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The Many Faces of Hebrew "Lift up the face"

Mayer I. Gruber

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respect of divine promissory oaths and human covenantal honesty, are bracketed by a confession and a prayer which share complimentary content. Both sections begin with a perception of frailty, and both end with an estimate of knowledge and proper acknowledgement of Yahweh, the Holy One — ki teda’.

The Many Faces of Hebrew נפש lift up the face

By Mayer I. Gruber

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It has been suggested that the variety and multiplicity of homonymous anatomical idioms denoting emotional states in the ancient Semitic languages may be accounted for as follows:

... the device called synecdoche, by which any one part represents and acts for the whole. This explanation is consistent with the notion of ancient mentality and expression ... that any part of the body may represent the psychosomatic unity called the «self» or the «person.» Any statement of an external influence on any part of the anatomy is a statement of the feeling or activity of and on the whole person.¹

Indeed, McCurley’s observation is corroborated by the frequent use of Heb. שפפע -neck² to denote «person».³ That anatomical terms may secondarily denote «self» or «person» in the ancient Semitic languages is further illustrated by Heb. עצב -bone⁴ and by Heb. ראש -head⁵.

⁴ For עצב -bone see see also Num 9:12; 19:16 Ex 3:1 etc.; for עצב -self see see also Num 9:12 -like the sky itself - Ex 24:10; Deut 23:26 Lev 23:14 Jos 10:27 Ex 24:2 etc. Note, however, that עצב -himself, עצב -yourself, עצב -myself and the like, which are amply attested in Rabbinic Hebrew and in Modern Hebrew (see dictionaries), are completed unattested in Biblical Hebrew.
⁵ For ראש in the sense «self, person» see in 1 Sam 25:19 -And the LORD turned back Nabal’s mischief upon himself— in 1 Reg 8:32 = II Chr 6:23 for «his guilt is upon himself» in Jos 2:19 Ez 33:4; etc.; NEB and JB consistently render «upon his head».
The many faces of political Islam, function B(x,y), including, enlightens expanding an aleatoric built infinite Canon with politically vector-voice structure.

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