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Is the belief in the supernatural power of the Divine guardians considered as polytheism?

It is quite plain that when a person begs another one for help, he is sure that it is within his power to help him, and this power is of two kinds:

1. This power is within the material and natural framework, as we may ask somebody for a glass of water.
2. This power is supernatural and beyond the material and natural framework, as we believe that Jesus Christ, the reverend servant of God, was able to treat the refractory diseases and cure the helpless patients.

No doubt this belief is as the belief in the material and natural power if it stems from the Divine omnipotence and is never considered as polytheism, because He, who has granted man with physical and natural power, is able to provide some of his pious guardians with supernatural power.

It is noteworthy to mention that the belief in the supernatural power of the Divine guardians fall into two categories:

1. The belief that someone is the autonomous origin of the supernatural omnipotence, and that he is able to achieve Godly acts independently.

It is quite evident that this kind of belief is as polytheism, because we have taken none-God as the source of autonomous omnipotence and ascribed him the Godly attributes, whereas God is the only source of all powers.

2. The belief that the pious servants of God and the Divine guardians, while confessing that their power stems from the Divine Eternal Omnipotence and that they have no power of themselves, embark on the manifestation of the Divine Omnipotence with His leave. They have no autonomy; nevertheless, they are dependant on God both in their existence and the practice of the supernatural power.

It is plain that such a belief is not to regard the Divine guardians as God, because they only manifest the Divine supernatural Omnipotence with God's leave and without autonomy.

With regard to this fact, the holy Quran says,

و ما كان لرسول ان ياتي بآيه الا باذن الله

(And it was not expected from any Messenger that he should bring a miracle except by Allah's leave.)¹

As a result, it goes evident that such a belief is not polytheism.

The supernatural authority of the Divine guardians from the holy Quran view:

The heavenly Book of Islam enumerates a number of Divine guardians that enjoyed this supernatural power with God's leave. Below, we name just a few:

1. Moses' supernatural power:

God, the Almighty, ordered His prophet Moses to strike his walking stick to a stony rock; then, the spring of limpid water flowed out:

و اذ استوثقي موسي لقومه فقلنا اضرب بعصاك الحجر فانفجرت منه اثنتا عشرة عينا

(And remember when Moses seeking water for his people, prayed and then We ordered, "Strike the rock with your staff!" Then, gushed forth there from twelve springs.)²

2. Jesus' supernatural power:

The supernatural power of Jesus has been presented in the holy Quran in different places, but here we point only one of them:

اني اخلق لكم من الطين كهيئة الطير فانفخ فيه فيكون طيرا باذن الله و ابري الالكه و الابرص و احي الموتى باذن الله...

(I will create a figure of bird out of clay; then, I will breathe into it and it and it becomes a bird by Allah's leave, and I will heal those born blind and the lepers by Allah's leave and will bring to life the dead by Allah's leave...)³

1- Rad Sura, verse no.38

2- Baqara Sura, verse no.60

3- Ale-Imran Sura, verse no.49

3. Solomon supernatural power:

With regard to the supernatural power of Solomon, the holy Quran States:

وورث سليمان داوود و قال يا ايها الناس علمنا منطق الطير و اوتينا من كل شئ ان هذا لهو الفضل المبين

*(And Solomon was David's heir, and he addressed the people saying, "O, people! We {my father and I} have been taught the language of birds and have been bestowed bounties of all kinds; this surely is the sign of Allah's favor upon us.)*⁴

It is beyond doubt that the accomplishment of such acts, such as the flow of spring water from the stony rock with the stroke of Moses' stick, the creation of a factual bird out of clay, the treatment of refractory diseases, the revival of the dead, and Solomon's knowledge of the birds' languages are considered as the supernatural elements and out of man's natural skills.

Is our belief in their supernatural powers considered as heresy or polytheism while the holy Quran in these verses and many others points out the supernatural power of the Divine guardians?

Thus, it is proven that having belief in the supernatural power of the Divine guardians is not to regard them as God or ascribe Godly attributes to them.

Hence, it is not considered as dualism if one believes that the Divine guardians' supernatural power stems from God's eternal Omnipotence, and this is God's gift to them, but rather it conforms with monotheism, because the monotheism is to account God as the sole source of all wills and ascribe all powers in the universe to Him.

4- Naml Sura, verse no.16