

The concept of human transformation in the philosophy of cosmism

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Abstract: The modern world is faced with the problems of a natural, techno genic, ecological and social character, which were predicted in the philosophy of Russian cosmism at the end of the 19-th and beginning of the 20-th centuries. The philosophers of cosmism expressed the idea of the connection between man and space, the existence of unified laws of the Universe, the need to observe them for returning to his origins, i.e. to the Spiritual foundations of Being. The same ideas were expressed in the concept of the noosphere and philosophy of Living Ethics. The energetic connection of a person with the whole Universe was substantiated, as far as a person carries these energies in himself. Therefore, the need to transform a human consumer into a spiritual human becomes vital in order not only to biologically survive, but to rise to a higher level of Cosmic Evolution.

Keywords: philosophy of cosmism, noosphere, Cosmos, evolution, spiritual transformation, laws of nature and the Universe.

Introduction

At the beginning of the twentieth century, humanity came to the understanding that further development in the same direction is no longer possible, because man's aggression towards his own kind and the world around him, a predatory attitude towards nature, the growth of immorality in society over the years not only did not decrease, but increased in mathematical progression ... It became more and more obvious that this is the result of man's violation of the basic Laws of the Universe, the main of which is Love for All That Is, and not hatred. It is no coincidence that Oswald Spengler published in 1918 the work “The Decline of the West”, which reflected the philosopher's

apocalyptic moods. For, Spengler in his work prophesied the death of European culture, which, having lost its spirituality, turns into a mummy.

In Russia at the end of the XIX century. a new philosophy arose, proclaiming to the world the need for an internal transformation of man himself. This philosophy, called the philosophy of Russian cosmism, united scientists and artists, whose thinking was radically different from the generally accepted one. For, its representatives understood the huge role of man in the Universe, the need for his spiritual transformation for the transition of mankind to a higher level of Cosmic evolution. Such a transformation will allow us to overcome all the negativisms of modern society that continue to accompany our life, which are being a true disaster and shame of both man and humanity as a whole.

The founder of the philosophy of Russian cosmism is rightfully considered N.F. Fedorov (1828/29-1903), who foresaw all the catastrophic consequences of the unreasonable activity of a person who has forgotten the basic laws of the Universe. The philosopher wrote: “So, the world is coming to an end, and a person with his activity even contributes to the approach of the end, for a civilization that exploits, but does not restore, cannot have any other result than accelerating the end” [1, 273].

How modern these lines sound, as if they were written today and not in the 19th century! However, despite the pessimism of the above words, in which one can feel the grief of an aching heart for all the deeds of unreasonable humanity, the philosophy of N.F. Fedorov was optimistic. For, N.F. Fedorov was the first to express the idea of the closest connection between Man and the Cosmos. It was this unbreakable faith that predetermined the optimism of his philosophy, who saw the prospect in the development of human society in the endless Spaces. According to N.F. Fedorov, it is into the Cosmos that a person should strive with all the ardor of his not yet risen, but able to resurrect Spirit!

We can say that N.F. Fedorov, being the illegitimate son of Prince P.I. Gagarin, although formally did not bore the name of his father, was the same Gagarin, i.e. the discoverer of Cosmic distances in philosophical thought, as the first pilot-cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin – the discoverer of Cosmic distances in reality. For if the surname Gagarin itself comes from the ancient Slavic words

"ga-ga-ra", i.e. "Go-go to the Sun", then one Gagarin dared to express the dream of the mankind about a space Odyssey, and the other – made this daring dream of mankind a reality!

The whole "Philosophy of the Common Cause" by N.F. Fedorov speaks about the possibility of man to enter the Cosmic space and regulate the natural processes taking place on the Earth and in the Universe. Thus, N.F. Fedorov wrote: "Only such a boundless daring field of activity as space exploration, this great feat to be accomplished by a person, will attract and endlessly multiply the energy of the mind, courage, ingenuity, dedication, all the combined human forces, which are spent on mutual strife and are wasted on trifles" [1, 3].

At the same time, for N.F. Fedorov, the resettlement of a person on other planets is possible not so much through scientific and technological progress, as in the process of a cardinal internal change of the person himself. For this, a person should not waste his energy on "mutual strife" and "trifles". Humanity must accept the Laws of Love, according to which the entire Universe lives. It is necessary to abandon mutual hatred and selfishness, which became the basis of the life of earthlings, only then can humanity be spiritually transformed and return to a single cosmic family.

However, despite the whole truth of N.F. Fedorov's ideas, humanity continues to profess discord and hatred for each other, instead of uniting in mutual benevolence and love. But someday people will make the Laws of Love the basis of society and will be able to change for the better both themselves and life on our planet. This will make it possible to have a beneficial effect on both nature and the Earth itself. According to N.F. Fedorov: "People would not be finite and limited if there was love between them, that is if they were all one united force; but they are therefore mortal, and therefore limited, because there is no unity, no love between them" [1, 107-108].

The importance of these words can hardly be overestimated, since love, capable of uniting all of humanity, can transform a person and make him not only free, but also immortal. However, for their implementation, it is necessary to form a completely new type of human consciousness, which is possible if all of humanity unites in "doing a common cause". As N.F. Fedorov wrote: "The human kind united on the whole Earth will become the consciousness of the earthly planet, the consciousness of its relationship to other heavenly worlds" [1, 75].

This new type of human consciousness can be called planetary consciousness, which gradually began to take shape under the influence of the philosophy of Russian cosmism, as well as

scientific discoveries of the early twentieth century. Among them, the concept of the noosphere by V.I. Vernadsky (1863-1945) and P. Teilhard de Chardin (1881-1955) occupies a special place. These include the scientific research of K.E. Tsiolkovsky (1857-1935), A.L. Chizhevsky (1897-1964), P.A. Florensky (1882-1937) and others, who managed to change man's ideas about the world, in which we live. They managed to expand the human worldview to the Cosmic limits, or rather, to the Cosmic Infinity.

Since man is the most important link in the evolution of nature, he creates a qualitatively new sphere – the noosphere, or the sphere of reason, which is the final stage in the development of the biosphere. V.I. Vernadsky wrote: “*The noosphere* is the last of many states of the *evolution of the biosphere* in geological history – the state of our days” [2, 482].

With the emergence of the noosphere, mankind takes responsibility for all of nature, for the direction of the further evolution of itself and the natural world. For according to V.I. Vernadsky, nature in the conditions of civilization is involved in the sphere of social interactions, in the cycle of human culture, therefore, a person's responsibility for all his thoughts, words and actions is great. This is due to the fact that the processes taking place on Earth do not proceed at all the way they would have proceeded if humanity, as a biological species, did not exist at all on the planet. Therefore, the power of man becomes a factor determining the inadmissibility of thoughtless attitude to nature, which increases along with scientific and technological progress.

Being a part of nature, man must learn to consider what is happening to nature as happening to himself. Consequently, from utilitarian-transforming activity, one must move to *loving-transforming*, which will allow a person to enter into a fundamentally different relationship with nature. Not a consumer, but not a passive-contemplative, but a *lovingly interested* attitude of a person to nature should become a reality of the life of society in the near future. This is the spirit and meaning of the concept of the noosphere, which continued the ideas of the philosophy of Russian cosmism about the need to form a global consciousness.

Global consciousness, which is slowly but nevertheless taking shape on Earth, is not at all the final stage in the development of human thinking. Since there is no limit to perfection, the global consciousness serves as a preparatory stage for the formation of the Cosmic consciousness of man.

The idea of Cosmic consciousness was expressed in the Teaching of Living Ethics, which has played and continues to play a major role in the formation of this higher stage of society.

At the beginning of the twentieth century, when the system of knowledge was transferred from the Spiritual Space, an event of a cosmic scale took place, associated with the transition of human society to a new stage of evolutionary development. Thanks to this system of knowledge, recorded and formed by H.I. and N.K. Roerichs, humanity was given the opportunity to leave the narrow framework of its egoistic thinking into the vastness of the Universe. The result of this preparation, in which all Cosmic Forces are directly involved, will be a cardinal transformation of human nature. This essential change in the inner nature of man will lead to a change in the very planet on which we live.

The essence of the transmitted Teaching, being a logical continuation of the ideas of Russian cosmism and the noosphere, is that a person cannot be isolated from the rest of the Universe. However, if earlier this idea was perceived in an abstract way, from the standpoint of the ethical principle, then thanks to Living Ethics, the energy connection between man and the Universe was scientifically explained and substantiated. Since a person carries in himself all the Cosmic energies, this imposes on him both moral and spiritual responsibility for the Earth and the Universe as a whole!

The energy relationship between man and the Cosmos presupposes the energy exchange of man with all Cosmic systems, regardless of their scale and distance from us. This energy exchange constitutes the main driving force of the Cosmic evolution of both man and the Universe, without which man could not exist. For the energetic nourishment of the spirit is necessary for each person to the same extent as the air for our lungs.

Love is the basis of the Universe, for Love is magnetic and creative, while hatred is also magnetic, but destructive. Therefore, the need for a person's inner change in order to “*loving – to win*” becomes quite obvious. In Living Ethics is noted: “With love you will kindle the light of Beauty and by action show the world the salvation of the spirit” [3, 1922, September 25].

Although the idea of Love as a spiritually transforming force was preached by all the great philosophers and religious reformers who spoke of the need to “*love our enemies*”, it never became the norm in *every* person’s life. The cosmic nature of Love is connected with the fact that it is with

Love that the worlds are conceived, since Love is the basis of all that exists. Therefore, Love is manifested in everything that we see and hear around us, from the flight of a bee around a flower, and ending with the creation of worlds in the Universe. For True Love lies at the basis of the Universe because it is an unselfish and voluntary giving, and not an egoistic desire for possession.

However, True Love is perverted by ignorant humanity beyond recognition, sometimes acquiring opposite, disgusting qualities that decompose human morality and spirituality, which negatively affects the entire innermost nature of both the person himself and the world around him. This circumstance slows down the evolution of society, even if most of humanity does not understand this, taking the unbridledness of their bodily, animal lusts, as an expression of genuine freedom, which, in reality, is a real slavery. For true freedom can only be the freedom of the spirit, and not at all the freedom of the bodily shell, capable only of finally enslaving a person.

Thus, Living Ethics says: “Love is the leading, creative principle!” [4, §281]. In other words, only true, Cosmic Love can defeat the decrepit man in man, and become the basis of the life of the Spiritual Man. Therefore, in the “Facets of Agni Yoga” it was emphasized: “... that by love can be achieved most quickly. Love affirms the closeness of the spirit, for it removes all unnecessary partitions. That is why it is called love-winner” [5, §125].

However, the difficulty of overcoming the decrepit man in oneself lies precisely in the fact that one has to fight not with one’s external enemies, but with oneself! The struggle with the own flaws and vices is incredibly complicated due to the fact that they, being habitual, often remain invisible to their owner precisely because of their habituation. Therefore, they are the most dangerous enemies of man, and the fight against them is tireless and protracted.

And although the necessity of victory over oneself was preached by all Teachers, for “new wine also needs new wineskins”, that is, a new consciousness is necessary in order to be able to accept the Teaching of Life in the form that corresponds to the new stage of human development, but nothing is changing. This complicates the task of evolution for the majority of humanity, since the self tends to be touched by its shortcomings, and to calm its conscience, justifying all the actions and deeds of the individual.

The need for an internal, spiritual transformation of a person is an increasingly urgent and obvious fact, because without the evolution of the human spirit, which is possible only on the basis

of Love, the further existence of a person becomes meaningless, and therefore impossible. This is due to the fact that a person with all his threads is connected not only with the Universe, as mentioned, but also with the Earth, as its part. Therefore, trampling on the Cosmic Laws, a person slows down the evolution of his own spirit, and the evolution of the planet itself, on which he lives. In this regard, the “Facets of Agni Yoga” says: “The planet is connected with the human microcosm by inseparable bonds of connection. <...> Man is a transformer for the Earth of earthly energies and Cosmic energies into forms that go to the construction of dense and subtle bodies of our planet. The old is eternally transformed into the new, higher and more refined. Man serves the transformation of the Earth. The New Heaven and New Earth are immutably conditioned by the Laws of Evolution” [5, §144].

Thus, a person, being an intermediary between the Earth and Heaven, cannot avoid responsibility for his home called planet Earth. Moreover, man must take upon himself at least a part of this hardest Burden of this World, saving the Earth from the unreasonable activity of mankind. For, the advancement of human consciousness along the path of Cosmic evolution can help both the planet and the person himself, transforming him and radically transforming his inner spiritual organization.

Therefore, this inner, spiritual and energetic relationship between man and the Cosmos allows us, like the philosophers of Russian cosmism, the concept of the noosphere and the Teaching of Living Ethics, to look with faith, hope and optimism into the future of humanity, which will wake up from its centuries-old sleep and return to its original spirituality ... And although the process of spiritual "awakening" of mankind is extremely slow, nevertheless, the future of human society is seen to be shining with its spiritual beauty, love for all that exists and universal harmony. It was not by chance that it was said:

“The people will cheer up.

The essence of the miracle is simple:

Love is a miracle, beauty is a miracle” [3, 1922, December 8].

These, such simple, but such wise words contain not only the deepest spiritual meaning, but also a specific method, using which a person can be transformed internally, radically changing his consciousness, directing his feelings, thoughts and desires towards the common good. As it was

noted in Living Ethics: “A hero is one who acts selflessly, steadily, consciously and, acting in the name of the Common Good, thereby brings the course of cosmic evolution closer” [6, §147].

Therefore, every person can become a hero, in whom at least a tiny spark of selflessness and love shines, capable of flaring up into a huge flame. And in this flame of the heart, all human prejudices and preconception, which are of a fussy (bustling), limited, unimportant character, will burn out. It is prejudice and preconception that separates people from each other, forcing them to have an unfriendly attitude towards representatives of the other nationalities, ethnic groups and religious confessions. They (prejudices and preconception) oppose a man to the nature, and lead the Human Spirit into nowhere, into the darkness of decay and nothingness.

Conclusion

Thus, the Doctrine of Living Ethics, being a logical continuation of the philosophy of Russian cosmism and noosphere, brought the concept of Love to a completely different, Cosmic level, showing a person the real prospects for the evolutionary development of his spiritual nature. At the same time, both the philosophy of Russian cosmism and Living Ethics are intended for the whole world as a whole, for all mankind, capable of transforming oneself and to transform our life on our beautiful planet.

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