



PHILOSOPHICAL ISSUES IN JALALUDDIN RUMI'S VIEWS

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Received: 20 th February 2025 Accepted: 10 th March 2025	This article discusses the works of Jalaluddin Rumi, his writings, and his views on philosophical issues. In particular, it explores Rumi's place in Sufi philosophy and the main ideas of his works.
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Jalaluddin Rumi, as one of the great poets of Sufism, is known not only for his poetry but also for his profound philosophical views. His thoughts revolve around issues such as life, death, the reality of the human soul, and the connection with God. The philosophical issues in Rumi's views occupy a significant place in his works, particularly in the *Masnavi*. This article analyzes the key issues in Rumi's philosophy and their spiritual, psychological, and divine aspects.

One of the greatest issues in Rumi's philosophy is the search for one's true self. According to Rumi, in order to understand their essence, a person must turn away from the external world and delve deep into their inner world. He believes that the true essence of a person is inseparable from God, and the first step in realizing this self is uniting with the Divine. In Rumi's perspective, the concept of «I» refers only to physical existence, while the true «I» resides in the divine spirit. In the *Masnavi*, he describes the search for one's true essence as a spiritual journey, which can only be achieved through the path of Sufism. [1.22]

In Rumi's Sufism, love holds a central place. Loving God is not just about personal spiritual growth but also about understanding one's unity with all beings and recognizing oneself as part of a vast system. For Rumi, love is a means of connecting with God, understanding the Truth, and expanding consciousness. Love for God itself ultimately leads a person to realize their true self. Rumi also emphasizes that love is not only emotional but also connected to intellectual and spiritual growth.

In Rumi's philosophy, the boundaries between life and death are not clearly defined. He does not see life as something temporary; instead, he understands death as a continuation of life. Rumi perceives death not as the end of an era but as a transition to a new stage. According to him, the spiritual journey of a person continues after death, bringing them closer to God. Rumi describes death as "the soul's transition to a new stage," representing the inner evolution of a person.

For Rumi, patience and endurance are among the essential philosophical values in life. He considers

patience an indispensable means of achieving spiritual perfection. All trials, difficulties, and sufferings in life serve as necessary tools for purifying one's inner world and attaining spiritual growth. Through patience, a person strengthens their spiritual resilience and deepens their connection with God. In the *Masnavi*, Rumi provides numerous examples illustrating how patience and endurance lead to the understanding of truth.

In Rumi's philosophy, uniting with or understanding God is considered the highest goal of human existence. According to Rumi, God is the ultimate source and creator of all beings. He believes that all humans originate from the same divine source, and what unites them is love and Truth. For Rumi, uniting with God is only possible through inner exploration and spiritual journey. He states, «God is within us», as God resides in the deepest layers of the human heart, and by uniting with Him, a person attains true happiness and peace. [2.12]

For Rumi, transformation and renewal are an inseparable part of spiritual growth. According to him, the trials and challenges of life lead a person toward renewal. However, this renewal must occur within the inner world, as external changes alone are not enough for self-improvement. In Rumi's perspective, transformation is essentially understood as «a new life after death». This process of spiritual growth and renewal fosters a deeper philosophical outlook on the many challenges in the external world.

For Rumi, spiritual experience and practice hold greater significance than mere acquisition of knowledge. He emphasizes that true knowledge and wisdom can only be attained through inner experience—by purifying the heart and soul. Learning should not be limited to theoretical understanding but must be integrated into life through personal experience and deep inner reflection. In Rumi's Sufi philosophy, acquiring knowledge itself is considered part of spiritual growth, as Sufism is not just about gaining knowledge



but also about understanding the heart and establishing a connection with God.

Jalaluddin Rumi's philosophy stands out for its depth, spiritual essence, and profound love for humanity. His works focus on themes such as the search for one's true self, unity with God, the divine nature of love, and the importance of patience. Through the Sufi path, Rumi emphasizes inner purification, spiritual growth, and the realization of Truth. The philosophical issues in his teachings – centered on human spiritual perfection, divine love, and the continuation of life after death – reveal their profound spiritual meaning.

The analysis of this article shows that Jalaluddin Rumi's works have served as an important source for human spiritual elevation, and his philosophical ideas remain relevant in today's modern society. Rumi's concepts of love and divine light help individuals attain inner peace and spiritual freedom. These reflections continue to play a significant role in addressing humanity's need for intercultural and interfaith dialogue in the present day.

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