

RELIGION AGAINST PARAPSYCHOLOGY

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To unfading memory of my beloved son Emin



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Diviners, foretellers of human fate by stars, by the flight of birds, etc., those who call spirits of the dead, guess right the secret thoughts of people, as well as sorcerers, magicians, wizards, exorcists, charmers and so on exist for ages. Religion always treated this kind of fictions extremely negatively. At present all of these fabricated phenomena has been united under the name of "parapsychology"¹ or "extrasensory perception"². As these names show, the question is of phenomena, which remain, as if, outside the embrace of science, information that reaches the brain by some unknown ways out of sense organs, and influence that is exerted on the brains of other persons by the same ways. But telepathy or bio-information (perception of one's thoughts by another person without the help of any apparatus and even of sense organs), spiritism (calling of spirits of the dead), psychokinesis (the ability to move objects by the will-power, that is, without touching them), proscopy or precognition (the gift of prophecy) and other up-to-date names do not change the main point of the matter. That is why the

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judgment on these fictitious phenomena in the Holy Bible (Old Testament and New Testament), in the Holy Qur'an, in Hadith of Muhammad ring true even today.

The persons which as if can read the thoughts in the brains of other people are named "telepaths" or "extrasenses". Among the extrasenses that today addict themselves to doctoring one can see representatives of absolutely different professions, which have nothing to do with medicine-journalists, philosophers, engineers, geologists, teachers, sportsmen, and even illiterate sanitary engineers and unskilled labourers. For some reason or other this does not worry anyone seriously, nobody institutes criminal proceedings against them, and the persons are found which easily entrust to extrasenses "the greatest blessing", that is, their health. But the Prophet Muhammad had said as far back as in the VII century: "The man who begins doctoring with unknown medical abilities and practice, is guilty."³

Majority of today's extrasenses are yesterday's telepaths. In their seances they find men or things hidden in the auditorium by the help of different psychological and physiological phenomena unknown to the general public (such as hypnosis, suggestion, ideomotor acts, etc.), but give this out to be "reading the hearts", "guessing right thoughts in the brains" and so on. Prophet Muhammad's another statement is to the point for those who swallow the bait of telepaths: "I have not been authorized to enter the people's hearts, find out their thoughts, to learn their secrets."⁴ This means

that if the prophet who is communicated with God during Ascension, uncovers mysteries of the heaven and earth, does not read in the people's hearts, then no one can succeed in such an ability, and all of them, who pretend to that kind of gift, are cheats and swindlers.

Today representatives of spirits are also livened up. For example, Yury Longo, calling himself sorcerer and extrasence, "forces" the corpse to sit up and lift its hand. (In fact, the dead body is moved by the help of firm, but thin and invisible threads pulled out from the ladies' stockings). Outwardly funny, but in reality tragic aspect of the matter is that to-day the persons are found who take these,

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"experiments" seriously, though already in the Holy Bible attitude towards sorcery, as well as spiritism, was extremely negative, and they were blamed as defiling and abhorrent things:

"Do not turn to mediums or wizards; do not seek them out, to be defiled by them..."¹⁰

"No one shall be found among you who makes a son or daughter pass through fire, or who practices divination, or is a soothsayer, or an augur, or a sorcerer, or one who casts spells, or who consults ghosts or spirits, or who seeks oracles from the dead. For whoever does these things is abhorrent to the Lord; it is because of such abhorrent practices that the Lord your God is driving them out before you".⁶

Destruction of not only persons that call spirits (that is, mediums), but even those who appeal to them, is considered necessary:

"A man or a woman who is a medium or a wizard shall be put to death; they shall be stoned to death; their blood is upon them."⁷

"Moreover Josiah put away the mediums, wizards, teraphim (household gods), idols, and all the abominations that were seen in the land of Judah and in Jerusalem..."⁸

"If any turn to mediums and wizards, prostituting themselves to them, I will set my face against them, and will cut them off from the people."⁹

Those who believe Longo's trickery produce as a proof that Jesus revived the dead, whereas in the Gospel reviving of the dead is not the point, but it is a question of awakening out of a dream (apparently, deep lethargic sleep or catalepsy - both well-known in the medicine): "When Jesus came to the leader's house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion, he said, "Go away; for the girl is not dead but sleeping".¹⁰

Proscopy and precognition, as well as mantics, though sounding as scientific terms, are no more than fortune-telling by different ways. In the Old Testament fortune-tellers (soothsayers, diviners, augurs, etc.) are decidedly condemned to be driven out and killed:

"You shall not permit a female sorcerer to live".¹¹

"You shall not practice augury or witchcraft".¹¹

"Saul had expelled the mediums and the wizards from the land".¹³

"Although these nations that you are about to dispossess do give heed to soothsayers and diviners, as for you, the Lord your God does not permit you do so".¹⁴

In the New Testament also the sorcerers are enumerated side by side with murderers, fornicators, liars, etc.: "But as for the cowardly, the faithless

(the unbelieving), the polluted, the murderers, the fornicators, the sorcerers, the idolaters, and all liars, their place will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death."¹⁵

As a result of existing chaos, to-day interpreters of dreams also have taken off their belts. The books are widely published with interpretation of prophetic dreams. Those who are inseparable with this kind of books must know that in the Old Testament interpreters of dreams, as well as foretellers are repeatedly unmasked, and the people are warned not to believe them:

"The senseless have vain and false hopes, and dreams give wings to fools. As one who catches at a shadow and pursues the wind, so is anyone who believes in (pays heed to) dreams... From an unclean thing what can be clean? and from something false what can be true? Divinations and omens and dreams are unreal, and like a woman in labor, the mind has fantasies... For dreams have deceived many, and those who put their hope in them have perished".¹⁶

"For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Do not let the prophets and the diviners who are among you deceive you, and do not listen to the dreams that they dream [your dreams that you cause to dream], for it is a lie that they are prophesying to you in my name; I did not send them, says the Lord".¹⁷

"For the teraphim (household gods) utter nonsense, and the diviners see lies; the dreamers tell false dreams, and give empty consolation. Therefore the people wander like sheep; they suffer for *lack of a shepherd*".

One of the methods of divination was use of divining arrows (to divide the meat, to foretell the future, to determine the successful and

unsuccessful days, to know the opinion of gods before doing anything), about which we read in the Holy Qur'an:

"Forbidden to you is... that you divide by the arrows; that is a transgression".¹⁹

"O you who believe! intoxicants and games of chance and (sacrificing to) stones set up and (dividing by) arrows are only an uncleanness, the Shaitan's work; shun it therefore that you may be

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successful".

Prophet Muhammad in his Hadith considers worthy of punishment not only diviners, but also those who appeal to them (apparently, those who call on foretellers do not suspect this, otherwise they would not visit fortune-tellers):

"Punishment for fortune-teller is to be killed by sword".²¹ "Repentance of the man who visits a priest and asks him something, will not be accepted for forty days; the man who accepts the priest's words as a truth and believes him, becomes kafir (unbeliever)".²²

"Those who attach importance to the flight of birds or believe them, foretell the future or believe such foretellers, divine or appeal to diviners are not of us".²³

Today newspapers and magazines are flooded with countless horoscopes cast by astrologers existing since ancient times (especially Nostradamus) to this day. All kind of adventurers appearing on television tell tall stories and announce weekly and monthly prognoses. But Prophet Muhammad said with peculiar to him foresight: "The man who advances an

opinion looking at stars, informs of non-existence and the one who calls on him and asks him something - their prayer will not be accepted for forty nights".²⁴

It is said that Prophet Muhammad's son Ibrahim had died in a day of solar eclipse when Arabia was plunged in darkness for several minutes. To those who said: "The heaven also mourns over Your son", - the Prophet answered: "The Sun, the Moon and the Stars are ruled by God. They have nothing to do with the human fate".

Prophet Muhammad in his Hadith emphasizes also that to go to the persons writing prayers, to put on children charms (amulets) to protect them from the persons with evil eye, etc are absurdity:

"There is no doubt that to enchant by the help of meaningless words and to ask others to do that, to sew something hither and thither of the children to protect them from the evil eye, to write a prayer and

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ask others to do that to win somebody's love - are disrespect to God". (It is denial of God's unity and belief in existence of other gods. -Editor).

"God will not protect the man who puts on something to protect himself from the evil eye".²⁶

Lately in connection with the political and economic crisis the people have given way to despair and lost their heads; seeking refuge, they are plunged into superstition and prejudice. So, the way is paved for parapsychology. On the threshold of the XXI century there are more than enough of those who go to the fortune - tellers, believe the sorcerers and charmers, ghosts and evil spirits, plan their work according to horoscope cast by some swindler, go for healing not to the doctor, but to the sanitary engineer calling himself extrasense, etc.

Still worse side of the problem is that majority of believers connect these phenomena with religion and consider them " a gift from the God", even not suspecting that all of them are against the religion, were unmasked and sharply criticized in the Holy Books.

Thus, exposure of superstition and prejudice in the Holy Bible (which began to be formed in the VIII century BC), in the Holy Qur'an (which was revealed in the VII century AD), in the Hadith of Prophet Muhammad (also the VII century AD) absolutely has not lost its topicality even today and assumes even greater importance in the fight against "parapsychological phenomena".

True, "masters of phenomena" and those who believe them do not give way easily and suggest an idea that as if in the Holy Books, as well as in the Hadith of Prophet Muhammad these phenomena are only condemned, but it is not said that they do not exist. Certainly, this supposition is not true. Nevertheless, even if we assume it to be true, it

is all the same: those who consider themselves devout must revere the Holy Books and obey their Prophets. This means that they must not permit themselves actions denounced in the Holy Books and by the Prophets.

NOTES

1. Gr. "para" - near, around.
2. Lat. "extra" - outside, out of.
3. Translated into English by the author of this article from the "250 Hadith". Translation and explanation by Ali Himmet Berky. Ankara, 1974.
4. O. Gudratov, N. Gudratov "Prophet Muhammad: his life and sayings. Baku, 1990, U, 18. All of the following sayings of Prophet Muhammad are quoted from the same source and translated by the author.
5. The Third Book of Moses, called Leviticus, chap. XIX, 31. All the scriptural citations are quoted from "The Holy Bible. New revised standard version." Oxford University Press. New York - Oxford.
6. The Fifth Book of Moses, called Deuteronomy, chap. XVJJI, 10-12.
7. Leviticus, chap. XX, 27.
8. The Second Book of the Kings- The Fourth Book of the Kingdoms in Greek, chap. XXJJI, 24.
9. Leviticus, chap. XX, 6.
10. The Gospel according to Matthew, chap. DC, 23-24.
11. The Second Book of Moses, called Exodus, chap. XXII, 18.
12. Leviticus, chap. XDC, 26.
13. The First Book of Samuel - The First Book of the Kingdoms in Greek, chap. XXVUI, 3.
14. Deuteronomy, chap. XVJH, 14.
15. The Revelation to St. John the Divine, chap. XXI, 8.
16. Ecclesiasticus, or the Wisdom of Jesus Sun of Sirach, chap. XXXPV, 1, 2,4,5,7.
17. Book of the Prophet Jeremiah, chap. XXDC, 8-9.
18. Zechariah, chap. X, 2.
19. Surah V. The Food-Maidah, 3. The citations from Holy Qur'an are quoted from the "Holy Qur'an" translated by M. H. Shakir. Ansariyan Publications, Qum.
20. Maidah, 90.
21. XX, 5.
22. Xü, 3.
23. XH, 8.
24. XH, 4.
25. xn, 5.
26. Xn,21.

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DİNPARAPSIKOLOGİYAYA QARŞI

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Qədimdən mövcud olan ulduz və quş falına baxanlara, ölülərin ruhunu çağıranlara, guya insanlann gizli fikirlərini bilənlərə, habelə cadugərlərə, sehrbazlara, ovsunçulara dinin münasibəti həmişə son dərəcə mənfəətli olmuşdur. (Bu, bir paradoksdur ki, çoxlan bunları "allah vergisi" hesab edir). Hazırda həmin uydurma hadisələr hamısı "parapsixologiya" və ya "ekstra-sensor qavrayış" adı altında birləşdirilir. Lakin telepatiya (bioinformasiya), spiritizm, proskopiya, prekoqnisiya kimi müasir terminlər

işin mahiyyətini dəyişdirmir və Tövratda, İncildə, Qur'anda, Məhəmməd peyğəmbərin kəlamlarında həmin uydunna hadisələr barədə verilən hökmlər bu gün də müasir səslənir.

Bu gün həkimlik eşqinə düşən ekstrasenslər arasında tibblə heç bir əlaqəsi olmayan ən müxtəlif peşə sahiblərini, hətta santexnikləri də görmək olar. Amma Məhəmməd peyğəmbərin hədislərinin birində deyilir: "Kim həkimliyi və təcrübəsi mə'lum olmadığı halda doktorluq etməyə başlarsa taqsırkar olur". Telepatlar "ürəkləri oxuduqlarını", "beyindəki fikirləri tapdıqlarını" iddia edirlər, amma peyğəmbər demişdi: "İnsanlann ürəklərinə girib qəlblərindən keçənləri araşdırıb oxumağa, sirlərini öyrənib bilməyə vəkil edilməmişəm".

Spiritizm və cadugərlik, falabaxma haqqında Tövratda qəti hökmlər verilib: "Kişi və ya qadm ölüləri çağırırsa və ya cadugərlik etsə, öldürülsün:

onlar daşqalaq edilnəli, qanlan axıdılmalıdır". "Falçını sağ qoyma". Qur'anda oxuyuruq: "...Fal oxları ilə pay bölmək sizə haram edildi. Bunlar günahdır". (Əl-Maidə surəsi, 3). Məhəmməd peyğəmbərin kəlamlarında dua yazdırmaq, gözmuncuğu taxmaq pislənir, nəinki falçılar, hətta onlara müraciət edənlər də cəzaya layiq hesab edilir: "Ulduza baxıb fikir söyləyən, qaibdən xəbər verən və belə xəbər verənə baş vurub ondan bir şey soruşan adamın qırx gecəlik namazı qəbul edilməz".