# A Monotheistic Analysis of the Concept and Levels of the Virtue of Courage in Mystical Ethics

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**Abstract**

Courage is one of the main virtues in ethics and is one of the key and frequent terms in mysticism. Mystical ethics has a lot of capacity to elevate and deepen ethics, but even though a lot of attention has been paid to courage in philosophical ethics, its precise and systematic conceptualization is one of the important gaps in mystical ethics, like many moral properties. The present research, which was conducted in an analytical-descriptive method, has tried to express the specific perception of mystics about the concept of courage based on the main texts of the mystical school of ethics, to explain the connection between courage and mysticism in a reliable way, and to extract the degrees of realization of courage. And establish the structure of examining virtues with the approach of mystical ethics. Therefore, he has identified "the centrality of the human heart" and "being longitudinal of human existential layers" as two effective bases in mystical ethics, and he has achieved three aspects of the relationship between courage and mysticism, which are: intuitive monotheistic vision of God, love for God and Optional death experience. In addition to the fact that these aspects can be explained in various ways, they show the monotheistic nature of virtue in this sublime morality.

**Keywords**: Courageous, Mystical ethics, Mystical Courage, Mysticism, Virtue, Monotheistic Ethics.

## Introduction

"Courage" is one of the four principles of philosophical ethics and is one of the key terms in mystical literature. Mystical ethics, on the one hand, links the foundations and goals of ethics to monotheistic mysticism, and on the other hand, puts mysticism on the axis of virtues and vices. From the point of view of mystics, the gem of a person's existence is his "heart". The heart is a shell, and the mind, senses, and body are its shell. Mystics believe in the levels and longitudinal layers of human truth. Therefore, one of the advantages of ethics with a mystical approach is the rank of virtues and authorities. Courage, which in philosophical ethics means action and stability in the face of danger and overcoming fear, is only a lower order of courage and introduces it under the power of wisdom and one-dimensional identity. However, in the school of mystical ethics, courage has been less discussed and questions such as: how is the connection between courage and mysticism established? What is courage in mystical ethics and what are its components? What is the effect of mystical monotheism on moral courage? How can the degrees of courage be explained in mysticism? have not been examined. This research tries to answer these questions by analyzing the works of prominent figures of theoretical and practical mysticism and the deep capacity of mystical ethics.

## Intuitive monotheistic insight into God

The highest type of God-awareness is intuitive awareness; monotheistic knowledge goes beyond the level of mental concept, whereby veils are removed from the mystic and truth is seen without intermediaries. The role of this intuitive vision in courage can be explained in several ways:

**1.** The mystic is disconnected from his ego and connected to the truth; therefore, he considers all power for the Supreme Truth and sees nothing but Him. A courageous person is one whose heart is free from the world and pure from anything other than God.

**2.** The goal of being virtuous in mystical ethics is not limited to happiness in the world, but becoming like God and reaching the position of Annihilation. The mystic's heart is empty of anything other than God; because a mortal is in the right and pays full attention to the supreme right, and in the world of existence, he is not anything other than God.

**3.** When a mystic reaches a position where he does not see the independent existence for non-God and knows everything from God, he no longer pays attention to things other than God; so that he is neither happy about their presence nor sad about the lack of anything. He has freed himself from the chains of worldly darkness and has no fear of non-divine powers.

**4.** If the control of the world and man is in the hands of God and whatever He wills is fulfilled, then sadness and anxiety or fear of life and property have no meaning. A person who does not place anything other than God in his heart, but rather entrusts himself to God and

has unconditional trust in His will, knows that creatures have no power to harm or benefit him.

**5.** Courage is formed on the bed of certainty; if the light of unity shines on someone's heart and connects to the true source of power and becomes sure of the protection and guarantee of the Almighty, he will no longer be afraid of dangers and will not be anxious because this light will eliminate all doubts.

## Love and affection for God

Mystical knowledge and God-awareness leads to love for God. Since knowledge is the basis of love, the deeper a person's understanding of monotheism is, the more his desires and tendencies toward God change, and he does not love anything other than God independently and truly.

**1.** A loving seeker takes heart from everything, has no independent interest and inclination towards the self, and has no desire except to be alone with the beloved and to reach him. In mystical ethics, the origin of courage is the love system, and sometimes it may not be compatible with our rational calculations.

**2.** All fears are from death, and the mystic considers death to be his best state and best happiness, when he goes to the presence of his beloved and friend; man is a being who must search for his original existence in other world, so death and martyrdom are a means to find that original identity.

**3.** Getting rid of corruption and vices is achieved by curing love of the world and love of self and replacing it with love of God. Such a person's soul is secure and his heart calms down, and if someone quarrels with him in worldly matters, he takes it easy.

**4.** From the mystic's point of view, all beings are perfect and beautiful manifestations of the absolute, so mystical knowledge leads to love for God and, as a result, love for creation. It is necessary to love people, have compassion for them, take care of them and act to meet their needs. Courage is a manifestation of compassion for creatures.

## Optional death experience

A mystic gets rid of physical characteristics; he puts them aside by voluntary death and has the ability to dominate himself by voluntary death, which is higher than natural death. If he has experienced it, he is not afraid of natural death in any way.

## Conclusion

Mystical ethics has a great capacity to elevate ethics; it has the ability to internalize virtues and eradicate vices; it is very close to the interpretation of authentic religious texts on ethics, and

it also has common aspects with virtue-oriented ethics and can lead to the reformation and deepening of moral tendencies and actions.

In the explanation of mystic courage and different degrees of courage in mystical ethics, we found three main components. These aspects can be explained in various ways due to the vastness and unlimitedness of the mystical discussion that shows the excellence and monotheistic as a virtue in mystical ethics. In addition to extracting the levels of realization of courage, a new structure was built in the investigation of virtues with the approach of mystical ethics, which can be a model for ethics researchers in mystical ethics.

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