

THE PATTERN OF THE “PERFECT MAN” IN SUFISM

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ABSTRACT

In the history of culture, one of the most important periods in the study of the problem of the nature and formation of the “perfect man” was the historical stratum of medieval Islamic culture, in which the Sufi discourse played an important role. Sufism as a religious and mystical direction in Islam is actualized in the light of the study of the classical cultural heritage of the peoples of the East and modern socio-cultural processes.

Sufism played a significant role in the development of medieval Islamic culture and made its unique contribution to the concept of the ‘perfect man’. The Sufi doctrine is based on the aspiration to unity with the Divine through personal mystical experience and spiritual practices that help to purify the soul.

Sufi thinkers such as Rumi, Ibn Arabi, and Al-Ghazali, Akhmet Yassawi saw perfection in the harmony between knowledge and heart, where a person finds inner peace and insight through love for God and constant self-improvement. For them, the “perfect man” was presented as an ideal combining both spiritual and moral perfection, which makes Sufism particularly significant for study in the context of both classical and modern Oriental heritage. Sufism has a significant impact on the history of art and has influenced various art forms: literature, painting, architecture and music.

Keywords: culture, Sufism, perfection, harmony, mystical experience, spiritual practices.

INTRODUCTION

Sufism as a mystical branch of Islam does emphasize a personal and direct experience of spiritual communion with God, emphasizing the particular importance of inner insight and ecstatic states. Followers of Sufism strive for a state of spiritual union with the deity, and in order to do so go through various stages and practices known as ‘The Way’ (Tariqat). The centerpiece of this practice is love for God, which expresses the utmost devotion and aspiration to spiritual perfection. Such currents were not uncommon during the Middle Ages, and mysticism took a significant place in all major religious systems (Buddhism, Hinduism, Judaism, Christianity) created by mankind. In every culture historically we trace the presence of mysticism. According to V.V. Bartold: ‘The Sufis’ idea of the deity and means of getting closer to