



Philosophy, Logic and Theosophy

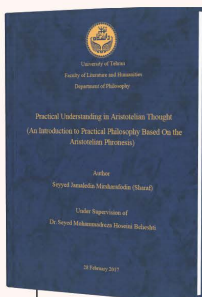
Sayyid Jamaloddin Mirsharafoddin
Rank: 2nd Winner in the Adult Section
Degree: PhD
Research Title: Practical Understanding in Aristotelian Thought (An Introduction to Practical Philosophy Based on the Aristotelian Phronesis)
Kind of Research Work: Doctoral Dissertation



About Researcher

Sayyid Jamaloddin Mirsharafoddin (Sharaf) was born in 1981 in Qom. He went to Farhang high school for Literature and humanities. He earned his bachelor's, master's and doctorate degrees in Pure Philosophy at the University of Tehran, faculty of Literature and Humanities. He studied, simultaneously, Arabic Literature and Islamic Studies, mainly Islamic Philosophy and Theology with his father and other professors. He defended his master's thesis entitled "Foundation of Aristotle's Metaphysics (On the Origins of Aristotelian Ontology)" in 2007, and in 2017 obtained his PhD with the dissertation entitled "Practical Understanding in Aristotelian Thought (An Introduction to Practical Philosophy Based on the Aristotelian Phronesis)". His specialty is Greek philosophical thought, especially Aristotle's thought. He works on practical philosophy, philosophical anthropology, critical philosophy, phenomenology, hermeneutics, Ethics, metaphysics, political philosophy, philosophy of history and culture. His central concern has been the relationship between theory and action and the connection of philosophical thought and human life in socio-political dimensions. He pursues this issue in several fields including contemporary western philosophy and the history of Islamic thought. In addition to his work on Phronesis and use of its possibilities for philosophical problems, he investigates philosophical foundations of the theory-action relationship in Islamic thought especially Avicennian confrontation with human action and its influence on Islamic philosophy. Alongside study and research, he teaches history of Western philosophy, Ethics, metaphysics, phenomenology, and interpretation of philosophical texts in various universities.

Abstract



Practical investigation in Aristotelian thought begins by theory-action confrontation and continues to understanding and actualization of human action for well-being. Action is a human characteristic that appears in the socio-political life. Thus, practical science and practical understanding is the same as humanities and human grasping. In an attempt to find a way for comprehension and actualization of the action, Aristotle leads to practical knowledge which he calls it Phronesis. Throughout history, Phronesis has been dismissed for various reasons, including the sovereignty of theory in the reading of Aristotelian texts, and was resumed in contemporary period, following issues that require special human cognition, and it became the source of new intellectual-philosophical currents in thinking about human issues. In the meantime, what seems necessary first of all is a search for the nature of Phronesis in its Aristotelian origin, so that it can itself be a beginning for another reading of practical philosophy on the basis of the human understanding. The present dissertation tries to provide an introduction that might be a new possibility in thinking about humankind, his action, humanities, and the relationship between theory and action, by rethinking on the Aristotelian idea of Phronesis. This is necessary and useful especially for Islamic thought considering the influence of the Aristotelian philosophy on its mind and at the same time because of the absence of Phronesis and the neglect of the practical aspects of philosophy in its history. Therefore, it would be a preparation for a dialogue between contemporary Islamic-Iranian thought and its Aristotelian origin for finding living possibilities in thinking about human issues in the realm of philosophical thought.

