

# **The relationship of the epistemology and getting to know the identity within Imam Khomeini's political thought**

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## **Abstract:**

Imam Khomeini (peace be upon him) who is the great architect of Iran's Islamic revolution is the one who has revived the new individual and social identity and that is the origin of the big changes in the domestic scene, in the regional scene and in the international scene as well.

A political understanding of him requires that we examine the subjects that are epistemological and the ones that aim at revealing the political identity of the center of his thinking system:

The first subject: knowledge is the presence of the object or its version through finding the intermediary of that which is the intermediary and that belongs to the scientist and that has this feature that that is a rightful belief and that is justifiable. The acceptance of having made a mistake propels those getting to know the knowledge to explain how getting knowledge, its limitation, its levels and its degree of credibility and its sources in the field of epistemology. Imam Khomeini mentioning the sources of knowledge (the sense, the logic, the self, the witnesses, the revelation ) and beside separating the fields that are of a knowledge kind he draws the length and the perfection kind of a relationship among the knowledge that have been mentioned so that with their support the human beings may reach the desired perfection. The legitimate knowledge according to him are:

1) the logical realistic knowledge: the logic as the matter that has been sent and that is near to God has two aspects and one of them is theoretical and one of them is scientific. The theoretical aspect of the logic indulges in the tasks of reasoning, getting the conclusion, the analyzing and mixing, the decree and the compilation of the logical and the ones that have to do mind work and the practical one does that with the rational ideas.

2) the realistic knowledge that is of a witnessing kind: the lack of merit of the logic to understand those that should be understood and they are of the kind that they have no concepts and enabling the human beings to reach the desired perfection makes the witnessing and they are done through seeing without having an intermediary and they are of a superior kind of knowledge necessary.

The principle matter of such the witnessing is having faith and through the support of the entrance of the logical understandings to the heart and the training of the self that can be had.

3) the witnessing kind of the knowledge and that is of a realistic and revelation kind: The general logic as the first determination, the will of God and the light and its witnessing (the revelation) is the most principle and the greatest reliable source and that is of a knowledge kind. That kind of the witnessing because of the unity of the logic and what is reasonable is completely compatible with what is real and there is not the probability that there will be any mistakes concerning that. The second subject: the political identity means who you are and what that is and the distinction and its concreteness relating to others and that is the result of the its inner dealings (those that are common) and the outside dealings (those that separate) and they are in the individual and in the collective areas. The politics means the power, the ruling and... and here because of the attention paid to the identity that means the sponsorship, the guiding and the leadership. The result of that sameness of being religious and politics concerning Imam's thought is the concreteness of the political identity and the religious identity. Having faith regarding the Godly guardianship regarding the religious and political identity leads to this that what there are inclined toward their duties within the individual and collective area and they are located in the center. The teachings of the Quran and they are "the people", "the ones who are the believers" and... noting that the inclination toward performing their duties is the axis and that is in the individual identity of them leads to them being Godly individuals and once they are in the direction of becoming complete they are ascended to the rank of the perfect human beings. And the teachings of the Quran and one of them is the people who are the believers ...noting the same being the axis regarding the collective identity regarding the direction of becoming perfect and then becoming the oneness people and they are the believers will come true. The assessing of the proportions between the concept of the knowledge and the identity we will understand that the latter is the independent variable and the identity is the dependent one. And the rationale behind those two parts is a logical one as such that the subjects that are of a knowledge kind force on that which is the suggestive and the identity subjects force on that which purports.

**Key words:** *Imam Khomeini, the epistemology, the political identity, the political thought*