

The Practical Functions of Reason According to Imami Narrations

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Abstracts

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Human reason has various cognitive and practical functions. Different philosophical schools have articulated diverse roles for practical reason. The main objective of this article is to uncover the practical-ethical functions of human reason based on religious texts and narratives. Utilizing the method of analyzing religious hadiths, the following results have been obtained: reason has three practical-ethical functions in the realm of human life: 1. Identifying moral obligations and values 2. Issuing judgments of necessity and desirability 3. Motivating and managing behavior and character. In identifying obligations and values, reason considers both the essence of actions and sometimes external evaluations. In the second function, reason acts as a legislator, issuing judgments of necessity and desirability, irrespective of others' opinions or the intrinsic value of the action itself. In this function, reason adds value to the action. The third function of reason involves managing human conduct and character, with the most important element in this management being the notion of "good," which reason uses to organize all internal forces and factors.

Keywords

Practical reason, functions of reason, judgments of reason, rational obligation, rational discovery.

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