A Revisit of the Gender of the Soul in the Light of the Thoughts of Sadr al-Mutalahin

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Abstract

Gender studies have always been of interest to thinkers, especially philosophers. Since these studies are considered interdisciplinary topics, examining them using philosophical foundations will also lead to careful consideration of other sciences related to this subject. This research, which aims to explore the types of gender of the human soul from the perspective of Sadra al-Mutalahin, is based on a qualitative approach, inspired by the descriptive analytical method and the techniques and tools of the documentary analysis method. The main question of the present article is how the gender of the soul is explained based on Mulla Sadra's thoughts. The research findings showed that: Gender, or biological sex, refers to the biological differences between men and women and includes their biological and physiological traits. Sadra al-Mutalahin, who considers it outside the nature of humans and animals in his ontology of gender, provides several arguments for rejecting the separation of masculinity and femininity. Another important principle of Sadra's in the discussions of psychology is the dignity or respect that the lower powers and their instruments have for the higher powers of the soul, which are considered as its shadow. Based on this, although masculinity and femininity in their conventional meaning (biological gender) gain meaning after the formation of the body; the truth of this attribute is rooted in a higher level and since the human soul was bound by these aspects and attributes in previous worlds, gender (non-biological gender) must also be emphasized for the soul in previous worlds.

Keywords: biological sex, sexual identity, susceptibility, soul, Mulla Sadra

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