

A comparative investigation of viewpoints of Imam Khomeini and the author of “The Dark night of Soul” on the status of love in the mystics

By: Abdari, Robaba

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Abstract

The dissertation is coming in two parts: Research & Translation. In the translation part – full Persian translation of – the book calls “The dark night of Soul” is presented and in the second part in 3 distinguished chapters the viewpoints of the author of the book and Imam Khomeini in the discourse of “love status in mystic manner” are investigated and the views of the two contemplative men are compared. Both mystic men believed in some steps and stages to walk through gnostic rout and they recognize and explain 3 steps in this walk as purgation, enlightening and uniting. In their view purgation or purification that is the most important step in mystic rout it is done in two steps as active purgation and passive purgation. The active purgation is an outcome of the person’s own efforts and the passive purgation is received as God’s special favor and fulfillment of passive purgation is done through Godly love. Thus, in both contemplative men views love is a natural affair and an outcome of God’s favor and attraction the highest degree of which is received only by God’s sincerest worshipers and the best guide in the walk of mysticism as well as the most important factor in edification is purgation of the soul. Love from the viewpoints of both thoughtful men is the vehicle to get the uniting point with God and access to the stage of resolving in God.