

Time Management in Masnavi

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Abstract: Molana Jalaeddin Balkhi has employed diverse allegories for explaining the importance of time and introduced elimination of marginal affairs and time management as effective ways for better using of time. The notion of time management in Molana thoughts is not merely based on materialistic profits and losses obtained in different management forms, but the aim is training of man and management of his worldly and spiritual affairs. By training of such a man a society is founded that the man recognizes his real value and manages time as the divine offering so that he is released from external and environmental factors and he never victimizes his ultimate goals for temporary and unimportant objectives and finally, he lives in ideal world.

Keywords: Time, Golden Management, Molana, Productivity, Masnavi.

Introduction

Undoubtedly, Molavi is one of the influential figures in Persian literature. He took the steps of perfection and arrived at the crest of mysticism, knowledge and poetry. He has considered humanism issues including time and time management so that it can be claimed that all great persons have identified the value of time and then they have begun to management of time for fulfilling of their goals and they have found solutions for pains of humans in the light of time management.

The outstanding personality of Molavi is not optional in this regard, it can be said that he could pass the steps of mysticism and found the school that has brought honor and prestige for human society.

Mohammad famous for Jalaeddin was born in Balkh in 1184. His father was Mohammad Ben Hussein Khatibi famous for Bahaeddin Valad. They left Balkh in 1777 during attack of Jengiz (Zamani, 2005). "Jalaeddin got married with Gohar, the daughter of Lalaei Sarmkandi in 1202 in Larandeh(Qaraman in Turkey by the order of his father. After seven years Alaeddin Keigobad the Seljuk sultan of Rome became aware of Bahavalad and invited him and he went to Konya and joined the sultan (Zamani, 2005).

Jalaeddin wrote Masnavi in his sixtieth in the memorial of Balkh and Khorasan with eagerness to return the lost paradise of Kharazmshahian period. When he began to write poem on the lamenting of reed in banishment from home undoubtedly, he regretted about their migration and leaving Samarkand and Balkh. This regret is manifested in the lamenting of reed on separation from home that visualizes separation of the mystic soul from its divine origin (Zrinkoob, 2000).

Shamseddin Mohammad Ali Bimalekdad Tabrizi had influential role in Molana personality that his inner state can be seen through his poems in the Divan of Shams. Another influential characters that played an important role in Molana life was sheik Salaheddin Zarkoob Gonavi that they met each other for ten years and discussed about mysticisms (Zamani, 2005). His biggest service was rescuing Molana from tranquility and bringing him to real world and encouraging him to write Masnavi. So that human society was waiting for his birth in mysticism and Hessameddin played the role of creator of this birth and so that Masanvi was created. Molana died in 1777 when he ended writing of this book (Zamani, 2010).

Definition of management and time

Management has double denotation and terminological meanings. It means competency for management of a place or ceremony. Time is meant progressive movement that all events are happened in the context of time and it is measured by second, minutes, hours, years and centuries (Dehkhoda, 2006).

Different definitions have been offered for management:

Management is planning, organizing, initiating, control of operations to coordinate human and material resources that are required for fulfillment of the goals in effective and efficient way (Robert and Newport 1995). Due to social life, human has attitude towards management since early times and he gradually found that his life is passing so he made effort to manage his time so that time management was considered as a necessity in his life. One of the oldest applications of management is the story of Mosses and migration of the sons of Israel from Egypt that has been mentioned in the Old Testament (Robert and Newport, 1995).

Some believes that thinking about control of time or time management is impossible. Optimal working is directly related to time management and also it is a dimension of productivity, correct use of time and living with time management attitudes.

Time management does not mean domination but it means optimal management of plans and activities carried out in time. We can manage our times by learning time management lessons in personal and organizational life. Thus, time approach is a factor with unlimited flexibility for classification of the activities in order to increase capability (Eskandari, 2010).

The essence of management is fulfillment of the goals by others efforts. In other words, it is meant transferring of the affairs to others and the person who cannot transfer the affairs to others cannot manage them (Mackenzie, 2006). Complexity is one of the characteristics of management that makes difficult control of it. Time in management is common sense and the best tool of time in management is connected order, time in management is as management. Imagination of time management is incorrect norm, since time cannot be control. We only can say that how we can use our time and even we cannot choose to use time or not but we can determine type of use of time (Mackenzie, 2006).

Reasons for nonuse of time management

- The people do not know what is time?
- Due to laziness some group lack required goal and motivation for planning.
- Some likes to work under pressure and limited and critical conditions (Mackenzie, 2006).

The main causes of our problems can be sought related to time in some human nature powerful tendencies and in practice some time rules in management are in contradiction with human natural rules and some inner and psychic tensions cause to difficulty of doing some works. Of the powerful desires can be referred to followings:

- Sensuality
- Tendency toward happiness of others
- Fear of annoyance of others
- Fear of new contacts
- Curiosity
- Lack of trust on his or her capabilities
- Proud of his or her capabilities
- Envious on others ambitions
- Perfectionism
- Lack of acceptance of this fact that the person wastes time
- Old habits and new habits (Mackenzie, 2006)

Factors causing to lose of time

Security and pride

Free yourself from virtue
To descend you blessing every moments (Masnavi, 2010)
Leave the virtue and trick
Begin to serve the people and be good humor (Masnavi, 2010).

Molana warns the man and wants him to eliminate the barriers including self conceit to have divine blessing and withdrawal personal traits since the main duty is serving people and having good humor that lead to useful outcomes.

In the story “The villager who invited the townsman to visit him” Molana emphasizes on elimination of the superficial affairs and he insists that if the person can eliminate the superficial affairs and the sensuality idol then he will win and as Imam Ali he can eliminate attachments and become the winner if life battlefield (Zamani, 2012).

Be happy and dance where remove self
Eliminate the root of sensuality
They dance and sing in the field
They dance on the blood of the men (Masnavi, 2010)

In the story of elephant, Molana points out to one of the time management components and accounts it as one of the features of Sufis dancing in the alley and market and wants the man to withdraw himself and remove worldly attachment”(Zamani, 2012).

Greed

Withdraw tricks as foxes
Offer your heart for God
There are many preys in the light of lions
As foxes make less haste
O, the heart you will reach

God when leave partial reason and achieve wisdom (Masnavi, 2010)

Human short life in the world is an opportunity to collect providence for next world by management of time. In other words, Molana values human and his wishes by pointing out to mystical time and he tries to describe the aim of the short life offered by God.

Thus, living as cunning fox is trait of the man that has overwhelmed in world and worldly affairs so that he has no time to think and the opportunities are passing as clouds.

Elimination of marginal affairs

When the breast became the veil of that weak one
He was deprived from blessings and affairs (Masnavi, 2010).

Molana believes that engagement with insignificant and valueless affairs prevents person from main duties and he offers an example of engaging of an infant with his mother’s breast prevents him from other affluences. In management, there are affairs the prevent beneficence of time and these affairs are like milk that the infant is engaged with it and ignores other aspects.

Molana concludes that human eternal life depends on elimination of animalistic pleasures and in his opinion, human requires this withdrawal. This change is an effective step in time management. Molana tries to offer plan of time management and he reminds us human potentials and wants us to eliminate marginal affairs and in this case we can fulfill our goals.

Planning prevents losing of time

Every day and night that is passing without plan
You see yourself in the first alley (Masnavi, 2010).

Without planning and goal setting and prioritization you will lose. Whenever you are involved in marginal affairs you cannot escape from animalistic desires and you have to pass the long divine perfection path. Molana emphasizes on eliminating superficial affairs (Zamani, 2013).

Life passing as river in morality and immortality

Molana is engaged in his mental associations and the relationships resultant from these associations and in this confinement he surveys in the new intuitions. He sometimes offers reasoning to approach to nonexistence and by this way not only he does disdain death but also simplifies passing through death by this reasoning that human experiences death every moment.

If the person contemplates in his physical properties he would see life and death and enjoy life and does not fear of death (Mohammadi, 2008)

You have death in every moment

The prophet said the world is nothing more than one hour (Masnavi, 2010). Molana reminds that the man experiences death every moment and he also experiences morality and immortality so nothing remains the same in two moments (Zamani, 205).

Molana experiences changes in moments and awakes the man from ignorance and likens the moments and life to flowing spring and reminds that the water is not still in the river and invites the man to benefit his life.

Friday praying as manifestation of the personal and social will

When you join the friends keep silence

Do not show yourself in that rank

Look at the Friday praying

They are unified and silent (Masnavi, 2010)

“Molana points out to the Friday praying that the people stand in lines and have unified ideas and they are silent and hear the preacher. He emphasizes following Imam and leader and acceptance of the experienced man ideas and avoiding show off (Zamani, 2013).

Change is result of time management

In mysticism beliefs all creatures particularly, humans are exposed to changes in order to reach perfection (Zamani, 2010).

Like the earth or like a fetus I devour blood,

Since I became a lover this is my occupation.

If that 'Faithful Spirit' should shed my blood,

I would drink it up drop by drop like the earth (Masnavi, 2010)

Molana explains human growth from fetus and in this period the fetus feeds with blood and grows and then reaches to purity from uncleanness.

In time management, the manger takes step toward defined priorities and goals gradually.

Expertise necessary for time management

Everybody has created for a job

He has gained its desire in his heart (Masnavi, 2010).

This couplet refers to personal characteristics that everybody has expertise in own field and these characteristics are obvious and tangible in today's world due to progress of science and the jobs are expertise. The individuals' intelligence and talents are different and for perception of these differences we need for time management.

Asking about time and life

The God says what you did

At the moment I gave you

Passed your life for what

What did you do with your power

I offered you blessing

I gave you capital what is you profit (Masnavi, 2010)

The old man of Balkh teaches us in life with stories rooted in life and invites us to thinking. He introduces life as blessing and the world as place for progress and advises referring to prophets as patterns. He reminds us about resurrection day and passing of time and body and soul.

Prophets traditions, the secret of time management in life

He is going without any doubt in right way

You not know the way ask his way

Follow the deer to arrive at the bag of musk (Masnavi, 2010)

The person who prioritizes his affairs never wastes time. Molana emphasizes that the person who is in doubt should asks the guide to help him. In these couplets, attendance of guide and time management has been emphasized so that by the help of the signs it can be reached to destiny.

Conclusion

The great men like Molana have emphasized on time and life. They have perceived the importance of time and acted beyond their times. Their works depict their power and creativity. Molavi has tried to pay attention to the human training with optimistic viewpoint. In his opinion, training of efficient human force is duty of any society. The society should emphasize on personal characteristics of order, creativity, consulting, motivation considered as traits of the managers. Molana emphasizes that for beneficence of time it is necessary to eliminate the marginal affairs that deprives the man from benefit from life, He emphasizes that our eternal life depends on avoiding animalistic affairs and human needs shift towards time management.

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