

Human Transcendence

Human transcendence is the act of a human being breaking through the narrow boundaries of their own ego to discover the divine essence within, and infusing this essence into life through virtuous morality and love. This is not a climbing upward; rather, it is a descending into the depths to reach the source of truth. It is the path of lifting the veils of selfishness to arrive from "I" to "we," and from there, to the consciousness of "unity with all existence."

The love of the transcendent human being is vast, and their understanding is all-embracing. They use wisdom not merely for the sake of knowing, but to heal wounds, strengthen social justice, and nurture hope. They do not imprison their love within narrow moulds; they know that true love multiplies through sharing and solidarity. Their knowledge is not for putting on airs of superiority, but for transforming and making life more livable. They light the lamp of knowledge for the benefit of humanity, directing it toward the darkness. For the one who finds truth recognizes the power of love and the transformative breath of compassion.

The person living with this consciousness embraces not only their own inner realm, but also their surroundings, and indeed, all existence. Thus, human transcendence ceases to be an individual adventure and turns into a universal journey. For truth is discovered by the human being transcending themselves and establishing a bond with others.

Consequently, transcendence is not a climb reaching for the skies; it is a descent made into the depths of the soul. Ancient Syriac wisdom dictates that truth can only be found by digging inwardly. For the image of God is not a light to be searched for solely in distant skies; it is a jewel hidden within the silent rooms of the soul.

The horizon of a human being who remains within the narrow boundaries of their own ego becomes only as wide as their own shadow. Yet, the divine essence within becomes visible when the veils of selfishness are lifted. As Saint Mor

Ephrem (306–373) said: ***"Polish the image within the heart; you will have no need to search for another light on the outside."***

Transcendence is not merely an individual maturation, but at the same time, a societal awakening. For the human being who transcends themselves sees another as an inseparable part of their own existence. There is no longer the "other"; there is a sibling breathed from the breath of God.

Societies, just like individuals, carry a soul; yet a society that closes in upon itself and pursues only narrow self-interests loses its own essence—that is, its soul—over time. Human transcendence is a power that breaks through the boundaries of societies, shattering narrow moulds such as narrow nationalism, discrimination, and selfishness.

To express it in the words of Mor Jacob of Serugh (451–521): ***"The one who draws the boundary of love casts chains upon their own soul."***

Precisely for this reason, true freedom and unity lie in love that transcends boundaries and in inclusiveness. Only through this path can society achieve a harmony and peace echoing in the depths of its soul.

Human transcendence is not a destination; it is a state of deep purification, reconstructed anew every single day within the complex and often chaotic fabric of life. Every day begins with newly born hope; it is tested and matured over again in every trial, every pain, and every encounter. In this journey, loftiness is hidden not in looking down from above, but in humbling one's heart and bending with love to alleviate the burden of another. The human spirit is exalted when it chooses to stay away from the cold shadow of domination and becomes a complementary and facilitating power. For true humanity lies not in exercising power, but in being able to exist with love, and in multiplying unity and understanding.