

# Practical perspectives of mysticism and politics in Imam Khomeini life

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**Year:** 2008

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## Abstract

The concept and connection between mysticism and politics in thought and works of Imam Khomeini has been the real subject of this study that the present study has addressed using a descriptive-analytical method.

Imam Khomeini maintain that politics is not limited to the "idea of governance", tactics, strategy to gain power, or just a way to manage the society's affairs, but a comprehensive guide to meet the material and spiritual needs of human beings, and a way to flourish human talents, to achieve perfection and an eternal satisfaction.

The honorable Imam also considered mysticism to be the knowledge of God the Almighty and all his inherent things, His attributes, and to understand the manifestations of His names and deeds and to observe their presence.

Imam, the great Muslim scholar of contemporary history, by dividing politics into three types: evil, animalistic and divine. Imam believes that the ideal political system of Islam is divine-oriented and has characteristics such as: convergence of religion and politics, divine legitimacy, value-oriented, duty-oriented, prosperous and guiding, human dignity, universality, and enjoyment.

From Imam's viewpoint, Politics can be considered as an all-out source of Islamic diplomacy.

The divine-oriented system based on jurist governance has also been proposed as best system and provides the best structure.

On the other hand, Imam's mysticism has characteristics as it is closely associated with the Qur'an and it is also a combination of reason and intuition.

In addition, it is also a combo of creation and epicism.

The present research also explores the external and internal relationship between Shari'a and Tariqah and truth, the mystical concept of Reza and Tawakul through Imam's works.

It also studies the mystical theory by Imam that is referred to as the four spiritual journeys, and the Imam's analysis of these journeys, especially the fourth journey.

These are prominent evidences that a positive relationship between mysticism and politics is prevails in Imam's thought and ideals.

According to Imam, the spiritual seekers who have followed the path of perfection and follow example of the holy Prophet and other divine saints, have a duty to guide other human beings.

These all ideals by Imam can provide a suitable space for their path, which can be only accomplished by entering the field of social life.

**Keywords:** *Imam Khomeini, Mysticism, Politics, Political thought and ideals, jurist governance (Velayat-e Faqih), Islamic government*