



ABU NASR FARABI'S VIEWS ON NATIONAL IDENTITY AND INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE

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Abstract

This article analyzes the views of the great thinker Abu Nasr al-Farabi on national identity and intercultural dialogue. It highlights the significance of his ideas on human beings, society, and culture in the context of modern globalization. Furthermore, the role of Farabi's teachings in fostering dialogue between Eastern and Western civilizations is substantiated from a scientific perspective.

Keywords: National identity, intercultural dialogue, society, philosophy, civilization, humanism.

Introduction

In the context of globalization, issues of national identity and intercultural dialogue have become increasingly significant. Rapid social, cultural, and technological transformations require a deeper understanding of the interaction between different civilizations and the preservation of national values. In this regard, the philosophical heritage of the great Eastern thinker Abu Nasr al-Farabi serves as an important theoretical foundation.

Abu Nasr al-Farabi, who lived during the Islamic Golden Age, made a substantial contribution to the development of philosophy, science, and culture. His works reflect a synthesis of Eastern and Western intellectual traditions, particularly through his interpretation and development of ancient Greek philosophy within the framework of



Islamic thought. This intellectual synthesis laid the groundwork for intercultural dialogue and mutual understanding among different societies.

Farabi's ideas about the virtuous society, human perfection, and the role of knowledge highlight the importance of moral and intellectual development in shaping both individual identity and social harmony. His views emphasize that true human fulfillment can only be achieved within a well-organized and ethically grounded society, where cooperation and mutual respect prevail.

Therefore, studying Farabi's views on national identity and intercultural dialogue is highly relevant today. His philosophical legacy not only provides insights into the historical development of intercultural relations but also offers valuable guidance for addressing contemporary challenges related to cultural diversity, social cohesion, and global communication.

The philosophical heritage of Abu Nasr al-Farabi has been extensively studied by both Eastern and Western scholars, particularly in relation to his contributions to metaphysics, ethics, political philosophy, and the classification of sciences. However, his views on national identity and intercultural dialogue have gained increasing scholarly attention in recent decades, especially within the context of globalization and cultural interaction.

A number of researchers emphasize Farabi's role as a key figure in the transmission and development of Greek philosophical thought in the Islamic world. His commentaries on Aristotle and Plato not only preserved classical knowledge but also reinterpreted it in accordance with the intellectual and cultural context of the Muslim East. This synthesis is considered a significant foundation for intercultural dialogue, as it demonstrates the possibility of integrating diverse philosophical traditions into a coherent system.

Modern scholars also highlight Farabi's concept of the "virtuous city" as a model for social harmony and collective identity. According to this concept, society should be based on justice, cooperation, and moral values, which contribute to the formation of a unified yet diverse community. This idea is closely related to contemporary discussions on national identity, where the balance between tradition and modernity plays a crucial role.

In addition, recent studies underline the importance of Farabi's multilingual and multicultural background. His engagement with Arabic, Persian, Turkic, and Greek intellectual traditions reflects a deep understanding of cultural diversity and



communication. As noted in various academic sources, Farabi's intellectual activity took place in regions characterized by active cultural exchange along the Silk Road, which further shaped his universalist worldview .

Furthermore, contemporary research explores the relevance of Farabi's ideas in modern philosophical and sociocultural discourse. His emphasis on knowledge, ethics, and mutual understanding is seen as a valuable framework for addressing current global challenges such as cultural conflicts, identity crises, and the need for intercultural cooperation. Scholars argue that Farabi's legacy provides a bridge between Eastern and Western civilizations and contributes to the development of a dialogue-based approach to cultural interaction .

Overall, the existing body of literature demonstrates that Farabi's philosophical system remains highly relevant. His ideas continue to inspire interdisciplinary research and offer meaningful insights into the processes of identity formation and intercultural dialogue in the contemporary world.

This research is based on a qualitative and interdisciplinary approach aimed at analyzing the philosophical views of Abu Nasr al-Farabi on national identity and intercultural dialogue. The study combines methods from philosophy, cultural studies, and social sciences to provide a comprehensive understanding of the topic.

First, the historical-philosophical method is employed to examine Farabi's works within the socio-cultural and intellectual context of the Islamic Golden Age. This approach allows for identifying the origins and development of his ideas, particularly in relation to the interaction between Eastern and Western philosophical traditions.

Second, the comparative method is used to analyze Farabi's concepts alongside other philosophical traditions, especially ancient Greek philosophy and Islamic thought. This method helps to reveal the synthesis present in Farabi's worldview and its relevance to intercultural dialogue.

Third, the research utilizes the systematic analysis method, which enables a structured examination of key concepts such as the "virtuous city," human perfection, and social harmony. These concepts are analyzed as interconnected elements of Farabi's philosophical system.

In addition, the hermeneutic method is applied to interpret Farabi's texts and ideas, taking into account their symbolic, linguistic, and philosophical meanings. This method is particularly important for understanding the deeper implications of his views on identity and culture.



The study also relies on secondary sources analysis, including modern scholarly works, dissertations, and academic articles посвященные Farabi's philosophy. These sources provide contemporary interpretations and support the relevance of his ideas in modern discussions on globalization and intercultural communication.

Overall, the chosen methodology ensures a comprehensive and objective analysis of Farabi's philosophical heritage and its significance for understanding national identity and intercultural dialogue in the modern world.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In conclusion, the philosophical views of Abu Nasr al-Farabi on national identity and intercultural dialogue remain highly relevant in the modern era of globalization. His ideas emphasize the importance of moral values, knowledge, and social harmony as fundamental elements in shaping both individual identity and collective cultural development.

Farabi's concept of the virtuous society highlights that true national identity is not based solely on ethnicity or tradition, but on shared ethical principles, intellectual growth, and cooperation among individuals. His approach demonstrates that cultural diversity should not be seen as a source of conflict, but rather as an opportunity for mutual enrichment and dialogue.

Moreover, Farabi's intellectual legacy reflects a successful synthesis of different cultural and philosophical traditions, particularly between Eastern and Western thought. This synthesis provides a valuable model for contemporary intercultural communication and global cooperation.

Based on the findings of this study, the following recommendations can be proposed:

- To promote Farabi's philosophical heritage in educational systems as a foundation for developing tolerance, humanism, and intercultural understanding.
- To incorporate his ideas into modern discussions on national identity in order to balance tradition and globalization.
- To encourage interdisciplinary research on Farabi's works, especially in the fields of philosophy, cultural studies, and social sciences.
- To use Farabi's concept of dialogue and cooperation as a framework for resolving cultural conflicts and strengthening international relations.
- To develop academic and cultural exchange programs inspired by Farabi's universalist worldview.



Overall, Farabi's teachings offer a timeless philosophical framework that contributes to the development of a more harmonious, tolerant, and interconnected global society.

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