

# THE MEANING AND ROLE OF INTUITION IN IQBAL'S PHILOSOPHY

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According to Kant, the perceptual manifold must fulfil certain formal conditions in order to constitute knowledge. For him the noumenon or the 'thing-in-itself' is only a limiting or regulative idea. If there is some actuality corresponding to the idea, it transcends 'actual' experience and consequently its existence cannot be rationally demonstrated. The subject matter of metaphysics falls outside the boundaries of experience and cannot be systematised by space and time, and therefore, according to Kant, metaphysics is impossible. In Kantian terms, religion is equally impossible, but according to Iqbal, it is possible to attain knowledge of Ultimate Reality and therefore both metaphysics and religion are possible. In Iqbal's words, "Kant's verdict can be accepted only if we start with the assumption that all experience other than the normal level of experience is impossible."<sup>55</sup>

Iqbal believes that it is the lot of human beings to share in the deeper aspirations of the universe around them and to shape their own destiny as well as that of the universe."<sup>56</sup> However, in order to achieve the fullest possible development of their potentialities it is essential for human beings to possess knowledge." Man's life and the onward march of his spirit depend on the establishment of connections with the reality that confronts him. It is knowledge that establishes these connections."<sup>57</sup>

Iqbal defines knowledge as "sense-perception elaborated by understanding"<sup>58</sup> ('understanding' here does not stand exclusively for 'reason' but for all non-perceptual modes of knowledge) maintains that there are two

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<sup>55</sup> The Reconstruction of Religious Thought in Islam, Lahore, 1962, p.182.

<sup>56</sup> Ibid, p.12.

<sup>57</sup> Ibid.

<sup>58</sup> Ibid.

sources of knowledge-the inner consciousness of humankind (“anfus”) and the outer world or nature (“afāq”).<sup>59</sup> The direct way of establishing connections with the Reality that confronts us is by means of observation and sense-perception; the other way is through direct association with that Reality as it reveals itself within. The latter is the intuitive method and in Iqbal’s philosophy great emphasis has been laid on intuition’ as a mode of knowledge.<sup>60</sup>

The word ‘intuition’ is derived from a verb means ‘looking at’, and its extended use seems to have originated as a metaphor from sight.<sup>61</sup> “It would stand, presumably, for a mental inspection in which a direct revelation is made to the mind, comparable to the direct revelation which accompanies the exposure of a physical object to the eye.”<sup>62</sup> The word is used in the works of Descartes and Locke to mean the apprehension of indubitable, self-evident truths. Descartes explains how intuition is “not the fluctuating testimony of the senses, nor the misleading judgement that proceeds from the blundering constructions of imagination, but the pure intellectual cognizing so ready and so distinct that we are wholly freed from, doubt about that which we thus intellectually apprehend.”<sup>63</sup> Locke describes intuitive knowledge as “the clearest and most” certain that human frailty is capable of. This part of knowledge is irresistible, and, like bright sunshine, forces itself immediately to be perceived, as soon as ever the mind turns its view that way, and leaves no room for hesitation, doubt, or examination, but the mind is perfectly filled with the clear light of it.”<sup>64</sup> Hence the traditional

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<sup>59</sup> Dar, B.A., “Intellect and Intuition in Bergson and Sufis”, Iqbal, January 1956, Vol, IV, No.3, p.82.

<sup>60</sup> The Reconstruction of Religious Thought In Islam, p.15.

<sup>61</sup> Stocks, J.L.,”Reason and Intuition”, in Reason and Intuition and Other Essays, London, 1939, p.3.

<sup>62</sup> Ibid.

<sup>63</sup> Descartes quoted in Aaron, R.I., “Intuitive Knowledge”,

Mind, London, October 1942, Vol. LI, No.204, pp. 297-298.

<sup>64</sup> St. John, J.A., (Editor), The Philosophic Works of John

philosophical meaning of ‘intuition’ is knowing with absolute certainty, or knowing in such a way that there is no room for doubt.

Possibility of intuitive knowledge Kant in showing the limitations of pure reason had also demonstrated the impossibility of ‘intuitive’ experience without which metaphysics and religion are not possible. But, paradoxically enough, in proving the relativity of the finite objects of experience to the intelligence, he also showed” though without himself being fully conscious of it, and almost, we might say, against his will, that we cannot admit the validity of the empirical consciousness without admitting the validity of the consciousness of that which, in the narrower sense of the word, is beyond experience.”<sup>65</sup> It can be seen clearly from his Lectures that Iqbal is very anxious to show the possibility and validity of the intuitive consciousness. If intuitive experience is possible then it follows that both metaphysics and religion are possible.

Kant had rejected the possibility of metaphysics because it dealt with that which could not be systematized by the categories of space and time and therefore, in his opinion, could not constitute knowledge. But supposing, says Iqbal, that there is more than one kind of space and one kind of time, then it is quite possible “that there are other levels of human experience capable of being systematized by other orders of space and time-levels in which concept and analysis do not play the same role as they do in the case of our normal experience.”<sup>66</sup> Iqbal agrees with Kant in regarding space and time as subjective but he does not look upon them as unvarying modes into which all” our knowledge is moulded. Rather, they admit of new meaning in relation to various grades of experience and their import varies as psychic powers increase or decrease.<sup>67</sup>

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Locke, London, 1843, p. 386

<sup>65</sup> Caird, E., “The Problem of Philosophy at the Present Time”, *Essays on Literature*, Glasgow, 1909, p. 195.

<sup>66</sup> *The Reconstruction of Religious Thought in Islam*, p. 183.

<sup>67</sup> Enver, I.H., *Metaphysics of Iqbal*, Lahore, 1963, pp. 12-18.

Iqbal has devoted a considerable portion of his Lectures to discussing the question of the nature of Space and Time. It was necessary for him to do so in order to demonstrate the possibility of levels of experience which were free from the “normal” spatiotemporal determinations. Iqbal distinguishes between kinds of Space and Time, and points out that there are levels of experience which refer not to these forms of experience in their ordinary connotation, but to “the interpenetration of the super-spatial ‘here’ and the super-eternal ‘now’ in the Ultimate Reality.”<sup>68</sup> Such an interpenetration suggests “the modern notion of space-time which Professor Alexander, in his lectures on Space, Time and Deity regards as the matrix of all things.”<sup>69</sup>

Iqbal believes, then, in potential types of consciousness which lie close to our normal consciousness and yield life and knowledge.<sup>70</sup> Such knowledge is gained through intuition. Iqbal describes the main features of intuitive experience when he enumerates the characteristics of mysticism which deals with the Ultimate by way of intuitive apprehension.<sup>71</sup>

#### Characteristics of intuitive (Mystic) Experience

(a) The characteristic of intuition which has traditionally, been most emphasized is its indivisibility. “Intuitionism is the theory which asserts, in the face of all skeptical criticisms, that absolutely certain knowledge occurs in human experience.”<sup>72</sup> Iqbal states that according to the Qar’an, the heart or “is “something which ‘sees’ and its reports, if (the interpreted, are never false.”<sup>73</sup>

(b) It is immediate experience of Reality. A notable writer on mysticism writes, “we can claim for those whom we call mystics-and, in a lesser degree,

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<sup>68</sup> The Reconstruction of Religious Thought in Islam, p. 137.

<sup>69</sup> Ibid.

<sup>70</sup> Ibid, p. 185.

<sup>71</sup> Underhill, E., “Can the new Idealism dispense with Mysticism?”, *Relativity, Logic and Mysticism*, Aristotelian Society Supplementary Volume III, London, 1923, p. 151.

<sup>72</sup> Aaron, J.J., “Intuitive Knowledge”, p. 317.

<sup>73</sup>The Reconstruction of Religious Thought in Islam, p. 16.

for innumerable artists and contemplative souls-that experience at its fullest and deepest ‘does include the immediate apprehension of an unchanging Reality, and that this apprehension, in one form or another, is the sheet anchor of the religious consciousness.’<sup>74</sup>

Intuitive experience is direct like perception but sensation is not involved in it. As Plato said, intuitions come “in a flash”<sup>75</sup> Iqbal, the Poet, says

عشق کی اک جست نے طے  
کر دیا قصہ تمام  
اس زمین و آسماں کو بیکراں  
سمجھا تھا میں

<sup>76</sup> (Bal-e-jibril, p. 29)

or, as he says in the introduction to Zabur-a-’Ajam

وادی عشق بسے دورودراز  
است دے  
طے شود جادئہ صد سالہ

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<sup>74</sup> Underhill, E., “Can the new Idealism dispense with Mysticism?” pp. 149-150..

<sup>75</sup> Aaron, R.I., “Intuitive Knowledge,” p. 317.

<sup>76</sup> In one leap Love traversed the whole length, I had thought the earth and sky were boundless.

<sup>77</sup> (Zabur-e-'Ajam, p. 2)

For Iqbal the immediacy of mystic experience lies in that in it God is known as other objects are known. "God is not a mathematical entity or a system of concepts mutually related to one another and having no reference to experience."<sup>78</sup> As Ibn 'Arabi pointed out, God is a percept not a concept.<sup>79</sup>

(c) Intuitive experience possesses an analyzable wholeness. In it Reality is given as one indivisible unity. Iqbal compares intuitive consciousness with discursive consciousness. "When I experience the table before me, innumerable data of experience merge into the single experience of the table. Out of this wealth of data I select those that fall into a certain order of space and time and round them off in reference to the table. In the mystic state, however vivid, such analysis is not possible."<sup>80</sup> A writer observes that, here, Iqbal is denying, by inference, that immediacy to normal experiences which he associated with them earlier.<sup>81</sup> But a closer analysis shows that Iqbal is not denying the immediacy of sense-perception but rather trying to show the relative importance of analysis in the two types of consciousness. The rational consciousness specializes in analysis and synthesis but in the mystic consciousness all the diverse stimuli run into one another forming a single unanalysable unity in which the ordinary distinction of subject and object does not exist.<sup>82</sup> The distinction between the discursive and intuitive

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<sup>77</sup> Very far and wide is the valley of Love, But there are times when the journey of a hundred years is completed in the duration of a sigh. (Translation by Singn, I. The Arden Pilgrim, London, 1951, p.168.).

<sup>78</sup> The Reconstruction of Religious Thought in Islam, p. 18.

<sup>79</sup> Ibid, p. 183.

<sup>80</sup> Ibid, p. 18.

<sup>81</sup> Rahman, F., "Iqbal and Mysticism", Iqbal as a Thinker, Lahore, 1966, p. 220.

<sup>82</sup> The Reconstruction of Religious Thought in Islam, Pp. 18-191.

consciousness as regards the apprehension of part and whole has also been brought out by H. H. Price.

“In discursive consciousness, there is a passage of the mind from one item to another related item, for instance, from a subject to a concept under which we classify it, or from premises to conclusion...And when we have discursive consciousness of a whole or complex of any sort (as in counting) although the whole may be vaguely present to the mind from the first, yet definite consciousness of the whole comes after consciousness of the parts. In intuitive consciousness, on the other hand, consciousness of the whole comes before definite consciousness of the parts. And there is no passage of the mind; whatever we intuit is present all at once. We might say that intuitive consciousness is ‘totalistic’, not ‘progressive’ or ‘additive’”<sup>83</sup>

(d) Intuitive experience is objective. Iqbal thinks it is erroneous to think that the mystic state is “a mere retirement into the mists of pure subjectivity.”<sup>84</sup> The mystic, for instance, experiences God or the Ultimate Reality as both immanent and transcendent. He or she is in direct communion with the ‘Other’ and momentarily loses consciousness of himself or herself as a distinct and private personality.<sup>85</sup> But he or she emerges from his or her experience possessing “a Supreme Richness-unspeakable Concreteness-overwhelming Aliveness, having been a witness to the Being which gives Becoming all its worth.”<sup>86</sup>

Iqbal compares the objectivity of intuitive experience with the objectivity of social experience. We know other minds only by inference and yet “the knowledge that the individual before us is a conscious being floods

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<sup>83</sup> Price, H.H., *Perception*, London, 1932, pp. 151-152.

<sup>84</sup> Khatoun, J., *The Place of God, Man and Universe in Iqbal’s Philosophic System*, Karachi, 1963, p. 12.

<sup>85</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>86</sup> F. Von Hugel quoted by Underhill, E., “Can the new Idealism dispense with Mysticism?”, p. 152.

our mind as an immediate experience.”<sup>87</sup> One test of the objectivity of our social experience is that other persons respond to us. Iqbal bases the objectivity of religious experience on the testimony of the Qur’an that God responds to our call.

“And your Lord saith, call me and I respond to your call” (40:62); “And when My servants ask thee concerning Me, then I am nigh into them and answer the cry of him that crieth unto Me.” (21:182)<sup>88</sup>

Iqbal advances another argument to substantiate the claim that religious experience which is based on intuition is objective. The very fact the religious life is divided into periods indicates that like the student of the scientific methods, the practical student of religious psychology learns to sift experience critically in order to eliminate all subjective elements, psychological, in the content of his or her experience with a view finally to reach what is absolutely objective.<sup>89</sup>

To meet the charge that intuitive experience is purely subjective, Iqbal points out a number of times that intuition is not a faculty of knowledge qualitatively distinct from reason of perception, but rather is a quality which is implicit in cognition at every level.<sup>90</sup> Thus while intuition is feeling, this does not mean that it is purely subjective since feeling itself has cognitive content as Bradley and Whitehead have shown.<sup>91</sup> Iqbal points out that reflection on the character of our knowledge of our self, shows that human beings rise from the intuition of the finite self of the awareness of life as a centralizing ego and the ultimate experience of God as a universal, unifying, telic power.<sup>92</sup>

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<sup>87</sup> Khatoon, J. *The Place of God, Man and Universe in the System of Iqbal*, p. 13.

<sup>88</sup> *The Reconstruction of Religious Thought in Islam*, pp. 19-20.

<sup>89</sup> *Ibid*, p. 197.

<sup>90</sup> Whittemore, R., “Iqbal’s Panentheism”, *Iqbal Review*, April, 1966, p. 70.

<sup>91</sup> *Ibid*.

<sup>92</sup> *Ibid*.



(e) Intuitive experience is incommunicable. One of the most oft-repeated objections to intuitive experience is that being incommunicable, its reality cannot really be established. To this objection Evelyn Underhill is likely to reply:

“If expressibility be indeed the criterion of the real, as some philosophers have dared to suggest-and this leads us to the strange spectacle of a Real World laboriously keeping pace with the expanding vocabulary of man-not only our mystical but our highest aesthetic and passional experiences, must be discredited; for it is notorious that in all these supreme ways of human knowing and feeling, only a part of that which is apprehended can be expressed; and that the more completed and soul-satisfying the experience the more its realization approximates to the mystic’s silence where all lovers lose themselves.”<sup>93</sup>

In Iqbal’s viewpoint the incommunicability or inexpressibility of mystic experience is due to the fact that it is essentially a matter of inarticulate feeling, untouched by discursive intellect.<sup>94</sup> But intuitive experience has a cognitive content which can be translated into idea. Feeling is outward-pushing as idea is outward reporting.<sup>95</sup> The mystic reports not directly but through symbols and “the wonder surely is not that these reports tell so little; but-when we consider our human situation and resources-that they tell so much. The reports are always oblique, but so are the reports of all artists; of whom it is probably true to say that the greater the aesthetic values which they seek to communicate, the more oblique is the method involved.”<sup>96</sup>

(f) In Iqbal’s opinion, intuitive experience reveals Reality as an eternal ‘now’ and reveals the unreality of the serial character of time and space.<sup>97</sup> “All

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<sup>93</sup> Underhill, E., “Can the new Idealism dispense with Mysticism?”, p. 153.

<sup>94</sup> The Reconstruction of Religious Thought in Islam”, p.21.

<sup>95</sup> Ibid.

<sup>96</sup> Underhill, E., “Can the new Idealism dispense with Mysticism?”, p.153-154.

<sup>97</sup> Khatoon, J., The Place of God, Man and Universe in the Philosophic System of Iqbal, p. 13.

intense religious experience-more than this, all experience in which transcendental feeling is involved-appears to be accompanied by a marked slowing-down of consciousness, a retreat to some deeper levels of apprehension where reality is experienced not merely as succession but as existence; a genuine escape from the tyranny of 'clock-time', though not a transcendence of duration."<sup>98</sup> According to Iqbal this state does not abide although it gives a sense of overwhelming authority to those who have experienced it. Both the mystic and the prophet return to levels of ordinary experience, but for Iqbal the return of the prophet is of greater meaning than that of the mystic.<sup>99</sup>

(j) Mystic experience springs from the 'heart' but it is not qualitatively different from 'normal' experience. Iqbal believes that the seat of intuition is the 'heart' "which in the beautiful words of Rumi, feeds on the rays of the sun and brings us into contact with aspects of Reality other than those open to sense-perception."<sup>100</sup> Professor Nicholson tells that in mystic thought, "the qalb, though connected in some mysterious way with the physical heart, is not a thing of flesh and blood. Unlike the English 'heart' its nature is rather intellectual than emotional, but whereas the intellect cannot gain real knowledge of God, the qalb is capable of knowing the essences of all things, and when illuminated by faith and knowledge reflects the whole content of the divine mind, hence the Prophet said, 'My Earth and My Heaven contain Me not, but the heart of My faithful servant contains Me!'"<sup>101</sup>

Iqbal does not regard intuitive experience as 'mysterious'. It is "a mode of dealing with Reality in which sensation, in the physiological sense of the word does not play any part. Yet the vista of experience thus opened to us is as real and concrete as any other experience."<sup>102</sup> Iqbal differs from William

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<sup>98</sup> Underhill, E., "Can the new Idealism dispense wit; Mysticism?", p. 157.

<sup>99</sup> The Reconstruction of Religious Thought in Islam, pp.22-23.

<sup>100</sup> Ibid, pp. 15-16.

<sup>101</sup> Nicholson, R.A., The Mystics of Islam, London, 1914, p.68.

<sup>102</sup> The Reconstruction of Religious Thought in Islam, p. 16.

James whom he interprets as saying that religious experience is completely unconnected with normal experience and non-deducible by analogy from other sorts of experience since it refers to a wider spiritual environment which the ordinary, prudential self cannot enter.<sup>103</sup> Iqbal extends the sphere of normal experience to cover mystic experience since what-ever be the mode of knowledge, it is the same Reality which operates on us.<sup>104</sup>

(h) Intuitive experience reveals life as centralizing ego. It makes us aware of “the simple fact of experience that life is not a formless fluid, but an organizing principle of unity, a synthetic activity which holds together and focalizes the dispersing dispositions of the living organism for a constructive purpose.”<sup>105</sup> The intellect tries to reduce the rich variety of experience to a concept, but intuition does not proceed by universalization and as a consequence is able to reveal the true character of concrete things, namely, that every living entity coverages upon an egohood.<sup>106</sup> Like the existentialists Iqbal holds that the intuitive consciousness grasps Reality not in an abstract theoretical way but in a decisively personal manner.<sup>107</sup> This “intuitive insight into individual essence” has been aptly described by Mr. Roth writing on the philosophy of Spinoza, “Abstract recognition passes into concrete appreciation. Man is then conscious of nature as a unity, but does not as before from the outside. He feels it in himself; he under stands its wholeness in and from his own being. He thus not only contemplates externally the ways of the universe in which, like everything else, he is caught up. He not only sees himself as one item in the detail controlled by an all-embracing cosmic order. Nature for him is more than an abstract whole of general laws. It is a concrete system of self-directing individualities. He knows himself in it as an individual, and realizes his place in it among other individuals. He

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<sup>103</sup> Khatoon, J., *The Place of God, Man and Universe in the Philosophic System of Iqbal*, p. 21.

<sup>104</sup> *The Reconstruction of Religious Thought in Islam*, p. 18.

<sup>105</sup> *Ibid*, pp. 60\_61.

<sup>106</sup> Malik, G.R., “The Nature of Ego”, *Iqbal Review*, 1964, Volume V, No.3 p. 45.

<sup>107</sup> Erfan, N. “What is Common between the Existentialists and Iqbal”, *The Pakistan Philosophical Journal*, January 1963, Volume VI, No.3 p. 26.

grasps both himself and things, not in their universal aspect only, but in their unique singularity.”<sup>108</sup>

## REASON AND INTUITION

The dependence of Reason upon Intuition: Intuition is opposed to demonstration in that it needs no proof and is a single act while reasoning is a complicated process. But reason cannot function with-out intuition. All demonstration starts with propositions which are themselves incapable of proof. Plato had believed that it was possible to have innate knowledge of universal ideas. “Knowledge of truth, he would have said, is acquired by metaphysical intuition, and the function of logic or scientific methods is then deductive.”<sup>109</sup> Not only does all reasoning begin with intuitions, intuition is operative continuously throughout every process of reasoning, since every step in the reasoning, taken by itself, is an intuition, self-evident and needing no external justification.<sup>110</sup> It has been said that the necessity of intuitive experience lies in the principle that we discover new truths neither by logic nor by scientific investigation, but by reaching out beyond the given, grasping the new thoughts, as it were, in the dark, and only afterwards consolidating them by means of reasoned proof. <sup>111</sup> Iqbal writes of the intellect’s indebtedness to intuition.

عقلے کہ جہاں سوزو، یک جلوہ بیباکش  
از عشق بیاموزد، آئینِ جہانتابی

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<sup>108</sup> Mr. Roth quoted in Stocks, J.L. “Reason and Intuition”, p. 12.

<sup>109</sup> Read, H., “The Limits of Logic”, The Tenth Muse, London, 1957, p. 108.

<sup>110</sup> Stocks, J.L., “Reason and Intuition”, p. 8.

<sup>111</sup> Collingwood, R.G., “Can the new Idealism dispense with

Pointing out the different ways in which thought and intuition operate and also their interrelatedness, Iqbal said, “the one grasps Reality piecemeal. The other grasps it in its wholeness. The one is present enjoyment of the whole Reality; the other aims at traversing the whole by slowly specifying and closing up the various regions of the whole for exclusive observation.”<sup>113</sup> Now, an act of reason is a process which occupies a considerable stretch of time. The question arises; how does the thinker hold together the successive moments of his thought? At the end of a process of reasoning there is a conclusion but it depends for its truth and meaning on what was revealed in the course of the process. It is intuition. “in its characteristic, function of making possible the keeping of a whole in mind,”<sup>114</sup> which enables the thinker to hold together in his mind all the steps of the process. J.L. Stocks observes.

“We cannot suppose that the thinker, as he proceeds to each new proposition, remembers all the propositions which he has previously asserted, and it is equally impossible that he has forgotten them: he has them, evidently, in some real sense in mind. As propositions, as assertions, they are dead and gone; but their work remains. Each proposition, as it is asserted, has its felt source and confirmation in an intuition of the relevant whole, and contributes something to the development of the intuition, so that, when the development is fruitful, other assertions are possible there-after which were not possible before.”<sup>115</sup>

It is implicit in Iqbal’s thought that reasoning is not an autonomous, self-directing power, but dependent on intuition (or what he calls ‘Love’ as in

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<sup>112</sup> One bold spark of Intellect sets all the world aglow, but it learns from Love the art of lighting up the world.

<sup>113</sup> The Reconstruction of Religious Thought in Islam, pp.2-3.

<sup>114</sup> Stocks, J.L., “Reason and Intuition”, p. 9.

<sup>115</sup> Ibid, p. 9.

his poetry) if it is to possess real value and validity. A philosophy which is not based on 'intuition' is lifeless.

یامردہ ہے یا نزع کی حالت میں گرفتار  
جو فلسفہ لکھا نہ گیا خون  
<sup>116</sup> (Zarb-e-Kalim, p. 37)

He rejects reason which does not recognize intuitions

ہزاربار نکوتر متاعِ بے بصری  
زدا نشے کہ دل اور انمی کند تصدیق  
<sup>117</sup> (Zabur-e-'Ajam, p. 161)

Spinoza had described intuitive knowledge as the goal of thought and "the function of reasoning may in fact be described without inaccuracy as precisely the development of intuition."<sup>118</sup> Iqbal approves whole-heartedly of 'reason' which has 'intuition' as its goal

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<sup>116</sup> Thai philosophy is either dead or in a state of mortal weakness, which is not written with the heart's blood.

<sup>117</sup> Better a man were blind,

Better a thousand wise,

Than knowledge to have in mind

That the seeing heart denies.

(Translation by Arberry, A.J., Persian Psalms, Lahore, 1961, p. 103.)

<sup>118</sup> Stocks, J.L., "Reason and Intuition", p. 10.

علم را مقصود اگر باشد نظر  
می شود ہم جاده و ہم را پیر  
علم تفسیر جهان رنگ و بو  
دیده و دل پرورش گیرد ازد  
<sup>119</sup>(Javid Nama, p. 222)

### The dependence of intuition upon Reason

Iqbal states that intuition and thought-rejuvenate each other.<sup>120</sup> The Ego grasps Reality both by means of intuition and intellect.

درونِ شیشه اور روزگار  
است  
ولے برما بتدریج آشکار  
است  
<sup>121</sup> (Zabur-e-'Ajam, p. 2)

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<sup>119</sup>If vision is the goal of the Intellect,

It becomes both the path and the guide!

Intellect elucidates this world of smell and colour,

It nurtures the eye and the emotions.

(Translation by Saiyidain, K.G., Iqbal's Educational Philosophy, Lahore, 1960, p. 150.)

<sup>120</sup> The Reconstruction of -Religious Thought in Islam, p. 3.

In his Lectures, Iqbal supports Ghazzali's view that intellectual discipline ought to precede intuitive insight.<sup>122</sup>

Although the final intuition remains unproven and unprovable, intuition is not a certainty arising from mere inspection to which reason makes and can make no contribution. Although intuition goes beyond reason, it does not exclude intellectual spade-work.

زمانہ عقل کو سمجھا ہوا  
ہے مشعلِ راہ  
کسے خبر کہ جنوں بھی  
ہے صاحبِ ادراک  
<sup>123</sup> (Bal-e-Jibril, p. 97)

Bergson also states “We do not obtain an intuition from reality that is in intellectual sympathy with the most inmost intimate part of it - unless we have won confidence by a long fellowship with its superficial manifestations.”<sup>124</sup>

Iqbal would not have subscribed to a rationalism which stood for the view that the world can be known and life lived by something like a set of

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<sup>121</sup> There is a whole world in the crystal bowl he had, But he reveals it slowly phase by phase.

(Translation by Hussain, H., The New Rose-Garden of Mystery, consulted in manuscript form, p. 4.

<sup>122</sup> Dar, B.A., Iqbal's Gulshan-i-Raz-i-Jadid and Bandagi Namah, Lahore, 1964, p. 15.

<sup>123</sup> As the wayside lamp the world regards the Intellect,

but who knows that Reason is possessed by Passion too.

<sup>124</sup> Bergson, H., An Introduction to Metaphysics (Translation by Hulme, T.E.), London, 1913, p. 77.



geometrical theorems, but if rationalism stood “for the faith that truth, independent of place and position, is attainable to man”<sup>125</sup> then Iqbal would have supported it wholeheartedly. He realized, as Locke and Mill had done, that “an intuition which claims sacrosanctity and declines the test of reason is... a moral and social offence, a mere misnomer for blind prejudice and crass superstition.”<sup>126</sup>

Iqbal is very anxious to find in reason an ally for intuitive experience. He says, “Indeed, in view of its function, religion stands in greater need of a rational foundation of its ultimate principles than even the dogmas of science. Science may ignore a rational metaphysics; indeed, it has ignored it so far. Religion can hardly afford to ignore the search for a reconciliation of the oppositions of experience and a justification of the environment in which humanity finds itself.”<sup>127</sup> Iqbal states clearly that as regions of normal experience are subject to interpretation of sense--data for our knowledge of the external world, so the region of mystic experience is subject to interpretation for our knowledge of God.<sup>128</sup> In one sense, then, reason is the interpreter of intuitive experience, and “philosophy has jurisdiction to judge religion.”<sup>129</sup> But, as Iqbal points out, religion has no need to be afraid of reason which call give only a sectional view of Reality.<sup>130</sup> It can find room within its “universe that thinks and knows” for all values, whether scientific, aesthetic, ethical or mystical, finding in the transcendent the worth and meaning of the immanent, and in the immanent a graded revelation of the transcendent.<sup>131</sup>

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<sup>125</sup> Stocks, J.L., “Reason and Intuition”, p.18.

<sup>126</sup> Ibid., p.17..

<sup>127</sup> The Reconstruction of Religious Thought in Islam, p.2.

<sup>128</sup> Ibid., p. 18.

<sup>129</sup> Ibid., p.2..

<sup>130</sup> Ibid., p. 42.

<sup>131</sup> Underhill, E., “Can the new Idealism dispense with Mysticism?”, pp.155-156.

## **The relationship and relative importance of Reason and Intuition**

At the very outset of his Lectures, Iqbal states that there is no reason “to suppose that thought and intuition are essentially opposed to each other.”<sup>132</sup> More has been written on the apparent conflict between reason and intuition (or between “aql” or “ilm” and “ishq” in Iqbal’s works than on any other aspect of his thought. Yet, there is no doubt that “as a philosopher... Iqbal has given intellect its full right besides the intuitional experience.”<sup>133</sup> He went so far as to say that “thought and intuition are organically related.”<sup>134</sup> If Reason and Intuition are organically related, it follows that neither can function alone but both must operate together.<sup>135</sup> In its deeper movement thought becomes almost identical with intuition (which, following Bergson, Iqbal describes as a higher kind of intellect.<sup>136</sup> In its narrower sense, reason may be contrasted with intuition, but only in the way in which analysis-synthesis may be opposed as complementary processes within a developing whole of thought.<sup>137</sup> The basic relationship between reason and intuition remains unaltered, since intuition, “is always found in intimate relation to the reasoning process, never in sheer opposition to it.”<sup>138</sup>

I throughout his writings Iqbal am anxious to show that there is no bifurcation between the temporal and spiritual aspects of life. If intuition and reason are completely unrelated and if intuition alone can reach Ultimate Reality, then reason has to be left behind. In some places Iqbal says precisely that this should be so

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<sup>132</sup> The Reconstruction of Religious Thought in Islam, P.2.

<sup>133</sup> Schimmel, A.m., Gabriel’s Wing, Leiden, 1963, p\_137.

<sup>134</sup> The Reconstruction of Religious Thought in Islam, pp 5-6.

<sup>135</sup> Rahman, F., “Modern Muslim Thought”, p. 21.

<sup>136</sup> The Reconstruction of Religious Thought in Islam, p.3..

<sup>137</sup> Stocks, J.L., “Reason and Intuition”, p. 18.

<sup>138</sup> Ibid., p. 16.

گذر جا عقل سے آگرے کہ یہ نور  
چراغِ راہ ہے، منزل نہیں ہے  
<sup>139</sup>(Bal-e-Jibril, p. 119)

But in fact, one of the chief aims of Iqbal's philosophy is to show "that neither the world nor thought should be left behind."<sup>140</sup> His ideal is to unite Reason and Intuition, Power and Love, State and Religion

شکوہِ خسروی این است این است  
ہمیں ملک است کو توام بدین است  
<sup>141</sup>(Zabur-e-'Ajam, p. 210)

Both reason and intuition are necessary for the fulfilment of human destiny. Both must be employed to grasp the fulness of life. "To see the self only in the state of concentrating its power, of making itself a pearl or diamond, is as wrong as to see it exclusively in its exterior activity."<sup>142</sup> In "Gulshan-e-Raz-e-Jadid" Iqbal tells us that it is sinful to see the world "with one eye"

بچشمے خلوتِ خود را  
ہے

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<sup>139</sup> Pass beyond the Intellect for this is a light which lights the Way but is itself not the final goal.

<sup>140</sup> Raju, P.T., "The Idealism of Sir Mohammad Iqbal", The Visvabharati Quarterly, August-October 1940.

<sup>141</sup> This is indeed a truly regal state, In which Religion is Dominion's comate.

(Translation by Hussain, H., The New Rose-Garden of Mystery, p. 5)

<sup>142</sup> Schimmel, A.M., Gabriel's Wing, pp. 105-106.

بچشمے جلوتِ خود را  
به بیند  
اگر یک چشم بر بند  
دگنا سے است  
اگر باہر دو بیند شرطِ  
راہے است

<sup>143</sup> (Zabur-e-'Ajam, p. 208)

Iqbal tries to show that there is something in common between reason and intuition (or Love)

عقل ہم عشق است و از ذوقِ نگہ بیگانه نیست

<sup>144</sup>(Zabur-e-'Ajam p. 36)

or between intuition and reason

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<sup>143</sup> With one eye it sees the 'khalvat' (reclusion) of his self, With one eye it sees the 'jalvat' (manifestation) of his self. If it closes one eye, it is a sin,

If it sees with both eyes, it is the condition of the Path. (Translation by Schimmel, A.M., Gabriel's Wing, p. 105)

<sup>144</sup> Intellect is passion too,

And it knows the joy to view.

(Translation by Arberry, A.J., Persian Psalms, p. 19.).

زمانہ ہیچ نداند حقیقتِ اُورا

جنوں قباست کو موزوں بقامتِ خرداست

<sup>145</sup> (Pas Che Bayad Kard Ai Aqwam-e-Sharq? p. 4)

Perfect knowledge - that which unites reason and intuition-destroys the idols which stand in the way of the attainment of Ultimate Reality

وہ علم اپنے بتوں کا ہے  
آپ ابراہیم  
کیا ہے جس کو خدا نے  
دل و نظر کا ندیم  
وہ علم کم بصری جس  
میں، ہمکنار نہیں  
تجلیاتِ کلیم و مشاہداتِ  
حکیم

<sup>146</sup> (Zarb-e-Kalim, p. 19)

And so Iqbal says

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<sup>145</sup> People do not recognize this reality

Passion is an attire that befits the Intellect.

<sup>146</sup> To its idols that Knowledge is like an Abraham

which God has willed to be the friend of both the heart and eye, that knowledge which is not myopic and joins the dazzling light of Moses' vision with the learned doctor's observations

خرد را بادلِ خود

همسفرکن

<sup>147</sup> (Zabur-e-'Ajam, p. 217)

“Bergson’s Message” is in ‘fact his own too

تا بر تو آشکار شود رازِ

زندگی

خود را جداز شعله مثال شرر

مکن

بهر نظاره جزنگه آشنا میار

در مرزوبوج خود چوغریبان

گذر مکن

نقشه که بسته همه ادھام

باطل است

عقلے بهم رسان که ادب

خوردئه دل است

<sup>148</sup> (Payam-e-Mashriq, p. 247)

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<sup>147</sup> Make Intellect a companion of your heart.

Iqbal has criticized Ghazzali for abandoning Reason and regarding mystic intuition as the only true source of the knowledge of Ultimate Reality. When everything has been said about Iqbal's defence of reason (as against Bergson for instance) and the importance he gave to it, his fundamental position is, at least in one sense, not very different from Ghazzali's. As Professor Whittemore remarks,

“At the heart of Iqbal's philosophy lies the existentialist conviction that Reality is inexpressible purely in terms of reason and science. This is not to deny the import of these latter. Whatever view of Man, Universe and God we ultimately arrive at, it must, Iqbal thinks, be one in which the data of science are accounted for, one in which the demands of reason for coherence are met. Yet below and above the level of science there is that which man knows simply because he feels it and intuits it.”<sup>149</sup>

Bergson too had felt that there is something in the universe analogous to the creative spirit of the poet, a living, pushing force, an *elan vital* which eludes the mathematical intelligence and can be appreciated only by a kind of divining sympathy or a feeling which approaches nearer to the essence of things than reason.<sup>150</sup>

Iqbal holds, then (with Bergson, Bradley, Whitehead, Ibn 'Arabi, Ghazzali, Rumi and others) that it is through intuition that the Ultimate is known. The experience which leads to this gnosis is not a “conceptually manageable intellectual fact; it is a vital fact, an attitude consequent on inner categories.”<sup>151</sup> Whitehead calls this vital way “transmutation” and Bradley

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<sup>148</sup> If thou wouldst read life as an open book, Be not a spark divided from the brand. Bring the familiar eye, the friendly look, Nor visit stranger--like thy native land. O thou by vain imaginings befooled, Get thee a Reason which the Heart hath schooled!

(Translation by Nicholson, R.A., “Iqbal's ‘Message of the East’”, p.122)

<sup>149</sup> Whittemore, R., “Iqbal's Panentheism”, p. 64.

<sup>150</sup> Thilly, F., *A History of Philosophy*, New York, 1931, p. 5,7 and 8.

<sup>151</sup> *The Reconstruction of Religious Thought in Islam*, p. 284.

refers to it as the transformation involved in the passage from the relational to the super-relational level of experience.<sup>152</sup> Iqbal, following the Qor'an calls it "Iman" which is not merely a passive belief in one or more pro-positions of a certain kind, it is a living assurance begotten of a rare experience."<sup>153</sup> It is "Iman" which makes the reader of the Book into the Book itself

یہ راز کسی کو نہیں معلوم کہ مومن  
قاری نظر آتا ہے حقیقت میں ہے قرآن  
<sup>154</sup> (Zarb-e-Kalim, p. 57)

Contrast between Reason and intuition (Love) in Iqbal's Poetry Perhaps the most common contrast in Iqbal's poetry is between "ishq" and "aql". Scientific knowledge is equated with aql' and mystic knowledge with "ishq'. The former is usually associated with the West and the latter with the East.

In Iqbal's verse the use of both Reason' and 'Love' is very wide. His poetry illustrates Evelyn Underhill's observation that Love "as applied to the mystics is to be understood in its deepest fullest sense; as the ultimate expression of the self's most vital tendencies, not as the superficial affection or emotion often dignified by this name. It is a condition of humble access, a life-movement of the self: more direct in its methods, more valid in its results - even in the hands of the least lettered of its adepts than the most piercing intellectual vision of the greatest philosophical mind."<sup>155</sup>

Underlying Iqbal's poetry is the idea that the world yields its secret only to one who sees with the eyes of Love:

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<sup>152</sup> Whittemore, R., "Iqbal's Panentheism", p.71.

<sup>153</sup> The Reconstruction of Religious Thought in Islam, p. 109.

<sup>154</sup> This secret no one knows that although the person of God

appears to read the Book, he is, in fact, the Book itself

<sup>155</sup> Underhill, E., Mysticism, 1960, p. 85.



بچشم عشق نگر تا  
سراغِ او گیری  
جهاں بچشم خرد سیمیا  
و نیزنگ است

<sup>156</sup>(Payam-e-Mashirq, p.178)

The Poet explains the difference between scientific and mystic experience in Javid Nama.

کارِ حکمت دیدن و  
فسودن است  
کارِ عرفان دیدن و  
افزودن است  
آن بدست آور و آب و  
خاک را  
این بدست آورد جانِ  
پاک را  
آن نگدرا بر تجلی می  
زند

---

<sup>156</sup> Look at the world with the eyes of love its secret to attain

for to the Intellect's eye it is merely a magic-show

ایں تجلی را بخود گم

می کند

<sup>157</sup> (Javid Nama, pp. 133-134)

Iqbal often refers to intellect as “the wayside lamp” which shows the way to the destination but cannot give knowledge of the Ultimate

خرد سے راہر و روشن بصر ہے

خرد کیا ہے ؟ چراغِ راہ گذر ہے

درونِ خانہ ہنگامے ہیں کیا کیا

چراغِ رہگذر کو کیا خبر ہے!

<sup>158</sup> (Bal-e- J fibril, p. 120)

The Poet is inspired by Love and so he has a more direct and intimate access to Reality than the metaphysician<sup>159</sup>

بو علی اندر غبارِ ناقر

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<sup>157</sup> The task of science is to see and consume, the work of gnosis is to see and augment; science weighs in the balance of technology, gnosis weighs in the balance of intuition; science holds in its hand water and earth, gnosis holds in its hand the pure spirit, science casts its gaze upon phenomena, gnosis absorbs phenomena it o itself.

(Translated by Arberry, A.J., Javid Nama, p. 90)

<sup>158</sup> . With Reason are lit up the Traveller's eyes;

what is Reason? It is the wayside lamp.

What tumults there are in the inner house

what can the wayside lamp know of such things!

<sup>159</sup> In the dust raised by the camel, Avicenna's lost, but the palanquin's curtain is held fast by Rumi's hand

گم

دستِ رومی پر

<sup>160</sup>(Payam-e-Mashriq, p. 122)

Knowledge which is not incandescent with love and remains a star to its travails, is of no avail<sup>161</sup>

عطار ہو رومی ہو رازی

ہو غزالی ہو

کچھ ہاتھ نہیں آتا ہے آہ

سحرگاہی

<sup>162</sup> (Bal-e- Jibril, p. 83}

Reason can yield only “Khabar” (knowledge) and cannot lead to “Nazar” (vision)

اس کی تقدیر میں حضور نہیں

عقل گو آسماں سے دور نہیں

دل بینا بھی کر خدا سے طلب

آنکھ کا نور دل کا نور نہیں

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<sup>160</sup> Naravane, V.S., Modern Indian Thought, London, 1964,p.299.

<sup>161</sup> Vahiduddin, S., “The Philosophy of Muhammad Iqbal”,

The Aryan Path, Bombat, December 1957, Volume XVIII, p. 550.

<sup>162</sup> Attar or Rumi, Razi or Ghazzali it may be without the passionate prayer at dawn, nothing is attained.

<sup>163</sup>(Bal-e-Jibril, p.65)

The seeker, needs something more than mere information

خرد کے پاس خبر کے  
سوا کچھ اور نہیں  
ترا علاج کے سوا کچھ  
اور نہیں

<sup>164</sup>(Bal-e-Jibril, p..70)

And so he protests

ایں جہانِ کوہ  
ودشت و بحر و بر  
ما "نظر" خواہیم  
داو گوید "خبر"

<sup>165</sup> (Javid Nama, p. 5)

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<sup>163</sup> Though from the House, it is not far off

yet vision it is not destined to have;

and God also for a discerning hear,

for eye's sight is not light of the heart.

<sup>164</sup> Save information, Reason has nothing else,

your cure is vision alone and nothing else

<sup>165</sup> This world of mountain and plain, ocean and land-We yearn for vision, and it speaks of report.

Iqbal calls the intellect “a question” and Love “the answer”

عشق کی گرمی ہے معرکہ  
کائنات  
علم مقامِ صفات ' تماشائے ذات  
عشق سکون و ثبات ' عشق  
حیات و ممات  
علم ہے پیدا سوال ' عشق ہے  
پنہاں جواب!

<sup>166</sup> (Zarb-e-Kalim, p. 13)

The 'heart' (“dil”) says to the 'mind' (“aql”).

رازِ ہستی کو تو سمجھتی ہے  
اور آنکھوں سے دیکھتا ہوں میں  
علم تجھ سے تو معرفت مجھ سے  
تو خدا جو خدا نما ہوں میں

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(Translation by Arberry, A. J., Javid Nama, p.33)

<sup>166</sup> Creation’s miracle is due to the warmth of Love,

Knowledge stops at Attributes while Love the Being beholds! Love is peace and stillness,  
Love is Life and Love is Death, Knowledge is born a question, its implicit answer is Love

<sup>167</sup> (Bang-e-Dara, p. 26)

The mind insists that vision of God is impossible, and yet Love prays hopefully

خرد گفت ' او بچشم اندر ننگجد  
نگاه شوق در امید و بیم است  
نمیگر دو کهن افسانه طور  
که در دل تمنا سے کلیم است  
<sup>168</sup> (Payam-e-Mashriq, p. 30)

Compared with the treasures hidden in the ocean of Love, the intellect has very little to offer

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<sup>167</sup> You understand the secret of existence

and I perceive it with my naked eyes;

you give knowledge and I the direct vision

you \*are a seeker of God and I reveal God

<sup>168</sup> "The Eye cannot attain Him," said the Mind:

Yet Yearning's glance trembles in hope and fear.

It grows not old, the tale of Sinai,

And every heart yet whispers Moses' prayer.

(Translation by Arberry, A.J., The Tulip of Sinai, p. 8)

بگذر از عقل و درآویز ب موجِ یمِ عشق  
که در آن جوئے تنک مایه گهر پیدا نیست  
<sup>169</sup> (Payam-e-Mashriq, p. 203)

Reason gives power but it cannot answer some fundamental questions.

علم میں دولت بھی ہے قدرت بھی ہے لذت بھی ہے  
ایک مشکل ہے کہ ہاتھ آتا نہیں اپنا سراغ  
<sup>170</sup> (Zarb-e-Kalim, p. 78)

and so the exhortation comes

اپنے من میں ڈوب کر پا جا سراغِ زندگی  
<sup>171</sup> (Bal-e-Jibril, p.48)

An idea found often in Iqbal's poetry is that it is Love and not Reason which lead to life-giving and life-renewing action.

حکیمانِ مردہ را صورت نگار اند!  
یدِ مُوسے ' دمِ عیسے ندارند!

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<sup>169</sup> Pass beyond Reason and grapple with Love's ocean's waves

for in this shallow stream there are no real gems to find

<sup>170</sup> Wealth, Power and Pleasure Knowledge brings, but the

problem is it does not disclose to us the clue to one's own self,

<sup>171</sup> In yourself submerge yourself and find the secret of life.

And so the Poet urges

دل بیدار پیدا کر کہ دل  
خوابیدہ ہے جب تک  
نہ تیری ضرب ہے کاری نہ  
میری ضرب ہے کاری

<sup>173</sup> (Bal-e-Jibril,, p. 57)

Rational Knowledge is a sheath without a sword.

عشق کی تیغِ جگر دار اڑالی کس نے  
علم کے ہاتھ میں خالی ہے نیام اے ساقی !

<sup>174</sup> (Bal-e-Jibril, p. 17)

For a seeker of knowledge, Iqbal prays that he may learn to understand what lies beyond the superficial meaning of words

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<sup>172</sup> Doctors give form to matter but they cannot give it life

for they have not Moses' hand nor the spirit of Jesus

<sup>173</sup> Let your heart be wakeful, for until it awakes ineffective

is your stroke, ineffective is my stroke

<sup>174</sup> Who has taken away the mighty-hearted sword of Love, in its hand, Knowledge has just the empty sheath, O Saqi



خدا تجھے کسی طوفان سے آشنا کر دے  
کہ تیرے بحر کی موجوں میں اضطراب نہیں  
تجھے کتاب سے ممکن نہیں فراغ کہ تُو  
کتاب خواں ہے مگر صاحبِ کتاب نہیں

<sup>175</sup> (Zarb-e-Kalim, p. 81)

Love “flies into me Divine Presence”<sup>176</sup> unlike reason which moves through the crooked paths of secondary causes.

از حقائق تا حقائق رفتہ عقل

<sup>177</sup> (avid Nama, p. 179)

Love, on the other hand, is not circumscribed by anything, and works like lightning.

می نداند عشق سال و ماه را  
دیرو زود و نزد و دورِ راه را  
عقل در کہ ہے شگافے می کند  
یا دبگردِ او طوافے می کند

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<sup>175</sup> . May God acquaint you with some thing momentous for in your ocean’s waves there is no motion. You cannot do without your books because you only read the books, you do not know them.

<sup>176</sup> Schimmel, A.M., Gabriel’s Wing, p. 359.

<sup>177</sup> Reason makes its way from fact to fact.

کوہ پیش عشق چوں کا ہے بود  
دل سریع ایسر چوں ما ہے بود

<sup>178</sup> (Javid Nama, p. 17)

Reason is cautious and fearful and proceeds slowly. Love is audacious and proceeds unhesitatingly- bold in manner and unswerving in resolve

علم بر بيم و رجا دارد اساس  
عاشقان رانے امیدے نے هراس  
علم ترساں از جلالِ کائنات  
عشق غرق اندر جمالِ کائنات  
علم رابر رفتہ و حاضر نظر  
عشق گودی آنچه می آید نگر  
علم پیمان بسته با آئین جبر  
چارئہ او چيست غيراز جبر و صبر

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<sup>178</sup> Love knows nothing of months and years,

Late and soon, near and far upon the road,

Reason drives a fissure through a mountain,

or else makes a circuit round it;

before love the mountain is like a straw,

the heart darts as swiftly as a fish.

(Translation by Arberry, A.J., Javid Nama, p.32)

عشق آزاد و غیور و نا صبور  
در تماشائے و جو آمد جسور

<sup>179</sup> (Javid Nama, p. 139)

One significant difference between Reason and Love is that the former is calculating and cowardly but the latter risks all without fear

پختہ ہوتی ہے اگر مصلحت  
اندیش ہو عقل  
عشق ہو مصلحت اندیش تو  
ہے خام ابھی  
بے خطر کود پڑا آتشِ نمرود

---

<sup>179</sup> Science is founded upon fear and hope,

Lovers are troubled by neither hope nor fear,

Science is fearful of the grandeur of creation,

Love is immersed in the beauty of creation,

science gazes upon the past and the present,

love cries, 'Look upon what is coming!'

Science has made compact with the cannon of constraint and has no other resource but constraint and resignation, Love is free and proud and intolerant

And boldly investigates the whole of Being.

(Translation by Arberry, A.J., Javid Nama, p. 93)

میں عشق  
عقل ہے محوِ تماشا ئے لبِ بام  
ابھی

<sup>180</sup> (Bang-e-Dara, p. 312)

To the West (which Iqbal identified with the cold, loveless Intellect)  
Iqbal sent this message

از من اے بادِ صبا گوئے بدانائے فرنگ  
عقل تا بالِ کشوداست گرفتار تراست  
برق را این بجگر می زندآں رام کند  
عشق از عقل فسوں پیشه جگر دار تراست

<sup>181</sup> (Payam-e-Mashriq, p. 225)

And because Love is “more brave than Intellect” the Poet writes

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<sup>180</sup> If Reason is mature, it calculates the pros and cons, but if Love is expedient it is imperfect still.

Fearlessly Love leapt into the fire of Nimrud

Whilst Reason still watches the scene intently by the brim

<sup>181</sup> O breeze take this message from me to the wise men of the West, That Intellect since it opened its wings has become more of a prisoner. For Love strikes the heart like lightning while Intellect only domesticates it. Love is more brave than Intellect the practiser of deceptions. (Translation by Singh, I., The Ardent Pilgrim, pp.116-117).

صبحِ ازلِ یہ مجھ سے کہا  
جبرئیل نے  
جو عقل کا غلام ہو وہ  
دل نہ کر قبول

<sup>182</sup> (Zarb-e-Kalim, p. 71)

Iqbal “struggles mercilessly against that Intellect which is separated from Love.”<sup>183</sup> Wisdom comes only through suffering or “soz (a synonym for Love) and the Poet prefers such wisdom to analytic knowledge.

یک ذرہ دردِ دل از علم  
فلاطون بہ

<sup>184</sup> (Zabur-e-Ajam, p. 32)

The Intellect is waylaid by a thousand doubts but Love pursues its objective with single-minded dedication

نشانِ راهِ زعقلِ ہزارِ حیلہ  
مپرس

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<sup>182</sup> On the morning of Creation, this Gabriel said to me-do not accept a heart that is a captive of the mind.

<sup>183</sup> Schimmel, A.M., Gabriel’s Wing, p. 135.

<sup>184</sup> Better one distress of heart

Than all Plato’s learned art

(Translation by Arberry, A.J., Persian Psalms, p. 17)

بیا کہ عشق کمالے زیک

دارد

<sup>185</sup> (Payam-e-Mashriq, p. 194)

Iqbal regards loveless Intellect as being allied to Satan and forces of evil, of magic and idolatry. In Payam-e-Mashriq he quotes Rumi's famous line "From Satan Logic and from Adam Love."<sup>186</sup> In Javid Nama he writes

دل اگر بندو به حق، پیغمبری است  
درز حق بیگانه گردو کافری است  
علم را بے سوزِ دل خوانی شراست  
نورِ اوتاریکئی بحر و براست  
قوتش ابلیس را دارے شود  
علم بے عشق است از طاغوتیار  
علم با عشق است از لاهوتیار

<sup>187</sup> Javid Nama, pp: 82-83)

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<sup>185</sup> Do not seek guidance from the Intellect

Which has a thousand wiles!

Come to Love which excels

By the singleness of its purpose.

(Translation by Saiyidain, K.G., Iqbal's Educational  
Philosophy, pp. 135-136)

<sup>186</sup> Rumi's Masnawi, Book IV, Line 1042, quoted in Payam-e-Mashriq., p. 246.

Iqbal often refers to the Mind as a creator of Idols, and to Love as the destroyer of these idols

زماں زماں شکند آنچه می تراشد عقل  
بیا که عشق مسلمان و عقل زناری است

<sup>188</sup> (Zabur-e-'Ajam, p. 108)

This motif pervades Iqbal's whole work. Often Abraham is shown breaking the idols of his father. Love is a real 'Muslim' because it only worships the One, whereas Reason still wears the 'Zannar'-the Magian's Girdle-"which means not only that it creates new idols before which ignorant

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<sup>187</sup> If it (science) attaches its heart to God, it is prophecy, but if it is a stranger to God, it is unbelief.

Science without the heart's glow is pure evil,  
for then its light is darkness over sea and land  
Its power becomes the faithful ally of Satan;  
Lights become fire by association with fire.  
Science without love is a demonic thing,  
science together with love is a thing divine.

(Translation by Arberry, A.J., Javid Nama, p. 64.)

<sup>188</sup> Now and now Mind breaketh through

What idols it designed;  
Come, for Love believeth true,  
And infidel is Mind

(Translation by Arberry, A.J., Persian Psalms, p. 67.)

people prostrate themselves but also that it is still limited by the spell of serial time which hinders man from grasping the fulness of Divine time.”<sup>189</sup> The thought is repeated in lines such as these.

عقل و دل و نگاہ کا مرشدِ اولین ہے عشق  
عشق نہ ہو تو شرع و دین بتکدہ تصوّرات

<sup>190</sup> (Bal-e- J ibril’, p. 4)

Love, in effect, becomes the criterion for faith

اگر ہو عشق، تو ہے کفر بھی مسلمانی  
نہ ہو تو مردِ مسلمان بھی کافر و زندیق

<sup>191</sup> (Bal-e- Jibril, p. 54)

Iqbal is unhappy over the fact that modern education does not teach the value of Love but insists on the supremacy of reason

دانش حاضرِ حجابِ اکبر است  
بت پرست و بت فروش و بت گراست

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<sup>189</sup> Schimmel, A.M., Gabriel’s Wing, p. 135).

<sup>190</sup> The First Teacher of the Mind, the Heart, the Eye, is Love-lacking Love, law and religion are fancies’ idol-house.

<sup>191</sup> If Love be there, even unbelief is Islam,

but lacking Love, pagan a Muslim is



پا بزندانِ مظاهرِ بسته  
از حدودِ حسِ برونِ نا جسته

<sup>192</sup> (Asrar-e-Khudi, p. 77)

Only Love can lead to vision, to the true realization of a person's deepest self

علم تا از عشق بر خور دار نیست  
جز تماشا خانۀ افکار نیست  
این تماشا خانۀ سحر سامری است  
علم بی روح القدس افسونگری است  
بی تجلیِ مردِ دانا ره نبرو  
از لکد کوبِ خیالِ خویش مرد  
بی تجلیِ زندگی رنجوری است  
عقل مهجوری و دیں مجبوری است

<sup>193</sup> (Javid Nama, pp. 4-5)

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<sup>192</sup> Modern knowledge is the greatest blind

Idol-making, idol-selling, idol-worshipping!

Shackled in the prison-house of phenomena,

It has not overleaped the limits of the sensible.

(Translation by Saiyidain, K.G., Iqbal's Educational Philosophy, p. 136.)

Reason can conquer only the visible world, but Love is more ambitious

عقلِ آدمِ برِ جہاںِ شبخوںِ زند  
عشقِ اوِ برِ لامکاںِ شبخوںِ زند

<sup>194</sup> (David Nama, p. 9)

And if human beings are constant in love, they can capture even' God Himself

عاشقی؟ محکمِ شو از تقلیدِ یار  
تا کمندِ تو شود یزداںِ شکار

<sup>195</sup> (Asrar-e-Khudi, p. 23)

Love lives on, though Reason dies

ہے ابد کے نسخہ دیرینہ

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<sup>193</sup> . So long as knowledge has no portion of love

it is a mere picture-gallery of thoughts.

This peep-show is the Samiri's knowledge without the

Holy Ghost is more spell-binding. Without revelation no wise men ever found the way, he died buffeted by his own imaginings; without revelation life is a mortal sickness, reason is banishment, religion constraint. (Translation by Arberry, A.J Javid Nama, p. 26)

<sup>194</sup> Man's reason is making assault on the world, but his love makes assault on the Infinite (Translation by Arberry, A.J., Javid Nama, p. 26).

<sup>195</sup> Be a lover constant in devotion to thy beloved,

That thou mayst cast a noose and capture God,

(Translation Nicholson, R.A., The Secrets of the Self, p.36)

کی تمہید عشق  
عقلِ انسانی ہے فانی، زندہ  
جاوید عشق

<sup>196</sup> (Bang-e-Dara, p. 163)

The embodiments of Love are not subject to decay. The Mosque at Cordoba, for instance, is a work of art created with love and faith, and so it lasts while generations of human beings pass away. The whole poem- one of the most beautiful in all Iqbal's work- is a poem on the potency and efficacy of Love

اے حرمِ قرطبہ ! عشق  
سے تیرا وجود  
عشق سراپا دوام جس  
نہیں رفت و بود  
<sup>197</sup> (Bal-e-Jibril, p. 129)

Perhaps one of the best known contrasts between Reason and Love occurs in 'Rumuz-e-Bekhudi where Iqbal sums up what he considers to be the chief differences between the two modes of apprehending Reality

مومن از عشق است و عشق از مومن است  
عشق را ناممکنِ ما ممکن است

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<sup>196</sup> Love is the introduction to Eternity's ancient book,-mortal is human Intellect but immortal is Love.

<sup>197</sup> Shrine of Cordoba! from Love all your existence is sprung, Love that can know no end, stranger to then-and-now. (Translation by Kiernan, V.G., Poems from Iqbal, p.38.)

عقل سفاک است و او سفاک تر  
پاک تر ، چالاک تر، بے باک تر  
عقل در پیچاکِ اسباب و علل  
عشق چوگانِ بازِ میدانِ عمل  
عشق صید از زورِ بازو افگند  
عقل مکار است د دامے می زند  
عقل را سرمایه از بیم و شک است  
عشق را عزم و یقین لاینفک است  
آن کند تعمیر تا ویراں کند  
این کند ویراں که آباداں کند  
عقل چون فاد است ارزاں درجهان  
عشق کمیاب و بهائے او گران  
عقل محکم از اساسِ چوں و چند  
عشق عریاں از لباسِ چوں و چند  
عقل میگوید که خود را پیش کن  
عشق گوید امتحانِ خویش کن  
عقل با غیر آشنا از اکتساب  
عشق از فضل است و باخود در حساب  
عقل گوید شاد شو آباد شو

عشق گوید بنده شو آزاد شو  
<sup>198</sup> (Rumuz-e-Bekhudi, pp. 125-126)

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contributors of articles to the Iqbal Review are supplied five offprints of their articles by the Academy If more than five offprints are required, this may please be stated, in red ink, on the first page of the article, even if a

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<sup>198</sup> Unto Love belongs

The true believer, and Love unto him

Love maketh all things possible to us.

Reason is ruthless, Love is even more,

Purer, and nimbler, and more unafraid.

Lost in the maze of cause and of effect

Is Reason; Love strikes boldly in the field Of Action. Crafty Reason sets a snare;

Love overthrows the prey with strong right arm. Reason is rich in fear and doubt; but Love Has firm resolve, faith indissoluble. Reason constructs, to make a wilderness; Love lays wise waste, to build all up anew. Reason is cheap, and plentiful as air; Love is more scarce to find, and of great price. Reason stands firm upon phenomena, But Love is naked of material robes. Reason says, "Thrust thyself into the fire;"

Love answers, "Try thy heart, and prove thyself." Reason by acquisition is informed

Of other; Love is born of inward grace

And makes account with Self. Reason declares, "Be happy, and be prosperous;" Love replies, "Become a servant, that thou mayest be free."

(Translation by Arberry, The Mysteries of Selflessness, p.26.)

request has been made in the letter accompanying the article. These will be printed and the cost will be adjusted against their remuneration.

Editor, Iqbal Review