

Nietzsche's Zoroaster

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Abstract: "Thus Spoke Zoroaster" is Nietzsche's the gospel. He maybe sees himself another Christ in another era, an era which requires a different glad tiding; Glad tiding of a strong and overflowing life. Destroying old values, Nietzsche desires to establish new values. Human beings should pass existing level and it is impossible unless they pass through themselves and release from revengefulness. Nietzsche's Zoroaster is a teacher who tries to reveal human being from thought of animosity and direct him toward super human. Nietzsche believes that Christian and rational values justify nihilism and he tries to show us a resolution for these crises by Zoroaster and he thinks about the people who are able to encounter with nihilism.

Key words: Nietzsche • Zoroaster • Super human • Eternal recurrent • God's death

INTRODUCTION

Zoroaster is an Iranian-Arian prophet and establisher of the religion of ancient Iran. This religion includes this fact that there is a permanent battle between two powers of Ahuramazda (good) and Aqhreman (bad). This polarized dichotomy has been used by a lot of philosophers in the next years and the concept dialectic is derived from this dichotomy.

But what is Nietzsche's answer to this question? Nietzsche is categorized in a group of philosophers which are Iranian-based. Henry Korban [1] classifies philosophers into two parts:

- Followers of reasoning epistemology
- Followers of intuitive epistemology

The first group is called kushists. Kush is the old name of Habashe. Kushists originate from Aristotle and in recent times they continue with Descartes, Kant and Hegel. But the second group is called "Disciples" (Iranian-based) or Iranism. This group geographically covers a vast area which violates the land of Iran and it expands to central Europe. Pythagoras and most of PreSocratics are Iranist and it continues to the recent times with Eckhart, Jacob Boehm, Fichte and Nietzsche, Spinoza and Goethe. This group deals with intuition and

they believe that rationality fails to discover existence enigma. This issue can be inferred repeatedly in Nietzsche's writings; for example in the theory of "eternal recurrent":

Nietzsche says: This is the Iranian unique man who saw existing engine of every thing in the fight between the good and the evil. He is the most truthful thinker of all. His teachings, only his, take truthfulness as the best virtue. Its opposite pole is coward, who runs away when he sees reality. Zoroaster was the bravest of all thinkers. The Persian virtue is presenting reality and throwing the arch [2].

Nietzsche chooses the title "Thus Spoke Zoroaster" for his greatest work. This is a book for every one and no one. His basic philosophical tenets are presented in this book and from Zoroaster's words, the concepts such as eternal recurrent, in fact, this book is the focus of his attempts to construct new values after destroying old values.

Nietzsche's philosophy tend to the destruction of values such as patience, compassion humility and on the other hand sanctify the values such as dynamism, movement, courage, enthusiasm, dare and courage. Indeed, all the above values, have been emphasized in Islam therefore Nietzsche's ideas and thoughts are in line with Islamic principles. It should Be admitted that Nietzsche, is not a symbol of blasphemy and atheism and his philosophy ha special Appropriateness

with understanding the Islamic identity in modern world. Moreover, he try to understand and investigate Islam with basic paradigms such as the Quran, the Prophet, the Rashdyn caliphs and Medina.

The prophet Zoroaster consists of certain mental and behavioural ideals which Nietzsche named them "superman". He comes down from his resort in mountains after ten years and in his first meeting, he met a saint old man. Nietzsche asked him what he does here and the old man answered that he worships his God. Leaving him alone, Nietzsche said: this saint old man still does not know that God is dead [3]. In fact, by God's death, the basis of old value has been collapsed and human being is looking for a new metaphysical basis for ethics. It leads to values acceptability crisis which is an indicator of emerging nihilism and its solution is rethinking about values including truth, ethics, justice and law. The only verified one who can be human's teacher is Zoroaster so that he shows human beings the way of overcoming on self and makes a bridge out of the men for emergence of superman.

As a matter of fact, superman teachings indicate Nietzsche's mental involvement for growing of human after legislation crisis and downgrading moral values, a crisis which involves human being in nihilism. In other words, Zoroaster is Nietzsche himself that is supposed to achieve something more valuable through sever dissatisfaction. So, he wants to respect existence and life. Nietzsche's Zoroaster, as an observer, is a creator who both looks forward to the future and stands on a bridge which takes human to the future.

Martin Heidegger [4] answers the question of who is Nietzsche? and says: "Zoroaster is a speaker, of what type? Zoroaster is an asking speaker. What does he call for? Life, suffer, remote. But why does he ask us to these thins? Because he healed. Of what? Of his great disgust of human."

Zoroaster has two teachings: super human and eternal recurrent. Through these teachings, Zoroaster wants to conquer over life's nihilism after destroying values and so that it can be tranquilizer for who are alive for their eagerness and tendency toward life. Zoroaster is Nietzsche's complete quit of modernism. Some other anti-modernism critics were found in 19th century, but none of them could pass through modernism and Nietzsche was the only one who could do that. Nietzsche was the first person who contemplated about modernism much wider and more critically than Marx and Freud that is why Nietzsche is the milestone of modern philosophy and is appealed by post-modernist philosophers.

Regarding the fact that Christian and rational values causes nihilism, Zoroaster attempts to show the solution of this problem. He thinks about the humans who can encounter with nihilism; a person who says yes to life and has reached to a higher level of wisdom and passed through the despised complexes of humanity. Such humans know that this is life and existence that can help them reach to nobility and not devalued Christian and rational values.

From Nietzsche's ideas, through God's death, all ethics based on goodness and badness of different forms of idealism will be dissolved and Zoroaster is preacher of the ethics resulted from human's creativity in the godless world. In this era, human wants to be the one who he is, but why is this function assigned to Zoroaster [5].

As Zoroaster is the founder of the oldest dualist religion which is the preacher of the ethics based on the battle between goodness and badness, so he himself also should announce the end of ethics based on goodness and badness and invites us to beyond the goodness and badness. Nietzsche believes that the ethics based on goodness and badness is resulted from his slavery viewpoint to life. As long as this viewpoint exists, emergence of superman is impossible. Therefore, we need a prophet who makes humans ready to accept a higher form of existence which is superman by making them pass through former humanity and his help for "overcoming self" and "revenge" which resulted from despising existence.

Superman is Zoroaster's teaching after the event of "God's death" which is in line with the meaning of earth. In "Thus Spoke Zoroaster", Nietzsche says: "superman will be the meaning of earth. I beg you, brothers keep faithful to earth and do not believe their currents about beyond earth hopes [3]. from this paragraph, it can be inferred that superhuman can not be sought among fictions and metaphysical and idealistic virtues. Humans can contemplate the highest stage of existence provided that circumstances are ready.

Humans should pass beyond the current stage and it is impossible unless they can pass through self and be released from revenge. Releasing of humans from revenge spirit is the opposite point of Nietzsche's ideas. Nietzsche says:

"Releasing from revenge is a bridge to my best hopes and is a rainbow out of long storms [6].

Superhuman is a name for human's nature which is accompanied with existence, therefore, to reach future human, first we should pass through modern humanity and passing beyond existing human can come true under the teaching of "eternal recurrent".

As a matter of fact, eternal recurrent help human get rid of revenge soul and releases human from sick volition which always approaches toward negation. Human should accompany with time to pass beyond the stage “saying no” to the stage “saying yes”, because Nietzsche sees revenge as animosity with existing currents and sees staying as being.

Superhuman is a person who is not resistant against time. He knows what happened, it already happened and time can not be taken back and there can be no resistance against what is being happened. Therefore, he accepts that mortality is a comprehensive law and imagined eternity is nature, coming and going. He says yes to all humans. He is not a person coming in the future, but he is a human is released from revenges and conquered over life nihilism and releases from revenges through teaching of eternal recurrent. Based on the concept of “revenge” and “conquering over self”, a new humanity can be found in Nietzsche’s works which has been elaborated beautifully in Nietzsche and Heidegger, passing toward post-modernism [7].

Old Human: Old human is a human who puts the will of self protection as opposed to conquering over self and believes that discovers luckiness and is satisfied with protecting himself and does not believe risking anymore, as a matter of fact, he believes nothing. There is no excitement and passion inside him and such a human’s behaviour is relative and empty and there is no distinction inside him. He is the most despised human and despises everything. To Nietzsche, the most despised human is Hegel’s post-historical human. He is a classless human who lives in a mass post-historical society and wishes nothing but self maintenance in the simplest possible method. The old man is the source of nihilism. Nietzsche also names such a human with other names: two kings, long ear, aware of spirit nature, magician, the last pop, the ugliest human, self-wanted beggar, shadow and predictor each of which is a representative of a special philosophical, scientific and religious school which are at the service of nihilism, because they are replete with revenge. In three Nietzsche’s big changes, this old human is the camel’s life which carries old values.

Passing Human: Zoroaster is a symbol of a passing human. He calls for us to life; Zoroaster is an evoker to volition to power. He has two teachings: superman and eternal recurrent.

Zoroaster passes two stages to go beyond superman: falling and rising. In falling, some experiences such as luck, reason, justice and existing virtue which have been

praised so far, will become disgusting and in rising, by teaching of “eternal recurrent” endows superhuman experience wish to humans [8].

He attempts to teach “conquering over self” as life’s law and show to human beings that how to go beyond the event of God’s death and nihilism governing. Nietzsche’s Zoroaster is a teacher who is trying to release human from revenge thought and direction to super human.

He is tranquilizer for the people who survive just because of their eagerness to life and super human. Zoroaster is Nietzsche’s main weapon at the center of his thoughts and is contemplation about necessity of passing through “old human” to “super human”. In fact, Zoroaster is “camel’s existence” which breaks false and old values and says “no” to them.

Super Human: Nietzsche wants to introduce the opposite point of “old human” by the concept “super human”. Human creates by conquering over self and the spirit of revenge and the belief of getting better. He sacrifices his life for great works and sees greatness in staying beyond good and bad. He is beyond good and bad and creates new norms. Super human comes with the meaning of earth after God’s death. He has an obligation to earth and his body and prioritizes becoming and considers totality of humanity in the circle of “eternal recurrent”. This is the third stage of big change which is called “child existence”. He begins to create new values. He is like a child who creates, builds and destroys and recreates. He creates new ethics. He creates new culture and values by volition of power and teaching of eternal recurrent [9]. Therefore, super human is a human with new ethics and culture. He is not an angel, nor is he an animal. He is the highest level of nurture and unity of reasoning power, volition and personality power, independence, passion and enthusiasm. He considers nothing as wrong but inability which is hidden under the mask of religion, reasoning, virtue and wickedness. He is free and independent and says “yes” to life.

CONCLUSION

Nietzsche is among thinkers that have great impact on ideas of intellectuals and artists after his life and impact of this effect has been continued until today. Zarathustra - Nietzsche and gospel said the same thing. Perhaps he saw himself as another Christ in another era, an era that demands another "evangelical" gospel of Rich and powerful life. Zarathustra is a complete man, has courage and boldness, has perfect health and is

proficient. Zarathustra divided man into two categories, superior minority and the ignorant follower majority. Nietzsche resented the majority who has come to power, in this modern age of democracy. Based on Nietzsche's Zoroastrianism thought, what called the government in fact is a rant and give and take to gain power.

Nietzsche's philosophy has mainly been demonstrated in a trial way and unmethodologically. Although his view toward humanity issues is fixed and constant, his thoughts change in various ways. He takes out philosophy from firm academic discussions and takes into a new way by strict and sharp criticism of philosophy. Nietzsche's influence and importance is not only in triggering to think, but also in creating new special thoughts. In Nietzsche's thought, Zoroaster is a perfect human with brevity and rudeness, he has health and ability. Zoroaster divides human into two groups of minority of elite and majority of ignorant and follower. Nietzsche hates that the mentioned majority took power in 20th century. Based on Nietzsche's Zoroaster-based thought, what is called government today is nonsense and is a kind of trading to take power.

Honesty, rudeness, power and faithfulness are among Nietzsche's noble features. If humans want to live properly in peace, they should improve the issues by taking into account Zoroaster's thoughts so that they could reach happiness and satisfaction.

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