come up with the idea of utopia, and people like Plato, Farabi, Sheikh Eshraq, Khajhe Tusi and others have discussed it and each has put forward a model based on his own intellectual framework. The idea of the utopia an idea designates to build a Utopian city whereby citizens can live a virtuous and valuable life and achieve the development of spirituality, peace, and purity for the growth and excellence of humanity. In this research, the following questions are e answer:

- •What are the ontological basis of Sadra?
- •What Sadra's philosophical foundation is used for building Utopian city?
- •What is Mulla Sadra's utopian city?
- •What is the key elements in Mulla Sadra's theory on utopian city?
- •How did Mulla Sadra has put forward the government of the jurisprudent or the religious world?

In fact, man faces the challenge of how a man can build a medina in which his abilities and talents are realized, and human life is free of any controversy and injustice, full of goodness and peace and purity. There are many different solutions to these questions in different schools of thought. But the key question of this article is to deal with Sadra Shirazi`s opinion as a theosophist philosopher.

Method

The questions presented in this paper was studied and examined in a descriptive – analytic method.

Findings and Results

According to Sadra's Utopian Medina, which is based on the theory of gradation of existence and the motion in essence all beings except God are in motion pursuing their evolution and perfection. On the basis of revealed legal system, human beings are moving toward evolution too. Human prosperity and development can be achieved if he is placed in the proper context, namely, the utopia. This city has three pillars: the people, the law and the ruler. The people are the citizens of Utopia, and thus the citizen of Utopia is someone whose social life is based on their religious beliefs, thus acquiring the citizenship of such a city is not dependent on variables such as geography, race, and social class. In such a society, human growth and excellence are provided in different areas. Law is inevitable in Sadrian society. The bodily characteristics that exist in man have made him a profitable creature that, if left unchecked by law, will lead to corruption in society. So laws made by man are naturally enacted in such a way that the profits are made. Therefore, in order to achieve happiness and prosperity, we need a law of metaphysical driven law and a source who has entirely access to the supernatural world, knowing all good and evil. God is considered as such source in Sadra's view.

This law requires the performer which is seen as same as the ruler. The prophet is the ruler and after the prophet the infallible Imams are the ruler of Madinah. According to Sadar's view in absence of Imam the political leadreship is not interrupted and the Hakims are charged for ruling the Muslim societies. He holds that a true jurisprudent is as the mystic and wise mystic. Such a person must be a self-realized person who is capable of discerning divine commandments and laws. A conclusive jurisprudent is a true example of such ruler in absentia era according to Sadra. According to the Sadrian philosophy, in order to grow and achieve perfection, believers must have a government that uses the political power as a means to help people to get closer to God.

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