Abstract

Virtue has become generally defined as an expression of moral excellence. Virtue concept and types have been studied with in the different paradigms throughout the historical development process. To gain prominence as a term of moral value of the word virtue and the emergence of a systematic theory of virtue began with the philosopher's justification for this concept. One of the main features that determine Ghazali's virtue doctrine is his congregating the morality based on religion with philosophical and mystical understanding of morality at the same ground, which developed separately from each other until his period.

Religion constitutes the source of Ghazali's morality understanding. He examines morality and virtue from an Islamic perspective of which basis are the Qur'an and the Sunnah. According to Ghazali, virtues as a moral value signify equipping people's souls with the spiritual values, having good morals, achieving competence. Virtues are a way from excess and inadequacy but including sobriety. Virtues are also the way to win eternal happiness in both worlds. Ghazali high lights four basic virtues: Wisdom, courage, purity and justice. According to him, one of the main characteristics that determine human is the concept of the soul. Expressing the nature of the human, soul and its relationship with the concepts heart, flesh and mind reveal the human in epistemological and psychological context and the moral values expressing his competency. This context is to approach the person who is the subject of morality in a metaphysical and physical form of encompassing perspective. Nature of the soul as a spiritual matter and its relationship between body are the source of virtue or shame. In this context Ghazali defines human's having virtues as an indication of the competence that determines the human values. Becoming competent morally is an expression of having all the virtues, development of the theoretical and practical power, a sharp intelligence, dominating the flesh, good character, being in sobriety line, reaching eternal happiness and being close to God.

**KeyWords:** Ghazali, Virtue, Moral, Moral virtue, Ethics