

The Impact of Ethics on Cognition: Perspectives from Allameh Tabatabai and William James

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Abstracts

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The influence of non-cognitive factors on human knowledge has been a significant topic in epistemology. Some theorists, like Clifford, argue that this influence contradicts the ethics of belief, while others view the impact of non-cognitive factors, including emotions, as consistent with human logic and experience. This study examines the perspectives of William James, grounded in pragmatism, and Allameh Tabatabai, who adopts a realist approach to this critical issue. The research compares the views of these two thinkers. Unlike James, who values lived experience and practical utility as sources of belief, Allameh Tabatabai asserts that alignment with reality is a prerequisite for knowledge, emphasizing the influence of ethics and inner states on cognition. Additionally, Allameh attributes moral evils to excesses and deficiencies in appetitive or aggressive faculties.

Keywords

Ethics, Epistemology, Cognition, Allameh Tabatabai, William James.

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