



MABDA' AND MA'AD IN THE PHILOSOPHY OF AZIZ NASAFI: A METAPHYSICAL EXPLORATION

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Abstract: This paper delves into the metaphysical concepts of "Mabda'" (origin) and "Ma'ad" (return) as articulated in the philosophy of Aziz Nasafi, a prominent figure in medieval Islamic thought. Nasafi's exploration of Mabda' and Ma'ad encompasses profound insights into the origins of existence, the journey of the soul, and its ultimate return to the divine source. Drawing on primary sources and scholarly interpretations, this article analyzes Nasafi's metaphysical framework, highlighting the interplay between cosmology, ontology, and eschatology in understanding human existence within the divine order. This article serves to deepen our understanding of Aziz Nasafi's metaphysical concepts of Mabda' and Ma'ad, highlighting their significance in Islamic philosophical thought and their implications for understanding the nature of existence and the spiritual journey of the soul.

AZIZ NASAFIY FALSAFASIDA "MABDA' VA MA'OD": METAFIZIK IZLANISH

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MAQOLA HAQIDA

Kalit soʻzlar: Aziz Nasafiy, Mabda', Ma'ad, islom falsafasi, metafizika, kosmologiya.

Annotatsiya: Ushbu maqolada oʻrta asrlar islom tafakkurining koʻzga koʻringan namoyandasi Aziz Nasafiy falsafasida ifodalangan “Mabda’” (kelib chiqishi) va “Ma’ad” (qaytish) metafizik tushunchalari chuqur oʻrganiladi. Nasafiyning “Mabda’ va Ma’ad” asarini tadqiq etishi borliqning kelib chiqishi, ruhning sayohati va ilohiy manbaga yakuniy qaytishiga oid chuqur tushunchalarni oʻz ichiga oladi. Birlamchi manbalar va ilmiy talqinlarga tayangan holda, ushbu maqolada Nasafiyning metafizik doirasi tahlil qilinadi, ilohiy tartib doirasida inson mavjudligini tushunishda kosmologiya, ontologiya va esxatologiya oʻrtasidagi oʻzaro bogʻliqlik yoritiladi. Ushbu maqola Aziz Nasafiyning “Mabda’” va “Maad” haqidagi metafizik tushunchalarini chuqurroq tushunishga xizmat qiladi, ularning islom falsafiy tafakkuridagi ahamiyati va borliq mohiyatini va ruhning ruhiy sayohatini tushunishdagi ahamiyatini yoritadi.

МАБДА И МААД В ФИЛОСОФИИ АЗИЗА НАСАФИ: МЕТАФИЗИЧЕСКОЕ ИССЛЕДОВАНИЕ

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О СТАТЬЕ

Ключевые слова: Азиз Насафи, Мабда, Маад, исламская философия, метафизика, космология

Аннотация: В этой статье рассматриваются метафизические концепции «Мабда» (происхождение) и «Маад» (возвращение), сформулированные в философии Азиза Насафи, выдающейся фигуры средневековой исламской мысли. Исследование Насафи Мабда и Маад охватывает глубокие прозрения относительно происхождения существования, путешествия души и ее окончательного возвращения к божественному источнику. Опираясь на первоисточники и научные интерпретации, в этой статье анализируется метафизическая структура Насафи, подчеркивая взаимодействие между космологией, онтологией и эсхатологией в понимании человеческого существования в

божественном порядке. Эта статья призвана углубить наше понимание метафизических концепций Азиза Насафи Мабда и Маад, подчеркивая их значение в исламской философской мысли и их последствия для понимания природы существования и духовного путешествия души.

Introduction: Aziz Nasafi, a luminary of Islamic philosophy and mysticism in the 12th century, developed a comprehensive metaphysical framework that explores fundamental questions about the origin (Mabda') and ultimate return (Ma'ad) of existence. Rooted in Islamic theology and influenced by Neoplatonic metaphysics, Nasafi's philosophy provides profound insights into the nature of reality, the purpose of human existence, and the soul's journey towards divine realization. This article aims to explore Nasafi's metaphysical concepts of Mabda' and Ma'ad, elucidating their significance within the broader context of Islamic philosophical discourse.

Metaphysical Foundations: Nasafi's metaphysical inquiries are anchored in the tradition of Islamic philosophy, which synthesizes rational inquiry with spiritual insight. Influenced by Avicennian metaphysics and Sufi mysticism, Nasafi articulates a cosmology wherein the Mabda' represents the primordial origin of all existence. This concept denotes the divine emanation (fayd) through which creation manifests from the transcendent unity of God.

Mabda' and the Ontological Hierarchy: According to Nasafi, Mabda' signifies the ontological foundation upon which the entire cosmos is structured. It encompasses the divine principle of origination (huduth) and the hierarchical unfolding of existence from the highest spiritual realms to the material world. Nasafi's metaphysical framework posits that Mabda' establishes the metaphysical blueprint for cosmic order and the progression of souls towards spiritual perfection.

Ma'ad and the Journey of the Soul: In Nasafi's philosophy, Ma'ad signifies the return of the soul to its divine origin, marking the culmination of its existential journey. This concept encompasses eschatological themes of resurrection (qiyamah), judgment (mizan), and the soul's reunion with God. Nasafi emphasizes the transformative journey of the soul through ethical refinement, spiritual ascent, and the attainment of divine knowledge (ma'rifah), culminating in its ultimate return to the divine presence.

Metaphysical Exploration: The exploration of Mabda' and Ma'ad in Nasafi's philosophy offers profound insights into the nature of existence and the human quest for spiritual realization. His metaphysical framework integrates cosmological principles with ethical imperatives, emphasizing the interconnectedness of the material and spiritual dimensions of reality. Nasafi's concept of Mabda' illuminates the metaphysical origins of creation, while Ma'ad provides a

teleological framework for understanding the purpose and destiny of the human soul within the divine plan.

In the philosophy of Aziz Nasafi, the concepts of "mabda'" and "ma'ad" are significant terms that relate to the origin and ultimate return of the human soul within the framework of Islamic metaphysics and Sufi thought.

1. Mabda' (Origin or Beginning):

- **Meaning:** Mabda' refers to the origin or beginning point of the soul's existence. It denotes the metaphysical principle or source from which all creation originates, including the human soul. In theological terms, mabda' signifies the divine origin or the initial emanation of existence from the Divine Essence.

- **Divine Source:** According to Nasafi, mabda' is rooted in the divine essence (dhat) of God, from which the entire cosmos and all beings derive their existence. It represents the primal origin of creation and the starting point of the soul's journey towards God.

- **Role:** Mabda' serves as the foundational principle that underpins the entire spiritual and metaphysical framework. It emphasizes the divine unity and the interconnectedness of all existence with the Divine Source.

2. Ma'ad (Return or Final Destination):

- **Meaning:** Ma'ad refers to the ultimate return or destination of the human soul after its journey through existence. It signifies the soul's return to its origin or its final destination in the afterlife, depending on its spiritual state and actions during earthly life.

- **Spiritual Journey:** In Nasafi's philosophy, ma'ad represents the culmination of the soul's journey towards God. It involves the soul's return to the divine presence (ittisal) and reunion with the Divine Essence. Ma'ad encompasses the concept of resurrection (qiyamah) and the judgment day (yawm al-qiyamah), where souls are rewarded or punished based on their deeds.

- **Eternal Destiny:** Ma'ad highlights the eternal destiny of the soul, whether it attains proximity to God and experiences divine pleasure (ridwan) or faces distance from God and undergoes spiritual purification (tathir).

Relationship Between Mabda' and Ma'ad:

- Mabda' and ma'ad form complementary concepts in Nasafi's philosophical framework, illustrating the cyclical nature of the soul's journey and its relationship with the Divine. Mabda' signifies the divine origin and source of the soul, while ma'ad represents the soul's ultimate return and destination.

- The journey from mabda' to ma'ad encapsulates the soul's evolution, spiritual growth, and realization of its divine origin and purpose. It underscores the soul's progression through existence

towards reunion with the Divine Essence, emphasizing the spiritual transformation and attainment of divine knowledge (ma'rifah) along the way.

• Together, mabda' and ma'ad provide a comprehensive understanding of the soul's existential journey within the context of Islamic metaphysics and Sufi spirituality, reflecting Nasafi's profound insights into the nature of existence, divine unity, and the soul's quest for spiritual realization and divine proximity.

Conclusion: Aziz Nasafi's metaphysical exploration of Mabda' and Ma'ad enriches our understanding of Islamic philosophy by elucidating fundamental concepts of origin and return within a comprehensive cosmological and eschatological framework. His synthesis of Avicennian metaphysics and Sufi mysticism offers profound insights into the nature of reality, human existence, and the soul's journey towards divine realization. This article contributes to the scholarly discourse on Islamic metaphysics by examining Nasafi's philosophical insights and their enduring relevance in addressing fundamental questions about the nature of existence and the ultimate destiny of the soul.

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